



Monday, 25 June 2007

Dear Network Participant,

This edition of the Network Newsletter has the following items of interest for you:

- [1] Hypothetical – global warming and parasites...p2
- [2] Parasites in Focus – photography exhibition...p2
- [3] Request for parasite – Geoff McFadden...p3

Awards

- [4] Network Travel Award Winners...p3
- [5] 2008 Fulbright Scholarships...p3
- [6] L'Oréal Australia *For Women in Science* Fellowships with the support of the Australian National Commission for UNESCO...p4

Events

- [7] Neurobiology of Neglected African Diseases Satellite Meeting 8, 11 July 2007, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute...p5
- [8] Expressions of interest for a Medical Entomology/Vector symposium...p6

Positions vacant

- [9] Technologist in the Parasitology Section at Murdoch University...p6
- [10] Technical Position (HEO 5), Faculty of Veterinary Science, Camperdown Campus, University of Sydney...p6

[1] Hypothetical - global warming and parasites
Wednesday 11 July 2007 at Parliament House from 6pm

Will rising temperatures lead to the spread of deadly and debilitating parasitic diseases in northern Australia?

Will Darwin, Cairns, Townsville and even Brisbane be rendered uninhabitable?

What will happen to our livestock and mining industries?

See how expert scientists, legislators and politicians react to challenges – presented to them by the ABC's Robyn Williams – that have profound repercussions for our Indigenous communities, defence forces, rural and other primary industries, our unique wildlife and, of course, the health and well-being of the general Australian population.

Bookings essential, email Lisa Jones (lisa.jones@uts.edu.au or telephone 02-95144006) before 6 July 2007 to book for this free public event. Pre-event drinks from 530pm in the foyer of Parliament House.

Download the flyer for this event

http://www.parasite.org.au/arcnet/events/Hypothetical_flyerfinal.pdf

[2] "parasites in focus " photography exhibition at Questacon - The National Science and Technology Centre, July - October 2007

Parasites are normally thought of as disgusting and are regarded as an aberration but, in fact, the parasitic way of life is the most common way of life on the planet. They are the most ingenious and manipulative of all life forms and possess a strange beauty, as the images in this unique collection demonstrate.

Experience parasites close-up. Australian scientists give us an insight into their research into malaria, worms, toxoplasma and more through their extraordinary images of parasites. Questacon admission fees apply and include entry to all exhibitions and a science show performance.

For more information email lisa.jones@uts.edu.au

Download the flyer for this event

http://www.parasite.org.au/arcnet/events/hypothetical_photographyflyer_final.pdf

The Hypothetical on parasites and global warming and the Parasite photography exhibition are both part of the 2007 ASP & ARC/NHMRC Research Network for Parasitology Annual Conference. If you have family, friends or contacts in the ACT please pass on the event information www.parasite.org.au/arcnet/events

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.

[3] Request for parasite

We are seeking a culture of the apicomplexan bivalve parasite *Perkinsus* (any species) for some cell biology experiments. If anyone has it in culture, could you please contact Geoff McFadden, University of Melbourne.

T +61 (0)414 189 905

E gim@unimelb.edu.au

Awards

[4] Network Travel Award Winners

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

- **Dr Emanuela Handman**, Principal Research Fellow/Laboratory Head, The Walter & Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research to support the **Imaging Infectious Diseases - A Pasteur and Walter and Eliza Hall Institute Workshop** at WEHI Thursday 31st January & Friday 1st February 2008;
- **Ying Zhu, PhD**, post-doctoral research fellow, Professor of Biology, The Walter & Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research to attend the Optical Microscopy & Imaging in the Biomedical Sciences course at Woods Hole, October 9 - 18, 2007;
- **Professor Leann Tilley**, La Trobe University, for a Researcher Exchange by international student Silvia Haase from Dr Tim Gilberger's laboratory in the Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine, Hamburg, for collaborative research; and
- **A/Prof. Una Ryan**, School of Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences, Murdoch University, for a Researcher Exchange to visit Dr Caccio Department of Infectious, Parasitic and Immunomediated Diseases, Istituto Superiore di Sanita', Italy from August 07 until October 07.

[5] 2008 Fulbright Scholarships

Applications now open for the 2008 Fulbright Scholarships

[\[www.fulbright.com.au\]](http://www.fulbright.com.au)

Valued at up to \$A40,000, Fulbright scholarships are open to Australian citizens to undertake research or study in the United States for 3 – 12 months. Scholarships can be started between 1 July 2008 and 30 June 2009.

As the largest and one of the most prestigious educational scholarship programs in the world, Fulbright provides unique opportunities for Australians to build long term research collaboration and linkages with U.S. universities.

Applications are open to Postgraduates (to do research related to their

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

Australian PhD. or enrol in a US degree); Postdoctoral, Professional and Senior Scholars from any field of study.

Applications close 31 August 2007.

For further information and application forms see
http://www.fulbright.com.au/awards/fullbright_awards.htm

[6] L'Oréal Australia *For Women in Science* Fellowships with the support of the Australian National Commission for UNESCO

Eligibility

Applicants must be within five years of completing a PhD, Australian citizens or permanent residents, be associated with an Australian Institution and intending to continue their research in Australia in the next twelve months.

Applying

Application forms are available for download from
www.forwomeninscience.com (see *For Women in Science In Your Country*)
 and also from www.scienceinpublic.com/l'oreal.htm.

Applicants must submit the completed form, along with CV including research publications, summary of past research achievements and future research plans and three letters of reference, one of which one must be from a proposed mentor.

Applications are to be submitted electronically to
FWISApplications@au.loreal.com no later than midnight 29th June 2007,
 together with a hard copy of your application and letters of reference
 postmarked 29th June 2007.

Hard copy to be mailed to:
 L'Oréal Australia
 For Women in Science Fellowships
 Corporate Communications
 256 Bay Road
 Sandringham Vic. 3191

Judging

An inter-disciplinary jury of scientists will review all applications.
 The 2007 jury: Kurt Lambeck, Professor of Geophysics, ANU and President of the Australian Academy of Science; Cathy Foley, CSIRO Industrial Physics and President of the Australian Institute of Physics; Suzanne Corey, Director, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research and 2001 L'Oreal International Laureate; and Vijoleta Braach-Maksvytis, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Innovation and Development) at the University of Melbourne and member of the Australian National Commission for UNESCO.

The jury will review all applications and select three fellows based on:

intellectual merit/academic records/accepted requisites for scholarly scientific study including:

- ability to plan and conduct research
- ability to work as a team member or independently
- ability to interpret and communicate research findings
- scientific excellence and appropriateness of proposed research or a clearly articulated plan of study
- reference letters
- the potential for career enhancement of the proposed research

Prize details

Six months from receiving their Fellowship, recipients are expected to submit a status report on their research projects and the value of the Fellowship. Fellowships will be announced in September/October 2007 (date TBC) with the Fellowship payment being made within 4 weeks from this date. The three Fellows will be expected to attend an award ceremony to be held in Melbourne.

More information

Contact fwisenquiries@au.loreal.com or (03) 9928 3339
www.forwomeninscience.com

Events

Check the Network website for upcoming events, meetings and other programmes <http://www.parasite.org.au/arcnet/events>

[7] Neurobiology of Neglected African Diseases Satellite Meeting 8, 11 July 2007, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute

This satellite meeting focuses on diseases that are either found only in Africa or the global disease burden is very high and more research in these diseases is needed, hence the term neglected. The meeting consists of two mini-symposia – African trypanosomiasis and cerebral malaria - and talks on the neurobiology of other diseases (konzo, neurocysticercosis, khat addiction).

African trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness) covers large swathes of Africa, infecting both humans and livestock. There is severe disruption of brain function and circadian rhythms, and there is an urgent need for new therapeutic interventions. Cerebral malaria is the most severe neurological complication of falciparum malaria. Over 75% of cases occur in children living in sub-Saharan Africa. Up to 24% of children who survive it have neuropsychological impairment. Konzo, due to prolonged dietary intake of incompletely detoxified bitter cassava, is an irreversible spastic paraparesis, for which the pathogenic mechanism is unknown. Khat (*Catha edulis*), a plant with a natural amphetamine, is used daily in parts of Africa and the Arabian Peninsula. Neurocysticercosis, due to tape worm infection, is found widely in Africa resulting in increased incidence of epilepsy.

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

Speakers:

Marina Bentivoglio (Italy), George Grau (Australia), Nick Hunt (Australia), Richard Idro (Uganda), Krister Kristensson (Sweden), Willias Masocha (Zimbabwe), Nilesh B. Patel (Kenya), Louis Schofield (Australia), Maria Chiara Stefanini (Italy), Desire T'Shala-Katumbay (Democratic Republic of Congo).

Further information on the program can be found at:

[http://www.ibro2007.org/docs/African%20diseases%20program%20\(4\).doc](http://www.ibro2007.org/docs/African%20diseases%20program%20(4).doc)

Registration is still open and the registration form is at:

<http://www.ibro2007.org/docs/REGISTRATION%20FORM.doc>

For students (undergraduate and graduates), there is no registration fee.

[8] Expressions of interest for a Medical Entomology/Vector symposium at the Arbovirus Research Conference, (15-19 September 2008, Pacific Bay Resort, Coffs Harbour, NSW, Australia)

A proposal has been put forward to the organising committee for this Arbovirus Research Conference to hold a Medical Entomology/Vector symposium covering arthropods other than mosquitoes. Suggested topics include ticks & rickettsia, head lice, sandflies, bed bugs, Bairnsdale Ulcer, scabies, chiggers, kangaroo blindness, etc. Please email Stephen L. Doggett, Department of Medical Entomology, ICPMR, Westmead Hospital, Email: stephend@icpmr.wsahs.nsw.gov.au or Ph: +61 2 9845 7265 if you are interested in being involved (at this stage the symposium is a proposal only).

Positions vacant

Check the Network website for all current vacancies

<http://www.parasite.org.au/arcnet/jobs>

[9] Technologist in the Parasitology Section at Murdoch University

A full-time Technologist position will become available in the Parasitology Section at Murdoch University later this year following the retirement of Russ Hobbs. The appointee will run the diagnostic laboratory, support teaching to Veterinary, Biomedical and Animal Science Students, and be involved in research. Although the position will not be advertised for a few months, anyone interested should contact Andy Thompson for more information as soon as possible [a.thompson@murdoch.edu.au].

[10] Technical Position (HEO 5), Faculty of Veterinary Science, Camperdown Campus, University of Sydney

Full time technical position to support teaching and research for the Infectious Diseases group within the Faculty of Veterinary Science (Veterinary Parasitology and Veterinary Microbiology).

Excellent communication and organisation skills required. Ability to work independently and as a member of a small team. Relevant degree or advanced diploma plus extensive laboratory experience. Good word processing and database skills required.

Experience with automated microbiological media preparation apparatus and sterilisation equipment would be an advantage, as would experience in diagnostic parasitology techniques. Some experience with microbiological culture techniques and PC2 laboratory requirements desirable.

For further information, contact Denise Wigney (d.wigney@vetp.usyd.edu.au or 02 9351 3337) or A.Prof. David Emery (david.emery@camden.usyd.edu.au or 02 9351 3102)

If you have any parasitology news stories please contact me by email Lisa.Jones@uts.edu.au or telephone 02-95144006.

2007 ASP & Network conference information will be circulated soon.

Please send me items for the next newsletter by 27 July 2007.

Best wishes,

Lisa
Communications Coordinator,
ARC/NHMRC Research Network for Parasitology