

AXAA 2007 NSW Student Seminar Day - "What Matters is What Scatters"

Overview

The AXAA NSW branch held its 2007 Student Seminar Day entitled "What Matters is What Scatters" on the 5th September 2007. The event, hosted this year by the Analytical Centre at The University of New South Wales, aimed to showcase the impressive scientific research that is being undertaken by young researchers in NSW. This years programme featured both single crystal and powder X-ray and neutron diffraction applied to complex solid state systems including perovskites, metal-organic frameworks, and spin crossover materials.

Participation and Speakers

5 undergraduate and 2 postgraduate students were selected from a strong field of applicants. Undergraduate presenters included Budwy Rowda, Yue Wu, Chun Chen, Jarrah Spencer and Patricia Donovan. Postgraduate presenters included Wei-Seng Eu and Jimmy Ting. A varied audience of over 30 was in attendance.

Organisation and Promotion

AXAA NSW branch members Vanessa Peterson and Catherine Kealley were the seminar organisers, who extend a special thankyou to Grainne Moran, Managing Director of the UNSW Analytical Centre for her help with the venue. A big thankyou also goes to this year's judges for their time and expertise; Dr Margaret Elcombe, Gordon Thorogood, and Dr John Stride.

The Winners

Congratulations to this years winners, Patricia Donovan in the Undergraduate category for her presentation "Imidazole-based spin crossover materials" and Wei-Seng Eu in the Postgraduate category for his presentation "Micro-furnace for the *in-situ* investigation of ilmenite mineral phase transformation using synchrotron radiation based X-ray diffraction". This year's winners received a cash prize in addition to the AXAA newsletter subscription and membership offered to all of this year's presenters. Post seminar pizza and refreshments were enjoyed by all.

Hope to see everyone back for more next year,

Vanessa Peterson and Catherine Kealley