FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hi All Once Again,

It’s a bits ‘n’ pieces column this month, and update on what been and will be happening. As I was writing this, I’ve saved this file (which I have to send to Paula before 5 pm Friday of the last weekend before month’s end or else …) as FTP June and “not tax time again” flashed into my head! So if your employer doesn’t provide a subscription to a professional institution as part of your remuneration, don’t forget to claim your RACI subscription as a tax deduction (and if your employer provides that perk, please use it and if I could respectfully suggest choose the RACI!).

First up Constitution changes: the voting methodology was sent out in the National RACI Newsletter, which I hope you saw, along with links explaining the proposed changes. I encourage you participate in the process as fairly major changes are being proposed. On the WA Branch front, the Bayliss Youth Lecture is preparing to travel to Darwin to present in front of some high school students – good luck Gavin and Ben, who’s the helper this time. The WA Branch committee members have had another great month “banging the RACI drum” at various locations. I attended the UWA Science Faculty Awards breakfast where sponsored prizes for student achievement are given. Quite a big breakfast as you can imagine. I do quite a few of these as President (hopefully my before/after weight will not be published after my term!). So the RACI awards students for excellence in all States, to all Universities across Australia and has been doing so for many years. Quite an achievement when you think of it. I thought that it would be a quiet breakfast but it turned out to be very eventful. I started by saying hello to the UWA Head of School of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Prof. Mark Spackman. He mentioned that a copy of the RACI Periodic Table was being put on permanent display in the School’s Foyer. Well done! We plan to have a members’ event there soon and perhaps arrange a semi-formal “unveiling” of our beautiful artistic Periodic Table.

While speaking with Mark, I introduced myself to the person he was speaking with who introduced himself as Tony Bayliss. I asked the obvious question and he said yes, and that he was Sir Noel Bayliss’ son! He was very interested in our activities and will join us at a MMM soon. I proceeded to the breakfast table and met our RACI award recipient Ms Nicola Broun. She thanked me, on your behalf, for the prize and once again was very interested in all our activities. The speaker at the Breakfast was Dr Megan Ellyard who is UWA’s Senior Science Student Advisor. I spoke to her after her talk and she was very interested in our RACI activities in terms of broadening student outlooks and networking opportunities. She is going to promote all our activities on the Science Student

Continued next page
FROM THE PRESIDENT (Continued)

Learning Network, so next RACI event book early! We have had a number of other student activities and we have a great June MMM where we are having session about “Worst Interview Experiences”. We hope to get everyone’s stories to educate our students (and anyone else) about what not to do at a job interview!

So to the students reading this, June is also RACI join-up month as you get a full year of membership (memberships are due every June if you know what I mean). Just remembered another thing, could everyone make sure that they are being invoiced correctly and their email address details are correct please? You can contact National Office directly or use the website. Thanks for that, it’s really important…

Nearly finished, just a couple of more things (this is hard work!). In my travels I have been getting feedback about RACI activities; now quite a few people like the Chemistry in Australia’s Cryptic Crossword. I’m hopeless at those – I need some coaching so I can keep in touch with the membership. If someone wants to give a 10 – 15 minute expose on the techniques on how to crack the cryptic code at one of our MMM they are most welcome. The other feedback is that many people have mentioned that they (like me) like Paula’s jokes in the Newsletter. Well done Paula, it shows that we have a sense of humour!

So at the end of the last column I announced the cancellation of the Student Surfing event; a couple of days later emails starting coming through about interest in the event. As I’ve said before, when you organise an RACI event, expect the unexpected! I’d like to really thank all who supported the day; the weather and surf were perfect. Full wrap up below (page 9-10)...have a great June.

Regards
Alf Larcher
President RACI WA Branch (feedback/ideas welcomed on wa-president@raci.org.au)

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RACI WA Branch National Chemistry Week Dinner 2015

A dinner to celebrate Chemistry Week and present Life Memberships, the 2014 Batty Medal and the Wilf Ewers Citation.

Friday 31st July 6.30pm
at the Bentley Pines Restaurant (Hayman Road, Bentley)

The price below is inclusive of drinks and seating is limited so please register ASAP to avoid disappointment. Click here to register

Members and Partners $40
Retirees and students (members) $35
Retirees (non members) $40
Non members $50
## RACI Monthly Meetings

Please come to the RACI Members Monthly Meeting. This is a great chance to meet fellow members and be entertained by guest speakers. All welcome - membership is not a prerequisite to attendance (so please bring a friend).

**Date:** 3rd Tuesday of every month  
**Time:** From 5.30pm. Seminar/presentation commences at 6.15pm.  
**Venue:** Exhibition Area, Building 500, Curtin University  
**Cost:** $5 charge to cover refreshments (limited drinks and snacks) (receipts can be provided)  
**RSVP:** wabbranch@raci.org.au to assist with catering purposes  

### June 2015

**Tues 16th**  
“**It was the WORST interview ever...**”  
Presented by Kelly Services in conjunction with the RACI Management & Career Development Group, we will be tackling the age old question of what NOT to do in a job interview. With opportunities to share your interview horror stories, hear those of others and get some tips from people who interview for a living – it will be a light hearted and valuable evening for everyone from students to CEO’s.

All welcome- RACI membership is not a prerequisite to attendance (so please bring a friend). $5 cover charge for drinks, **Finger food** and the usual nibblies. Register [here](#)

### July 2015

**Tues 21st**  
**Dr John Watling, 2014 Alton McAllan Batty Medal Awardee will present at the July MMM a seminar on some of his recent work.**

“**Food Forensics**” is a relatively new area of forensic science. Since the mid 1980’s, there has been an increase in both research and in the development of techniques to enable the food industry to determine the geographical origin of foodstuffs. Initially, agricultural produce such as coffee, tea, and wine provided a focus for application of the newly developing techniques but today over thirty different foodstuffs are capable of being “provenanced”. This lecture will detail the practical use of ICP-MS and ICP-AES to identify areas of origin of foodstuffs, and confirm food supply chains thereby making it possible to overcome food fraud and potentially trace back bio-contamination to farms and countries of origin and scientifically ensure that safety of consumable products from farm to fork. 

All welcome- RACI membership is not a prerequisite to attendance (so please bring a friend). $5 cover charge for drinks and the usual nibblies. Register [here](#)

(Fe)male = male with iron added for greater strength, ductility and magnetism.
WA Branch Analytical Chemistry Group in association with
WA Branch Management & Career Development Group
Present:

"Trends in Quality Management – Management Systems
Beyond ISO/IEC 17025"

A ONE DAY WORKSHOP
9:00 am to 4:30 pm, Wednesday 8th July 2015
ARRC Building Theatrette, 26 Dick Perry Avenue, Kensington WA 6151

The 5th version of the ISO 9001 Standard is scheduled to be released in September/October this year. ISO 9001:2015 will be in an Annex SL format to enable it to be easily incorporated into your existing Integrated Management System.
What does this mean?
And what implications does this have for your ISO/IEC 17025 accredited system?
This workshop will cover the past, present and future of management systems to ensure you are ready to meet the new directions of these standards.

FEES:
Members: $100
Non-Members: $150
Students: $40

The course fee covers entry, morning and afternoon teas and lunch. For interested participants, there will be an optional one day hands-on laboratory training session on Thursday 9th July in a ISO/IEC 17025 accredited laboratory.

REGISTRATION: A registration form will be in the July Newsletter. However, you can pre-register by contacting:
Mr Stewart Jones,
RACI WA Analytical Chemistry Group
Email: stewart.jones@measurement.gov.au
Phone: 61 8 9368 8401 Fax: 61 8 9368 8499
WILF EWERS AWARD 2015

Nominations from RACI (WA) members are now required for the W E Ewers Citation Award. The citation recognises contributions made to furthering the profession of chemistry. It is expected these contributions will normally be made by virtue of the nominee’s activities within and for the RACI Western Australian Branch. The Wilf Ewers citation is not meant to cover achievements in chemical science and technology since these are recognised by other RACI awards such as the H G Smith and Applied Research Medals.

Previous Wilf Ewers award winners are:

1990  Dr David Phillips, Curtin University (Editor, Branch Newsletter)
1991  Mrs Margaret Martin, Aquinas College (BYL activities)
1992  Mr Reg Wray, Wray Associates (WA Branch President)
1993  Mr Chris Dodd, CCWA (Analytical Chemistry Group activities)
1994  Mrs Jan Hosking, CSIRO (12AC/3EC Chair and organiser)
1995  Dr Armand Zurhaar, Zedcon Scientific Services (NCW activities)
1996  Mr Harry Douglas, E&DG Consultancy (WA Branch Coordinator)
1997  Professor Mel Sargent, UWA Chemistry Dept. (SAC Chair for WA)
1998  Mr Ian Sills, Curtin University (Chair, Analytical Chemistry Group)
1999  Dr Steve Errington, Curtin University (WA Branch activities)
2000  Mr Roger Schulz, CCWA (Health, Safety & Environmental activities)
2001  Dr Mauro Mocerino, Curtin University (Chair Chem. Ed. Group)
2002  Mr Stewart Jones, Aust. Govt Analytical Labs (WA Branch activities)
2003  Mrs Oana Chirila, Aust. Govt Analytical Labs (WA Branch activities)
2004  Mr Peter McCafferty, CCWA (WA Branch activities)
2005  Mr Mike Rowe, Dept of Industry and Resources (Services to the WA Branch)
2006  Dr Paula McLay, National Measurement Institute (Branch Newsletter Editor)
2007  Mr Rick Staker, SGS Australia Pty Ltd (Chair, Analytical Chemistry Group)
2008  Mr Reg Rowe, Rowe Scientific Pty Ltd. (WA Branch Committee, Treasurer, Sponsor)
2009  Mr Kelvin Lord, Lord & Co (WA Branch Committee, Treasurer, Sponsor)
2010  (not awarded)
2011  Dr Maree Baddock - St Hilda’s Anglican School for Girls (Chemical Ed Group activities)
2012  Dr Kathryn Linge, Curtin Uni (WA Branch Activities)
2013  Mr Shane Koenig, Nufarm (WA Branch Activities)
2014  Professor Simon Lewis – Curtin Uni (WA Branch & Chemical Education Group activities)

Nominations must be submitted to the RACI WA Coordinator, wabranch@raci.org.au, before COB Friday, 5 June 2015. All nominations will be considered by a selection committee consisting of the Past President, current President and two non-Branch Council RACI members. The award is a cheque for $250 and an official scroll which will be presented at the National Chemistry Week Dinner in July 2015.
ANCQ Competition 2015
All secondary students are invited to enter the 2015 Australian National Chemistry Quiz. The Australian National Chemistry Quiz is a true international competition with papers translated into seven different languages. The Quiz attracts students throughout Australia and 17 neighboring countries. We anticipate an even greater response for this year’s Quiz including students from Switzerland, Austria and Germany. The Quiz comprises 30 multiple choice questions to be answered in 60 minutes. Registrations open in March 2015, and the quiz will be held on Thursday 23 July, 2015. To register, click here.

Crystal Growing Competition 2015
All schools are invited to be part of the National Crystal Growing Competition. The aim of the competition is to grow your very own crystals in six weeks. Crystals to be grown in class from Term 2, and submitted by July 31. Contact Mauro Mocerino: M.Mocerino@curtin.edu.au Kindly Supported by Rowe Scientific

Titration Competition 2015
Secondary schools are invited to enter teams in the State and National Titration Competitions. In the competition, each team performs a simple acid-base titration exercise. Each team will standardise a sodium hydroxide (NaOH) solution against a supplied hydrochloric acid (HCl) solution and then is to standardise three (3) acetic acid solutions with the sodium hydroxide solution. Judging will be on the basis of the values each team reports for the titres and concentrations of the NaOH and acetic acid solutions. Teams will be ranked on how close they get to the actual concentration. Kindly Supported by Rowe Scientific
Tues, 23 June 2015 at Curtin University of Technology Contact: Maree Baddock:ts2007@bigpond.net.au

ASCME
The Australian Conference on Science & Mathematics Education
Transforming practice: Inspiring innovation
30th September – 2nd October 2015
Curtin University & Murdoch University, Perth.

The Australian Academy of Science awards, grants and fellowships

The RACI - what do you get for your membership dollar?

- Professional Recognition - use of the MRACI or FRACI post nominal which improves your professional status;
- Code of Ethics - establishes and maintains high standards;
- Knowledge - improves your efficiency and opportunity for promotion;
- Education - broadens your understanding;
- Professional Development activities keep you informed of current technologies, research and applications;
- RACI Publication "Chemistry in Australia" - keeps you current within the wider chemical community;
- Eligibility for The RACI National, Branch or Divisional awards. Achievement in these areas can enhance your CV;
- Access to a wide range of local functions for networking with colleagues from all sectors - improve your contacts and knowledge;
- Discounted registration to RACI lectures, functions and conferences;
- Special interest groups;
- Global Access - access to RACI network expands your access to others.

The RACI is actively promoting the value of professional qualifications to employers for consideration at employment, promotion and salary review occasions. In addition to professional qualifications, a magazine and professional development activities, The RACI offers Financial Members, a range of other incentives which are listed here: www.raci.org.au/national/membership/benefits.html
Sodium sodium sodium sodium sodium sodium sodium sodium Batman!

**Media and communication training dates:** **Perth: Friday 2 October**
Conveying the complexity of your research into a 30-second grab for the media can be hard, and sometimes daunting. The solution is to shape the essence of your science into a story. Our full-day media and communication training course will help you with all your non-scientific communication with stakeholders, customers and the media. It will help you feel comfortable with the media and give your media advisers confidence that you will be a good performer when media opportunities www.scienceinpublic.com/training

**Fresh young research stories wanted:** **Fresh Science 2015**
We’re looking for early-career researchers with peer reviewed results who are ready to share their discovery with the world. Fresh Science is a national competition that selects researchers with research results, an invention, or a discovery, trains them in how to tell their story, and helps them share their findings with the media and the public Ten Fresh Scientists will be chosen in each state where we’re holding an event. They’ll take part in a day of media training followed by a night down at the pub, where the spotlight shines on them. In some states there will be additional events as well, including school talks. We’ll also publish short profiles on each Freshie, and pitch the best stories in each state to the media.

Nominations open in May with events happening around the country in July and August: WA—20/21 July hosted by the West Australian Museum and supported by the five universities; Curtin, UWA, Murdoch, Edith Cowan and Notre Dame.

freshscience.org.au

*There are 10 kinds of people in this world, those who understand binary, and those who don’t.*
CSIRO’s Scientists and Mathematicians in Schools program has over 40 teachers in WA who would like to welcome a scientist, mathematician or engineer into their classroom. If you can spare an hour or two a couple of times a term to share what you know about science and how you use it in your work, then these teachers would love the opportunity to collaborate with you. You will be part of a successful national program which creates long term, professional partnerships between school teachers and volunteer scientists. Over 140 partnerships are active in WA right now!

More information about Scientists and Mathematicians in Schools is available here: www.scientistsinschools.edu.au

See where there are teachers available here: http://www.scientistsinschools.edu.au/scientists/unmatched.htm. The teachers at Grace Christian School and Presbyterian Ladies College (Junior School) would like to be partnered with a chemist, but we have many other teachers who are happy to be partnered with a scientist from any field and would be stoked to be partnered with a chemist!

You can register for the program at: http://www.scientistsinschools.edu.au/scientists/registration.htm

Already visiting a school regularly? Formalise your partnership under Scientists and Mathematicians in Schools! Have your volunteering ‘counted’ and have the opportunity to meet and share ideas with other participants. Working in the middle of nowhere? We can set up a long distance partnership and/or partner you with a local teacher.

“I love being able to share science with kids who are hungry for a knowledge of how the world works and why it works that way” ChemCentre SMiS participant

Get involved today! Scientists and Mathematicians in Schools is a great way to help inspire the next generation of scientists, engineers and mathematicians – and quite a lot of fun too!

Sabine Schreuder Project Officer WA | Scientists and Mathematicians in Schools
CSIRO | Education and Outreach  E sis.wa@csiro.au  T 6436 8595

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**RACI May Members Monthly Meeting**

On Tuesday 19th May, 60 persons made up of members of the RACI, ANZFSS and interested members of the public came to the joint ANZFSS and RACI WA Branch event that was a presentation titled “Forensic Science on Trial – The Omagh Bomb Investigation.” this was presented by Associate Professor James Speers who is currently based at Murdoch University where he is developing postgraduate degrees in Forensic Science & Investigation.

The presentation was entertaining and informative and I for one am quite glad to live in a part of the world where acts of terrorism are only read about or seen on TV and not experienced first hand. The upside of this terrorism (if there can be one) is the need for many forensic scientists.  Ben Fletcher
There was an old lady called Wright who could travel much faster than light. She departed one day in a relative way and returned on the previous night.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2015
Presented by Rowe Scientific Pty Ltd

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Organizer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.06.2015</td>
<td>Branch Committee Meeting</td>
<td>Held in Room 2B01, ARRC Building, Kensington</td>
<td>WA Branch RACI</td>
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<td>16.06.2015</td>
<td>Monthly Members Meeting</td>
<td>Exhibition Space, Building 500, Curtin Uni.</td>
<td>WA Branch RACI</td>
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<td>23.06.2015</td>
<td>Titration Stakes</td>
<td>Curtin Uni</td>
<td>Chem Ed Group</td>
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<td>21.07.2015</td>
<td>Monthly Members Meeting</td>
<td>Exhibition Space, Building 500, Curtin Uni.</td>
<td>WA Branch RACI</td>
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<tr>
<td>23.07.2015</td>
<td>National Chemistry Quiz</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>National RACI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31.07.2015</td>
<td>Crystal Growing Competition</td>
<td>Curtin Uni</td>
<td>Chem Ed Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31.07.2015</td>
<td>Chemistry Week Dinner</td>
<td>Bentley Pines</td>
<td>WA Branch RACI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.07.2015</td>
<td>Trends in Quality Management</td>
<td>Theatrette, ARRC Building, Kensington</td>
<td>Chem Groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.08.2015</td>
<td>Branch Committee Meeting</td>
<td>Held in Room 2B01, ARRC Building, Kensington</td>
<td>WA Branch RACI</td>
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<td>18.08.2015</td>
<td>Monthly Members Meeting</td>
<td>Exhibition Space, Building 500, Curtin Uni.</td>
<td>WA Branch RACI</td>
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<td>15-23.08.2015</td>
<td>National Science Week</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>31.08.2015</td>
<td>Student Careers Night</td>
<td>UWA</td>
<td>MCD Group</td>
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Enquiries to Branch Coordinator Ben Fletcher: 0403 022 968, wabranch@raci.org.au

- If you see a bandwagon, it’s too late.
- Early to bed and early to rise probably indicates unskilled labor.
- Why join the navy if you can be a pirate?
- The problem with the rat race is that even if you win, you’re still a rat.
- The only place success comes before work is in the dictionary.
- Failure is not an option—it comes bundled with the software.
- A picture is worth 1,000 words, but it uses up 3,000 times the memory.
- The successful man is the one who finds out what is the matter with his business before his competitors do.
- Eagles soar, but weasels don’t get sucked into jet engines.
- The light at the end of the tunnel has been turned off due to budget cuts.
- A meeting is an event at which the minutes are kept and the hours are lost.

E-MAIL ADVERTISING RATES

Three-quarters of the total RACI WA Branch membership and Environmentalists (totalling about 500 of a select and highly targeted group) are registered to receive e-mail notices from the Branch Committee. Those RACI members who have a need to circulate an urgent message or advertisement of general interest to WA Branch members can request approval (wabranch@raci.org.au) to have the advert (sans attachment) circulated free of charge. If the advert is of a revenue producing nature then a charge of $120 +GST will be made.

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

SINGLE ADVERTISEMENT: $120 +GST for one-quarter A4 page, $160 +GST for one-third A4 page, and multiples thereof, for print ready artwork or a print ready MS Word file.

MULTIPLE ADVERTISEMENTS: for three or more consecutive newsletter issues, a discount of 25% applies.

PAYMENT for all issues must be made in advance and within 7 days of receipt of invoice.

Branch Newsletter Deadlines For 2015

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<th>Month of Journal</th>
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<tr>
<td>July 2015</td>
<td>Fri 26 June</td>
<td>Deadline is close of business (5 pm) on the nominated dates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 2015</td>
<td>Fri 24 July</td>
<td>Please submit all articles to <a href="mailto:paula.mclay@measurement.gov.au">paula.mclay@measurement.gov.au</a></td>
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</table>

www.rowe.com.au