

BULLETIN

October 2007

Volume 14, Number 4

Presentation

Meeting the 21st century's greatest challenges

Friday 30th November 2007

Our speaker for this event is Dr Selena Ng.

She is the Nuclear Business Development Manager at the Australian subsidiary of AREVA, and is based in the Adelaide office. She is responsible for identifying and developing business opportunities across all of AREVA's nuclear business lines. The bulk of her current work is on developing AREVA's uranium exploration and mining business. Prior to her appointment here in August of this year, Selena spent three and a half years at AREVA's headquarters in Paris working in the "back-end" of the civilian nuclear fuel cycle, namely, in the treatment and recycling of used nuclear fuel and waste management, where she was responsible in particular for issues related to nuclear non-proliferation.

Selena grew up not far from Moe in Victoria, and holds a B.Sc.(Hons) from Monash University (Clayton), an M.B.A. from the Collège des Ingénieurs Paris, and a Ph.D. in applied mathematics and theoretical physics from the University of Cambridge.

AREVA offers its customers reliable technological solutions for CO₂-free power generation and electricity transmission and distribution. The group is the world leader in nuclear power and the only company to cover all industrial activities in this field. AREVA's businesses help meet the 21st century's greatest challenges: making energy available to all, protecting the planet, and acting responsibly towards future generations.

With the media attention that nuclear energy has been receiving in Australia over the past 18 months, this talk will attempt to sort out fact from fiction! While many now acknowledge that nuclear energy has its part to play in a worldwide solution to climate change mitigation, it is still criticised by others on issues such as proliferation, waste, safety, and cost. We will examine the global role of nuclear energy, with a special focus on France's experience, where nuclear energy provides 80% of its electricity needs.

The talk will be open both to AFAS members and to any guests who may wish to attend. We request a contribution of \$5 per person.

WHEN: Friday 30th November 2007

TIME: 7:30 pm

WHERE: Alliance Française,
51 Grey Street
St Kilda, 3182

(Limited car parking at front of premises)

RSVP before Monday 26th November 2007 to

George Bolz, Ph 03 9818 1834 (AH)
treasurer.vic@afas.org.au

Peter Tolé, Ph 03 9810 5700 (BH)
ptole@evanspeck.com.au

Un mot du Président.

The last few months have been very active across all fronts.

In sport, rugby has been filling the headlines and absorbing hours of TV. Although France went down to Argentina in the first match, they made amends with the victory over New Zealand's All Blacks. Australia's hopes were dashed when the Wallabies were beaten by England. For the bi-partisans, we then looked to France beating England. Alas, it didn't happen and the final will be England and South Africa.

In politics, since his election, President Sarkozy continues his hyperactivity & the inevitable threat of strikes after the summer holidays has begun. In Australia, two State Premiers have resigned before the end of their terms and the Federal election has been set for 24th November.

For AFAS-Vic, in conjunction with FEAST-France, we award up to three *AFAS FEAST-France Fellowships* each year to Victorian researchers wishing to undertake a study tour to France. These fellowships are granted as a complement to the *Victoria Fellowships* awarded by the Victorian Government. Prof Michel Thibier, Conseiller scientifique, Ambassade de France came to Melbourne in August for the Presentation of the 2007 Fellowships to Dr Bryony Coleman (Auditory neuroscience and stem cell biology), Mr Simon Craig (Fluid Fertilisers) and Mr Andrew Walter (Spintronics and quantum computing). There are now 12 AFAS FEAST-France Fellows and we heard from three previous winners of their experiences - Richard Barber (2004), Hayley Newton (2005) and Paul Stoddart (2006).

See our web site for more details:

http://www.afas.org.au/vic/feast_france/aff_fellows.htm

We were sad to farewell Dr. Dominique de Gasquet, the Cultural & Scientific Attaché for the last three years in Melbourne, but wish her well in her new posting in New Delhi, India. We await her replacement.

Two of our Committee members, Philippe Lesage and Sebastien Fleury, led an Industry Tour to France to study the latest in Public Transport and Street Furniture. As every major city in France is investing in new tramways and associated infrastructures, the visit was very productive for the industry participants.

On the industrial front, the first Airbus 380 has been delivered to Singapore Airlines & the first commercial flight will be from Singapore to Sydney. The new Premier of Victoria opened Australia's Synchrotron in Clayton. (We are planning a visit for AFAS members in 2008).

Nuclear energy has received much media attention over the past 18 months. Our next talk on 30th November will attempt to sort out fact from fiction on nuclear energy. As the decline in the number of students studying mathematics has also been receiving some attention from the specialized media, our speaker, Dr Selena Ng, is an outstanding example of where mathematics can take your career.

We hope you will be able to join us as we meet the 21st century's greatest challenges.

Melbourne French Theatre

AFAS members are now eligible for a Concession when booking for MFT plays. Refer to the web site for details:
<http://www.mftinc.org>

Welcome to new Corporate members

Monash University
RMIT University

Welcome to new Individual members

Mr Robert Bicknell
Dr Martin Burd
Mr François Buaud
Dr Bryony Coleman
Mr Simon Craig
Ms Elena Dagis
Mr Nick Garnham
Mr David Greig
A/Prof Sabine A. Hammond
Mr Hadi Lioe
Dr Angelo Perani
Dr Paul Stoddart
Dr Daniel Talmont
Dr Alexandra Uittenboger
Mr Andrew Walter

les Emissions en Français à radio SBS

1224 AM
mardi : 11h
vendredi : 11h
dimanche : 16h

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 17th
Technical Visit – New laser at IRIS

Friday August 17th
AFAS FEAST France Fellowship
Presentation

Friday 30th November Forum – Meeting the 21st century's greatest challenges