



Science, Technology and Engineering

Research in Zoology

The Department of Zoology sits within the Faculty of Science, Technology and Engineering. The Faculty has an outstanding record of research achievement, and a wide variety of research interests. Staff have a proud history of successful partnering programs with business and other research organisations, achieving valuable research and consultancy outcomes, producing work-ready graduates, and negotiating high quality industry placements.

Staff research areas



Dr Fiona Bird
Crustacean Ecology

My research focuses on the ecology of marine and terrestrial crustaceans. Firstly, the effects of ghost shrimp and crabs on the biogeochemistry of marine sand and mudflats, and secondly the influence of land use on species composition, burrow density and activity of terrestrial crayfish.



Dr Mike Clarke, Associate Professor
Ecology & Conservation Biology

My research proceeds along two complementary lines. The first is basic research in behavioural ecology. This has focused on the evolution of cooperative breeding in Australian honeyeaters, in particular *Manorina* spp. The second is applied research in conservation biology, studying the impact of fire upon the ecology of wildlife. I also have a strong interest in the behavioural ecology of endangered species of birds and threatening processes involved in the degradation of habitat.



Dr Heloise Gibb
Community ecology and entomology

My research focuses on basic and applied research in insect community ecology, coupled with an interest in landscape ecology, habitat fragmentation and restoration ecology. Much of my research examines anthropogenic effects on invertebrate communities, in terms of both the conservation of species diversity and of ecological functions.



Professor Graham Lamb
Muscle physiology and exercise

My research group studies the control of calcium release and contraction in normal and diseased muscle, making matched physiological and biochemical measurements on single muscle fibres.



Dr Brian Malone
Herpetology and freshwater ecology

Research in my lab is heavily focused on conservation biology, ecology and evolution of native reptiles, amphibians and fish. A diverse range of projects is catered for, with current research covering topics such as management and conservation of endangered species, life history variation, competition, and thermal ecology.



Dr Giuseppe Posterino
Skeletal and cardiac muscle research group

My research focuses on skeletal and cardiac muscle physiology; excitation-contraction coupling; developmental physiology, fetal and growth and development.



Professor George Stephenson
Excitation-contraction coupling in skeletal, cardiac and smooth muscle

My research group studies the physiology of vertebrate and invertebrate muscle; mechanism and regulation of contraction in normal and diseased muscle; Ca²⁺ movements in muscle cells associated with contraction; Ca²⁺-dependent luminescence; intracellular Ca²⁺-indicators; motile systems in non-muscle cells.

Further Information

For further information about undertaking a research degree in zoology or to discuss collaboration with our researchers, please contact:

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CRICOS Provider 00115M

Last updated: 19/03/2009