

## LENScience Senior Biology Seminar Series

### Student Update Number 5 – June 12<sup>th</sup> 2009

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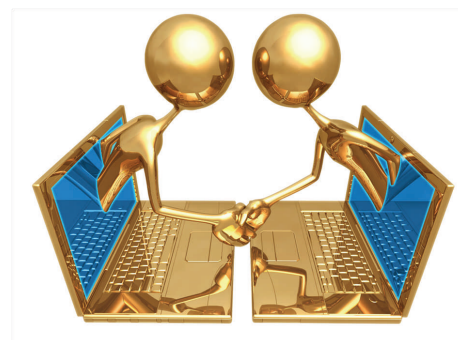
#### Seminar 2 Questions and Discussion

There's been plenty of chat—some great questions and you are starting to get into the discussion. Well done to all the students who have been contributing.

#### **So who's top in getting our scientists thinking?**

Congratulations to the following students whose questions got us all thinking here at the Liggins Institute. Our scientists are impressed by the quality of the thinking that is going into your questions:

- **AP and ZK from Riccarton High School**
- **Chris Pope from Whangarei Boys' High School**
- **Rangitoto College**—great questions off the live chat for seminar 2
- **Tian Yuan Qu**—consistently asking searching questions—keep up this great thinking
- **AH and SG from Newlands College**—you have some impressive ideas about what technology could achieve in the future!
- **Dharmesh Gordhan, Wellington College**



#### People that are clearly searching around the topics

Congratulations to **JK from Riccarton High School**—the research around the topic that you are doing allowed you to come up with a very interesting and relevant question.

#### Schools that are working as a team

Congratulations to **Alfriston College, St Hilda's Collegiate, Samuel Marsden Collegiate, Christchurch Boys' High**—great to see contributions that are coming from you as a group.

**New School—Welcome on board to Waikato Diocesan School for Girls**—looking forward to your contributions!



Questions are one thing—but who is putting their hand up and answering the questions?

Remember you learn from doing—not from watching other people do—so well done to those students and schools who are getting online and putting their answers out there. Two schools have now contributed to both discussions:



- [Alfriston College](#)
- [Waiuku College](#)

It was great to also see **Sacred Heart (Auckland)** offering a good contribution to the discussion—how about our other Sacred Heart schools? **Sacred Heart Hamilton and Lower Hutt - looking forward to an equally strong contribution from you in the next discussion round!**

These discussion pages will stay open all year—when your class is covering this topic send in a comment.

### Seminar 3—Feast or Famine: The effect of environment on gene expression

You should have read, or be reading this seminar paper now and starting to get your questions in. Thanks to [Tian Yuan Qu of Rangitoto College](#) has started the questions off.

Let's see if we can have some questions from some of the regions and schools that have been quiet so far.

**Tauranga and Gisborne**—we had great questions from your regions last year in the trial—how about some questions from you?

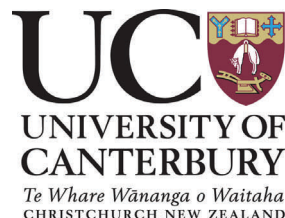


### Bio3.2—Environmental Toxins—A possible topic

Later this year **Professor Ian Shaw**, a toxicologist from the **University of Canterbury**, and Principal Investigator for the **National Research Centre for Growth and Development**, will be giving a LENS National Lecture on the issue of **Bisphenol A**. From the lining of tin cans to baby bottles and the plastics that your dentist uses in fillings—you are being exposed to Bisphenol A. Dr Sloboda will talk a little about this environmental toxin in the seminar. You can read about this worldwide issue of concern and hear Professor Shaw speaking about it on [page 2 of the seminar question handout](#). If you are still looking for an interesting topic for Bio3.2 you might want to consider the Bisphenol A debate.



Professor Ian Shaw



### Be watching TV3 Sunrise this Week

Sunrise TV have been out and about watching students LENSscience Connect seminars. The article is due to screen on TV3 this week—so be watching to see what they have to say about the programme.



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