

NEWSLETTER



NEWS

PROMOTIONS

Congratulations to the following people who have been promoted in this year's round:

Level A to B:

Chris Cazzonelli (PS)
Shaun Cloherty (BSB)
Rowena Martin (BSB)

Level C to D:

Josette Masle (PS)

Level D to E:

Scott Keogh (EEG)
Ted Maddess (BSB)
Shaowu Zhang (BSB)

BARNEY JOHN LUNCH FOR RSB GENERAL STAFF

For many years, RSBS had the Barney John Award, which was presented to a member of the RSBS General Staff for outstanding service to the School. The Operations Group (i.e. managers, team leaders, STO's etc.) has discussed both the history and the future of the award.

The consensus within the group was that selecting a single person from across the School at this particular time would be very difficult and the alternative suggestion was made that, instead, the School should host a BBQ lunch for all RSB General Staff, to thank them for their contribution and forbearance throughout what has been a tumultuous year. Kieran and Steve, together with any of the Heads of Division who are available, will be the BBQ cooks.

The lunch will be next Tuesday, 8 December in the Robertson Building, starting at 12.30 pm.

INTERNATIONAL VISITOR

As part of the Vice-Chancellor's program to support the visits of international academics to ANU, Dr James Murray, BBSRC David Philips Research Fellow, Imperial College London, was invited to visit Tom Wydrzynski's lab (PS) in RSB. The V-C supported this visit

with a grant of \$5k.

Tom and James are working together on a project to mimic the photosynthetic water splitting reaction in artificial proteins, with the ultimate goal to produce H₂ from water using only solar energy. James is a crystallographer and is determining the molecular structure of the various protein constructs that are synthesized in Tom's lab. During his visit, James conducted a Master Class on Protein Crystallography which involved making crystals, analysing diffraction data and making molecular models. James is giving an ANU Community Lecture on '[Crystals, Light and the Machinery of Life](#)' on December 9, 2009.



ISSUE 12 | 4 DECEMBER 2009

CONGRATULATIONS

Suzanne Morrison (Keogh Lab, EEG) has handed in her MPhil thesis on the ecology and conservation biology of the endangered Fijian Crested Iguana.



RSB LIEF GRANT SUCCESSES

Adrienne Hardham (PS) and colleagues were awarded \$600K for the purchase of a Multiphoton confocal microscope.

Tom Wydrzynski (PS), Ron Pace, and Klaus Weber, ANU, and their colleagues at Monash University, University of Queensland, Queensland University of Technology, and University of New South Wales, were awarded a grant of over \$500,000 (\$300,000 of which was awarded to ANU) for 'Advanced Facilities for Electron Paramagnetic Resonance and Optical Imaging Research in Biological and Materials Sciences'.

2009 ANU MEDIA AWARDS

Two awards were given for the public promotion of RSB research by Richard Milner, Michael Jennions and Pat Backwell (EEG) on sex and territoriality in fiddler crabs. These were:

Impact Overseas: For prominent placing in an overseas publication (incl: BBC, New York Times, New York Post)

Best Result: Highest number of media hits off a single media release (341 stories).

WELCOME

Molis Yunzab, a summer scholar who did her undergraduate studies at ANU, has recently joined the Ibbotson Lab (BSB) to study dragonfly simple eyes for the next eight weeks.

NOTICES

ANU COMMUNITY LECTURE

Wednesday 9 December, 11am
Faculty Board Room, R N
Robertson Building 46
*Crystals, Light and the
Machinery of Life*
Dr James Murray,
Imperial College London
Contact:
tom.wydrzynski@anu.edu.au

ECOLOGY, EVOLUTION AND GENETICS SEMINAR

Thursday 10 December, 1pm
Seminar Room, Gould Wing 116

*When fathers and mothers are
unequal: Epigenetic studies in cattle*
Dr Ikhide Imumori,
Cornell University
Contact: simon.ho@anu.edu.au

ANU-TOYOTA PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

Tuesday 15 December, 6-7pm
The Finkel Theatre,
John Curtin School
of Medical Research
The Global Energy Challenge
Prof Roel Snider,
Colorado School of Mines
Register at Events@anu.edu.au

HAPPY HOUR

To welcome summer scholars
and other school members
unable to attend the end-of-year
function last week.

Friday 4 December from 4.30pm
in the R N Robertson Building.
All welcome.

This newsletter is distributed
fortnightly by email and hard-
copy, and is archived at
[http://biology.anu.edu.au/
Newsletter](http://biology.anu.edu.au/Newsletter). Contact Diane
Whitehead to be added to the
mailing list, and to submit material
for future issues.

RSB CONTROLLED ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

Located in the back compound of the RN Robertson Building (46), the Controlled Environment facility (CEF) houses 20 walk in rooms as well as 43 free standing growth chambers. This allows control over all aspects of the growing environment such as temperature, humidity, light and carbon dioxide. It complies with current standards of biological containment, waste management and

environmental control. Fully qualified staff provide services such as watering, fertilising, pest and disease control as well as horticultural advice.

Sue Lyons is on hand to provide cheerful support for this facility and those who use it.

042715 6691 (mob)
6125 8290 (office)

sue.lyons@anu.edu.au



Wheat growing in the CEF. Image: Belinda Pratten/freeswimmers

PAPERS ACCEPTED

Bowman, D.M.J.S., Braby M.F., Brown, G.K., Brown, J., Cook, L.G., Crisp M.D., Ford F., Haberle S.G., Hughes J., Isagi Y., Joseph L., Ladiges P.Y., McBride J., Nlson G. Biogeography of the Australian monsoon tropics. *Journal of Biogeography*

Crisp M.D., Isagi Y., Kato Y., Cook L.G., Bowman D.M.S. *Livistona* palms in Australia: ancient relics or opportunistic immigrants? *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*

Cousins A.B, Ghannoum O, von Caemmerer S, Badger M.R . Simultaneous determination of Rubisco carboxylase and oxygenase kinetic parameters in *Triticum aestivum* and *Zea mays* using membrane inlet mass spectrometry. *Plant Cell & Environment*

Dewar, R.C. Maximum Entropy Production as an inference algorithm that translates physical assumptions into macroscopic predictions: Don't shoot the messenger. *Entropy*

Howitt S.M., Wilson A.N., Wilson K.F., Roberts P. "Please remember we are not all brilliant:" undergraduates' experiences of an elite, research-intensive degree at a research-intensive university. *Higher Education Research and Development*

Jennions M.D., Lortie C., Rosenberg M., Rothstein H. Publication and related biases In: J Koricheva, J Gurevitch & K Mengersen (Eds)/Handbook of Meta-analysis// in Ecology and Evolution, *Princeton University Press*

Klug H., Heuschel J., Jennions M.D., Kokko H. The mismeasurement of sexual selection. *Journal of Evolutionary Biology*

Lajeunesse M., Jennions M.D., Rosenberg M. Correcting for phylogeny. In: J Koricheva, J Gurevitch & K Mengersen (Eds) / Handbook of Meta-analysis in Ecology and Evolution, *Princeton University Press*

Merkle, T. Vocalisations of the Southern Boubou in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. *Ostrich*

Spry C., van Schalkwyk D.A., Strauss E., Saliba K.J. Pantothenate utilization by *Plasmodium* as a target for antimalarial chemotherapy. *Infectious Disorders - Drug Targets*

Tao G-Q., Letham S.D S., Yong J.W H., Zhang K., John P.C L., Schwartz O.M., Wong C.S C., Farquhar G.D. Promotion of shoot development and tuberisation in potato by expression of a chimaeric cytokinin synthesis gene at normal and elevated CO₂ levels. *Functional Plant Biology*

Zhou Y, Grice K, Stuart-Williams H, Farquhar GD , Hocart CH, Lu H, Liu W. Proposed biosynthetic origin of the saw-toothed profile in $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^2\text{H}$ of *n*-alkanes and systematic isotopic differences between *n*-, *iso*- & *anteiso*-alkanes in leaf waxes of land plants. *Phytochemistry*