

ACIS Newsletter – Issue 1, March 2014

Welcome

Dear members,

Welcome to our first issue of ACIS News! We plan to produce a quarterly newsletter – to be sent around in March, June, September, and December - to keep ACIS members informed of our initiatives. We also intend for the newsletter to be a way for members to directly communicate with their Society. In this issue we take on some of the good suggestions made at our last Annual General Meeting in February. Please send suggestions and items for the Newsletter to chiara.neto@sydney.edu.au.

Message from the Incoming President Director

Dear ACIS Members,

I am honoured to step into the role of president of ACIS, and firstly I would like to thank the outgoing foundation president (Prof. John Ralston) and director Prof. Lee White for their contributions to establishing the society during our 'formative years'. I also thank our incoming directors for their interest in, and commitment to, the development to the society.

The last 18 months have seen ACIS move from birth through its infancy. This has involved setting up our financial, governance and membership registration systems, establishing our website, and developing conference support and award processes. It is fair to say that these have not been without hiccups, but we have come a long way, remembering that this been achieved through the discretionary effort of all concerned – my thanks to everyone who has been involved thus far.

The ACIS AGM in February this year was an opportunity for our membership to discuss their expectations of the society. The vigorous discussions at that meeting are much appreciated by the board, and clearly demonstrate that our members wish to be both engaged and involved in charting the future of the society. With this in mind, the ACIS board has developed the following list of priorities for the next year:

- Engage with you, the members, to understand your expectations of the society, as well as identifying both the challenges and opportunities before us.
- Increase communication from the board via regular newsletters/updates and increase content/accessibility of our website
- Build on our sound financial footing to enable the sustainable growth of our conferences as well as new events and awards activities
- Build a 'leadership pipeline' for the society, by encouraging membership involvement in useful and relevant committees.

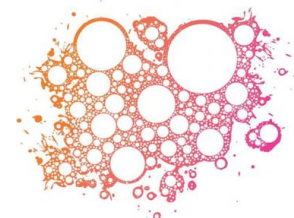
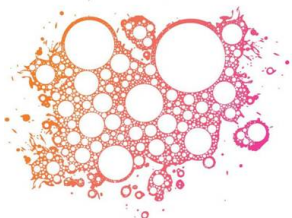
Your feedback and suggestions against these or other topics are of course very welcome, either by email to the ACIS email address, myself, or any board member directly.

Finally, I look forward to working with both the board and membership to foster the growth and development of ACIS through it's 'teenage years', and wish everyone in the Australasian Colloid and Interface Science community much scientific and personal success in the upcoming year.

Kind regards,

Patrick Hartley, President





Recent Events

Board of Directors

At the first Board of Directors meeting after the AGM on Friday 7th March new roles were assigned to members of the Board:

- Patrick Hartley, CSIRO, President and Chair of Committee Liaison
- Shaun Hendy, University of Auckland, Vice-President
- Vincent Craig, Australian National University, Honorary Treasurer
- Chiara Neto, University of Sydney, Chair of the Communications Committee
- Ian Gentle, University of Queensland, Communications Committee
- Catherine Whitby, University of South Australia, Communications Committee
- Laurence Meagher, CSIRO, Chair of the Conference Committee

The role of Secretary was assigned to Ms Grace Penon, CSIRO, who has been collaborating with the Board from the outset and will keep working with us in an official role.

ACIS members are strongly encouraged to become involved in the work of the committees (more on this below).

Annual General Meeting 2014

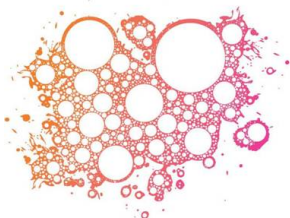
Our Annual General Meeting was held on February 6th at Ballarat Campus. About thirty members were present in person, with two members connected via Skype call. The activities of the Society over the past six months (since the previous AGM held in August 2013) were presented, with reports from the President John Ralston, Secretary Patrick Hartley, Ray Dagastine as organiser of the Student Conference, and Ben Boyd as member of the organising committee of the ACIS2015 conference. John Ralston and Lee White stepped down from their roles of Founding Directors of ACIS, and we thanked them for their important contributions in setting up the Society. We welcomed our three new Directors; Shaun Hendy from Auckland University, Laurence Meagher from CSIRO Clayton and Catherine Whitby from the University of South Australia. We look forward to welcoming many more members in committees that will be created over the next year to run the activities of the Society. ACIS needs its members to be actively engaged, so please let us know if you would like to be involved in the work of the following committees: *Awards; Communications; Conferences and Events*, or in anything else. **We especially invite students and early-career researchers to become involved in the activities of the Society.** Please email your interest to acis@colloid-oz.org.au. To receive the minutes of the AGM, please email the same address.



The new ACIS Directors. From left to right: Shaun Hendy, Laurence Meagher, and Catherine Whitby.

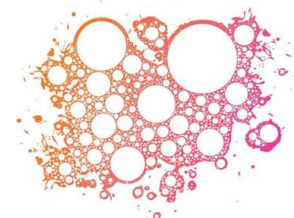
Another successful student conference!

The 29th Australian Colloid and Surface Science Student Conference was successfully hosted by the University of Melbourne in February 2014. 70 postgraduate students from Australia, Sweden, Germany and Japan presented their research to the Australian colloid community. We congratulate Michael Neeson (Melbourne Uni) who won the Healy Hunter Award for the most outstanding oral presentation, Joanne Du (Monash Uni) who won the Best Poster Award



Australasian Colloid and Interface Society

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and Catherine Fung (UniSA) who won the ACIS-ECIS Poster Award. Our thanks go to the conference co-chairs Associate Professor Ray Dagastine and Dr Anthony Stickland and their students, Christine Browne, Christopher Bolton and Christopher Fewkes, for all their hard work in organising the conference. Catherine Whitby



Michael Neeson, winner of the Healy Hunter award with Anthony Stickland and Ray Dagastine



Catherine Fung, winner of the ACIS-ECIS poster award with John Ralston



Joanne Du, winner of the best poster award with Ray Dagastine

Visit by the 2014 Selby Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science - Prof. Ullrich Steiner

The 2014 Selby Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science, Prof Ullrich Steiner, from the Cavendish laboratory of the University of Cambridge (<http://steiner.bss.phy.cam.ac.uk/>) has been visiting Australia for a month, giving public lectures on “How Nature Makes Materials”, and scientific seminars on nanostructured energy materials and other topics. His scientific visit was organized partly thanks to the ACIS network, and included Universities and CSIRO in Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth. Ullrich Steiner is the John Humphrey Plummer Professor of the Physics of Materials at the Cavendish Laboratory, at the University of Cambridge. His areas of research include the physics of pattern formation on surfaces and in thin films, the properties of polymer in confinement, the synthesis of inorganic materials in self-assembled organic templates, the control of nanometer morphologies in organic and dyes sensitised solar cells, and biomimetic formation of sub-micrometre morphologies.

ACIS Symposium on Nanobubbles

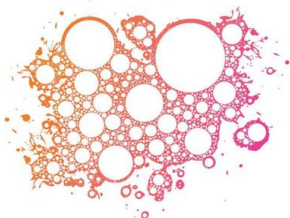
A half-day symposium on nanobubbles was held on Wednesday 4th December 2013 at the School of Chemistry of the University of Sydney, co-sponsored by ACIS, The Innovation Group and NewSpec. Twenty-one people attended the symposium, mainly from the Sydney area (Uni Sydney, CSIRO Lindfield, National Measurements Institute). Three invited talks were presented by international nanobubble experts Dr Xuehua Zhang from the University of Melbourne, Prof Detlef Lohse from the University of Twente, and Prof Vince Craig from the Australian National University. A tea break allowed attendees to meet and network, and finally a very lively and interactive discussion followed, during which the three invited speakers answered questions from the audience, and challenged their respective theories on the stability of nanobubbles at the blackboard. In the photo Detlef Lohse and Vince Craig.



Activities

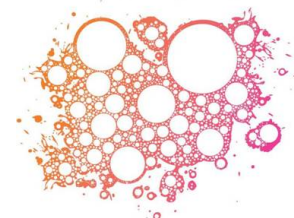
Sponsorship of Events

ACIS Sponsorship is available for events such as symposia, workshops, industry networking events, and short courses, held in Australia or New Zealand that are organised by ACIS members for the benefit of the colloids and interface science community. Prospective event organizers, who wish to request ACIS endorsement and sponsorship,



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should supply the information requested in the form available on the website <http://colloid-oz.org.au/> at least three months in advance.

Visiting Scientist Register

Are you planning to receive the visit of an outstanding scientist in the colloid and interface field? Why not let ACIS members know about the visit? We aim to keep track of visiting scientist, to facilitate their introduction to the Australasian scientific community. Please email details of the visit to acis@colloid-oz.org.au.

ACIS Membership

Please encourage colleagues, students, industrial collaborators working in the field of colloid and interface to join ACIS, and renew their membership every year. General membership is \$100, and valid until 30th June 2014. More information is available on our website <http://colloid-oz.org.au/>.

Australian Colloid and Interface Symposium 2015

The next major conference supported by ACIS will be held in February 2015 at The Grand Chancellor in Hobart (by the wharf). The conference Chairpersons are Pat Spicer and Ben Boyd (program), and Vince Craig (Treasurer) is on the organising committee. If you are interested in being on the committee or helping out at the conference contact Pat Spicer. Theme suggestions should be made to Ben Boyd <Ben.Boyd@monash.edu>.

Future Events

ANZNMF 2014

The Australia-New Zealand Microfluidics Meeting and Workshop will be held in Hobart in April (14th -16th): <http://www.utas.edu.au/chemistry/anznmf2014>

Abstract Submissions: Monday 17th March 2014; Last Minute Submissions: Monday 7th April 2014

Nanobubble 2014 a Conference on Nanobubbles, Gas-filled Micropancakes and their Applications will take place in Shanghai on October 21-24, 2014. Deadline for abstract submission 30 June 2014. <http://nanobubble2014.csp.escience.cn/dct/page/1>

28th Conference of the European Colloid and Interface Society (7-12 September, Haifa Israel)

Deadline for abstract submission 30th April 2014. <http://www.ecis2014.org/>

SOFT FIRE 2014: SOFT Matter – from fundamental aspects to industrial perspectives - Summer school

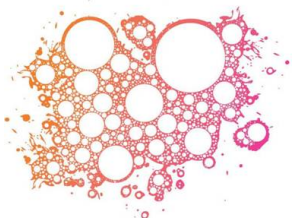
July 29 – August 8, Cargèse, Corsica; <https://sites.google.com/site/softfire2014/> Deadline registration: 20th April 2014

ACS 2014 Colloid & Surface Science Symposium (22-25 June, Philadelphia)

Deadline for abstract submission just passed (10th March 2014) <http://www.colloids2014.lrsr.upenn.edu/>

UK Colloids 2014 (6-9 July, London)

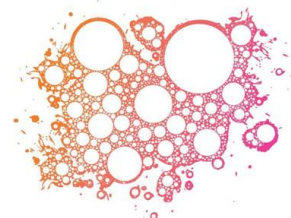
Deadline for abstract submission just passed (15th March 2014) <http://www.constableandsmith.com/ukcolloids2014/>



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Japan Australia Colloids meeting 2015

The next Japan Australia Colloids meeting will be expanded to include other Asian countries (China, Malaysia, Thailand, HK, Taiwan, Korea, India), so it may become the Asia-Australasia Colloids meeting. ACIS will be the host in 2015 and Vince Craig will Chair the meeting. The meeting will likely be over 4-5 days between the 8th and the 22nd of November 2015. The venue is yet to be decided but will very likely be in South East Asia. The plan is to hold this meeting every 3 years, with different countries hosting.

Job Ads

Please email us ads for PhD and postdoc positions in the area of colloids and interfaces for inclusion in the next Newsletter.

The Newsletter team is:

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Catherine Whitby - Catherine.Whitby@unisa.edu.au

Ian Gentle - i.gentle@uq.edu.au

