

LENScience Senior Biology Seminar Series

Student Update Number 6 – 2nd June, 2010

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Next Seminar

Date: Thursday 10th June. 3:45pm

Topic: Ancient Secrets in the Seaweed:
Climate change and evolution .

Presenters: Professor Hamish Spencer,
Dr Ceridwen Fraser, Jacquie Bay

Seminar 3: Post-seminar challenge questions

Well done to all the students who have posted answers to the challenge questions from Seminar 4. The quality of the answers is really improving as we move through the year.

So which schools are having a go at answering the challenge questions?

Dilworth School	First up with a good answer to challenge question 1 following on from the excellent question you put to the seminar. Thanks!
Sacred Heart College (Auckland)	One of our most consistent contributors to the wiki along with students from dilworth. Also the first school to tackle challenge question 2; the hardest question.
Wellington Girls' College	First school from Wellington to post on the wiki. Well done
Riccarton High School	Good team answer to challenge question 1. Between you all you covered all the main ideas in what was a good discussion.
Onehunga High School	One of our top schools in the seminar chat and a regular contributor to the wiki.
Horowhenua College	BEST answer to challenge question 2—continuing a trend of very good answers.



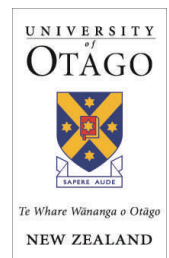
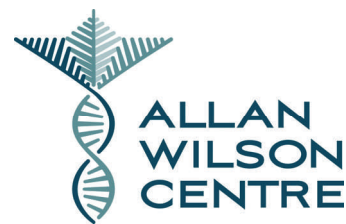
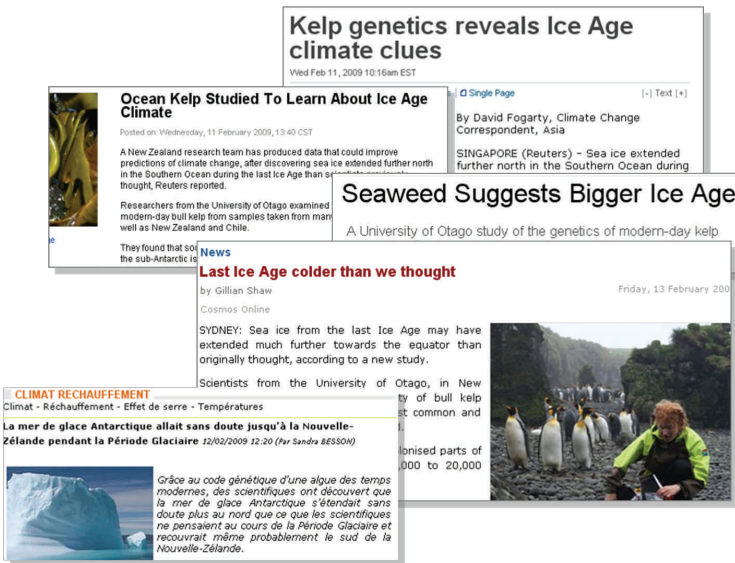
Remember there is a prize at the end of the seminar series for the best overall school contribution to questions and the wiki discussions. So if your school hasn't yet been mentioned in one of these updates, why not do something about it? You can ask a question in the next seminar or post an answer to the challenge questions. It's not too late to get your school up there.

Seminar 4—Ancient Secrets in the Seaweed

Seminar 4 looks at the work of Dr Ceridwen Fraser who spent three years investigating Southern Bull-Kelp populations in Sub-Antarctic islands for her PhD. Crid used DNA data to look at the genetic relationships between different Bull-Kelp populations so there is a lot of data presented in the seminar paper. Take some time to read through it and think what it all means before the seminar. Crid's results were unexpected and have helped us with our understanding of the impacts of climate change. Her work was of major interest with many non-scientific news media reporting these findings.

The seminar paper and pre-seminar question paper are available from the links below:

- [Ancient Secrets in the Seaweed seminar paper](#)
- [Pre-seminar discussion paper](#)
- [Post-seminar challenge questions](#)



You may find you have lots of questions from this paper. You can post them anytime on the [Seminar 4 question page](#) or ask them during the seminar chat. Remember you need a log in and password to access the seminar chat. To get one go to our [registration page](#)

The challenge question for this seminar asks you to analyse some of Crid's data yourselves. This will be good practice for what you might get in scholarship so put yourselves to the test!



Images from a Scientist: Ceridwen Fraser, Allan Wilson Centre and University of Otago

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