

Bridging Minds: Australia-France Research Forum

Program

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| Meeting | AUFRANDE Annual Event |
| Date | 3-4 June 2025 |
| Location | Building 8 -Kaleide Theatre and Megaflex rooms RMIT University, 360 Swanston Street Melbourne, VIC 3000 Australia |
| Registration | https://aufrandeauevent.eventbrite.es |

About this event

RMIT University is hosting 'Bridging Minds: Australia-France Research Forum', the first AUFRANDE annual event in Australia.

This forum brings together researchers, policy makers and industry experts in STEM and related areas to share insights and foster innovation between France and Australia. With a combination of keynote speeches, interactive workshops, poster sessions and expert panel discussions, this forum is an opportunity for attendees to connect and forge new partnerships, as well as build bridges of knowledge and innovation between Australia and France.

Program

Tuesday 3 June

Welcome address

Kaleide Theatre

Session 1: "Crossing Borders: Innovating Together in France-Australia Research"

Kaleide Theatre

Keynote

Dr. Nathalie Simenel-Amar, Science and Technology Officer, Embassy of France in Canberra

Panel discussion

Dr. Jean-Philippe Diguët, Director, IRL Crossing

Prof. Frédéric Hollande, Director, IRL PHANTOM & Vice-President, AFRAN

Prof. Jenny Pringle, Director, ARC Industrial Transformation Training Centre, “StorEnergy”, Deakin University & Coordinator of Research in Electrochemical Storage, FACES

Prof. Joy Sumner, Co-Director of FACET, Swinburne University of Technology

Moderated by **Prof. Karen Hapgood**, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research, Swinburne University of Technology

Session 2: “Navigating Research Integrity in the Age of Artificial Intelligence”

Kaleide Theatre

Keynote

Prof. Justin Zobel, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Graduate & International Research, the University of Melbourne

Panel discussion

Dr. Daniel Barr, Principal Advisor, Research Integrity, RMIT University

Dr. Mona El-Ayoubi, Senior Educational Development Consultant

Prof. Olaf Maennel, Chair for Cybersecurity, Defence Science and Technology Group, the University of Adelaide

Prof. Justin Zobel, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Graduate & International Research, the University of Melbourne

Session 3: Workshops "Exploring Franco-Australian Research Synergies"

Physics & engineering

Engineering solutions to address environmental sciences

Computer sciences applied to engineering

Energy



Wednesday 4 June

Session 4: "Green Pathways: Implementing Sustainable Practices in Research"

Kaleide Theatre

Panel discussion

Ms. Mélanie Ducros, Hydrogen and Renewable Energy Officer, Expertise France [tbc]

Dr. Usha Iyer-Raniga, Professor, Sustainable Built Environment in the School of Property, Construction and Project Management, RMIT University

Ms. Leonie Paul, REDI PhD candidate, LUT University & RMIT University

Session 5: Scientific Presentations by AUFRANDE Doctoral Candidates

Kaleide Theatre

Session 6: "Connecting worlds: industry perspectives on global partnerships and careers"

Kaleide Theatre

Panel discussion

Prof. Francois Aguey-Zinsou, President and CTO, H2potential & Associate Editor of ACS Applied Energy Materials

Dr. Aaron Belbasis, Applied Research Leader, Aurecon

Dr. Sergey Pikuz, Chief Technology Officer, HB11 Energy

Mr. Nishant Shandilya, Country Representative for Australia & New Zealand, EURAXESS Worldwide

Moderated by **Mr. Manish Kumar**, AUFRANDE Doctoral Candidate, ENSAM & UNSW

Closing ceremony and best presentation award

Kaleide Theatre