



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY INNOVATIONS CENTRE
BACCHUS MARSH

Ecolinc, VSSEC and JAXA launch 'Frogs in Orbit'



Naomi Mathers (VSSEC), Suzanne Clark (Ecolinc) and Ian Christie (VSSEC) at the launch.

2008 TEACHER PROGRAMS



Ecolinc welcomed educationalists from Fooyin University, Taiwan in August.

Ecolinc in collaboration with the Victorian Space Science Education Centre (VSSEC) and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) launched 'Frogs in Orbit', an outreach curriculum program for students, during Ecolinc's recent 'Investigating Frogs' professional learning day for teachers. The outreach program was prepared for Year 9 and 10 students however has applications for both primary and secondary students. The CD contains a complete teaching package containing teacher materials and student worksheets. This material can be freely downloaded from the Ecolinc, VSSEC or JAXA websites. Free copies of the CD can also be mailed to teachers on request.

www.ecolinc.vic.edu.au

www.vssec.vic.edu.au

<http://edu.jaxa.jp/en/>

Winners of the 2008 Term 3 **mecu** Ecolinc scholarship were Scoresby SC and St Mary's PS, Williamstown. Applications for Term 4 are now open to all primary and secondary schools across Victoria and will close on **Friday 19 September 2008**. The scholarship contributes \$500 towards the cost incurred by a school in visiting Ecolinc. Schools can apply by completing the online application form available from the Ecolinc or **mecu** websites.

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ECOLINC PROGRAMS 2009

Bookings for 2009 are now open. Outlines for all current Ecolinc programs are available in our Curriculum Programs brochure on the Ecolinc website and will again be offered in 2009. Our 2009 Curriculum Programs brochure will be available in Term 4.

VCE PROGRAMS—Semester 1 2009

Unit 3 Chemistry—Chemical analysis is available in Terms 1 and 2. Students use the AAS, UV-Vis and IR to investigate milk samples as part of an extended experimental investigation. Units 1/3 Biology—Students use micropropagation, photosynthesis, transpiration and microscope techniques to investigate 'Cells in action', 'Functioning organisms' and 'Detecting and Responding'. Two **new** Biology units will be offered in 2009; Unit 3 AoS 1—Molecules of Life and an additional Unit 1 Functioning Organisms option. Units 1/3 Environmental Science—Students investigate wetland and grassland ecosystems, energy and global warming and diversity in the biosphere, including a visit to Mt Rothwell to observe eastern barred bandicoots, brush-tailed rock wallabies, rufous bettongs, potoroos and pademelons.

THURSDAY 4 DECEMBER 2008

P-10 Sustainability - a workshop covering a range of sustainability issues, techniques and teaching ideas.

FRIDAY 5 DECEMBER 2008

VCE Chemistry - a workshop designed for VCE Chemistry teachers updating aspects of the new study design focussing on instrumental analysis.

THURSDAY 11 DECEMBER 2008

VCE Physics and Environmental Science - a workshop designed for VCE Physics and Environmental Science teachers updating aspects of the current study designs.

FRIDAY 12 DECEMBER 2008

VCE Biology - a workshop designed for VCE Biology teachers updating aspects of the current study design.

The cost for each program is \$55 including morning tea, lunch, all refreshments and a full curriculum package. All participants will receive a VIT approved certificate of course completion.



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