

Combined Biological Sciences Meeting 2024

Time	Session	Speaker	Title			
8-8:40	Early Career Researcher Development Session (Seminar Room 4)	Dr Julian Heng Emma Stone Professor Mike Bunce	Not all scientists work at the bench: Career Insights			
8-8:30	Registration and Breakfast					
8:45	Welcome	Dr Clayton Fragall & Dr Rina Wong	Opening address			
9:00	Plenary (Theatre Auditorium)	Professor Sue Fletcher	Innovation and impact in rare diseases: RNA therapeutics make sense			
9:40	Dept of Heath WA New Investigator Session (Theatre Auditorium)	Jessica Boulter Francois Rwandamuriye Gayatri Shirolkar Kofi Stevens	Exploring and exploiting the antigenic landscape of mesothelioma for cancer vaccine development Biomaterial Delivered Intra-Operative Immunotherapy: Targeting Cancer Surgery as a Therapeutic Window of Opportunity Patient-Derived Organoids for Liver Cancer Research Improving the Response of Mesothelioma to Immunotherapy with Targeted Epigenetic Editing			
	Fisher Biotech New Investigator Session (Seminar Room 4)	Sandamalie Ranasinghe Van Thai Rina Wong Leon Larcher	An exploration of the anti-cryptosporidial potential of plant extracts Breaking beta-lactam resistance in multi-drug resistant Neisseria gonorrhoeae using an inhibitor of lipid A phosphoethanolamine transferase Characterisation of Collagen Peptides from Farmed Australian Saltwater Crocodile <i>Crocodylus porosus</i> for Biomedical Applications Antisense oligonucleotide mediated reduction of C9ORF72 expansion containing transcripts in iPSC-derived motor neurons			
10:40	Morning Tea					
11:00	Upper and Lower Colonnade	Poster Session				
11:30	Plenary (Theatre Auditorium)	Professor Shokoofeh Shamsi	Unseen architects: How do parasites shape ecosystems?			
12:10	Lunch (sponsored by The Kids Research Institute Australia)					
1:00	Upper and Lower Colonnade	Poster Session				
1:30	Keynote Speaker	Australian Society for Microbiology (Theatre Auditorium)	Cell and Developmental Biology (Seminar Room 4)	Frontiers in Genetics (Seminar Room 1)	Biodiversity (Seminar Room 2)	
		Professor Charlene Kahler	Dr Omar Elaskalani	Dr Vanessa Fear	Dr Chong Wei	
2:00	Student Speakers	Auriane Forn Mohitul Hossain Sithara Dissanayaka Ashley Johnson	Yihe (Claire) Li Jorren Kuster Kunjal Panchal Xiaojun Chen	Desiree Sexauer Amy O'Keeffe Aidan Murphy Anjali Ghimire	Shota Morikawa Preshen Dean Naidoo Holly Buttenworth Keeley McGee	
		Afternoon Tea				
3:30	Keynote Speakers	Dr Lucy Furfaro	Dr Ben Dwyer	Dr Sam Buckberry	Dr Harriet Mills	
		Dr Padraig Strappe	Dr Tara Richman	Dr Silvana Guadieri	Dr Adrian Gleiss	
4:30	Plenary (Theatre Auditorium)	Professor Mike Bunce	From PCR to policy: Effective use of genetic tools in environmental, conservation & pandemic management			
5:10	Scientific Awards	Dr Clayton Fragall & Dr Rina Wong	Scientific award ceremony and closing address			
5:30 - 7:30	Sundowner					

New Investigator Symposia

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Specialist Symposia

Specialist Symposia

Australian Society for Microbiology

Theatre Auditorium

Australian Society for Microbiology			
1:30	Invited Speaker	Professor Charlene Kahler	The Tale of Two Sexually Transmitted Infections: <i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i> and <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>
2:00	Student Speakers	Auriane Form	Molecular and Phenotypic Characterisation of Vancomycin Variable <i>Enterococcus faecium</i> Causing Bacteraemia in Australia
2:15		Mohitul Hossain	Improving fungal effector prediction and enabling resistant cultivar selection by integrating disease phenotyping and pathogen pan-genomics
2:30		Sithara Dissanayaka	Differences in Gut Microbiota Diversity in Preclinical Alzheimer's Disease
2:45		Ashley Johnson	Investigating the Antibiotic Potential of a Novel Folate Enzyme in the Tropical Soil Pathogen <i>Burkholderia pseudomallei</i>
3:00	Afternoon Tea		
3:30	Invited Speaker	Dr Lucy Furfaro	The Opportunists: Group B Streptococcus Colonisation and Infection
4:00	Invited Speaker	Dr Padraig Strappe	Screening Assays for Inhibitors against SARS-CoV-2 Spike Protein and Cell Entry

Cell and Developmental Biology Symposium

Seminar Room 4

Cell and Developmental Biology Symposium			
1:30	Invited Speaker	Dr Omar Elaskalani	Pediatric Cancer Immunotherapy: How Age changes TIME and Treatment Efficacy?
2:00	Student Speakers	Yihe (Claire) Li	Identification of Novel Small-molecule PPI Modulator of Sorting Nexin 10 to Inhibit Osteoclastic Bone Resorption
2:15		Jorren Kuster	Age and anatomical location shape the tumour immune microenvironment in preclinical models of paediatric rhabdomyosarcoma
2:30		Kunjai Panchal	Efficacy of Novel Targeted Therapies to Prevent Relapse in Childhood Leukaemia
2:45		Xiaojun Chen	The regulatory roles of Oxr1 in Osteoclast differentiation and function
3:00	Afternoon Tea		
3:30	Invited Speaker	Dr Ben Dwyer	The Liver Cancer Collaborative: A precision Medicine Platform to Improve Outcomes for Primary Liver Cancer
4:00	Invited Speaker	Dr Tara Richman	Mitochondrial Gene Expression is Required for Platelet Function and Blood Clotting

Frontiers in Genetics

Seminar Room 1

Frontiers in Genetics Symposium			
1:30	Invited Speaker	Dr Vanessa Fear	Harnessing iPSCs and CRISPR for Precision Diagnosis of Genetic Diseases
2:00	Student Speakers	Desiree Sexauer	MicroRNA-1246 as a potential Biomarker for the Detection of Brain Metastasis in Melanoma Patients
2:15		Amy O'Keeffe	Targeting stress in Alzheimer's disease: Evaluating mineralocorticoid receptor modulators and gene variants on microglial function
2:30		Aidan J. Murphy	An Innovative Therapy for Alzheimer's Disease: Reducing DYRK1A Expression using Antisense Oligonucleotides
2:45		Anjali Ghimire	Spatial Transcriptomics Of Dahep Enriched Regions In Pre-Malignant Human Liver Tissue: Early Detection And Risk Stratification For Hepatocellular Carcinoma
3:00 Afternoon Tea			
3:30	Invited Speaker	Dr Sam Buckberry	Unlocking the Power of Epigenetics: Reprogramming Stem Cells and Pioneering Precision Medicine for Cardiometabolic Diseases
4:00	Invited Speaker	Dr Silvana Guadieri	High-Resolution Analysis of the Host Anti-Viral Immune Response

Biodiversity Symposium

Seminar Room 2

Biodiversity Symposium			
1:30	Invited Speaker	Dr Chong Wei	Voices of the Ocean: Marine Bioacoustics and the Challenge of Noise Pollution
2:00	Student Speakers	Shota Morikawa	Compensatory Pathogenicity Mechanisms Expressed in <i>Parastagonospora nodorum</i> Lacking Major Virulence Genes
2:15		Preshen Dean Naidoo	Exploring the Frontier of Tick-Borne Viruses: Metagenomic Insights into <i>Amblyomma triguttatum</i> in Western Australia
2:30		Holly Butterworth	Big frog in a little pond: Residential garden ponds provide conservation benefit in urban landscapes
2:45		Keeley McGee	Child Growth and Dietary Diversity in Rural Timor-Leste
3:00	Afternoon Tea		
3:30	Invited Speaker	Dr Harriet Mills	Science and Conservation at Perth Zoo: an overview of ex-situ conservation programs for threatened species
4:00	Invited Speaker	Dr Adrian Gleiss	Marine Megafauna in the Era of Big Data: Animal Motion Sensing and Machine Learning Provide Novel Insights into Elusive Ocean Giants