



**Australian Institute of Physics  
NSW Branch (October Public Talk)**

**“Space Science in Australia: The next 10 years”**

**Professor Iver Cairns  
University of Sydney**

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2009 @ 6.00PM**

At the

**Slade Lecture Theatre, School of Physics, University of Sydney**

**Public talk arranged by: The Australian Institute of Physics (NSW Branch)**

***Entrance is FREE***

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***Summary of talk:***

Australia was the fourth nation to launch a spacecraft into orbit from its own territory, in 1967. Its second satellite followed 35 years later, when FedSat was launched in December 2002. Australia has experts in many areas of space science and technology, but for most of the last 50 years has had no coordinated national space effort or dedicated funding for space research. In order to remedy this situation and to organise the space science community, the National Committee for Space Science (Australian Academy of Science) is developing the first Australian Decadal Plan for Space Science. It is scheduled for completion in late September 2009. This talk describes the vision of the Australian space science community for the next 10 years. It presents the scientific themes and goals, together with the science, education, and outreach projects to accomplish them. Large projects include: Spaceship Australis, to make Australasia the region for which space weather effects are best measured and modelled from the Sun to the ground; a nano- and small-satellite constellation mission to study space weather, observe Earth, and develop space technology; and the Sundiver mission. Medium projects range from digital radars to image and isotopic analysis laboratories to space propulsion. This vision will be discussed in the context of the Government's recent welcome initiative to create an Australian Space Research Program.





### ***Brief Biography of the Speaker:***

Professor Iver Cairns is Professor in Space Physics at the University of Sydney. He is a world expert in the theory and observation of waves and radio emissions in space, focusing on the plasma physics, with about 200 refereed publications in books and journals. His experience includes 12 years at the University of Iowa (USA), funded primarily by grants from NASA, and 11 years at the University of Sydney. Currently he is an official Co-Investigator of NASA's new STEREO mission (launched October 2006) exploring space weather and solar activity, both vital to human technology and space science. Professor Cairns is Chair of the Academy of Science's National Committee for Space Science and is leading development of the first

Decadal Plan for Australian Space Science, seeking to develop and optimize Australia's world-class capability in space science for the benefit of the nation.



### ***Detailed Schedule for Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> October 2009:***

- **6:00-6.30 pm REFRESHMENTS, Slade Lecture Theatre.**
- **6.35-7.30 pm LECTURE by Professor Iver Cairns.**
- **8.00 pm DINNER with the Speaker at Buon Gusto (Italian), 368 Abercrombie Street, Chippendale.**  
*E-mail Dr Fred Osman ([fred\\_osman@exemail.com.au](mailto:fred_osman@exemail.com.au)) if you will be able to join us for dinner.*

### ***Travel Directions:***

- Train to Redfern station and walk to the **School of Physics**.
- Buses 422, 423, 426, 428, 448, and 450 from Circular Quay to City Road / King, or 412, 435, 438, 470, 483 etc. along Parramatta Road from Circular Quay.
- Drive and park in various parking lots. You will need to pay for parking (**\$6 flat-rate after 4 pm**) and display the ticket in your car. You may also find parking places on public roads outside the Uni.

### ***Event sponsored by:***



***The Australian Institute of Physics – NSW Branch  
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