

# 11th Postgraduate Student Symposium (September 2009)

Some 50 students, staff and members of the Royal Society of Western Australia attended the 11th Annual Royal Society of Western Australia Postgraduate Symposium at Curtin University of Technology on Sunday 20th September.

Professor Jo Ward, Dean of Science, Curtin University of Technology welcomed the Society and symposium participants, and discussed the importance of such symposia and the opportunity, and need, to network across disciplines. She stressed the importance of science in our society today.

There were 16 oral presentations and eight posters. The presentations were outstanding and the research groundbreaking, ranging from geological modelling to optimise targeting of geothermal resources, to a hitherto unknown seed germination type in a basal angiosperm family. This annual event is a wonderful opportunity for RSWA members to learn about the research of our new generation of scientists and to proffer sage advice.

Attendees asked challenging questions and engaged in much appreciated discussions with the students at break times. The next RSWA Postgraduate Symposium will be held at Murdoch University in September 2010. [Note full abstracts of the presentations are available on the RSWA website.

The Society thanks Curtin University for sponsoring the venue, the Department of Applied Geology for the use of their facilities, Professor Jo Ward for opening the Symposium and chairing a session and Dr Lynne Milne for organising the event. Thanks are also due to Belle Lyons who assisted in the preparation of the Programme and Abstracts booklet, and helped with the general catering and clean up, and councillors Philip O'Brien, Alex Bevan and Jane Rosser who assisted with the catering and clean-up.



**Prof Jo Ward welcoming the audience | Attendees enjoying lunch | Councillors Alex Bevan and Phil O'Brien demonstrating their skills at the BBQ**