

# AUSTRALIAN COMPUTATIONAL AND LINGUISTICS OLYMPIAD (OZCLO) 2009

September 2009

In the tradition of other high-school olympiads (e.g. mathematics, physics or chemistry), the Australian Computational and Linguistics Olympiad (OzCLO) is a contest for high school students from Year 9 to Year 12. It challenges them to develop their own strategies for solving problems in fascinating real languages without presupposing any knowledge of linguistics or of particular languages. The competition problems aim to assist students in learning about the richness, diversity and systematicity of language, while exercising natural logic and reasoning skills. Students who like languages, mathematics, logic, philosophy, and computer science are most likely to be interested in this competition. The competition consists of a State Round in which teams of up to four students compete to select the best three teams who then go on to the National Round to select the Australian team to the International Linguistics Olympiads.

In 2008, the First Australian Computational and Linguistics Olympiad took place in Melbourne and in Sydney, with twelve Victorian schools sending 18 teams (55 students) and ten NSW schools sending 23 teams (64 students) to the State Rounds.

In 2009, OzCLO became a nationwide competition, with more than 390 high school students participating in the State Rounds in NSW, Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, the ACT and Queensland. This year, we added a Best Junior Team contest for the National Round, so a total of 21 teams from 19 schools across 6 states and territories competed in the National Round.

The first Australian team to take part in an International Linguistics Olympiad (the 7th ILO in Wroclaw, Poland, from 26th to 31st July 2009) consisted of:

- Ross McGachey (Immanuel College, SA)
- Krysia Choros (St Peters Lutheran College, QLD)
- Sarah Twomey (St Peters Lutheran College, QLD)

## TIMETABLE FOR OZCLO 2010

**Training session:** week starting 15 February 2010

**State Round:** week starting 1 March 2010

**National Round:** week starting 29 March (last week before Easter)

See the website ([www.ozclo.org.au](http://www.ozclo.org.au)) for information on how to participate.