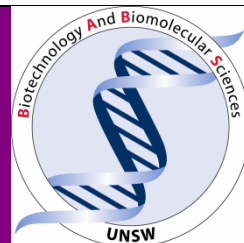


BABS Quarterly

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Message from the Head of School

Dear colleagues,

Staff and students in the school of BABS have had significant research success over the past three years. Yet, it seems that few outside the School know of our accomplishments. For 2010, we have an amazing 180 publications already in ResPubs. Indeed, it is a distinct possibility that the School could end up with a double century of publications in a single year (something that the current Australian cricketers only dream about).

I am aware of 13 ARC Discovery applications submitted by BABS in the 2011 round. Congratulations to all who submitted. The total funding requested is \$5,421k. Simple maths shows that the average request is for \$417k. The largest request was from Prof. Merlin Crossley (\$675k over 3 years) and the most economic by Prof. Ian Dawes (\$203k over 3 years). If the School gets 3 proposals funded, we will be batting at about 23% success rate – so this will be our ARC yardstick for 2011. I will not comment on NH&MRC and RGMS here, but we are aware of 19 applications lodged through the School.

An ARC panel member mentioned to me that a significant metric of productivity is considered to be the total number of citations/publication. As a consequence of this inside information, I request that all members of the School calculate the total number of times they have been cited from 2006-2010. Please send this figure to Kylie by the end of April. These data will enable the School to compare the impact of our publications to that of staff from other Schools.

As announced at the last staff meeting, we will be hosting a Festschrift for Professor Ian Dawes on 22 & 23 September. The plan is for a two days of talks, with a gala dinner on the night of the 22nd. A web page highlighting the event is now live at: <http://www.babs.unsw.edu.au/festschrift.html>

Individuals wishing to attend will need to sign-up, but please note the symposium is limited to 130 attendees, with a \$50 daily registration fee.

Finally, please join me in warmly congratulating Scientia Professor Staffan Kjelleberg, one of 17 leading scientists in Australia who have been elected to the Australian Academy of Science in 2011. Election to the Academy recognises a career that has significantly advanced, and continues to advance, the world's scientific knowledge. Staffan is the third BABS person to become a member of the Academy, and joins Prof. Ian Dawes and Prof. Malcolm Walter.

I will be on leave from 8 April until after Easter. Deputy HOS Noel Whitaker will be acting HOS during this period.

Best

Bill

RAT News Research

- Noel Whitaker, Wendy Glenn and Emeritus Prof. James Lawson were awarded a National Breast Cancer Council Grant for \$200,000.
- Vladimir Sytnyk and Iryna Leshchynska were awarded a grant of \$16,000 by the Rebecca L Cooper Medical Research Foundation.
- A reminder to BABS academics that points to be considered research-active in BABS increase by 1 per year until the we reach 15. To be considered research-active for 2011 you will need 13 points.

Admin

- Our new part-time HOS admin assistant, Liz Daly, has joined us. A reminder that Penny now works Monday-Wednesday, and Liz, Thursday-Friday.
- The lease on the 4 Konica Minolta machines ends in July. We have commenced the changeover to Lexmark machines through UNSW central. The trial of the L2 machine has been completed, and we will progressively replace L3 and L1 (Samuels). For the L1 teaching office, we are seeking a more powerful, faster machine to handle large student jobs.

Teaching

- We welcome back John Wilson this semester, after his successful recovery from injuries sustained in a road accident last year.

Conferral of 2010 Vice Chancellor's Teaching Awards

The 2010 VC's Awards for Teaching Excellence were conferred at the Graduation ceremony held on 9 March 2011. Congratulations again to Dr Louise Lutze-Mann and James Krycer, and for looking so resplendent.



Australia Day Honours for BABS Visiting Fellow

Professor Bill Rawlinson has been appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for service to the medical sciences as a clinician, educator and researcher in the disciplines of virology and pathology.

Bill has a visiting appointment with BABS, having been associated with the School for more than 14 years. He has supervised many Honours and PhD students, delivered guest lectures, collaborated on research projects and co-authored papers with Peter White.



Launch of new BABS PC1 Teaching Lab



At long last, the HOS was able to invite staff to celebrate a soft launch of the School's brand new, cutting-edge PC1 teaching laboratory located at the western end of Level 1 of the Biological Sciences Building. The ribbon was cut by Lab Manager Jani O'Rourke on Monday 7 March, with the first class held that afternoon.



BABS University Medal Winners 2010

Congratulations to the following BABS students and their supervisors:

University Medal in Genetics:

Alison Kate McLean (2007 Honours student, Science/Law 2010) Supervisor Mark Tanaka

University Medal in Genetics:

Eliza Kate Courtney (2010 Honours student) Supervisor Michal Janitz

University Medal in Biotechnology:

Ivy Kim Ni Chiang (2010 Honours student) Supervisor Robert Yang

Pitter patter of little scientists ...

Congratulations #1 to **Chris and Lisa Marquis** on the arrival of daughter Isabelle on 12 January,

and



Congratulations #2 to **Leanne Pearson and Brett Neilan** on the arrival of their second daughter, Georgia, born on 21 February.

If you would like something included in the next BABS Quarterly please email Michele at m.potter@unsw.edu.au