

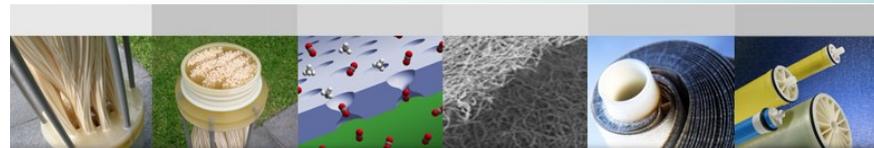


Membrane Society of Australasia

# Membrane Society of Australasia

# NEWSLETTER

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## Welcome to our new board members



**Prof. Amanda Ellis** obtained her PhD (Applied Chem.) 13 years ago from the University of Technology, Sydney. Her research focuses on polymer-DNA hybrids, DNA nanostructuring, surface modification of membranes in water treatment (and desalination), and anti-biofouling coatings. She has over 127 publications with over 2500 citations and has obtained >18 M in funding. Amanda is currently an ARC Future Fellow (2014-2018) and Deputy Associate Dean Research for the Faculty of Science and Engineering. She was on the Excellence in Research Australia Review Committee (PCE panel, 2015). She is a Board Member of the RACI and the co-Convenor of the 9th IMSTEC (Adelaide 5-8 Dec 2016).



**Prof. Greg Leslie** is the director of the UNESCO Centre of Membrane Science and Technology at the University of New South Wales. Prior to joining UNSW, he worked in the public and private sectors on water treatment, reuse and desalination projects in Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Hong Kong and the United States. His experience includes work on the Singapore NEWater recycling projects at Bedok, Kranji and Seletar and at the Orange County Water District (OCWD) in California as the deputy programme manager for the Groundwater Water Replenishment System; the largest indirect potable reuse project in the United States.



**Prof. Xiwang Zhang** is an Associate Professor at the Department of Chemical Engineering, Monash University. He leads the Membrane & Catalysis Lab (MCLab) which focuses on novel membrane technologies and catalytic oxidation processes for water treatment. He was awarded the prestigious ARC Australian Research Fellowship and Monash Larkins Fellowship in 2011 and 2012, respectively. A/Prof. Zhang has published > 70 journal papers, including in

*Advanced Materials, J. Am. Chem. Soc, Advanced functional materials, Angewandte Chemie, Journal of Membrane Sciences* etc. His total citation (Scopus) is over 2200 times and with an H-index of 24. A/Prof. Zhang also has rich industrial experiences. He was a R&D manager in Kepple before coming to Australia in 2011.

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**Dr. Ludovic Dumeé** is a Research Fellow at the Institute for Frontier Materials – Deakin University, working on the development of novel nano/meso porous and reactive materials for the design of membrane reactors. He is leading a team of eight researchers,

primarily focused on thin film materials development and functionalization. His research interests span from the understanding of diffusion mechanisms at the micro and nano scale with x ray and neutron scattering techniques as well as the formation of advanced isoporous nanoscale materials. He previously acted as the Secretary on the inaugural board of the MSA between 2007 and 2010. (*continued on page 2... MSA Board*)

## Upcoming events

### • 6th MSA Workshop: Advanced Membrane Technologies

20th July 2016, 10:00 am (Wednesday), Monash University, VIC, Australia (Website: <http://msa-monash.weebly.com/>)

The event is free for MSA members, and costs \$100 for non-members. If you would like to join MSA membership, please register it at <http://www.membrane-australasia.org/join-msa-now/>.

Due to limited space, please contact Mr. Huiyuan Liu ([huiyuan.liu@monash.edu](mailto:huiyuan.liu@monash.edu)) to register for the event.

### • The 5th IWA Regional Conference on Membrane Technology

Kunming City, Yunnan Province, China, 22-24 August 2016

Visit: <http://www.iwa-rmtc2016.org/> for more information.

## MSA member receives best oral presentation award in an international conference in Prague

We congratulate MSA member, Mr Ezzatollah Shamsaei who won the 'best oral presentation award' at PERMEA & MELPRO conference held in Prague, Czech Republic from May 15 – 19, 2016.

The international PERMEA & MELPRO conference - taking place in Visegrad countries (Czech Republic,



In photo: Ezzatollah Shamsaei (centre) receives his award.

every three years, is one of the creative conferences in the field of preparation and production of membranes, assessment and utilization of their separation properties.

The conference was visited by 265 participants from 33 countries all over the world. The number of contributions presented at the conference was 243 (94 oral and 149 poster presentations). The presentation awards were given by the European Membrane House, European Membrane Society and Czech Membrane Platform supported by Visegrad Fund.

In his presentation, Ezzat highlighted his recently published works in ChemComm and ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces on the development of metal organic framework (MOF) composite membranes for improved gas separation properties. Ezzat believes that MOFs will be exploited in more practical applications in the future and although there exist some obstacles to be conquered, MOF membranes certainly bring a bright prospective for the large-scale separation applications. Ezzat thanks Monash University for the travel grant and his supervisor Prof. Huanting Wang for his expert advice and outstanding support.

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## Current MSA Board Members

**Chair** – Aaron Thornton, CSIRO

**Treasurer** – Ludovic Dumez, Deakin University

**Secretary** – Kristina Konstas, CSIRO

**Newsletter Co-Editors** – Huanting Wang, Monash University, and Hokyong Shon, University of Technology, Sydney

**Workshop/Support Coordinator** – Hokyong Shon, University of Technology, Sydney

**Workshop/Support Coordinator** – Ken Morison, University of Canterbury

**Workshop/Support Coordinator** – Pamela ElJbeily, IXOM

**Travel Awards Coordinator** – Greg Leslie, University of New South Wales

**Mentorship Coordinator** – Amanda Ellis, Flinders University

**Strategic Relations** – Peter Macintosh, Consultant

**Strategic Relations** – Xiwang Zhang, Monash University

## Membrane Research Highlights

- [Recent advances in polymer and polymer composite membranes for reverse and forward osmosis processes](#), Progress in Polymer Science
- [Janus membranes: Exploring duality for advanced separation](#), Angewandte Chemie International Edition
- [Membrane distillation and membrane electrolysis of coal seam gas reverse osmosis brine for clean water extraction and NaOH production](#), Desalination
- [Selection of suitable fertilizer draw solute for a novel fertilizer-drawn forward osmosis-anaerobic membrane bioreactor hybrid system](#), Bioresource Technology
- [Towards enhanced performance thin-film composite membranes via surface plasma modification](#), Scientific Reports
- [Analyzing the evolution of membrane fouling via a novel method based on 3D optical coherence tomography imaging](#), Environmental Science & Technology
- [Robust thermoresponsive polymer composite membrane with switchable superhydrophilicity and superhydrophobicity for efficient oil-water separation](#), Environmental Science & Technology
- [Progress and challenges of carbon nanotube membrane in water treatment](#), Critical Reviews in Environmental Science and Technology

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