



SABC NEWS

November 28, 2003 No. 7

News

Tobias Schoep who has just finished his PhD, will be commencing work with Grain Biotech Australia in December.

The luck of the Irish.....

The Parasitology Group recently hosted a visit from a roving Northern Irish scientist, Mary Finn, from the Microbial Biotechnology Research Group, University of Ulster at Coleraine courtesy of a collaboration with Una Ryan. Mary visited Murdoch for a few weeks and spent her time discovering the vagaries of the black art of PCR to detect *Cryptosporidium* in fish (we blame the machines!). When not in the laboratory Mary could usually be found at the hairdresser's (three visits in one month!).



As luck would have it she also managed to score free tickets to the Irish-Australia International Rules match played at Subiaco Oval when the rest of us hadn't

managed to buy any for 6 weeks prior. She also conveniently managed to time her visit with the World Cup and word has it she spent countless hours admiring Irish Rugby player Ronan O'Gara's thighs! Meanwhile she also started a dive course and from all accounts is hooked!

Mary's funding came from the Society for General Microbiology (SGM); and Department of Agriculture and Rural Development for Northern Ireland (DARDNI). Try saying that one after a few Guinness!

We hope Mary is going to return to Murdoch for further studies in the near future.



Just as Mary Finn departed, a new visitor to the group has arrived from overseas. Francois Pecheur arrived recently and here is his bio: "I come from France to make an internship in

a research lab so as I can complete my 6th year of pharmacy studies. I'll spend the next 4 months working on in vitro culture of *Eimeria tenella* in the aim of

testing drugs on this intracellular parasite....and trying to improve my english (and beer drinking skills!).

I'm sure of one thing, I will enjoy working and living here. I take the most of this occasion to thank every people that welcomed and helped me to be well integrated in this research team".

By Dr Marion MacNish

Update on SABC 10th Birthday Celebrations

As you are now probably aware, the SABC has two major events occurring on December 4th.

- 10th Year celebration of the SABC
- public lecture by Professor Ingo Potrykus

We now have a full program for this day, please see details attached. Due to limited places, you must register for session(s) (morning, afternoon or both) you wish to attend. We are also looking for poster presentations to take place during the lunch break, in the Biological Science courtyard area. Please notify Andrea if you wish to present a poster. There are a large number of industry people research funders and the press attending this day, so it will be a good opportunity to present your work.

Christmas celebrations...

We have two Christmas celebrations to attend.

1. On 12th December, there will be a golf day at Point Walter Golf course followed by a BBQ and drinks at the Point Walter foreshore.



2. On 19th December a leisurely day at Perth Zoo with a secret Santa Claus in attendance. Further details for both events will be circulated in the near future.



World Cup Rugby

A certain SABC researcher was seen sporting an odouriferous England rugby shirt – he said he would not wash it until England lost a rugby match – so much the worse for everyone else.

Be that as it may, the SABC congratulates the England team for winning the Rugby World Cup. As stated on the national news ‘a narrow victory for a downtrodden sporting nation desperate for a win!’ Yes, it was the first time an England team has won any major world sporting event since 1968.

SABC sports correspondent



Professor Keith Gregg, Dr Kylie Munyard and Deputy Prime Minister Elect of Iraq (lady).

QUIZ CORNER

GUESS WHO??



Someone you see around the SABC on a regular basis

ANSWER TO LAST MONTHS QUESTION

Professor Keith Gregg

Well done to Dave Hodgson for guessing



The Iraqi delegation

Recent visitors to the SABC

A steady flow of visitors has continued throughout November, including the Deputy Prime Minister elect of Iraq, Terry Enright, Chairman of GRDC, the State Deputy Manger of AusIndustry, Bruce Hobbs, Chief Scientist of WA and the world CEO of Perkin Elmer.

Ten years Ag Biotech in WA: the next phase

Thursday 4th December 2003

Lecture theatre 3.24, Division of Health Sciences, Murdoch University, Perth

Morning Program

Chair: Professor George Stewart, Dean, Faculty of Life and Physical Sciences, UWA

- 10.00 – 10.15 *The first 10 years of the SABC* – Professor Michael Jones
10.15 – 10.30 *Pig Research* - Professor David Hampson
10.30 – 10.45 *Production Animals* - A/Professor Nick Costa
10.45 – 11.00 *Plant Biotechnology Research Group (PBRG)* - Professor Michael Jones
11.00 – 11.15 *The Australian Centre for Necrotrophic Fungal Pathogens (ACNFP)*
Dr Peter Solomon
11.15 – 11.30 *High throughput Genetic Analysis for Agriculture*
Professor Keith Gregg, Director, CHAGA
11.30 – 11.45 *Marker-assisted breeding and gene mapping* – Professor Rudi Appels
11.45 – 12.00 *Saturn Biotech – Providing Assurance for Agriculture*
Mr Mark Pitts, Executive Director, Saturn Biotech Pty Ltd
12.00 – 12.15 *GBA - Five Years at the SABC, and Making a Difference*
Dr Ian Edwards, CEO Grain Biotech Australia

12.30 – 13.45 Lunch provided, posters, networking (Biological Sciences courtyard)

Afternoon Program



14.00 – 16.00 Public Lecture by

Professor Ingo Potrykus, Zurich, Switzerland

Introduced by Professor John Yovich, Vice-Chancellor, Murdoch University

Lecture Chaired by Dr Hendy Cowan (Chair, SABC Management Committee)

From 'Golden' to 'nutritionally optimized' rice - and from a scientific concept to a humanitarian product to reduce malnutrition in developing countries.

(The lecture will be given in two 45 minute halves: the science of developing golden rice; the second issues relating to growing golden rice where it would be of benefit to humanity).

16.00 Drinks

NOTE: numbers limited to 130, pre-registration required, contact Andrea Tongue (9360-2424) or email A.Tongue@murdoch.edu.au

