



## MEDIA RELEASE

### **BEST AND BRIGHTEST TO REPRESENT AUSTRALIA Science and Mathematical Olympiad Teams Announced**

Twenty six of Australia's best and brightest high school students in science and mathematics will be going for gold at the International Science and Mathematical Olympiads in July and August this year. Professor Penny Sackett, Australia's Chief Scientist, will officially announce the Olympians today and present them with their Australian Team blazers at a special ceremony in Parliament House, Canberra. Teams for Biology, Chemistry, Informatics, Mathematics and Physics will compete against similarly gifted students from more than 100 countries in competitions taking place in Korea, Japan, Canada, Kazakhstan and Croatia respectively.

Students in the Australian Teams were selected from thousands of aspiring Science and Mathematical Olympians after a demanding series of classes, exams and study sessions, plus a rigorous summer school training program. The training and selection for the Olympiad Programs is run by two not-for-profit organisations: the Australian Mathematics Trust (AMT) for Mathematics and Informatics and Australian Science Innovations (ASI) for Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Professor Peter Taylor, AMT's Executive Director, said, "The Olympiads bring together especially talented young people from a variety of countries and backgrounds, enabling them to share both scientific and cultural experiences. The success of our teams also raises Australia's international profile in maths and computer science, ultimately contributing to the advance of technology".

Interim Executive Director of ASI, Dr Nick Hagan, said the Olympiads help prepare talented students for a promising career in science and mathematics. "The International Science and Mathematical Olympiads are a fantastic opportunity for these students to strengthen and hone their skills. The competitions will expose them to exciting new developments in the science arena and allow them to build networks that will be invaluable in their future careers as scientific leaders," Dr Hagan said.

"In earning themselves a place in the team, these students have proved themselves to be the best of the best in Australian science and mathematics. They are now going to be challenged against the best in the world at what are highly prestigious international events," he added.

The Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research is a sponsor of all the Olympiad programs. Merck Sharp & Dohme and Monash University are sponsors of the Science Olympiads.

The Australian team members for the International Science and Mathematical Olympiads are:

<b>Biology</b>	<b>Changwon, Korea</b>	<b>11 - 18 July 2010</b>
Jingchun Chen	James Ruse Agricultural High School	NSW
Paul Khoo	Melbourne High School	VIC
Vivian Li	Pymble Ladies College	NSW
Gina Tonkin-Hill	The University High School	VIC
<b>Chemistry</b>	<b>Tokyo, Japan</b>	<b>19 - 28 July 2010</b>
Allan Chau	James Ruse Agricultural High School	NSW
Kelvin Cheung	James Ruse Agricultural High School	NSW
Stuart Ferrie	Melbourne High School	VIC
Cyril Tang	Sydney Grammar School	NSW
<b>Informatics</b>	<b>Waterloo, Canada</b>	<b>14 - 21 August 2010</b>
Luke Harrison	Normanhurst High School	NSW
Evgeny Martynov	James Ruse Agricultural High School	NSW
Robert Newey	Cobar High School	NSW
Kenneth Wong	James Ruse Agricultural High School	NSW
<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>Astana, Kazakhstan</b>	<b>2 - 14 July 2010</b>
Aaron Chong	Doncaster Secondary College	VIC
Timothy Large	Sydney Grammar School	NSW
Stacey Law	James Ruse Agricultural High School	NSW
Kiho Park	Mount Waverley Secondary College	VIC
David Vasak	Sydney Grammar School	NSW
Sampson Wong	James Ruse Agricultural High School	NSW
<b>Physics</b>	<b>Taipei, Taiwan and Zagreb, Croatia</b>	<b>23 April – 1 May and 17 – 25 July 2010</b>
Madeleine Barrow	MacRobertson Girls High School	VIC
Hilary Hunt	MacRobertson Girls High School	VIC
Andrew Kam	Sydney Grammar School	NSW
Olivia Kim	James Ruse Agricultural High School	NSW
Alexander London	Sydney Grammar School	NSW
Ishraq Uddin	Hurlstone Agricultural High School	NSW
Iris Uy	Baulkham Hills High School	NSW
Bob Wu	Sydney Grammar School	NSW

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