



## Professor Bryan Gaensler

### *A Survey of the Universe's Magnetism*

Current Organisation:	The University of Sydney
Administering Organisation:	The University of Sydney
Primary research field:	Astronomical and Space Sciences
National Research Priority:	Frontier Technologies for Building and Transforming Australian Industries

Professor Bryan Gaensler is an astronomer and Australian Research Council Federation Fellow in the School of Physics at The University of Sydney. His current research interests focus on magnetism in interstellar space, the demographics of neutron stars and black holes in our Milky Way, and the identification of variable and transient sources of radio emission.

Professor Gaensler's project proposes to dramatically improve our understanding of the nature and origin of magnetic fields using the unique capabilities of the Australian Square Kilometre Array Pathfinder (ASKAP). With the resulting data, Professor Gaensler aims to transform our understanding of magnetic fields in galaxies, clusters and in diffuse intergalactic gas, and thus be able to address key unanswered questions on Milky Way ecology, galaxy evolution and cosmology.

Professor Gaensler was awarded the University Medal in physics at The University of Sydney, and received his PhD in astrophysics. He was subsequently a Hubble Fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the Clay Fellow at the Smithsonian Institution and then an Associate Professor at Harvard University, before returning to Australia in 2006. Professor Gaensler has received many awards for his research including the Young Australian of the Year, an Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellowship, and the Newton Lacy Pierce Prize awarded by the American Astronomical Society. Professor Gaensler was named a 2008 Young Tall Poppy by the Australian Institute of Policy & Science.

Professor Gaensler is the Editor-in-Chief of *Publications of the Astronomical Society of Australia*, and was formerly the International Project Scientist for the Square Kilometre Array. Professor Gaensler has authored over 170 scientific papers, and has written dozens of popular articles on astronomy, science and education. He has given more than 100 public addresses and invited addresses to a wide variety of audiences, including the National Press Club, the Australian Academy of Science and the American Physical Society. He gave the 2001 Australia Day Address to the Nation, was a keynote speaker at "G'day USA" in New York in 2007, and was a delegate at the Australia 2020 Summit in 2008.

#### **Media contacts**

For project information contact Australian Laureate Fellow  
Professor Bryan Gaensler—0430 129 997.

For *Australian Laureate Fellowships* scheme information contact Sheena Ireland—  
0412 623 056