

Australian Institute of Physics

2018 WOMEN IN PHYSICS LECTURER

Each year the Australian Institute of Physics (AIP) appoints a woman who has made a significant contribution in a field of physics as the AIP Women in Physics Lecturer. The lecturer, selected alternatively from Australia and overseas, undertakes a national tour that celebrates the contribution of women to advances in physics.



Dr Ceri Brenner

The lecturer for 2018, Dr Ceri Brenner, is a graduate of Oxford University with a PhD from the University of Strathclyde. She currently uses powerful lasers at the Central Laser Facility at the UK's Rutherford Appleton Laboratory to develop innovative imaging technology for medical, nuclear and aerospace inspection. She has a unique role that spans research, innovation and business development and is driving the translation of laser-driven accelerator research into industrial applications. In 2017 Ceri was awarded the UK Institute of Physics' Clifford-Paterson Medal and Prize for her significant early career contributions to the application of physics in an industrial context. She is an active member of the UK's physics community with leading committee roles within the Institute of Physics and British Science Association.

Dr Brenner is a highly experienced and popular science communicator and is a strong advocate of physics engagement to reach new audiences within the general public, academia and industry. She described her lecture tour, which involved visits to 14 cities across Australia, as

a fantastic journey and opportunity. "I am so thankful for the chance to meet and speak with so many students and to reach an academic audience I wouldn't have got to otherwise" she said.

NEW CHIEF SCIENTIST FOR COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION (CSIRO)

Dr Cathy Foley, has been appointed as CSIRO's Chief Scientist. Cathy is a world-renowned physicist and science leader and has made distinguished contributions to the understanding of superconductor materials. She has also helped to advance the development of devices using superconductors to detect magnetic fields, as well as locating valuable deposits of minerals.



Dr Cathy Foley

Cathy has played an integral part in the direction of the Australian Institute of Physics (AIP). She was President 2007-8 and is currently a member of the Women in Physics Committee. An advocate for women in science, science communication, and science education, Cathy describes her priorities in the new role as promoting science, STEM and women in science.

In 2016 an Outstanding Service to Physics in Australia Award was presented to Cathy for outstanding service to the discipline of physics over many years, including leadership, outreach and research.