

ACT/NSW ANZIAM meeting

Mark Nelson*

A joint meeting of the ACT and NSW branches of ANZIAM was held at the Coachhouse Marina Resort, Batemans Bay, (<http://www.coachhouse.com.au>) on Friday 21 November and Saturday 22 November 2008. The organising committee for the mini-meeting comprised Dr M.I. Nelson from the University of Wollongong (UoW) and Dr H.S. Sidhu from the University of New South Wales at the Australian Defence Force Academy (UNSW@ADFA).

Seven delegates from NSW (UoW 6, misc 1) and 15 from the ACT (UNSW@ADFA 5, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation 1, Australian National University (ANU) 9) attended the meeting. There were 18 talks, including 10 from students. It was recognised at the meeting that the standard of student talks was very high. The prize for the best student talk was shared between Mr Aaron Thornton (UoW) and Ms C. Khoo (ANU). Ms Roslyn Hickson was highly commended for her talk. The winners each received a cheque for \$100 whilst Ms Hickson received a cheque for \$50. All three also received certificates.



Ms Hickson, Mr Thornton and Ms Khoo

Dr Bob Anderssen was unable to attend the first day of the meeting; he attended a meeting in Ballarat. Flying back to Canberra on the Friday, his plane was delayed by 90 minutes. He got up in the early hours of Saturday morning, drove through thunderous rain and arrived for the start of the first session. He arrived before some of the delegates staying locally! He gave the final presentation of the meeting on 'Modelling Gene Silencing'.

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For his dedication and efforts to attend the meeting Bob was announced as ‘The Most Heroic Attendee’. He has received a certificate.



Dr Bob Anderssen, Associate Professor Harvinder Sidhu and Professor Brian Gray

The Coachhouse Marina Resort was an excellent resort with very friendly staff who went out of their way to help organise the meeting, at very short notice.



Mark is an applied mathematician from the University of Wollongong. His main research interests are the application of mathematics to problems from biological and chemical reactor engineering. In 2003 he was awarded the J.H. Michell Medal for being the Outstanding Applied Mathematician in the region by the Australian and New Zealand Industrial and Applied Mathematics Group.