

ChemEngfocus

March 2012
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Hello & Goodbye

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Department farewells Paul Webley*

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Paul Webley

ARC Grant success

CEPA wraps up its inaugural year

Monash Students nominated for
Social Inclusion Award

Smuce outlines their plans for 2012
Fellowship success for postgrads
and much more



MONASH
University

March 2012

EDITOR
Lilyanne Price
DESIGN
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**Karen Hapgood welcomed as Head
of Department**

Social Inclusion

**Monash Students
nominated for community award**

also in this edition

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Fellowship success for postgrads

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Paul Webley**

**Smuce Outline
their plans for
2012**

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“maintain the department’s strong relationships with industry, and to expand these links to new companies and alumni”

Welcome


The Department welcomed Associate Professor Karen Hapgood in January 2012 as the new Head of the Department of Chemical Engineering

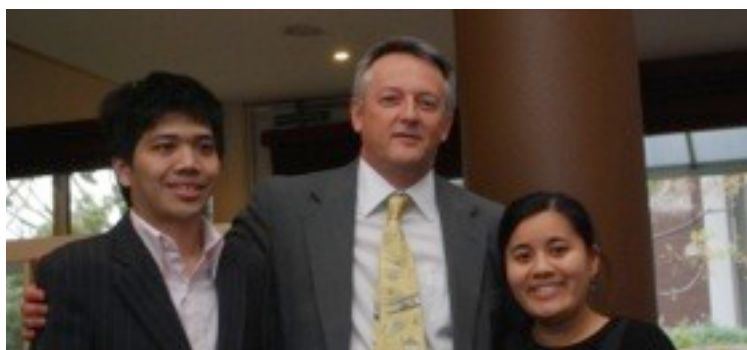
Associate Professor Hapgood completed her Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering in 2000 at the University of Queensland, and then worked at Merck & Co for 5 years designing, scaling up and troubleshooting pharmaceutical manufacturing processes, including a high profile HIV drug. In 2006 she joined Monash University and co-founded the Monash Advanced Particle Engineering Laboratory where she leads research on granulation and pharmaceutical processing. She was instrumental in setting up the double degree of Chemical Engineering and Pharmaceutical Science, and was Director of Teaching 2010-2011. Karen is a popular lecturer and has been involved in teaching several units, including Particle Technology, Engineering Profession, Sustainable Processing Case Studies. She still teaches Process Control, and co-runs the Integrated Industrial Project, where students spend 6 months of their final year working at a company site whilst completing some of their studies via distance education.

In 2011 she was promoted to Associate Professor and at the beginning of 2012 she became the Head of Department. She has won several awards including the 2006 “AAPS New Investigator Award in Pharmaceuticals and the Pharmaceutical Sciences” award, the 2008 Deans' Award for Excellence in Teaching, a 2010 “ALTC Citation for Outstanding

Contributions to Student Learning”, the 2010 Udhe Shedden Medal, 2011 Monash Research Accelerator award and a 2011 ADC Australian Leadership award. She is a member of the International Steering Committee for the Handbook of Pharmaceutical Excipients, the Editorial Board of Advanced Powder Technology journal, and a member of the Therapeutic Goods Committee in Australia.

As Head of Department, Karen intends to support the academic staff to do their world class research, whilst also making sure that the undergraduate curriculum is in good shape. She is keen to maintain the department’s strong relationships with industry, and to expand these links to new companies and alumni. Karen is part of an engineering family - both her sisters are also engineers - and so she is a keen supporter of diversity in engineering. She also hopes to be able to have enough free time to complete several currently unfinished ideas for chemical engineering themed artistic quilts.

Karen is also forging a path for women in Engineering, although this was not at the forefront of her intentions when she accepted the HOD appointment. Karen is now the first female Head of Department within the Faculty of Engineering at Monash University, thus continuing the Faculty of Engineering and the Engineers Australia’s - Women in Engineering vision “that engineering becomes an inclusive profession which values, supports and celebrates the contributions of women in the engineering team.” 



Farewell

With every new appointment, there is always someone moving on to new adventures! The Department farewelled Professor Paul Webley in December 2011

Paul Webley joined Monash in 1996 as a Senior Lecturer following a stint at Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. in the USA. He established a research group in adsorption engineering and gradually built up the team and facilities over the years. Thanks to the rapid growth of the Department and Faculty of Engineering, the encouraging research environment allowed his group to flourish and during his time more than 10 PhD students graduated from his laboratory and over 100 scientific papers were produced. The lab was also home to many visiting academics and students. Following his promotion to Reader, Paul spent 2 years as Associate Dean Research in the Faculty Office from 2006 to 2008. In this time he was able to view the diverse research efforts of the Faculty from a different perspective and help promote the research culture in the Faculty. Following the departure of the Head of Department at that time (Prof. Martin Rhodes), Paul assumed the role of Head of Department in mid-2008. This coincided with a rapid growth in the numbers of undergraduate and graduate students and the department has enjoyed strong growth and success. At the end of 2011, Paul moved on to a position in the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at The University of Melbourne. Even though he is now at The University of Melbourne, Monash University and the Department of Chemical Engineering will always be fondly remembered and he will continue to interact and collaborate with friends and colleagues at Monash.

The Department wishes to thank Professor Webley for his wonderful guidance during his time as the Head of the Department and for his tireless work in helping to improve and promote the Department of Chemical Engineering. 🍷





Prime Minister's Asia Endeavour Awards Success for Monash students

Monash University's Niken Wijaya, has been awarded Prime Minister's Australia Asia Endeavour Awards, allowing her to continue her research at some of the most influential educational institutions in Asia. Niken was among 40 students nationwide awarded the prestigious scholarships in the postgraduate category. The Prime Minister's Australia Asia Endeavour Award is designed to support Australian postgraduate or undergraduate students seeking to enrich their academic experience while studying or undertaking collaborative research at leading universities in Asia.


The Awards aim to build the relationship between Australia and Asia through the development of internationally-aware, skilled leaders and the establishment of long-term education and professional linkages.

Niken Wijaya, currently undertaking a Doctor of Philosophy in Engineering Science, will complete further study in chemical engineering at the East China University of Science and Technology (ECUST), Shanghai, and Beijing University of Chemical Technology, Beijing, in April 2012. The project she will be working on while she is visiting ECUST mainly focuses on the reactivity of demineralized, ultra-clean Victorian brown coal in a low temperature catalytic

gasification. She will then continue her research in Beijing University of Chemical Technology to investigate the conversion of these solid ash-free clean fuels into liquid fuels which have a great potential to substitute the pivotal role of oil in the foreseeable future. Her research aims to improve the value of low-rank Victorian brown coal in the global market and ensures its sustainable utilization in a carbon-constrained world.

Each winner will also have the opportunity to undertake an internship or work placement at the completion of the study component. Professor Stephanie Fahey, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Global Engagement) said the awards further enhance Monash University's reputation as a globally-focused university that encourages its students to look at how Australia engages with the world.

"Monash University is committed to a global approach in its education and research activities. This commitment is reflected in the large number of successful Monash students again this year," Professor Fahey said.

"The continual success of our students with awards such as the Prime Minister's Asia Endeavour Awards shows the desires of our students to further their learning capabilities and opportunities overseas." 

Meet our new staff **Dr Lizhong He**

Dr. Lizhong He completed Bachelor of Science in Applied Chemistry and Master of Engineering in Biochemical Engineering at Tianjin University, China. Dr He carried out his PhD research at GKSS Research Centre, Germany, working on self-assembly and affinity adsorption of glycoconjugates (glycolipids and glycoproteins). He then spent two years as a postdoctoral researcher at the Max-Planck-Institute for Polymer Research in Mainz, where he studied functional tethered lipid membranes. Before joining Monash University in December 2011, Dr. He was an AINSE Research Fellow and Deputy Director at Center for Biomolecular Engineering, Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology at The University of Queensland.

Dr. He's research interests include development of pharmaceutical proteins and biocatalysts by combining biomolecular design and nanotechnology, structure of macromolecules and colloids, and application of neutron and x-ray scattering for studying biomolecules. At Monash, Dr He's research will be focused on engineering pharmaceutical protein galectins and bio-application of nanoparticles for biocatalysts and drug delivery.

Dr He will also teach our undergraduate students in CHE3171 Bioprocess technology and CHE2165 Bio-nano engineering. ☞



“I develop pharmaceutical proteins and biocatalysts by combining design and nanotechnology”

James Walter and Gabrielle Grills nominated for the "Vice-Chancellor's Social Inclusion Award"!

The awards are designed to acknowledge individuals and teams who have made a positive contribution to social inclusion by a specific project or activity, or for those who go well beyond general performance expectations to make a difference. These awards are open to all Monash students. James and Gabrielle social inclusion towards the Department of Chemical Engineering has gone above and beyond. Their nomination is for the following contributions.

The Society of Monash University Chemical Engineers (SMUCE)

President // James Walter

The President is responsible for the day to day management of the club coordinating committee members, venue and equipment bookings as well as liaising with students and the chemical engineering department. The president also presides as chair over the committee meetings along with assisting in budgetary issues and the financial management of the club. Additionally James was involved in the creation of a range of SMUCE branded materials including stickers, business cards, expanding the SMUCE Facebook page and the creation of the SMUCE banner used at all events.

Vice President // Gabrielle Grills

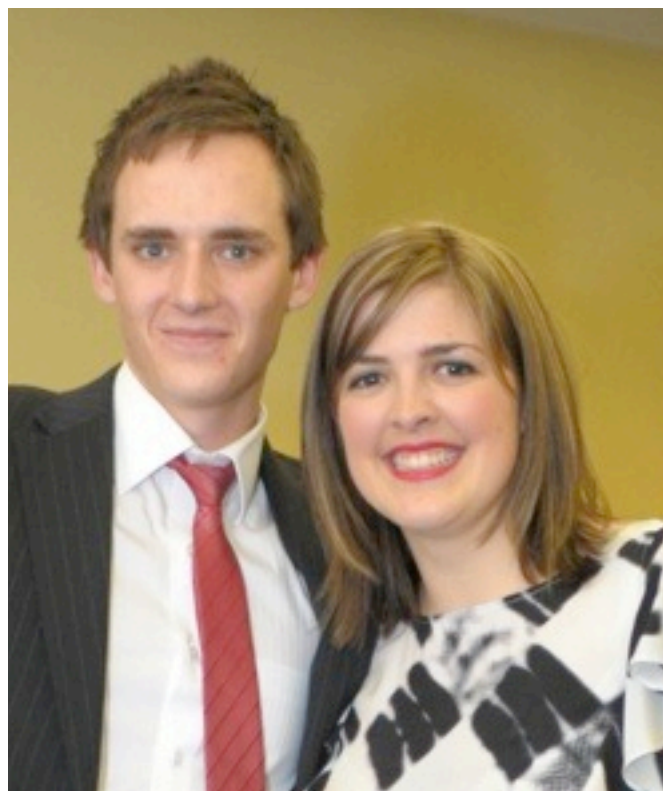
Amongst assisting the president in his/her duties and presiding as the committee chair in the absence of the president, the Vice President is responsible for the organising of club events throughout the year and hence the coordination of the promotion, venue and equipment bookings of such events. Events include lawn bowls day, Nintendo 64 night, cocktail evenings, regular themed lunchtime barbeques and most importantly the Annual SMUCE Ball. The 2011 SMUCE Annual Gala Dinner was an amazing night with the theme 'A touch of red for RedR' continuing to support 2011 as the 'Year of the Humanitarian Engineer'. This theme allowed SMUCE to recognise the tireless efforts of not for profit organisations. Gabrielle organised a raffle, including prizes, which raised \$1595 for Engineers without Borders while RedR was supported through ticket sales. The funding initiative was entirely due to Gabrielle's amazing charitable drive. For more information on RedR and Engineers without Borders, please visit www.redr.org.au and <http://www.ewb.org.au/>

3rd year representative // James Walter

In his role as the 3rd year representative, James carried out promotional and event duties as well as attending the monthly Academic/SMUCE liaison committee meetings as a spoke person in the committee meetings for the Chemical Engineering 3rd year student body.

Due to their tireless work as President and Vice President, 2011 was one of the biggest years SMUCE has had on record with a total of 152 members being signed up, resulting in a 40% increase in 2011 alone.

During 2011, SMUCE had a huge range of seminars from industry representatives and vacation work seminars with presentations from Shell, Qenos, ExxonMobil, DIAL, Price Waterhouse Coopers and many others, also from industry societies such as IChemE and SPE (Society of Petroleum Engineers). The industry seminars are advertised



L to R: James Walter, Gabrielle Grills

to and attended by the entire Chemical Engineering student body. Additionally, Gabrielle and James were responsible for advertising company's recruitment details to the student body, through the annual SMUCE Graduate and Vacation employment guide. The guide listed the contact details of over 60 companies, highlighted their key recruitment dates as well as gives advice to students on applying for positions, tips on writing a CV as well as giving interview techniques.

In addition to their community volunteering work with SMUCE they have been involved with;

The Joint Victorian Chemical Engineering Committee (JVCEC) // James and Gabrielle

James and Gabrielle both worked as student representatives on the JVCEC committee which involved regularly attending committee meetings offering feedback and ideas from a student's point of view as well as volunteering to help actively promote JVCEC events. These events included the popular student night and Pratt Prize Award evenings which aim to give chemical engineering students Victoria wide a chance to meet and engage with like minded students to expand their horizons as well as practise valuable networking skills (often which are not taught as part of university studies).

Engineers without Borders (EWB) // Gabrielle Grills

In her association with Engineers without Borders (Monash Chapter) Gabrielle was involved with the development of a Monash biodiesel plant to help fuel the Monash fleet of cars. Gabrielle carried out regular meetings and group work with other students to work towards this goal. Other initiatives run by the Monash EWB included the Monash Computer Coop.

The Department congratulates both Gabrielle and James on being nominated for this prestigious award! 🏆

Pooja Lallbeeharry takes out 3rd place during the 2011/2012 Faculty of Engineering Summer Research Projects

Undergraduate students who are in level 3 or above, have a minimum of 48 credit points remaining in their degree and have a weighted average mark greater than 80% are invited to apply to undertake a research project over a 12 week period from late November until the end of February of each year. In 2011/12, the Faculty of Engineering offered 22 research projects, spanning across all five Faculty of Engineering Departments. A total of 32 students participated in the 2011/12 Summer Research program.

At the end of the Summer Research program, each student must present their research on a poster and present it to their peers. The Summer Research Poster presentation was held on 23 February 2012 and was the finale of many weeks of hard work toiling away in the research labs.


During the Summer Research Poster presentation, each student had to describe their project to their fellow Summer Research students, as well as the Faculty's many postgraduate students and academics. Pooja described how her project significantly improved wettability of whole milk powders by co-drying with food-grade surfactants. She went on to explain that "industrial whole milk powders obtained after spray drying are often poorly wettable, owing to the dominant surface fact coverage (~98%). To improve the wettability of these milk powders during reconstitution, these powders are often 'instantised' by coating with surfactants (typically, lecithin) during the subsequent fluidized bed drying stage, so as to produce 'instant' whole milk powders. This additional step is time and energy consuming and sometimes requires a large amount of lecithin." In Pooja's research, she investigated the addition of food grade surfactants to milk feed prior to drying. It was found that the added surfactants will tend to stay on the surface of the droplet during drying. As such, they were enriched on the surface of dried whole milk powders, leading to significantly improved wettability. She demonstrated that co-drying with surfactants is a viable process for instant milk powder production.

This summer research project was performed with the assistance of Nan Fu, who is a current postgraduate student in the Department of Chemical Engineering. Nan Fu is supervised by Professor Xiao Dong Chen. The manufacture of milk powders and dairy related products is one of the major research areas in Professor Chen's group, where both the principle heat and mass transfer and other phenomena associated with the drying process are extensively studied. Professor Chen's group focuses on biotechnology and food engineering. For further information regarding this research area please contact: dong.chen@monash.edu. ☎



Pooja Lallbeeharry


Germany Exchange Grant

Ben Asquith, a current PhD candidate under the supervision of Dr. Bradley Ladewig, was recently awarded a Germany Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Research Grant for Doctoral Candidates, Young Academics and Scientists. The DAAD is Germany's largest scholarship awarding organisation, and provides grants to excellently qualified academics and scientists from around the world to enable research at German higher education institutes or non-university research institutes. Ben is currently undertaking 6 months of research at the Leibniz Institute of Polymer Research Dresden with Dr. Jochen Meier-Haack and his research group, where he is continuing his work on membrane fabrication for use in capacitive deionisation desalination systems. 



Mr Ben Asquith

Endeavour Research Fellowship

Ms Kathryn Elizabeth Waldron received a 2012 Endeavour Research Fellowship to undertake a proposed program in Xiamen University People's Republic of China next year. The Endeavour Research Fellowships provides financial support for postgraduate students from participating countries to undertake a short-term research (4-6 months) at the host institution. The Endeavour Research Fellowships are awarded to high achieving Australian scholars. During Kathryn's time in Xiamen University she will continue her studies in the microencapsulation of bioactive materials via microfluidic spray drying and their release behavior in 'real time' using an in vitro dynamic artificial human stomach. The project forms a strategic initiative in establishing a joint R&D with Xiamen University on microencapsulation and functional foods, which is a multi-billion dollars industry in China. The research group at Monash University also has strong links with dairy industries in Victoria, which stand to benefit with successful outcomes from this joint project. 



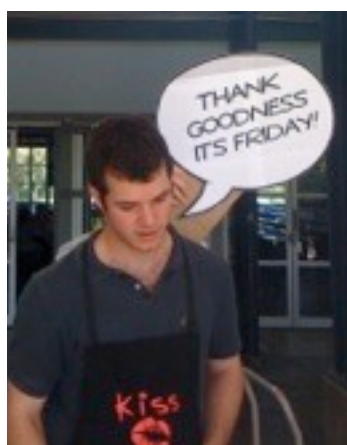
Ms Kathryn
Waldron

As the inaugural year of the Chem Eng Postgrad Association draws to a close we'd just like to take a minute to reflect on a fun and successful year. We launched with the Bowling/Nandos night, instituted the now fortnightly TGIFs, learned who was the smartest at the Trivia night, ate cake for the Red Cross Cake bake and showcased our research in the Conference.

But wait! This year is not over! The committee have one more event planned for you! Friday the 16th March in lieu of TGIF we shall be having the first Games Night. A night filled with great company, food, board games and console games – bring on MarioKart! There will be sensational door prizes too! More information to come...

The following week at 11 – 12 on Thursday 22nd March we will be holding the elections for the new CEPA committee. We urge you all to volunteer as it has been great fun to plan and run these events for you! This society has the potential to be fantastic with bigger events planned for this year but we need you to make that possible. 🎮

ChemEng Postgrad Association CEPA



Photos from the final TGIF of the 2011

2012: Year of the Smuce

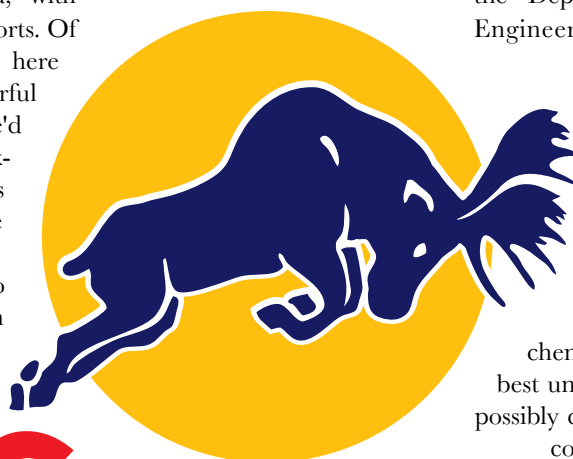
2011 marked another incredible year for SMUCE. After beginning the year with an extremely successful Mario Kart tournament for our first social night, and going out with a bang raising over \$1000 for Engineers Without Borders at the Gala dinner, the 2012 committee is hoping to continue and, with luck, improve on these efforts. Of course we wouldn't be here without such a wonderful committee last year, so we'd like to offer a big thank-you and congratulations before we take over the reins.

If you are new to Chemical Engineering in 2012 then you're probably wondering who and what SMUCE actually are. SMUCE stands for the Society of Monash University Chemical Engineers. We are a

student run society that aims to expose our members to the professional chemical engineering world and bridge that often tricky gap between university and the real world.

We love to help our members engage with their fellow students, and staff, by pairing the hard work of study with free pizza and entertainment. We run heaps of social activities throughout the year, including our famous beer tasting barbecue and annual gala dinner. We can't wait to meet all the new students at this year's

first event, our membership barbecue to be held on the first Thursday of the semester. You'll also be able to purchase our new favourite piece of SMUCE merchandise at the membership barbecue, the 2012 SMUCE hoodie.



Smuce

In 2012 SMUCE is looking to improve on our career development portfolio. We are pleased to announce a new partnership with the team at Monash Employment and Career Development (ECD). This new partnership aims to increase the networking and employment opportunities for all our members. The partnership is kicking off early in the semester with SMUCE playing a big part in this year's GradFest. GradFest aims to introduce students to all the options there are for them when they are searching for both

vacation and graduate positions. The partnership with ECD also brings plenty of chances for SMUCE to promote ourselves, and Monash Chemical Engineering to a greater number of professional organisations.

SMUCE will also be continuing to work closely with the Department of Chemical Engineering in 2012, aiding

communication between the student body and staff, whilst raising any issues or concerns the student body may have. In doing so, SMUCE make sure all Monash

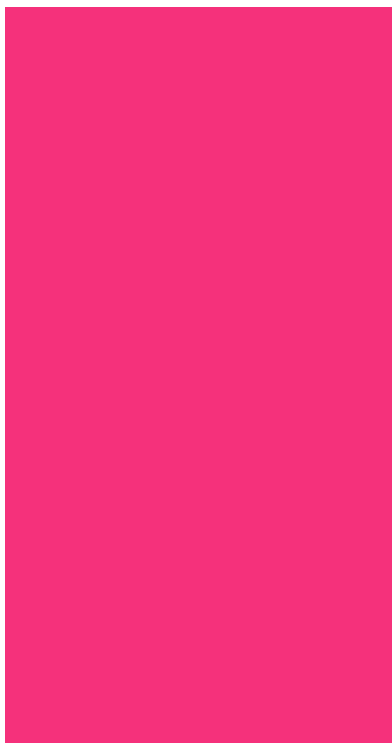
chemical engineers have the best university experience they possibly can, and ensure that we

continue to produce top class graduates. One of the more important SMUCE initiatives in this regard, is the student staff liaison meeting, where early in

the semester students take feedback from other students on the course and coursework and this is presented and discussed with the staff, benefiting all involved.

SMUCE loves input and ideas from everyone involved in chemical engineering, so if you think you might be the person to help us help you, or you have an opportunity for us feel free to drop in to our office (located opposite E1, look for the big moose poster) or send us an email smuce@monashclubs.org





Success in the 2012 Australian Research Council (ARC) Grants

Monash University was the major winner in funding announced by the Australian Research Council securing \$31 million. About \$300,000 of the money will be used for the University to develop a clean-energy testing facility. "On behalf of the Department, I would like to extend heartfelt congratulations to the following staff, and the teams they represent, for the fantastic accomplishment and their outstanding commitment to advancing the research output of this Department" said Karen Hapgood, Head of the Department. The following Department staff have been successful in gaining the following ARC grants.

A/Prof Wenlong Cheng, Prof Hiroshi Sugiyama, Prof Michael P Allen, DP120100170:

Development of the thinnest possible, multifunctional DNA-nanoparticle membranes for ultrafast filtration and smart sensing. This project will focus on the development of novel technologies to fabricate new classes of nanomembranes which will thin but mechanically strong. We will apply nanobiocolloids (DNA-functionalised nanoparticles as model systems) to develop the thinnest possible, multifunctional nanoparticle membranes with cell-membrane-like attributes for ultrafast filtration and smart sensing.

Dr Cordelia Selomulya, Prof Dongyuan Zhao, Prof Xiao Dong Chen, DP120101194:

Scalable fabrication of novel mesoporous carbonaceous spheres with uniform size as effective adsorbents in water treatment. This research will focus on a productive route to generate mesoporous microspheres as highly effective adsorbents for toxins from algae blooms via an innovative drying technology. A breakthrough will be achieved in the practical development of novel adsorbents to ensure the availability of clean freshwater with enormous impacts for communities around Australia.

Dr Prabhakar Ranganathan, Dr Ravi P Jagadeeshan, Prof David V Boger, Prof Gareth H McKinley, DP120101322:

Designing polymer additives to control breakup of jets and impacting drops. The research will focus on the areas of agricultural spraying, pesticide is wasted as a fine mist, or because drops rebound off leaf surfaces, causing serious soil and water pollution. Small amounts of polymeric additives can add elasticity to sprayed liquids that greatly suppress these problems. We combine decades of expertise at Monash and MIT on the flow behaviour of dilute polymer solutions to investigate how chemistry, structure and concentration of such additives can be designed to control a spray-and-deposit process. This study will help to significantly reduce the serious environmental impact of pesticide wastage in agricultural spraying.

Prof Paul A Webley, Dr Xinyi Zhang, Prof Dr Zongping Shao, DP120104334:

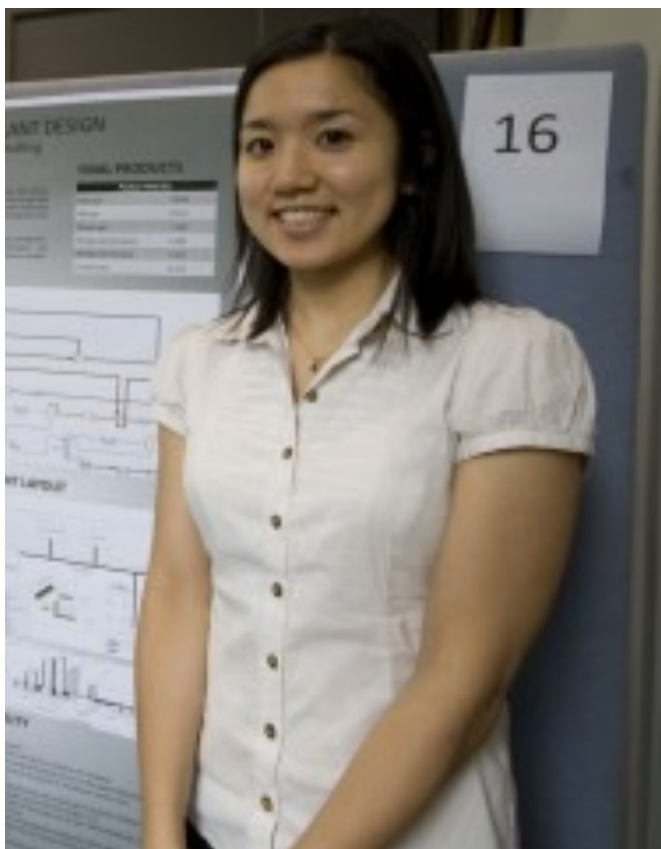
Advanced membranes for energy-efficient electrochemical conversion of carbon dioxide to fuel. This research project addresses the important issue of accumulating CO₂ levels in the air and consequent climate change. By using CO₂ emissions to produce fuel through electrochemical means and renewable energy, this project will play an important role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

ARC LIEF, 2012

Prof Sankar Bhattacharya, Dr Bradley P Ladewig, Prof Paul Webley, Dr Lian Zhang, Prof Klaus R Hein, LE120100141:

Testing facilities for clean energy transformation technologies.





“The exchange has given me a broader perspective on how classes are taught as well as the chance to bond with fellow engineering students overseas”


Kumiko Chinen

Meet our student **Kumiko Chinen**

Bachelor of Biomedical Science and Bachelor of Engineering in the field of Chemical Engineering

Studying Engineering was the obvious choice for Kumiko Chinen whose favourite subjects were maths and physics during secondary school. "I enjoyed learning the theoretical aspects as well as applying the knowledge in real life. Going to an open day and talking to current students made me interested in the applications that an engineering degree can give. I chose Monash University because of the double degree options, the content of the course, the size of the campus with loads of opportunities and the small community that has developed seemed very friendly," explains Kumiko.

Kumiko chose to complete a double degree with a Bachelor of Biomedical Science and a Bachelor of Engineering in the field of Chemical Engineering. "I have always been interested in drug research and development therefore, by combining biomedical science and chemical engineering, I was able to position my degree towards the area I want to be involved in the future." To develop her skills, Kumiko has been working in a Chemistry Lab, assisting with the research of waste water treatment for the past year. Kumiko is also a private tutor for year 11 and 12 students and enjoys playing netball, giving her a break from her studies and time to socialise. "I started working there for my vacation work and have been working for a few days a week ever since. It has given me a great opportunity to see what the real industry is like and how the knowledge we learn at university is applied." Kumiko had the opportunity to study overseas in the US for a year at Purdue University. "The exchange has given me a broader perspective on how classes are taught as well as the chance to bond with fellow engineering students overseas. I have also gained an ability to adapt to new environments." Kumiko began studying in Australia from year ten and was recently offered a job at Roche, a pharmaceutical company in Japan. She plans to gain experience in the pharmaceutical industry as well as travel whilst pursuing her career.

Studying in Melbourne has granted Kumiko with many opportunities she believes have made her study experience worthwhile. "Studying in Melbourne has given me an opportunity to grow as a person, not only from the perspective of education, but also from the perspective of socialising and trying things I would not have been able to try in Japan," says Kumiko. "Studying in an overseas institution is of great benefit when getting a job back home. The extra experience you gain gives you so much to talk about in the interview and I believe it definitely advances you in the selection process. I didn't realise that companies valued students like me who had an overseas education as well as a global perspective until I began job hunting. The fact I had incentive to study overseas and adapt into a new culture definitely favoured me when job hunting. Being able to use the experience you gain as well as the education you receive is a definite benefit" 

More news...

Awarded Degrees

The Department would like to congratulate the following people on their wonderful achievements

Doctor of Philosophy Nov 2011 - Feb 2012

Clarence Ongkudon, Thesis title: *Bioprocess development for plasmid-based vaccine production (MD)*,

Gongkui Xiao, Thesis title: *Capture of CO₂ from pre-combustion gas by adsorption processes at high temperatures (PW/AC)*,

Li He, Thesis title: *Synthesis of polymer-based composite membranes for desalination and gas separation (HW)*,

Sharmiza Adnan, Thesis title: *Effect of microstructure, thermodynamic and operating conditions on performance of membrane distillation (H.W)*

Zhangxiong Wu, Thesis title: *Mesoporous functionalized carbon materials as advanced sorbents and electrode materials*

From Sabbatical...

Dr. Cordelia Selomulya recently spent her sabbatical on the second half of 2011 at the Department of Chemical Engineering, College of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Xiamen University. The visit further strengthened the collaboration with Monash University in the research area of particle synthesis via spray drying and microencapsulation of active ingredients with practical implications in the functional food industry in China. As part of the collaboration, exchange of postgraduate students between the groups is underway with a Monash PhD student (Kathryn Waldron) to spend up to 6 months at Xiamen in 2012, sponsored by the Endeavour research fellowship program.

While in China, Dr Selomulya also visited the Chinese Academy of Sciences campus in Jinmei, Fudan University, Wuhan University of Technology, and Hong Kong Polytechnic University. She is also taking part in the international organising committee for the 18th International Drying Symposium that will be held in Xiamen on 11-15 November 2012.

Farewell Peggy

Dr. Peggy Chan has decided to make a career move and take a position at RMIT. Peggy, joined the Department at the beginning of 2009, after being awarded a lectureship from the Dairy Innovative Australia. The lectureship was for teaching at Monash University's Department of Chemical Engineering, with the goal to boost the dairy research base and attract young engineers and food technologists to a career in the dairy industry. During her time in the Department, she supervised several post-graduate students in dairy research as well as teaching CHE2163 Heat & Mass Transfer, co-teach ENG1031 Engineering Profession, and CHE3163 Sustainable Process. The Department would like to wish Peggy all the best for her next career move.

2012 Distinguished Alumni Awards

Nominate now!

Monash graduates make a difference. From life-changing research, business excellence, environmental activism, volunteering – our alumni are changing the world for the better. It's time to recognise their achievements once again, through our Distinguished Alumni Awards.

And you can help - by nominating alumni for the 2012 awards in one of five categories: Distinguished Alumni Lifetime Achievement Award, Distinguished Alumni Professional Achievement Award, Distinguished Alumni Service Award, Distinguished Young Alumni Award, and Alumni Student Award. <http://www.monash.edu.au/alumni/news/awards/distinguished-alumni/nominate.html>

Nominations close **5pm (AEST), Wednesday 18 April**. Winners will be announced at a gala ceremony on 12 September 2012.

Share your experience - as an alumni mentor

As a graduate, you have a great deal of experience to contribute. Why not share this with current students by joining our Alumni-Student Mentoring Program? Mentors work with students to help them refine their career goals and find direction in their studies. The program also enables alumni to reconnect with the University and fellow alumni. This year we introduce e-mentoring, allowing alumni from around the world to participate.

<http://www.monash.edu.au/alumni/news/mentoring-reg.html>

Share your profile with us?

The Department of Chemical Engineering would like to have some graduate profiles listed on the Faculty site. Please visit this website to fill out a quick form and upload a photo <http://www.eng.monash.edu.au/contact/gpf.php>

Company participation

Would your company like to offer any of the following?
Vacation Work Experience to our undergraduate students?
Graduate Position (Undergraduate and Postgraduate)?
Speak to undergraduates students at a lunch time seminar about your company?

Then send a email to Lilyanne.Price@monash.edu with the details and she will get back to you shortly.

ChemEng Focus subscription

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A. Prof Karen
Hapgood
Head of Department