

LENScience Senior Biology Seminar Series

Teacher Update Number 7 – 21st June, 2010

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Welcome to new schools

Several new schools have joined us over the last few weeks so welcome to:

- ◆ Northland College
- ◆ Whangaparoa College and
- ◆ Kaikorai Valley College.



Please encourage your students to register to receive the student updates. The link for registration is: <https://s-ld26i-243715.sgizmo.com/> It can also be accessed from our [Registration page](#)

Seminar 4: What's going on?

A very big thank-you to the teachers from Logan Park High School and Otago Girls' High School for your support with the video conference during Seminar 4. There were some excellent and insightful questions asked during this seminar. The answers to all the questions are posted on our [Seminar 4 Question Page](#). Do go and check them out. Crid and Hamish really enjoyed the variety of questions and the depth of thinking that had gone into them. It was also really good to see students from a different group of schools interacting on the chat—Hillcrest High School, Mt Roskill Grammar, and Waikuku College to name a few.

The wiki has been very quiet since the seminar, with only one student so far posting an answer to the challenge questions. I suspect this probably something to do with the timing, as I know the end of Term 2 is always busy with exams and assessments. Hopefully the fact that the next seminar isn't until the start of next term, will give you the time to do some work with your students

Videoconferencing



We really enjoyed the video conference during the last seminar and would like to do more. If your school or venue has videoconferencing capability and you would like to be involved in a video conference during one of our future seminars then please let me know (email: m.denny@auckland.ac.nz). Don't let concerns about the technical side put you off as our IT people will help you with the set up. Video conferencing provides a different way for your students to interact with the scientists and one they certainly see to enjoy if the smiles from the Logan Park and Otago Girls students are any guide.

Student Update #7

If you don't normally read the student updates you might like to make an exception for Student Update #7. This update contains a section on the importance of acknowledging sources of information. It is in response to some answers on the wiki, where students have relied directly on internet sources for their answer but haven't acknowledged where they got the information from. The update can be found [here](#). I hope this may provide a useful starting point for discussion in your classes.

The other update covers the reliability of Wikipedia as an information source. It's well worth reading the articles linked to in the update. The consensus seems to be that while Wikipedia is a good place to start the research process it should not be the only source a student goes to.

Advance notice: Change of date for Seminar 7

Due to the availability of the presenter the date of Seminar 7 has been changed from Thursday September 9th to Thursday September 16th.

Next Seminar



Date: Thursday 29th July 3:45pm
(Week 2, Term 3)

Topic: Biological Clocks

Presenters: Dr Guy Warman, Michal Denny



This seminar will focus on biological rhythms in humans including why we find it hard to get up on Monday mornings, why teenagers seem to always be sleeping and why people who've had a general anaesthetic have no idea what the time is when they wake up.

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