

ChemNews Selects

School of Chemistry
University of Tasmania

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EDITORIAL

2003 has been an exciting year for the School. Teaching programs have consolidated in both Hobart and Launceston, with extensive cross-campus teaching, and new staff establishing teaching and research profiles. Of particular note in 2003 has been the ongoing welcome support of Tasmanian industries to both teaching and research activities, and outstanding success in Australian Research Council funding from \$983,890 in 2003 to \$1,314,000 in 2004. Significant amongst the new grants is an ARC Professorial Fellowship to Professor Paul Haddad, confirming the success and increasing national and international profile of the Australian Centre for Research on Separation Science (ACROSS) of which he is Director. We look forward to an interesting and stimulating 2004.

Professor Allan Canty FAA
Head of School

RESEARCH EVENING

The School of Chemistry held a Research Evening on 14 August at the Hobart campus of the School of Chemistry to showcase world-class chemistry research currently conducted by staff and students in the School. Seventy people attended to view the more than 30 posters on display. Dr Paul Gee, Scientific Affairs Manager, Tasmanian Alkaloids opened the evening. The School would like to thank Tasmanian Alkaloids for sponsoring poster prizes and would also like to thank Dr Andrew Seen for coordinating the event.

VISITING LECTURESHIP SCHEME IN 2003

Three visitors funded by Tasmanian industries and CSIRO Molecular Science visited the School during 2003. The visitors interacted with research groups, industries and other organisations in Tasmania, and contributed to the teaching program:

- **Ecka Granules** Visiting Lecturer: Dr Peter Junk of Monash University
- **Woolmers** Visiting Lecturer: Dr Noni Johnson from CSIRO Molecular Science
- **Tasmanian Alkaloids** Visiting Lecturer: Prof Stephen Pyne of University of Wollongong.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

PhD Completions: Fiona Beach, Jacqueline Handley (now teaching in Victoria), Helmy Cook (researching at Johannes Kepler University, Austria), Perran Cook (Max Planck Institute Bremen), David Graham (Computational Group, UTas), Cameron Johns (ACROSS, UTas), Doug McLean (MSc, now undertaking PhD at UTas), Christian Narkowicz (Canterbury University, Christchurch), Susan Oats (Exeter University), John O'Reilly (University of Waterloo, Ontario), Jun Wang (Organometallic Group, UTas), and Philip Zakaria (ACROSS, UTas).

Honours Completions: Andrew Dick, Rachael Madden, Juliette Tria, Adele Wilson and Alan Williams
Tasmanian Alkaloids Vacation Scholarships: Jayne Lewis and Russell McGifford.

Prof Allan Canty for the award of a Centenary Medal in the category of the General List. The citation was *For Service to Australian Society and Science in Chemistry*.

Dr Andrew Bowie who was awarded an Outstanding Early-Career Researcher Award by the Australian Research Council.

Andrew Dick who was awarded 1st prize in the poster competition sponsored by Tasmanian Alkaloids at the Research Evening on 14 August.

Dr Ian Grey who was awarded the University's highest honour, the Doctor of Science Degree. Dr Grey completed his honours degree followed by his PhD in 1970 under the supervision of Dr Peter Smith at UTas. Dr Grey holds the rank of Chief Scientist at CSIRO Minerals, and was elected to the Academy FTSE last year. Prof Allan Canty prepared the citation.

David Vercoe (PhD Student, Hobart) who won the Southern Section Tasmanian APPITA Young Speakers Competition .

Dr Brian Yates for election to the Academic Senate.

Promotions of Dr Brian Yates to Associate Professor, Drs Andrew Bowie and Vicki Tolhurst to Lecturer.

ARC GRANTS 2003

Congratulations to staff members who have been awarded the following new grants by the Australian Research Council for 2004:

- *Discovery Project Grant* for **\$293,000** (over 4 years) to **Dr Michael Breadmore** (former student of Professor Paul Haddad) for "Multidimensional Electro-separation Systems for the analysis of complex biological samples".
- *Discovery Project Grant* for **\$1,030,000** (over 5 years) to **Prof Paul Haddad** for "Self-assembled nanolayers of functionalised latexes as selective and adaptable nano-stationary phases in separation science".
- *Discovery Project Grant* for **\$320,000** (over 4 years) to **Dr Emily Hilder** (former student of Professor Paul Haddad) for "In-line SPE-CE for the direct determination of drugs and metabolites in biological fluids based on porous polymer monoliths".
- *Discovery Project Grant* for **\$220,000** (over 3 years) to **Dr Mirek Macka** and Dr P J Marriott for "Enhancing Selectivity and Detection in Miniaturised Analytical Separation Systems".
- *Linkage Project Grant* for **\$178,000** over 3 years to **Prof Paul Haddad, Dr Brian Yates**, Dr Des Richardson (Norske Skog) with Industry Partner: Norske-Skog Paper Mills (Australia) Ltd for "Study of molecular interactions between wood pitch fixatives and components of wood pitch."
- *Linkage-Infrastructure Equipment and Facilities Grant* for **\$101,000** to A/Prof BM Potts, Dr Re Vaillancourt, Prof JB Ried, **Prof Paul Haddad**, Dr LA Sparrow, Dr C McArthur, Dr M Zhou Mendham, Dr PA Lane for "Upgrade of Infrared Analytical Facility".

The new grants total \$695,000 for 2004 alone. Grants awarded in earlier years continue (\$619,000 in 2004) for research under the guidance of Dr Andrew Bowie, Prof Allan Canty, Dr Michael Gardiner, Prof Paul Haddad, Dr Andrew Seen, Dr Vicki Tolhurst and Dr Brian Yates.

STAFF CHANGES IN 2003

Dr Peter Traill, Senior Technical Officer in Hobart, transferred to the School of Pharmacy on secondment as Laboratory Manager; Martin Hitchman moved into the role of acting Senior Technical Officer and Andrew Grosse, a current PhD student, joined the School as a laboratory technician in Hobart.

CHEMISTRY PRIZES FOR 2002

Percy Ash Scholarship (2 nd Year)	Sarah Kellaway
RACI Prize (1 st Year)	Owen Sprod
JN Baxter Memorial Prize (1 st Year)	Richard Ward
JN Baxter Memorial Prize (2 nd Year)	Ruth Amos
EJ Browne Memorial Prize (3 rd Year)	Juliette Tria
RACI Prize and Medal (3 rd Year)	Juliette Tria
EJ Browne Memorial Prize (4 th Year)	Bonnie Atkinson and Alison Radford
Harry Bloom Memorial Prize (4 th Year)	Bonnie Atkinson and Alison Radford

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