Publication

The UK publisher Edward Elgar has just published a book co-edited by David Burch and Professor Geoffrey Lawrence (University of Queensland), entitled ‘Supermarkets and Agri-food Supply Chains: Transformations in the Production and Consumption of Foods’.

This book analyses the gradual shift in the distribution of power in agri-food supply chains away from the manufacturers of branded food products such as Nestle and Unilever, to the global supermarket chains such as Wal-Mart and Tesco. This shift in power has had a profound effect on the food we eat, as well as the ways in which food is produced, processed and marketed.

With original contributions by twenty-one leading researchers from Australia, the US, UK, New Zealand and Canada, this book assesses the causes and consequences of this transformation, and evaluates the impacts along the whole supply chain.

Centre for Forestry & Horticultural Research (CFHR)

The Centre for Forestry and Horticultural Research successfully hosted a major International Symposium on Forest Soils and Ecosystem Health - Linking Local Management to Global Change Challenges, 19-23 August 2007, Noosa, Queensland. The Symposium is supported by Griffith University, the International Union of Soil Science (IUSS) and International Union of Forestry Research Organisations (IUFRO).

Professor Zhihong Xu, Director of CFHR and also Chairperson of IUSS Forest Soils Working Group, is the Chairman of the Symposium, with more than 80 forest soil scientists and ecologists attending the Symposium from 17 Countries. Professor Lesley Johnson, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research), has delivered the ‘Welcome Remarks’, with many leading scientists presenting keynote talks and oral papers at the Symposium.

Conference

Jean Fleming and Bryony Thompson, an Honours student in Jean’s lab, attended the annual meeting of kConFab "Familial Cancer: Research and Practice" at Couran Cove on Stradbroke Island on August 22nd-24th, at which Bryony presented a poster from her summer research, entitled: Ovarian phenotype of homozygous Atm 7271T>G knock-in mice.
Secondary – Tertiary Interface

On Saturday August 25, Peter Healy attended the Secondary - Tertiary Interface meeting organized at QUT by the Queensland Branch of the RACI Chemical Education Group.

Peter presented a talk on "Studying Chemistry - The Road to a Satisfying Career" and was on a panel discussing "University Chemistry Curricula - The Challenges and Opportunities" where he highlighted the importance of the IAP program for chemistry students at GU.

Seminar

On Tuesday, 21st August, Professor Steve Pyne, one of the leading synthetic chemists in Australia, presented a seminar entitled "Phytochemical and synthetic studies on bioactive alkaloids".

During Professor Pyne’s visit he also toured the chemical research laboratories of Natural Product Discovery and the Eskitis Institute.

Alphapharm

Alphapharm, a pharmaceutical company with a large operation in SE-QLD, presented a talk to the current 3rd Year Chemistry BSc students regarding Alphapharm and graduate opportunities on Thursday 9th August.