



Welcome

We welcome back **Kai Chan** (PS) who has just returned to RSB after three years of research at the VIB in Gent (Belgium), at the Institute of Plant Systems Biology. Kai received a FWO fellowship in Gent to work on organelle signalling. Kai is taking up a DECRA Fellowship and is starting his continuing position as a new group leader in Plant Sciences. He will be building on his work in organelle signalling and expand this on how organelle signalling is involved in C4 photosynthesis.



Welcome back also to **Su Yin Phua** (Chan Group, PS), who spent the last three years at the VIB in Gent focussing on projects on transcriptional regulation in plants and on auxin signalling in photorespiration. Su Yin has started her position as a Technical Officer in the Chan lab and will be working on a number of projects related to organelle signalling.



We are very happy to welcome them back to RSB.

News



After two years of lockdowns and periods of working from home, RSB held a lunch to celebrate International Women's Day on March 8 with women in our School. Colleagues had a catch up with old friends and new faces, and relaxed. Good to be back!

And our monthly School morning teas have recommenced and thanks to BSB for hosting the first morning tea, for what seemed a very long time between coffee and cake.

You may have noticed photographs in Catcheside Court in the RN Robertson Building. This exhibition is part of the 75 Years of the ANU celebrations and showcases incredible photographs of University buildings and the campus across the last 75 years.

Congratulations



Congratulations to **Alexander (Sasha) Mikheyev** (E&E) for being successful in his ARC Linkage Project 21 application for *Conservation genomics of a critically endangered insect*.

And congratulations to **Justin Borevitz** (PS) named as a CI on a successful ARC Linkage Project 21 application for *Embedded emissions accounting: frameworks for trade in a net-zero world*.



The team at ARC Centre of Excellence for Translational Photosynthesis, led by **Florence Danila** and **Susanne von Caemmerer** (PS) recently had their suberin paper featured in *Microscopy Australia Research Highlights 2021*.



Lydia Murphy (Cooper Group, E&E), **Andras Keszei** (BTLC) and **Paul Cooper** had their submission *Resistant grapevines produce anthocyanins to control scale insects* to the Australian Wine Industry Technical Conference accepted for presentation at the Conference in Adelaide in June. The presentation is based on Lydia's Honours project.

PhDs submitted

Congratulations to **Aaron Smith** (Pogson Group, PS) for submitting his PhD thesis titled *From cradle to grave: The influence of mRNA metabolism on plant stress responses*. While waiting for thesis reviews, Aaron is keeping himself busy with a position at IP Australia.



Congratulations to **Tanuka Sen** (Verma Group, BSB) *Study of the functional role of hypothetical proteins in the virulence of Shigella flexneri serotype 1c*.

Congratulations to **Veronica Alozie-Chidi** (Gordon Group, E&E) *Why do some human associated escherichia coli strains lack antibiotic resistance?*





Congratulations to **Kalya Subasinghe** (Langmore Group, E&E) who has submitted her PhD thesis on *Avian Morphometrics and Climate Change* and will soon be returning to Sri Lanka to take up a lectureship at the University of Kelaniya. She will be very much missed

and we wish her the best of luck!

Congratulations to **Tomas Fuenzalida** (Ball Group, E&E) on the submission of his PhD thesis *Plant hydration dynamics: measurement and uptake pathways*.



PhDs awarded

Congratulations to **Munazza Imran Rajput** (Verma Group, BSB) *Study of O-acetyltransferase B (oacB) and three novel orfs encoded by Sf101 bacteriophage of Shigella flexneri*.

Congratulations to **Helmut Simon** (Huttley Group, E&E) *Mutation, polymorphism and population genetic inference*.

PhDs commenced

Diego de Moura Campos (Head Group, E&E)
Thomas Hanley (Nicotra Group, E&E)
Jiansi Long (Leyton Group, BSB)
Capella Maguire (van Dooren Group, BSB)
Matthew Mortimer (Pogson Group, PS)
Ryan O'Donnell (Linde Group, E&E)
Kate O'Hara (Moritz Group, E&E)
Hosna Ara Chowdhury Nisha (Linde Group, E&E)
Alexander Penning (Maier Group, BSB)
Saishyam Ramesh (Maier Group, BSB)
Salma Sarker (Linde Group, E&E)
Kwong Sum Shea (Maier Group, BSB)
Hong Ting Tsang (Pogson Group, PS)
Pablo Recio (Noble Group, E&E)
Jack Wess (Rathjen Group, PS)
Suyan Yee (Chan Group, PS)

Farewell

After three years as a Postdoc, **Megan Outram** (Williams Group, PS) is leaving to take up an exciting postdoc opportunity at CSIRO Agriculture (Black Mountain). During her time at RSB, Megs has made significant contributions to the research output and training within the Williams group. Megs also served the RSB community as an organiser of the Plant Science seminar series and coordinator of the RSB PhD mentor scheme. We are going to miss Megs, but I'm sure she will be a frequent visitor to the Little Pickle and RSB socials into the future.



Papers

Aich U, Chowdhury S & Jennions MD. Separating the effects of paternal age and mating history: evidence for sex-specific paternal effect in eastern mosquitofish. *Evolution*.

Bröer S. Amino acid transporters as modulators of glucose homeostasis. *Trends in Endocrinology & Metabolism*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tem.2021.11.004>.

Bromham L. Meaning and purpose: using phylogenies to investigate human history and cultural evolution. *Biological Theory*.

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Buss W, Wurzer C, Manning DAC, Borevitz J *et al*. Mineral-enriched biochar delivers enhanced nutrient recovery and carbon dioxide removal. *Communications Earth and Environment*. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s43247-022-00394-w>

Butler EE, Wythers KR, Flores-Moreno H, Ricciuto, Atkin OK *et al*. Increasing functional diversity in a global land surface model illustrates uncertainties related to parameter simplification. *Journal of Geophysical Research – Bio geosciences*. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2021JG006606>.

Chen X, Ye GF, Zhong YX, Morgan IG *et al*. Prevalence, incidence, and risk factors for myopia among urban and rural children in southern China: protocol for a school-based cohort study. *BMJ Open*. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2021-049846>.

Chiou PT, Ohms S, Board PG, Casarotto MG *et al*. The antiviral drug efavirenz in breast cancer stem cell therapy. *Cancers (Basel)*. <https://doi.org/10.3390/cancers13246232>.

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Flom H, Adamska M, Lami R *et al*. Digital Marine: An online platform for blended learning in a marine experimental biology module, the Schmid Training Course. *BioEssays*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/bies.202100264>.

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Hua X, Cardillo M & Bromham L. Adapting to extremes: reconstructing evolution in response to changing climate over time and space in the diverse Australian plant genus *Acacia*. *Journal of Biogeography*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jbi.14339>

Kershaw F, Bruford MW, Funk WC, MacDonald AJ *et al*. The coalition for conservation genetics: working across organizations to build capacity and achieve change in policy and practice. *Conservation Science and Practice*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/csp2.12635>

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- Liang J, Farquhar GD, Ball MC. Water use efficiency in mangroves: conservation of water use efficiency determined by stomatal behaviour across leaves, plants and forests. *Advances in Botanical Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/bs.abr.2022.02.017>.
- Liao C-C, Ding T-S & Chen C-C. The formation of “mega-flocks” depends on vegetation structure in montane coniferous forests of Taiwan. *Ecology and Evolution*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.8608>
- Lin YC, Buyan A & Corry B. Computational studies of Piezo1 yield insights into key lipid–protein interactions, channel activation, and agonist binding. *Biophysical Reviews*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12551-021-00847-0>.
- Matuschewski K & Maier AG. Pas-de-deux: African Plasmodium falciparum adaptations to sickle hemoglobin. *Trends in Parasitology*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pt.2022.01.009>.
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