

NGED Forum 2006

> PLEASE NOTE THESE DATES IN YOUR DIARY <



**The 2006 NGED Forum will be held
at the Novotel Palm Cove Resort in Queensland on 15th and 16th June 2006.**

Please pencil these dates into your diary (including arrival 14th June 06 and departure 17th June 06)

NEW NGED Early Career Researchers Committee

Invitation to join the ECR Committee

One of the initiatives raised by members and affiliate members of the Network at the 2005 NGED Forum was the holding of an Early Career Researchers (ECRs) meeting within the NGED. In an effort to facilitate this, the NGED Steering Group would like to call for nominations for a group, comprised of ECRs and PhD Students, to take responsibility for organising these meetings, which will provide a unique opportunity for early career researchers and PhD students to interact with young researchers from the different disciplines of developmental research. It is proposed to have the first of these meetings as a satellite meeting to the NGED Forum to be held in Palm Cove, Queensland in June 2006.

If you are interested in joining the Network's new ECR Committee please forward your name or that of an interested ECR colleague to [Helli Meinecke](mailto:helli.meinecke@adelaide.edu.au) by 31st December 2005. The NGED Steering Group will choose from the nominees a group that spans the range of research interests within the NGED.

NGED Membership Mapping and Annual Report

Your help is needed

All Network Members have recently received an email to participate in the Network's 2005 year-end process. To help the Membership Committee finalise its mapping exercise and to ensure that we fulfil the ARC/NHMRC reporting requirements for Research Networks, could all Network Members please

1. Return the attached [membership-mapping questionnaire](#) (this should only take a minute!) to the NGED Office by either email or fax (08 83037534).
2. Check their [member profile](#) and advise [Helli](#) by email of any changes/additions that should be made, i.e.
 - Change in contact details
 - Updated lab members list
 - Updated list of grants
 - New publications
 - Updated facilities list
 - New collaborators
3. We would like to include a photo of each Network member in our 2005 Annual Report. Most of the photos currently on the web were received as low-resolution files. Could you please send us an up to date HIGH-resolution photo of you (passport/portrait) in jpg-format.

News / Developments

Meeting of the NGED Steering Group

The NGED Steering Group met on 12th December 2005 to discuss the Annual Report 2005, strategies and budgets for 2006 and the draft program for the NGED Forum on 15th and 16th June 2006 in Palm Cove, Queensland. The Annual Report 2005 and the 2006 budget will be distributed to all Network Members as soon as the documents have been finalised. The Steering Group will get together again in February 2006 to finalise the NGED Forum program.

Network Members on the Move



NGED Member, Dr Greg Harper, CSIRO, has accepted a secondment for three years into the role of Manager, Strategic Science within Meat and Livestock Australia. Greg will remain located in Brisbane operating out of the Brisbane offices of MLA and will remain President of the Matrix Biology Society of Australia and New Zealand. The Strategic Science portfolio includes MLA's investments in Sheep Genomics, the CRC for Beef Genetic Technologies, Plant Genomics and Soil Microbe Metagenomics.



Professor Caroline McMillen has been appointed Pro Vice Chancellor and Vice President: Research and Innovation, University of South Australia. Caroline will be working to ensure that targets for the long-term health of research are met through strategies that support research and innovation. Caroline will continue as NGED Deputy Convenor and member of the Steering Group. More information about Caroline's new role at Uni SA can be accessed on the [Uni SA website](#).

Spectral imaging and FLIM on horizon in SA

Installation in December 2005 of a new Leica SP5 spectral confocal microscope at Adelaide Microscopy will provide new and exciting possibilities for researchers requiring fluorescence imaging. This new spectral confocal is the latest technology from Leica and among its features offers two scan rates (normal and resonant or high-speed scanning up to 250 fps), lasers to provide excitation in blue, green and red wavelengths, the possibility of defining specific emission spectra of individual fluorophores, and 5 spectral detection channels. Spectral Fluorescence Lifetime Imaging (FLIM) will also be available with 405nm pulsed laser a short wavelength blue laser which can also be used for excitation of a number of uv dyes such as DAPI and Hoechst.

The Leica SP5 has been purchased as a result of a successful ARC LIEF grant awarded in 2004. As part of this grant, Flinders University will also receive a similar spectral confocal, fitted in this case with Fluorescence Correlation Spectroscopy (FCS) - the first FCS capable confocal in Australia.

Installation of both confocals will be completed before the end of 2005, and training provided by Leica in early 2006.

Any queries about the new confocals or expressions of interest in attending a training workshop can be directed to [Dr Meredith Wallwork](#), Adelaide Microscopy or [Prof Ian Gibbins](#) at Flinders University.

NGED Programs

The Network has introduced a number of programs to support interactions amongst Network Members and with other researchers and research organisations from Australia and overseas. Award rules and application forms are available on the [NGED website](#). The table below provides a brief description of the programs and the application closing dates for 2006.

Closing Dates	Programs
31.01.06 30.04.06 31.07.06 31.10.06	NGED Conference Support Awards The purpose of the NGED Conference Support Program is to assist conference organisers to provide high profile meetings in the areas of developmental biology / developmental physiology. Preference will be given to international conferences held in Australia with an emphasis on promoting multidisciplinary interactions in order to provide the greatest benefit to NGED members from different scientific backgrounds.
31.01.06 for travel in Feb-Apr '06 30.04.06 for travel in May-July '06 31.07.06 for travel in Aug-Oct '06 31.10.06 for travel in Nov-Jan '06/07	NGED Conference Participation Awards The purpose of the NGED Conference Participation Award is to provide young scientists with an opportunity to present their work at a scientific forum, which they otherwise may not have been able to. Preference will be given to the Network's PhD students and early career researchers. Awards will not normally exceed \$500 (for meetings in Australia) or \$1,000 (for overseas meetings).
31.01.06 30.04.06 31.07.06 31.10.06	NGED Laboratory Interchange Award The NGED Laboratory Interchange Award is available to assist NGED students, early career scientists and other members of the Network to visit other NGED laboratories to work on collaborative interdisciplinary projects, learn specialised techniques or access specialised equipment.
Ongoing	NGED Cross-Disciplinary Workshop Attendance Award To facilitate research interactions and research training activities, which cross discipline boundaries, the Cross-Disciplinary Workshop Attendance Award will assist NGED students, early career scientists and other members of the Network to attend cross-disciplinary workshops (i.e. a physiology student attending a developmental biology workshop).
31.01.06 30.04.06 31.07.06 31.10.06	NGED Focus Group Award The purpose of this award is to support 'Focus Group/Think Tank Meetings' that lie within the objectives of the Network (i.e. strategic planning across the fields, Centre of Excellence planning, or establishment of collaborations between NGED groups that cross disciplinary boundaries).

Reports and summaries of the funding provided by the NGED under the above schemes can be accessed on the [NGED website](#).

Vacancies

Applications are invited for a **Research Fellow position** tenable in the **Embryology Unit at the CMRI**. The appointee will join the Eye Genetics Group of the Unit and contribute to the conception, planning and execution of projects on eye development. Substantial practical experience and good knowledge of recombinant DNA technology, gene expression analysis and the application of molecular genetic techniques to the investigation of mouse development are essential. [Further information](#) is appended to this Newsletter.

Upcoming Conferences

<p>2006 March 11-13</p>	<p>The 7th Australasian Zebrafish Workshop Place: IMB, University of Queensland For details please contact Michael Lardelli, University of Adelaide.</p>
<p>2006 April 3-5</p>	<p>Enteric Nervous System Development: Cells, Signals and Genes Place: Arden Conference Center, Arden House Road, Harriman, NY, USA Co-chairs are Drs Heather Young and Donald Newgreen. The International Organising Committee consists of Vassilis Pachnis, Alan Burns, Aravinda Chakravarti and Michael D. Gershon. http://www.anatomy.unimelb.edu.au/devens/index.html</p>
<p>2006 April 7-8</p>	<p>2006 National Workshop on Fetal and Neonatal Physiology As in past meetings, the 2006 meeting will consist of free communications on completed studies, work in progress or planned studies. Topics include developmental origins of health and adult disease, development of cardiovascular function, brain development and neuroprotection, prematurity and respiratory disorders, renal development and function, placental development and function, nutrition and neonatology, among others. Place: Rottnest Lodge, Rottnest Island, WA For further information on registration and abstract submission details, please contact: Dr Megan Probyn, Dept of Physiology, Monash University, ph: (03) 9905 2564, fax: (03) 9905 2547</p>
<p>2006 June 15-16</p>	<p>NGED Forum Place: Palm Cove Resort, Queensland Organisers: NGED Steering Group</p>
<p>2006 Aug 20-23</p>	<p>Annual Conference of the Endocrine Society of Australia and Society for Reproductive Biology Place: Conrad Jupiters, Gold Coast, Queensland For details please contact Sarah Robertson.</p>
<p>2006 Aug 23-25</p>	<p>Downunder Embryo Symposium Place: Jupiters Convention Centre, Gold Coast, Queensland For details please contact Chris O'Neill.</p>
<p>2006 November</p>	<p>30th Annual Meeting of the Matrix Biology Society of Australia and New Zealand Place: Melbourne Convention Centre, Victoria For details please contact Greg Harper.</p>
<p>2006 November</p>	<p>5th Australian Developmental Biology Workshop Place: Whalers Inn Resort, Victor Harbor, SA For details please contact Rob Saint.</p>

*Wishing you and your families
 a Wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

The NGED Steering Group.



1. Vacancy



Children's Medical Research Institute
SIR NORMAN GREGG RESEARCH FELLOW
EMBRYOLOGY UNIT
(Position No. 05/09)

Applications are invited for a Research Fellow position tenable in the Embryology Unit at the CMRI. The appointee will join the Eye Genetics Group of the Unit and contribute to the conception, planning and execution of projects on eye development. Substantial practical experience and good knowledge of recombinant DNA technology, gene expression analysis and the application of molecular genetic techniques to the investigation of mouse development are essential.

The applicant should hold a PhD degree in biological or biomedical sciences and have relevant post-doctoral experience in molecular, developmental and/or cellular biology.

Appointment will be made at the NHMRC PSP5 level for research personnel, in accordance with academic qualifications and research experience. Additional benefits include Sydney loading, the provision of private medical health insurance and participation in an employer-contributed superannuation fund. CMRI is housed in a modern research facility for molecular, developmental and cell biology and is located on the same campus as the Children's Hospital at Westmead. The Institute also has in-house facilities for gene targeting, transgenesis, embryo culture and proteomics.

Application including a curriculum vitae and the name of three professional referees, and citing the position code 05/09 should be submitted by post or electronically by email before 13 January 2006.

The Personnel Manager
Children's Medical Research Institute
Locked Bag 23
Wentworthville NSW 2145
Email: personnel@cmri.com.au

Further information regarding this position may be obtained from Dr Robyn Jamieson or Dr Patrick Tam (email: rjamieson@cmri.usyd.edu.au or ptam@cmri.usyd.edu.au; Phone 02 9687 2800; Fax: 02 9687 2120)

2. NGED Membership Mapping

Name: _____

Research Disciplines

Please select ONE discipline only.

- A - Reproductive Biology
- B - Molecular Genetics
- C - Developmental Biology
- D - Developmental Physiology
- E - Animal Science
- F - Cell Biology

Research Questions

Please select (multiple choice)

- 1 - EvoDevo
- 2 - Processes (e.g. Differentiation, EMT, Stem Cells, Cytokinesis, Haemopoiesis)
- 3 - Organogenesis
- 4 - Molecular Mechanisms (e.g. Imprinting, Epigenetics, Chromosome Biology, TF control)
- 5 - Model Systems of Human Disease
- 6 - Environment/Nutrition
- 7 - Brain Development
- 8 - Systems Biology (e.g. Musculoskeletal, Bone, Lung, Repro, Kidney, Digestive)
- 9 - Fetal Modelling of Human Disease

Please return by 31st December 2005 to Helli Meinecke by email or fax (08 8303 7534)

