

Australian ITER Forum: News & Media Log 2007

Note: Links were functional at time of conversion to PDF

2007

Media

ITER Press Release, Cadarache, 24 October, 2007

ITER Organization formally established

As of today, Wednesday, October 24, 2007 the new International Organization ITER is formally established.

Other News

September 2007

Dennis Jensen, MP, raises fusion on Coalition party floor, 19 September 2007, The Age "MPs' brainstorm creates whirlpool of ideas"

"Prime Minister John Howard and Treasurer Peter Costello sat diligently taking notes - but making no comments - for 2 1/2 hours while about 50 backbenchers put up their ideas in what is likely to be the last Coalition party meeting before the election ... And former physicist and WA Liberal Dennis Jensen proposed an investment in international research into nuclear fusion"

<http://www.theage.com.au/news/national/mps-brainstorm-creates-whirlpool-of-ideas/2007/09/18/1189881513983.html>

Senator Carr, Shadow Minister for Industry, Innovation, Science & Research, highlights fusion in Senate, 19 September 2007

Some of you may be interested to note that Senator Carr has referred extensively to fusion and the ANU H1 facility in a recent Senate speech (19 September) on the HIGHER EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND BILL 2007

http://parlinfoweb.aph.gov.au/piview/web_document.aspx?id=2493997&table=HANSARDS

"Nuclear fusion has the potential to become a safe form of energy generation, one that does not create dangerous radioactive waste. Of course, it is a long way off and it requires substantive public investment, but, as I am advised by scientists at the ANU and by colleagues around the world, that is what they are seeking."

Australia left behind in fusion race September 05, 2007, The Australian, Leigh Dayton, Science writer

[More information ...](#)

SCIENTISTS claim the nation has fallen further behind in the quest for safe cheap energy, as yet another international fusion project took a major step forward without Australian participation.

[More information ...](#)

Harnessing the untapped power of fusion for potentially limitless energy Matthew Hole, Canberra Times, 3 Sep 2007

"Recently, the federal government has discussed at lengths the deployment of nuclear power in Australia. In a research context..."

August 2007

Russia and Australia look to fusion future*, 17 August 2007, World Nuclear News

*Russian and Australian scientists are looking to secure their countries' roles in the future development of nuclear fusion power in separate moves. The Russian government has adopted a draft strategy for developing nuclear fusion to 2050. Meanwhile, Australian scientists are pushing for funding to enable them to be involved in the international fusion project ITER. *

[More information ...](#)

Radio - August

1. Radio Interview, ABC Southeast , Dr Matthew Hole with Mike Jeffreys breakfast program, 8:30am 16 August
2. Radio Interview, 2CC , Dr Matthew Hole with Tim Holt 8:30am 15 August
3. Radio Interview, ABC 1233 Newcastle, Prof. John O'Connor with Carol Duncan 14 August

ABC Postings - August

1. "Australians want slice of fusion pie", by Anna Salleh ABC Science Online, Thursday, 16 August 2007 Australian scientists want more than A\$60 million over 10 years to

keep the country in the international nuclear fusion game....

<http://www.abc.net.au/science/news/stories/2007/2006616.htm>

2. "Scientists to fuel debate on fusion energy" ABC, Posted Wed Aug 15, 2007 2:29pm
AEST Scientists will today launch their plan for Australia to develop the potentially safe and sustainable energy source, fusion energy....

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2007/08/15/2005881.htm>

Scientists push for fusion energy in Australia, 15 August 2007, Labonline

http://www.labonline.com.au/latest_news/article.asp?item=12792

Australian Science, August 2007 *Turbulent Times for Fusion Energy*

By reducing the turbulence of plasma, Michael Shats hopes to remove a major barrier to the development of efficient fusion reactors.

A future run on star power

[More information ...](#)

VC of ANU, Ian Chubb, quote fusion and ITER in his recent address at the Univ. of Melbourne . Many elements of his speech supported our case.

[Full text...](#)

June 2007

A country that has stopped thinking - 16 June 2007, Sydney Morning Herald

[More information ...](#)

Prosperity has brought security but also a lack of vision and an absence of courage, write Steve Burrell and staff reporters. Relaxed and comfortable. Or just timid and slow on the uptake? Anaesthetised by the Lucky Country prosperity of a once-in-50-year global resources boom, with leaders who have become frightened to lead, obsessed with cost but often blind to opportunity, Australia is being left behind on things that matter for the future.

April 2007

Nuclear Fusion, The Economist, 19 April 2007

When lasers were invented in the 1960s they were little more than an exotic curiosity - a solution looking for something to solve. Now that lasers are found in everything from telephone cables to DVD players to the humble laser pointer, they have become almost prosaic. Time, then, to rekindle a little glamour, by using lasers to bring about nuclear fusion, the great prize of energy research. Next month researchers will try to persuade the European Commission to pay for the biggest laser-fusion project yet.

Nuclear fusion is a compelling idea. The sun and stars are daily proof of the great energy released when light atomic energy nuclei join together. Lots of power could be produced using very little fuel. No greenhouse gases would be released. The fuel is abundant, the process safe and the waste, though radioactive, is far less noxious than the stuff left over from fission. Unfortunately, in spite of more than 50 years' work and billions of dollars of backing, no one has yet managed to get an Earth-bound fusion reaction to produce useful energy ...

http://www.economist.com/science/displaystory.cfm?story_id=9033026&CFID=22813943&CF_TOKEN=46445928

March 2007

FUSION IS FAR FAR IN THE FUTURE

[More information ...](#)

Posted by: Geppe.Coletti, Australian Democrats WA, Thursday, March 15, 2007

Exhibition

Nuclear Matters - A new nuclear science exhibition at the Powerhouse

The Powerhouse Museum has a new highly interactive exhibition exploring the complex world of nuclear science, medicine and nuclear power. This opened on August 21, coinciding with National Science Week (18-26 August) and the Ultimo Science Festival (22-26 August).

On display in the Museum's *Experimentations* gallery where different areas of science are explained, *Nuclear matters* aims to provide a greater public understanding of what nuclear science is and how it plays a big part in our everyday lives.

?People don't realise how nuclear science is all around us. From the small amount of radioisotopes that we eat and breathe, to the isotopes in the earth that are measured to determine the age of rocks and reveal past climates, it is a very diverse science,? said Dr Jesse Shore, Senior Curator, Sciences at the Powerhouse Museum.

?It is a highly complex science that some people find intriguing and others find concerning. So the aim of the exhibition is to provide enjoyable and meaningful ways to explore the basics of

the science and show some of the ways it's used in our daily lives,? said Dr Shore.

Nuclear matters will reveal how many things in everyday life, including ourselves, are slightly radioactive. Fundamental questions as what is radiation and how is it produced will be answered. The exhibition will also examine the many applications of nuclear technology from medical diagnosis and the treatment of cancer, to determining the structures of materials to generating power.

A feature of the exhibition is nine imaginative and daring interactives, allowing visitors to have fun whilst learning about various aspects of nuclear science. One interactive allows the user to control a small but steady nuclear fusion reaction with the touch of a button! Another allows a person to pedal a stationary bike to generate electrical energy and compare their efforts to coal and gas-fired, nuclear and renewable power sources.

The exhibition is divided into five areas: 1. Nuclear basics; 2. Nuclear in our lives; 3. Nuclear sciences; 4. Nuclear power generation; and 5. Nuclear perspectives. Some of the highlights include a real ice core from Antarctica that will help show how scientists study climate change. The role that radiopharmaceuticals play in medicine is explained with a real medical scanner and dummy patient, revealing how these nuclear technologies can produce images of the body's insides.

Nuclear matters not only looks at science and technology, but changes in social attitudes over the last century. Early 20 th century support for radioactive products to today's divided views on all things nuclear, including the politics, big economics and planet sustainability, are explored.

The exhibition is on permanent show at the Powerhouse and is part of a program updating the Museum's *Experimentations* gallery which first opened with the Museum in 1988. Sponsored by ANSTO (The Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation).

On view:	<i>Nuclear matters</i>
Date:	From 21 August 2007
Address:	Powerhouse Museum , 500 Harris Street, Ultimo, Sydney
Telephone:	(02) 9217 0111 or infoline (02) 9217 0444
Website:	http://www.powerhousemuseum.com/
Hours:	10.00am to 5.00pm (closed Christmas Day)
Admission: admitted free.	General admission \$10 adult, \$5 child, \$6 concession and \$25 family. Powerhouse Museum members, children under 5 years, NSW Senior Card holders and pensioners

For further media information and images contact:

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