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Chemical and Biomolecular
Engineering Foundation

The
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering Foundation
presents:

The 2009 Great Debate

***“That experience is irrelevant
in the modern world”***

Come and hear two teams of engineers present their cases... see how they might draw on their experience in the chemical engineering world to prove their points... that is, unless they deem 'drawing on their experience' to be a contradiction in terms, given the topic of the debate!

**When: Thursday, August 6, 2009
5.45 pm for 6.00 pm sharp start, till 7.00 pm**

**Where: Lecture Theatre 3
Civil Engineering Building J05
University of Sydney**

... following which join the teams for drinks and nibbles.

See you at the 2009 Great Debate.



The University of Sydney

The 2009 Great Debate

***“That experience is irrelevant
in the modern world”***

Chair and Moderator

Professor Stephen Garton

Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor, The University of Sydney

Professor Stephen Garton was appointed as the Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sydney in August 2009.

Professor Garton is a graduate of the University of Sydney (BA) and the University of NSW (PhD) and is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities, the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia and the Royal Australian Historical Society. His area of research expertise is Australian history, although he has also published in the fields of American and British history. His major books include *Medicine and Madness: A Social History of Insanity in NSW 1880-1940* (1988), *Out of Luck: Poor Australians and Social Welfare 1788-1988* (1990), *The Cost of War: Australians Return* (1996) and *Histories of Sexuality: Antiquity to the Sexual Revolution* (2004). He is also a co-author with Shane White, Stephen Robertson and Graeme White of a forthcoming book *Black Kings and Queens*, a study of the culture of the numbers rackets in Harlem in the 1920s, to be published by Harvard University Press in 2010. He has also published extensively in such fields as the history of psychiatry, crime, poverty, social policy, eugenics, policing, masculinity and returned soldiers. More recently he has published on the history of parole in the American South and the emergence of criminal psychiatry in New York State.

At the University of Sydney Professor Garton has been Head of the Department of History (1996-1998), an Associate Dean and Pro Dean in the Faculty of Arts (1991-1995, 1999) and a member of the Academic Board for nearly fifteen years. In addition he has been a member of the Editorial Board of the Australian Dictionary of Biography, the Executive Committee of the Australian Historical Association and on the Council of the Australian Academy of the Humanities. He was appointed Professor of History in 2000 and Challis Professor in 2004. From 2001 to 2009 Professor Garton was Dean of the Faculty of Arts, before taking up the role of Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

The affirmative...

Peter Skellern

Director, Du Pont (Australia) Ltd

Peter graduated in Science and in Chemical Engineering from The University of Sydney

He is Director, Corporate Marketing and Sales, Asia Pacific across all Du Pont businesses (sales \$6Bn) and is based in Sydney. Prior to this assignment, Peter led one of Du Pont's businesses based in Shanghai, China.

He has experience in production engineering, projects and construction, operations, business improvement, marketing and sales and business management.

Peter has worked in a variety of fields including paint and coating, plastics and packaging, industrial gases, laminates, agriculture, services, automotive, petrochemicals and oil and gas.



James Bolton

Senior Project Engineer, Leighton Contractors Pty Ltd

James graduated in Chemical Engineering from The University of Sydney in 2003, where he was team leader of Chemical Plant Design 2 project receiving the Best Design Report Prize from ABB and highest mark in the Design 2 subject.

He is currently working as Senior Project Engineer at Leighton Contractors and has spent the last year working on Greenfield Glass Bottle Manufacturing plants in both Dubai and South Australia. In the past he worked as a Process Engineer at consultancy SEMF Pty Ltd between 2004 – 2007 working on projects in the dairy, confectionary, water treatment and paint/resin industries. He then joined GHD as Senior Process Engineer in their Food & Agribusiness sector working in Australia and Dubai. This role also involved business development activities in the emerging Biofuels sector.

James is currently undertaking a Masters of Business in Finance specialising in Project Finance at the University of Technology, Sydney.

Elizabeth Dowsett

Elizabeth is currently completing her fourth year in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at The University of Sydney.

Elizabeth is the President of SUCES, the Sydney University Chemical Engineering Society, and represents the undergraduate students on the Foundation's Executive and on the Joint Committee Engineers Australia Sydney Division and IChemE NSW Group. She has had experience in BBQing, hosting trivia, umpiring soccer and has work to provide a social and intellectual channel for the students.

She also represents the University as an Ambassador marketing engineering to high school students.

The negative...

Professor Bruce McKern

Director, Business Leadership and US Studies Centre Innovation Programs

Bruce joined the University of Sydney on a half-time basis as a Professor of International Business. His primary role is in the United States Studies Centre, as Director of the US Business Leadership Program. He will also assist the Faculty of Economics and Business in the development of the Executive MBA Program.

Bruce was the Director of the Stanford Sloan Master's Program in the Stanford University Graduate School of Business for six years and continues to teach in the Stamford MBA Program. He taught International Business, Global Context of Management and the Sloan Leadership Seminar. He continues to hold an appointment as a Visiting Fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution, where he is undertaking a research project on emerging multinationals.

Bruce is an Alumnus of the School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering of The University of Sydney.

Kerry Skellern

Regional General Manager, Fletcher Insulation Pty Ltd

Kerry graduated in Chemical Engineering from The University of Sydney in 1988.

She began her working career with ICI Australia, and over the years she made her mark in the building suppliers industries – James Hardie, CSR Insulation (while in Shanghai) – and a stint with several Start-Up companies in photonics and biomedical field.

Kerry came back to Australia to the position of General Manager of CSR MySteel, and recently moved to Fletcher Insulation, where she is Regional General Manager.



John Nowakowski

John is a PhD Candidate in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at The University of Sydney, working on his thesis on the rheology of fibrous nanoparticles in suspension.

John is the School's Postgraduate Students' representative, working with the executive of the Foundation and School Board. He also works extensively with the School in Marketing and PR, specialising in online social networking.

John has spent the last 6 years working primarily at the University with limited industrial experience. His work at BHP-Billiton's Newcastle Research Centre in 2007 provided insight into the machinations of the wider world, resulting in him immediately signing on for a PhD.

Venue of the Debate...

The Debate will be held in Lecture 3, Level 3, Civil and Mining Engineering Building – the arrow which marks the entrances (next to the Chemical Engineering Building circled in red).

See map on right for location of the Civil and Mining Engineering Building, if you wish to attend The Great Debate at the Foundation Meeting of August 6 (5.45 pm for 6.00 pm start)

NB: **P** – Parking Station
(top right hand corner of map)
Corner Cleveland and Shepherd Streets

