

# Research support and lectureships

The Academy provides funding for the support of individual research projects and for lectureships. The purpose of the lectureships is to enable distinguished researchers to communicate with Australian researchers and, through public lectures, to a broader audience.

## Conservation of endangered Australian vertebrate species awards for 2009

The following researchers will receive support for their research on endangered Australian vertebrate species:

**Dr Diana Fisher, University of Queensland**

Conservation ecology of a declining arid zone carnivorous marsupial, the kultarr (*Antechinomys laniger*)

**Ms Felicia Pereoglou, Australian National University**

Relationship of fire, genetics and the eastern chestnut mouse (*Pseudomys gracilicaudatus*) and the conservation of fire-adapted native fauna

**Ms Anja Skroblin and Dr Sarah Legge, Australian Wildlife Conservancy**

Distribution, phylogeography and dispersal behaviour of the vulnerable purple-crowned fairy-wren (*Malurus coronatus*)

**Dr Jan Slapeta, University of Sydney**

Study of a recently discovered parasite threatening the endangered green and golden bell frog (*Litoria aurea*)

**Ms Yiwei Wang, University of Queensland**

Evaluating the interactions and impact of predators on the highly endangered bridled nailtail wallaby (*Onychogalea fraenata*)

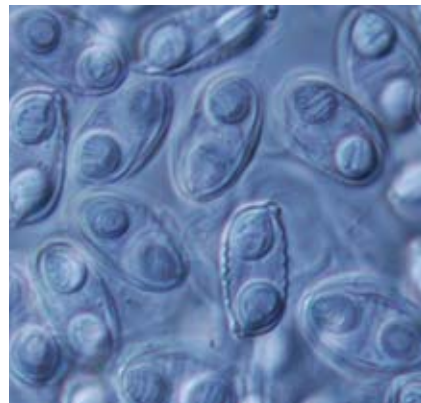


Photo: Jan Slapeta, University of Sydney

A recently discovered parasite threatening the endangered green and golden bell frog



Photo: Anja Skroblin and Sarah Legge, Australian Wildlife Conservancy

Where are the purple-crowned fairy-wrens?



Photo: Sydney Wildlife World

Predator impact on the highly endangered bridled nailtail wallaby is under investigation

## J G Russell Awards

The J G Russell Award is aimed at financially helping talented younger researchers in the basic sciences as a token of the community's regard for them. It recognises the infrastructure cost involved in experimental research, and can be used towards equipment, maintenance, travel and other assistance. Nominations are not sought for this award: they are chosen from the recipients of the Queen Elizabeth II Fellowships.

The following young researchers will receive support in 2009:

**Dr Amanda Barnard, University of Melbourne**

Development of computational tools to predict the behaviour of nanoparticles to investigate the use of nanodiamonds to deliver chemotherapy drugs.

**Dr Michael Breadmore, University of Tasmania**

Development of an integrated device for the direct analysis of drugs and metabolites in fluids for testing in therapeutic drug monitoring to improve medical treatment and patient quality of life.

**Dr Hugh Harris, University of Adelaide**

Investigation into the effects of the use of dietary selenium supplementation as a preventative treatment for a range of health conditions.

**Dr Angela Moles, University of New South Wales**

Study of how weeds are adapting to life in Australia by quantifying the rate and direction of evolution in introduced plants and gain a better understanding of how to develop appropriate control programs to protect our future biodiversity.

## Travelling fellowships for 2009

### Selby Travelling Fellowship 2009

**Professor Robert P Kirshner, Harvard College Professor of Astronomy, Clowes Professor of Science, Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, USA**

The Fellowship is financed through the generosity of the trustees of the Selby Scientific Foundation. It is awarded to distinguished overseas scientists to visit Australian scientific centres and deliver public lectures. Fellows are expected to increase public awareness of science and scientific issues and accordingly will be outstanding lecturers to the general lay public.



Photo: © Rick Friedman

Robert Kirshner, Selby Travelling Fellow for 2009