



**Media Release
March 13, 2009**

NICTA's Byron Wicks wins inaugural Fulbright Victoria postdoctoral Scholarship

A prestigious Fulbright Postdoctoral Scholarship has been awarded to NICTA's Byron Wicks. NICTA, Australia's Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Research Centre of Excellence, is delighted to recognise this outstanding achievement, which will see Byron take up postdoctoral research in electronic engineering at the University of California, Berkeley, from July this year.

Byron's study at Berkeley will build on his work at NICTA's Victoria Research Laboratory, where he contributes to the Gigabit Wireless Project. Last year, this team produced the world-first "GiFi" chip, a transceiver integrated on a single chip that operates at 60GHz on CMOS. Byron's work will also inform the collaboration with the Centre for Eye Research Australia, the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital and the Bionic Ear Institute, aimed at developing a "bionic" eye.

"Receiving this award presents me with a wonderful opportunity to go to the US and study with the world's leading researchers in my field," Byron said. "It also allows me to develop skills that I can bring back to Australia and contribute to our research community here."

Byron is one of two winners of the inaugural Fulbright Victoria Scholarship, valued at up to \$40,000. The Scholarship was established in 2008 by the Victorian State Government and Victorian universities to support research of benefit to the state.

Byron is an alumnus of the University of Melbourne, with a PhD in Engineering in the field of high-speed wireless communications. NICTA supported Byron's PhD under its NICTA-enhanced PhD program. Byron also holds a Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) and a Bachelor of Science.

The Chargé D'Affaires of the U.S. Embassy, Mr Daniel Clune, and the Premier of Tasmania, the Hon. David Bartlett MP, presented the twenty-three 2009 Fulbright Scholars with their scholarships at the Annual Fulbright Presentation Dinner at Moorilla Estate in Hobart last night.

About NICTA

National ICT Australia Ltd (NICTA), Australia's Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Research Centre of Excellence, is developing technologies which will meet the current and future needs of the community in fields which will lead to large economic, social and environmental benefits for Australia. NICTA has five laboratories around the country. Since NICTA was founded in 2002, it has created four new companies, developed a substantial technology portfolio of patent applications and continues to supply new talent to the ICT industry through the NICTA-enhanced PhD program.

NICTA is funded by the Australian Government as represented by the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy and the Australian Research Council through the ICT Centre of Excellence program. It was established and is supported by its members: The Australian Capital Territory Government; The Australian National University; NSW Department of State and Regional Development; and The University of New South Wales. NICTA's partners include: the University of Sydney; University of Melbourne; the Victorian Government; the Queensland Government; Griffith University; Queensland University of Technology; and The University of Queensland.

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