



29 May 2013

Media Release

coepp.org.au

CoEPP Chief Investigator Professor Elisabetta Barberio receives the AIP Women in Physics lectureship for 2013

Professor Elisabetta Barberio is a key Australian researcher working on the ATLAS experiment—one of the world's largest experiments—based at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN in Geneva. Work on ATLAS, and its sister experiment CMS, led to the recent discovery of the Higgs boson. Elisabetta is a Chief Investigator at the ARC Centre of Excellence for Particle Physics at the Terascale (CoEPP) where she leads the ATLAS analysis effort.

Professor Elisabetta Barberio believes the Women in Physics lecture tour provides a great opportunity for people to experience the recent discovery of the Higgs boson at the LHC. She also believes that programs like this are vital in providing positive role models for young women.

“We often think that physics research is a purely male field, but it doesn't have to be that way. The ATLAS experiment was led for a long time by a woman, and women are doing some amazing research in this area.

The recent discovery of the Higgs has really inspired people to engage with physics. We need to funnel this excitement and encourage young women to see the kinds of things they can achieve.”

Professor Geoff Taylor, Director of CoEPP, is similarly excited.

“This is a great achievement that highlights Elisabetta's role as a leader in high-energy physics research. It's also a major coup for CoEPP”

Elisabetta Barberio is Professor of Experimental Particle Physics, based at the School of Physics at the University of Melbourne. She is a highly respected experimental particle physicist with a strong international reputation. She is considered the world expert in measurements of b-quark properties, and has been involved in two major experiments that confirmed key pieces of Standard Model theory and were awarded Nobel Prizes in 1999 and 2008. In 2012, her group had an important role in the discovery of the Higgs-like particle at the Large Hadron Collider that has recently been confirmed as the Higgs boson. Elisabetta was key in organising the Australia-Italy high-energy physics symposium held in 2012. The symposium was designed to promote and establish collaboration between Italian and Australian physicists. The recognition her lectureship provides is also a great coup for the University of Melbourne. The last WIP lecturer the University saw was in 1997 when Rachel Webster received the role.

The *Australian Institute of Physics Women in Physics Lecture Tour* celebrates the contribution of women to advances in physics. It is awarded to women who have made a significant contribution to physics research. Details about the upcoming lectures will be available on the Australian Institute of Physics and CoEPP websites in the coming weeks.

www.aip.org.au

www.coepp.org.au



Available for interview

Professor Elisabetta Barberio

barberio@unimelb.edu.au

Please contact Caroline Hamilton at hamc@unimelb.edu.au or 0478 402 765 to arrange

CoEPP

The Centre was launched on 9 June 2011. It is a collaborative research venture between the Universities of Melbourne, Adelaide, Sydney and Monash; and in partnership with international collaborators from Canada, Germany, Italy, Japan, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

For more information about the

ARC Centre of Excellence for Particle Physics at the Terascale

visit coepp.org.au

Contact

Caroline Hamilton

Communications and Outreach Coordinator

+ 61 3 9035 3703

0478 402 765

hamc@unimelb.edu.au

Connect:

f: [facebook.com/CoEPP](https://www.facebook.com/CoEPP)

t: twitter.com/CoEPP