



Network Newsletter, Tuesday, 11 April 2006

Dear Network Participant,

The April edition of the ARC/NHMRC Research Network for Parasitology Newsletter holds the following items for you:

- [1] **2006 ASP & ARC/NHMRC Research Network for Parasitology annual conference**
- [2] **2006 Annual Network Report**
- [3] **2006 Network Management Committee**

***Awards and Prizes***

- [4] **Ray Norton awarded the ANZMAG Medal**
- [5] **Network Travel Award Winners**

***Profiles***

- [6] **Network Travel Award for Marine Parasitologist, Kate Hutson**

***Conferences and Meetings***

- [7] **Severe Malaria, a Workshop with an Emphasis on Cerebral Malaria: Parasites, Pathophysiology and Therapy**
- [8] **Cell Organelles of Protozoan Parasites: From Basic Science to Drug Targets**
- [9] **5<sup>th</sup> Seminar of Food- and Water- Borne Parasitic Zoonoses and Joint International Tropical Medicine Meeting 2006 and 6th Asia-Pacific Travel Health Conference**
- [10] **COST Action 857 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Workshop Program**

***Positions vacant, Postdoctoral positions and PhD opportunities***

- [11] **POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW - Institute for the Biotechnology of Infectious Diseases, UTS**

---

ARC/NHMRC Research Network for Parasitology, Institute for the Biotechnology of Infectious Diseases, University of Technology, Sydney, PO Box 123, Broadway, NSW, 2007, Australia. Telephone: +61-2-9514 4006; FAX: +61-2-9514 4201; E-mail: Lisa.Jones@uts.edu.au Website: <http://www.parasite.org.au/arcnet>

Supported by the Australian Research Council, the National Health and Medical Research Council and the Australian Society for Parasitology.

**[1] Register for the 2006 ASP & ARC/NHMRC Research Network for Parasitology annual conference**

Registration for the 2006 ASP & Network annual conference is open, to register online go to <http://www.parasite.org.au/arcnet/conf06>

A fantastic program of invited speakers has been arranged and registration fees have been kept very low. Registration includes lunches, dinners, tea breaks and more – join the ASP now at <http://www.parasite.org.au/member.htm> to be able to take full advantage of these low fees and other benefits of being a member of a great society.

**[2] 2006 Annual Network Report**

Download the 2006 Annual Network Report to read about Network Participant contributions and achievements, results of the Annual Participant Survey, a comprehensive list of publications, the list of registered Network Participants and more. Go to the site highlights section of the Network Website <http://www.parasite.org.au/arcnet/index.shtml>

**[3] 2006 Network Management Committee**

The Management Committee for 2006 is Nick Smith (Chair; UTS), Alex Loukas (QIMR), Geoff McFadden (University of Melbourne), Una Ryan (Murdoch University), Andy Thompson (Murdoch University), Kevin Saliba (ANU) and Simon Reid (ASP).

***Awards and Prizes***

**[4] Ray Norton awarded the ANZMAG Medal**

Congratulations to WEHI's Professor Ray Norton, who has been accorded the top honour of the Australian and New Zealand Society for Magnetic Resonance, the ANZMAG Medal, for outstanding contributions to the field of magnetic resonance. Ray's current research interests are centred on the use of NMR in studies of protein structure and interactions, as well as structure-based drug design. Within the parasite field, his structural studies focus on surface antigens from the merozoite stage of *Plasmodium falciparum*, in particular AMA1 and MSP2. His collaborative studies with Robin Anders and Mick Foley at La Trobe University have attracted support from NIH in the form of an R01 grant. Ray was recently appointed Deputy Head of the Division of Structural Biology at WEHI.

## [5] Network Travel Award Winners

Congratulations to the most recent Network Researcher Exchange, Training and Travel Award winners:

**Bong Sze How** of Murdoch University, who successfully applied to the Network for assistance to travel to the laboratory of Dr Mal Jones at QIMR to determine the ultrastructural changes in mature and immature *Schistosoma* induced by triclabendazole;

**Nick Sangster** of the University of Sydney, who successfully applied to the Network for assistance to travel to WEHI (to learn skills in genome annotation as used for *Plasmodium* from Toby Sargeant and Ken Simpson in the group under Terry Speed), and to the Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Glasgow (to work with other members of the *Haemonchus* annotation team to start assembling the genome annotation).

**Una Ryan and Simon Reid** of Murdoch University, who successfully applied to the Network for assistance to travel to assemble a multidisciplinary team to workshop and prepare a major grant application on protozoa in Australian fauna, including biodiversity, host specificity, evolutionary relationships and parasite transmission.

## **Profiles**

### **[6] Network Travel Award for Marine Parasitologist, Kate Hutson**

*Kate Hutson is a PhD student at the University of Adelaide working as part of Dr Ian Whittington's marine parasitology group. Kate won a Network travel award and in October 2005 visited laboratories in Queensland to help her research; she talks here about her experiences:*



*Kate Hutson with a kingfish: location near Pt Augusta, South Australia*

#### **Tell me about your area of research?**

I work with the marine parasitology group at the University of Adelaide. One of our projects is looking at the management of parasites in sea cage aquaculture. As part of my PhD I am documenting the parasite community of wild kingfish in Australia and providing a parasite risk assessment for kingfish farming.

#### **What interests you about working in this area?**

I find parasites fascinating and I love working in the marine environment. Marine parasitology combines the best of both worlds! I particularly enjoy the element of discovery in my research. For example, I have found several undescribed parasite species. I have also found that the ectoparasites infecting wild kingfish on the east coast of Australia also infect wild kingfish in New Zealand, which provides additional evidence that these areas comprise one stock.

#### **How do you see your research developing in the future?**

The findings of my research can be directly applied to the management of parasites in aquaculture. The parasite risk assessment will identify parasites of potential threat to kingfish aquaculture in Australia. Identification of potential wild infection sources will help to determine suitable sea cage sites for kingfish as the industry expands. The risk assessment I have devised can also be applied to determine the risk and consequence of parasites for similar fish farming situations overseas, especially where transfer of parasites is possible between wild fish and farmed fish.

---

*ARC/NHMRC Research Network for Parasitology, Institute for the Biotechnology of Infectious Diseases, University of Technology, Sydney, PO Box 123, Broadway, NSW, 2007, Australia. Telephone: +61-2-9514 4006; FAX: +61-2-9514 4201; E-mail: [Lisa.Jones@uts.edu.au](mailto:Lisa.Jones@uts.edu.au) Website: <http://www.parasite.org.au/arcnet>*

*Supported by the Australian Research Council, the National Health and Medical Research Council and the Australian Society for Parasitology.*

### **How has the Network Travel Award helped your research develop?**

The Network Travel Award enabled me to travel to Brisbane where I worked with Dr Robert Adlard from the Queensland Museum and Dr Thomas Cribb and Dr Matthew Nolan from the University of Queensland. Collaboration with these marine parasitology research groups enabled me to make identifications of some of the myxozoans and trematodes I have detected on wild and farmed fish. As a result of this and other work, I have documented over forty parasite species from wild kingfish. Discussion and work with Dr Nolan triggered me to describe a new species of blood fluke, which has been published in *Zootaxa*. [See <http://www.mapress.com/zootaxa/2006f/z01151p068f.pdf> for the publication: Hutson KS & Whittington ID (2006) *Paradeontacylix godfreyi* n. sp. (Digenea: Sanguinicolidae) from the heart of wild *Seriola lalandi* (Perciformes: Carangidae) in southern Australia, *Zootaxa*, 1151, 55-68.]

### **What advice do you have for other Network scientists who want to apply for a travel award?**

I would advise other applicants to demonstrate that their travel will enable the beginning, or be an extension, of an existing collaboration between other research laboratories. Applicants should also indicate the facilities and expertise available at the destination, and that these are not immediately available in their current location. It is also a good idea to secure some amount of funding from other sources.

### **What advice do you have for science students who are considering parasitology as a career?**

Volunteer! See if you can help out in the field or laboratory with people who are working in areas that interest you. Then you can decide whether you enjoy what is involved - it is a great way to get first hand experience. Volunteering enabled me to work on parasites at Heron Island and Lizard Island in Queensland and at the Leigh Marine Laboratory in New Zealand.

### **What do you see as the benefits of being part of the Network?**

The Network is an excellent initiative that involves an assortment of parasitologists from all over Australia. It is an excellent way of finding out about other like-minded parasitologists and current research schemes. The Network supports its members by encouraging them to share their knowledge and skills, by planning conferences and providing travel grants.

### **Tell me about the highlight of your science career so far?**

The highlights of my career have been the amazing places I have travelled to and the people I have worked with. I like the diversity and challenge of marine parasite research. It is great to be involved with the marine parasitology group in SA who have similar interests and great enthusiasm for research. I have also enjoyed working with commercial and recreational fishers all over Australia. I recently collected kingfish with the help of a retired commercial netter, Reggie Godfrey. Reggie spent a month helping our

---

ARC/NHMRC Research Network for Parasitology, Institute for the Biotechnology of Infectious Diseases, University of Technology, Sydney, PO Box 123, Broadway, NSW, 2007, Australia. Telephone: +61-2-9514 4006; FAX: +61-2-9514 4201; E-mail: Lisa.Jones@uts.edu.au Website: <http://www.parasite.org.au/arcnet>

Supported by the Australian Research Council, the National Health and Medical Research Council and the Australian Society for Parasitology.

research group to catch and tag large kingfish in Port Augusta. He taught me about things that he had observed in kingfish behaviour over the past 50 years. I named the new species of blood fluke after Reggie because his knowledge and skill was instrumental in our research success – and he was thrilled!

### **What would you like to do in the future?**

I am hoping to secure a visiting post-doctoral fellowship overseas next year. I then plan to return to Australia to continue marine parasitology research in association with aquaculture. My ten-year goal is to begin a marine parasitology research group of my own.

*We wish Kate all the best for the future and hope to hear more about her exciting (and expanding) research career in marine parasitology over the next ten years....*

### **Conferences and Meetings**

#### **[7] Severe Malaria, a Workshop with an Emphasis on Cerebral Malaria: Parasites, Pathophysiology and Therapy**

The workshop is organized by the Israeli Society for Parasitology, Protozoology and Tropical Diseases (ISPPTD) under the auspices of the Kuvim Center for the Study of Infectious and Tropical Diseases of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem-Hadassah Medical School. The meeting is organised within the framework of the ISPPTD Annual Meeting and planned as a 2-day workshop 13 – 14 December, 2006.

**Location:** The Hebrew University - Hadassah Medical School, Ein-Kerem, Jerusalem, Israel

**Dates:** December 13 -14, 2006

**Topics:** CM Pathology, CM Imaging, CM and blood brain barrier, Current treatment of malaria, Current treatment of severe malaria, Adjuncts for treatment, The kynurenine pathway of tryptophan metabolism, Glucose metabolism, Cytokine production and severe malaria, Inflammation and CM, New experimental treatments, Gene deletion and CM, Respiratory stress syndrome, Pathophysiology in pregnancy, Correlation between CM and sepsis.

**Registration and accommodation:** Registration fee will be around \$100 and accommodation is available in the Hebrew University Guest House.

To participate in the workshop contact **Prof. Jacob Golenser by email [golenser@md.huji.ac.il](mailto:golenser@md.huji.ac.il)**

**[8] Second announcement and call for abstracts for the Cell Organelles of Protozoan Parasites: From Basic Science to Drug Targets, Extended COST B-22 Expert Meeting, organised in cooperation with Czech Society for Parasitology**

**Location:** Prague, Czech Republic, Conference Hall of the Novotel Praha City Hotel

**Dates:** Monday, 5 June to Wednesday 7 June, 2006 (Get-together party on Sunday June 4 from 6:30 p.m.)

**Speakers:**

*Mitochondrion (general, trypanosomes, leishmania, malaria parasites, toxoplasma):*

- Aloysius G. M. Tielens (Netherlands)
- Giancarlo Biagini (United Kingdom)
- Ahmad Saleh (Germany)
- Lin Yi-Chun (Taiwan)
- Ivor Titavela (Sweden)

*Kinetoplast:*

- Julius Lukes (Czech Republic)

*Hydrogenosome:*

- Patricia Johnson (USA)
- Ivan Hrdý (Czech Republic)
- Katrin Henze (Germany)
- Marlene Benchimol (Brazil)

*Mitosome (Giardia, Entamoeba, Cryptosporidium):*

- Jan Tachezy (Czech Republic)
- Jorge Tovar (United Kingdom)
- Janet Keithly (USA)

*Apicoplast:*

- Stuart Ralph (Australia)
- Dominique Soldati (Switzerland)

*Glycosome:*

- Fred Opperdoes (Belgium)
- Paul Michels (Belgium)
- Frank Vonken (Netherlands)

*Acidocalcisome:*

- Roberto Docampo (USA)
- Silvia Moreno (USA)
- Wanderley deSouza (Brazil)
- Norbert Bakalara (France)

*Food vacuole (malaria parasites):*

- Hagai Ginsburg (Israel)
- Jean Francois Dubrometz (France)
- Petra Rohrbach (Germany)
- Donatella Taramelli (Italy)

---

ARC/NHMRC Research Network for Parasitology, Institute for the Biotechnology of Infectious Diseases, University of Technology, Sydney, PO Box 123, Broadway, NSW, 2007, Australia. Telephone: +61-2-9514 4006; FAX: +61-2-9514 4201; E-mail: Lisa.Jones@uts.edu.au Website: <http://www.parasite.org.au/arcnet>

Supported by the Australian Research Council, the National Health and Medical Research Council and the Australian Society for Parasitology.

*Maurer clefts:*

- Michael Lanzer (Germany)
- *Other organelles of vesicular transport (Leishmania, Giardia, Trichomonads):* Graham Coombs (United Kingdom)
- Adrian Hehl (Switzerland)
- Robert Hirt (United Kingdom)

**Registration:** Please, visit the conference home page and register on line:  
<http://profiwebhosting.com/cost-meeting/>

**Accommodation:** Please check hotel contacts on the web page and make your booking as soon as possible.

**Contact address:**

Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Science, Charles University in Prague  
Vinicna 7, 128 44 Prague 2, Czech Republic

E-mail: [tachezy@natur.cuni.cz](mailto:tachezy@natur.cuni.cz) or [kulda@natur.cuni.cz](mailto:kulda@natur.cuni.cz)

**[9] 5<sup>th</sup> Seminar of Food- and Water- Borne Parasitic Zoonoses and  
Joint International Tropical Medicine Meeting 2006 and 6th Asia-  
Pacific Travel Health Conference**

Call for abstracts and symposia for the 5<sup>th</sup> Seminar of Food- and Water-  
Borne Parasitic Zoonoses (5<sup>th</sup> FBPZ) 28-30 November 2006 and the Joint  
International Tropical Medicine Meeting 2006 and 6th Asia-Pacific Travel  
Health Conference (JITMM 2006-6th APTHC) "Health and Travel in the  
Tropics: an Asian Perspective" 29 November - 1 December 2006

**Location:** Miracle Grand Convention Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

Organised by

- Faculty of Tropical Medicine, Mahidol University
- Asia Pacific Travel Health Society
- SEAMEO TROPMED Network
- Parasitology and Tropical Medicine Association of Thailand
- TROPMED Alumni Association

To register or request more information, please contact the Meeting Secretary

Dr. Achara Asavanich

Faculty of Tropical Medicine, Mahidol University

420/6 Ratchawithi Road, Bangkok 10400, Thailand

Phone: (662) 3549100-19 ext. 1524, 1576 Fax: (662) 6435578, (662)  
6435582

**E-mail:** [jitmm@mahidol.ac.th](mailto:jitmm@mahidol.ac.th)

**Web:** <http://www.tm.mahidol.ac.th>

---

ARC/NHMRC Research Network for Parasitology, Institute for the Biotechnology of Infectious Diseases, University of  
Technology, Sydney, PO Box 123, Broadway, NSW, 2007, Australia. Telephone: +61-2-9514 4006; FAX: +61-2-9514 4201; E-  
mail: [Lisa.Jones@uts.edu.au](mailto:Lisa.Jones@uts.edu.au) Website: <http://www.parasite.org.au/arcnet>

Supported by the Australian Research Council, the National Health and Medical Research Council and the Australian Society  
for Parasitology.

## [10] COST Action 857 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Workshop Program

Click on this link

[http://www.parasite.org.au/arcnet/Newsletter/Programme\\_Dresden.pdf](http://www.parasite.org.au/arcnet/Newsletter/Programme_Dresden.pdf) (or copy and paste the URL into your browser) to download the Program for COST Action 857 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Workshop to be held from 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> May 2006, at Dresden, Germany.

### *Positions vacant, Postdoctoral positions and PhD opportunities*

## [11] POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW - Institute for the Biotechnology of Infectious Diseases, UTS

An exciting Postdoctoral Research Fellowship is available in IBID, University of Technology, Sydney (<http://www.science.uts.edu.au/ibid>). The successful candidate will conduct research on an ARC funded project aimed at understanding the biosynthesis of structural proteins in apicomplexan parasites, with a view to identifying new pathways that could be targeted in control strategies for these disease causing pathogens.

Applicants should hold a PhD in an appropriate area and have a solid background and experience in biochemistry. A background in molecular biology and parasitology would also be desirable. A research profile, evidenced by presentation of research at scientific conferences and in recognised international journals, should be demonstrated.

**Salary range:** Associate Lecturer \$57,485 to \$61,705 pa.

The University offers salary packaging plus attractive superannuation. The position is fixed-term for 2 years.

**Application procedure:** Obtain the selection criteria, which you need to address in your application, by visiting UTS human resources

[http://www.hru.uts.edu.au/employ/aca\\_vac.html#R1406](http://www.hru.uts.edu.au/employ/aca_vac.html#R1406)

For further information contact Dr Sabina Belli on 02 9514 4141 or email [Sabina.belli@uts.edu.au](mailto:Sabina.belli@uts.edu.au)

**Closing date for applications is 2 May 2006**

**Please send me items for the next newsletter by 28 April 2006.**

Best wishes,

Lisa

Communications Coordinator, ARC/NHMRC Research Network for Parasitology