



Latest News

Union Hall Removed From the States Heritage Register

Minister Caica announced, via a media release Friday September 3, his decision to lift the provisional Heritage listing placed on Union Hall earlier this year. There is no obstacle now for the commencement of work on this project and the redevelopment of this site, which in part, will house the new IPAS laboratories and offices. IPAS is moving forward in leaps and bounds, with many of our projects starting to gain momentum, and new collaborations forming. I hope you take inspiration from this great news to advance your research as we move towards having this fantastic dedicated facility for IPAS.



South Australian Scientist of the Year

Congratulations to Prof Tanya Mono, who jointly won being named South Australian Scientist of the year on Friday 13 August at the Gala Dinner at the Adelaide Hilton. She shares this title with affiliate Prof Angel Lopez, Co-Director, Centre for Cancer Biology, SA Pathology. Congratulations to Prof Tony Thomas for his achievements and recognition as a finalist.

Eureka Prize 'Leadership in Science'

Prof Tanya Mono was a finalist in the Australian Museum Eureka Prizes "Leadership in Science" category.

Scopus Young Researcher of the Year Awards

University of Adelaide researchers have won two of the five categories in the inaugural Scopus Young Researcher of the Year Awards. Presented in April by Senator Kim Carr, Federal Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research. [Professor Tanya Mono](#) was a finalist in the Physical Sciences category of the inaugural [Scopus Young Researcher of the Year Awards 2010](#).

Super Science Fellowships

IPAS is still buzzing from the news of winning 6 Super Science fellowships. The fellows will work to develop new technologies for biological sensing and new diagnostic tools for IVF medicine, crime scene evaluation, rapid sensing of pandemic flu and detecting trace quantities of explosives. See the [ARC press release](#) and University of Adelaide [media release](#). Three of these will commence in late 2010 and the remaining three will start in July 2011. To support the fellows, IPAS is also investing in six new PhD positions, which will provide rich opportunities for trainee scientists to engage in innovative research with the potential to build future industries.



Congratulations to Florian English who was successful in his application for the Super Science position 'Evanescent-wave cavity ringdown spectroscopy in microstructured fibres' and will commence on 1 October 2010. Congratulations also to Kristopher Rowland who was successful in Super Science position 'Whispering gallery mode-based capillary electrophoresis'.



Funding Successes

GWRDC Smart Bungs Application

IPAS successfully won \$100k from the GWRDC. This work will be in collaboration with IPAS member Prof Dennis Taylor of the Waite campus on developing 'Smart Bungs' for wine barrel monitoring.

AOARD (US Air Force):

IPAS was awarded USD\$125k pa for 1 year to fund research in "silica and germanate glass high power fibre laser sources" with a strong emphasis on new fabrication technologies. CI's: Tanya Mono, Jesper Munch, David Lancaster, Heike Ebendorff and David Ottaway.

CAS Funding of \$150k

IPAS has been awarded \$150k by ARI in order to drive the commercialisation of the novel surface plasmon

resonance platform for the rapid detection of infectious diseases. This funding has been awarded via the commercial accelerator scheme and is funding a new technical position and a new testbed which will enable testing in microbiology labs. IPAS will also be seeking commercialisation Australia funding. Congratulations to Alex Francois and Dominic Murphy.

Centre of Excellence

IPAS member Tony Thomas has been successful as part of a multi-institutional bid to establish an ARC Centre of Excellence for Particle Physics at the Tera Scale. The Centre is funded for 7 years and has secured \$25.2M from the ARC. As the Associate Director of the Centre, Tony will be a key member and we wish him the very best of luck!

IPAS Building News

IPAS Silica Preform Facility

The IPAS Silica Preform facility was completed in April. This facility allows us to fabricate silica preforms, which are the precursors to silica fibres. Construction work on the complementary fibre drawing facility at Thebarton will commence in September.

Secondment of Dr Nigel Spooner

Nigel Spooner has been seconded from DSTO and will be working jointly with DSTO and the University of Adelaide as an Adjunct Professor to head our luminescence activities within IPAS. Nigel is in the Oliphant Building Room 212 Ph: 830 34852.

IPAS Connects with Artwork

The City of Adelaide together with IPAS will commission a sculptural artwork with the theme of light, designed by artists working with scientists through a staged process. The Council has made available \$300k for this project which will be located in Rundle Mall.

The first Art Briefing took place on Tuesday May 18 where interested artists met with a panel of IPAS scientists. The initial discussions have focussed around the idea of using light to connect key regions of the Adelaide CBD, or "Connecting with Light". We then shortlisted Karl Meyer and David Kerr from Exhibition Studios, Anthony Coupe, Geoff Cobham and Ernest Edmonds from Mulloway Studio, John Tonkin and Duann Scott from Entangled Quanta to produce prototypes. This collaboration provides us with the opportunity to get our science out more broadly to the community as well as "light up" Adelaide.

Media and PR

Resurrected Mammoth Blood

Prof Alan Cooper of IPAS, Director of the [Australian Centre for Ancient DNA](#) (ACAD) and team, have brought the primary component of mammoth blood back to life using ancient DNA preserved in bones from Siberian specimens 25,000 to 43,000 years old. [Full Article](#).

Outreach



Scope—Children's Television Program

[Sean Manning](#) appeared in the children's television program 'Scope' and spoke about what we do at IPAS. It is aired online [here](#).

IPAS Alumni Friends and Benefactors Event

The IPAS Alumni Friends and Benefactors event took place on **Wed May 26** where 58 guests came to the presentation and had the opportunity to learn about IPAS. 46 guests were taken on a tour of the labs and provided extremely positive feedback. One of our guests has kindly given us a prize to be awarded to a student for the best transdisciplinary science work.



Exchange Programs

Australia Singapore Research Leaders Exchange program

Dr [Alexandre Francois](#) has taken part in the prestigious Australia Singapore Research Leaders Exchange program for 2010. This program has been organised by The Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE) on behalf of the Department of Innovation, Industry Science and Research (DIISR) and Singapore Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR).

Mid-Career Scientist Exchange Program

Congratulations to Dr [Yinlan Ruan](#) who has been selected by The [Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering](#) (ATSE) for the Australia China Young Scientists Exchange Program. She is one of the eight mid-career scientists selected.