2012 Guest Speakers: St Lucia Campus

12 July: Dr Trent Woodruff  
*UQ School of Biomedical Sciences*  
Dr Trent Woodruff’s research revolves around the complement system which is a major part of our immune system and its contribution to a range of neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer’s disease, motor neuron disease, Huntington’s disease and stroke. His extensive list of accolades includes fellowships from the Australian Research Council, the Motor Neuron Disease Research Institute and a QLD Premier’s Award for Health and Medical Research.

12 July: Dr James Fraser  
*UQ School of Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences*  
Dr Fraser’s research focuses on a human pathogenic fungus affecting individuals with a compromised immune system (such as people with HIV). Infection by fungal pathogen is fatal if untreated and has been attributed to up to 1,000,000,000 deaths each year. His research aims to understand how this pathogen evolves during infection and how we can exploit these changes in the development of urgently needed antifungal therapies.

Please note: Those attending on 12 July will attend one presentation.

13 July: Professor Melissa Fitzgerald  
*UQ School of Agriculture and Food Sciences*  
Professor Melissa Fitzgerald is a food scientist studying the flavour, fragrance and nutrition of food from genetic and medical perspectives. She is currently developing an exciting food science research program connecting geneticists, chemists, engineers and biochemists. The initiative will provide collaborative opportunities for social scientists, medical professionals, nutritionists and primary producers. Professor Fitzgerald was appointed to the prestigious role after working for the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in the Philippines for eight years. As global coordinator of research her aim was to extract more value
from rice harvests through improved quality, processing, market systems and new products.

16 July: Dr Elin Charles Edwards  
_UQ School of Geography, Planning and Environmental Management_  
Dr Elin Charles Edwards is a post-doctoral research fellow at the Queensland Centre for Population Research (QCPR). QCPR focuses on demographic change at the local and regional level, both within Australia and overseas. Dr Charles-Edwards’ research interests include small area population estimates, temporary population mobility and internal migration.

17 July: Professor Paul Young  
_UQ School of Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences_  
Professor Paul Young is currently President of the Australasian Virology Society and the Head of the Molecular Virology Unit at UQ. Professor Young’s research focuses on dengue virus; Respiratory Syncytial Virus which hospitalizes children with respiratory infections and KoRV, a retrovirus which is invading the koala germline and linked with high rates of cancer in the species. His laboratory employs molecular and structural biology based approaches in the identification of key biomolecular processes of viral replication. These key processes are then targeted for the development of improved diagnostics, vaccines and anti-viral therapeutic control strategies.

18 July: Dr Carmel McDougall  
_UQ School of Biological Sciences_  
Not only is the molluscan shell amongst nature’s most beautiful creations, it is also an incredible feat of engineering on a microscopic scale. With a background in marine biology and genetics, Dr Carmel McDougall studies the genetic basis and evolution of shell and pearl formation. Her research seeks to understand the genomic basis of the origin of animal complexity but also has application to industry.

Questions?  
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