

[View online](#)

## School of Chemistry & Molecular Biosciences Newsletter

[SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)MAY  
2016[SCMB  
Facebook  
Page](#)

### MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL

Welcome to our first School of Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences (SCMB) newsletter for 2016. The beginning of every academic year brings change, not least in our student cohort. Fifty new Honours students have joined the School's various program offerings along with a record 24 new admissions to our PhD program. We welcome them all to our vibrant research and teaching community.

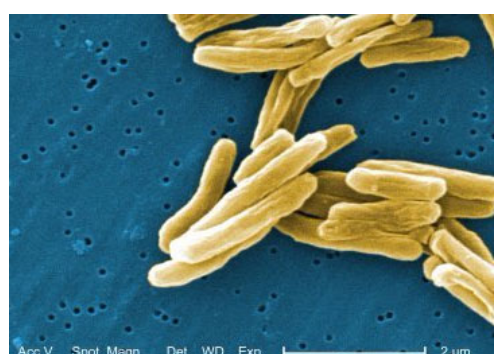
We have also seen the departure through retirement of two of our long-term staff, Associate Professor Leigh Ward and Professor Ross Smith. Both have provided outstanding contributions not only to the School and before that, to the Department of Biochemistry but also to the wider university. We have also said farewell to Valda Miller and Elwyn Oldfield who have retired after many years service to the university and School. Valda and Elwyn have been the coordinators and drivers of the award winning PASS scheme that has helped literally thousands of undergraduate students through their studies. We wish them all well in retirement but also look forward to their ongoing association with the School via our alumni community.

We welcome Dr Michael Landsberg to a new Senior Lecturer position in the School. Michael brings expertise in structural biology and a history of excellent teaching contributions to the School. You can find more details of Michael's research program [here](#). Since our last newsletter, two of our staff were promoted to full Professor so I would like to offer congratulations on behalf of all to Professors Gene Tyson and Gary Schenk.

In this newsletter, we bring you some of the School highlights that have taken place over the last few months, and we also feature a few of our fellow alumni.

Happy reading!

**Paul Young**  
**Professor and Head of School**  
**School of Chemistry & Molecular Biosciences**



### Promising new method inhibits TB-causing bacteria

Scientists at UQ and the University of California San Francisco have [found a new way](#) to inhibit the growth of the bacterium that causes tuberculosis.

**Related story:** [TB still a major international killer](#)

[Full story >>](#)

### International collaboration tackles Ross River virus

An international collaboration to discover and develop therapeutic drugs is set to [find new treatments](#) for Ross River virus.

[Full story >>](#)[mary garson](#)

### Role models and inspirational teachers important for the next generation

Inspirational teachers [make a difference](#) in the future careers of their students, according to [Professor Mary Garson](#), one of only two Australians – and the only living Australian – listed in a prestigious new website published by the Royal Society of Chemistry in the UK.

[Full story >>](#)

### Small but deadly: The chemical warfare of sea slugs

UQ researchers are [studying](#) how brightly coloured sea slugs are slurping deadly chemicals and stockpiling the most toxic compounds for use on their enemies.

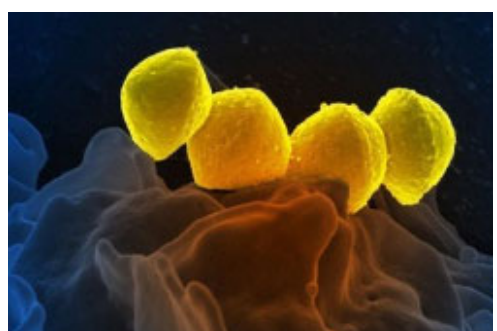
[Full story >>](#)



## "Good" mozzie virus might hold key to fighting human disease

Australian scientists have discovered [a new virus](#) carried by one of the country's most common pest mosquitoes.

[Full story >>](#)



## Scarlet fever making a comeback

An international study led by researchers at the Australian Infectious Diseases Centre has tracked the [re-emergence of a childhood disease](#) which had largely disappeared over the past 100 years.

[Full story >>](#)

## AWARDS AND APPOINTMENTS



A study of abnormal sperm by [Dr Marina Fortes](#) has been [awarded](#) \$38,732 funding in the latest round of the UQ Early Career Researcher Grants Scheme.

[Full story >>](#)



Bachelor of Science student Jessica Von Pein's personal story, dedication to her studies and video-making skills have earned her a ["Student of the Year" prize](#) from an educational company.

[Full story >>](#)



SCMB researchers will tackle significant international health issues following [successful funding](#) in the latest National Health and Medical Research Council round.

[Full story >>](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Bertram Dillon Steele Lecture - 27 June 2016

The annual Bertram Dillon Steele Lecture commemorates UQ's foundation Professor of Chemistry, Bertram Dillon Steele, one of the original four professors appointed to the University. This year, our speaker is Professor Dean Tantillo, from the Department of Chemistry, University of California Davis. For more information about this event, as well as other upcoming events and seminars, please visit our [online calendar](#).

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Read alumni profiles online [here](#).

### [alex metcalf](#)

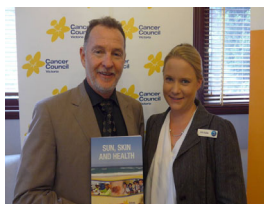


As a Business Analytics Graduate for Vodafone Hutchinson Australia, [Alex Metcalf](#) helps the organisation utilise statistical data insights and analytics to make better decisions. Alex holds a Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Genetics and Molecular Biology from UQ. He says that studies emphasising a data-centric, hypothesis-led approach to problem solving was definitely an advantage when he looked to secure a corporate job.

[Full story >>](#)

Surrounded with dedicated, world class researchers [Ania Wronski](#) participates in a highly motivating and inspiring work environment. Within one week of submitting her PhD in Biochemistry and Cell Biology at UQ, Ania boarded a flight to Boston to begin work at Tufts University, home to a world renowned breast cancer laboratory. As a Postdoctoral Researcher, Ania conducts cutting-edge research on a daily basis.

[Full story >>](#)

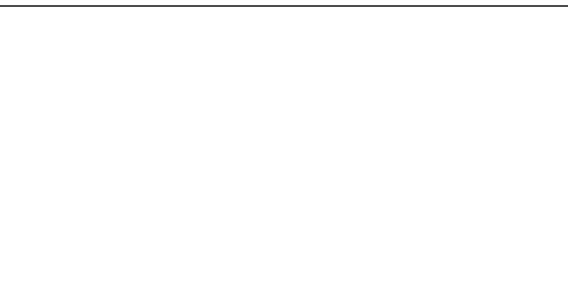


[Julia Stuthe](#) completed her Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Chemistry at UQ and then studied pharmacy in Germany for two years before returning to UQ to complete a PhD. Subsequently, her passion for science communication led her to a career in scientific publishing. Julia has recently accepted the position of Director, Pharmaceutical and Biotech Markets at Springer Nature, based in Germany and commences this role in June 2016.

[Full story >>](#)

Would you like to share your story as a student, researcher, or alumnus? Please [get in touch](#).

School of Chemistry & Molecular Biosciences  
The University of Queensland  
Tel: 07 3365 3925  
Email: [enquiries@scmb.uq.edu.au](mailto:enquiries@scmb.uq.edu.au)  
Web: [scmb.uq.edu.au](http://scmb.uq.edu.au)  
CRICOS Provider No:00025B  
[UQ Privacy Policy & Procedures](#)



You are receiving this email because you are either an alumnus/alumna of UQ, or associated with the UQ School of Chemistry & Molecular Biosciences, or have had a reason to provide us with your details in the past. If you wish to unsubscribe from this e-newsletter, please click the unsubscribe link below.

Authorised by: Faculty of Science, Maintained by: [Science Engagement](#) to a.kapoor@uq.edu.au.

[Unsubscribe](#)