

AVS Member Newsletter

September, 2022



Meet Our AVS 2022 Student Representative: Emma Harding

Emma Harding is a 3rd year PhD student at UNSW Sydney in Professor Peter White's research group. Emma's research focuses on ancient viruses – termed paleovirology – through the study of Endogenous Viral Elements in animal genomes. Emma is passionate about the involvement of students in professional societies and building strong research communities for the future. Emma has joined the AVS Committee of Management as our first ever student representative.



AVS Student Group Seeking Your Input

Students are an integral part of the Australasian Virology Society and we are committed to support and encourage the next generation of virologists in the Australasian region. The AVS promotes student research at annual symposiums by providing a platform for students to present their work and network with peers.

We are continually looking for ways to improve the AVS student member experience. If you have any suggestions or feedback on ways we can further promote and support our students, or have general related enquiries, get in touch with our student representative using [this](#) form.



An Australian Centre For Disease Control

The election of a new Government of Australia has brought the issue of how to form a National Centre for Disease Control into the spotlight (https://www.alp.org.au/policies/australian_cdc). The AVS have written to the Hon Mark Butler, MP, voicing our strong interest in contributing to discussion papers and any models that are proposed. We welcome input from our AVS members. If you have a strong interest in shaping the response from the AVS, please email Heidi.drummer@burnet.edu.au to ensure you are included in discussions.

 **AVS11 2022**

As we get closer to our 21st Anniversary meeting (AVS11, 5-8th December 2022) on the Gold Coast at the wonderful Marriott Resort, we would like to remind everyone that the Abstract deadline is fast approaching. Abstracts are due by the 13th of September (<https://avs.org.au/avs11/abstract-submission/>). Please submit an abstract and join us on the Gold Coast for some exciting science and some well-deserved fun.

CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT YOUR ABSTRACT

 **Australia Day Honours**

The AVS would like to congratulate AVS member Professor Peter Revill for his Queen's Birthday Honour receiving an AM for his significant service to microbiology and immunology research. In 2015, with Professor Stephen Locarnini and Professor Fabien Zoulim, he initiated the global HBV cure initiative, the "International Coalition to Eliminate HBV" (ICE-HBV) and is its past chair. Congratulations Peter.

 **Moderna To Establish Manufacturing Facility At Monash University, Melbourne**

Local mRNA manufacturing capacity was given a boost with the announcement that Moderna will open its manufacturing facility at Monash University within its technology precinct. The facility will have capacity to manufacture 100 million doses of vaccine. This adds to Australia's growing capacity and capability in mRNA technologies and is a welcome boost for Australian and New Zealand virologists with an interest in vaccines and therapeutics.

 **AVS Membership Update**

The AVS continues to grow with a total of 259 members now registered. AVS membership ensures you receive discounts for our meetings, access to symposia, discounts for publication in the journals *Viruses*, *General Virology* and *Retrovirology*. Please encourage your colleagues to join AVS. Membership is free for students when supervisors are members.

JOIN TO BECOME A MEMBER TODAY

 **DGR (Deductible Gift Recipient) Status**

The Australian Tax Office has, effective June 14th 2022, granted DGR status to the AVS. This means that any donations made to the Society are now tax-deductible under Australian law. The Committee of Management believes that this change may bring about a substantial increase in donations to the Society, and the Committee is currently examining a proposal to develop a Scholarships and Awards Fund, to be supported by donations.

 **AVS Symposium Series**

The Committee of Management wishes to organise seminars from time to time. It is anticipated that seminars on topics of interest to members will be presented online, with local hubs in each capital city where members can meet to socialise and network. A call for expressions of interest to convene these local hubs was met with enthusiasm, with volunteers available in all Australian capital cities except Darwin, Perth and Hobart; offers to host local hubs also came from New Zealand, Singapore, and Iran. If you are interested in hosting a hub, please contact Peter Speck at peter.speck@flinders.edu.au registering your interest and your location. We are particularly keen on additional hubs in WA, TAS and NT. The Committee is finalising the details for these symposia, and a call for seminar presenters should be made in the coming months.



Call For Expressions Of Interest For AVS2024

Expressions of interest are welcomed from groups wishing to host AVS2024. Please email peter.speck@flinders.edu.au to receive further instructions. The closing date for receipt of EOIs is 30th September 2022.

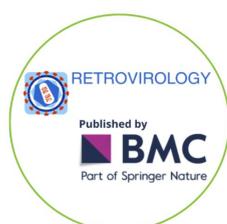
JOURNAL PARTNERSHIPS



Journal of General Virology is the newly affiliated journal of the Australasian Virology Society. All AVS members can receive their 20% discount from the journal using the discount code on the [membership portal](#). You can enter this code through their payment system when you go to pay the APC.



Viruses values the affiliation with the Australasian Virology Society and until 30 June 2022 AVS members receive an additional 5% discount, a total of 20% discount on the article processing charges. *Viruses* runs special issues to create collections of papers on specific topics. The aim is to build a community of authors and readers to discuss the latest research and develop new ideas and research directions. You could find all special issues by clicking [this link](#).



Retrovirology Update

Why publish your article in *Retrovirology*?

- We welcome research from across the entire field of retroviruses, supporting the research community with a progressive and inclusive approach.
- Ranked among the top virology journals worldwide, we publish high quality research and expert reviews across basic science, translational, and clinical research.
- Our expert and highly responsive team of Editors provides excellent service throughout, with rapid evaluation and publication of research with broad and lasting impact.
- Founded in 2004, we are one of the leading influencers in HIV/AIDS and retrovirus research, reaching a large global audience.

[SUBMIT HERE](#)

Retrovirology supports the research community

Every year *Retrovirology* supports the scientific community through initiatives such as the [KT Jeang Retrovirology Prize](#) and the [Best Retrovirology Paper by a Young Scientist Award](#). Check out the [website](#) for more information.
