

Dr Sean Fitzgibbon from the **CMLR** was featured in the October issue of *UQ News online* with an update on his project on the distinct vocalizations made by koalas.

Thank you to everybody who helped with the SMI Honours Information Session on Wednesday, 8 October. The one hour lunch time event was organised by Alex Pudmenzky and Charlie Ackerly, supported by SMI and advertised through various UQ internal channels. It was held in the spacious podium of the Chemistry building and designed to attract students to the various centres of SMI represented on the day. Videos and posters of past student projects on display gave visitors an insight into SMIs many world-leading innovative research initiatives.

An information booklet can be downloaded from <http://cmlr.uq.edu.au/Honours2009.html>.



Hamish Taisei McLellan

Congratulations to Dr Ben McLellan from **CSRM** and his wife Kazuki on the recent birth of their son, Hamish Taisei.

Congratulations to Nancy Eluigwe and her husband Katchi on the recent birth of their daughter, Izabelle.



Izabelle Eluigwe

New Staff Profiles



Dr Alan Woodley joined CWiMI as a Post Doctoral Research Fellow in October. Alan recently received his Doctorate from the Queensland University of Technology, where he had previously completed a Bachelor of Information Technology (Honours). Alan joins CWiMI to work on the centre's Waterminer Software tool.

Clair Cooper is the education logistics officer who commenced work with MISHC in September. She comes to MISHC from the health care industry after completing her Bachelor of Commerce at UQ in July. Her role is to assist Kristy Farrelly and Associate Professor Andrew Morrell in the running of the Minerals Industry Safety and Health Centres education department.



Louise Gallagher joined the SMI team as Finance and HR Officer while Nancy Eluigwe is away on Maternity Leave. Louise has been working at UQ for three years, previously working at Central Clinical Division in Herston. Louise has a strong background in accounting, and has just recently branched out into HR. Louise is just returning from maternity leave herself, and hopes that not too much has changed in the last year.

Lauren Stafford joined BRC in October as Administration Manager. She has come from a student administration and marketing position in the School of Geography Planning and Architecture, where she worked for 12 months. Before then, Lauren was a secondary school Mathematics and Physical Education teacher for three years and looks forward to never hosting a lunchtime detention again.



SMI to lead collaboration on CSIRO social science research program

SMI researchers, in partnership with researchers from the University of Technology Sydney, Curtin University of Technology and Central Queensland University, have been successful in an application to the CSIRO Flagship Collaboration Fund for a Research Cluster that will provide a social and economic research capability to the CSIRO Minerals Down Under Flagship. The Cluster, titled 'Future Sustainability of Australia's Mineral Industry', will be led by Professor David Brereton, from the Centre for Social Responsibility in Mining, and brings together four University-based research institutions all of which have a strong track record of working in the minerals sector. The CSIRO Minerals Down Under Flagship consists of substantial innovation investment to address the serious challenges that face the Australian minerals industry: declining ore grades and shifting local, regional and international operating environments. The research cluster will complement the technological research undertaken through the flagship by providing foresight into the long-term strategic challenges, future scenarios, social, economic and regional contexts in which the technology will be situated and will assist the flagship to reach its goal of transforming the Australian minerals landscape. The cluster is now working toward a Collaborative Research Agreement with CSIRO before the program will be officially launched. For further information please contact Dr Daniel Franks (D.Franks@smi.uq.edu.au, ph. 3346 3164).

MISHC celebrates 10 years

The Minerals Industry Safety and Health Centre has reached a huge milestone and are celebrating 10 years of providing education, training, research and consulting services to improve safety in the mining industry.

MISHC was established in 1998 to develop a safety and health centre of excellence for the minerals industry in Australia. MISHC celebrates its 10 year anniversary in 2008. During its first 10 years, MISHC has been involved in various collaborations with mining companies, other tertiary institution and government departments both within Australia and internationally.

As a result of MISHC's risk management initiatives in the industry, safety has become an increasingly important aspect of the mining industry. MISHC's industry partners applied research and skills provided by MISHC which led to improvements to safety and management of risk on various mine sites throughout Australia and overseas.

MISHC will be holding a celebration on Friday the 21st of November at 4pm in the SMI Lounge, so please come and help them celebrate this achievement.

Upcoming Events

11 - 13 November 2008 – Dialogue Skills for Community Engagement - A People Centred Approach.

This ACMER workshop explores the principles and practice of dialogue, demonstrating how authentic and skilled dialogue feeds the community engagement and development process.

For more information, go to:

<http://www.acmer.uq.edu.au/training/trainingdetails/CommunityEngagementDetails.html>

25-26 November 2008 – Life of Mine Planning and Management; From Impact Assessment to Mine Completion.

This ACMER training course will address issues associated with the development, operation, closure and relinquishment of a mining operation.

For more information, go to:

<http://www.acmer.uq.edu.au/training/trainingdetails/LifeofMineDetails.html>

SMI holds free weekly internal seminars at both the St Lucia and Indooroopilly sites. To be alerted to upcoming seminars, subscribe to the mail-out by emailing Charlie Ackerly (c.ackerly@uq.edu.au).

Travellers' Tales

Recent travel:

Peter Erskine from CMLR was invited by the International Council for Mining & Metals (ICMM) to develop a mining scenario for discussion at the IUCN World Conservation Congress held in Barcelona, Spain early October, 2008. Peter presented a case study of the high profile conflict surrounding the development of bauxite reserves by Cape Alumina inside a property leased by Steve Irwin's family company on Cape York Peninsula. His presentation covered much of the recent history of the site, laid out the recent court battles over access, and presented the conservation issues related to bauxite mining and the potential for subsequent rehabilitation. The talk finished with a series of questions which were addressed by a panel made up of representatives from conservation groups (Fauna & Flora International and Kew Gardens) and industry (Anglo and Alcoa). This was followed by a number of questions and experiences of bauxite mining shared by the audience in the main auditorium. Although the session was well attended (a couple of hundred people) the Congress had over eight thousand participants and eight hundred sessions over five days. The participants came from conservation groups, governments, NGOs, indigenous peoples groups and industry, to find long term pragmatic solutions to pressing environment and development challenges.



Recent travel:

- September 26 - October 6: Chris Moran from **SMI** went to Bazil.
- September 28 - October 5: David Mulligan from **CMLR** went to Manila, Davao, and general Santos area.
- September 28 - October 7: Emmanuel Manlapig from **JKMRC** went to the Phillipines.
- September 29 - October 10: David Brereton from **CSRM** went to Brazil and London.
- September 30 - October 11: Ben Adair from **JKMRC** went to UK, Europe, USA and Canada.
- October 3 - October 12: Peter Erskine from **CMLR** went to Barcelona.
- October 3 - October 12: Marco Vera from **JKMRC** went to USA and Canada.
- October 13 - October 21: Daniel Alexander from **JKTech** and Geoff Gault from **JKMRC** went to Peru.
- October 13 - October 27: David Mulligan, Graeme McIlveen and Barry Noller from **CMLR** went to Johannesburg and Dae es Salaam.
- October 15 - October 24: Sharon Mateo from **JKMRC** went to South Africa.