

SCB-A Newsletter March 2007

HARRY F. RECHER¹

THE Board of Australasian Section of the Society for Conservation Biology is very busy organizing the inaugural conference (see below).

Student Representative: Sarina Loo is feeling the pressures of a full-time job plus finishing her degree and has reluctantly resigned from the Board of the Australasian Branch. Best wishes to Sarina in her new job and much thanks for her input the past year. Hopefully we will see her back when things have leveled out. Meanwhile, students interested in the experience of working with the Society should introduce themselves to Board members at the forthcoming Conference.

Inaugural conference of the Australasian Section of the Society for Conservation Biology

The inaugural meeting of the Australasian region of SCB "*The Biodiversity Extinction Crisis, a Pacific and Australasian Response*" will be held July 10–13 2007 at the University of New South Wales, Sydney. There will be five major themes: (1) Regional challenges (particular issues for our part of the world); (2) Managing threatening process of universal importance; (3) Case studies of conservation in action, including biodiversity monitoring and assessment; (4) Conservation science and policy; and (5) Conservation science and the community (non-government organizations, indigenous people). Not only is your attendance important to the success of the conference, but it is your opportunity to be heard on issues as important as water allocation for environmental flows in Australia, biodiversity conservation in the Southern Oceans, climate change and the allocation of resources to threatened species management.

Information about the conference is available through the conference web site <http://www.biodiversity2007.com/>. To help support the conference please forward the address to other people you might think would be

interested. You can register your interest in the conference on the page provided on the web site, which also provides details on registration and abstract submission.

Student Prizes

The Society for Conservation Biology Australasia (SCB-A) Section provided a student award for "*Best Talk on a Conservation Topic*" at the 2006 Australasian Wildlife Management Society Conference, held in Auckland, New Zealand 4–6 December 2006. Jennifer Germano, a doctoral student in the Zoology Department at the University of Otago in Dunedin, won the award with her presentation on amphibian and reptile re-introductions, translocations, and supplementations. The award — a two-year membership to the SCB and a two-year subscription to *Conservation Biology* — was presented on behalf of SCB-A by conference organizer Dave Choquenot from Landcare Research.

Upcoming Conferences 2007:

BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE IN TASMANIA: Tamar NRM, in association with the Centre for Environment, University of Tasmania, is holding a conference entitled *Biodiversity: Balancing Conservation and Production — case studies from the real world* from 26–28 June 2007. For more information contact Amanda Bruce (amanda.bruce@launceston.tas.gov.au) or the Conference Managers 03 6330 1444, Luba.Richards@conferenceplus.com.au.

MEDECOS XI Conference: Perth, Western Australia, Australia (2–5 September 2007). The Conference will address the following themes, among others: Defining a Mediterranean Ecosystem, Species and Population Ecology, Global Change, Invasive Species, and Conservation of Ecosystems. Abstracts were due 26 February, but Conference details can be found on the conference website — <http://www.medecosxi2007.com.au>. For further information, the organizing committee can be contacted on medecosxi2007@bgpa.wa.gov.au.

ECOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA (ESA): The annual Conference will be held in Perth, Western Australia 26–30 November 2007. The postgrad day will be on November 25th. The conference will feature opening and closing plenary sessions (aligned with the theme "Adapting to Change: Society — Environment — Science" and featuring Prof Paul Ehrlich among others), mid-week field trips and the usual open forum. Check the Conference website for details (<http://www.ecolsoc.org.au/ESA2007conference.htm>).

AUSTRALASIAN ORNITHOLOGICAL CONFERENCE (AOC): The next AOC will be held in Perth, Western Australia 3–5 December 2007 following the annual Conference of the Ecological Society of Australia. For details contact Sue Mather (mather@cygnus.uwa.edu.au) and from the Birds Australia website (<http://www.birdsaustralia.com.au>).

A call for news from the membership

Please contact Harry Recher (hjrecher@pacific.net.au) if you have anything you would like to contribute to the News and Views section of our Journal, *Pacific Conservation Biology*. Items from the News & Views are also made available through the Society for Conservation Biology newsletter. Short reviews of local conservation initiatives of regional interest are encouraged.

¹Society for Conservation Biology, Australasian Branch: hjrecher@pacific.net.au