



CAASTRO Newsletter - May 2012

In order to assist our Theme Leaders with the CAASTRO Research program, we are pleased to announce the appointment of three Theme Scientists:

Emil Lenc - Evolving Theme Scientist
Steven Tremblay - Dynamic Theme Scientist
Chris Springob - Dark Theme Scientist

We congratulate CAASTRO Deputy Director Lister Staveley-Smith, who has been named [the 2012 winner of the "Excellence in Postgraduate Research Supervision" award](#) following nomination by his students. This is deserved recognition of Lister's distinguished track-record in mentoring and supervision.

On 4 April 2012, CAASTRO co-hosted [a visit to Sydney by NASA Administrator Charles F. Bolden Jr.](#) Administrator Bolden gave an informative talk to a packed audience on NASA's future plans for research and exploration.

CAASTRO headquarters at The University of Sydney relocated on 30 April 2012. We are now at [44 Rosehill Street, Redfern](#); this is about a 20-minute walk from campus, and is immediately adjacent to Redfern train station and the Australian Technology Park. We look forward to showing you all around next time you visit.

Our CAASTRO colleagues Guinevere Kauffmann and Brian Schmidt were both recently honoured with election to learned academies: Guinevere has been elected as a member of the US National Academy of Sciences, and Brian has been elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society. We congratulate Guinevere and Brian on this deserved recognition of their many achievements in research.



New Member Update

CAASTRO now has [93 members](#). We offer a warm welcome to the most recent additions to our team:

- Lindsay Botten
- Loren Bruns
- Davide Burlon
- Michael Childress
- Ruth Jeffries
- Antonios Katsianis
- Emil Lenc
- Sue Lester
- Lina Levin
- Steven Murray

CAASTRO Research Update

CAASTRO has had a strong start to 2012, [with 11 published papers](#) and another 10+ papers under review. Amongst these results:

- Cath Trott, Randall Wayth and Steven Tingay have used information theory [to calculate the theoretical limits of point-source removal](#) for detection of the Epoch of Reionisation.
- A CAASTRO team led by Paul Hancock has developed [a new algorithm for identifying astronomical sources in radio images](#).

Please let your Node Leader know as soon as

- Pietro Procopio
- Ragini Singh
- Marcin Sokolowski
- Chris Springob
- Patrick Tisserand

In each CAASTRO Newsletter, we profile members of our growing team:

- [Ue-Li Pen \(U Toronto\)](#)
- [Michael Childress \(ANU\)](#)

In late May 2012, we will officially launch the **CAASTRO Mentoring Program**. Thanks to everyone for participating in the matching process late last year. The wait is almost over! You will soon be notified of who you are matched with and there will be a kick-off video conference to get you started.



Administration Update

CAASTRO's **video conferencing system** is now up and running at all nodes, and many members of the Centre are making regular use of this for busy weeks, theme meetings and other activities. Guidelines and documentation for using the video conferencing system are now available on the [CAASTRO wiki](#) (requires your login and password).

For technical assistance with CAASTRO video equipment, call 1800 284 336. If you need to participate in a video-conference when you are off site please email [Kate Gunn](#), who can provide you with a software version of the system that you can install on your laptop. External participants can join a CAASTRO-initiated video conference by dialling the relevant number for the virtual conference room being used. For example, to connect to room 5001, dial [5001@129.78.137.162](tel:5001@129.78.137.162).

Please remember that if you are **publishing a CAASTRO paper**, you should seek approval from the relevant theme leader before submission, as per the [CAASTRO Publications policy](#). This link also provides guidelines on how you should affiliate and acknowledge your CAASTRO papers.

Every member of CAASTRO should now have a hard copy of the [CAASTRO Annual Report](#). Huge thanks to everyone who contributed to this publication and the work reported therein.

Please save the date for the CAASTRO ANNUAL RETREAT, which will be held in Western Australia over 25-27 Nov 2012.

Every year we are required to provide the Australian Research Council with information on our **Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)**. Staff and students at the six CAASTRO nodes should provide this quarterly through your local CAASTRO administrator - we appreciate the effort that everyone has made to provide this information.

possible about any major CAASTRO papers you anticipate publishing later in 2012.

Theme Meetings will be held via video conference throughout May. At these meetings, you will all be asked to help develop the written plans for your specific research projects.



CAASTRO Outreach & Education

CAASTRO brings astronomy and music together

Throughout March 2012, CAASTRO partnered with Musica Viva Australia as the astronomy sponsor of the Canadian music ensemble Tafelmusik. Before ten concerts in six capital cities, [CAASTRO astronomers informed and entertained the audience](#) with talks on Galileo, Kepler, and the connection between astronomy and music. We thank those who participated for their excellent and stimulating presentations.

Astrofest 2012

The place to be on 31 Mar 2012 for budding astronomers and astronomy enthusiasts was Astrofest 2012 at Curtin Stadium, where [CAASTRO staff and students hosted a booth and talked to the public about our activities](#). CAASTRO hopes to hold a similar event in the eastern states in future years.

CAASTRO in the Classroom



CAASTRO Workshops

CAASTRO will be convening or co-sponsoring a number of workshops in the months ahead. These include:

- [Early Career Researcher Mentoring Workshop](#), Shoal Bay, 31 May - 1 Jun 2012
- Women in Astronomy, Melbourne, 10-11 Oct 2012
- The EoR Global Signal, late Nov 2012
- CAASTRO Annual Retreat, Western Australia, 25-27 Nov 2012
- The High-Redshift Universe, Uluru, July 2013

CAASTRO also organised or contributed to two very well-received workshops in early 2012:

- [Large Surveys in the Multi-IFS Era](#), Sydney, 9-10 Feb 2012
- [Cosmic Flow in the Rainforest](#), Gold Coast, 20-22 Feb 2012

Greg Madsen and various CAASTRO presenters are continuing their great work in [bringing astronomy to NSW high-schools via video conferencing](#). We are expanding this service to Korea in late May as part of the APEC Educational Ministerial Meeting in Korea.

For questions, suggestions and feedback on our education and outreach programs, please contact [Dr Wiebke Ebeling](#).

Copyright © 2012 CAASTRO, All rights reserved.

Contact us at info@caastro.org.