



# Media Alert

18 February 2011



## Kate Lundy presents at interns' graduation

ACT Senator Kate Lundy will present at the Centre for Australian National Biodiversity Research's Botanical Interns graduation ceremony from 11.30am this Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March at the Australian National Botanic Gardens Theatrette (Clunies Ross Street Acton ACT).

The Botanical Interns at CANBR in Canberra have been active in contributing vital information on native plants, biodiversity and weeds management during their botanical internship program this summer.

This important program enables students from universities and colleges around Australia to gain valuable work experience and a real insight into botany as a career. As botany is such a specialised field, hands-on work at Australia's National Herbarium provides invaluable opportunities.

"Our interns are essential to us as we build resources about Australian plants, their habitats and the impacts of forces like weeds on our ecology", says Dr Judy West, CANBR Director.

"It is a terrific win-win partnership where the interns can develop specialised knowledge for their future botany careers, while the centre benefits from their skills and enthusiasm as we tackle some very challenging projects", says Dr West.

Internship Coordinator Bronwyn Collins is a passionate advocate of practical experience in higher education.

"Our program gives the interns amazing experiences and valuable skills for students of plant science, botany, horticulture and environmental science", she says.

"Being able to work with the best in advanced IT and scientific equipment is one of the many aspects that has attracted students from backgrounds as diverse as accounting and construction back into plant science at CANBR."

CANBR is a joint venture between CSIRO Plant Industry and the Australian National Botanic Gardens (ANBG). Over 250 students have completed the program since its inception in 1983.

Media and guests are invited and welcomed to attend.

**Further Information:**

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For more information about the Program visit:

[www.cpbr.gov.au/intern](http://www.cpbr.gov.au/intern).

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