ChemEng focus

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MONASH University

July 2011

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DESIGN
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"This is going to be a great year for the postgrad association"

President Adam Rady

ChemEng Postgrad association launches

Introducing the new Chemical Engineering Postgraduate Association (formerly known as SPACE – but don't worry we're keeping the spaceman mascot). We are run by Chem Eng Postgrads for the benefit of Chem Eng Postgrads, academics and staff. Our goals are to promote socialising, networking and academic enrichment of the Chem Eng department through a variety of events. We encourage all post grads, academics and staff to attend all of our events in order to achieve our goals.

We kicked off our social calendar in true style; a bowling/Nandos night which I'm sure the 30 odd people who attended will agree was a big success, promoting a healthy sense of competition and camaraderie. There will be more social events planned this year – trivia and poker nights, indoor sports; are just a few of the suggestions (please feel free to make suggestions to our committee).

Thank Goodness It's Friday is be a weekly event offering a chance to unwind, relax and catch up with your fellow department members. There will always be beer, wine, soft drink and finger food provided to enhance the enjoyment of each other's company.

If you have any comments, queries, ideas for our association please feel free to approach our committee members or email us adam.rady@monash.edu

Postgrads Strike Back
CEPA host bowling night

Last Thursday, the newly formed ChemEng Postgrad Assoc (CEPA) launched its very first social event, a evening of ten pin bowling at the nearby Clayton AMF.

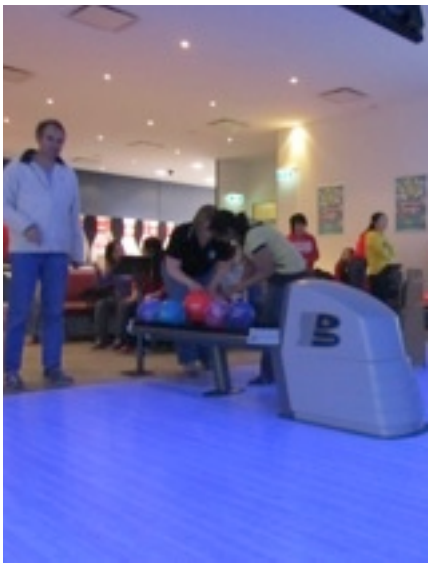
After arriving by an adhoc carpool, the bowlers broke into groups, put on their shoes and hit the lanes. Each strike or spare (sometimes even a 9) was greeted with a cheer and the occasional hi-5. Words of encouragment were yelled, tatics discussed and ball-to-pin delivery methodology studied.

Over the course of the evening, 5423 pins were dislodged from their original location, with bowlers averaging approximately 85 pins/per game. The highest individual score was by Adam Rady in game 1 (147), however Con Dimitrakakis managed to take overall honors with a total score of 266. In terms of improvement (difference between game 2 and game 1) most bowlers produced a lower score in their second game, averaging a decrease of 1.2. The most improved was Gengsheng Xu, who improved by 51. For all scores, please check the window outside the Chem Eng common room in Bld 36.

Many thanks must go to the Department for helping to support this first (of many) social events.

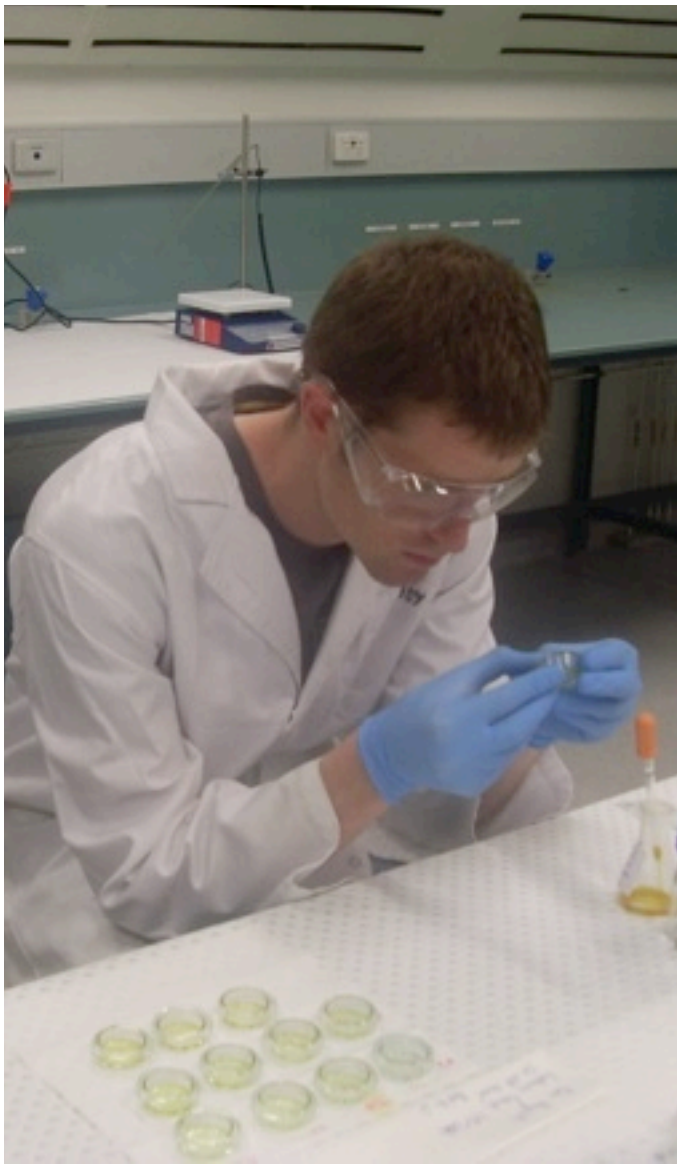
"I was bowled over by the amount of fun I had"

Rebecca Yee



"This research area aims to deliver practical low-cost disease screening technologies to developing countries"

A/Professor Wei Shen



Linkage Grant success for Dept of Chemical Engineering

Monash University has achieved its best ever performance in the second round of the Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage projects scheme.

The University received a total of 24 ARC Linkage grants; an outstanding success rate of 57.1 per cent - well above the 40.9 per cent average for other universities.

A total of $6,903,703 was awarded - an increase of $2 million on same round last year.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Ed Byrne congratulated the successful researchers.

"ARC Linkage funding is increasingly competitive and our rate of successful applications in this round is testimony to the strength of our researchers and the important collaborative partnerships they have developed with universities and organisations worldwide," Professor Byrne said.

Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor Edwina Cornish said the grants would enable researchers to deliver world-class research that provides solutions for real-world problems.

"Monash University is committed to supporting its researchers in their efforts to produce world-leading research that makes the world a better place," Professor Cornish said.

"Our success in Round 2 validates this approach and we are delighted that so many Monash researchers will now be able to develop long-term strategic alliances that may result in innovative solutions for the very real problems facing business and society, now and in the future."

The Department would like to extend congratulations to the following staff, and the teams they represent, for this accomplishment and their commitment to advancing the research output of the Department of Chemical Engineering. Prof Gil B Garnier, A/Prof Wei Shen will head the "Cellulosic and paper-based biosensors for blood analysis" in collaboration with the partner organisation Lateral Grifols Pty Ltd.

"This project will lead to exciting postgraduate opportunities for students to carry out work in low-cost biosensing and bioactive papers. These research areas will not only offer challenging PhD projects, but will also deliver practical low-cost disease screening technologies to developing countries," A/Prof Wei Shen said. Students interested in becoming a valuable member of this research team should contact A/Prof Wei Shen (9905 3447)

Vice Minister Du Yubo is farewelled by Chemical Engineering postgraduate students

Chinese Vice-Minister of Education welcomed

A senior delegation from the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China, led by Vice-Minister Du Yubo, and the Director-General of the Department of International Cooperation and Exchange, Madam Zhang Xiuqin, visited the University as part of a fact-finding mission to learn more about Australian higher education.

The delegation, which was joined by Dr Jiang Bo, Secretary General of the China Education Association for International Exchange was keen to understand the University's approach to the integration of teaching and research and our approach to industry engagement and how to develop a research university.

After being welcomed by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Global Engagement) Professor Stephanie Fahey, the delegation was briefed by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ed Byrne on the University's strategic approach to planning and development.

Professor Tam Sridhar, Vice-President (China and India Research Institutes) provided an overview of the University's current and planned research activities in China and India.

Vice-Minister Du thanked the University for hosting his visit and outlined some of his hopes and aspirations for the future development of education links between China and Australia. He mentioned that this was his first foreign tour as a Vice-Minister and that Monash was the first overseas university that he had visited.

He then led his delegation on a brief tour of the engineering laboratories, before having a discussion with some of the University's Chinese academic leaders in the Faculty of Engineering.

After a brief meeting and conversation with the Chemical Engineering postgraduate students, the Vice-Minister and his delegation were given a warm farewell from the University.

The visit was the latest in a series of events with the education section of the Chinese Consulate-General's office in Melbourne. The Department of Chemical Engineering postgraduate students pictured from left to right are Miss Li He (Ruby) and Miss Nan Fu who gave Vice-Minister Du Yubo and his delegation a warm farewell from the university. Additional students from the Department of Chemical Engineering who participated in this welcome activity but were not included in the photo were: Dr. Gang Li (Kevin Li), Mr. Xianhai Zeng (Jim Zeng), Miss Wenjie Liu (Hellen Liu), Miss Yue Tang, Mr. Jian Huang, Dr. Duo Wu (Winston Wu), and Mr. Zihou Zhou.

“My passion is to develop technologies that will benefit our civilisation”

Parama Banerjee

Parama shines
at CRCA conference

CAST postgraduate researcher, Parama Banerjee, won $1500 for her three minute presentation, "Boot camp for marine metals makes them tough". Parama was shortlisted as one of the top eight early career researchers chosen to present at the annual CRC Association (CRCA) conference and the awards were presented on the 18th May at the conference's Excellence in Innovation Awards dinner. The award is a great honour with Parama showing off her flair for presentation giving an enthusiastic performance that lifted everyone in the audience and made people sit up in their seats and take notice.

Parama has developed a cheap and environmentally friendly alternative to the toxic coating currently used in Australian naval helicopters.

The magnesium alloy used to house the gearbox of Royal Australian Navy Seahawk helicopters is prone to severe corrosion in marine environments, costing up to millions of dollars in maintenance every year. To protect the alloy from corrosion, it is covered with a chrome-based coating that is toxic to humans and the environment.

Under joint supervision with the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO) and researchers at Monash and Swinburne Universities. Ms Banerjee has developed a much-needed non-toxic alternative made from an environmentally friendly material called silane, which provides superior corrosion protection.

"The silane coating is completely biodegradable and non-toxic so people can handle it safely. It also delivers the maximum corrosion resistance ever achieved for magnesium alloys."

Ms Banerjee says while the new technology is still in a preliminary stage, it may be used to repair the corroded gearbox housings of Seahawk helicopters in the future.

DSTO was working with the CAST Cooperative Research Centre - which specialises in industry-driven research into metals technology, to address corrosion issues for magnesium alloys. The coating developed by Ms Banerjee was the result of the collaboration between the two organisations.

Ms Banerjee says the CAST Cooperative Research Centre works "hand-in-hand" with DSTO to ensure the research is meeting their needs.

"We have regular meetings with our collaborators at DSTO. We want to ensure they are satisfied with what we are developing," she says. "Being part of a Cooperative Research Centre is all about thinking about the science and the real-world applications at the same time."

"My passion is to develop technologies that will benefit our civilisation. This research has taken an important step towards a greener world."

Ms Banerjee was chosen as one of eight early career researchers to speak about her research at the Cooperative Research Centre Association conference in Brisbane. She says being involved in a Cooperative Research Centre has transformed her "from a shy girl to someone who can confidently speak in front of any crowd". And to prove her point Parama won the award for best three minute presentation at the conference without using visual aids.

Prof Huanting Wang

Professor Huanting Wang elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry

A nomination for the "Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry (FRSC)" is awarded by the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) which is located in the United Kingdom.

Achieving Fellow status in the chemical profession denotes to the wider community a high level of accomplishment as a professional chemist. Eligibility for Fellow status applies to applicants who are Members of the Royal Society of Chemistry (MRSC), with a minimum of 5 years professional experience. In addition, they must have made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of the chemical sciences; or to the advancement of the chemical sciences as a profession; or have been distinguished in the management of a chemical sciences organization.

In all cases FRSC sponsor references are required. The award of designatory letters FRSC is subject to the final approval of the RSC Applications Committee. In addition to the above, all RSC membership requires acceptance and adherence to a specific code of conduct and an established set of high standards of ethical and professional behavior. The RSC continuously establishes, and evaluates professional qualifications and the awarding of its designatory letters and awards.

Achieving Fellow status in the chemical profession denotes to the wider community a high level of accomplishment as a professional chemist

The Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) is a learned society (professional association) in the United Kingdom with the goal of "advancing the chemical sciences." It was formed in 1980 from the merger of the Chemical Society, the Royal Institute of Chemistry, the Faraday Society and the Society for Analytical Chemistry with a new Royal Charter and the dual role of learned society and professional body.

The staff of Department of Chemical Engineering would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to Professor Wang on this tremendous achievement.

Tiu and Rhodes' "Gap Year" at Monash University's Malaysia campus comes to an end

Professor Carlos Tiu and Professor Martin Rhodes spent a year at Monash University, Malaysian Sunway campus and taught various Chemical Engineering units to the student co-hort. The Sunway Chemical Engineering students bid a sad farewell to both professors. This photo of the Chemical Engineering staff was taken on the last day of Carlos' stay.

L to R
Dr. San Hein; Dr. Ta Yeong Wu; Dr. Veena Doshi; Associate Prof. Eng Seng Chan; Prof. Carlos Tiu; Ms. Meei Mei Gui; Ms. Poovarasi Balan; Dr. Siang Piao Chai; Dr. Estee Yong.

Professor Carlos Tiu will resume his Adjunct duties at Monash University, Department of Chemical Engineering, Clayton Campus while Professor Martin Rhodes has decided to go in a completely different direction by running a bed and breakfast with his wife Val. The bed and breakfast is called "Rosevale House" which is nestled below The Bluff at Brooloo on 5 acres of landscaped gardens, in the picturesque Mary Valley, 10km north of Kenilworth and 10km south of Imbil in Queensland.

www.rosevalehouse.com.au/index.html

Pratt Prize Success!

Students from three universities in Victoria, Australia celebrated chemical engineering success at the 2011 Henry Pratt prize presentation in North Melbourne.

The Pratt prize is awarded every year in recognition of the best chemical engineering design project submission in Victoria, Australia, and is organized by the Joint Victorian Chemical Engineering Committee (JVCEC).

Sue Yeen Charlene Wee, Alexandra Rodriguez, Daniel Yong, David Bradford, Mohd Ariff Mohammad Diah and Mingda Wang were all part of the successful Monash University team that clinched the Best chemical engineering design project submission.

Teams from Melbourne University and RMIT University were runners-up.

The winning team will now be entered for the Jacobs Engineering prize which is presented at Chemeca 2011 in September.

The prize is awarded in memory of the late Henry Pratt, a distinguished honorary professorial fellow at Melbourne University. Pratt was instrumental in the set-up of the Victorian IChemE Member group and was the first chairman of the National IChemE Committee (1967-68) in Australia.

Winning Team!
Front: Sue Yeen Charlene Wee, Mohd Ariff Mohammad Diah, Daniel Yong
Rear: Alexandra Rodriguez, David Bradford, Mingda Wang

Prizes were presented by IChemE Fellow Robert Pratt, son of Henry and the event was sponsored by Uhde Shedden, ExxonMobil and Wood Group PSN.

Rear L to R:
Mr Wajchman, Jonathan Wajchman, Mrs Wajchman
Front L to R:
Prof Paul Webley, A/Prof Karen Hapgood

Faculty Awards Dinner 2011

Congratulations to the following students who received awards during the Faculty Awards dinner which was held on 8th June 2011.

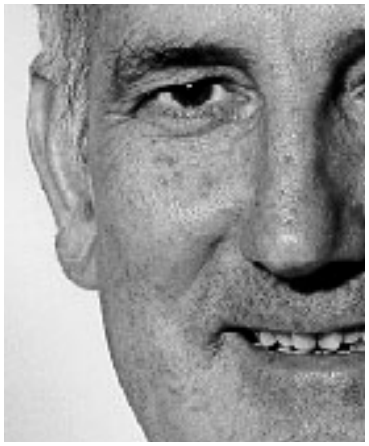
Jonathan Wajchman – Engineers Australia and The Ian Langlands Award

Jonathan Wajchman – The Owen Potter Award for Chemical Engineering Excellence *(see next page)*

Fei Tzhung Ryan Moo – The Yong Cher Biau Memorial Award

Dr Mohammad Mohidus Samad Khan – The Kenneth Hunt Medal and the Mollie Holman Doctoral Medal.

Clockwise from top Left:
Prof Owen Potter (1979) , Professor Owen Potter and wife Julie at Chemical Engineering Alumni Dinner (1990), Professor Owen Potter in laboratory (1986), 50th Anniversary Research Award winners. Owen Potter is back row, second from left.



Professor Owen Potter
and the Owen Potter Award

Profile

Born 8 August 1925.

Educated University of Queensland and University of London (MAppSc, MSc, PhD, DSc).

Queensland University Foundation Travelling Scholarship 1949,

Lecturer in chemical engineering, Manchester University 1954-60,

Reader in charge, Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Melbourne 1960-64,

Professor of Chemical Engineering, Monash University 1964-90,

Emeritus Professor of Chemical Engineering, Monash University since 1991.

He remains an Emeritus Professor at Monash, and in 2008 he was awarded a Monash University 50th Anniversary Research Award for "his path-breaking work in fluidised reactors and drying which continues to make an impact on the development of technology to reduce emissions from brown coal."

Awards:

Arnold Greene Medal, Institute of Chemical Engineers UK,

Chemeca Medal Institute of Chemical Engineers UK 1990,

ICI (UK) Award for Innovation in Drying 1992,

Kernot Medal, University of Melbourne 1993.

Monash University 50th Anniversary Research Award 2008

Owen Edward Potter was Reader and Head of the Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Melbourne and Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology 1960-63 and foundation Professor of Chemical Engineering at Monash University. He invented steam fluidised bed drying.

History of the Monash Chemical Engineering Owen Potter Prize

"In 1991, the Department of Chemical Engineering instituted this award in recognition of the contribution made by its foundation professor, Owen E Potter, not only to the department but to the chemical engineering profession in Australia generally. The award, a medallion, will be presented annually to the first class honours graduate who, having completed the degree in minimum time, gains highest overall marks in the course. A shared prize will be awarded if two or more students achieve the highest overall mark. In the event of there being no first class honours graduates, no prize may be awarded."

The medallion is custom-made and represents a bubble rising in a fluidised bed. The bronze tube represents the fluid bed, and the silver bubble and streamlines are shown in the cut-away section.

Karen Hapgood wins Future Summit Leadership Award

Outstanding new-generation leaders to be recognised for their achievements and contributions to shaping Australia's future

Associate Professor Karen Hapgood has been awarded a 'Future Summit' Leadership Award. The awards are a part of the 'Future Summit', an initiative of the Australian Davos Connection. Awards are offered each year to recognise outstanding new-generation leaders for their achievements and to contribution to a vision for Australia's future.

The Australian Leadership Awards, held in conjunction with each Future Summit, provides the opportunity for outstanding new-generation leaders to be recognised for their achievements and contributions to shaping Australia's future. The awards program also provides the opportunity for awardees to build active relationships with both their peers and senior leaders associated with the Future Summit. As part of the application process, A/Prof Hapgood outlined her view of how Australia could rebuild its pharmaceutical manufacturing industry by applying its pharmaceutical engineering expertise to produce innovative drug delivery and advanced manufacturing approaches.

The annual ADC Future Summit brings together exceptional thinkers to take part in an expansive discourse about the complex and compelling challenges ahead. The Future Summit provides a uniquely collaborative framework for participants from all sectors of the community to debate, share insights and develop actionable options for a more prosperous future.

The Future Summit program is designed for leaders from business, government, academia and the community with involvement from commentators and thought leaders from Australia and around the world.

The Key Themes for this year's summit were leadership, nation building and creative prosperity and innovation. The new leadership compact – novel approaches, success and failure

Nation building - the state of the world and the world of states in the new global economy

Creative prosperity and innovation - value and values for smart growth strategies.

L to R
A/Prof Sankar Bhattacharya, Dr Vaughn Beck (Executive Director, ATSE) and Dr Amarjeet Singh (General Manager, NTPC, India)

ATSE/INAE/Ministry sponsors A/Prof Bhattacharya's travel to attend the

Australia-India Workshop on Energy Efficiency

Recently, the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE) and the Indian National Academy of Engineering (INAE) held a workshop to bring together Australian and Indian energy technology and policy experts to identify key issues and strategies for future energy efficiency needs of Australia and India.

The conference was opened by The Australian High Commissioner to India, Mr Peter Varghese who gave a welcoming speech at the workshop. Mr Varghese highlighted the importance of building on existing links between Australia and India. Mr Varghese said "Improving the efficiency with which we use energy will play a key role in meeting both countries' growing energy needs in a sustainable manner."

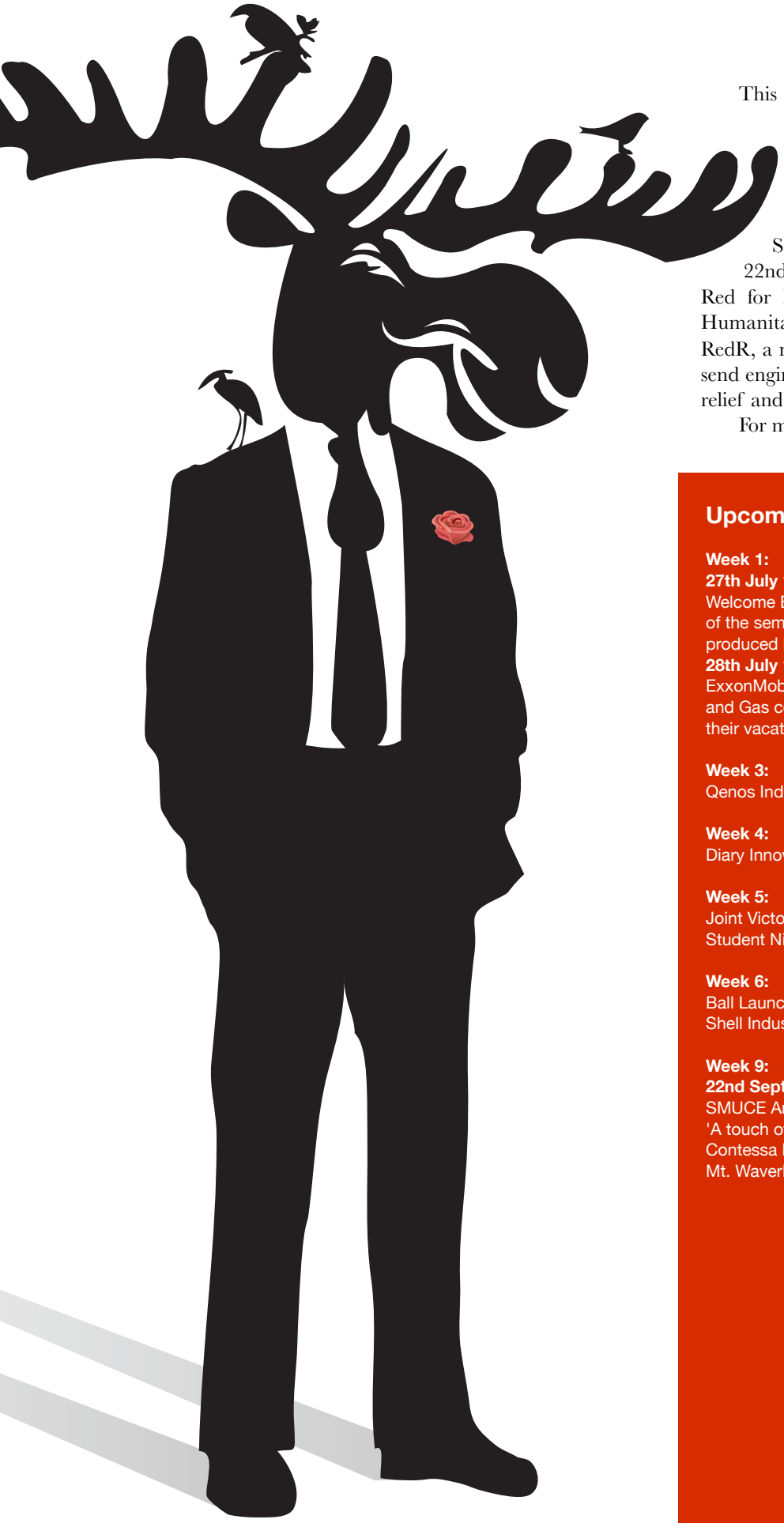
Sankar was one of the sponsored experts from the Australian delegation which also consisted of DRET officials; two from CSIRO, Monash, Sinclair Knight Mertz and the ATSE officials.

Sankar's presentation at the workshop was on "Coal Gasification - Current Status and R&D Needs". Apart from speaking at the workshop, Sankar also chaired a session on "Enhancing efficiency of existing coal-fired power stations".

Mr Chiranjib Saha, a current PhD student of Sankar's was also sponsored by ATSE/INAE/Ministry to attend the workshop. During their time in India Chiranjib and Sankar visited the R&D office of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), which is the largest power utility in India. While at NTPC both Sankar and Chiranjib gave a presentation on the current coal research at Monash.

Smuce supporting RedR

By James Walter, President



This semester The Society of Monash University Chemical Engineers (SMUCE) is going to be bigger and better than ever! We have a huge semester planned of seminars, specifically for younger students looking for Vacation work, as well as BBQ's and of course The Annual SMUCE Academic Dinner on Thursday the 22nd of September. This year's theme is 'A touch of Red for RedR'. As part of 2011 being the Year of Humanitarian Engineering, SMUCE is supporting RedR, a non-profit international organisation helping to send engineers and other skilled professionals on disaster relief and humanitarian aid assignments.

For more info on Redr, please visit www.redr.org.au

Upcoming Events and Dates

Week 1:
27th July 1pm, Dean's Lawn (behind SMUCE office)
Welcome Back and MasterBrewer BBQ : This is our first event of the semester where we try out the range home brew beers produced by the CHE3163 students in semester 1.
28th July 1 pm, Bld 69/201 (4th year room).
ExxonMobil Industry Seminar. One of the world's largest Oil and Gas companies, ExxonMobil, is coming in to talk about their vacation work program for the summer of 2011/2012.

Week 3:
Qenos Industry Seminar

Week 4:
Diary Innovation Australia Limited (DIAL) Industry Seminar

Week 5:
Joint Victorian Chemical Engineering Committee (JVCEC) Student Night

Week 6:
Ball Launch BBQ
Shell Industry Seminar

Week 9:
22nd September 2011
SMUCE Annual Academic Dinner,
'A touch of Red for RedR'.
Contessa Receptions, 436-442 Huntingdale Road
Mt. Waverley.

New Staff

Dr Akshat Tanksale

Dr Akshat Tanksale

Dr Akshat Tanksale holds a Bachelor of Engineering in Chemical Engineering from the National Institute of Technology, Raipur (India), and Master of Engineering and PhD in Chemical Engineering from the University of Queensland (UQ). His PhD thesis was focused on the catalytic conversion of sugars and sugar alcohols into hydrogen, for which he received the UQ research school dean's award for outstanding thesis in year 2008.

Dr Akshat Tanksale joined the department in March 2011. Earlier he worked as a postdoctoral research fellow at the Australian Institute of Bioengineering and Nanotechnology, UQ for about 2.5 years. His postdoctoral research was focused on biomass conversion to alternative liquid fuels, biochemicals and hydrogen using novel nanomaterials as catalysts. He also worked with a team of researchers in the field of photocatalytic water splitting technology for hydrogen production and nanocomposite magnesium hydride materials for hydrogen storage in portable applications. Dr Tanksale is a co-author on a provisional patent and several high impact journal publications and has presented widely in several international conferences, receiving two awards for his presentations. He was also awarded the inaugural Australia-India Science and Technology Research Award by ATSE to visit National Chemical Laboratory, Pune (India) to commence a collaborative project.

Dr Tanksale will work on developing several biorefinery technologies, including biofuels production at the department and is currently seeking PhD students to work on different aspects of biomass conversion to liquid fuels. He will teach CHE2162 Material and Energy Balances.

Dr Zongping Shao

Dr Zongping Shao

Dr. Shao completed a Bachelors degree of Chemistry from Zhejiang University (former Hangzhou University) China in 1995, a Ph.D in physical chemistry in 2000 from Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences. His doctoral research focused on the development of mixed conducting ceramic membrane for oxygen separation and coupling reaction of methane to value-added products. From August 2000 till Feb. 2002, Dr. Shao was a visiting scholar at Catalysis research Institute (IRC), CNRS, France, after that he joined the group of Prof. Sossina M Haile at California Institute of Technology as a research associate conducting research on micro solid oxide fuel cells, until he went back to China in July 2005. From 2006 on, Dr Shao was appointed as a full professor of Nanjing University of Technology, and is also an Adjunct Prof. of Huazhong University of Technology, China, and Curtin University, Australia. In 2010, Dr. Shao was awarded the outstanding young scientist awards of China, the highest honour for chinese scientists under the age of 45. In May 2011, Dr. Shao took an ARC future fellowship to join the Department of Chemical Engineering.

Dr. Shao's research focuses on the electrochemical energy conversion and storage, including solid oxide fuel cells and lithium-ion batteries. Dr. Shao is the author of 17 patents including three US patents, about 170 scientific papers in peer-reviewed journals incluced two first-authored papers in Nature magzine with a total citation of around 3000 and H-index of 24.

Dr. Shao will expand the research on solid oxide fuel cells for clean power generation and lithium-ion batteries for energy storage and is currently seeking PhD students to work on different aspects of electrochemical energy conversion and storage.

Meet our Research Student
Fatin Al-Deen

Superparamagnetic iron oxide nanoparticles (SPIONs) are emerging as promising candidates for various biomedical applications such as targeted vaccine delivery due to their biocompatibility and low cost of production.

Malaria is one of the most prevalent and devastating of all human parasitic diseases, exacting a heaving toll of deaths and illnesses particularly on children and pregnant women in developing countries. Thus, there is a need for an affordable and effective vaccine for malaria that can promote the fight against this deadly disease.

Fatin Al-Deen is a PhD candidate in the Department of Chemical Engineering. Her research focuses on utilising SPIONs under the influence of external magnetic field for rapid and specific gene transfections at low dose and site-specific in vitro.

"Although the use of biomaterials in vaccine delivery has been studied for many years, recent studies targeting antigen by specifically using SPIONs have demonstrated potential as exciting tools to enhance the delivery of malaria DNA vaccines. SPIONs have attracted considerable attention in gene delivery applications because of their relatively low toxicity, low cost of production, ability to immobilize biological materials on their surfaces and potential for direct targeting using external magnets," explained Fatin.

Fatin is currently developing the magnetic malaria DNA vaccine delivery system further by extending their application in vivo via experimental animal models in terms of different administration strategies of the vaccine.

"Understanding of the potency of the malaria antigen delivery system via in vivo animal studies using SPIONs, will provide new insights into the regulation of protective immune responses and help to optimally design malaria DNA vaccine delivery systems for protection against this disease, particularly in developing countries," said Fatin.

Fatin holds a Masters degree in Parasitology from Mosul University in Iraq. She is completing her research in collaboration between the Department of Chemical Engineering, the Department of Microbiology and the Department of Immunology at Monash University. She is supervised by Dr Cordelia Selomulya and Dr Michael Danquah (Department of Chemical Engineering), Dr Ross Coppel (Department of Microbiology) and Professor Magdalena Plebanksi (Department of Immunology).

"The potential as exciting tools to enhance the delivery of malaria DNA vaccines"

Fatin Al-Deen

Congratulations & news

Doctor of Philosophy May - June 2011

Mr Samuel Rogers (DC),
Mr Chong Xun Lawrence Quek (DC)
Mr Yi (Harvey) Huang (HW)
Ms Na Hao (PW)

Dimitrakakis wins international travel grant

Con Dimitrakakis, a PhD student under the supervision of Dr Bradley Ladewig, has been awarded a travel grant by IChemE's Fluid Separations Subject Group to attend the International Congress on Membranes and Membrane Processes being held in Amsterdam from July 23 - 29. Con was selected from a field of candidates to receive this funding support which is open to applications from IChemE-affiliated postgraduate students and early-career researchers working in a fluid separations-related field. At the conference he will give an oral presentation and a poster on his research on gas separation membranes to many eminent researchers in membrane science and related technologies from around the world.

Update 50th Anniversary Gala Dinner

Bookings now open

Hosted by: Engineering 50th Anniversary Gala Dinner Organising Committee
When: 03 Nov 2011, 19:00 - 23:30
Where: Melbourne Town Hall, 90-120 Swanston Street, Melbourne, 3000, Australia
To book at ticket or a table go to this website http://www.eng.monash.edu.au/campaign/2011/50th-gala-dinner/

We are looking to get in contact with all Monash University Engineering students who studied between 1961 and 2011. We are holding an Engineering 50th Anniversary Gala Dinner. If you know someone who undertook an Engineering degree (all Engineering fields) can you please pass on the information regarding the Engineering 50th Anniversary Gala Dinner?
There will be a minimum of speeches and plenty of opportunity for meeting up with old friends (Partners welcome).

Three Minute Thesis

Department of Chemical Engineering round

3MT provides research students with an opportunity to present a compelling speech on their thesis topic to an intelligent but non-specialist audience in just three minutes.

1st place and an award of $500 was awarded to Aashish Jain for his presentation on "Unravelling the Dynamics of Semidilute Polymer Solutions".

2nd place and an award of $100 was awarded to Shaun Rimos for his presentation on "Australian Natural Gas: Consequences of Future Scarcity".

There were 8 students in total who competed in the competition. Aashish will now go on to compete in the Faculty competition which has been organised to be held on 20 July 2011.

NEW // Masters of Bioresource Engineering

Master of Engineering 1 year Program on Bioresource Engineering to start in 2012 with 3 streams: Biorefinery, Pulp and Paper and Maintenance and Project Management. This is the first Master of Engineering course in Australia on biorefinery and is the refined product of 21 years of partnership with industry. The course description is: This course provides science or engineering graduates who wish to pursue a career in the bioresource industry with an enhanced understanding of the scientific and engineering aspects of the conversion of bioresources into fuel, materials and specialty chemicals. Participants may focus on biorefining (Biorefinery Stream) or on the specific conversion of bioresources into pulp and paper (Pulp and Paper Stream). The latter has a further stream which is designed for those whose specific interest is project and maintenance management (Maintenance and Project Management Stream). Students not currently working in industry are brought into contact with industry through the close contact staff of the Australian Pulp and Paper.
Institute (APPI) have with industry. This course is coordinated by APPI within the Department of Chemical Engineering. Full details of the program will be available from the Monash University's website http://www.monash.edu.au/pubs/handbooks/ after 28th September 2011. Contact Warren Batchelor (Email: warren.batchelor@monash.edu) for more details or to be notified when enrolments open.

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 subscribition

Would you like to receive future issues of ChemEng Focus?

If so, please email lilyanne.price@monash.edu and we will add you to our newsletter mailing list.

Disclaimer

The statements made or opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of Monash University.

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