



Faculty of Science News Bulletin for Research Staff

Bulletin 08/2006

(26 April 2006)

www.sci.monash.edu.au/research/bulletin/

Items for inclusion in this bulletin

Please forward any items to Matt Randall (Manager.Research@sci.monash.edu.au). Requests should include full information on application / nomination procedures, dates and deadlines, and contact details or web links to further information.

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PART A - NEWS

1. Webpage on travel policies and procedures for Science postgraduates

A webpage detailing the Monash University policies and procedures applying to Faculty of Science postgraduate research students undertaking domestic or overseas travel for research or university work is now available at www.sci.monash.edu.au/postgrad/travel.html.

2. Change of name for BTI (Australia)

The Travel Office advises the university's travel provider, BTI (Australia), has changed its name to HRG (Australia). For Monash clients this will mean business as usual as the same consultants servicing Monash will be available on the same phone numbers. The corporate agreement that Monash University had with BTI remains the same under HRG. Further information about the change to HRG is available at www.firm.monash.edu.au/travel/Advice/news/2006-02_HRG.html.

3. Research Office - News and Events

The Research Office maintains a page of news and events of interest to researchers at www.monash.edu.au/research/contacts/research-office/news-events.html.

PART B - EVENTS

4. Monash University Sustainability Forum

'The Ecological Footprint: accounting for a small planet'

This forum is part of a series of monthly forums co-hosted by Monash Sustainability Institute, Monash Environmental Alumni, the School of Geography and Environmental Science and associated graduate students. Light refreshments will be available.

Guest speaker

Dr Mathis Wackernagel, founder and Executive Director of Global Footprint Network

Date

Thursday, 4 May 2006 from 5:30 - 7:30 pm

Venue

Lecture Theatre S2, Building 25, Clayton campus

Further information

www.arts.monash.edu.au/ges/about/sustforum.html

Registration

Register online at www.arts.monash.edu.au/ges/about/sustforumreg.html

5. Australian National Science Graduate Conference

The Australian National Science Graduate Conference brings together Australia's top science graduates and recent PhD students to present their current research results and future outlook of their research. The conference aims to facilitate awareness of current early research among Australia's future scientists, to provide a platform for establishing early networks among upcoming scientists, to facilitate early cross disciplinary collaboration, to stimulate synergy and further innovation in current research efforts through exposure to new ideas, and to recognise some of the best research presented.

Distinguished Facilitators and Speakers will include:

- The Hon Julie Bishop MP
Minister for Education, Science and Training
- Dr William James Peacock, AC
The Chief Scientist of Australia

Dates

Friday, 26 May 2006 – Sunday, 28 May 2006

Venue

International College of Management, Sydney (ICMS)
Manly, NSW

Further information

www.apnf.org/ANSGC

6. CRC for Greenhouse Accounting briefing on 'Climate Change, Carbon and Plants'

Designed for people working in botany, forestry, ecology, horticulture, agriculture, natural resource management, viticulture, policy development, local government, consulting, finance and insurance, this briefing will consider:

- how plants will respond to more carbon dioxide;
- how to improve agricultural productivity while reducing methane;
- carbon trading;
- how to manage soil carbon;
- simple rules for estimating carbon pools;
- land management practices, land use change;
- how climate change will affect water availability; and
- implications for plant-based endeavours.

Date

Wednesday, 31 May 2006

Venue

Novotel Hotel, St Kilda, Melbourne

Registration / further information

www.greenhouse.crc.org.au

7. Commercialisation Expo 2006

Commercialisation Expo 2006 will showcase Australia's research and development capabilities and commercialisation opportunities. It builds on the success of the inaugural event in March 2003, after which exhibited technologies attracted almost \$40 million in investment. It will feature:

- Expo Marketplace that showcases outstanding partnering, commercial and investment opportunities;
- **Peter Doherty Prize for Innovation worth \$100,000 plus other category prizes;**
- Commercialisation Conference presenting the views of renowned specialists in the field;
- Book of Ideas containing details of all new opportunities presented at the event; and
- Careers in Innovation Seminar.

Dates

Sunday, 18 June 2006 – Tuesday, 20 June 2006

Venue

Melbourne Exhibition and Convention Centre

Further information

www.expo2006.com.au/

8. 6th Australian Space Science Conference

The Australian Space Science Conference (ASSC) is the focus of scientific cooperation and discussion in Australia on research relating to space. It is a peer reviewed forum for space scientists, engineers, educators and industry. This conference will no doubt be of relevance to a very broad cross section of the space community, and should therefore generate an enlightening and timely exchange of ideas and perspectives.

Dates

Wednesday, 19 July 2006 – Friday, 21 July 2006

Venue

Canberra Hyatt hotel, Canberra, ACT

Further information

www.6assc.nssa.com.au

9. Research Office events, seminars and information sessions

The Research Office maintains a page of upcoming events for researchers at <http://monash.edu.au/research/contacts/research-office/news-events/index.html>

PART C - FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

10. Plant Nutrition Trust Management awards

The Plant Nutrition Trust has been established to encourage and promote research and technology transfer in the mineral nutrition of plants, soil fertility and fertiliser and soil amendment technology, and includes areas where these impinge on other fields such as plant breeding. The Trust invites applications for awards to assist in carrying out a study tour or to attend a conference or such other activity related to the stated objectives. In making an award, an applicant's scholastic achievement and recent contribution to industry, research or technology transfer and their potential for future contribution will be considered. The amount of each award will depend on circumstances, but is likely to be under \$2000.

Two categories of awards are offered:

- **Alf Anderson Award:** for work in any of the areas of plant nutrition mentioned above; and
- **Sam Tisdale Award:** for work that has a strong emphasis on sulfur nutrition of plants.

Applicants must be Australian citizens or permanent residents based in Australia, except that for the Sam Tisdale Award, Australian citizens may sponsor candidates from Asia and the south west Pacific region.

Deadline for applications

Friday, 28 April 2006 with the Plant Nutrition Trust

Further information and application form

Dr Peter Randall
CSIRO Plant Industry
GPO Box 1600
CANBERRA ACT 2601
Email: Peter.Randall@csiro.au

11. CSIRO Flagship Visiting Fellowships

Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) Flagship Visiting Fellowships are available for distinguished researchers to work for a period of time (generally up to six months) in a Flagship to enhance the intellectual leadership of a Flagship or a major component of a Flagship (for example, a Theme). It is expected that up to 10 Fellowships will be offered per semester.

Benefits

The Fellowships are valued at a maximum of \$100,000 and allow Australian based researchers to be seconded from their home organisation to enable them to undertake an agreed project under Flagships. The Fellowship may be used to fund a living allowance during the term of their Fellowship as well as economy class international air travel and minor operating costs.

Deadline for applications

Monday, 1 May 2006 with the Research Office

Further information

www.monash.edu.au/research/academics/funding/information/other/csiro-flagship-visiting-fellowships.html

12. Monash University and CSIRO Collaborative Research Support Scheme

Monash University and the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) have announce Round 3 of the Collaborative Research Support Scheme (CRSS) which is jointly funded by the two organisations.

Benefits

The scheme provides seed funding only, not full project support. It is expected that up to six awards of up to \$50,000 per annum will be made in 2006.

Eligibility criteria

- The research project must form part of a recognised or developing research collaboration between Monash University and CSIRO, building on synergies from co-location on the Clayton campus;
- Preference will be given to applications where at least one of the Principal Investigators from either Monash University or CSIRO has less than 10 years postdoctoral research experience;
- The relevance of the proposed research project to the organisations' jointly identified priority areas (currently health, manufacturing, water and energy); and
- multidisciplinary applications are encouraged.

Deadline for applications

Monday, 8 May 2006 with the Research Office

Further information

www.monash.edu.au/research/academics/funding/information/monash/monash-csiro.html

13. AINSE Postdoctoral Research Fellowship

The new OPAL research reactor at Lucas Heights is opening up new possibilities in neutron scattering research in Australia. You can be part of this exciting facility if who have between three and eight years post PhD experience to undertake research in areas of science and technology requiring the use the OPAL reactor by applying for an AINSE research fellowship.

The fellowships are offered at academic level B, indicative salary range \$79,000 – 81,000, for outstanding and enthusiastic scientists to undertake research in areas of science and technology requiring the use the OPAL reactor. Fellows will be expected to build a research group in one of the AINSE member universities and be attached to ANSTO for experiments on the new, state of the art facilities on OPAL.

Applicants from a wide range of disciplines including chemistry, physics, molecular biology, biochemistry, medicine, materials science, environmental science and engineering are invited to apply. Prior to submitting an application you will need to liaise with a potential supervisor at an AINSE member university as well as a member of ANSTO's Bragg Institute.

AINSE Postdoctoral Research Fellowships are tenable at Monash University. Applicants are required to discuss their research program and an outline with the university.

Deadline for applications

Wednesday, 31 May 2006 with AINSE

Further information

www.ainse.edu.au/postdoc/postdocfellows.html

14. Commercialisation Expo 2006

Commercialisation Expo 2006 will showcase Australia's research and development capabilities and commercialisation opportunities. It builds on the success of the inaugural event in March 2003, after which exhibited technologies attracted almost \$40 million in investment. It will feature:

- Expo Marketplace that showcases outstanding partnering, commercial and investment opportunities;
- **Peter Doherty Prize for Innovation worth \$100,000 plus other category prizes;**
- Commercialisation Conference presenting the views of renowned specialists in the field;
- Book of Ideas containing details of all new opportunities presented at the event; and
- Careers in Innovation Seminar.

Dates

Sunday, 18 June 2006 – Tuesday, 20 June 2006

Venue

Melbourne Exhibition and Convention Centre

Further information

www.expo2006.com.au/

15. ARC Linkage – Projects: Round 2/2006 (for funding commencing in July 2007)

The objectives of the ARC Linkage Projects are to:

- encourage and develop long-term strategic research alliances between higher education institutions and industry in order to apply advanced knowledge to problems, or to provide opportunities to obtain national economic or social benefits;
- support collaborative research on issues of benefit to regional and rural communities;
- enhance the scale and focus of research in Designated National Research Priorities;
- foster opportunities for postdoctoral researchers to pursue internationally competitive research in collaboration with industry, targeting those who have demonstrated a clear commitment to high quality research;
- provide industry-oriented research training to prepare high-calibre postgraduate research students; and
- produce a national pool of world-class researchers to meet the needs of Australian industry.

The Designated National Research Priorities and associated Priority Goals are:

- An Environmentally Sustainable Australia;
- Promoting and Maintaining Good Health;
- Frontier Technologies for Building and Transforming Australian Industries; and
- Safeguarding Australia.

Upcoming deadlines

Please note the following deadlines:

- Deadline for requests for eligibility exemptions
Friday, 6 October 2006
- Deadline for draft Applications to be submitted for review and comment by the Research Office
Monday, 6 November 2006
- Deadline for the complete application to be submitted to the Research Office
Monday, 13 November 2006

Further information

www.monash.edu.au/research/academics/funding/information/arc/arc-linkageprojects.html

PART D - AWARDS AND PRIZES

16. 2006 Australian Museum Eureka Prizes

The 2006 Australian Museum Eureka Prizes are now open with 10 prizes to reward outstanding Australian research. The prizes cover many areas of science including leadership in science, medical research and research which minimises the use of animals or animal products. The 2006 Australian Museum Eureka Prizes offers awards in 4 categories:

- Research;
- Leadership and Innovation;
- Education; and
- Science Communication.

Most prizes carry a cash reward of \$10,000. The Macquarie University Eureka Schools Prize for Earth, Environmental and Planetary Science and the University of Sydney Sleek Geeks Science Eureka Schools Prize also include computer software and book vouchers as prizes. The British Council Eureka Prize for Innovation and Leadership in Environmental Science involves travel, accommodation and program assistance for a study tour to the UK to the value of \$10,000.

Winners will be announced at a gala award dinner in Sydney on Tuesday, 22 August 2006.

Deadline for nominations

Friday, 5 May 2006 with the Australian Museum

Online entry form and further information

www.amonline.net.au/eureka/

17. 2006 Prime Minister's Prizes for Science

Nominations are being sought for the following five prestigious awards:

- Prime Minister's Prize for Science (\$300,000)
- Science Minister's Prize for Life Scientist of the Year (\$50,000)
- Malcolm McIntosh Prize for Physical Scientist of the Year (\$50,000)
- Prime Minister's Prize for Excellence in Science Teaching in Primary Schools (\$50,000)
- Prime Minister's Prize for Excellence in Science Teaching in Secondary Schools (\$50,000)

Deadline for nominations

Friday, 19 May 2006 with the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST)

Further information

<https://sciencegrants.dest.gov.au/scienceprize/pages/home.aspx>

18. The Royal Society of Victoria Postgraduate Student Prizes

The Royal Society of Victoria has established two prestigious postgraduate student prizes open to postgraduates in all areas of biological and physical sciences. This will give students further experience in presenting information to an audience of scientists and the general public on their particular research field. Students will also have the opportunity to receive mentoring in their chosen field by senior scientists who are members of the Society.

Benefits

A certificate and \$500.

Eligibility

The awards are open to students in their second or third year of candidature at the time of application. Judges will select a shortlist of three candidates in each of Biological Sciences and Physical Sciences. Applicants must be members of the Royal Society of Victoria.

Application process

Applicants must submit an extended abstract and application form by the deadline. Each of the shortlisted candidates will give an oral presentation (15 minutes plus 5 minutes discussion) before a general audience at The Royal Society of Victoria on Tuesday, 15 August 2006 at 6:00 pm. Winners will be announced on the night.

Applicants must be members of The Royal Society of Victoria.

Deadline for nominations

Wednesday, 31 May 2006 with The Royal Society of Victoria

Further information

Ms Camilla van Megen
Executive Officer, The Royal Society of Victoria
rsv@sciencevictoria.org.au

PART E – DATES AND DEADLINES

April 2006

Friday, 28 April 2006

- Deadline for applications for Plant Nutrition Trust Management awards [item 10]

May 2006

Monday, 1 May 2006

- Deadline for applications for Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) Flagship Visiting Fellowships [item 11]

Thursday, 4 May 2006

- Monash University Sustainability Forum [item 4]

Friday, 5 May 2006

- Deadline for applications for 2006 Australian Museum Eureka Prizes [Item 16]

Monday, 8 May 2006

- Deadline for applications for Monash University and CSIRO Collaborative Research Support Scheme [item 12]

Friday, 19 May 2006

- Deadline for nominations for the 2006 Prime Minister's Prizes for Science [item 17]

Friday, 26 May 2006 – Sunday, 28 May 2006

- Australian National Science Graduate Conference [item 5]

Wednesday, 31 May 2006

- Deadline for applications for Australian Institute of Nuclear Science and Engineering (AINSE) Postdoctoral Research Fellowship [item 13]
- Deadline for applications for The Royal Society of Victoria Postgraduate Student Prizes [item 18]
- CRC for Greenhouse Accounting briefing on 'Climate Change, Carbon and Plants' [item 6]

June 2006

Sunday, 18 June 2006 – Tuesday, 20 June 2006

- Commercialisation Expo 2006 [items 7 and 14]

July 2006

Wednesday, 19 July 2006 – Friday, 21 July 2006

- 6th Australian Space Science Conference [item 8]

August 2006

(No entries)

September 2006

(No entries)

October 2006

Friday, 6 October 2006

- Deadline for requests for eligibility exemptions for ARC Linkage – Projects: Round 2/2006 [item 15]

November 2006

Monday, 6 November 2006

- Deadline for draft Applications to be submitted for review and comment by the Research Office for ARC Linkage – Projects: Round 2/2006 [see item 15]

Monday, 13 November 2006

- Deadline for complete applications for ARC Linkage – Projects: Round 2/2006 to be submitted to the Research Office [item 15]

December 2006

(No entries)