



**EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

MOONAH PLACE, YARRALUMLA ACT 2600  
CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS SECTION**  
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## **MEDIA ALERT**

**July 28, 2014**

### **“Ambassador’s Innovation Roundtable” to link research and development to commercial opportunities, build new partnerships**

The U.S. Embassy will launch the first “Ambassador’s Innovation Roundtable” on July 30 at Questacon – The National Science and Technology Centre in Canberra, where leaders in global technology will meet with Australian researchers, secondary and university students, and government officials to discuss challenges and opportunities of the knowledge economy.

Representatives from Google, Microsoft, Intuit, Boeing Australia, Raytheon, Cisco, Lockheed Martin, Seeing Machines, General Electric Australia, Sense-T, BHP Billiton, IBM Research Australia, CSIRO, the Grattan Institute, and the Australian National University will highlight U.S.-Australian innovation success stories, discuss challenges in linking research and development to commercial opportunities, emphasize the importance of STEM education, and explore potential innovation partnerships.

A series of panel discussions in the morning and a student forum with the Ambassador and panelists in the afternoon will launch this initiative and set the stage for future roundtables.

U.S. Ambassador to Australia John Berry believes this kind of collaboration is critical for the economies of the United States and Australia. “In today's market, innovation is essential for success. Investment in science, technology, and research is one of the most important guarantees we can make for our future. I believe this is one of the fundamental areas in which we should look to increase our cooperation.”

**Time:** **8:30 a.m. arrival** for 9:00 a.m. program start (full program schedule attached)

**Venue:** **Questacon** – The National Science and Technology Centre  
King Edward Terrace, Canberra

**Date:** **Wednesday, July 30, 2014**

**RSVP:** Media interested in covering the event are asked to register their attendance with Questacon’s Annie Harris at [annie.harris@questacon.edu.au](mailto:annie.harris@questacon.edu.au) or 0439 399 912.

**Media contacts:**

U.S. Embassy: Alicia Edwards, [EdwardsAK@state.gov](mailto:EdwardsAK@state.gov); 0409 124 995  
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**Australian Government**  
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