

The sky is not the limit: Australia's Future in Space Science



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Draft strategic plan consultation

Tuesday 2 February 2021
14:00 - 15:30 AEDT



Speakers



Fred Menk is Emeritus Professor of space physics at the University of Newcastle and chair of the Academy of Science National Committee for Space and Radio Science. His research interests focus on the physics of near-Earth space, related instrumentation, and improving radiation treatment of cancers. He has served in a range of academic and international research leadership roles, authored over 150 peer-reviewed publications in space science and medical physics and mentored over 30 PhD students. He is joint recipient of two Engineers Australia excellence awards and project managed development of the NewMag payload on the FedSat spacecraft. He served as Education Program manager in the Cooperative Research Centre for Satellite Systems and has convened numerous international symposia and national outreach events.



Imogen Rae is currently an Assistant Manager within the Cyber Security Reform and Critical Technologies Team at the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources. Previously, she worked on the landmark Satellite Based Augmentation System as an Engineer at Geoscience Australia, and as a project coordinator on a test-bed of the system at FrontierSI. Imogen has a Bachelor of Aerospace Engineering, is currently undertaking a Master of Systems Engineering (Space Systems) and was President of the Australian Youth Aerospace Association (AYAA) in 2016-17. Alongside her work she is a passionate advocate for women in STEM, having been awarded for contributions at Geoscience Australia and Monash University. She is also an Expert Working Group member for the Decadal Plan for Australian Space Science.



Phil Bland joined Curtin as an ARC Laureate Fellow in 2012. Prior to this he was Director of the Impacts & Astromaterials Research Centre at Imperial College London. He graduated in geology from the University of Manchester in 1991. His interest in planetary science began with a 3 year post as curator of meteorites at the Open University. He was awarded a PhD in 1995. Phil spent a sent a year as a Royal Society Overseas Research Fellow at the WA Museum before taking up a Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council Research Fellowship at the Natural History Museum (London). In 2000 he was awarded a Royal Society University Research Fellowship.

SYNOPSIS: A new strategic plan for Australian space science has been under development for some time on behalf of the Australian Academy of Science. This has been informed by several expert working groups, surveys, and other consultation. This session will provide opportunity for public comment on the draft Plan.

Our society is increasingly dependent on space derived services, while the burgeoning pace of space activity will unleash new opportunities and risks. The Plan outlines a framework for space science to advance Australia's interests and priorities by contributing to discovery and innovation, the economy, security, society, and the workforce. Space science is a fundamental enabler for space industry and applications, and Australia's world-class expertise in space science is critical for effectively leveraging these opportunities and mitigating risks.

This is the opportunity to provide constructive feedback helping shape the Plan for the benefit of all Australians.