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Inform_a_team – Informatics Newsletter

Welcome to our Inaugural Informatics Newsletter

> I hope you enjoy reading through our newsletter. Please continue to email through any news or events as they happen and I will add them to the next publication of Inform_a_team to be published in June.
(lynnec@uow.edu.au)



Thanks to the International Unit staff who organized a Faculty BBQ held on Thursday 3 April for new students, international students and staff (roping in a few able hands to help cook the BBQ!)

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For more information about the proceedings, please visit the publisher's website:

<http://www.springer.com/computer/security+and+cryptology/book/978-3-540-79103-4>.

For more information about the conference, please visit the conference website:

http://www.uow.edu.au/conferences/ISPEC%202008/important_dates.html.

Upcoming Events

The Centre for Computer and Information Security Research, TITR, hosted the 4th Information Security Practice and Experience Conference (ISPEC 2008). The conference was held on 1–23 April 2008 at Crowne Plaza, Darling Harbour, Sydney. The conference proceedings were published as a volume of the LNCS series by the reputable scientific publisher Springer-Verlag.

Invitation...

Sankika Tennakoon is nearing completion of a PhD, within the Integral Energy Power Quality and Reliability Centre, and has accepted a formal invitation to the prestigious 2008 Conference for the Next Generation of Researchers on Power Systems in Tempe, Arizona, USA.

Sankika has been selected as one of only 20 attendees from 18 countries by invitation only to attend this event. Wollongong University is considered a world leader in electric power engineering and we congratulate Sankika on this successful nomination.

Faculty Events

2007 Dean's Scholar Presentation Lunch
TBA

Faculty Prize Night
Thursday 22 May

Speak English !
This is run every Thursday, 12:30–1:30pm during Semester time.

We encourage any staff member to come along. Please assist the growing group who attend – all you need to do is join in conversation. Our international students are really enjoying the experience as it greatly assists them with their English & studies.

Contact Virginie our Faculty SEDLO for more information: virginie@uow.edu.au

News from SMAS

- Congratulations to Prof Jim Hill who has been awarded the 2008 ANZIAM Medal.
- Congratulations to Prof Matt Wand becoming a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science.
- Congratulations to Prof David Steel, Prof Ray Chambers and Dr Robert Clark & team winning a Linkage International Social Sciences Collaboration Award between ARC & ESRC.
- SMAS winning the rights to host the 2009 AMSI Summer School with A/Prof Jacqui Ramage as Director.

New Travel Procedures are coming... Check out next edition of newsletter for further information!

Teaching and Learning Scholar Update

Dr Holly Tootell attended a 3 day retreat with Scholars from Flinders, LaTrobe and Wollongong Universities. This year 13 participants are all working on projects associated with Assessment Practice. During the retreat planning for the Roundtable commenced. This will be

held in September and will spotlight the research and outcomes of the Scholar's projects, with the view to initiating collaborative research between institutions. If you would like further information on the Scholars project please email Holly: (holly@uow.edu.au)

<http://www.uow.edu.au/cedir/ask/FacultyScholars/CurrentScholars/index.htm>

Dean's Scholars

This year we have our first Dean's Scholars within the Informatics Faculty. A welcome lunch for the Heads of School, the Dean, Faculty Executive and the 9 Dean's Scholars has been held. This time was used to meet and inform the students of the Dean's Scholar Programme in depth.

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Welcome to our new Admin Staff

Shannon Svenson
SECTE
Administration Assistant
 Shannon has recently joined the busy team in SECTE filling the vacancy left by Tracy. Shannon has stepped into her new role with enthusiasm so please make her feel welcome.



Lauren Hyslop
Student Enquiry Centre
Administration Assistant
 Lauren has also joined us very recently. She is assisting Julia in our Enquiries Centre. Lauren is new to the University environment, so we welcome her as part of the team.

FAREWELL ...
Bridget Dijkmans-Hadley
Student Enquiry Centre
 It is with sadness that we farewell Bridget from our Enquiries Centre. Bridget has very ably assisted us on a temporary basis. She has been a great asset and we will miss her. Good luck Bridget with your intended overseas travels!
Vigi Venkat
SCSSE
Administration Assistant
 Vigi has accepted a new position with Commerce, so we wish her well with her move across Campus!



International Unit BBQ

The International Office organised a very successful BBQ for all new students who commenced studying this session in Informatics.

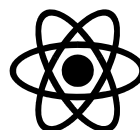
The BBQ was held on campus and involved a challenging quiz for everyone to compete in! It was well attended and enjoyed by those staff and students who made the most of the opportunity to meet and greet!



My favourite author is (...it's been a long time since I last read a novel!) I love to eat at Cosa Nostra, a nice little Italian restaurant in Wollongong. My most enjoyable activities during my leisure time are surfing and kayaking. Although it's nice to go overseas on holiday, I tend to have the best time in places like Yamba on the NSW north coast or Sussex Inlet/Lake Conjola on the NSW south coast. The main reason is that I like to do things while on holidays like surf, snorkel, fish and swim. The most obscure place I have visited is the Solomon Islands, when I was snorkelling at night—so dark that you often had no idea whether you were heading towards the shore or the Pacific Ocean! I attended High School South of Wollongong. At the moment we have a very silly 2 year old Labrador, prior to this we have had many pets, but they never survive for long! Before I was employed at UOW I have been employed as a metallurgist, coal mine surveyor, fire (person), beach inspector, systems engineer and project manager... (email your best guess through to lynnec@uow.edu.au)

"Mystery Informatics staff member.... If you think you know who this person is, be the first to email me with the correct answer and you'll win a small prize !"

Guess Who?



Centre for Business Services Science

The Centre for Business Services Science (CBSS) was established in January 2007 as a research centre within the Faculty of Informatics. It has a vision to become Australia's premier centre for practitioners and academics interested in business service science research. Associate Professor Tim Coltman is the Director, along with members Dr Keating, Dr Michael, Dr Robinson & Prof Spedding.

~ AWARDS ~

A/Prof Coltman, received the ANZAM Best Early Career Researcher Award.

Dr Keating won the Best Doctoral Dissertation Award from the International Consortium for Electronic Business.

Dr Michael was awarded an ARC Discovery Grant to examine the ethical issues of location based services.

A/Prof Coltman and Dr Keating won the best paper award at the ANZMAC Conf.

Dr Keating won an award for the best paper originating from a dissertation at the International Conference on Electronic Business in Taipei.

The School of Mathematics and Applied Statistics at the University of Wollongong will be holding a workshop **8-10 May 2008** titled;

Mathematics Applied to Liquid Crystal Technologies

The main aims of the workshop MALCT-2008 are to promote and develop mathematical science applied to cutting-edge technology using nonlinear guided waves in soft matter, such as liquid crystals. It is anticipated that the workshop will lead to new research, as well as strengthen and expand multidisciplinary international and national collaborations. In particular, the synergy between the world's leading experimental groups and the theoretical teams will be exploited.

Invited Speakers

- [Professor Nail Akhmediev](#) Optical Sciences Group, Australian National University, ACT, Australia
 - [Professor Gaetano Assanto](#) University of Rome "Roma Tre", Italy
 - [Professor Cathy Garcia-Rimbert](#) Dept of Mathematics and Mechanics, Instituto de Investigacion en Matematicas Aplicadas y Sistemas, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, Mexico
 - [Professor John Harvey](#) Dept of Physics, Fac of Science, Uni of Auckland, NZ
 - [Professor Yuri Kivshar](#) Nonlinear Physics Centre Research School of Physical Sciences and Engineering, Australian National University, Australia
 - [Professor Wiesiek Krolikowski](#) Laser Physics Centre RSPHSE, Institute of Advanced Studies, Australian National University, ACT, Australia
 - [Professor Tim Minzoni](#) Department of Mathematics and Mechanics, Instituto de Investigacion en Matematicas Aplicadas y Sistemas, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, Mexico
 - [Dr Noel Smyth](#) School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Edinburgh, Scotland
 - [Professor Epifanio Virga](#) Dipartimento di Matematica, Università di Pavia, Italy
- The web address is <http://www.uow.edu.au/informatics/math/MALCT-2008Workshop/index.htm>
- Interested colleagues and their students are welcome.