THE LIFE AND TIMES OF LA TROBE’S DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT and ECOLOGY: A REFLECTIVE REVIEW*

*In association with La Trobe 50th Anniversary celebrations.

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ABOUT THE AUTHORS

John Hill came to DEME in mid-1994 having spent 20 years in the Department of Chemistry at the Melbourne Campus and 4 years as a Senior Teaching Fellow in Chemistry at the National University of Singapore. His environmental science interests included ‘pollution control’, ‘green chemistry’ and ‘renewable energies’ and the principles and practices of Sustainable Natural Resource Management and along with ‘chemical education’, he has pursued these interests in retirement.

Phil Suter joined DEME in 1996 when the BSc in Environmental Management and Ecology began teaching second and third year students. Phil had spent over 15 years developing practical experiences in the areas of environmental monitoring, water resource management and
environmental protection within the public sector. He has maintained his interest in integrating research with practical management, although he is internationally recognised as an expert in the taxonomy and systematics of Australian *Ephemeroptera* (mayflies), an area which he continues to develop in retirement.

**PROLOGUE**

The Department of Environmental Management and Ecology (DEME) was founded in 1991 with first year science teaching feeding into the Bachelor of Biological Sciences degree at the Melbourne campus. A Graduate Diploma in Environmental Management was also offered at this time. From this foundation, a unique full science degree was subsequently established at the Albury-Wodonga campus (Bachelor of Environmental Management and Ecology). Throughout the Graduate Diploma and the new degree courses, the basic principles of ‘management of the environment’ and ‘sustainable development’, as defined by the UN Resolution on ‘Sustainable Development’ - stated as ‘Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, coupled with an awareness as to how sustainable development can be achieved by ‘economic growth’, ‘social inclusion’ and ‘environmental conservation’, were all addressed. We have attempted to show in this review how these broad principles of sustainable development have underpinned and informed the teaching, learning and research of DEME from inception so that it is, albeit in hindsight, regarded as one of the leading departments of its kind in Australasian academia and thus has a record to be proud of and worthy of formal and lasting recognition.

**OVERVIEW, INFRASTRUCTURE and RESOURCES**

The Wodonga campus of La Trobe came into being in 1991 following a merger of the University with the Wodonga Institute of Tertiary Education (WITE) established in 1989. The guiding principle and rationale for the new regional campus of La Trobe was to provide quality higher education to those from local communities, which in practical terms meant that Albury-Wodonga students could undertake a full 3-year degree course locally, which would be equivalent to a similar course offered at the main campus in Bundoora. This admirable vision created many immediate challenges in terms of infrastructure and facilities, since although the campus had a 26 ha ‘greenfield site’ in west Wodonga adjacent to Wodonga Institute of TAFE (WIOT), there was no buildings thereon and so the campus did not have an identifiable physical presence. This lack of a physical identity was not the only impediment to the establishment of the Wodonga campus. It was well known in the region that Charles Sturt University had a developing campus already established at Thurgoona, some 5 km NE of Albury and also had a city centre presence at which some of its courses were delivered. In addition, successive Albury City Councils had enthusiastically embraced CSU and had accorded Albury ‘University City’ status. By contrast, it was never envisaged that the La Trobe Wodonga campus would have a city presence and its close alignment with WIOT in the early years gave the impression to the local community that it was in fact just an extension of ‘the TAFE’. It was a lingering frustration that successive Wodonga Councils did little to alleviate this community impression and showed reluctance to credit Wodonga as a ‘University City’, instead opting to label it as a ‘Learning City’ in the 1990’s embracing La Trobe University, WIOT and Wodonga Community College. Although the image of La Trobe in Wodonga has improved over the 27 years of its existence, it still does not enjoy the
same status in the local community as does its counterpart ‘across the river’. Competition for enrolments by the two border universities in ‘Business’, ‘Nursing’, ‘Psychology’ and to some extent ‘Environmental Management’ was also an impediment. Fortunately the environmental management course offered by CSU was aligned with ‘park ranger’ training rather than management of the environment based on knowledge of scientific principles.

Despite being well aware of these initial impediments, the University established five ‘foundation’ departments/divisions: Business, Community Social Science, Environmental Management and Ecology (DEME), Psychology and Nursing. These were aligned with the Faculties of Law and Management (FLM), Humanities and Social Sciences (HUSS), Science, Technology and Engineering (FSTE) and Health Sciences (FHS), respectively. The Nursing Division was accommodated in WIOT and the other four units were accommodated on the upper level of ‘The Glass House’ (1 McKoy Street), which was formally the headquarters of the Albury-Wodonga Development Corporation and latterly, the headquarters and distribution centre of the ‘Border Mail.’ In addition, La Trobe made an agreement with WIOT to share its library facilities and it established an annex on the WIOT campus to accommodate the Head of Campus office suites, a meeting/conference room and a campus book shop. Initially the science programme presented by DEME was for first year only with students progressing to the Bundoora campus to complete their science degree. To facilitate this programme, the University rented lecture theatre and science laboratories from WIOT to service the requirements of DEME relating to delivery of its Year 1 courses. It also provided a ‘portable’ situated on the WIOT campus to meet the needs of DEME in relation to its research laboratory needs. La Trobe also had a stake in the limited number of on-site student accommodation units on the WIOT campus which were managed by the latter on a pro-rata basis and the student amenities centre (known as ‘The Hangar’) was jointly owned by La Trobe and WIOT. Thus, in large part, the initial infrastructure of the Wodonga campus was WIOT based but constructive cooperation between the two institutions allowed La Trobe to develop its master plan for an independent campus to progress expeditiously.

In mid-1995, the physical identity of the campus became a reality with the completion of two (foundation) buildings on the McKoy St. site – Building 3 (Teaching Building) and Building 4 (Academic Building). The latter was to later be named ‘The Michael J. Osborne Building’ to honour the efforts of the Vice Chancellor of the period to establish regional campuses. Subsequent to the move from ‘The Glass House’ to Building 4 on the new campus, DEME was accommodated on the ground floor and in addition to staff and higher degree student offices, had a purpose built, spacious research laboratory with adjacent preparation facilities to supply and service field excursions. Faculty funding was made available for provision of essential equipment such as microscopes for this laboratory and later a UV/VIS spectrophotometer was added. Subsequently, DEME was provided with a storage facility located on the campus perimeter for storage of boats, nets and other large bulky items required for the diverse range of field excursions. Faculty funding was made available for provision of essential equipment such as microscopes for this laboratory and later a UV/VIS spectrophotometer was added. Subsequently, DEME was provided with a storage facility located on the campus perimeter for storage of boats, nets and other large bulky items required for the diverse range of field excursions (both undergraduate and graduate) which it supported. Building 6 (Health Sciences and the Main Lecture Theatre) came into existence in the late 1990’s and the magnificent two-level David Mann Library opened in 2002. The latter was named in honour of David Mann (1928 – 2012), who was a founding member of Wodonga Campus Regional Advisory Board and sponsor of the Jonathon Mann Memorial Lecture series which he established to pay tribute to his grandfather who was a pioneer of a movement to preserve the Murray River for the benefit of future generations. In the early 2000’s, ‘Building 8’ became a reality and accommodated mainly the Murray Darling Freshwater Research Centre (MDFRC) but also, two science laboratories were allocated to DEME to address its need for facilities for Year 1 science laboratory teaching. This building was
subsequently named ‘The Nancy Millis Building’ to honour the La Trobe Chancellor of the period and Chair of the MDFRC Board and who, in addition, was also a world authority in microbiological research. Post 2005, some additional (portable) teaching facilities were provided adjacent to Building 3 along with some long-awaited ‘on campus’ student accommodation. A campus coffee shop aptly named ‘The 3 Degrees’ and an on-site COOP Book Shop also emerged. During this period, the student amenities centre – ‘The Hangar’ was upgraded and extended to include gymnasium facilities and a most welcome bar facility.

In 2000, negotiations commenced between La Trobe and CSIRO to relocate the Murray Darling Freshwater Research Centre (MDFRC) from Charles Sturt University-Thurgoona to the Wodonga Campus. With the major proportion of the necessary funding being provided by the University and supplementary funding supplied by the Commonwealth, CSIRO and Wodonga City Council, a purpose-built, state-of-the-art facility (Building 8) was constructed to effect this relocation in February, 2003. Since MDFRC is the main source of scientific data on the ‘health’ of the Murray Darling ecosystem which informs and influences policies of the Murray Darling Basin Authority, this relocation was a major coup for La Trobe and a boost for the Wodonga campus, both in terms of enhancing its overall image and its community collaboration and outreach profile. It was of particular importance to DEME, since it facilitated collaborative research projects in conjunction with co-supervision of honours and higher degree students.

Perhaps a unique feature – and many would argue – a defining feature of the Wodonga campus was the marquee set up initially on the WIOT campus and later on the Ceremonial Lawn of the McKoy St. campus to accommodate the annual Graduation Ceremony which was held in March. This practice had to be discontinued from 2001 due to OH&S concerns for public safety in addition to the possibility of inclement (hot) weather and these ceremonies have since been held in the McAuley Arts Centre of Wodonga Catholic College.

Facilities for staff and students of the new Wodonga campus from 1995 onwards up until about 2000 again relied on cooperation with WIOT. La Trobe students had access to all TAFE facilities including ‘The Hanger’, the cafeteria, the child-minding centre and the (TAFE) library. Also, key student services such as ‘accommodation allocation’, ‘counselling’ and ‘financial services’ were provided by WIOT. Campus security services and mail distribution was also provided by WIOT.

However, after five years of its physical presence, ‘Wodonga’ was a fully functional self-sufficient regional campus of the University – offering not only a wide variety of courses relevant to ‘local community needs’ but essential services such as student administration, on-line study centres, academic skills unit, English/second language (ESL) assistance, counselling, indigenous support and chaplaincy were fully operational and the addition of the David Mann Library in 2002, essentially gave the campus ‘university appearance and status’. However, although it had demonstrated its viability albeit with hidden financial restraints and enacted its regional mission, it was yet to be fully accepted and integrated into the Albury-Wodonga community and it had to work hard to continue to be relevant, viable and attractive in an ever-changing and evolving higher education environment.

The ultimate measure of the quality of an institution is not only based on the quality of its infrastructure but also on the quality of its staff. In this respect, it is apparent on reflection that Wodonga campus was blessed with dedicated staff, both academic and support staff, who embraced the ideals of creating a viable teaching and learning environment so as to give students
the best opportunities for advancement. It is important to note that a high percentage of students at the Wodonga campus have been the first members of their families to attend university and also many are mature age students. These students typically require considerable assistance to adapt to a higher education environment and many have additional emotional and disability needs. In general, Wodonga staff have continuously dealt effectively with these special needs of students and thus Wodonga campus has widely been recognized as a ‘student friendly’ environment and the relatively small ‘class numbers’ have translated to students receiving individual attention throughout their course of study.

In this context, La Trobe appointed a group of highly qualified foundation academic staff most of which had a PhD as a primary qualification, thereby establishing a platform for future supervision of higher degree students. These staff were Dr. Roger Croome (Reader – later designated Associate Professor), Dr. Gerry Closs, Dr. Susan Lawler and Dr. Percival Thomas (Lecturers). In addition, Peter Taylor was appointed as Assistant Lecturer and Gertrude Hotzel as a Research Associate working with Roger Croome and funded by the Land and Water Research Development Corporation. In addition, WIOT adjunct staff were appointed on an annual basis to deliver some Year 1 courses: Karen Stacey, Yvonne Greenhall and Michelle Draper (Science Laboratory Supervisors); Michael Murphy, initially followed by Gordon Aisbett (Chemistry), Ian Lack (Mathematics) and John Hills (Statistics).

Subsequent DEME appointments were Dr. Dennis Black (1990), Dr. John Hill (Reader/Associate Professor) (1994), Dr. Cath Meathrel (Lecturer) (1995), Dr. Phil Suter (Lecturer), Dr. Helen Wallace (Lecturer) (1996), Dr. Peter Priddmore (Lecturer) (1998), Martin Fussell (Lecturer) (1999), Dr. Warren Paul (Lecturer) (2003), Dr. Ewen Silvester (Senior Lecturer) (2003) and Dr. Alexei Rowles (Lecturer) (2013). Nick May was appointed to the long overdue laboratory technician position in (2004) to manage the newly established science teaching laboratories in The Nancy Millis Building. During their careers, Susan Lawler, Ewen Silvester and Phil Suter were promoted to Associate Professor.

Gerry Closs and Helen Wallace resigned in 1997 to take up a lectureship position in zoology at Otago University, Dunedin, NZ and the University of the Sunshine Coast, respectively. Percy Thomas resigned in 2002, Peter Taylor resigned in 2003, Roger Croome retired in 2009 and Phil Suter retired in 2013. John Hill was appointed PVC/Head of (Wodonga) campus from mid-2000 to the end of 2005 and retired in early 2006. As a result of a ‘University restructure’, Dennis Black, Martin Fussell and Peter Priddmore were made redundant at the end of 2014. From 2015 onwards, Susan Lawler, Ewen Silvester, Warren Paul and Alexei Rowles were absorbed into the new Department of Ecology, Environment and Evolution/School of Life Sciences/College of Science, Health & Engineering. Post retirement, John Hill was awarded Emeritus Professor status and Phil Suter was awarded Emeritus Scholar status in recognition of their outstanding record of commitment to teaching and learning, research and service to the University during their tenure.


From 2003 onwards, DEME was augmented and enriched by the presence of MDFRC on the Wodonga campus which was an affiliate of CSIRO founded in 1986 with David Mitchell as its
first Director. He was succeeded by Terry Hillman in 1994 and then by Ben Gawne in 2002. Terry Hillman had a crucial role in planning and procuring funding for the relocation of MDFRC to La Trobe - Wodonga. At that time he was Chair of the Wodonga campus Regional Advisory Board and was an Honorary Professor of the University in addition to being an 'Honorary Associate' in DEME. Also, he was awarded an Honorary DSc by La Trobe in 2003 for his research into the sustainability of the Murray-Darling ecosystem. The senior MDFRC personnel who relocated to the Wodonga facility included Ben Gawne (Director), Dr. Darren Baldwin, John Hawking, Dr. Paul Humphries, Dr. Daryl Nielson, Dr. Rod Oliver, John Pengelly, Dr. Gavin Rees and Garth Watson. MDFRC had an extensive specialized library of textbooks, journal runs and specialist reports which was amalgamated with the collections of the David Mann Library. Estelle Oliver, who managed the MDFRC library, subsequently transferred to DML staff. Rosie Busuttil and Rhonda Sinclair continued as Administrative Assistants in MDFRC post relocation.

Over the subsequent decade, MDFRC suffered the effects of ‘downsizing’ resulting from reduced Commonwealth funding of CSIRO and several of the staff who had moved to the Wodonga facility were made redundant. However, in recent years, MDFRC staffing has increased. Its present Director is Professor Nick Bond and the current senior staff are: Ben Gawne (Part-time), Dr. Paul McInerney, Dr. Daryl Nielson, John Pengelly, Dr. Amina Price, Dr. Gavin Rees, Dr. Michael Shackleton, Dr. Rick Stoffels, Garth Watson and Kyle Weatherman. Rachel Gorman is currently ‘Centre Manager’.

In terms of infrastructure and human resources, DEME was established on ‘firm foundations’ despite not having a dedicated physical location until 1995. However, student numbers were never high enough to enable DEME to be financially sustainable. In the initial years, the Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering (FSTE) subsidised the financial position of the Department but in the early 2000’s, this financial responsibility moved to the School of Life Sciences, which then became responsible for the viability of DEME. So, although at this time, DEME had well-established degree and Graduate Diploma programmes together with steadily increasing Honours and Higher Degree enrolments, the on-going low student numbers in second and third year (less than 20) – in part due to the ‘millennium drought years’ (1997 – 2003), the financial resources of the School of Life Sciences continued to be stressed. Over the period 2013 – 14, the University unilaterally restructured in accordance with its signature ‘Future Ready’ plan, the core of which involved condensing the existing five faculties into two colleges: ‘Science, Health and Engineering’ (SHE) and ‘Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce’ (ASC). Since DEME had a long history of financial instability, it was, unfortunately, a casualty of this mega restructure. Despite highly credible quantitative evidence being put forward to support its viable future, it ceased to exist as of the end of 2014. As a consequence, the Wodonga campus was deprived of one of its well-established and highly regarded academic departments and no 3-year science degree courses have been offered at the campus since. The status and integrity of the Wodonga campus have inevitably diminished as a result of this loss and an era of excellence in tertiary science education at this campus has come to an abrupt end.

THE TEACHING and LEARNING PERSPECTIVE

Since the twin cities of Albury and Wodonga straddle the Murray River, the region and its communities both historically and currently have depended upon its preservation to establish a foundation for a sustainable future. Thus, it was opportune and appropriate for the University not
only to establish a foundation science program to feed biological sciences and chemistry courses at the Bundoora campus but also to present unique scientific offerings to the local community. To enact this initiative Roger Croome was appointed Reader and Head of (DEME) in 1991. Previously he had been a Senior Scientist in the Rural Water Commission and was a recognised authority on freshwater ecology and a specialist in blue-green algal blooms in lakes, rivers and streams. He was also well connected with many Government Agencies responsible for water and land management based in the Albury/Wodonga region. He had previously been involved with the Albury-Wodonga Development Corporation (AWDC) in assessing the impact of the rapid development of Albury-Wodonga region on the Murray River.

As an early initiative, he established a Graduate Diploma course in Environmental Management in 1993, which was designed for those seeking employment or who already were employed in the broad natural resources sector. Its aim was to provide graduates who can not only make sound management decisions which have beneficial consequences for the sustainability of the environment and for the quality of life in the region but also who can explain and justify these decisions within the local communities and particularly among the local indigenous communities. Entry requirements were 'flexible' in application, ranging from holding a degree or diploma in a relevant scientific or technological discipline or a qualification proven to be equivalent to a degree or diploma. In some cases, a demonstrated history of employment at an appropriate level in an area of environmental significance, was acceptable. This course was not offered unless the intake was 10 or greater.


The coordinators of this course were Roger Croome and Percy Thomas who delivered the ‘Ecology’ and ‘Waste Management/Catchment Management’ lectures respectively. A wide variety of ‘guest lecturers’ gave presentations of their specialist topics. Assessment was by assignments, essays, reports and seminar presentations. A minor thesis of between 15 and 20000 words describing research on a selected topic was assessed by the supervisor. Throughout the course there were several ‘field visits/demonstrations’ conducted on weekends. Examples included ‘catchment management strategies in the Ovens River basin: Ovens River levy scheme for reduction of flood risk in Wangaratta: Albury Water Treatment plant: management strategies of land-fill solid waste sites: observation and characterisation of algal blooms in local rivers and lakes and demonstration of water quality measurements. Over its 8 – year lifespan, 50 students graduated and these are listed in Addendum 1.

Also, in 1993, Roger Croome, as Head of DEME, provided evidence to the University that there was sufficient interest and support within the local community for the University to establish a full 3-year science degree at the Albury-Wodonga campus and thus a unique course BSc (Environmental Management and Ecology) was approved to be offered only at the Albury-Wodonga campus. This would not only provide a local three year undergraduate degree which addressed environmental issues relevant to the local community but would also provide an opportunity to address the very low tertiary entry from North East Victoria. Through this degree, the University would demonstrate its commitment to the local community that courses offered at
its regional campuses address ‘local needs’ and ‘fill gaps’ in their tertiary education profiles. Most importantly, the latter would allow for Honours and Higher Degree programmes to be co-established. Thus, DEME students could enrol in the Biological Sciences stream or in the Environmental Management and Ecology stream. The former would allow them to continue studies at the Bundoora campus from Year 2 onwards leading to a wide variety of science degrees, whilst the latter continued at the Wodonga campus in the Environmental Management programme. Based on his previous professional experience in freshwater management, Dr. Croome was ideally suited to design this unique degree course in environmental management based on ecological, conservational and sustainability premises and subsequent staff appointments, which included Dr. Gerry Closs, Percy Thomas, Dr. Phil Suter and Dr. Susan Lawler, Dr. Dennis Black and Dr. Cath Meathrel and their specialist interests in water ecology, waste management, biological monitoring and environmental law and conservation biology, respectively ensured that all the necessary courses and units for the environmental management degree course could be developed and delivered.

Offered initially in 1995 at both first and second year level, the BSc in Environmental Management and Ecology in Year 1 was a general biological sciences course consisting of eight subjects: ‘Animal Diversity, Ecology and Behaviour’, ‘Organisation and Function of Cells and Organisms’, ‘Genetics, Human Biology and Evolution’, ‘Plant Science’, ‘Chemistry’ and ‘Statistics for the Life Sciences’ plus two optional subjects selected from ‘Applications of Chemistry’, ‘Physical Aspects of the Environment’, ‘Processes that shaped the Earth’ and ‘Earth Environments and Resources’. All of these subjects had common content with corresponding subjects delivered at the Bundoora (Melbourne) campus and also had common assessment procedures. It was fortunate that from the beginning, all these subjects except Geology were delivered by ‘face to face’ teaching. In addition, first year students enrolled at Albury-Wodonga Campus in the Biological Sciences and Environmental Management and Ecology degree courses were required to complete a first semester Chemistry unit, either Basic Chemistry (CHE1BAS) or General Chemistry (CHE1GEN). Basic Chemistry was designed for students who had not studied chemistry at the VCE or HSC levels or who had little or no prior exposure to chemistry. Students enrolled in General Chemistry were expected to have studied chemistry at year eleven or have completed year twelve studies in the subject. Within DEME the teaching of these subjects presented some problems as both of these subjects were taught as one cohort. In terms of content, teaching the combined groups did not pose difficulties since the two subjects covered the same topics and the assessment procedures were identical. However, it was recognised that the students who had little familiarity with chemistry in the past would need a bridging introduction that would enable them to begin their studies with some confidence and then maintain the pace with which the subject unfolded over the first semester. To meet this need, all students, particularly those enrolled in Basic Chemistry, were offered an intensive three day chemistry introduction in the week prior to the commencement of the first semester. The introductory lectures and tutorials covered essential chemistry concepts required to understand the more advanced concepts inherent in the Basic and General Chemistry courses. These basic chemistry concepts were reinforced over the first six weeks of lectures in General Chemistry, supplemented with additional tutorials which were conducted outside of the normal timetable at weekends. Via this lead-in strategy, it was evident that all students commenced the Year 1 chemistry unit with the same level of ‘basic’ chemistry knowledge.

‘Statistics for Life Sciences’ was offered from 2002 to replace the mathematics units initially delivered by WIOT. This was an introduction to statistics and was compulsory for all
students continuing with the BSc in Environmental Management and Ecology. Similar to the Chemistry unit, many of the students had a very basic, if any, understanding of statistics and this course was specifically designed to reveal the importance of statistics to the units in Ecology which they would study in subsequent years.

Whereas all Year 1 science units at Wodonga had privileged teaching and learning delivery modes, ‘Geology’ was initially delivered by video tapes of lectures forwarded by Bundoora geology lecturers and one of these visited the Wodonga campus on a fortnightly basis to conduct tutorials with the geology group. The quality of these tapes was generally very poor and participating students complained of ‘being disadvantaged’ compared to their counterparts who received ‘face-to-face’ teaching. In later years, geology lectures were delivered ‘live’ from Bundoora via ‘video-conferencing’ but still participating students preferred ‘face-to-face’ teaching. From 1999, Martin Fussell delivered both Year 1 units of Chemistry and Geology and he also introduced a very enlightening field excursion for Geology students which was very well attended and received. As a result of his enthusiasm and commitment, geology enrolments markedly increased. From 2009, a new ‘cross-campus’ subject: ‘Climate, Sustainability and Society’ was offered as an option to students enrolled in DEME and Business. This course encompassed the economic, scientific and sociological aspects of climate change and environmental sustainability.

Year 2 of the Environmental Management and Ecology stream consisted of six units: ‘Theoretical and Applied Ecology’, ‘Origin and Evolution of Australian Biota’, ‘Ecological Genetics and Evolutionary Ecology’, ‘Environmental Pollution Control’, ‘Water and Air Quality’ and ‘Biostatistics’. A wide range of environmental science principles and practices was addressed including: Overview of the Australian biophysical environment and the ecological principles which govern the response to environmental change and identification of the major environmental pollutants, particularly those associated with the hydrosphere, together with strategies which can be applied to promote their reduction. ‘Biostatistics’ built on the introductory unit in first year and it was designed to be more scientifically orientated with many examples taken from the natural environment. This unit was a major tool for the quantitative measurement of ‘environmental health’ and for future research at third, Honours and postgraduate years.

The Year 2 course was augmented and greatly enriched by several ‘field excursions’ which extended over 4 – 5 days: Mt. Buffalo and later Mt. Hotham – ‘alpine ecology’ theme – coordinated by Gerry Closs initially and later by Dennis Black and Ewen Silvester: ‘Australian outback – arid zone ecology’ theme – coordinated by Peter Pridmore, Dennis Black and Ewen Silvester and ‘Healesville sanctuary’ – ‘conservation biology’ – coordinated by Peter Pridmore. The Ecological Genetics and Evolutionary Ecology unit required each student to collect a taxonomic collection of a phylogenetically related group of animals or plants. All material was curated appropriately and this collection was assessed. In later years, a field-based excursion to the Strathbogie Ranges supported the Highlands Land Care group and produced a taxonomic report on the biodiversity of the area. The students also presented their results in written and verbal formats to the Land Care group. This excursion was coordinated by Susan Lawler. The ‘Environmental Pollution Control’ and ‘Air and Water Quality’ units also included field-based practicals which were linked to local pollution sources and their management. These field trips were undertaken within the practical schedule. All these field-based practical components were assessed individually with reports being prepared using standard scientific publication formats.

In 2012, DEME established a field-based unit to be offered to second and third year students within all science degrees at the University. This unit covered areas of terrestrial plant
and animal ecology, aquatic ecology, water chemistry and statistically-based experimental
design. Students worked in groups and had to produce a written assignment on the areas in which
they undertook experimental tasks. The main presenters included Ewen Silvester, Dennis Black,
Peter Pridmore, Alexi Rowles and Phil Suter.

Year 3 of the Environmental Management and Ecology stream was first offered in 1996
and consisted of four units: ‘Sustainable Resource Management’, ‘Waste Management and
Treatment’, ‘Conservation Biology and Environmental Law’ and ‘Environmental Assessment’.
The first of these units not only built on the basic principles of environmental management
introduced in Year 2 but discussed ‘new knowledge’ derived from recent research on how the
‘health’ of catchments is assessed in terms of land and water usage and how catchments can be
restored and rejuvenated in conjunction with realistic assessments of ‘environmental
sustainability’. The second of these units discussed factors that contribute to the production and
accumulation of waste and identification of waste products in conjunction with basic principles of
‘integrated waste management’ leading to ‘waste minimisation’ via maximising ‘recycling’
strategies. ‘Conservation Biology and ‘Environmental Law’ provided an understanding of natural
resource management within an ecological context, by consideration of the following topics:
conservation biology, identification and restoration of threatened ecosystems, management of
invading or pest species, design of ecosystem reserves, single species and whole community
conservation, managing community change and succession, environmental policy and legislation,
the structure of environmental law in Australia and the management of renewable resources.
‘Environmental Assessment’ provided an understanding of the principles and practices of
environmental impact assessment, concepts and principles of toxicology, risk analysis, hazard
analysis, a practical ‘Geographical Information System’ (GIS) course, environmental audits and
impact assessment studies. A ten-week work-placement (two days per week) equivalent to 160
hours in local industry was a compulsory component of this unit. Students worked as bone-fide
employees of businesses associated with ‘environmental management’ such as water authorities,
waste water treatment plants, catchment management authorities, local councils and Government
departments such as the EPA and Ministry of Agriculture, all of which had facilities in the Albury-
Wodonga region. This component was coordinated by Phil Suter.

The Year 3 course was augmented and greatly enriched by several extended ‘field
excursions’: Werribee Waste Water Treatment plant – coordinated by Percy Thomas and Phil
Suter: Philip Island – ‘marine ecology’ theme – coordinated by Cath Meathrel and Phil Suter and
Dubbo Zoo – ‘The role of zoos in conservation’ theme – coordinated by Cath Meathrel. The Philip
Island marine ecology practical was a group-based project with each group of 4-5 students
working together in forming their hypotheses, determining appropriate methods to answer the
questions and undertaking field collections, identification of fauna and flora and writing up a group
collaborative scientific report which was assessed similar to a mini Honours thesis. The normal
practicals included investigating the impact of urban development, dam operations and water
quality changes in local streams and all were assessed.

This 3-year course provided a firm platform and a gateway to further study and thus DEME
consistently had a strong annual Honours enrolment which led to an equally impressive higher
degree enrolment. The Honours programme consisted of an initial literature review which was
assessed, a series of theme-based lectures, a series of assessed assignments (2 to 3), a final
seminar and a thesis. The thesis was assessed by an external examiner, often from within the
School of Life Sciences, to maintain an equivalent standard across the school and an internal
examiner. If any conflict arose from these assessments, a third independent examiner was appointed. The thesis accounted for 70% of the final result.

A list of BSc Environmental Management and Ecology graduates and Honours graduates is given in Addendum 1.

The students within DEME had an advantage of small class sizes that enabled individual attention by academic and technical staff. The dedication of the lecturing staff at Wodonga meant that all students became known individually and had the opportunity to integrate into a bonded group of staff and students. The lecturers met their students on a daily basis, not only in formal lectures, tutorials and practical classes but also in the surroundings of the much smaller campus. Because of the small class sizes compared to those of the major campus in Melbourne, students felt at ease in asking questions and seeking advice and assistance both within and without formal contact sessions.

Although the DEME degree course was generally recognised as one of the most successful programmes offered at the Wodonga campus throughout its quarter-century history, from 2005 onwards, enrolments declined further due to a ‘Conservation and Wildlife Management’ course being established in the School of Life Sciences at the Bundoora campus, which attracted students interested in environmental management to the Melbourne campus at the expense of enrolments in the Bachelor of Science in Environmental Management and Ecology.

A number of sponsored awards, scholarships and prizes were made available to EME students in three categories: ‘Campus-wide’, ‘Faculty based’ and ‘EME based’. The first category consisted of the ‘La Trobe University Albury-Wodonga campus medal’ – awarded to a high-achieving final year student who had made a significant contribution to the Albury-Wodonga community through study or extra-curricular activity: the ‘Vice Chancellor’s Undergraduate Scholarship’, awarded to commencing students at a regional campus: the ‘Albury City Community Leadership Prize’, awarded to talented students from the Albury-Wodonga region who were studying at the Albury-Wodonga campus and who had demonstrated their commitment to campus life and community leadership, the ‘Lisa Malone Scholarship’, awarded to a student with evidence of commitment to social development in Australia or overseas and the ‘Wodonga City Learning Award’, awarded to a student residing in Wodonga who had demonstrated superior academic achievements and a demonstrated commitment to life-long learning.

‘Faculty Prizes/Awards’ consisted of the ‘Dean’s Medal’ for the highest achieving EME student of the year and the ‘Dean’s Honour List’ – the latter included students from each of the 3 years of study.

Numerous ‘sponsored’ EME scholarships and prizes were available – the most prestigious of these being the Albury City Student Scholarship – awarded to talented students from the Albury-Wodonga region who had studied at the Albury-Wodonga campus in DEME in their final year of study and who had demonstrated their commitment to the future of their chosen profession within the local community and the ‘Hamilton-Smith Rotary scholarship for Environmental Studies’ awarded to a student studying Year 2 of the BSc Environmental Management and Ecology. From 2003 onwards, the ‘Hillman Scholarship’ was available for LTU and CSU commencing Honours students whose project was based on ‘freshwater’ research. In addition, numerous corporate, commercial and community-sponsored student prizes were awarded annually, which reflected the collaboration and respect which these organisations had for DEME throughout its lifetime.
A list of awardees is given in Addendum 2.

From 2000 onwards, ‘Teaching and Learning’ became a major focus of the University’s senior management team with the intent of enhancing student retention rates. A new position was created ‘Pro-Vice Chancellor Teaching and Learning’ along with each faculty appointing a Director of Teaching and Learning. Over succeeding years, many teaching and learning strategies were implemented University-wide. One of the more recent of these was initiated in 2008 whereby all curricula were redesigned to include a focus on ‘Graduate Capabilities’, aimed to provide graduates with a broader set of skills that would assist them to transition successfully into the workforce upon graduation. ‘Graduate Capabilities’ involved communication skills, incorporating above average competency in writing, speaking, numeracy and computing, independent thinking skills, incorporating confidence in inquiry after researching information, critical thinking and problem solving, teamwork and professional ethics. It was also recognised that there would be skills specific to a particular discipline that might need to be emphasized. Teams were formed within each Faculty to develop clear directions to assist all disciplines to incorporate the ‘Capabilities’ into their teaching curricula to a meaningful and substantial level and after much discourse, modification and refinement, the plan was rolled out in 2012. Martin Fussell should be highly commended for his role in redesigning DEME curricula to embrace incorporation of ‘Graduate Capabilities’ in this novel teaching and learning plan.

Simultaneously with the development of ‘Graduate Capabilities’ there was a directive for courses across the Faculty to embrace ‘Blended Learning’ teaching methods, the intent of which was to decrease the dependence of students on the ‘time-honoured’ inflexible system of timetabled lectures and to allow for more flexible online learning facilities. It was envisaged that when students had to become personally involved in developing their understanding of the subject content that their understanding would be more thorough than when sitting passively in lectures or indeed missing lectures altogether. Students would be required to access learning resources and activities at their leisure online at home or in computer laboratories that would substantially cover the content of the subject. It was incumbent upon subject coordinators to provide online ‘essential content’ material of a standard that would comprehensively substitute for attendance at lectures. In addition, a substantial part of the assessment program was also established through online learning tutorials and assignments. In DEME, considerable effort was made to ensure that students would continue to have access to lecturers either directly or through timetabled tutorials that would address particular difficulties. To allow students sufficient time to attend to online activities each week, lecture time and the amount of time spent in practical sessions was reduced. The overall student reaction to these new initiatives was ‘mixed’ but continued access to lecturing staff was highly praised.

In the context of raising the profile of ‘teaching and learning’ within the University, from 2005 onwards, the University introduced awards for lecturing staff for demonstrated excellence in teaching and learning. Susan Lawler won several of these awards, some of which had a monetary value: 2007, ‘Dean’s Award’ for teaching excellence in the Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering ($2500): 2008, La Trobe University citation for ‘Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning’ for outstanding and sustained teaching that engages, motivates and inspires student enthusiasm in genetics, evolution and conservation: 2008, ‘Vice Chancellor’s Award for Teaching Excellence’ for a strong record in curriculum development and an outstanding record as an inspiring class teacher ($5000): 2008, Citation for ‘Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning’ from the Australian Learning and Teaching Council for creating engaging and inspiring learning
experiences for students at a regional campus which harness their natural curiosity in genetics, evolution and conservation ($10,000): 2012, third best ‘Teacher of the Year’ from LTU on the ‘Lecturer of the Year’ on the Australian Universities website: 2012, ‘Outstanding Teacher’ citation on the ‘Teaching and Learning’ page of LTU website: 2013, ‘Staff Award’ for contributions to achieving the goals of the strategic plan in the area of ‘Community Engagement and Partnerships’: 2014, LTU Citation for ‘Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning’ – for development of a unique, media-rich cross-disciplinary approach to online teaching, facilitating flexible, engaged, independent learning, as exemplified in the subject, ‘Science in the Media’ and in 2015, nominated for La Trobe Student Union staff award.

It is evident that over its lifespan, DEME had progressively developed a culture of excellence in ‘teaching and learning’ endorsed by sustainable enrolments in the EME degree, consistent strong enrolments into Honours, teaching and learning awards received by staff and consistently high praise accorded to staff by students for their ‘care and concern’ for their needs, particularly those who were mature-aged, had physical disabilities, learning difficulties or were of indigenous descent. The academic stature and status of DEME from foundation was never in doubt but unfortunately, it was never financially sustainable.

THE RESEARCH PERSPECTIVE

From the outset, it was envisaged that the teaching and learning function of DEME would be empowered by research. The geographical location of the Wodonga campus effectively meant that DEME had a ‘natural’ research laboratory on its ‘doorstep’ with three major river systems (Murray, Ovens and King) nearby along with their associated wetlands and catchments, together with a local community which for generations has depended on the health of these river systems and the surrounding land masses for its well-being and prosperity. Add to this asset an alpine region to the SE (Bogong High Plains, Mt. Buffalo and Mt. Buller) and semi-arid regions to the West and the scope and need for ‘natural resource management’ research in the local region is self-evident. These research opportunities for DEME, particularly in freshwater ecology, were further enhanced by the integration of the MDFRC into the University in 2003.

Despite greater levels of teaching and administrative duties compared to their counterparts at the city campus, DEME academic staff from the outset were ‘research active’ and highly motivated and passionate about their chosen specialities and were supervising Honours and higher degree students from 1995 onwards.

Dennis Black was passionate about the taxonomy and ecology of Australian millipedes, reptiles and amphibians. He was also interested in terrestrial invertebrate ecology in alpine habitats and their role in pollination of alpine plants. In the wake of Wodonga having been exposed to bush fire threats over many decades, he was exploring the impact of fire on mammal, reptile and invertebrate communities in the Albury-Wodonga region.

Gerry Closs was passionate about Australian freshwater fish, their ecology, habitat and feeding regimes. Susan Lawler was a geneticist and her research was focussed on the conservation, ecology and evolutionary genetics of native fauna, especially freshwater crayfish and Australian native bees. She also undertook extensive research into advancing and refining teaching and learning methodologies at the tertiary level.
Roger Croome was passionate about ‘algae’ and spent many hours peering down microscopes to reveal their diversity and beauty. Thus, his major research interest was the ecology of freshwater phytoplankton. He also had much experience in researching the relationship between vegetation, water regimes and wetland type in wetlands of the Murray River floodplain. In particular, he undertook a long term study of the limnology, algae and photosynthetic bacteria of Norman’s lagoon.

John Hill had a long history of research in Chemistry (1970 – 1990) at the Bundoora campus and at Wodonga, he expanded into chemical education research. He undertook a PhD in chemical education at Melbourne University (2000 – 2005) which led to a restructure of the ‘Chemistry 1’ course in Australian Universities. Also, at Wodonga, he developed a research interest in ‘sustainable natural resource management’ (SNRM) subsequent to a directive of a ‘regional review’ undertaken by the Council of LTU in 2003, which recommended that the Wodonga campus establish a ‘centre for SNRM’. The rationale for this directive was that the Wodonga campus already had an excellent research record in environmental management which would be enhanced by the presence of MDFRC on site. Also, Lin Crase in Business at Wodonga had major research interests in ‘water economics’ and Jayanath Ananda, also in Business, had a research interest in the economics of ‘greening’ the Australian industry. It was also suggested that the Social Sciences unit at Wodonga could contribute a ‘social dimension’ to the SNRM centre. As Head of Campus at this time, John Hill’s responsibility was to implement this directive which led to several joint publications for the campus. Also, at Wodonga, John Hill developed a collaboration with Professor Saleem Mustafa, Director of the Borneo Marine Research Institute, University of Malaysia – Sabah, researching the effects of water quality in aquaculture and natural resources management and food security in the context of sustainable development.

Susan Lawler’s research interests are in conservation biology with an emphasis on evolutionary genetics. Her passion is research into the phylogeny of Australian freshwater crayfish and also the ecology of these iconic species. She has studied a wide range of organisms including fruit flies, honeybees, regent parrots, mountain pygmy possums, Bogong moths and snowgums.

Cath Meathrel was passionate about the physiology of seabirds. Her ‘research laboratory’ was Big Dog Island, one of several in the remote Furneaux Archipelago in Bass Strait. Also, she was the custodian of the 80+ year old archive of physiology records of tagged short-tailed shearwaters (mutton birds) *Puffinus tenuirostris*, to which her main research interest was directly related. She also researched freshwater turtles in the Murray River floodplain.

Warren Paul is a statistician, the methodologies of which he applies to analyse and interpret environmental data. These included causal modelling and statistical design for ecological research and for assessing the impact of (or recovery from) an environmental disturbance: developing multivariate methods for detecting and modelling the effects of environmental disturbances using ‘distance-based’ Redundancy Analysis (dbRDA) and Canonical Correspondence Analysis (CCA) together with development of new distance-based methods for non-linear modelling of multivariate species data and for change-point analysis of multivariate ecological time series.

Peter Pridmore had a passion for the ‘locomotion’ (functional morphology) of vertebrates, in particular, the aerial capabilities of the feathertail glider (*Acrobates pygmaeus*) and some members of the genus *Petaurus*. He also researched the swimming and sensory abilities of fossil and living lungfishes, the affinities of conodonts of the fossil remains of Pleistocene giant rat
kangaroo (*Propleopus oscillans*) and the climbing abilities of living dasyurid marsupials. He also studied the locomotor behaviour of Murray-Darling Basin fishes, the ecology of Victorian Wild dogs and the origins and evolution of vertebrates in the flora of Australia and New Guinea.

Ewen Silvester had a distinguished career as a chemist in CSIRO (Clayton) before joining DEME and thus his research in environmental management has a strong chemical/analytical emphasis. His research interests are also closely aligned with many projects being undertaken in MDFRC. He has a specific interest in understanding the links between hydrology, vegetation and chemical regulation in rivers and wetlands and the role of aquatic fungi (*hyphomycetes*) in the formation of natural organic matter (NOM) through both the oxidative decomposition of lignin and the incorporation of fungal nitrogen. He is also interested in the seasonal and hydrologic controls over the transfer of alkalinity between vegetation, soils and aquatic systems and the role of DOC in controlling stream buffering. A separate study is focussed on ‘iron geochemistry’ related to the reactivity of surface-adsorbed Fe(III). This involves developing new electrochemical techniques to measure surface reactivity (outer one-electron shuttles), synthesis and characterisation of nanoparticles in the Fe-S-As system (particularly FeS₂ and FeAsS), the study of geochemical reactions exploiting optical transparency of nanoparticles (eg adsorption and oxidation reactions) and the development of kinetic models for nano-particle surface reactions (surface energy effects).

A more recent and exciting aspect of his research is the use of the (Australian) synchrotron infrared microspectroscopy (IRM) system for the study of aquatic processes involving plants (leaves, mosses, algae) and the development of new experimental methods for the study of aquatic processes (eg in-situ liquid cell) together with the development of improved procedures for the analysis of IRM map data (Mie scattering correction, multivariate curve resolution statistical analysis).

Phil Suter had a passionate interest in the taxonomy and ecology of Australian mayflies (*Insecta: Ephemeroptera*). Students were enlightened and enthralled by such passion revealed in his lectures and no doubt this attracted many to undertake Honours. He also had a research interest in the ecology of Alpine peatlands and stream macroinvertebrate communities and the ecology of floodplain wetlands. He was a member of the Scientific Panel that investigated the environmental flows of the River Murray and the Lower Darling river.

Peter Taylor had research interests in the ‘energy efficiency of commercial buildings’ and was an energy efficiency consultant during the construction of the unique rammed earth buildings on the Charles Sturt University campus at Thurgoona in the mid-1990’s. CSU later won an award for these green/energy efficient buildings.

Percy Thomas was an environmental ‘engineer’. His research interests were in industrial waste water treatment, waste minimisation in the water industry, the nutrient content and water quality of rivers and streams receiving waste waters and the principles and practices of industrial ‘cleaner/greener’ production. In particular, he had a research focus on the engineering principles of catchment restoration and management.

Helen Wallace’s time in DEME was very short but nonetheless her research interests blended well with those of the Department, being focussed on the population structure, genetic diversity and reproductive biology of Australian native plants.
It should also be noted that MDFRC research scientists were involved in the supervision of DEME honours and postgraduates students in the research areas of fish physiology (Rick Stoffles), water quality and wetland soil chemistry (Darren Baldwin), fungal ecology and foodweb research (Gavin Rees), wetland ecology and macrophyte seed bank (Daryl Nielson) and water resource management (Ben Gawne).

DEME staff (Roger Croome, Phil Suter, Susan Lawler and Cath Meathrel) were members of the Cooperative Research Centre for Freshwater Ecology (CRCFE), which was formed in 1993 and conducted research in freshwater ecology, biological monitoring, computer modelling, statistics, environmental chemistry and fish biology. The CRCFE was succeeded by eWaterCRC in 2005 and DEME staff representatives were Roger Croome, Phil Suter and Ewen Silvester.

Three metrics are usually applied to quantify the research excellence of an academic department: competitive research funding from external sources, number of completed higher degree graduations (including Honours) and number of peer reviewed publications including journal articles, books, chapters and sections in multi-authored books and published international and national conference proceedings. In all of these categories, DEME has a record to be proud of. Over the 24 year period of its existence, academic staff were awarded a total research funding quantum in excess of $3.3m (Addendum 3), 114 Honours, 2 MSc and 14 PhD’s graduated (Addendum 1) and a total publication output in excess of 150 articles was achieved (Addendum 4). In addition, the University consistently highlights in its publicity promotions that its courses are specifically designed to lead to realistic employment opportunities both in Australia and overseas. DEME Honours and Higher Degree graduates fulfilled this expectation (Addendum 5), many of whom were employed locally in the Albury-Wodonga region, thereby fulfilling its commitment both to the local authorities and to the community at large. For a ‘small’ academic department in a ‘small’ university campus, DEME consistently performed well above expectation in terms of its research performance and community commitment to sustainable environmental management.

OUTREACH and COMMUNITY LIAISON ACTIVITIES

Since the raison d’etre of the Wodonga campus is to enhance the higher education opportunities for the local community, outreach activities have always been an important part of its overall mission.

Wodonga campus ‘Open Days’ are held annually, initially on a Sunday and from 2005 onwards, on a Friday evening in August, timed to coincide with Year 12 students’ considering their futures in terms of postponing their chosen careers in favour of further studies at a tertiary institution. In this context, a special effort is made during these Open Days to emphasise the advantages of studying at a regional campus – the courses are equivalent in content and standard to corresponding courses at the city campus but the class sizes are smaller and thus individual tuition opportunities are greater. Further, the campus Academic Skills Unit provides ‘Getting Back to Studies’ sessions and ‘Bridging Courses’ for students who do not have appropriate ATAR scores for direct entry to the University. DEME consistently presented its course offerings in an instructive manner at Open Days by setting up interactive displays and holding consultations with academic staff in conjunction with guided tours of the department to highlight its facilities. It was made clear that students enrolling in the ‘Biological Sciences’ stream would undertake a common Year 1 course with EME students but the former would have to transfer to the Bundoora (Melbourne) campus to complete their chosen degree course in the School of Life Sciences. It
was emphasised to EME students that at both Year 2 and Year 3 levels, field excursions were a compulsory part of the course and formed part of the overall assessment. A photo gallery display of students participating in these field excursions was convincing evidence of their enthusiasm and enjoyment of these activities and thus formed excellent ‘promotional’ material for DEME.

From 1996 onwards, DEME worked closely with a number of local organisations involved with natural resource management in all its facets. Collaboration with these organisations provided much of the practical involvement with community groups required by the next generation of resource managers and complemented the academic areas associated with conservation and resource management. The BSc in Environmental Management and Ecology was a unique degree in providing students with a sound ecological and legal background and the ability to work with community groups and understand their motivation in the economic and social environment in which they would later work. Through Cath Meathrel, linkages with local Land Care groups were established and she held administrative office positions within these groups. The facilitator of many of these groups was Pat Larkin, one of the early graduates in the Graduate Diploma in Environmental Management programme and through him, numerous students did ‘work placement’ in third year, addressing landscape and stream management in NE Victoria. Susan Lawler established a strong relationship with the Highland Land Care group in the Strathbogie Ranges which was mutually beneficial to the group and to the students. The third year work placement unit also provided the opportunity for students to work in both State and Commonwealth departments in the Albury-Wodonga region as well as Catchment Management Authorities in Victoria, the dairy industry and wetland management organisations. These linkages provided staff and students with ideal opportunities to support local groups with ‘good science’ knowledge and ‘hands-on’ environmental management skills. Students also learned the importance of being able to present their scientific knowledge at an appropriate level to community groups. Without good communication between researchers, managers and the general public, conservation and resource management outcomes are limited in quality or restricted in range. The latter emphasis was a major strength of the BSc in Environmental Management and Ecology.

From 2008 onwards, the Wodonga campus has hosted a ‘Sustainability Fair’ in conjunction with the annual Open Day. It focusses on ‘sustainable living’ and the preservation of resources and minimising the negative impact of human activities on the environment. DEME staff and postgraduate students made many contributions to these fairs particularly with respect to highlighting their research activities with interactive displays.

DEME has vigorously supported the ‘Jonathan Mann Lecture’ which is presented annually at the Wodonga campus and is sponsored by the Mann family. This public lecture is designed to give appropriate expression to the unique historical, cultural and lifestyle influences that expound the vitality and spirit of the people of the ‘Border Region’. The titular theme ‘The Murray and its People’ provides a focus for eminent speakers from a variety of disciplines and backgrounds. These lectures commenced in 1993 on the recommendation of David Mann – the great grandson of Jonathan Mann. He was a foundation (and Life) member of the Wodonga campus Regional Advisory Board and he attended every lecture up to his death in 2012. The first Jonathan Mann Lecture was delivered by David Mitchell, Director of the Murray Darling Freshwater Research Centre, which was then based at Charles Sturt University, Thurgoona. The Jonathan Mann Lecture remains as the major public discourse on the Wodonga campus calendar of events and the vision of its founder remains as an enduring epitaph in the community. Attendance at these
lectures has always been at capacity levels such that in recent years, advance bookings are required.


In 1989, the ‘Alpine Ecology’ course was initiated by staff at La Trobe University (Melbourne campus) and Melbourne University. It was established as a means of improving the ecological knowledge of those responsible for managing land in the Australian Alps. The course covered topics associated with soils, geomorphology, plants and terrestrial animals. With the opening of the Wodonga campus of La Trobe University and the availability of DEME academics with expertise in terrestrial invertebrates – insects, spiders etc., (Dr. Dennis Black), aquatic micro-invertebrates (Dr. Phillip Suter) ‘and water chemistry (Dr. Ewen Silvester), these additional specialist areas were included in the course. This popular course included sessions on the Australian alpine landscape and ecosystems, sub-alpine and alpine soils, vertebrate and invertebrate ecology, alpine plants and vegetation communities, weeds and their impact on the alpine environment and effects of fire and feral animals on the alpine vegetation communities. This course continues and is now run under the banner of the Research Centre for Applied Alpine Ecology (http://australianalpineecology.org/index.php? page=capabilities)

The ‘Wise Water Ways’ (known as ‘WWW’) short course was an initiative of Lachlan Campbell who was a Senior Instructor at Goulburn Ovens Institute of TAFE (GoTAFE), Wangaratta. He understood that there was a need for training scientists, engineers and business managers on practical techniques relating to the management of rivers, streams and wetlands and in 1997 he established a feasibility study in Wangaratta to decide how this objective could be addressed in the short and long terms. A committee, chaired by Lachlan was formed composed of professionals in the local water management industry and a DEME representative – John Hill, who at that time was Head of Department. It was agreed to ‘pilot’ a 'short course' in 'management of water ways' which would be structured on ‘theoretical and practical’ objectives and participants who completed the course would be granted a TAFE certificate in ‘environmental management' which would be advantageous to their career advancement opportunities. The venue for the 4-day ‘residential’ course was the conference centre at the newly established Beechworth Campus of La Trobe University. This was ideal from the viewpoint of on-site hotel-type accommodation and catering facilities (Sambell Restaurant) and several ‘break out’ rooms. It was decided that a minimum of 30 participants was required to make the proposal viable. Subsequent to the closure of the Beechworth Campus in 2008, WWW was convened thereafter at GoTAFE, Wangaratta. WWW has attracted sponsors from many water and land management authorities throughout its
lifetime. The fact that WWW is still a viable and highly regarded teaching and learning instrument in sustainable natural resource management both in the Border Region and interstate is testament to the wisdom of its founder and leader and to the quality and relevance of the programme that is routinely articulated.

The course is composed of presentations by practitioners of resource and land management from government departments, academia and private enterprise in three morning sessions and two ‘in-field’ projects in the afternoon sessions. Participants are divided into several groups for these projects and are allocated ‘sites’ in localities around Beechworth. They undertake typical measurements relating to ‘water quality’ such as water chemistry and its effect on aquatic macro-invertebrate communities and write a group report on their findings. Each group gives a short report on their results and interpretation thereof at the dinner function on the final evening. These reports are judged and prizes awarded. Many of these reports provide significant data on the quality and health of regional waterways in the Beechworth, Yackandandah and Wangaratta regions. In more recent years, students from Charles Sturt University have taken the course for credit in their degree based on related assessment of oral presentations and assignments.

DEME has from the outset made significant contributions to the WWW meetings by initially providing modest sponsorship for its establishment and throughout, loaning equipment for the ‘in-field’ practicals. Initially, Roger Croome, presented the ‘water quality’ lecture, which focussed on his special expertise of blue-green algae. From 1998 to 2013, Phil Suter presented a lecture on ‘macrnoinvertebrates as indicators of water quality’, which allowed him to emphasise the unique characteristics of his beloved mayflies. This water quality lecture was taken over by Ewen Silvester from 2014, which gave it a ‘chemistry’ bias but nonetheless showed how ‘water chemistry’ is crucial in understanding and measuring ‘water quality’. Each year, WWW invites a guest speaker to present the after dinner talk on relevant issues associated with management of rivers and wetlands. In 2004, Professor Ben Gawne from MDFRC presented ‘What is a healthy river?’ and in 2012, Professor Lin Crase from Business, LTU Wodonga, presented ‘Water is more than the volume held by a bureaucrat in Canberra’. These guest speakers also gave repeat presentations to a public forum at the Wodonga campus during the course of the WWW meeting (which was generally held in ‘Water Week’) thereby involving the local community in water management strategies and activities.

Each year during ‘Science Week’, the Royal Australian Chemical Institute sponsors ‘The Hartung Youth Lecture’, which is aimed at Year 10 high school students to stimulate their interest in the sciences and chemistry in particular and urge them to continue their studies to HSC level. The lecture is presented in Melbourne and in several regional centres. Since 2010 it has been presented at the LTU Wodonga campus. Martin Fussell has organised for Year 10 students from Albury and Wodonga High Schools and other nearby centres to attend the lecture – held in ‘The Hanger’. Typically 10 – 12 groups have attended giving an audience of 200+. The key aspect of the Hartung Youth Lecture is the accompanying ‘illustrations’ demonstrating ‘chemistry in action’ – so ‘explosions’ are common albeit with respect given to OH&S concerns of the presenter and the audience! This annual lecture is another major component of the Wodonga campus calendar of events.

An initiative of Susan Lawler has seen DEME provide genetics training as part of the VCE Biology studies requirement. Each year, over 300 VCE students attend sessions on the Wodonga campus of La Trobe University to study the genetics of the fruit fly ‘Drosophila’. This ongoing programme enables the students to have ‘hands-on’ involvement with the principles of genetics
and the manipulation of DNA by setting up a PCR reaction. Local schools appreciated this programme which was designed to meet criteria for the Year 12 Biology subject.

DEME students were also involved in the ‘In2science’ initiative which was a ‘science-based’ peer monitoring programme involving universities and schools across Victoria and State Government funded as part of the ‘STEM’ promotion scheme. This programme lasted for several years from 2004 and many DEME students volunteered to participate in the scheme which involved them being ‘paired’ with a teacher in a local primary or secondary school for a couple of hours each week developing science related ‘hands-on’ projects and activities designed to simulate enthusiasm of school students for science learning with the long term aim of increasing ‘STEM-trained’ professionals. The programme manager was John McDonald from the Bundoora campus who was awarded an Australian Teaching and Learning Council Citation for his outstanding contribution to student learning.

These outreach activities into the local communities had a positive spin-off for La Trobe University. In the mid-2000’s, the proportion of students from the north east of Victoria enrolling in courses at La Trobe (all campuses) exceeded 25% with the next most popular university (Charles Sturt) attaining <15%. The presence of La Trobe at Albury-Wodonga and the extent of outreach and community engagement activities of DEME and all Albury-Wodonga staff and students contributed significantly to this enhanced enrolment outcome.

EPILOGUE

It is paradoxical that this review has to conclude on a sad note. During the deliberations during 2013-14 on implementation of the La Trobe University ‘Future Ready’ plan, DEME had put forward a very strong case for its continuation based on its documented record of the popularity of its Environmental Management & Ecology degree course, its record numbers of Honours, MSc and PhD graduates and their impressive employment statistics, its thriving externally funded research projects, its interactions and collaborations with the (on-site) Murray Darling Freshwater Research Centre and its committed and sustainable outreach activities both locally and state-wide. In essence, DEME had continuously endorsed the rationale and enacted the vision for establishing the Albury-Wodonga regional campus and it was widely recognised throughout the Border Region as a vital tertiary educational resource commensurate with the needs of the local communities. However, the low student numbers and the unsustainable financial position led to the closure of DEME and it ceased to exist as an academic entity within the newly established College of Science, Health and Engineering (SHE) at the end of 2014. It is some consolation that DEME’s legacy of outstanding academic commitment and service over a period of nearly a quarter century lives on in the memories of the many cohorts of its students who are now part of future generations of ‘environmental managers’.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We believe that we have achieved our objective to record and document the ‘life and times’ of DEME over its 24 year history by duly acknowledging the achievements of its staff and multiple generations of its students which collectively constitute its lasting memories. This is their story.

We also gratefully acknowledge Isabella Milevski for uploading this document onto the ‘La Trobe 50th Anniversary’ website.
Graduates from the Department of Environmental Management and Ecology 1994–2017

Graduates Conferred in 1994

Graduate Diploma in Environmental Management

Jeffrey Ernest ACKLAND
Angela Margaret CHAPMAN
Margaret Susan CHARLES-JONES
Guy CORBETT
Brian William CUFFLEY
Robert Clive MARTIN
Philip Emlyn RICHARDS
Warren Linton VOGEL

Conferred in absentia

Graduate Diploma in Environmental Management

Anthony Paesen EDWARDS
Raymond LANDINI

Graduates Conferred in 1996

Graduate Diploma in Environmental Management

Janice Joy PALMER
Mary-Anne SCULLY
John Anthony SYKES
Peter Bryan WATKINSON
Alan WRAGG

Conferred in absentia

Graduate Diploma in Environmental Management

Robert James CLARK
Andrew Frederick KIMBER
Robert William LOGBY
Deeonne Noel MCKNZ
Paul Anthony SPIERS

Graduates Conferred in 1995

Graduate Diploma in Environmental Management

David Robert ALLEN
David Thomas HARRISON
Robert Keith Fairless HARROD
Melvin William JACKSON
Michael Leslie MCCARRON
Robert Edward PILL
Digby Hamilton RACE
Wayne Keith TENNANT
Loretta Elizabeth VAN CAMP
Adele Diane WHITAKER

Graduate Diploma in Environmental Management

Matthew Francis ADKINS
Gregory Nathan LIESCHKE
Louise Kathleen MCGEOWN
Luke Elton RIZNIAK

Bachelor of Science

(Environmental Management and Ecology) with Honours

Timothy J. CURMI.

Conferred in absentia

Graduate Diploma in Environmental Management

Raymond GEAR
Graduates Conferred in 1998

Graduate Diploma in Environmental Management
John Richard ALKER-JONES
Jennifer DAVIES
Kenneth Wayne ELLIS
John Orford HILL
Veronica Jane LANIGAN
Stephen Roy MARTIN
Shelley William MORPHY
Adrian John PARKER
Arampumannthy SATHIYAMOORTHY
Collin Mark TEEK
Frank James TURB
Edward Charles WOODBURY

Bachelor of Science with Honours
Ricci Chandelle CHURCHILL
Bernard John COCKAYNE
Anthea John CONALLIN
Colleen Joy MULLEN
Rick James STOPPELS
Kate Alison STUART

Graduate Diploma in Environmental Management
Richard John ARMSTRONG
Terry Edward BEVRS
Helen Margaret BRINDLEY
Peter Gerard GRIEVE
Denis Patrick LARKIN
Peter John O’DWYER
Clare Frances PURTLE
James Wallace SCOTT

Bachelor of Science
Matthew James ALLEN

Bachelor of Science with Honours
Tamara Louise FEHAN
Alexandra Margaret OLJNICZAK

Conferred in absentia

Graduate Diploma in Environmental Management
Lisa Jane FITZPATRICK

Bachelor of Science
Nigel Jason SMEDLEY

Graduates Conferred in 1999

Bachelor of Science
Norisa Lee BARTLETT
Craig Andrew BELL
John Campbell CONALLIN
Paul David DAWAY
Benjamin John FENSELAU
Tracy Ann MCLARTY
Adam John PANOFFO
Vanessa Mary RICHENS
Terrielle J ROBERTS
Alicia Joy SMITH

Bachelor of Science with Honours
Jennifer Lecle FurSTON
Janelle Elyse COLLINGE
Jennifer Ann DAWAY
Annika Nicole EVERAARDT
Jarrod Paul LYON
Brooke Elizabeth MARGERY-BARRETT
Kathryn Doreen OSWALD
Melanie Joy PEARSON

Graduates in 2000

Bachelor of Science
Emma Christiana BRIGGS
Julie Ann MAKINGS
Timothy Paul NICHOLLS
Geoffrey Alan O’NEILL
Michael John SINCLAIR
Lacy WIDDIUP

Bachelor of Science with Honours
Jennifer Leader BURSTON
Janelle Elyse COLLINGE
Jennifer Ann DAWAY
Annika Nicole EVERAARDT
Jarrod Paul LYON
Brooke Elizabeth MARGERY-BARRETT
Kathryn Doreen OSWALD
Melanie Joy PEARSON
Graduate Diploma in Environmental Management
Stephen Wallace Fraser BUTLER
Stephen Anthony DAHL
Gregory Mark JOHNSON
Natalie Kaye O'CONNELL
Glensc SCOLFIELD

Master of Science
 Gregory Wallace RAISIN, BAppSc, Canberra
GradDipOccHasMgt Ballarat

Conferred in absentia

Bachelor of Science
Regina Marie GLASS
Kathie KIMPTON

Bachelor of Science with Honours
Robert Alan COOK

Graduate Diploma in Environmental Management
Geoffrey Ross Every PYM

Conferred in 2001

Bachelor of Science
Sarah Jane BROWN
Ryan Daniel BUTLER
Megan Natasha CLARKSON
Geoffrey Norman EDNEY
Melina Paige ENWISTLE
Julie Anne HANLIF
Sharon Elise HOWLETT
David Andrew KLEINERT
Kristy Elizabeth LEACH
Petra LOVE
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Tracey Alice BOWERMAN
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Graduate Diploma in Environmental Management
Eileen Louise CLARK
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Doctor of Philosophy
Jacqueline Ann GRIGGS, BSc(Hons), Taxonomy
Taxonomic, Biogeographic and Genetic Studies on
Australian Cladocera
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Bachelor of Science
Louise SCHURAVEL
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Stephen Ronald BALCOMBE, BSc(Hons)
Resource use by Hypolepis (Plat. Gahiaceae) in the
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Margaret, BSc(Hons), Edin.
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Simon Ross LUKES
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Bachelor of Science in Environmental Management and Ecology
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Graduate Diploma in Environmental Management
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Bachelor of Environmental Management and Ecology with Honours
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Brendan Craig LYNHACK, BSc(Hons) James Cook
A Numerical Digestion Method for Estimating Zooplankton by a Fish Population

Nathan Stanley Peter NING, BSc(EnvManEcol)(Hons), La Trobe
The Ecology of the Microinvertebrate Fauna in a Temperate Australian Fluvial Plain River

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Bachelor of Science in Environmental Management and Ecology
Nyeoa Clare WILLIAMS
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Bachelor of Science in Environmental Management and Ecology with Honours
Julia Hagger MYNOTT

Doctor of Philosophy
Petina LOVE, BSc, La Trobe, BAppSc(Hons), Canb.
Spatial and Temporal Characteristics of Arsenic in the Bogong Moth (Agrotis infusa)

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Bachelor of Science in Environmental Management and Ecology
Cassandra Margaret BATES
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Bradley Richard STEELE
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Jacob Edward WELCH
Karla Maree WILLIAMS
Bachelor of Science in Environmental Management and Ecology with Honours
also receiving
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Mark James CAREY, BSc(EnvMng&Ecol) (Hons), La Trobe
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Janice Laraine KERR BAppSci, Charles Sturt,
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Terrence Peter KAR/S

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Kerry William THOMAS

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Michael Edward SHACKLETON
A Morphological and Molecular Revision of the Taxonomy and Phylogeny of Calceolae (Tricholesta Insects)

Conferred in absentia

Bachelor of Science in Environmental Management and Ecology with Honours

Jakob Burton BUTLER
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Bachelor of Science in Environmental Management and Ecology

Holly Joanna PERRYMAN
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Ins Lee MILLIGAN
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Bachelor of Science in Environmental Management and Ecology with Honours
also receiving
Bachelor of Science in Environmental Management and Ecology
Bethany Mauna GILLARD

Doctor of Philosophy
Stephanie Gillian Anne SUTER
Contribution of Aquatic Hyphomycete Communities to Leaf Decomposition and Food Webs in Alpine Streams

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Bachelor of Science in Environmental Management and Ecology
Olivia Anneliese NOUGHER

Bachelor of Science in Environmental Management and Ecology with Honours
Steven John SCAMMELL

Doctor of Philosophy
John Henry HAWKING
Systematics and Ecology of the Australian Aquatic Moths, Acentropinae (Insecta: Lepidoptera)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
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<th>THESIS TITLE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Steven Seammell</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Use of stable isotopes to trace the uptake of DOC in biofilm</td>
<td>Dennis Black</td>
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<td>Perryman, Holly</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>The influence of morphology and water depth on foraging in Australian Spoonbills (Threskiornithidae: Platalea)</td>
<td>Dr Peter Pridmore</td>
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<td>Jane White</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>The effects of water parameters and host characteristics of Eustacurus armatus (Crustacea: Parastacidae) on the symbionts Temnothorax and Temnosewella (Platyhelminthes: Temnocephalida) in the Buffalo River, Victoria.</td>
<td>Drs Susan Lawler and Alexei Rowles</td>
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<td>Kelly Thomas</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>A Longitudinal assessment of freshwater spiny crayfish (Eustacurus armatus) along the Buffalo river, Victoria, in response to surrounding land-use.</td>
<td>Drs Susan Lawler and Alexei Rowles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Simon Mom</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Behavioural and metabolic responses to hypoxia of fishes with differing morphologies and lifestyles.</td>
<td>Drs Peter Pridmore and Rick Stoffels</td>
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<td>Stuart Smith</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Distribution and growth rates of Carp gudgeon (Hypseleotris spp.) across the floodplain of the Ovens River.</td>
<td>Drs Peter Pridmore and Rick Stoffels</td>
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<td>Butler, Jacob</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>The effect of shading on biofilm community structure and composition in the Broken Creek at Nathalia.</td>
<td>Drs Gavin Rees and Susan Lawler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harris, Clayton</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Dissolved Organic Nitrogen in the Ovens River.</td>
<td>Drs Gavin Rees and Ewen Silvester</td>
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<td>Crump, Megan</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Linking molecular and morphological data in the Freshwater Shrimp Paratya australiensis Kemp (1917) (Decapoda: Atyidae).</td>
<td>Phil Suter</td>
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<td>Jasper, Elke</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>The effect of soil temperature alterations on zooplankton egg bank and aquatic plant seed bank communities in wetlands.</td>
<td>Drs Daryl Nielsen, Nathan Ning &amp; Susan Lawler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karis, Terry</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Response of an alpine peatland to a storm event.</td>
<td>Drs Ewen Silvester and Gavin Rees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name</td>
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<td>Title</td>
<td>Supervisor</td>
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<td>Justin Gorwell</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>The relationship between lateral line morphology and foraging behaviour in two freshwater gudgeons (Eleotridae)</td>
<td>Drs Peter Pridmore and Rick Stoffels</td>
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<td>Georgia Dwyer</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Behavioural and metabolic responses of fishes with differing modes of life to hypoxia.</td>
<td>Drs Rick Stoffels and Peter Pridmore</td>
</tr>
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<td>Megan Iskov</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Habitat characterisation of the genus <em>Acrobates</em> (Marsupialia: Acrobatidae) in relation to climate and vegetation</td>
<td>Dr Peter Pridmore</td>
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<td>Trevor deFreitas</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>The diurnal migration patterns of microinvertebrates within the Broken river, North-Central Victoria</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<td>William Terry</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>The Autecology of the Pink-tailed Legless Lizard <em>Aprasia parapulehella</em>.</td>
<td>Dr Dennis Black</td>
</tr>
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<td>Verita Stewart</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Effects of recreation fishing pressure on the Murray crayfish (<em>Eucastus armatus</em>) in the Lower Ovens river, North East Victoria</td>
<td>Dr Susan Lawler</td>
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<td>Ebony Bullock</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Methods for the assessment of wetland condition in south-eastern Australia: incorporating non-invasive assessment of frog assemblages.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janine Box</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>The ecology of the ectoparasite fauna of Short-tailed shearwaters <em>Ardeina tenuirostris</em> on Great Dog Island, Tasmania.</td>
<td>Dr Catherine Meathrel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slade Allen-Ankins</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>The effect of turbidity, light level and physical structure on feeding in juvenile murray cod.</td>
<td>Dr Peter Pridmore</td>
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<td>Patricia Rokahr</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>The application of casual modelling to environmental impact assessment at the Wangaratta wastewater treatment plant.</td>
<td>Dr Warren Paul</td>
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<td>Nicole McLaughlan</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Effects of dissolved oxygen on the metabolic response of an endangered freshwater fish, the purple-spotted gudgeon (<em>Mojarra adspersa</em>).</td>
<td>Dr Peter Pridmore</td>
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<tr>
<td>Simon Coates</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Factors shaping the distribution of two freshwater crayfish species along a thermal gradient: Environmental correlates with distribution, metabolism and behaviour.</td>
<td>Dr Susan Lawler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nyree Williams</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Factors affecting patterns of divorce in Short-tailed Shearwaters <em>Puffinus tenuirostris</em> breeding on Fisher Island, Tasmania.</td>
<td>Dr Catherine Meathrel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jonathon Thompson</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>The effects of fire frequency on ant (Hymenoptera: Formicidae) communities in open eucalyptus forest in north-east Victoria.</td>
<td>Dr Dennis Black</td>
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<tr>
<td>Julia Mynott</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Testing the species validity and larval associations of the alpine stoneflies, <em>Riekoperla</em> (Plecoptera: Grippopterygidae)</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victoria McCartney</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Bryophytes and associated testate amoebae communities in groundwater-fed bryophyte pools and peatlands, in the alpine and sub-alpine areas at the Bogong High Plains, and Strathbogie Ranges, Victoria, Australia.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<td>Annaleise Klein</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Salinity-Induced Acidification of an Upper Murray River Wetland.</td>
<td>Dr Ewen Silvester</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Dyer</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>A comparison of movement, habitat use and feeding in two spined blackfish and sympatric species of trout.</td>
<td>Dr Peter Pridmore</td>
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<tr>
<td>Louise Trickett</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>The extent to which the Floating Fern <em>Azolla</em> impacts on the growth conditions of planktonic algae in floodplain water bodies.</td>
<td>Dr Roger Croome and Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<td>Stephanie Zahra</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>The effect of periodic flooding on soil condition and nutrients of a semi-arid floodplain forest.</td>
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<td>Adrian Clements</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Macroinvertebrate communities and the physico-chemical conditions in groundwater-fed bryophyte pools at Whiterock Creek, Bogong High Plains, Victoria, Australia.</td>
<td>Dr Ewen Silvester and Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brigid Metcalfe</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>The effect of aspect on the arthropod fauna beneath the bark of two species of eucalypt.</td>
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<td>Stephanie Suter</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Aquatic fungi in an alpine stream of south-eastern Australia.</td>
<td>Dr Gavin Rees and Dr Ewen Silvester</td>
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<tr>
<td>Simon MaffeI</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>The effects of turbidity, prey density, and illumination on feeding in juvenile Murray cod.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glenn Jeffrey</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Effects of temperature on the nitrification process at the Beechworth wastewater treatment plant.</td>
<td>Dr Warren Paul and Dr Gavin Rees</td>
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<td>Alan Gindrill</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>The response of a soil and pasture system to the application of untreated farm dairy effluent and commercial fertiliser.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Smith</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>The effects of fire on wetland plant seeds and zooplankton eggs in Barren Box Swamp, NSW.</td>
<td>Drs Roger Croome &amp; Daryl Nielsen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diana Street</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>A review of the status of an unusual population of freshwater crayfish of the genus <em>Euastacus</em> found in the East Buffalo River, Victoria.</td>
<td>Dr Susan Lawler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tara Pitman</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Phylogenetic Analysis of the Australian Members of the Mayfly Family Caenidae (Insecta: Ephemeroptera)</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<td>Amy Boulding</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Effect of drying sediment microbial community structure of an Australian water storage during a drought.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marijke Hoenderdos</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Spatial and temporal variation in the macroinvertebrate community of the Lower Murray Darling Basin Australia, between 1980 and 2000.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Shackleton</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Diel periodicity in the macroinvertebrate communities of the Rose River, Victoria.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shannon Slade</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>The mallee woodland – chenopod shrubland ecotone and reptile biodiversity at Calperum Station, South Australia.</td>
<td>Dr Dennis Black</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rose Barrett</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>The relationship between vegetation, water regimes and wetland type in wetlands of the Murray River floodplain.</td>
<td>Dr Roger Croome</td>
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<tr>
<td>Craig Hamilton</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Factors influencing the frequency and intensity of wild dog attacks on livestock within eastern Victoria.</td>
<td>Dr Peter Pridmore</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah Fergusson</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>A study of the behaviours and time budgets of Pacific Gulls <em>Larus p. pacificus</em> breeding in the southern Furneaux Group, Tasmania.</td>
<td>Dr Catherine Meathrel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarie Los</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Association of Aquatic Macroinvertebrate Communities with alpine peatland pool vegetation of Watchbed Ck, Bogong High Plains, Victoria.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark Carey</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Factors affecting recruitment into the breeding population of Short Tailed Shearwaters <em>Puffinus tenuirostris</em> on Great Dog Island, Furneaux Group, Tasmania</td>
<td>Dr Cath Meathrel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prue McGuffie</td>
<td>2005</td>
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<td>Dr Phil Suter and Dr Susan Lawler</td>
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<td>James Wyatt</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Assessments of biological monitoring programs and their capacity to determine the impact of effluent discharge streams within North East Victoria.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah Daniel</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Seed bank viability within floodplain wetlands Lake Hume to Barmah.</td>
<td>Dr Roger Croome</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Joel Porter</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Seed production and germination in relation to the commercial production cycle of three grass species native to South-Eastern Australia.</td>
<td>Dr Peter Pridmore</td>
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<td>Eleanor Bradbury</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Response of sequestrate fungi and mycoplagous mammals to disturbance by fire.</td>
<td>Dr Dennis Black</td>
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<td>Lucy Widdup</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>The role of nest site selection on the reproductive success of eastern Pacific Gulls <em>Larus pacificus pacificus</em> breeding in the Furneaux Group, Tasmania.</td>
<td>Dr Catherine Meathrel</td>
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<td>Margaret Lindsay</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>The diet of eastern Pacific Gulls <em>Larus pacificus pacificus</em> in the southern Furneaux Group, Tasmania.</td>
<td>Dr Catherine Meathrel</td>
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<td>Nathan Ning</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>The impact of fire on aquatic macroinvertebrate communities of alpine <em>Sphagnum</em> peatlands on the Bogong High Plains, Victoria.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<td>Simon Lukies</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Diet and foraging interactions between the native crimson-spotted rainbowfish (<em>Melanotaenia fluviatilis</em>) and the introduced mosquitofish (<em>Glanbusia holbrooki</em>) in the Broken River of northeast Victoria.</td>
<td>Dr Peter Pridmore</td>
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<td>Jessica Butler</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>The composition and significance of the phytoneuston of floodplain water bodies.</td>
<td>Dr Roger Croome</td>
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<td>Michelle Duimovich</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>The impacts of the removal of coarse woody debris on terrestrial skinks and invertebrates in Killawarra Box-Ironbark Forest, Victoria.</td>
<td>Dr Dennis Black</td>
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<td>Teisha Sloane</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>The effects of fire on skinks in Chiltern - Mt. Pilot National Park, Victoria.</td>
<td>Dr Susan Lawler &amp; Dr Dennis Black</td>
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<td>Rachel Clancy</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Microinvertebrate emergence from egg banks in river benches of the ovens river.</td>
<td>Dr Terry Hillman</td>
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<td>Rachael Elso</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Space-for-time assessment of <em>Cryptozoa</em> communities in restored agricultural ecosystems in Byawatha, Victoria.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<td>Jennifer Francis</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>The effect of variable salinity on the development of eggs and larvae of anuran species in the Upper Murray river and its catchment.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michelle Smith</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Environmental damage by <em>Ommatoxenus Moreleti</em> (The Portuguese Millipede) in the Warby Range, Victoria.</td>
<td>Dr Dennis Black</td>
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<td>Matthew Vogel</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>The effects of varying temperature and feeding levels on somatic and otothlith growth in Murray Cod, <em>Macleayochella peelti peelti</em> (Mitchell) larvae.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<td>Ross Templeton,</td>
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<td>Cotton Strip Assay's (CSA) as a utility for activity: relationships with soil chemistry and grazing intensity.</td>
<td>Dr Catherine Meathrel</td>
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<td>Aaron Troy</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Effects of grazing on the physico -chemistry and biota in dams associated with travelling stock reserves in southern NSW.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<td>Zeb Tonkin</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Behavioural &amp; Morphological Studies of feeding in native freshwater fishes.</td>
<td>Dr Peter Pridmore</td>
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<td>Karen Bowland</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Comparison of locomotor anatomy and climbing performance in tiger quoll (<em>Dasyurus Maculatus</em>) and feral cat (<em>Felis Catus</em>).</td>
<td>Dr Peter Pridmore</td>
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<td>Cassandra Bryce</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Habitat utilisation and foraging behaviour of aquatic invertebrates on an Alpine stream.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<td>Kathie Kimpton</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Effects of grazing on invertebrates of the Bogong highplains.</td>
<td>Dr Dennis Black</td>
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<td>Amanda Miggins</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Principles of Cleaner production as applied to selective wineries in the Rutherglen area.</td>
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<td>Kathryn Biesaga</td>
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<td>Nutrient balancing in dairy farms.</td>
<td>Dr Roger Croome and Dr Percival Thomas</td>
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<td>Lynda Stukey</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Comparative use of exotic and native riparian vegetation by adult stream insects.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<td>Benjamin Holloway</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Breeding ecology of the threatened Pacific Gull <em>Larus pacificus</em> in the Furneaux Islands, Bass Strait, Tasmania.</td>
<td>Dr Catherine Meathrel</td>
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<td>Geoff Heard</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Ecology of carpet python (<em>Marelia spilotes</em>).</td>
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<td>Matthew Burt</td>
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<td>Chris Biesaga</td>
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<td>Development of an Environmental Overlay into the Rural City of Wangaratta's Planning Scheme.</td>
<td>Dr Catherine Meathrel and Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<td>Kylie Durant</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Fire Ecology of Common Fringe myrtle (<em>Calytrix tetragona</em>) in Warby Range.</td>
<td>Dr Peter Pridmore</td>
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<td>Paul McInerney</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>The effects of inter-basin water transfer from the Snowy River to the Swampy Plain and Murray Rivers on the Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera and Trichoptera.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<td>Paul Ratajczyk</td>
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<td>The distribution of the Ephemeroptera (Mayflies) along the Kiewa River in North East Victoria, Australia.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<td>Deborah Gribben</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>A study of the limnology, algae and phoyosynthetic bacteria of Norman's Lagoon.</td>
<td>Dr Roger Croome</td>
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<td>Jennifer Burston</td>
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<td>Ecology of pest birds at Uncle Tobys, Wahgunyah.</td>
<td>Dr Catherine Meathrel</td>
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<td>Robert Cook</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>The effects of shading on biofilm biomass, macroinvertebrate density and macroinvertebrate community structure in the Murray and Darling Rivers at Wentworth.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melanie Pearson</td>
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<td>Habitat occupation of the Baetidae (Insecta: Ephemeroptera) in the Rose River, Victoria.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<td>Kathryn Oswald</td>
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<td>Groundwater interactions and effects of nitrogen and phosphorus addition.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<td>Jarod Lyon</td>
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<td>The effect of size on the fast-start performances of three species of native Australian fish.</td>
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<td>Annika Everaardt</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Studies of horizontal climbing in Antechinus and Sminthopsis (Marsupialia: Dasyuridae).</td>
<td>Dr Peter Pridmore and Dr Catherine Meathrel</td>
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<td>Janelle Collinge</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Phylogography of mayflies of the genus Cloeon of still waters within southeastern Australia.</td>
<td>Dr Susan Lawler and Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<td>Brooke Margery-Barrett</td>
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<td>Genetic analysis of the genera Nousia and Koornonga (Ephemeroptera: Leptophlebiidae), using cellulose acetate protein electrophoresis.</td>
<td>Dr Susan Lawler</td>
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<td>Jennifer Dwyer</td>
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<td>Spatial and Temporal Variation in Water Quality of House Creek, Wodonga.</td>
<td>Dr Percival Thomas</td>
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<td>Louise McGeown</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Ant Harvesting of Wild Radish (Raphanus raphanistrum) Seed in Cropping Systems in South East Australia.</td>
<td>Dr Dennis Black</td>
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<td>Glenn Shiell</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Aspects of the Physico-chemistry and Biology of Dartmouth Reservoir in North Eastern Victoria.</td>
<td>Dr Roger Croome</td>
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<td>Bernard Cockayne</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Postdrought macroinvertebrate recolonisation of a temperate seasonally flowing temporary river: Rose River Victoria.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter and Dr Susan Lawler</td>
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<td>Ricci Churchill</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>A retrospective assessment of gold mining in the Reedy Creek subcatchment, North East Victoria, Australia.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter and Dr Catherine Meathrel</td>
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<td>Colleen Mullen</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Comparisons of biofilm growth on artificial substrata in static and fluctuating water levels in a weir pool in the Murray River.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<td>Anthony Conallin</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Comparison of macroinvertebrate sampling techniques for the rapid bioassessment of lowland rivers.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter and Dr Catherine Meathrel</td>
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<td>Kate Stuart</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>The distribution and impact of Eastern Grey Kangaroos (Macropus giganteus) in the Warby Range, north-east Victoria.</td>
<td>Dr Catherine Meathrel and Dr Dennis Black</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rick Stoffels</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Habitat use of gudgeons in floodplain billabongs; the role of their interaction with perch and mosquitofish.</td>
<td>Dr Gerry Closs and Dr Susan Lawler</td>
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<td>Sharon Reid</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Ecology of freshwater tortoises in billabongs of the River Murray.</td>
<td>Dr Catherine Meathrel</td>
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<td>Nada Radford</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Ecology of freshwater tortoises in Lake Moodemere, Victoria.</td>
<td>Dr Catherine Meathrel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fiona Copley</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Effect of excluding vertebrate predators on populations of the grasshopper Acridea conica Fabricius.</td>
<td>Dr Catherine Meathrel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexandra Olejniczak,</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Taxonomic identification and association of various species of Cheumatopsyche (Trichoptera, Hydropsychidae) using random amplified polymorphic DNA (RAPD) markers.</td>
<td>Dr Susan Lawler and Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<td>Tamara Feehan</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>The effect of beef feedlot manure applications on soil biology and chemistry.</td>
<td>Dr Catherine Meathrel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jason Lieschke</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Trophic interactions between Australian smelt (Retropinna semoni) and zooplankton in a Murray River Billabong.</td>
<td>Dr Gerry Closs</td>
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<td>Tim Curmi</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Habitat Use and Diet of River blackfish (Gadopsis marmoratus) and Two spined blackfish (Gadopsis bistinus) in Tallangatta Creek.</td>
<td>Dr Gerry Closs</td>
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### Masters

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<td>Rebecca Hewlett.</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Classification of Victorian Streams: Implications of Taxonomic Resolution sample frequency and sample method.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<td>Gregory Raisin</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>The use of wetlands for the control of diffuse source pollution in rural catchments.</td>
<td>Dr Roger Croome</td>
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<td>Fiona Betts</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Ecology of two Freshwater Decapod Species in a Murray River Billabong.</td>
<td>Dr Gerry Closs</td>
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<td>Cindy Warburton</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>The population structure, genetic diversity and reproductive biology of <em>Santalum Lanceblatum</em>.</td>
<td>Dr Helen Wallace</td>
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<td>Mardi Versteegen</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>The population structure of the murray river crayfish <em>Eucastacus armatus</em> in the Murray and Murrumbidgee river systems</td>
<td>Dr Susan Lawler</td>
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<td>Nicole Tabone</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Analysis of Genetic variation in <em>Pittosporum undulatum</em> Vent. (Pittosporaceae).</td>
<td>Dr Susan Lawler</td>
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### PhD

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<tr>
<td>Mynott, Julia</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Larval taxonomy of some Australian stonefly species (Plecoptera: Grippopterygidae).</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter, Dr Susan Lawler, Dennis Black</td>
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<td>Klein, Annaleise Renate</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>The role of the cyanobacteria toxin, Microcystin, in aqueous iron biochemistry</td>
<td>Dr Ewen Silvester, Dr Darren Baldwin</td>
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<td>McInerney, Paul James</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Effects of invasive Willows (Salix spp.) on stream ecosystem dynamics.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter, Dr Ben Gawne, Dr Gavin Rees</td>
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<td>Suter, Stephanie Gillian Anne</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Contribution of Aquatic Hyphomycete communities to leaf decomposition and food webs in Alpine streams.</td>
<td>Dr Ewen Silvester, Dr Gavin Rees</td>
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<td>Hawking, John Henry</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Systematics and ecology of the Australian Aquatic Moths, Acentropinae (Insecta: Lepidoptera).</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter, Dr Dennis Black</td>
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<td>Michael Shackleton</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>A morphological and molecular review of the taxonomy and phylogeny of Calocidae (Trichoptera : Insecta)</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter, Dr Jeff Webb, Dr Susan Lawler</td>
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<td>Effects of investigator disturbance on the reproductive success of short-tailed Shearwaters <em>Puffinus tenuirostris</em>.</td>
<td>Dr Cath Meathrel</td>
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<td>Janice Laraine Kerr</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Fungi in lowland river floodplain ecosystems</td>
<td>Dr Ewen Silvester Dr Darren Baldwin</td>
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<td>Nathan Ning</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Ecology of microinvertebrate fauna in a temperate Australian Floodplain River</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<td>Brendan Ebner</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>A Numerical-Digestion Method for Estimating Zooplanktivory by a Fish Population.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter and Ben Gawne</td>
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<td>Dale McNeil</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Ecophysiology and behaviour of Ovens River floodplain fish: hypoxia tolerance and the role of the physicochemical environment in structuring Australian billabong fish communities.</td>
<td>Dr Susan Lawler</td>
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<td>Sarah Taylor</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Habitat use by White-Browed babblers <em>pomatostomus superciliosus</em> in Box – Ironbark forest in South East Australia</td>
<td>Dr Catherine Meathrel</td>
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<td>Gillian McDonald</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Development and testing of ecology model which quantifies current health status and attempts to predict restoration potential (under amended grazing strategies) of grassy woodlands of NSW South West slopes bioregion.</td>
<td>Dr Catherine Meathrel</td>
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<td>Stephen Balcolmbe</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>The association between carp gudgeons (<em>Hypseleotris spp</em>) and the giant rush (<em>Juncus ingens</em>) of a Murray River Billabong.</td>
<td>Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<td>Syarifuddin</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>The role of surface complexity of submerged logs and fish predation in structuring benthic invertebrate community in billabongs.</td>
<td>Dr Roger Croome Dr Phil Suter</td>
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<td>Jacqueline Ann Griggs</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Taxonomic, biogeographical and genetic studies on Australian Chydrids.</td>
<td>Dr Roger Croome</td>
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<td>Lor-Wai Tan,</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Taxonomy, microspatial and temporal variation of freshwater testate amoebae (<em>Protozoa: Rhizopoda</em>) on the submersgent macrophyte, <em>Vallisneria gigantea</em> in the River Murray floodplain billabong.</td>
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<td>Australian Institute of Management Prize</td>
<td>Awarded for outstanding student achievement in the Graduate Diploma in Environmental Management and Ecology</td>
<td>Raymond Gear</td>
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<td>La Trobe University Undergraduate Scholarship for Commencing First Year Students</td>
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<td>Environmental Management and Ecology Second Year Prize</td>
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<td>Stephanie Suter</td>
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<td><strong>Australian Newsprint Mills Award</strong></td>
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<td>Kathryn Oswald</td>
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<td>1997</td>
<td><strong>Soil and Water Conservation Association of Australia (NSW) Prize</strong></td>
<td>Awarded to the outstanding student in two units that have a soil and water component within the BSc (Environmental Management and Ecology)</td>
<td>Rick Stoffels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td><strong>Australian Association of Natural Resource Management Prize</strong></td>
<td>Awarded to the most outstanding third year student in two units that have a soil and water component within the BSc in Environmental Management and Ecology</td>
<td>Teisha Sloane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jessica Wilkie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Prize Description</td>
<td>Award Criteria</td>
<td>Award Recipient</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Esler &amp; Associates Prize</td>
<td>Awarded to the most outstanding third year student in two units that have a soil and water component within the BSc in Environmental Management and Ecology</td>
<td>Ainslie Rosser</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Toby Alker-Jones</td>
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<td>2008</td>
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<td>Simon Mathei</td>
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<td>2009</td>
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<td>Annaleise Klein</td>
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<td>Slade Allen-Ankins</td>
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<td>2011</td>
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<td>Lauren Carr</td>
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<td>2012</td>
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<td>Cassandra Bates</td>
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<td>Simon Mom</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Catherine Morrison</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>North East Catchment Management Authority Prize</td>
<td>Awarded to the student with the best overall performance in the third year of the BSc in Environmental Management and Ecology</td>
<td>Rachel Elso</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mark Carey</td>
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<td>2005</td>
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<td>Shannon Slade</td>
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<td>2006</td>
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<td>Amy Boulding</td>
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<td>Toby Alker-Jones</td>
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<td>Lauren Carr</td>
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<td>Chloe Scammell</td>
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<td>2014</td>
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<td>Catherine Morrison</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>The Environmental Group Prize for Waste Water</td>
<td>Awarded to a third year student in the BSc in Environmental</td>
<td>Danielle Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Prize</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Winner</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>The John Hill Albury-Wodonga Campus Chemistry Prize</td>
<td>Awarded for the best overall performance in first year Chemistry at the Albury-Wodonga Campus by a student enrolled in the BSc in Environmental Management and Ecology</td>
<td>Toby Alker-Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Management and Ecology degree who has the highest aggregate marks in Environmental Pollution Control and Air and Water Quality in second year and who has a keen interest in waste water management</td>
<td></td>
<td>Heidi Josipovic</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Jonathon Thompson</td>
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<td>2009</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Matthew Fisher</td>
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<td>2010</td>
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<td>Terence Karis</td>
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<td>2011</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Timothy Joseph Coen Mitchell</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
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<td>Simon Mom Jane White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>The La Trobe University,</td>
<td>Awarded to a first year Bachelor of</td>
<td>Renee Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Annaleise Klein</td>
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<td>2009</td>
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<td>Chloe Scammell</td>
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<td>2008</td>
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<td>Lauren Padbury</td>
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<td>2010</td>
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<td>Mary Anne Lisa-Holligan</td>
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<td>2011</td>
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<td>Catherine Morrison</td>
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<td>2012</td>
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<td>Matthew Bartlett</td>
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<td>2013</td>
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<td>Ceilidh Thomson Zeschke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Scholarship Name</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Recipient</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>The North East Local Government Scholarship</td>
<td>Awarded to a first year Bachelor of Agricultural Science student at the Albury-Wodonga Campus, based on academic merit and their interest in, and commitment to agriculture as a career</td>
<td>Michael Gleadow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>The Peechelba Beef Scholarship</td>
<td>Awarded to a first year Bachelor of Agricultural Science student at the Albury-Wodonga Campus, based on academic merit and their interest in, and commitment to agriculture as a career</td>
<td>Michelle Merrett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>David Mant Memorial Prize—Wodonga Rotary Club</td>
<td>Awarded to the outstanding first-year BSc student</td>
<td>Regina Glass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Hamilton Smith Rotary Scholarship for Environmental Studies</td>
<td>Awarded to a student who is studying the second year of the outstanding first BSc in Environmental Management and Ecology</td>
<td>Michael Shackleton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Award</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Recipient</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
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<td>Marijke Hoendersnos</td>
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<td>2005</td>
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<td>Glenn Jeffrey</td>
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<td>2006</td>
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<td>Stephanie Zahra</td>
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<td>2007</td>
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<td>Emma Fuchsen</td>
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<td>2009</td>
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<td>Jenna Ludlow</td>
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<td>2010</td>
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<td>Karla Williams</td>
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<td>2011</td>
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<td>Jane White</td>
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<td>2012</td>
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<td>Catherine Morrison</td>
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<td>2013</td>
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<td>Farrah Emmett</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td></td>
<td>Calia Jones</td>
<td>Kimberley Henman</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td></td>
<td>Kimberly Henman</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td><strong>Albury-Wodonga Campus Medal</strong></td>
<td>Awarded to high achieving, first year student who has made a significant contribution to the Albury-Wodonga community through study or extra curricular activity</td>
<td>Kylie Durant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td></td>
<td>Craig Hamilton</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
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<td>Toby Alker-Jones</td>
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<td>Amy Boulding</td>
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<td>2009</td>
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<td>Stephanie Suter</td>
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<td>2012</td>
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<td>Cassandra Bates</td>
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<td>2013</td>
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<td>Simon Mom</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td><strong>City of Wodonga “Learning City” Prize</strong></td>
<td>Awarded to a graduate who commenced study as a mature aged student and has demonstrated superior achievement and a contribution to lifelong learning</td>
<td>Toby Alker-Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td></td>
<td>Annaleise Klein</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
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<td>Victoria McCartney</td>
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<td>2010</td>
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<td>Janine Box</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td><strong>Albury-Wodonga Campus Erudition Prize</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Aaron Troy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Award Description</td>
<td>Award Details</td>
<td>Winner(s)</td>
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<tr>
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</table>
| 2004 |                                               | Rachel Elso  
Jennifer Francis                                                                                                                                                                                  |                      |
| 2003 | Vice-Chancellor's Undergraduate Scholarship    | Awarded to students commencing studies at a regional campus of La Trobe University                                                                                                                     | Laura Scopel         |
| 2005 | Dean's Medal                                  | Awarded to the most outstanding student in the Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering completing an undergraduate program (including Honours) who is from Albury-Wodonga Campus                                | Nathan Ning          |
| 2006 |                                               | Amy Boulding                                                                                                                                                                                              |                      |
| 2007 |                                               | Toby Alker-Jones  
Marijke Hoenderdos                                                                                                                                                                                    |                      |
| 2008 |                                               | Amy Boulding                                                                                                                                                                                              |                      |
| 2009 |                                               | Annaleise Klein                                                                                                                                                                                          |                      |
| 2010 |                                               | Stephanie Suter                                                                                                                                                                                          |                      |
| 2011 |                                               | Slade Allen-Ankins                                                                                                                                                                                        |                      |
| 2013 |                                               | Simon Mom                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                      |
| 2006 | Dean's Honours List                           | Awarded for recognition of outstanding academic achievement in the Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering                                                                                       | Toby Alker-Jones  
Amy Boulding  
Ainslie Rosser  
Stephanie Suter |
| 2007 |                                               | Annaleise Klein  
Stephanie Suter  
Toby Alker-Jones  
Elsie Nielsen  
Danielle Smith                                                                                                                                  |                      |
| 2008 |                                               | Slade Allen-Ankins  
Emma Hampton  
Annaleise Klein                                                                                                                                        |                      |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Scholarship</th>
<th>Recipients</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td></td>
<td>Terence Karis, Elke Jasper, Chloe Scammell, Nadene Perry, Janine Box, Annaleise Klein, Verita Stewart, Karen Tymms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tracey Napper, Elke Jasper, Chloe Scammell, Nigel Roberts, Slade Allen-Ankins, Janine Box, Nadene Perry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td></td>
<td>Graeme Harris, Simon Mom, Gayle South, Jane White, Cassandra Bates, Elise Eder, Matthew Leach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td></td>
<td>Catherine Morrison, Simon Mom, Rhiannon Oates, Gayle South, Jane White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td></td>
<td>Catherine Morrison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td><strong>Albury City Student Scholarship</strong></td>
<td>Awarded to talented students from the Albury-Wodonga region who are studying on the Albury-Wodonga Campus in the Department of Environmental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Adrian Clements</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Scholarship</td>
<td>Details</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Management and Ecology in the final year of study, and who has demonstrated their commitment to the future of their profession within the local community</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Albury City Leadership Scholarship</td>
<td>Awarded to talented students from the Albury-Wodonga region who are studying on the Albury-Wodonga Campus and have demonstrated their commitment to campus life and community leadership</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
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<td>2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Lisa Malone Scholarship</td>
<td>Awarded to a student with evidence of commitment to social development wither in Australia or overseas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Roger Croome

*1996 Land Water Resources Research and Development Corporation (LWRRDC)
“A phytoplankton Methods Manual for Australian Rivers” $148,000

1991 Murray Darling Basin Commission (MDBC)
“Phytoplankton dynamics in the Murray River” $75,000

*1998 National Eutrophication Management Program (NEMP)
“A phytoplankton Methods Manual for Australian Freshwaters” $30,276

2007 eWater
“Role of fungi in carbon cycling in floodplain wetlands” $34,531

2011 Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) (with MDFRC)
“River Murray water quality monitoring program: phytoplankton data trend analysis 1980–2008” $74,000

Susan Lawler

1995 National Science Foundation (NSF) with K. Crandall Bringham Young University
“Molecular and morphological systematics of the Australian genera of Freshwater Crayfish (Decapoda: Parastacidae)” $13,500

Warren Paul

2007 North East Water
“Upgrade of Beechworth Treatment Plant” $5,000

2006 North East Water
“Water demand forecast for Wodonga” $6250

2011 Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) (with MDFRC)
“River Murray water quality monitoring program: phytoplankton data trend analysis 1980–2008” $74,000

2012 Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) (with MDFRC)
“Comprehensive review of the Mitta Mitta River monitoring data 1998–2008” $50,000

2012 Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) (with MDFRC)
“River Murray biological monitoring program review of monitoring 1980–2009” $130,000

2013 Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) (with MDFRC)
“Investigating the distribution and tolerances of macroinvertebrate taxa over 30 years in the River Murray” $55,000
2009  Australian Institute of Nuclear Science and Engineering
"Use of 14-Carbon to constrain flow paths in the Murrumbidgee deep aquifers"
$10,959

2010  North East Catchment Management
"Mt Buffalo Peatlands Ecological Risk Assessment – Water Quality Assessment Program"
$40,909

2010  La Trobe University Research Grants Scheme
"Computational Methods in Aquatic Ecology"
$10,400

*2010  Department of Environment and Heritage, Commonwealth Environment Research Facilities (CERF) (With MDFRC)
"Determining water regimes to protect floodplains under hyper-drought conditions"
$1,134,883

2010  Murray Wetlands Working Group (With MDFRC)
"Minimising environmental damage from water recovery from inland wetlands: determining water regimes to minimise the impact of sulfidic sediments (potential acid sulfate soils)"
$517,520

*2011  Australian Synchrotron (international access)
"Response of iron(Fe) mineralogy in floodplain soils to drought and flooding events"
$4,665

*2012  Australian Synchrotron (international access)
"IR micro-spectroscopic analysis of Snowgum (Eucalyptus pauciflora) decomposition by aquatic fungi"
$10,100

2013  Holsworth Wildlife Research Fund
"Fungal dynamics and carbon flow in Alpine streams"
$18,000

Phil Suter

*1996  Land and Water Resources Research and Development Corporation
"Illustrated key to the nymphs of the Australian Ephemeroptera Families Baetidae and Caenidae"
$27,762

*1998  Natural Heritage Trust
"Determining the health of the Lachlan River"
$79,994

*2002  Environment Australia
"Habitat Profiles of Australian Freshwater Macroinvertebrates"
$180,000

2006  Murray Darling Basin Commission
"River Murray Biological Monitoring Program – Review of macroinvertebrate data"
$9,000

*2007-2010  Commonwealth Environment Research Facility (CERF)
"21st Century Taxonomy: accelerating research and discovery of Australian biodiversity"
$613,000

*2011  Australian Biological Resources Study (ABRS)
"Taxonomy of Australian Stoneflies"
$60,000

2012  Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) (with MDFRC)
"River Murray biological monitoring program review of monitoring 1980-2009"
$130,000

2013  Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) (with MDFRC)
"Investigating the distribution and tolerances of macroinvertebrate taxa over 30 years in the River Murray"
$55,000


Klein, A. R., D. Baldwin & E. Silvester, 2013. Proton and iron binding by the cyanobacterial toxin Microcystin-LR. Environmental Science and Technology 47.


Mynott, J. H., Preliminary key to the larvae of Riekoperla (Plecoptera: Gripopterygidae). In: The Third TRIN Taxonomy Workshop, La Trobe University, Albury-Wodonga, 2011. TRIN Taxonomy Research and Information Network p1-11.


ADDITIONS TO DEME PUBLICATIONS LIST


DEME GRADUATES EMPLOYMENT DESTINATIONS

This listing is not exhaustive but only includes those graduates who have remained in touch with staff of the Department. Some government departments have changed their names, but those listed are correct from when the graduates were employed. Where a number is given in brackets after a listing this refers to the number of graduates employed by that organization.

Commonwealth Government Departments

Murray Darling Basin Commission
Murray Darling Basin Authority (3)
CSIRO Plant Horticulture
Federal Police Brisbane
Bureau of Meteorology
MDBA Director Water Trading
Commonwealth Department of Agriculture and Water Resources Director
Environmental Research Institute of the Supervising Scientist Jabiru NT
Commonwealth Department of Environment, Heritage and Sport
Commonwealth Department of Agriculture and Water Resources Canberra
Commonwealth Environmental Water Office Dubbo
Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources. Leading Biosecurity Officer

State Government Departments

Victoria
Department of Primary Industries Rutherglen Victoria (3)
Arthur Rylah, Melbourne Victoria (3)
Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) Wangaratta
Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) Melbourne
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning Bendigo
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning Ballarat Weeds
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning Wodonga Officer/GIS Support
Landcare Coordinator Mildura
Landcare Coordinator Bacchus Marsh
Parks Victoria Beechworth
Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) Bendigo

New South Wales
NSW Department of Primary Industries
NSW Health Department, Human Resources Albury
Landcare Coordinator Upper Murray
NSW Department of Primary Industries Environmental Scientist
NSW Fisheries Narrandera
NSW Department of Environment and Heritage Dubbo
Riverina Highlands Regional Revegetation Plan Project Manager
Australasian Association of Zoological Parks and Aquaria at Taronga Zoo
Murray Local Lands Services Community Engagement

Queensland
Department of Primary Industries Queensland
Department of Natural Resources Brisbane
Department of Primary Industries Brisbane
Queensland Parks and Wildlife Services Cape York

ACT
Department of Urban Services ACT

South Australia
Environmental Coordinator Clare Valley SA
Australian Landscape Trust SA

Catchment Management Authorities and Water Authorities

Murray Catchment Management Authority Albury
North East Water (9) Environmental Officer Wodonga, Wangaratta
Soil Chemist Lower Murray-Darling Catchment Management Authority
Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority Benalla, Manager Water Resources
Mallee CMA Mildura
NE Water Tallangatta Sewage Treatment plant operator
North East Catchment Management Authority (3)
Murray Goulburn Water Shepparton (2)
Mallee Catchment Management Authority Natural Resource Project Officer
Western Water Gisborne Water Quality Technologists
Goulburn Murray Water Tatura (now NE Water Authority)
North West Water Authority Tasmania
Murray Irrigation Natural Resources Policy Analyst
Murray Valley Catchment Authority Albury (4)
Corangamite Catchment Management Authority Geelong
NevRwaste Wangaratta (4)

Local Government

Wodonga City Council Environmental Planner
Albury City Council
Albury City Council Waterview Waste Water Treatment Works (2)
Benalla City Council Environmental Officer
Benalla City Council Sustainability and Water Management
Corowa Council Environmental Officer
Indigo Shire Town Planning
Wodonga City Council
Redland City Council
Education
Primary Teaching
Teaching, Gaylon College Wangaratta Victoria
Education Officer Underwater World Brisbane Queensland
TAFE Teaching
Teacher at Thalgarrah EEC University of New England
Teacher Wodonga (2)
Teacher Tallangatta HS
Teacher Wodonga HS Science Coordinator
Teacher Wodonga Primary
Teacher at Catholic College Wodonga
Teacher, Beechworth HS
Teacher Melbourne
Questacon Canberra
Teacher St Augustines Kyabram
Charles Sturt University Laboratory (3)
La Trobe University Aboriginal Liaison Wodonga

Private Enterprise and Consultants
AgroFresh, Shepparton Victoria
Australian Water Technology
SPC Shepparton Environmental Officer
SKM Consultants
Noske Skog Albury
Moore Pty Ltd Wodonga
Geofabrics Albury
Private Consultant (2)
Biosis Consultants Sydney
Electrical Chemical Company Hobart
Australian Country Choice Environmental Standards Officer
EarthTech Wodonga
Private Enterprise Albury
Maunsell Australia Pty Ltd
GHD Consultants Geelong
Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation (SMEC)
EcoTech Carrum
EGL Wodonga Treatment Planr
Xylem Water Solutions Australia
Australian Laboratory Services, Environmental Melbourne
Brett Lane and associates Pty Ltd Environmental Consultants Carlton
Abbie Group Environmental Officer
Environmental Consultant Beechworth
Microbiology Laboratory Technician Sydney
Naturecall Environmental
Research

CSIRO Research Scientist at MDFRC
Murray Darling Freshwater Research Centre Mildura (3)
Murray Darling Freshwater Research Centre Wodonga (9)
UNESCO, M&E and Science Coordinator
Postdoctoral Fellow USA
Royal Adelaide Hospital Oncology

International

Thames Water London
Anglian Water UK
Zespri International Tauranga New Zealand

Others

McCrae Holden
Lawyer Wodonga
Victorian Farmers Federation Regional Manager
DEME SELECTED FIELD ACTIVITIES

Phillip Island

Students with Dr. Cath Meathrel and Dr. Mark Carey with short tailed shearwater.

Quadrat sampling at Red Rocks, Phillip Island

Cape Woolamai, Phillip Island

Little Penguin

Woolamai wave platform

Quadrat sampling at Red Rocks
Freshwater Ecology

Dr. Phil Suter demonstrating sampling techniques.

Students sampling in stream.

Students sampling stream macroinvertebrates

Stream edge sampling for aquatic macroinvertebrates
Alpine Ecology

Stream ecology theory in the field

Pygmy Possum

Vegetation in peatlands

Geology of the High Plains–'Ruined Castle'

Dean Heinz and friend

Collecting terrestrial invertebrates
Sorting aquatic macroinvertebrate samples

Alpine pavement morphology

Bogong Moth habitat, Mt McKay

Alpine stonefly, endangered species

Dr. Peter Pridmore and students discussing Alpine vegetation adaptations

Dr. Ewen Silvester examining the flower of a trigger plant
Identifying aquatic macroinvertebrates

Identifying terrestrial invertebrates with Dr. Dennis Black

Sampling leaf litter in alpine vegetation communities

Research in the Alps
Aquatic Research in an extreme environment

Dubbo Zoo – Conservation Ecology

Students with Dr. Cath Meathrel observing the rare and endangered Przewalski horses native to the steppes of central Asia.

Conservation by Taronga Zoos.
Resource Management – Forestry

Harvesting of plantation pines at Shelley

Waste Management

Recycling at Cleanaway

DEME Research Laboratory: Albury-Wodonga campus

Martin Fussell, John Hill, David Finlay, ?, Rheinhard Beissbarth and Phil Suter.  
Rheinhard Beissbarth, Ewen Silvester  
Martin Fussell.
Dr. Ewen Silvester, Sarie Los and Dr. Pettina Love

Dr. Dennis Black and Dean Heinz

Dean Heinz, Dr. Dennis Black, Craig Hamilton, Aaron Troy, Dr. Nathan Ning and Nick May
Third year students (2012) with Dr Ewen Silvester (DEME), Dr Gavin Rees (MDFRC) and Dr Darren Baldwin (MDFRC) sampling the sulphitic sediments in wetlands at Bottle Bend on the Murray River.

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