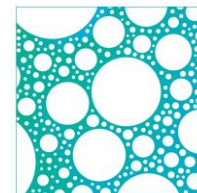


Australasian Colloid and Interface Society

Web: <http://acis.wildapricot.org>; E-mail: acis.enquiries@gmail.com



ACIS Newsletter – Issue 19, October 2019

Welcome

Dear members,

Welcome to our 19th issue of ACIS News! We produce a quarterly newsletter - sent around in March, June, October, and December - to keep ACIS members informed of our initiatives and for members to directly communicate with our Society. We publish job announcements, meetings of interests to our society, career development opportunities and any exciting research that you would like to share with us. To keep you up to date with the on-goings in our colloids society, please send your suggestions and items for the next newsletter to christine.browne@monash.edu.

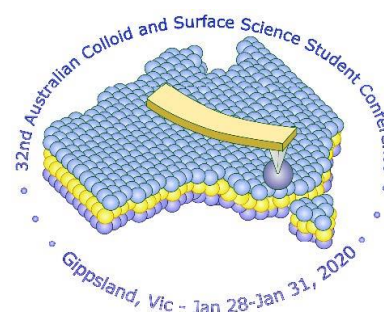
News

Australian Colloid and Surface Science Student Conference

ACIS is pleased to announce that the 32nd Australian Colloid and Surface Science Student Conference will be held at Gippsland Campus of Federation University, in Churchill, Victoria (a 2 hour drive East from Melbourne CBD).

Tuesday 28th January to Friday 31st January 2018

Abstract submission is currently open and further information about it can be found [here](#). A new [ECR](#) session will also be a feature of the conference and allow ECRs to present their work. Therefore, submissions will be accepted from students and ECRs.



Travel Bursaries to those with particularly high travel costs as a burden to attendance are available.

Key Dates:

Abstracts close: Friday 15th November 2019

Further Information:

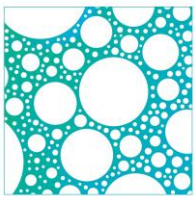
For more information please see the conference website: <https://acis.wildapricot.org/ACSSSC-32>

Congratulations!

Funding has been received for an ARC COE for Enabling Eco-Efficient Beneficiation of Minerals led by the University of Newcastle. More information can be found [here](#).

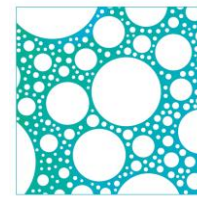
Funding has also been received for a training centre led by the University of Adelaide and more information can be found [here](#).

Congratulations to the numerous ACIS members associated with these successful initiatives!



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Upcoming Awards

ACIS Best PhD Thesis Award

The ACIS Best Thesis prize is awarded annually to the candidate who is judged to have completed the most outstanding PhD thesis in a branch of Colloid and Interface Science undertaken at an Australian or New Zealand University, and whose degree has been approved, but not necessarily conferred, in the previous 13 months. The award will take the form of a \$500 cash prize and a certificate.

Key Dates:

Applications close: 9th December 2019

Further Information:

For the requirements of the award and further information please contact Prof. Gunther Andersson, Chair of the Awards Committee of ACIS: Gunther.andersson@flinders.edu.au

Nominations should be sent to: acis.enquiries@gmail.com

ACIS ECR Lectureship Award

The Australasian Colloid and Interface Society has established an annual Lectureship to allow outstanding, recently appointed, colloid and interface research scientists to travel around Australia and New Zealand to present the results of their research work. The objective is to provide the Lecturer with the opportunity to achieve broader recognition and exposure at an early stage in their career. This will also help them to develop their network, engage active collaborations, and become invested in the Australian colloid and interface science community.

There is no age limit, however nominees must have been appointed to their first academic, government or industrial position (at least academic level B or equivalent) within the five years preceding the closing date of nominations. In the case of career interruptions, such as for illness, caring or parenting responsibilities, *etc.* exceptions to this rule will be considered at the discretion of the ACIS awards committee.

The Lecturer will be expected to present a lecture in at least six state/territory capitals and/or major regional centres in Australia and New Zealand during the year of the lectureship. The lecture program will be developed in consultation with the selection committee, with final approval by the Chair of the ACIS Awards and Prizes Committee. Reasonable travel and accommodation expenses up to a maximum of \$3,500 will be provided.

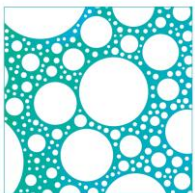
Key Dates:

Applications close: 2nd December 2019

Further Information:

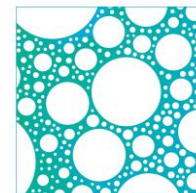
For the requirements of the award and further information please contact Prof. Gunther Andersson, Chair of the Awards Committee of ACIS: Gunther.andersson@flinders.edu.au

Nominations should be sent to: acis.enquiries@gmail.com



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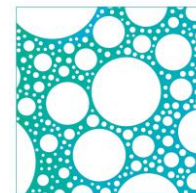
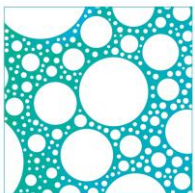
ACIS Lectureship Awardee – Shelley Wickham

Thanks to the kind support of the Australasian Colloids and Interface Society, I received the ACIS Lectureship Award for 2019. While I studied as an undergraduate in Australia, having completed my PhD and postdoctoral studies in the UK and USA meant that when I returned to Australia to start my independent research career in 2016, I had to rebuild my network of collaborators and colleagues. As an early-career researcher, having a good local network is essential to building up new projects, exchanging ideas, recruiting students and applying for grants.

So far, the ACIS lectureship has already helped me to increase my exposure in the research community within Australasia. I have already visited Bio21 at the University of Melbourne, the School of Chemistry at the University of Tasmania, Griffith Institute of Drug Discovery and the School of Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences at the University of Queensland. During these visits, I've been able to present my current and future research directions to a huge range of academics and students across the country. I've met new collaborators, and had a great many exciting discussions that have led to new ideas and insights that have shaped the directions of my future research. It has been great fun to interact with such a diverse range of talent across the country. It has also allowed me to participate in several early-career discussion groups and lunches, where I have been able to give some perspective on my career journey to others. I've also been able to meet other members of the IACIS local organising committee, who I had previously only known on Skype.



Overall, this funding from ACIS has really enabled me to increase my profile in the Australian colloids and interfaces community, and has been a great experience. It has also allowed me to visit parts of the country that I had never seen before! I look forward to continuing my lectureship tour in the next few months, and am planning future visits to the Universities of South Australia and Auckland.



UK Early Career Colloid Meeting Bursary - Brianna Knowles

On the 16th and 17th of September 2019 I had the privilege of attending the UK Early Career Colloid meeting held in Loughborough, England and was given the opportunity to present my work on the use of functionalised silica colloids to prepare hydrophilic antifouling surface coatings. During the meeting I also had the pleasure of listening to several high-quality presentations from the meeting delegates, ranging from advanced responsive materials and targeted diagnostics, to tailoring nanoparticle properties and advanced particle characterisation techniques.

After attending the meeting, I traveled to Newcastle upon Tyne to meet with Professor Anthony Clare from the School of Natural and Environmental Science who leads the Centre for Marine Biofouling and Corrosion. I had the opportunity to present some of my PhD work to the research group as well as discuss ongoing work occurring within the Australian Steel Manufacturing Research Hub. Additionally, I was provided with a laboratory tour and engaged with current PhD and Postdoctoral researchers about their current antifouling projects. It was a wonderful opportunity to get to attend ECCo19, expand my professional network and to visit a laboratory in the UK to engage in meaningful discussion in relevant research topics.

McBain Medal 2019

SCI/RSC Colloids Group is delighted to announce that Prof Roel Dullens of the University of Oxford is the 2019 recipient of the McBain Medal. Prof Roel's [research](#) focuses on colloidal physics including phase transitions and glasses. The event will be held on the 9th December 2019 in London. Please find more information [here](#).

Supercapacitors turbocharged by laxatives

Prof Julian Eastoe and several ACIS members including Prof Rob Atkin from the University of Western Australia, recently published in the journal *Nature Materials*, explains why these detergents, called ionic liquids, are better electrolytes than current materials and can improve supercapacitors.

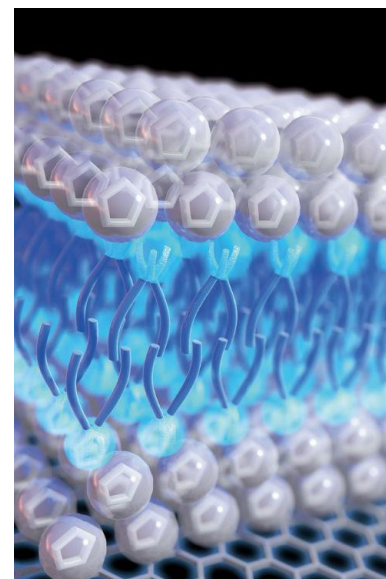
Currently, aqueous and organic electrolytes are used, but more recently, researchers and manufacturers have been testing ionic liquids instead to boost performance.

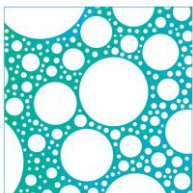
Although ionic liquids are salts, at room temperature they are surprisingly not crystalline solids - as their name suggests they are in fact liquids.

This gives ionic liquids numerous advantages over conventional electrolytes because they are stable, non-flammable, and often much more environmentally friendly.

To explore the exciting potential offered by ionic liquids for emerging electrochemical technologies the authors designed a new set of highly efficient detergent-like ionic liquid electrolytes and explained how they work at electrode surfaces.

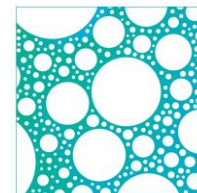
Understanding how they operate will help design even more efficient devices for storing electrical energy.





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Further information can be [found here](#).

'[Self-assembled nanostructures in ionic liquids facilitates charge storage at electrified interfaces](#)' by Xianwen Mao, Paul Brown, Ctirad Červinka, Gavin Hazell, Hua Li, Yinying Ren, Di Chen, Rob Atkin, Julian Eastoe, Isabelle Grillo, Agilio. A. H. Padua, Margarida. F. Costa Gomes and T. Alan Hatton in *Nature Materials*.

IACIS 2021

Planning of the 17th triennial conference of the International Association of Colloid and Interface Scientists is underway! It will be held on June 21st to 25th 2021, Brisbane, Australia. Follow us on:



[@iacis2021](#)



[IACIS2021](#)



[For members of IACIS](#)

Activities

Join our Awards, Communications, Conferences and Events Committees

ACIS needs its members to be actively engaged. Please let us know if you would like to be involved in the committees that will run the activities of the Society: *Awards; Communications; Conferences and Events*. Or if you would like to propose other activities we should be running. **We especially invite students and early-career researchers to become involved.** Please email your interest to acis@colloid-oz.org.au.

Visiting Scientist Register

Are you planning to host a visit by 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 scientists, 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 your colleagues, students and industrial partners working in the field of colloids and interface to join us. General membership is \$100 per annum. The membership year is from 1st July each year. Memberships paid after this date are valid until 30th June of the following year. More information is available on our website <http://colloid-oz.org.au/>.

The Newsletter team is:

Boon Teo – boonmian.teo@monash.edu

Christine Browne – christine.browne@monash.edu



[@AusColloids](#)