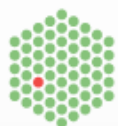


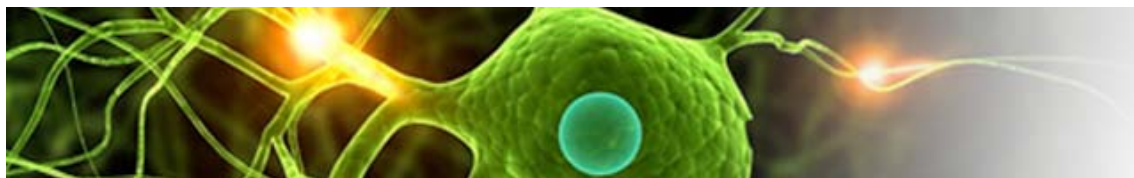
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EMBL
Australia



European Molecular Biology Laboratory **Australia**

EMBL Australia eNews



EMBL Australia newsletter: Spring 2009

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Welcome to the first edition of the EMBL Australia newsletter. Since EMBL Australia was formed in March 2008 significant progress has been made to advance the initiative and Australian linkage with the European Molecular Biology Laboratory.

This edition coincides with the release of the first EMBL Australia annual report. This report outlines the achievements so far, many of which are highlighted in this newsletter.

About EMBL Australia

Australia's Associate Membership of EMBL commenced in March 2008. EMBL Australia was established by the Australian universities of Monash, Queensland, Sydney and Western Australia, along with the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation.

EMBL Australia aims to advance collaboration and research quality through four activity streams:

- First-class scientific training and collaborative opportunities for Australian life scientists
- Establishing the EMBL Australia Partner Laboratory Network throughout Australia
- Pursuing international co-funding for research; and
- Exchange of expertise, resources, services and innovation between Europe and Australia

Federal funding for EMBL Australia

In May this year, the Australian Government announced that it will provide \$8.0 million over four years for EMBL Australia. The funding will support Australia's participation in major international research projects and also provide access to the EMBL's world-leading research infrastructure and expertise in bioinformatics, researcher training and research commercialisation. It will also promote research collaboration and researcher mobility between Australia and Europe.

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Chairman and Council appointed

Professor Richard Larkins, the recently retired Vice Chancellor of Monash University, is the inaugural chair of EMBL Australia. Professor Larkins has had a distinguished career in medicine, scientific research and academic management. He was President and Vice Chancellor of Monash University from 2003 - 2008. He is a Fellow of the Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering. In 2002 Professor Larkins was made an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for service to medicine and health.

Professor Larkins' appointment coincides with the announcement of the membership of the EMBL Australia Council. The Council represents the participant organisations in EMBL Australia.

EMBL Australia Council members:

- Prof Richard Larkins (Chair)
- Prof Edwina Cornish, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research), Monash University
- Prof Trevor Hambley, Faculties of Science, Agriculture and Veterinary Science, The University of Sydney
- Prof Peter Leedman, Professor of Medicine, Western Australia Institute for Medical Research, The University of Western Australia
- Professor Iain Mattaj, Director, European Molecular Biology Laboratory
- Prof Doug McEachern, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research & Innovation), The University of Western Australia
- Dr Louise Ryan, Chief, CSIRO Mathematical and Information Sciences
- Prof Deborah Terry, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic), The University of Queensland
- Prof Jill Trehwella, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research), The University of Sydney
- Dr Silke Schumacher, Coordinator International Relations and Communication, EMBL
- Prof Brandon Wainwright, Institute for Molecular Bioscience, The University of Queensland
- Dr Graeme Woodrow, Chief, CSIRO Molecular and Health Technologies
- Prof Steve Wesselingh, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, Monash University

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Group Leader positions available

EMBL Australia Partner Laboratory Group Leaders (2 positions):

Located at the newly established EMBL Australia Partner Laboratory Hub at the Australian Regenerative Medicine Institute at Monash University, Melbourne, Australia. The successful candidates will each lead a research group for a period of five years and participate in the active development of the new Partner Laboratory and a program of linking activities with the EMBL in Europe. [More...](#)

Faculty Development Program Group Leader (5 years in Europe and 4 years in Australia):

Funding by the NHMRC is available to support one research group located at one of the five EMBL sites in Europe for a maximum period of five years. The position will then be continued for a further four years at an Australian institution. To be eligible for NHMRC support applicants must be working in a field relevant to human health. [More...](#)

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Annual Report now available

The 2008-09 EMBL Australia annual report is now available. It can be downloaded from the website www.emblaustralia.org. If you would like a printed copy, please email your postal address to info@emblaustralia.org. [More...](#)

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Scientific Program now available

The EMBL Australia Scientific Program, developed with widespread input from the Australian scientific community, sets the agenda for all activities for the period of the membership. Consistent with the EMBL philosophy, it focuses on driving improved scientific outcomes. The EMBL Australia Scientific Program can be downloaded from the website www.emblaustralia.org. If you would like a printed copy, please email your postal address to info@emblaustralia.org. [More...](#)

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Bioinformatics for the future--an EMBL Australia initiative

In March 2009, EMBL Australia hosted "Bioinformatics for the Future", a series of workshops and seminars by Dr Ewan Birney, Senior Scientist at the EMBL-EBI. Ewan toured Australia, meeting with members of the bioinformatics research community, politicians, and key government and industry decision-makers. The focus of the visit was to strengthen relationships between Australia and Europe in the life sciences and to stimulate discussion on how to progress Australian bioinformatics.

EMBL Australia recently launched a report that summarises Dr Birney's visit and outlines key issues identified in the workshops and seminars. Copies of the Bioinformatics for the Future report can be downloaded from the website www.emblaustralia.org. [More...](#)

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EMBL Australia goes online

The EMBL Australia initiative continues to gather momentum. We have recently launched a website, www.emblaustralia.org. We encourage you to take a look and stay in touch.

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