

e-news on higher education



Department of Education,
Training and Youth Affairs

www.detya.gov.au

e-news 21

Informing Australia's Higher Education Sector—October

This is the last edition of e-news until after the Federal Election

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navigating



getting around

The front page of *e-news on higher education* features a set of icons that take you to the articles inside. These icons are repeated at the bottom of every page, to guide you to other articles.

accessibility

A HTML 'text-only' copy of e-news has been posted onto our website.

www.detya.gov.au/highered/enews

pages

You can also navigate through the pages using the *forward* & *back* buttons on the right of the page.

to exit

Don't have any menus to help you exit? Select 'Esc' on your keyboard then close the window as per normal. Note: You can close the file *and* the application at the same time by selecting the top 'x'.

printing

Use the keystrokes of 'Ctrl P' to launch a print window. Remember, you can print all of the pages or choose to print current page.

websites

e-news on higher education also has links to relevant websites. To access a website, simply click on the URL when the open hand cursor changes to a pointing hand.

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Biotechnology Centre of Excellence

call for applications

Applications for organisations to develop and operate one of Australia's Biotechnology Centres of Excellence are now open. The Government is seeking to establish one or more Biotechnology Centres of Excellence as part of its *Backing Australia's Ability* package. More information on *Backing Australia's Ability* can be found at:

www.innovation.gov.au/iap/

The Centre/s will carry out a range of activities, including:

- undertaking world class research with potential to yield commercially significant developments;

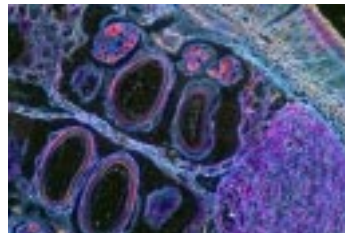
- attracting outstanding researchers;

- developing Australia's biotechnology skills base;

- building networks and partnerships, nationally and internationally, to achieve excellence in Australian biotechnology; and

- developing an entrepreneurial culture that leads to the formation of spin-off companies and cluster of commercial biotechnology activity.

In establishing the Centre/s, the Government is looking for applications from organisations or



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Biotechnology Centre of Excellence

call for applications (cont)

consortia with the vision, creativity and commitment to build a research and commercialisation institution with global impact.

The Guidelines for Applicants, Expression of Interest Forms and Application Forms are available on the Biotechnology Australia website at:

www.biotechnology.gov.au

Expressions of Interest (compulsory for all applicants) must be lodged by 31 October 2001, and full applications close on 2.00pm 15 February 2002.

For information about the guidelines, prospective applicants should contact the Biotechnology Centre of Excellence Implementation Team at:

Biotechnology Australia
Telephone: (02) 6213 6499
E-mail: ba@isr.gov.au.

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Appointment of the Gene Technology

■ ■ ■ ■ Regulator

Dr Sue Meek has been appointed as the Commonwealth's Gene Technology Regulator. She will take up her appointment in December 2001.

As the Gene Technology Regulator, Dr Meek will manage the work of the Office of Gene Technology Regulator and administer the national regulatory system for genetically modified organisms (GMOs). This role includes:

- administering the legislation and assessing any risks posed by GMOs;
- informing and advising other regulatory agencies, States and Territories and the public about GMOs and GM products;

- promoting risk assessments for GMOs and GM products by regulatory agencies;
- monitoring and enforcing gene technology legislation; and
- reporting to Parliament on GMO issues quarterly, annually and at other times as required.

The National Regulatory Framework for Gene Technology came into effect on 21 June 2001, as a requirement of the *Gene Technology Act 2000* and *Gene Technology Regulations 2001*. Legislation for the regulation of GMOs was established to protect the health and safety of people and the environment.

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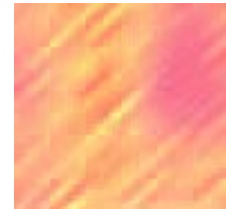
Appointment of the Gene Technology

■ ■ ■ ■ Regulator (cont)

The Regulatory Framework identifies risks associated with gene technology and establishes processes for managing those risks. These processes include extensive consultation, monitoring and review mechanisms for the regulation of GMOs.

Further details on Dr Sue Meek's appointment and gene technology regulation can be found on the Office of Gene Technology Regulator website at:

www.ogtr.gov.au/



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DETYA

Research Fellowship Scheme

Applications are invited for two DETYA Research Fellowships for 2002-03. The Fellowships are for experienced researchers in the areas of education, training, or youth issues, to work with DETYA for up to twelve months.

In their time with DETYA, Fellows have the opportunity to conduct a major research study on a topic of mutual interest. They also exchange ideas and expertise, and find out first hand about the Commonwealth's policy-making process, including how research can be translated into policy.

Applications close on 26 November 2001.

Information about the Fellowships, including the Guide for Applicants and the application form, is available at the DETYA website:

www.detya.gov.au/iae/fellowship/fellowship.htm

Copies of the Guide for Applicants and the application form can also be obtained from:

Chireen Ludowyk
Telephone: [02] 6240 8672
Fax: [02] 6240 8188
Email: chireen.ludowyk@detya.gov.au.

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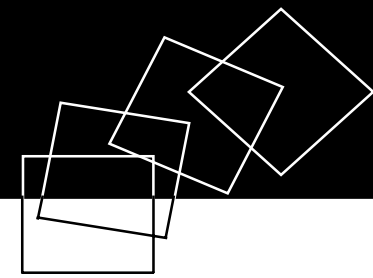
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