

# SESIE news



**ISES**

International  
Solar Energy  
Society



## New SEI CEO appointed

We would like to congratulate our past President, Prof. Owen Lewis, on his appointment as CEO of Sustainable Energy Ireland (SEI) and also take the opportunity to wish him well in his new position.

On his appointment, Professor Lewis said “The challenges for Ireland in terms of energy security, price competitiveness and emissions abatement are clear and the targets ambitious but achievable. I am delighted to have been offered the opportunity to lead SEI in the delivery of its wide ranging programmes in pursuit of these targets. The agenda is one of transforming Irish society and the economy towards overall carbon neutrality and I have been given the full backing and mandate of a strong board and a committed staff complement to achieve this ambition.” – SEI website 18 Nov, 2008.

## SESIE PhD Colloquium

The 1st SESIE PhD Colloquium took place in DIT Kevin Street on November 3rd. PhD students from UCD, NUI Galway, GMIT, DIT and the University of Ulster took part in a most informative and enjoyable one day event. The presentations given on the day, and a book of abstracts are now available on the SESIE website. Details of the 2nd PhD colloquium will be announced shortly. We hope to see you all there.

## SESIE committee appointments

Tommy Shannon was elected Web Officer and Kevin O'Farrell was elected Events Coordinator at the SESIE AGM held in Limerick Institute of Technology in December. We would also like to welcome Tom Bean to the SESIE committee. Tom takes over from Mike Hopkins as VC for Public Affairs. We would like to wish all well in their new roles.

# Upcoming Events

## New ways to catch some rays -

Can advances in solar energy conversion materials and devices really provide a low cost energy source?

Alchemist Cafe in association with Lightwave at the Science Gallery, Trinity College Dublin.

Dr Dominic Zerulla, Project Principal Investigator in the SFI Strategic Research Cluster on Solar Energy Conversion and Senior Lecturer in UCD School of Physics will give a general overview on currently available solar energy conversion devices (and their limitations) and introduce the next stage technologies and their potential, including the Graetzel Cell.

Date: **Tuesday 27th January 2009**

Location: Flux Cafe, Science Gallery, Trinity College Dublin

Time: 8.00pm (Sharp)

Admission: Free- All Welcome!

Limited amount of complimentary food will be provided, food will be available to buy in the Flux café. In association with CPL and Discover Science & Engineering

## SESIE talk:

### Accelerated Capital Allowance: Photovoltaic systems.

The Accelerated Capital Allowance [ACA] is a tax incentive programme which was set up to encourage companies to invest in energy efficient equipment. It is an allowance, applicable to corporate taxation, of 100% of the capital cost of eligible equipment in the first year of purchase. In the Irish National Budget, delivered in October 2008, new categories were introduced including Heating and Electricity Provision. The talk outlines the ACA scheme and addresses the possible timescale and criteria for applying the ACA to Photovoltaic [PV] systems.

Venue: Cork Institute of Technology: Room B262

Date: **23rd January 2009**

Time: 18:00

Speaker: Kevin O'Farrell, lecturer, Dublin Energy Lab, DIT.

Venue: Dublin Institute of Technology: Focas Institute - Meeting Room 1

Date: **26th January 2009**

Time: 18:00

Speaker: Kevin O'Farrell, lecturer, Dublin Energy Lab, DIT.

## SES-ie meeting

The next SESIE meeting will be held on **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January at 6 pm** in FOCAS, DIT Kevin Street, Dublin, after the SESIE talk (see above).

*SES-ie Sponsors*



Solar Ireland



## **Environ 2009:** A look at all areas of Environmental Science

Environ 2009 (19<sup>th</sup> Irish Environmental Researchers' Colloquium) will be held from **February 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>** in Waterford Institute of Technology. This conference is organised by the Environmental Sciences Association of Ireland (ESAI) and Teagasc, and offers researchers in the area of sustainability an opportunity to showcase their work and to network with other interested parties.

The themes to be discussed at this event are (a) Sustainable Management of Air, Water, Soil; (b) Ecology and Biodiversity; (c) Environmental Technologies and Eco-Innovation; (d) Waste and Resource Management; and (e) Socio-Economics, Human Health and Environmental Policy.

This event features a keynote address by Liam Lysaght (The Heritage Council), as well as a plenary session looking at Climate Change Perspectives.

Registration is open until February 17<sup>th</sup> and further information is available on the ESAI website [http://www.esaiweb.org/esai\\_environ2009.php](http://www.esaiweb.org/esai_environ2009.php)

## **Coolpower - Best Emerging International Company**

Congratulations to CoolPower, the Dublin winner in the Best Emerging International Company of the All-Island Seedcorn Business Competition, run by InterTradeIreland.

<http://www.intertradeireland.com/index.cfm/area/information/page/SeedcornTheResults>

**Picture Right:** Josephine Hughes and Tom Bean of Cool Power Products ( [www.coolpower.ie](http://www.coolpower.ie) ), with EMMA (Energy and Micro-generator Manager)



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## **Message from the Editors**

The SES-ie newsletter aims keep members notified of any news or events regarding solar applications and research going on in Ireland. In addition, it provides a forum for SES-ie members to make contacts, and to express opinion on recent events and developments. We would ask all members to forward any relevant articles to the newsletter by email to [sesinews@gmail.com](mailto:sesinews@gmail.com). Recent news, updates, upcoming events and member profiles are all welcome and will be included in future editions.

# Research Proposal Writing on the Masters Degree in Energy Management

## Masters Degree in Energy Management

Professor Brian Norton originally came up with the idea for the Masters Degree in Energy Management at DIT and the job of its implementation was given to Kevin O'Connell supported by Eugene Coyle (Head of School) and Dr. Mike Murphy (Director and Dean of the Faculty of Engineering). At the same time that the Masters Degree was being set up, Dr. Steve Jerrams, Head of the Research Support Unit, DIT, was seeking to integrate research into taught masters programmes. The result of these two initiatives was the integration, by Derek Kearney, of Research Proposal writing into the Energy Conversion and Use module on the Masters Degree in Energy Management.

## Student research proposals

The Energy Management students have to write a research proposal based on Strand 1 and the top 10 research proposals are upgraded and formally submitted to obtain research funding. Dr. Marek Rebow, Head of Research in the Faculty of Engineering, is working on matching up the top ten proposals to suitable supervisors in the Faculty of Engineering. Lecturers from the Dublin Energy Lab are also supporting this initiative.

## Cash Prizes

As an incentive, Dr. Steve Jerrams put up a cash prize for the top three proposals. The cash prizes were presented by Prof. Norton at the annual Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE) awards night that was run by the Department of Electrical Services Engineering (photo below).

POSITION	NAME	
Third	Bernard Lynch	Improving the energy efficiency of a passive house by integrating a solar thermal collector into the design envelope.
Joint second	Ruth Buggie	To Assess the Market for Biodiesel for Domestic Oil Heating Systems
	Brian O'Rourke	Boiler combustion monitoring system powered by exhaust gases
First	Robert Lynch	Demand Side Energy Management



(L-R) Dr Steve Jerrams- Head of Research Support Unit, Bernard Lynch, Prof. Brian Norton- President of the DIT, Robert Lynch, Brian O'Rourke, Ruth Buggie and Dr. Marek Rebow- Head of Research in the Faculty of Engineering, at the Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE) awards night

# APPLICATION FORM

## Individual Membership

### Address Information

Date: .....

Title                      First name                      Surname

.....

Address

.....

City                                      County                                      Country

.....

Telephone                                      Fax

.....

Profession                                      Date of Birth

.....

Email address                                      Web address

.....

Please outline your expertise or interest in SESI

.....

Individual Membership Rates - Solar Energy Society of Ireland (please tick)

Regular €15                       Student €5                       Unwaged/Retired €6

Combined Membership Rates - International Solar Energy Society and Solar Energy Society of Ireland (please tick)

Regular €50                       Student (<27) €25   
 Unwaged/Retired €30                       Student (>27) €40

Please return this form along with a cheque made payable to the  
**Solar Energy Society of Ireland** to  
 Mr Paul Marah, SESI Treasurer, Room CLG-009, Dept of Electrical Services  
 Engineering, Dublin Institute of Technology, Kevin St, Dublin 8

For more information on the International Solar Energy Society  
 please visit [www.ises.org](http://www.ises.org)  
 For more information on the Solar Energy Society of Ireland, please contact  
 Sarah McCormack on 00353 1 4027961 or email [sesireland@gmail.com](mailto:sesireland@gmail.com)



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**MEMBERSHIP**



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