



ARC Training Centre for
Portable Analytical Separation Technologies

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ASTech expands into South Australia and appoints new director

Hobart, Australia – 22 August 2016

The ARC Training Centre for Portable Analytical Separation Technologies (ASTech) is pleased to announce the appointment of Prof Brett Paull, University of Tasmania (UTAS) as Training Centre Director, and the establishment of a second University node, at the University of South Australia (UniSA).

“This is an extremely exciting time to be taking on the leadership of ASTech, as the first cohort of Australian Research Council funded students and post-doctoral research fellows are now fully on-board, and the Centre expands its capabilities with the inclusion of the University of South Australia.” said Prof Paull.

Prof Paull takes over from founding Centre Director, Prof Emily Hilder.

Prof Hilder has been appointed as the inaugural Director of the Future Industries Institute at the University of South Australia and will continue with ASTech in her capacity as Deputy Director. The University of South Australia has an outstanding track record in end-user driven research, and through the newly formed Future Industries Institute continues a commitment to conducting research that is deeply engaged with industry.

Four ASTech Higher Degree by Research (HDR) students will transition to the University of South Australia with Prof Hilder, establishing essential critical mass in the new location.

“We have a highly educated and motivated team of investigators, thriving in the unique industry-academic research environment that is ASTech. I’m very confident that going forward ASTech will be viewed as a shining example of how research with real societal impact can be delivered more efficiently through such partnerships.” said Prof Paull.

Prof Paull has a breadth of academic and leadership experience, particularly in roles collaborating with industry and other institutions.

Before joining UTAS in March 2011, he was the Director of the Irish Separation Science Cluster (ISSC), led from Dublin City University, a multi-institutional university-industry collaborative centre established in 2009 and funded by Science Foundation Ireland. Prior to this Prof. Paull was a Chief Investigator within the Centre for Bioanalytical Sciences (CBAS), a 100% industry-funded Centre (Bristol Myers Squibb) looking into biopharmaceutical production and process analysis.

Prof Paull is also the current Director of the Australian Centre for Research on Separation Science (ACROSS), again a multi-institutional centre, with the lead node at UTAS, with over 90 researchers spread across four Australian Universities.

ASTech
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ASTech's industry founder Trajan Scientific and Medical (Trajan) is a global organization that champions collaboration to drive its ongoing success and contribution to human wellbeing through science.

"ASTech is an important program for Trajan as we strongly believe that industry-led research collaborations will not only build closer ties between industry and university stakeholders but lead to a new generation of entrepreneurs passionate about commercialising their research." said Dr Andrew Gooley, Trajan's Chief Scientific Officer.

"We are delighted with the appointment of Prof Paull as Centre Director of ASTech given his breadth of experience in research centre management, and the expansion of ASTech to include the UniSA node." said Dr Gooley.

"Supporting new collaborations in South Australia is well aligned with Trajan's own growth in manufacturing capabilities following our strategic collaboration agreement with the University of Adelaide's Institute of Photonics and Advanced Sensing." said Dr Gooley.

More Information

- www.atech.org.au
- www.utas.edu.au
- www.trajanscimed.com
- www.unisa.edu.au

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NOTES TO THE EDITOR

1. **Professor Brett Paull**

Prof Paull is a University of Plymouth (UK) B.Sc. (Hons), Ph.D. and D.Sc. graduate, and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry.

Prof Paull took up his first lectureship at the University of Tasmania from 1995 to 1997, before moving to Dublin City University (DCU), Ireland, as Lecturer (1998-2003), Senior Lecturer (2003-2006) and Associate Professor (2006-2011).

In 2009 he was appointed Head of School of Chemical Sciences, DCU, and Director of the Science Foundation Ireland funded Irish Separation Science Cluster (ISSC). In 2011 he rejoined the University of Tasmania as a Professor of Analytical Chemistry under the University's New Stars program. Prof Paull is also a CI and Electrofluidics and Diagnostics Theme Leader within the ARC Centre of Excellence for Electromaterials Science.

Prof Paull's own research interests are centered on the development and application of new advanced materials for application within the analytical sciences and beyond, and in particular advanced inorganic and organic phase materials for selective extraction and separation purposes. A major driver of this research is to expand the current boundaries of analytical science, developing new technologies and analytical approaches to enable greater qualitative and quantitative exploration of our natural and man-made chemical and biological environments.

2. **Trajan Scientific and Medical**

Trajan collaborates with academic and industry partners to develop and deliver innovative products. Together we will deliver breakthrough solutions to improve human wellbeing through biological, environmental or food related measurements. Our focus is on developing and commercializing technologies that enable analytical systems to be more selective, sensitive and specific - especially those that can lead to portability, miniaturization and affordability.

A 17,000 m² Ringwood site in Melbourne, Victoria, is home to Trajan's corporate headquarters and ISO accredited manufacturing operations. With over 300 staff worldwide across Australia, Europe, USA and Asia, Trajan serves customers in over 100 countries with highly specialized consumables and components used in scientific analysis and clinical applications.

www.trajanscimed.com



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3. **University of Tasmania**

The University of Tasmania (UTAS) is ranked in the top ten research universities in Australia and in the top two per cent of universities in the world. For 125 years, the University has provided a creative and stimulating environment, providing opportunities for our students to engage in an international learning experience.

In addition to the more than 30,000 students, the University's community is strengthened by a network of more than 90,000 alumni spanning more than 120 countries, and is underpinned by collaborative partnerships with organisations that share its strategic outlook. While maintaining a distinctive Tasmanian identity, University programs and research are international in scope, vision and standards.

www.utas.edu.au

4. **University of South Australia**

University of South Australia (UniSA) is Australia's university of enterprise and is a globally-focused, locally-engaged institution established on the dual principles of equity and excellence.

With more than 32,000 students, the university is South Australia's largest and was ranked 25th in the QS World University Rankings for institutions under 50 years old in 2015.

www.unisa.edu.au

5. **Future Industries Institute**

The Future Industries Institute (FII) was established by the University of South Australia (UniSA) in 2015 by bringing together the research activities of three established and well regarded research concentrations, the Ian Wark Research Institute, Mawson Institute and Centre for Environmental Risk Assessment and Remediation. This created a single institute of sufficient scale to meet current and future challenges in engineering and the physical sciences.

The FII represents UniSA's largest investment in research. The mission of FII is to creation of new industries through collaboration, and to transform the industries of today by supporting them to embrace emerging technological disruptions to create the industries of tomorrow. Research within FII covers four research strands: Energy and Advanced Manufacturing; Minerals and Resource Engineering; Environmental Science and Engineering; and Bioengineering and Nanomedicine, all supporting state and national research and economic development priorities.