



From the Director

Well, we are through another semester of high-quality teaching, and most of us are still standing. It is a good thing that we genuinely enjoy this interaction with students. My thanks to all our hard-working staff and CSAs who get this job done well, despite the background stressors.

This issue of the RSB newsletter highlights how we can help each other to obtain research funding for fundamental and translational research. AFFI has set up a workshop on “Building bridges to industry” on Nov 19 and the Research Committee is organising a peer-review session for ARC DPE proposals on Nov 20. I’m sure each event will be rewarding for those involved. Then on Nov 27 there is the Research Infrastructure Expo – read all about it.

It turns out that the second half of November will be rather busy – the above events, then PhD confirmation seminars on Nov 21, the PhD/EMCR research conference on Nov 22, and RSB Faculty Retreat on Nov 27-28. In between, there are CBA events and, I’m sure, other things as well. These all serve to highlight the breadth and quality of research in RSB – please attend.

This points to the likelihood of exhaustion for some. So let me remind you of the benefits of taking some Annual or Long Service Leave. Good for you.... and for RSB.

Welcome

Welcome to **Chen Zhang** (Solomon Group, PS) who has joined the Solomon Group from China to undertake his PhD on PR1-mediated defence mechanism in plants.



Congratulations

Congratulations to **Emily Furlong** (BSB) who was awarded HDR Supervisor of the Month for September.

PhDs commenced

Sara Bryant (Mikheyev Group, E&E)

PhDs awarded

Andres Garcia (Atkin Group, PS) *Exploring Genetic and Environmental Drivers of Variation in Wheat Growth and Carbon Metabolism*

Stephanie Henkel (Saliba Group, BSB) *The metabolic role of the ferredoxin redox system in apicomplexan parasites*

Ayesha Surangi Wellawatta Mudiyansele (Masle Group, PS)

MPhil awarded

Yu-Ying Luo (Keogh Group, E&E) *Searching for a leaf*

in a forest: A taxonomic and phylogenetic revision of Phyllocnistis (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae) leaf mining moths in Australia

In the Media

Penny Olsen (Cockburn Group, E&E) spoke to ABC's Late Night Live about the mythic status of the night parrot, listen to the full interview on the ABC listen website.

Ulrike Mathesius (PS) spoke to ABC News regarding the significance of the recent royal visit to the Botanic Gardens. Listen to her interview What's the significance of Charles's Botanic Garden visit? on the ABC news website.

Ana Sequeira (E&E) spoke with ABC Radio Pilbara about her recent contribution to a paper on climate change driving whale sharks into shipping lanes, and the impacts on the whale shark aggregation in Western Australia.

Alison Bentley (PS) spoke to ABC Country Hour about the latest developments in wheat research presented at the International Wheat Congress in Perth.

News

The Agrifood Innovation Institute (AFII) recently hosted a visit to ANU by Australia's Chief Scientist Cathy Foley.



While on campus, Dr Foley was joined by Provost Rebekah Brown and Pro-Vice Chancellor, Research Initiatives and Infrastructure, Ute Roessner for presentations by ANU researchers. The presentations covered initiatives that harness the interdisciplinary expertise and infrastructure of the University and our partners to address community and industry needs in agrifood, climate and space governance.

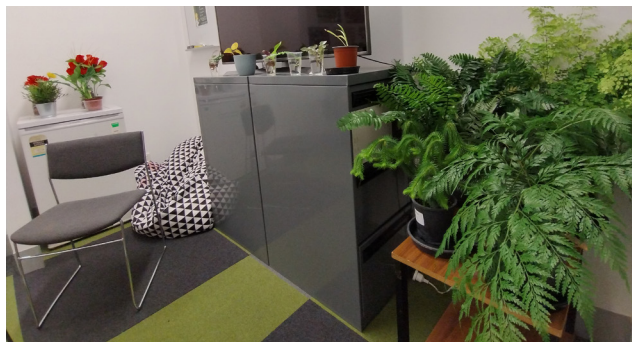


Dr Foley toured Australian Plant Phenomics Network and Plant Synbio NCRIS facilities, meeting staff and students from AFII and the ARC Training Centre for Future Crops Development.

She spoke about the importance of [Australia's National Science and Research Priorities](#) in guiding the work we do to promote the best outcomes for the community, and about promoting multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary thinking among HASS and STEM researchers. She also discussed how researchers can make a greater impact by effectively communicating their research outcomes.



While Dr Foley will end her term as Chief Scientist at the end of this year, we are grateful for her insights and engagement and look forward to continuing to support researchers across campus to work together to deliver innovative research and development with a real-world impact.



To celebrate Mental Health Month this October, the Future Crops Centre hosted a gardening morning tea, bringing a bit of zen to the L1 North corridor space! Huge thanks to everyone who joined in—and to Chan's Group and Plant Facilities for sharing their beautiful plants and cuttings.

RSB Spotlight- Plant Science

Building Bridges to Industry

Agrifoods Innovation Institute Workshop for Future Ready Crops

The Australian agrifood sector faces complex and multifaceted challenges to its continued growth and evolution, including a changing climate and geopolitical instability.

Building a sustainable, profitable, and equitable sector will require an unprecedented level of collaboration between universities and industry partners.

Join ANU Plant Sciences for an introduction to industry engagement for researchers.

This seminar will include a session on the basics of intellectual property, and a series of presentations from ANU researchers on the opportunities and risks of working with industry, and the tips they've learnt along the way.

What: Workshop on Building university-industry partnership towards real-world applications: examples from ANU Plant Sciences

•Introduction to IP: Viraj Agnihotri, Commercial Development Manager, Office of Research Partnerships and Translation

•Patents, papers and permissions: case studies of working productively with industry: **Robert Furbank** (PS)

•Collaborating towards achieving sustainable development goals: **Caitlin Byrt** (PS)

•Industry Engagement & Experience: **Wolfram Buss** (Borevitz Group, PS) ECR

•Industry Engagement & Experience: **Zuzana Plskova** (Pogson Group, PS) and **Rebecca Tyrell** (Pogson Group, PS), HDR students

Where: Gould Seminar Room 2.35

When: 19 November 2024, 10.00AM – 12.45PM

Light lunch will be provided.

Please look out for an email with registration details in the coming days.

Women in Business

A team from Canberra Weekly reached out to ANU's Membrane Transporter Engineers (MTE, led by Prof. Caitlin Byrt) team seeking input for their '[Women in Business](#)' special feature. The MTE team will join a Canberra Weekly Women in Business networking event on the evening of 31st October. The short article featuring the MTE team will come out in the Women in Business special issue Canberra Weekly release on Thursday.

On 4th and 5th November **Caitlin Byrt** (PS) will be contributing as a mentor for an [Innovation Hackathon](#) organised by The Embassy of France in Australia and The French Tech. The Innovation Hackathon is for groups of PhD students and it is focussed on addressing the challenges of mitigating climate change and accelerating energy transition. The Hackathon will conclude with an event at the Embassy of France in Canberra where attendees will be joined by Prof Antoine Petit, CEO of the French CNRS. While applications for this year's Hackathon are closed, if you are a PhD student, or a group of PhD students interested in translating your science ideas into practical applications, please look out for opportunities in next year's offerings or talk to Caitlin after the event.

From the Research Committee

Good luck to our researchers polishing their fellowship applications (Futures and Industry ARC Schemes, and GRDC). A reminder, DECRA's open in January, it is not too early to start outlining your project.

The DP26 EoI round is upon us and many of you will be (re-) writing your 2 pager. Submit an [NOI](#) to the Research Office, there are already 28 NOIs.

We will hold a joint RSB/FESE peer review session where we will share the knowledge gained from reading the tea leaves of the DP25 EoI round and facilitate strategic peer review. No pre-reading required. There will be an opportunity to read, review, and discuss EoIs within cross-divisional table groups.

All RSB applicants are welcome, ANU does not need to be the lead/admin organisation.

Wednesday 20 November 2024, Eucalyptus Seminar Room, 10:00-12:00.

In 2 hours, we share tips and tricks from having reviewed the 20+DP25 Eols and facilitate time to read-review-discuss proposals in small table groups, and share insights room-wide.

Please RSVP to benjamin.schwessinger@anu.edu.au by Friday 15 November if you plan to attend.

College Research Office Deadline for DPEI26 is 25th November.

From the APPN ANU

Join us at the 2024 ANU Research Infrastructure Expo!



The Australian National University offers a world-class landscape of research infrastructure, from cutting-edge lab services and advanced equipment to expert consultancy and skilled teams across diverse research fields, including plant phenotyping, microscopy, DNA & RNA sequencing, quantum technologies, archaeology, humanities & arts, and more.

Whether you're a part of the ANU community as a researcher, student, or staff member, or an external collaborator, government agency, university, industry partner, or SME/startup in fields like agriculture, biotechnology, advanced manufacturing, or medical technology, this Expo is the perfect opportunity to explore, engage, and discover how research infrastructure at ANU can support your research endeavours.

The APPN ANU team will be participating at the Expo. We hope to see you there!

Date: Wednesday, 27 November, 2pm-4pm

Location: Melville Hall, 12 Ellery Crescent, The Australian National University

Get free tickets [here!](#)

Papers

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