

Resume of Mike Dyall-Smith



Personal Details

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Education

- **B.Sc. (honours)**, 1978: The University of Melbourne.
- **Ph.D.**, 1982: The University of Melbourne. Department of Microbiology and Immunology. **Thesis Title**, *The genes and gene products of rotavirus.*

Employment

1981-1984: Australian Postdoctoral Fellow, NH&MRC., Uni. Melb., Dept Microbiology
1984-1986: Lecturer (limited tenure), Univ. Melb., Dept. Microbiology
1986-1988: Lecturer (continuing), Univ. Melb., Dept. Microbiology
1990 - 2007: Senior Lecturer, Univ. Melb., Dept. Microbiology
2008- current: Visiting Professor, MPI for Biochemistry, Martinsried, Germany

Academic Awards

1974-6: Several undergraduate awards from the Australian Society for Microbiology.
1976: Exhibition in Microbiology from the University of Melbourne.
1991: The Frank Fenner Research Award, from the Australian Society for Microbiology

Publications

- 82 peer reviewed journal publications, mostly in top microbiology journals.
- 8 peer reviewed book chapters

Conference abstracts

- 43 conference abstracts or proceedings from conference presentations

Patents

- Two patents (Publication Numbers: WO/1985/005122 and WO/1989/001514
The latter patent provides an annual payment to the inventors.

Service to profession

- Editorial board of 3 journals: FEMS Microbiology Reviews, Extremophiles, Saline Systems
- Previous editor of Aquatic Microbial Ecology (2004-6)
- Regularly review manuscripts for Molecular Microbiology, J. Bacteriol., J. Virol., Virology, Appl. Env. Microbiol.. Also review US and UK grant applications (NSF, BBSRC).
- Member Bacterial Virus Subcommittee of the ICTV. (1999-)

- ARC small grants committee (1995-1996); Chair of this committee, 1997
- Online handbook: *The HaloHandbook*. I edit and update this regularly. It provides a laboratory manual for people working with extreme halophiles, and is used worldwide.
- ARB phylogeny software program port to OS X. The ARB package is used extensively by environmental microbiologists around the world (<http://www.arb-home.de/>). With a colleague we ported this to the OS X platform, and I maintain and update a webpage with installation instructions and solutions to common problems.
- Many of my pictures of salt lakes and salt lake microorganisms have been used in journal front covers, books, magazines and museum displays around the world.

Grants

- \$911,000 worth of competitive research grants, mainly from the ARC. This excludes the considerable funding received from a private company (Wallace International) for a rotavirus vaccine project conducted in the mid-1980s. It also excludes funding for international projects in which I am a participant (and benefit by), but for which I get no specific funding (e.g. Venter Institute).

Teaching (while at Melbourne University)

- Co-ordinated and taught in many undergraduate lecture and practical courses in microbiology, including B.Sc. 2nd, 3rd year and 4th (honours) year courses.
- I received excellent feedback from student assessments.
- Supervised 22 B.Sc. honours students
- Supervised 15 Ph.D. and M.Sc. students (currently 1 Ph.D. student; thesis submitted)

Service to the University of Melbourne (up to 2007)

- Member of Dept. B.Sc. honours course committee.
- Member of University Climate Adaptation Science and Policy Initiative (CASPI)
- Previously on many other committees at Melbourne University (ARC small grants committee, Dept. safety committee, travel fund committee, etc.)

Research interests

- Archaea, particularly haloarchaea: genetics, lateral gene transfer, diversity and taxonomy
- Haloarchaeal viruses (haloviruses), diversity, genetics, evolution.
- Salt lake microbiology and ecology
- Environmental microbiology, extremophiles, genomics/metagenomics.

International standing

- I have an international reputation in the study of extremely halophilic Archaea (halobacteria), as well as the viruses that infect them. This is evidenced by my membership on study groups, journal editorial boards (above), invitations to international conferences, requests to review manuscripts, and my extensive list of publications.
- I maintain collaborations with research groups around the world (UK, Finland, Spain, France, Japan, USA), and have many joint publications.
- I am currently a member of an international consortium, headed by the Craig Venter Inst (USA), to study metagenomes of salt lakes in Australia.
- I was recruited to the Max Planck Institute in 2008 specifically because of my knowledge and skills in the area of haloarchaea (isolation, genetics, genomics).