

2025 Australian Olympiad Teams Announcement speakers

Background

The Australian Olympiad Teams Announcement (AOTA or Blazer Ceremony) is the official ceremony to introduce the teams selected to represent Australia at the International Science Olympiads, the International Mathematical Olympiad and the International Olympiad of Informatics.

Testing, training and selection of teams that compete at these International Olympiads is undertaken by Australian Maths Trust and Australian Science Innovations.

The 2025 Australian Olympiad Teams Announcement ceremony will take place at Australian Parliament House on 23 June, from 1000 to 1100 AEST.

Welcome to Country

Serena Williams

Aunty Serena Williams is a respected Ngunnawal and Wiradjuri elder and traditional custodian from the Canberra region. She is deeply involved in cultural and community organisations and is known for performing Welcome to Country ceremonies and traditional smoking ceremonies at major events, including the 2024 visit of King Charles III and Queen Camilla. Aunty Serena advocates strongly for reconciliation and Indigenous rights and has contributed to national initiatives such as the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's Reconciliation Action Plan. Her leadership continues to support the recognition and celebration of First Nations culture in Australia.

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Dr Siobhan Tobin

Dr. Siobhan Tobin is a physicist at the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO), where she works as an instrument scientist on the high-intensity diffractometer Wombat, focusing on magnetism in quantum materials.

Dr Tobin's passion for physics was evident from an early age. In 2012, as a year 12 student at Ballarat Grammar School (VIC), she represented Australia at both the Asian Physics Olympiad in Delhi, India, and the International Physics Olympiad in Tallinn and Tartu, Estonia, where she received an Honourable Mention.

She went on to complete a Bachelor of Philosophy (Honours) in Physics at the Australian National University and later earned a DPhil in Condensed Matter Physics from the University of Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar.

Dr Tobin has remained deeply involved with the Australian Science Olympiads, serving as a long-time program staff member and previously as Program Director for Physics, where she helped train and mentor the next generation of high-achieving students in preparation for international competitions.

Dr Tobin's alumni story: <https://www.asi.edu.au/siobhan-tobin/>

Welcome Address**A/Prof Stella Clark, Chair Australian Science Innovations**

Associate Professor Clark runs her own business, Stella Connect P/L, helping people, organisations and their ideas connect to maximise productive outcomes. Previously she was CEO of Obesity Australia and for nine years before that was CEO of the Bio21 Cluster, Victoria's leading health sciences/biotechnology research cluster. This was preceded by senior management roles at the School of Graduate Studies, University of Melbourne and the Baker Heart Research Institute.

After gaining a PhD from the University of Melbourne in 1984, Ms Clark spent three years as a CJ Martin Fellow at the Imperial Cancer Research Fund in London before returning to a research career in Australia. Her career as a biomedical research scientist in the area of diabetes was recognised in 2014 when she was listed on the NHMRC website "High Achievers in Australian Health and Medical Research". In 1994, Ms Clark helped establish the Premier's Award for Medical Research in Victoria, which recognises outstanding talent among young Victorian medical researchers. She is currently a mentor for the Access Connections Program at the University of Melbourne; Walter and Eliza Hall Institute; and the IMNIS Program

Ms Clark is on the Board of The Garnett Passe and Rodney Williams Memorial Foundation. Since 2012 she has been an Honorary Principal Fellow at the University of Melbourne. In 2013 she was awarded a Certificate of Merit upon graduation from the AICD Company Directors Course and in 2018 became an Honorary Life Member of the BioMelbourne Network. She was made a Member of the Order of Australia in the 2019 Queen's Birthday Honours.

Welcome Address**Dr. Geoff Shuetrim, Chair Australian Mathematics Trust**

Dr Geoff Shuetrim is the Chair of the Australian Mathematics Trust (AMT), having joined the board in December 2017. He also serves as a member of the Trust's Business Development Committee and Finance and Risk Management Committee. Dr Shuetrim's expertise spans applied economics, econometrics, financial risk management, and information technology. He has held research roles at the Reserve Bank of Australia and the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority, and leadership positions at KPMG and Galaxy Pty Ltd. He is also a Fellow at the Centre for Policy Development, contributing to research in finance and economics. Additionally, Dr Shuetrim has been involved in modelling the economic impacts of trade policies, including analyses of US-EU trade relations.

Australian Science Innovations Patron**Emeritus Professor Ian Chubb, AC**

Emeritus Professor Ian Chubb was Australia's Chief Scientist from May 2011 to January 2016. Prior to that, Professor Chubb was Vice-Chancellor of the Australian National University from January 2001 to March 2011; Vice-Chancellor of Flinders University of South Australia for six years and the Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Monash University for two years.

From January 1986 to September 1990, Professor Chubb was the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Wollongong and Honorary Professor of Biology. In 1999 Professor Chubb was made an Officer of the

Order of Australia (AO) and in 2006 a Companion (AC) in the order.

Professor Chubb was awarded a Centenary Medal in 2001 and was the ACT's Australian of the Year in 2011. He was elected a Fellow of the Australian College of Education in 2008 and a Fellow of the Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering and Fellow of the Royal Society of New South Wales in 2014. He was Awarded the Academy Medal of the Australian Academy of Science in 2016 and elected Fellow of the Academy in 2017.

Australia's Chief Scientist Professor Tony Haymet

Professor Haymet is an emeritus distinguished professor of oceanography. He has researched and taught for many years in Australia and in the United States, including as Established Chair of Theoretical Chemistry at the University of Sydney. He has worked in hydrophobicity, crystal-liquid interfaces, fish antifreeze proteins in Antarctica, and the spherical football molecule C₆₀.

From 2002 to 2006, Prof Haymet was chief of CSIRO Marine Research, then CSIRO Marine and Atmospheric Research, based in Hobart, Tasmania, where he led 5 CSIRO laboratories around Australia, and managed 2 research vessels.

From 2006 to 2012, he was Vice-Chancellor, Director and Distinguished Professor of Oceanography, at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California, San Diego. The Scripps Institution is one of the world's foremost centres for global earth, ocean and atmosphere research.

In 2010, Prof Haymet and a colleague at the Scripps Institution established MRV Systems LLC, a company that manufactures ocean robots. MRV's fleet of underwater autonomous drones is equipped with sensors that take chemical and physical measurements across the world's oceans, and data is shared through the Scripps Institution.

Prof Haymet joined the board of the Antarctic Science Foundation in 2020 and become its Chair in 2021. He was also on the board of Worldfish, based in Penang (2017-2020) and Chair of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE) Climate Change Working Group. Professor Haymet has also held a position with the Minderoo Foundation in Perth, where he established a philanthropic ocean research program. For five years, he served on the Oceans Council of the World Economic Forum (WEF) including the final year as Chair.

Prof Haymet is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE) and the Royal Australian Chemical Institute (RACI). As Australia's Chief Scientist, he is a member of the Climate Change Authority Board and the National Data Advisory Council.

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