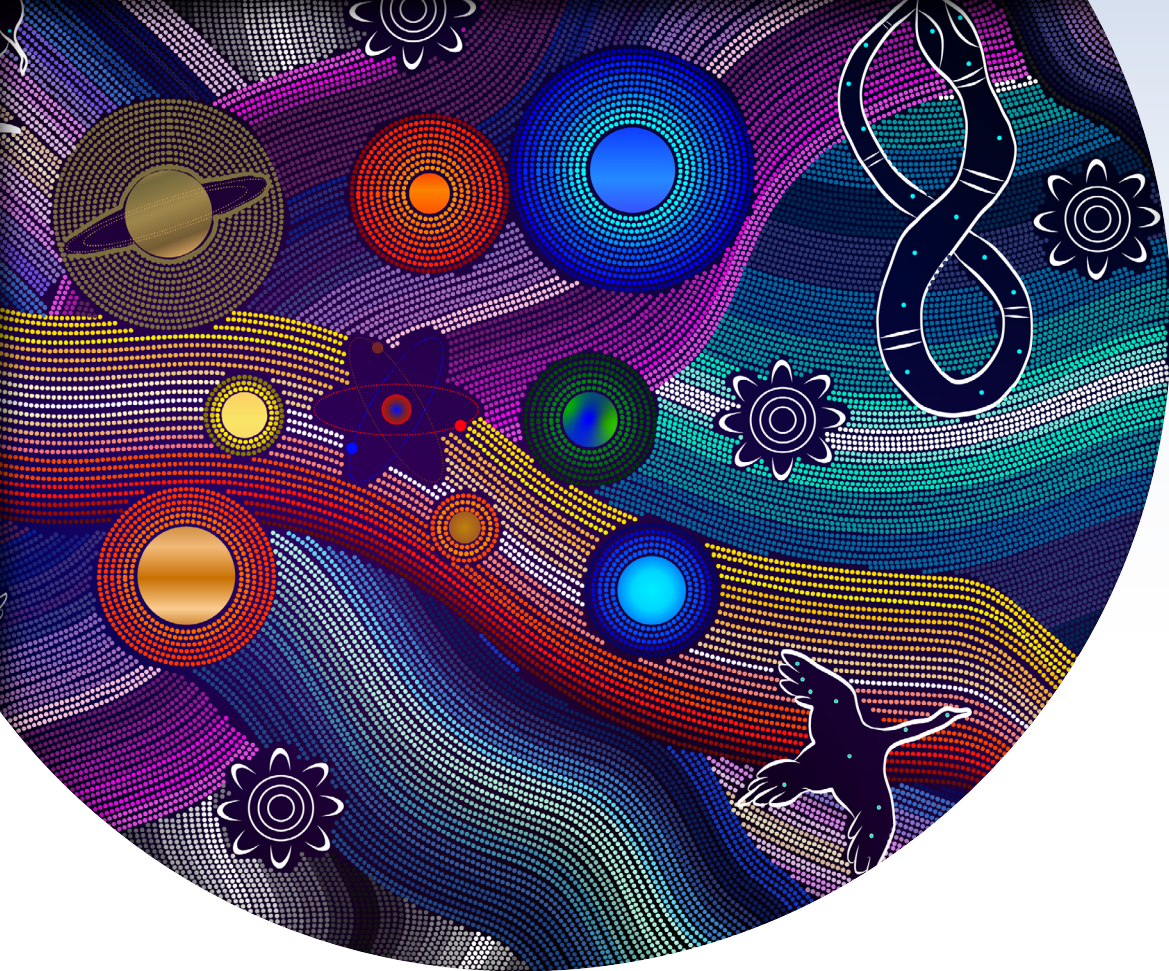


LEAVE A LEGACY TO THE  
AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

**THE FUTURE OF AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE**







## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Australian Academy of Science acknowledges and pays respects to the Traditional Owners of all the lands on which the Academy operates, and where its Fellows and employees live and work. The Academy recognises Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first innovators and scientists of this land and honours their enduring connection to Country, from which we are committed to learn. We pay our respects to, and recognise the cultural authority of, their Elders past and present.

## A GIFT FOR ALL AUSTRALIANS

For over 70 years, the Australian Academy of Science has been an independent organisation of distinguished Australian scientists, dedicated to advancing science for the benefit of all. Since our foundation by Royal Charter in 1954, our mission remains clear: to strengthen Australian science – its systems, structures, and people – so that all Australians can enjoy the benefits of scientific knowledge and so science can underpin civil society.

From these early beginnings, the Academy has been shaped by the generosity of our supporters. Donations and bequests from visionary Australians and our founding Fellows helped establish the Academy's Endowment Fund, which remains the foundation of our independence today.

This tradition of giving continues and we are delighted to share some stories that honour the remarkable legacies of our generous supporters. Through bequests, visionary programs like *Australian science*, *Australia's future: Science 2035* are driving bold national conversations. These gifts have opened doors for emerging researchers who will shape the future of Australian science. They have empowered teachers to nurture curiosity in classrooms, delivered scientific advice to Ministers, and connected brilliant minds across borders through mobility programs.

Bequests will continue to play a vital role in ensuring the Academy can deliver our work that touches all Australians. I invite you to consider this in a world where science lies at the heart of every major challenge – from decarbonising our economy to preparing for future pandemics.

Our role is more important than ever.

Those who choose to leave a gift to the Academy join a distinguished community of Fellows, friends, and supporters whose foresight strengthens our independence and ensures science continues to serve society.

Thank you for considering a gift in your Will and for becoming a part of the Academy's story, and Australia's future.

I am deeply grateful for your generosity.

**Professor Chennupati Jagadish AC PresAA FRS FREng FTSE**  
**PRESIDENT (2022–2026)**  
**AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE**





AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE  
AUSTRALIA'S FUTURE

SCIENCE 2035  
WHERE DO WE WANT TO BE?

# THE IMPACT OF GIVING

## A LEGACY FOR THE NATION

Professor Michael Dopita AM FAA (1946–2018) was a Professor of Astronomy at Mount Stromlo Observatory, and a world-leading expert on galaxy formation and evolution, the physics of the interstellar medium, plasma diagnostics and spectral synthesis, star formation, and the galactic environment of black holes. Elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science in 1996, he brought to the Academy both his scientific expertise and his belief that science must serve society.

Michael reflected on his time as a Council Member and Treasurer at the Academy:

“In my over six years as Treasurer of the Academy, I was constantly amazed by the enthusiasm, professionalism and dedication of the staff. They work to educate the public on key issues such as climate change and vaccination, and advocate with Australia’s politicians for rational policies in science, STEM education, and renewable energy. At the same time, I was acutely aware of the limitations placed upon us by budgetary constraints ...

For this reason, I have made a binding bequest to the Academy, in the sure knowledge that the money will be well-spent in securing a healthier, literate, rational, and science-driven future for all Australians.”

Michael’s generosity has made possible one of the most ambitious policy initiatives in the Academy’s history: *Australian science, Australia’s future: Science 2035*. For the first time, this national effort systematically assesses Australia’s scientific capability against its future needs, guiding evidence-based decisions that will shape the country for decades to come.

Michael’s bequest also supported the development of the *Astronomy decadal plan 2026–2035*, advancing the vision for Australian astronomy, setting a roadmap for addressing critical scientific questions and building the necessary infrastructure.

Through these initiatives, his vision for a stronger, science-driven Australia continues to guide and benefit the nation.



# AUSTRALIA'S BRIGHTEST MINDS

## OUR FELLOWS

We have the brightest minds – more than 600 Fellows – who are leading experts in all scientific fields across Australia and internationally.

Our Fellows are elected by peers for their groundbreaking research and innovations. Their expertise underpins the Academy's ability to provide independent advice that informs government policy, guides decisions, and strengthens public understanding of science.

The Academy brings knowledge across scientific fields together to help solve our nation's challenges.



# OUR PROGRAMS

We invite you to explore supporting one of our program areas that resonates with your values and vision.

## SCIENCE POLICY

We aim to ensure that decisions are guided by evidence. This should be at the core of our democracy, shaping the future direction of Australia. Our Science Policy program translates the expertise of our Fellows into clear, current, and impartial advice for government, industry, the public, and wherever else decisions are made.

Based at Ian Potter House and the Shine Dome in Canberra, the Academy's location is vital for strategic engagement with decision-makers at the political heart of our nation.

### Case study: Evidence-informed decision-making during crisis

In 2020, Australia faced the COVID-19 pandemic, creating an urgent need for rapid, credible scientific advice. Together with Australia's Chief Scientist, the Academy established the Rapid Research Information Forum (RRIF), a first-of-its-kind mechanism that quickly brought together our Fellows and multidisciplinary expertise from across Australia and the world. The forum delivered rapid-turnaround, peer-reviewed, evidence-based reports to government ministers, guiding critical public health and emergency decisions, directly shaping policy in moments of uncertainty and national need.

## EDUCATION

Supporting teachers is critical to supporting students who our country needs to nourish the STEM pipeline. The Academy's education programs enhance science and mathematics teaching in Australian schools, helping to develop the next generation of scientific minds. By investing in teachers, we equip them to inspire students, strengthen the STEM pipeline, and ensure young Australians gain the skills and curiosity to shape the future of science.

### Case study: Critical tools for teachers

The Academy's Primary Connections program provides hands-on, inquiry-based resources for teachers to bring science to life in the classroom. Since its launch, it has reached tens of thousands of teachers and students across Australia, inspiring curiosity, fostering critical thinking, and helping young learners develop a passion for science.





## INTERNATIONAL

Science knows no borders. With a national prominence and international reach, we serve as Australia's voice for science. Through our International Affairs and Science Diplomacy programs, the Academy represents Australia's scientific voice among our global counterparts. We ensure that Australian research excellence informs international decisions, fosters collaboration, and contributes to a more sustainable, equitable, and prosperous future for our nation, our region, and our world.

### Case study: Supporting a scientific voice for the region

The Pacific region faces urgent challenges, from climate change to biodiversity loss, yet its scholars have long needed a platform to influence regional and international decisions. In October 2024, the Pacific Academy of Sciences was launched, with the Australian Academy of Science playing a key advisory role in its establishment. By shaping its governance and structure, we helped unite Pacific scholars so they have agency to inform decisions that directly affect them and the Pacific region.

## AWARDS AND MOBILITY PROGRAMS

Recognition and support are vital to helping Australian researchers thrive. The Academy celebrates scientific excellence across all fields through prestigious awards and mobility grants. These programs provide recognition that opens doors and creates opportunities for researchers to collaborate nationally and internationally, broaden their skills, and advance their careers.

### Case study: Empowering future generations

Early- and mid-career researchers (EMCRs) are the future of Australian science, and many of these awards and grants are specifically designed to support them. By providing funding, professional development, and networking opportunities, the Academy helps EMCRs establish independent research programs, engage with leading experts, and build international collaborations.



## THE BASSER LIBRARY AND FENNER ARCHIVES

The Academy's Basser Library and Fenner Archives safeguard the nation's scientific history, preserving the work, records, and personal collections of Australia's leading scientists. These unique collections provide an invaluable resource for research, education, and inspiration, ensuring that the achievements and insights of past generations remain accessible to today's scientists and the broader public.

### Case study: Digitisation of heritage collections

The Frank Fenner manuscript collection, recently added to the UNESCO Australian Memory of the World Register, documents his pivotal contributions to controlling the rabbit plague, eradicating smallpox, and advancing science communication over eight decades. Through the digitisation project, Fenner's rich collection is now widely accessible, keeping his story and Australia's scientific heritage alive.





# REMEMBER THE ACADEMY IN YOUR WILL

**A bequest to the Australian Academy of Science is a meaningful way to contribute to Australia's scientific future.**

Your gift can be made for specific or general purposes, ensuring long-term impact. Please contact us to establish a letter of wishes to reflect your intentions.

The Academy greatly appreciates all gifts. You may choose to leave a specific amount, the residue of your estate, or a percentage of the residue after other gifts are made. Please contact us at [philanthropy@science.org.au](mailto:philanthropy@science.org.au) or +61 2 6201 9400 if there are other types of gifts in your Will that you would like to consider.

## WORDING FOR GIFTS TO THE AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

Please consider the below suggested wording in consultation with your legal representative. Your legal representative can ensure that the contents of your Will accurately reflect your intentions.

### SPECIFIC AMOUNT

*"I give the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Australian Academy of Science (ABN 90 700 613 342) of Ian Potter House, 9 Gordon Street, Acton, ACT 2601. I direct that the receipt of the proper officer of the Academy will be sufficient discharge to my executors."*

### RESIDUE OR PERCENTAGE OF RESIDUE

*"I give the residue of my estate (or \_\_\_\_\_ % of the residue of my estate) to the Australian Academy of Science (ABN 90 700 613 342) of Ian Potter House, 9 Gordon Street, Acton, ACT 2601. I direct that the receipt of the proper officer of the Academy will be sufficient discharge to my executors."*

# OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

**We are committed to respecting the wishes and intentions of our donors. All gifts are managed ethically, effectively, and in full legal compliance. To ensure this, the Academy employs robust governance and investment frameworks that guarantee responsible and careful use of all gifts.**

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GIFTS

Every gift is formally acknowledged and recorded, ensuring full transparency from the moment you let us know.

### GOVERNANCE AND ASSURANCE

The Academy's Council provides governance and oversight, ensuring that every gift is used in accordance with donor intentions.

### ENDURING MANAGEMENT

Gifts to the Endowment are managed on an enduring basis as part of the Academy's broader investment portfolio. The portfolio is guided by a formal investment strategy and incorporates sustainable investment considerations. Your gift benefits from professional management, and delivery of value and impact for the long term.







# THE IMPACT OF GIVING

## A LEGACY FOR INDEPENDENCE

Professor Jan (Joan) Anderson FAA FRS (1932–2015) became a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science in 1987, forging a lifelong connection with the Academy and its mission.

Jan was a pioneering biochemist whose groundbreaking research transformed our understanding of photosynthesis and plant metabolism. Her discoveries not only advanced science but also helped shape the future of agriculture and biological research worldwide.

Beyond her scientific achievements, Jan cared deeply about education and evidence-informed policy. She understood something profound: that true scientific independence, the ability to speak with authority, free from external influence, depends on two things: the expertise of our Fellows and the generosity of those who believe in our mission.

Jan's trust in the Academy and her decision to leave an untied bequest gave us the flexibility to direct her support where it could have the greatest impact.

We remain deeply grateful for Jan's vision and invite you to consider joining her in leaving a legacy that will empower Australian science for generations to come.

# THANK YOU

**Recognising the ongoing support of our donors is incredibly important to us. It is one of the ways in which we can acknowledge and thank you.**

If you have already included the Australian Academy of Science in your Will, or intend to do so, we invite you to let us know. This enables us to appropriately acknowledge your generosity and ensure your legacy reflects your wishes. Any information you provide will be treated with the utmost confidentiality.

By sharing your intentions, you will also have the opportunity to stay connected with the Academy – through invitations to special events, updates on our work, and other activities – while providing the assurance that your gift is directed as you intend.

*Thank you for considering a gift in your Will to the Australian Academy of Science.*





# THE IMPACT OF GIVING

## A LEGACY FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Zoologist Dr Margaret Middleton (1928–2019) was a long-time supporter of the Academy and early-career scientists.

Her early gifts established The Margaret Middleton Fund for Endangered Australian Native Vertebrate Animals, supporting early-career researchers in conservation. She continued to contribute annually, and her generous bequest ensures the fund continues to nurture the next generation of scientists, supporting more than 90 projects to date.

In 2025, Dr Emily Hoffmann received the Margaret Middleton Award for her project *‘Frogs on fire: Rapid assessment of fire impacts on an endangered peatland endemic to inform prescribed burn practices’*. Her research will assess the effects of a 2024 fire that burned over one-third of the habitat of the endangered sunset frog (*Spicospina flammocaerulea*), helping guide future conservation strategies.

**“These funds will support critical work to understand the relationship between these frogs, their unique habitats, and increasing fire,” Dr Hoffmann said.**

Margaret’s generosity will continue to support and inspire future recipients of her fund for many years.



Australian  
Academy of  
Science

## CONTACT US

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The Australian Academy of Science is an independent organisation of distinguished Australian scientists, championing science for the benefit of all.

The Australian Academy of Science is a registered charity with Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) Item 1 status with the Australian Taxation Office.

All donations \$2 and over are tax deductible.

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