

The Royal Australian Chemical Institute Inc.
National Newsletter
July 2008

QUEENS BIRTHDAY HONOURS LIST

Professor John Ralston, a Fellow from South Australia, has been honoured with the Order of Australia, Officer (AO) in the General Division for "Service to science and to scientific research, particularly in the field of physical chemistry and minerals processing, to education and to the creation and application of new scientific knowledge to industry".

Three other RACI Fellows have been honoured with the Order of Australia, Member (AM) in the General Division.

- Emeritus Professor David Doddrell (Queensland) for "Service to science in the field of magnetic resonance as an academic and researcher";
- Professor John McKellar (South Australia) for "Service to people with dementia, particularly Alzheimer's, and their carers through organisations that provide education, support services and funding for research"; and
- Professor Tom Spurling (Victoria) for "Service to chemical science through contributions to national innovation policies, strategies and research, and to the development of professional scientific relationships within the Asian region".

"CHEMISTRY IN AUSTRALIA" ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Are you interested in being a member of the "Chemistry in Australia" Advisory Committee? The role of the committee is to advise the Editor of the magazine and to monitor the finances.

The committee meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 5.00pm. For members not in Melbourne the meeting is by teleconference which is set up through National Office.

The Chair of the committee, Professor David Wood, would like members with ideas for the future eg What do members really want in their magazine and in a possible e magazine? How do we get to people in industry and how can we assist in attracting new members?

If you would like more information about the position, please contact Professor David Wood on dgwood@unimelb.edu.au or 0419 514 399. Please send your expression of interest to the Honorary General Secretary, janhosking@bigpond.com by **Friday, 11 July 2008**.

ELECTION OF RACI BOARD NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

A reminder for Corporate Members to send the National Representative ballot paper to the RACI National Office by **Thursday, 31 July 2008**.

RACI ELECTROCHEMISTRY SYMPOSIUM

The Electrochemistry Division is holding a two day symposium, 'New Materials and New Methods in Electrochemistry', at the University of New South Wales on November 27-28 2008.

Important dates:

29th August 2008: End of Abstract Submission

15th September 2008: Notification of Acceptance

29th September 2008: End of Early Bird Registration

The registration form has been sent as an attachment with the July National Newsletter. It is also available on the RACI website.

NEW IMPACT FACTORS RELEASED – AJC RISES TO 2.4, ENVIRONMENTAL CHEMISTRY ENTERS FIELD AT 2.8.

Thomson ISI has just released the latest round of Impact Factors. *Australian Journal of Chemistry's* IF increased again - to 2.4 this year (last year 1.9), which places it closer to the Royal Society of Chemistry journal - *New Journal of Chemistry* (IF 2.7) - and higher than the Swiss, Japanese, and Canadian chemistry journals.

The new journal, *Environmental Chemistry*, received its very first impact factor this year, of 2.8. This places it ahead of competitor journals such as *Atmospheric Environment*, *Chemosphere*, *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry*, and *Science of the Total Environment*. Its biggest competitor is *Environmental Science & Technology*, which has an IF of 4.4.

2009 FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIPS

2009 Fulbright Scholarship applications now open

Valued at up to \$A40,000, Fulbright scholarships are open to Australian citizens to undertake research or study in the United States for 3 – 12 months. Scholarships can be started between 1 July 2009 and 30 June 2010.

Applications are open to Postgraduates (to do research related to their Australian PhD or enrol in a US degree), Postdoctoral, Professional and Senior Scholars from any field of study from Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales and North Territory.

For further information and application forms see the section 'Fulbright Scholarships/For Australian citizens' on the website at www.fulbright.com.au

Applicants from Queensland, Tasmania, Western Australia and Victoria are encouraged to consider the state specific Fulbright Scholarships that have now been established.

Applications close **31 August 2008**.

ANU/FASTS POLICY WORKSHOP – SUPPORTING RISK-AWARE RESEARCH
11 July 2008

Research is undertaken to deliberately explore the unknown and its outcomes are unpredictable. Research entails intrinsic risk that must be managed, not mitigated. Research risk may manifest in a number of ways including the unpredictability of outcomes, the possibility of 'failure', the nature of research into risk-rich topics such as natural hazards, and the potential that research findings may be accurate but uncomfortably challenge some moral frameworks.

Given this:

- How do we know whether existing federal and state/territory programs support a sufficiently risk-aware research portfolio – both within institutions and across national competitive schemes?;
- How might we improve support for risk-aware research?

To tackle these and other questions, on Friday 11th July, ANU and FASTS are co-hosting a policy workshop called ***Supporting Risk-aware Research*** in the Members Dining Room, Old Parliament House.

The workshop costs \$75 but there is no charge for people who are attending as nominees of FASTS member associations/societies.

To nominate complimentary registrations, please email Bradley Smith, Executive Director FASTS, at fasts@anu.edu.au stating name and affiliation. Other people need to register at <http://www.fasts.org/policy-workshop/>

Any RACI members wishing to attend the workshop have to pay their travel expenses.

The policy workshop is intended to inform the review of the National Innovation System and two of the review panel members will be participating.

Further information can be found at <http://www.fasts.org>

Program

9.00am - Registration and arrival tea and coffee

9.30am - Introduction: Welcome and Overview; Why is this an Issue?; What do we need to do and know to move forward?

- Professor Ken Baldwin, President of FASTS
- Professor Lawrence Cram, DVC, ANU
- Dr Mark Matthews, Research School of Social Science, ANU

10.15am - Keynote Address: An international perspective

- Dr Paul Stolorz – Silicon Valley entrepreneur, former VP of Google; Jet Propulsion Lab, NASA/Caltech

10.50am - Morning tea

11.15pm - View from the funders

- Professor Margaret Sheil, CEO, ARC
- Professor Warwick Anderson

Noon - Risk aware approaches in the real world – a business perspective, a research centre perspective and risks faced by institutions

- Steve Parker, Group General Manager – Sales, Marketing and R&D, Aristocrat Leisure Ltd

- Professor Tanya Munro, Chair of Photonics & Director, Centre of Photonics, University of Adelaide
- Ian Harris, Research and Research Training Division, University of Queensland

1.00pm - Lunch

1.45pm - Relevant business methods: Real options and portfolio approaches; Project selection and Stage gate; Project evaluation and learning

- Mike Whelan, Deputy Chief Executive – operations, CSIRO
- Dr Bob Watts, former VP technology and chief scientist BHP Billiton
- Duncan Buckeridge, Partner, Deloitte Consulting

2.45pm - View from the researchers

- Professor Gabriele Bammer, ANU and co-editor of the recently released *Uncertainty and risk: multidisciplinary perspectives*
- Tbc

3.30pm - Afternoon tea

3.45pm - Implications for policy makers

- Professor Steve Dowrick, Professor of Economics, Panel member, Review of the National Innovation System
- Professor John Foster, Professor of Economics, University of Queensland, Panel member, Review of the National Innovation System

4.30pm - Wrap up and discussion

- Professor Lawrence Cram

4.45pm - Conclusion and refreshments

NEWSLETTER ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you have any announcements for the newsletter please email them by the 20th of the month to Jan Hosking at janhosking@bigpond.com

Jan Hosking
Honorary General Secretary
RACI

Please Note:

This message was sent from a no-reply email address. Please forward enquiries to member@raci.org.au or contact the National Office on +61 3 9328 2033.

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