



Australian Women in Computing Newsletter Summer 2008

1. Australian Women in IT Conference proposed for December 2009

Mark your diaries The 11th OzWIT conference "Striving to improve diversity and equity in IT" will be held at the Deakin University Burwood (tbc) on November 30 and December 1, 2009. The OzWIT conference will precede the Australasian Conference in Information Systems (ACIS) to be held at Monash University. Delegates are encouraged to consider combining the two conferences. More details and call for papers in the new year. Conference chairs acraig@deakin.edu.au; clang@swin.edu.au; Julie.fisher@monash.edu.au

2. VicWIC dinners

Many of us have missed these terrific networking occasions this year, yet when we meet at other conferences and venues express disappointment that we have not attended one. It has been suggested that we run them three times a year on pre-set dates. To get the ball rolling we suggest the last Friday of March, the last Friday of August and the first Friday of November 2009. Any suggestions for dates and locations should be sent to Jo jojo@deakin.edu.au or Barbara bhurst@swin.edu.au.

3. New Victorian Government Grant program: Collaborative Internet Innovation Fund

The Victorian Government has just opened round one of the Collaborative Internet Innovation Fund (cIIF) <http://www.mmv.vic.gov.au/CollaborativeInternetInnovationFund> This is a new \$15 million competitive grants program to accelerate the innovative use of the next generation of ICT by Victorian government, business and community. The cIIF program provides project-based funding to support early adopters of new technologies to undertake collaborative projects that develop new ways of working and solving problems. cIIF follows a project development cycle:

Idea - Application Stage 1 (Expression of Interest)

Plan - Application Stage 2 (Business Plan)

Fund - Contract the project

Do - Implement the project

Share - Communicate the project

If you are interested please go through the above link to the website. If you have any queries after reading through the website please direct any queries to: Carol Tobolov, Senior Policy Officer, Multimedia Victoria - Innovation and Technology, T: +61 3 9655 1068, F: +61 3 9655 1062, M: 0413778866
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4. ACS Board gets more women representation

The initiative to represent current female membership ratio (17%) on the incoming Victorian State Board has been successful. Congratulations go to Michelle Beveridge (Treasurer); Cecily Mason (Board Member); Jeanette Wirt (Board Member) who have been elected to the 2009 Board!

5. Digital Divas ARC Linkage Grant

Associate Professor Julie Fisher, Dr Catherine Lang; Associate Professor Helen Forgasz and Dr Annemeike Craig, Ms R Ellul and Ms Bettina Harlos have been successful in attaining an ARC Linkage Grant for the project: **Digital Divas: Designing approaches to enthuse girls' interest in ICT studies and ICT careers.** The

collaborating partners are DEECD, VicICT for Women Network; ACS; Netspace Online Systems and Brentwood Secondary College. The three year project will pioneer a program to build girls' ICT skills and confidence through curriculum that can be used for an elective in the school program or an after-school club.

FINALLY Wishing you all a SAFE and HAPPY festive season

Brought to you by:

Dr. Catherine Lang ACM-W Australian Ambassador MACS MACM

<http://www.ozwit.org>

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