Welcome to the monthly IOS Newsletter. We hope that this will serve to keep our community informed on the events and happenings around the IOS.

**Awards and Recognitions**

**IOS Director Prof Cynthia Goh Wins University of Toronto Alumni Association Faculty Award**

The University of Toronto Alumni Association (UTAA) oversees an annual awards program that acknowledges outstanding faculty, staff, students, and alumni within the University. This year, Prof Cynthia Goh, Director of the IOS has been acknowledged for her contributions to education, research, and her leadership both in the Department of Chemistry and at the Institute for Optical Sciences. Congratulations Cynthia!

**Prof Geoffrey Ozin Recognized by the University as an Inventor of the Year**

Nine highly regarded University of Toronto scientists were honoured in the first-ever Inventor of the Year competition on March 7. The awards were presented at a special ceremony at the MaRS Centre.

The awards recognize U of T inventors or teams of inventors who have made significant contributions in the areas of Information and Computer Technology, Social Sciences and Humanities and Biomedical and Life Sciences/Engineering and Physical Sciences. “The purpose of the Inventor of the Year program is to recognize the superb contributions U of T scientists make to global society through their inventions,” said Professor Paul Young, vice-president (research). “By tackling society’s most pressing problems, these inventors ensure a better world for us today and in the future.”

The event recognized a variety of seminal inventions ranging from high-performance earthquake resistant damping devices to a low-cost ultrasensitive microelectronic chip, used for disease diagnosis.

**Entrepreneurship**

**IOS and MITACS Announce New Commercialization Post-Doctoral Fellows**
We are very excited to announce the first 4 fellows in the new IOS and MITACS Commercialization Post-Doctoral Fellowship program. Dr Mallika Das, Dr Martin Labrecque, Dr Arash Zarrine-Afsar, and Dr Michael Montgomery will work closely with academic faculty to determine the potential of their technology as well as complete any remaining development, conduct a thorough market analysis, and develop the key milestones required for commercialization. In addition to receiving scientific and technological mentoring from their supervisor, the fellows will take part in a customized training program designed to teach various aspects of commercialization and entrepreneurship. Look out for news on the development of their technologies and companies.

**Academic/Research**

**New publications from IOS Faculty members in March 2011**


**Events**

**Prof. Graham Fleming to visit the IOS as a Distinguished Visiting Scientist**

Prof Graham Fleming from UC Berkeley will present a series of 3 lectures while visiting the IOS from May 25 to 27. With experience in ultrafast spectroscopy, light harvesting and photosynthesis, he shares similar interests and will interact closely with many of our students and faculty.

**Brown Bag Lunch on Wednesdays**

Every Wednesday at noon the IOS conference room hosts informal discussions with faculty and staff on a wide variety of research problems. Bring your own lunch!