

LENScience Senior Biology Seminar Series Teacher Update Number 1 – March 4th, 2011

Welcome to the 1st LENScience Connect Teacher Update
These updates will be published regularly throughout the year to keep you up to date with what is happening in the seminar series.

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Seminar Series Launch

Thank-you to all who took part in the extremely successful seminar series launch. We have large numbers in both the live and remote audiences. 100 schools are registered in the programme and well over 1000 students are participating.

It was wonderful to see the interest and enthusiasm of the students in both the live chat and live audience. A recording of the Seminar Series Launch will be available from the [Introductory Seminar webpage](#) early next week.

Congratulations to the students from Havelock North High School who were first to register.

Have **YOUR** students registered yet?

The link is in Student Update #1, [on the web page](#) or directly [here](#).

School Registrations

To check that your registration has been processed please [click here](#).

Schools with questions about receiving the broadcasts should contact LENSciencehelp@auckland.ac.nz. Here you will be able to access technical experts who can talk with your school IT staff and explain just how simple it is to set up the technology required for this programme.

***If you are intending to register but are having technical difficulties, please
[contact us for assistance.](#)***

This is the last communication regarding the Senior Biology Seminar Series that will go to schools who are not registered. Please [register today](#) if you want to continue to receive information about the Senior Biology Seminar Series.

Information for Christchurch Schools

We appreciate your very difficult situation means that many of your schools are unable to operate at present and have significant challenges moving forward. We would like to offer the following support and hope this may in a small way be some assistance.

- A recording of the Seminar Series Launch will be available on the [Introductory Seminar webpage](#) early next week so you can download it and show it to your students later.
- Similarly, a recording of each seminar will go up after each event.
- If your students are transferring temporarily to other schools who are not currently registered, they can contact us and we will do all we can to enable those schools to gain access to the programme, or will link them to the closest school with satellite technology installed.
- We have made available funds to install a satellite dish and set top box in one Christchurch school that is operational if this would be of assistance. Please contact us if your school is operational and could provide a hub for Christchurch students unable to participate in their schools.
- If you currently do not have easy internet access and would be assisted by having a copy of the recording sent to you as a DVD, please contact us.
- If there is anything else that you would like to discuss with us that could assist you, please do not hesitate to contact us on LENSciencehelp@auckland.ac.nz

Regional Centres / Local School Hubs



Having trouble getting set up? There are regional centres and local school hubs that welcome neighbouring schools to join them for this programme.

[Click here](#) to see whether there is a school near you that has the technology set up. Schools that have offered to host other schools are listed in bold. Please remember that you still have to [register](#) so that we know you are part of the programme.

How to.....

Can't remember how to find your way around the wiki or edit the wiki?

You can find the answers on the [Introductory Workshop](#) page or by clicking on one of the links below:

- [Navigate your way around the wiki](#)
- [Take part in a wiki discussion](#)
- [Use the wiki chat](#)

For other questions check out our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page.

If you can't find an answer then email us on LENSciencehelp@auckland.ac.nz.

Please always provide us with a contact phone number so that we can call you if necessary.





Seminar 1 – Huntington’s disease: Understanding a mutation

Thursday March 17, 3:45pm

For those new to the seminar series—here is a map to help you through the programme for Seminar 1. The seminars work in 3 week blocks.

Week 1: March 7 - 11

- Distribute [seminar paper](#) and [pre-seminar focus handout](#) to students
- Hold a session in school to discuss the pre-seminar questions.
- Facilitate development of questions for the seminar from your students—encourage them to enter these on the [wiki question page](#).



Week 2: March 14 - 18

- Put a reminder in the school notices about the seminar—date, time, your venue.
- Advertise to your staff—this is great PD for other science teachers.

Thursday March 17th

- Encourage student to be online (the more computers you have available the more they will participate in the chat)
- Participate in the seminar with the students.

Week 3: March 21-25

- Hold a session in school to discuss the seminar challenge questions.
- Encourage students to work together to develop answers to the challenge questions and place these on the wiki.
- Keep a watch on the wiki to see how your student are participating and the responses they are getting from the science and science education team here.



BRAIN WEEK 2011

Seminar 1 is part of the Centre for Brain Research’s Brain Week Celebrations.

Events for BRAIN WEEK 2011 are happening all around new Zealand.

For more information go to www.brainweek.co.nz



Login Information

The question and discussion pages are protected so that only registered users can edit or write to them. When you or your students want to ask question or write to the discussion – you have to login. When students register they are automatically sent a wiki username and password.

Live chat

Like the wiki, students need a username and password to enter the live chat room. This room is secure and monitored by LENSscience staff. When you register your school you are asked if you have internet access for the live chat during the seminars. If you answered yes to this then when your students register they will be sent a username and password for the chat room. If you selected NO for this question at registration but want to change this then email LENSciencehelp@auckland.ac.nz and we will update your registration.

