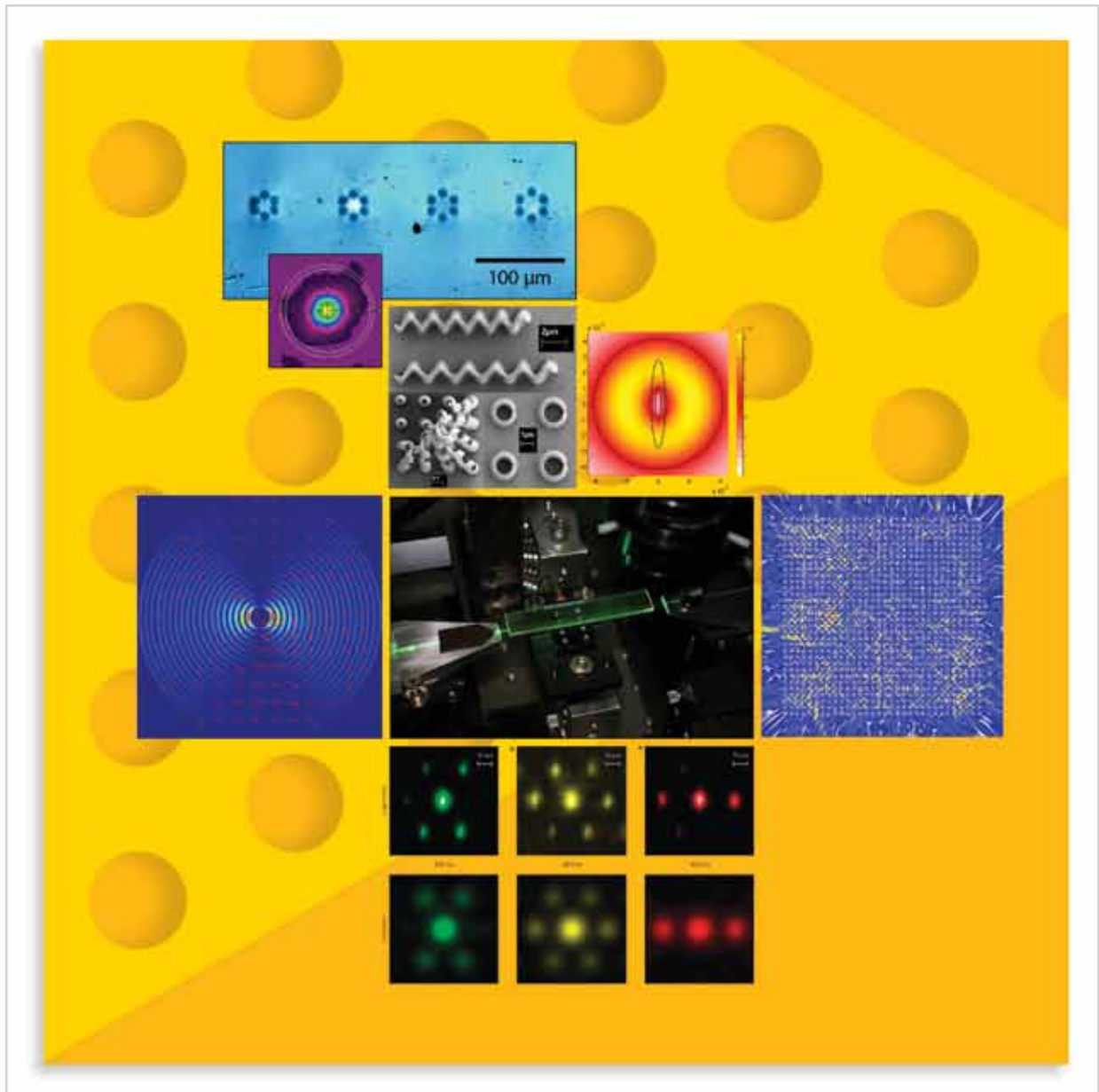


# ANNUAL 2009 REPORT



## CUDOS

The Centre for Ultrahigh Bandwidth Devices for Optical Systems (CUDOS)

# Management and Governance

## Structure

CUDOS is a collaborative research program between the University of Sydney, the Australian National University, Macquarie University, Swinburne University of Technology and the University of Technology, Sydney, funded under the ARC Centre of Excellence program. RMIT joined the collaboration in 2008 through A/Prof Arnan Mitchell, our new Chief Investigator. The Centre has no legal status and all assets – IP, equipment etc – are owned by the collaborating Universities.

The University of Sydney manages the ARC grant and disburses funds in accordance with an agreement signed off between the Universities. The agreements covering the management of the Centre are the ARC Funding Contract, the Collaborator Agreement and the CUDOS Intellectual Property Agreement. The University of Sydney has also signed a Deed of Agreement with the state government of New South Wales (through the Department of State and Regional Development) for the disbursement and management of State government funds.

As a condition of the Centre extension 2008 – 2010, the University of Sydney signed a new Funding Contract with the Commonwealth and all six collaborating Universities signed a new Agreement for management of the grant as well as a new Intellectual Property Agreement. The University of Sydney signed a new Deed of Agreement with the NSW State Government and a new agreement with Macquarie University to manage the State Government funds.

## Research Governance

The Centre's research management structure is well bedded-down, with Project Managers working closely with Chief Investigators to plan and manage research activities both year by year and link this with strategic goals with a three to five year horizon. Part of this management structure is a yearly cycle of meetings, synchronised with our reporting obligations to the Australian Research Council:

**February 2009:** CUDOS Workshop at Lake Crackenback

**February 2009:** Project Managers, Chief Investigators meet in the Rocks (Sydney) to review progress of Flagship projects and agree on research plan for the coming year

**March 2009:** Annual Report submitted to ARC with review of 2008 activities and plans for 2009

**August 2009:** Mid year project review (at Sydney University) attended by Chief Investigators, Project Managers and other senior research staff in Centre

**March 2009:** Project reviews for 2009 and planning for 2010.

## Commercialisation

The Centre's Commercialisation Committee comprises the Research Director, the Chief Operations Officer and representatives from each University's commercial office. The Committee is being re-constituted following the renegotiation of the Centre IP Agreement, with very similar functions and responsibilities as before.

## Advisory Board

The Centre's Advisory Board met once during the year, at the University of Sydney in May 2009. The agenda of the meeting was primarily devoted to strategic planning for the Centre. This wide ranging discussion covered a host of issues including the role of a CoE in the Australian research landscape, areas of research, the balance of new research against building on existing areas of strength, and of commercially-motivated research compared to highly strategic research. As always, the opinions and advice of the Advisory Board were highly valued by senior staff from the Centre attending the meeting.

