

BULLETIN

January 2007

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Bonne année
Meilleurs vœux pour 2007

We hope you all enjoyed saying goodbye to 2006 and welcoming 2007?

AFAS-Vic had another successful year as detailed in the President's Report for 2006.

For 2007, your Committee has planned a number of activities. Please take the time to add these dates to your 2007 Diaries!

Attached to this Bulletin is your Membership Renewal for 2007. As the fees have not changed for over 10 years, the Committee of Management has set the annual subscription at \$50 for Individuals, \$250 for Corporates, \$10 for students and \$30 for retired members.

We look forward to your continuing support via membership renewals and attendance at our activities as the subsidy we receive from UBIFrance has been reduced each year.

We start the year on Friday March 16th with our Annual General Meeting and a cocktail to give you all a great Networking Opportunity. There will be no-charge for financial members (i.e. those who have paid their subscription for 2007). Guests and non-financial members will be asked to contribute \$10.

In April, we will have a "traditional" AFAS meeting with a technical talk entitled "Making Air Travel Safer & Faster" to be given by Lionel Wonneberger from Thales ATM.

The Cultural & Scientific Attaché for Victoria, Dominique de Gasquet is organising the annual "French Day" at RMIT University on 17th May. AFAS will be participating by organising a talk by Lionel Wonneberger.

The French Rendez-vous 2006 was a big success in Sydney. This year, it will be extended to include Brisbane, Canberra, Perth and Melbourne. The objective of "French Rendez-vous 2007" is to engage the public in aspects of French culture through a coordinated series of functions involving local representatives of French companies and organizations. It will cover the period from Wednesday June 13th to Saturday July 14th. AFAS will be supporting it by organising a technical visit to IRIS at Swinburne University as part of the Lecture Series.

For our Annual Dinner in June, we return to Chez Bob (last time was in September 2003)

The AFAS FEAST-France Fellowship presentations will be awarded following the presentation of the Victoria Prize and Fellowships, expected to be in August and we are planning a technical seminar in September on Wireless Transmission Technology in conjunction with AFAS-NSW.

We look forward to seeing you at least at one of the coming activities!

Best wishes for 2007 ...

President's Report for 2006.

Our first activity for 2006 was the "4th France-Australia Symposium on Nuclear Medicine", held at Le Meridien at Rialto on 6th March, organised by A/Prof Michael Kassiou (Department of PET & Nuclear Medicine, RPAH) and Professor Denis Guilloteau (INSERM, University of Tours, France). Australia's scientific collaboration with France in the area of Nuclear Medicine has now become one of the biggest and most successful targeted bilateral networks of FEAST-France and the French-Australian Network for Science and Technology Cooperation.

At the Annual General Meeting on 17/3/2006, resignations were accepted from David White and Yann Hamon due to pressure of other commitments. We thank them both for their contributions. Sophie Bourgès and Sebastien Fleury were elected as Committee members. Following the AGM, Pascale Pantaleao agreed to replace Yann Hamon as the Thales representative.

The Committee of Management is now:

John Acton - President - 3 year term expires May 2008
Peter Tolé - Vice President - 3 year term expires May 2008
François Malherbe - Hon Secretary - LO Swinburne - 3 year term expires May 2008
George Bolz - Hon Treasurer - 3 year term expires May 2008
Bernard Shepherd - Public Officer - 3 year term expires May 2008
Sophie Bourgès - 3 year term expires March 2009
Sebastien Fleury - 3 year term expires March 2009
Philippe Lesage - 3 year term expires May 2008
Pascale Pantaleao - replaced Yann Hamon - 3 year term expires May 2008
Christophe Lefèvre - 3 year term expires May 2008 - LO University of Melbourne
Yvonne Durandet - 3 year term expires May 2007 - DLO Swinburne
Gary Bryant - 3 year term expires May 2007 - LO RMIT

Kerry Hourigan - 3 year term expires May 2007 - LO Monash University

The cocktail, which followed the AGM, presented an excellent networking opportunity, which was enjoyed by members and guests.

AFAS has been dedicated for many years to establishing and reinforcing links between France and Australia in the scientific and technical fields. As part of its activities, in conjunction with the French Embassy, AFAS sponsors each year up to 3 people, either post-graduate students or early-career professionals, to undertake a trip to France with the objective of meeting and collaborating with scientists from the most famous research institutes, to the mutual benefit of both Australia and France.

This year the following candidates were awarded a \$5000 grant:

* **Dr Bryan Fry**, a biologist, who will visit the *Musée d'Histoire Naturelle* in Paris, where he will continue to investigate and promote his works on animal protein venoms;
* **Mr Hadi Lioe**, a post-graduate student from the Chemistry Department at Melbourne University, who will visit the *Laboratoire de Spectrométrie Ionique et Moléculaire* in Lyon to further study the mechanism of protein misfolding;
* **Dr Paul Stoddart**, from the Physics Department at Swinburne University, who will visit the *Institut des Metaux Jean Rouxel*.

The biannual UBIfrance Asia/Oceania Regional Association Presidents' Meeting, held in Australia for the first time, was jointly organised by the three Australian French Associations for Science & Technology in ACT, NSW and Victoria, the Economic Mission of the French Embassy and UBIfrance. Presidents in the Asia/Oceania region from India (Mumbai & Delhi), Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Japan, Philippines, Thailand (China was unable to attend) participated with Australia (Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney), the French Embassy Economic Mission and UBIfrance. The program commenced on Monday 27th November in Sydney, where the

the meeting was held in the Jubilee Room at the NSW Parliament. The group flew to Melbourne and stayed at the Mercure Hotel (a member of the Accor Group). The final event in the program, a cocktail at the Alliance Française de Melbourne, gave another opportunity for the Presidents to network with AFAS members and other Melbourne Francophiles before departing home on Friday morning.

The Committee would like to thank Jacques Dasset of UBIfrance; Jean-Louis Latour of the French Trade Commission; Robert Fahri and Michel Thibier of the French Embassy - Science & Technology Section; the Cultural & Scientific Attaché for Victoria, Mme Dominique de Gasquet; Edouard Mornaud of the Alliance Française and Patricia Polites the Honorary French Consul for their support and encouragement of AFAS-Vic and its activities. I would also like to thank the members of the Committee of Management, the FEAST-France Liaison Officers and you, the members, for your support, without which there would be no Australian French Association for Science and Technology.

CALENDAR FOR 2007

Friday March 16th
Annual General Meeting
Networking Opportunity

Friday April 27th
Talk - Making Air Travel Safer & Faster

Thursday May 17th
Seminar - Making the French Connection

Wednesday June 13th to Saturday July 14th
French Rendez-vous 2007

Friday June 15th
Annual Dinner - Chez Bob

Friday July 6th
Technical Visit - New laser at IRIS

August
Presentation of AFAS FEAST France Fellowships

September
Seminar - Wireless Transmission Technology