



Editors



Professor Pauline Ladiges

Pauline Ladiges is a Professor and Head of the School of Botany at the University of Melbourne. Her PhD on plant genecology is from the University of Melbourne and she is distinguished for her studies in taxonomy, biogeography and ecology of Australian flora. An expert on the genus *Eucalyptus*, Professor Ladiges was one of the first Australian biologists to adopt cladistic methodology and develop new methods for analysing biogeographic patterns.

In recognition of her scientific discoveries and leadership, she was awarded a Personal Chair at her university in 1992 and was elected Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science in 2002. In her 30 years of teaching, she has trained a strong team of postgraduate students, co-authored and edited several award-winning biology textbooks and served on a number of Boards and Advisory Committees for government and industry.



Professor Barbara Evans

Barbara Evans is currently Dean of Graduate Studies at the University of Melbourne. In her PhD studies at the University of Melbourne she described the effects of antihypertensive drugs on the function of the autonomic system in mammals. Professor Evans went on to become an expert in comparative animal physiology, specialising in cardiovascular and respiratory regulation and diving in animals such as crocodiles, ducks and the platypus, and worked in the UK and Canada. Her more recent studies include the reproductive biology of Australian animals, including the platypus and echidna.

For many years a popular biology lecturer, Professor Evans made major contributions to the curriculum design of both tertiary and secondary level biology courses, and co-authored several highly successful biology textbooks. Among her other achievements, Barbara studied physical education and represented Australia in Gymnastics at both the Olympic Games and World championships.



Professor Robert Saint

Robert Saint is Head of Molecular Genetics and Evolution at the Australian National University and Director of the Australian Research Council Special Research Centre for the Molecular Genetics of Development. He is also Adjunct Professor of Genetics at the University of Adelaide.

He graduated from the University of Adelaide, where he studied gene structure in the earliest days of recombinant DNA technology. He went on to study at Stanford University where he carried out the first expression analysis of a HOX gene.

Professor Saint is one of the pioneers of research into cell cycle control during development. His research interests now focus on gene discovery and the molecular regulation of the cytoskeleton in cell behaviours such as cell division and cell migration, using *Drosophila melanogaster* as a model, with additional recent interests in the coral genome.

Robert Bruce Knox 1938 – 1997

Robert Bruce Knox was Professor in the School of Botany at the University of Melbourne until his untimely death in 1997. He was a renowned and innovative scientist, honoured by his election as a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science in 1989. A pioneer in the discovery of cell recognition mechanisms in the breeding and reproductive systems of flowering plants, he made a major contribution to the understanding of how plants recognise 'self and non-self'. He was one of the first people in the world to apply the techniques of immunochemistry and histochemistry to study plant development. His study of pollen led to the characterisation of proteins in the pollen cell wall and to the cloning of allergen genes.

Bruce Knox was a great believer in the importance of an Australian focused biology text, and would have been proud to see '*Biology: An Australian focus*' in its third edition.