

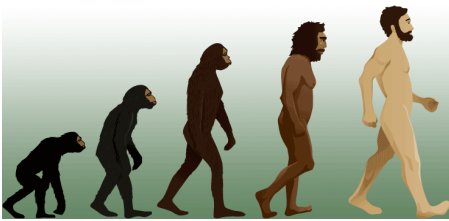
LENScience Senior Biology Seminar Series Teacher Update Number 13 – 12th October 2010

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What's going on this week?

Welcome back to Term 4 - hope you all had a great break and not too much marking.



This week sees the final seminar in our 2010 Senior Biology Seminar Series. The seminar on Thursday will take students through Human Evolution and help them explore ideas around **why** questions. It will look at why factors such as bipedalism and the development of intelligence have led to the evolutionary success of the human species. This seminar is going to cover many of the key concepts from Human Evolution that your students will have studied in class. For this reason we suggest that

you encourage all of your students to watch the seminar, as it will provide good revision for their end of year exams. It will also provide the normal extension work for your top students.

More information about the seminar, including the seminar paper, pre-seminar discussion questions and the challenge questions can be found on our website: [Walking Upright: The Cost of Human Evolution](#).

Please remind students about the Seminar Awards

This is the last chance for your students or school to be considered for the LENSscience Seminar Awards. Remember there are 4 major awards to be announced at the end of the seminar on Thursday:

1. **Best overall participation by a school.**
2. **Best participation by a student or students.**
3. **Seminar Chat award.**
4. **Best supporting teacher.**

There is still time to for your students to improve their or your school's chances of gaining one of these awards. They can have a go at posting an answer to the [Challenge Questions for Seminar 7](#) or contribute a question for [Seminar 8](#) through the website.



Auckland Public Lecture: Evolving the city - Using evolutionary theory to understand and improve the human condition

Auckland teachers, you may be interested in this lecture by visiting Hood Fellow, Professor David Sloan Wilson, from Binghamton University. In this lecture Professor Wilson will show how evolutionary theory can help to solve the problems of everyday life, from the quality of our neighbourhoods to rethinking the fundamentals of economic theory and policy

The lecture is on Thursday 14th October at 6pm (straight after our seminar).

Venue: B10 Lecture Theatre, Library Building 5 Alfred Street.

For those of you out of Auckland we're hoping that the lecture will be recorded and made available for download after the event. If this happens we'll let you know.



Seminar Series Evaluations

We will be posting evaluation packs to selected schools in the next few weeks. We would appreciate it if you and your students could complete the evaluations and return them to us before the end of Term 4. We are working hard on ensuring the continuing success of this programme so your feedback is very important to us

Term 4 LENSscience Events for teachers and students

1. Chemicals in our Food teacher professional development and national education event for students.

Date: Thursday 18th November

Student Workshop 1: Year 7 and 8 11am - 12pm

Student Workshop 2: Year 9 and 10 1:30 - 2:30pm

Teacher PD: 4 - 5:15pm

[More information>>](#)

[To register>>](#)

2. Diabetes and Obesity teacher professional development and national education event for students.

This teacher professional development and student workshop supports a Year 11 teaching context called Science and Society: Diabetes - An Issue for My Community. This context provides a great opportunity to address the Participating and Contributing section of the Nature of Science strand.

Teacher Professional Development

Date: Thursday 9th November 4-5:15pm

National Education Event for Students

Date: Wednesday 24th November 1-2pm

More information will follow later this week.

All of these workshops and events are free and will be broadcast to schools around New Zealand. Students and teachers from the Auckland region also have the opportunity to be in the live audience.



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