



Faculty of Science News Bulletin for Research Staff

Bulletin 17/2007 - (27 November 2007)

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

Items for inclusion in this bulletin

Please forward any items to the Tom.Keegan@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. 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

2. Latest ARC Results for Funding Commencing in 2008

www.monash.edu.au/research/contacts/research-office/news-events/arc-results.html

3. NHMRC Results for Funding Commencing in 2008

www.monash.edu.au/research/contacts/research-office/news-events/nhmrc-results.html

4. Monash Newline – Science and Engineering

www.monash.edu.au/news/newline/science+and+engineering

5. *ScienceAlert* – Australia and New Zealand

ScienceAlert is a website that delivers Australian & New Zealand science, technology, and innovation news to science, industry, the media, government and the broader community.

www.sciencealert.com.au/about-us.html

6. *Science Matters* – Department of Education, Science and Training

An online resource for those interested in the dynamic field of Australian Government science policy.

Science presents the latest research and innovation news from the Department of Education, Science and Training, from news of world-class Government-funded research to stories about the latest innovations transforming our lives.

www.sciencematters.dest.gov.au/

PART B - EVENTS

7. Monash 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>

8. Presentation by Dr Rosalie Hocking, Beamline Fellow, Monash Centre for Synchrotron Science

Dr Rosalie Hocking, Beamline Fellow, Monash Centre for Synchrotron Science
1pm, Wednesday 28th November 2007
Lecture theatre E5, Building 32

Synchrotron Based Spectroscopic Approaches: New Probes of Structure and bonding from biology to mineral processing

The Monash Centre for Synchrotron Science has recently appointed 3 Beamline Fellows. With expertise in one or more techniques available at the Australian Synchrotron, the Beamline Fellows are able to assist Monash researchers make best use of this exciting new piece of scientific infrastructure. Dr Rosalie Hocking is the first of the Beamline Fellows to come on board. Her interest in synchrotron based spectroscopy began during her postdoctoral work at Stanford where she spent 3 years developing applications of synchrotron techniques to bioinorganic chemistry. Her current research interests focus on the application of synchrotron based spectroscopies to both biogeochemical and bioinorganic systems. This presentation will give an overview of spectroscopic based approaches available at the Australian synchrotron, illustrated by 3 case studies.

At the conclusion of Rosalie's presentation, the MCSS Research and Training Manager, Dr Karen Siu, will give an overview of the various access routes available to Monash researchers at the Australian Synchrotron and the application procedures.

For more information: Dr Karen Siu, Email: karen.siu@sync.monash.edu.au, Tel: 99054922

9. The University of Melbourne – The Concepts of Entropy and their Applications

You are invited to a three week theme program:

Topics

26-28 November
Thermodynamics

28 November
Thermodynamics and Entropy methods in PDEs

29-30 November
Entropy methods in statistical mechanics

3 December
Entropy methods in environmental data modelling

4-5 December
Entropy methods in dynamical systems

6 December
Entropy methods in information theory and applications

10 December

Entropy methods for operations research

11-12 December

Entropy methods in signal processing

Audience

The audience is both academic staff and postgraduate students

Invitation

Time allocated will be 25 minutes with 5 minutes for discussion. Abstracts for contributed talks may be submitted to graham@amsi.org.au.

Venue

AMSI, ICT Building, University of Melbourne, 111 Barry Street, Carlton

International Speakers

Michael Baake
Rod Dewar
Uwe Grimm
Frank Hollander
Richard Kleeman
Ingo Müller
Rua Murray
Anthony Quas
Reuven Rubinstein
Tommaso Ruggeri
Nitish Thakore
Benji Weiss

Registration

An [online registration form](#) is available for members and non-members at our website.

More Information

Further details are available at our [website](#).

10. Training Course in Laboratory Animal Care and Use – Semester 1, 2008 – Monash University Animal Welfare Committee

"Regulatory Issues & Animal Welfare" will be held **Tuesday 19 February 2008**.

This module is **COMPULSORY** for all new honours / postgraduate students and less experienced personnel who will be involved in the use of animals for research and teaching at Monash University.

The flier and registration form are available from the animal ethics website <http://www.monash.edu.au/research/ethics/animal/moreinfo/training.html>

Training Course in Animal Care and Use for School of Biological Science - date to be confirmed.

Practical Training Modules will resume in 2008. These will be run in collaboration with Monash Animal Services.

Course dates and details to be announced in 2008.

Queries to the Monash Animal Ethics Office at animal.ethics@adm.monash.edu.au or tel: (03) 9905 5121.

PART C - FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

11. Monash University 2008 Strategic Initiatives relating to the International Portfolio

In 2005 the Vice Chancellor's Group established the International Strategic Projects Fund to support initiatives that enhance the universities international focus.

Any Monash staff member or group may apply. Cross-disciplinary proposals will be well regarded. Early Career Researchers are encouraged to apply.

It is anticipated that the available pool of funding for 2008 will not exceed \$350,000. For 2008, projects in the range of \$15,000 to \$30,000 will be favourably considered. Funding will be normally for one year only, however project funding for two years may be considered.

For further information/application form:

<http://monash.edu.au/research/academics/funding/information/monash/dvc-international/2008-strategic-initiatives-international.doc>

Deadline for applications:

Tuesday, 11 December 2007 with Theresa Whiting, Office of DVC (International, Building 3A)

12. Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study – Fellowships 2008-2009 for Natural Scientists and Mathematicians

Radcliffe Institute fellowships are designed to support scholars, scientists, artists, and writers of exceptional promise and demonstrated accomplishment who wish to pursue work in academic and professional fields and in the creative arts. In recognition of Radcliffe's historic contributions to the education of women and to the study of issues related to women, the Radcliffe Institute sustains a continuing commitment to the study of women, gender, and society. Applicants' projects need not focus on gender, however.

Stipends are funded up to US\$70,000 for one year with additional funds for project expenses. Some support for relocation expenses is provided where relevant. Fellows receive office or studio space and access to libraries and other resources of Harvard University during the fellowship year, which extends from early September 2008 through June 30, 2009. Fellows are expected to be free of their regular commitments so they may devote themselves full time to the work outlined in their proposal.

Further information/application forms:

www.radcliffe.edu/fellowships/apply/index.php

Deadline for applications:

Monday, 19 November 2007 with the Monash Research Office

Monday, 3 December 2007 with the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study

13. Uebergang (Ray and Joyce) Foundation – Small Research Grants

The Ray & Joyce Uebergang Foundation supports research that will advance Victoria in any one or more public scientific, public educational or other public charitable purpose in particular if the focus is on the Warrnambool area. Priorities include the housing and maintenance of historical records, preservation of flora and fauna, the environment and heritage matters, particularly in the Western District of Victoria.

There is no set form of application. Applicants should provide as much information as necessary to support the application. Attachment of large quantities of material should be avoided.

The granting body has four funding rounds available each year.

For further information:

<http://www.splinta.org/grants/grants.htm#ray>

Deadline for submission of applications:

Friday, 30 November 2007 with the Monash Research Office

Monday, 10 December 2007 with the Uebergang (Ray and Joyce) Foundation

14. NHMRC Equipment Grants (standard) allocated for 2007

The NHMRC has advised that a sum of \$896,666 has been allocated to Monash University as Standard Equipment Grants for 2007. This amount has been calculated by allocating funds pro rata to the NHMRC health and medical research grants held by Monash University in 2007.

The NHMRC has clearly defined objectives for awarding Equipment Grant funding, which are:

the need for institutions to be strategic in the purchase of larger items of equipment that will benefit health and medical research in Australia;
institutions are encouraged to support equipment that will be used collaboratively; and
where possible, Australian-made equipment should be purchased.

Selection Criteria

The following factors should be taken into consideration when making decisions on the equipment to be supported:

The equipment should support highest quality health and medical research, as supported by the NHMRC (or other competitive grant process);
Lack of access to similar equipment in the institution or region and;
Collaborative gain through use of the equipment, e.g. - multi-user equipment which crosses disciplines, research groups and departments.

Further information/application forms:

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

Deadline for submission of applications:

Monday, 3 December 2007 with Tom Keegan, Faculty of Science Research Office, Building 19N

Must submit the original plus one copy.

15. Project Aware Foundation (PAF)

The Foundation is the dive industry's leading non-profit organization committed to conserving the underwater environments through education, advocacy and action.

Grants are provided to a variety of nonprofit organizations, institutions and individuals involved in activities directly related to the conservation of underwater environments - both marine and freshwater. We work to accomplish our mission through support of programs in selected focus areas including: Coral reef conservation; Shark protection; Sustainable fisheries; Ecotourism (as related to underwater environments); Aquatic education with a special interest in children; Direct activities to conserve underwater resources such as shoreline and underwater cleanups, mooring buoy installations and maintenance.

Within these focus areas, projects may include environmentally focused research that leads to conservation measures.

For further information/application forms:

www.projectaware.org/americas/english/grants.asp

For submission requirements:

www.monash.edu.au/research/academics/funding/applications/monash-requirements.html

Deadline for applications:

Wednesday, 5 December 2007 with the Monash Research Office

Friday, 14 December 2007 with the Project Aware Foundation

16. Leakey (LSB) Foundation – General Grants

For research into human origins. Recent priorities include, research into the: environments, archeology, and human paleontology, behavior, morphology, and ecology of the great apes and other primate species, behavioral ecology of contemporary hunter-gatherers. Other areas of study are rarely considered.

For further information/application forms:

www.leakeyfoundation.org/

Deadline for applications:

Monday, 17 December 2007 with the Monash Research Office

Saturday, 5 January 2008 with the Leakey Foundation

17. Norman Wettenhall Foundation - Research Grants

The objectives of the Foundation are: to support and encourage research, education and recording of all aspects of Australia's natural environment and to build capacity in local communities to effect long-term beneficial change in the natural environment.

For further information/application form:

www.nwf.org.au/normanwettenhala.html

For submission requirements:

www.monash.edu.au/research/academics/funding/applications/monash-requirements.html

Deadline for applications:

Monday, 17 December 2007 with the Monash Research Office

Monday, 31 December 2007 with Norman Wettenhall Foundation

18. Smithsonian Institution Fellowship Program – Postdoctoral Fellowships

The Smithsonian Institution encourages access to its research staff, collections, and reference materials by visiting scholars, scientists, and students.

The Institution offers in-residence appointments for research and study using its facilities, with the advice and guidance of its staff members.

These appointments enable qualified persons to make use of Smithsonian resources in pursuing studies related to research interests of the Institution and its staff. Appointments vary in duration, and many carry financial support.

For further information/application form:

<http://www.si.edu/ofg/infoapply.htm>

www.monash.edu.au/research/academics/funding/applications/electronic-submission.html

Deadline for applications:

Friday, 4 January 2007, with the Monash Research Office

Tuesday, 15 January 2007, with the Smithsonian Insitute

19. Cotton Research and Development Corporation (CRDC)

The Cotton Research and Development Corporation invests in a wide range of research, development and extension projects aimed at enhancing the environmental, economic and social performance of the Australian cotton industry.

Applicants are strongly advised to seek CRDC and industry input before compiling and submitting a project proposal for funding by CRDC.

For further information:

www.monash.edu.au/research/academics/funding/information/acgr/crdc-grants.html

Deadline for applications:

Thursday, 17 January 2008, with the Monash Research Office

Thursday, 31 January 2008, with CRDC

20. Schering (Ernst) Foundation/Schering Stiftung

The sponsor provides support to talented young scientists in the field of biological, medical and chemical basic research.

It awards approximately seven fellowships per year to exceptional postdoctoral candidates who have completed their studies no more than two years ago, less than twenty-eight years of age at the time of application and who want to carry out research projects at renowned institutions at home or abroad.

The fellowship is awarded irrespective of the applicant's nationality.

For further information/application form:

www.schering-stiftung.de/scripts/index/web/en/content/misc/93

Deadline for applications:

Thursday, 17 January 2008, with the Monash Research Office

Thursday, 31 January 2008, with Schering (Ernst)

21. Blaustein (Jacob) Institutes for Desert Research (BIDR) Fellowships 2008

The Blaustein (Jacob) Institutes for Desert Research are offering fellowships in 2008 in topics related to the sustainable development of drylands, including: Desert ecology, Solar energy and environmental physics, Architecture and planning, Rainfed and irrigated agriculture, Hydrology, Aquaculture, Environmental microbiology, and Dryland biotechnology.

For further information/application forms:

http://www.bgu.ac.il/BIDR/bic/regular_fellowships.htm

Deadline for applications:

Friday, 1 February 2008 with BIDR

22. CSIRO Marine National Research Facility – Applying for Sea Time

Each year grants of research time aboard the Marine National Facility - RV Southern Surveyor are available to Australian scientists for research in Australia's Maritime Jurisdiction and surrounding oceans. Each day's grant of time is equivalent to approximately \$42,000. The RV Southern Surveyor can undertake research in: physical, chemical and biological oceanography, marine geosciences, fisheries and environmental science.

The vessel is particularly suited to multi-disciplinary research projects. The Marine National Facility Steering Committee encourages new users of the National Facility to apply. It also encourages applications for national and international collaborative projects and projects covering more than one year.

For further information/application forms:

www.marine.csiro.au/nationalfacility/application/index.htm

Deadline for applications:

Wednesday, 6 February 2008 with the Monash Research Office

Tuesday, 15 February 2008 with CSIRO

23. 2008 Victoria Fellowships -Call for applications

Applications open for overseas study grants for early career scientists, engineers and innovators on 9 February 2008.

Each year the Victorian Government awards up to six \$18,000 **Victoria** Fellowships to enable early career researchers and innovators to travel overseas to pursue specialist training, develop a commercial idea, expand international networks or gain recognition for their work.

Applications are open to early career researchers working in private enterprise or a research institution.

Winners of the **Victoria** Fellowships will be eligible to apply for \$5000 AFAS FEAST-France Fellowships to undertake study missions to France. These Fellowships are offered by the Australian French Association for Science and Technology (**Victoria**) and the Embassy of France.

For further information/application forms:

<http://www.business.vic.gov.au/vicfellows>

Deadline for applications:

Monday, 7 April 2008 with the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development

24. Marie Curie International Outgoing Fellowships for Career Development

The Marie Curie International Outgoing Fellowships for Career Development support European researchers to work outside of Europe, on the following terms:

- The fellow spends 1-2 years on secondment in a so-called third country (such as Australia) then 1 year back at their home country for a mandatory 're-integration period'
- The EC covers 100% of the cost of the researcher's salary plus a contribution to overheads
- The project must include a coherent research programme.
- The researcher is free to choose the topic in collaboration with their home institution. The researcher needs an agreed personal career development plan in place with her or his host institution - this will be annexed in the funding agreement, which will be between the 'return host' (ie the researcher's home institution) and the EC.
- The fellow needs to be a national of an EU member state or associated country, and needs to either hold a doctoral degree or 4 years full-time equivalent research experience. The researcher must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies etc) here for more than 12 months of the 3 years prior to the deadline for the application submission.

For further information:

<http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index>

25. Research Grants Seminar presented by the Canadian High Commission

Presenters presented grant opportunities offered by the Canadian government's three Research Councils: the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC); the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and the National Research Council (NRC).

Post-doctoral fellowships are also available.

The Canadian Research Grants Seminar (held on 23 May 2007) presentation slides can be downloaded from:

www.monash.edu.au/research/contacts/research-office/news-events/materials/canada-science-eng-health.ppt

26. Australian Academy of Science - Australian participation in European Cooperation in the field of Scientific and Technical Research (COST)

The Australian Academy of Science is inviting applications from Australian researchers to participate in European research networks known as COST Actions. COST is a system for research collaboration covering 34 European Member States in 9 scientific research areas (research domains).

In order to deliver the project, the Academy and COST have signed a reciprocal agreement to be trialled for an initial period of two years, which establishes the basis for Australian and European scientists to participate in COST Actions. Under the terms of the agreement and under COST guidelines, Australia is regarded as a country with reciprocal arrangements. Australian researchers travelling to Europe may receive a grant of up to \$5,000 per visit (up to \$2,500 towards an airfare and up to \$2,500 towards daily living allowances), to participate in meetings and short term scientific missions. These meetings/missions must be for five days minimum and three months maximum duration. COST grants up to €2,500 to the European scientist, for travel and subsistence expenses to and within Australia.

Applications are approved and funded in chronological order of receipt until funds have been committed.

For further information:

www.science.org.au/internat/cost.htm

27. CSIRO Flagship Collaboration Fund – Visiting Fellowships

Researchers may approach the Flagships at anytime to enquire about a Fellowship position. There is currently no structured application round for Flagship Fellowship Applications, however a call for applications may be posted on the website early 2008. Check the webpage regularly for updates - <http://www.csiro.au/org/psqc.html>

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).

For further information:

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

PART D - AWARDS AND PRIZES

28. Dan David Foundation Prize

The Dan David Prize recognizes and encourages innovative and interdisciplinary research that cuts across traditional boundaries and paradigms. It aims to foster universal values of excellence, creativity, justice, democracy and progress and to promote the scientific, technological and humanistic achievements that advance and improve our world.

Three prizes of **one million US dollars** each are granted annually in the fields chosen for the three time dimensions. The prizes are granted to individuals or institutions with proven, exceptional, distinct excellence in the sciences, arts, and humanities that have made an outstanding contribution to humanity.

The fields within the three Time Dimensions for 2008: (1) PAST - Creative Rendering of the Past: Literature, Theatre, Film (2) PRESENT: Social Responsibility with Particular Emphasis on the Environment and **(3) FUTURE: Geosciences**.

For further information/application forms:

<http://dandavidprize.org/about.html>

Deadline for applications:

Monday, 19 November 2007 with the Monash Research Office

Friday, 30 November 2007 with the Dan David Foundation

29. Volvo Environment Prize 2008

The Volvo Environment Prize Foundation invites universities, research institutes, scientists and engineers in the field of environmental protection, life sciences, earth sciences and social sciences, by national academies of science and their staff as well as other persons and organisations to submit nominations for the 2008 Volvo Environment Prize.

For further information/application forms:

www.environment-prize.com/nominate_nominate.e

Deadline for applications:

Thursday, 22 November 2007 with the Monash Research Office

Saturday, 1 December 2007 with the Volvo Environment Prize Foundation

30. APPEA Lewis G Weeks Gold Medal

Each year the Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association invites nominations for the award of the Lewis G. Weeks Gold Medal which commemorates the contribution to the Australian petroleum industry of Dr Lewis Weeks, who epitomised the purpose of the medal by his pioneering work in Bass Strait.

To become eligible for consideration for the award, a candidate must have made an outstanding contribution to the art, science and practice of petroleum exploration which in turn has materially encouraged or stimulated the climate for exploring for and producing oil and gas in Australia by either:

- The successful application of exploration techniques.
- The development of improved exploration methods.
- Substantial contributions through teaching or administration.

For further information/application forms:

www.appea.com.au/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=78&Itemid=74

Deadline for applications:

Friday, 1 February 2008 with the Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association

31. APPEA Reg Sprigg Medal

The Reg Sprigg Medal, formerly the APEA Gold Medal, is awarded annually by the Council of the Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association to recognise an individual who have given outstanding service in promoting the objectives of the Australian oil and gas exploration and production industry.

The medal was introduced in 1989 and renamed the Reg Sprigg Medal in 1995 to commemorate the outstanding service that Dr Reginald Sprigg, AO (1919-1994) provided to the petroleum industry through his own work and as a Founding Chairman of APPEA.

Candidates may become eligible for consideration by having made outstanding service in promoting the objectives of the industry through highly valued contributions in and to the Australian oil and gas industry or notable and sustained leadership pertaining to the Association. Nominations for the award are required to be seconded by a serving APPEA Councillor.

For further information/application forms:

www.appea.com.au/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=15&Itemid=80

Deadline for applications:

Friday, 1 February 2008 with the Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association

32. Victorian Government - Victoria Prize

Nominations open for the 2008 Victoria Prize for world-class excellence in science, technology or engineering on 9 February 2008.

Each year the Victorian Government awards the prestigious \$50,000 **Victoria Prize** to an individual whose groundbreaking discovery or innovation has advanced knowledge and has produced or may produce a commercial outcome or other benefits to the community.

The **Victoria Prize** celebrates leadership, determination and creativity and highlights the many ways in which research and development of international significance is conducted locally.

The Anne & Eric Smorgon Memorial Award

The \$100,000 Anne & Eric Smorgon Memorial Award is awarded by the Jack and Robert Smorgon Families Foundation to the research institute supporting the **Victoria Prize** recipient.

For further information/application forms:

<http://www.business.vic.gov.au/vicprize>

Deadline for applications:

Monday, 7 April 2008 with the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development

PART F - DATES AND DEADLINES

November 2007

Monday, 26 November 2007

- The University of Melbourne three-week seminar on *The Concepts of Entropy and their Applications*.

Friday, 30 November 2007

- Deadline for applications for the Uebergang (Ray & Joyce) Foundation - Small Research Grants with the Monash Research Office.

December 2007

Monday, 3 December 2007

- Deadline for applications for the NHMRC Equipment Grants (standard) allocated for 2007 with Mr Tom Keegan, Faculty of Science Research Office, Building 19N.

Wednesday, 5 December 2007

- Deadline for applications for the Project Aware Foundation grants with the Monash Research Office.

Tuesday, 11 December 2007

- Deadline for applications for the Monash University 2008 Strategic Initiatives relating to the International Portfolio with Theresa Whiting, Office of DVC(I).

Wednesday, 14 December 2007

- Deadline for applications for the Monash University 2008 Strategic Initiatives funding relating to the International Portfolio with the Office of the DVC (International).

Monday, 17 December 2007

- Deadline for applications for the Leakey (LSB) Foundation – General Grants with the Monash Research Office.
- Deadline for applications for the Norman Wettenhall Foundation – Research Grants with the Monash Research Office.

January 2008**Friday, 4 January 2007**

- Deadline for applications for the Smithsonian Institution Fellowship Program – Postdoctoral Fellowships with the Monash Research Office.

Thursday, 17 January 2007

- Deadline for applications for the Cotton Research and Development Corporation (CRDC) grants with the Monash Research Office.
- Deadline for applications for the Schering (Ernst) Foundation postdoctoral fellowships.

February 2008**Friday, 1 February 2008**

- Deadline for applications for the Blaustein (Jacob) Institutes for Desert Researcher (BIDR) Fellowships 2008 with BIDR.
- Deadline for applications for the APPEA Lewis G Weeks Gold Medal with the Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association.
- Deadline for applications for the APPEA Reg Sprigg Medal with the Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association.

Wednesday, 6 February 2008

- Deadline for applications for the CSIRO Marine National Research Facility – Applying for Sea Time with the Monash Research Office.

Tuesday, 19 February 2008

- Training Course in Laboratory Animal Care and Use.

April 2008**Monday, 7 April 2008**

- Deadline for applications for the 2008 Victoria Fellowships with the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development.
- Deadline for applications for the 2008 Victorian Government – Victoria Prize with the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development.