

## AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY TEACHER OF THE YEAR 2002 UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

### DISCIPLINE

Science

### RESEARCH AREAS

Parasitology (Protozoology)

### SECONDARY RESEARCH AREAS

Microbiology  
Structural Biology & Biochemistry  
Science Education

► [scmb.uq.edu.au/pod/index.html](http://scmb.uq.edu.au/pod/index.html)

### BACKGROUND

Peter received his Doctorate in 1979 from the University of Adelaide and then in 1980-82 took up an Alexander von Humboldt Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Munich and Hannover in Germany. He subsequently returned to Australia and worked as a research scientist in the Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science in Adelaide until 1994 when he joined the University of Queensland as a parasitologist. He completed a GradCertEd. in Higher Education and won a University Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2000. He went on to win a National Award in 2002. He was Chief Examiner for the 15th International Biology Olympiad held in Brisbane in 2004. He was awarded a Doctor of Science by UQ in 2005 for his continuing research on the identification of protozoa in Australia. In 2006, he was elected a Fellow of the Australian Society for Parasitology and promoted to Professor.

### IMPACT ON LEARNING & TEACHING

For two years following the Award, he participated in a lecture circuit as guest speaker covering nine Australian universities on learning and teaching matters. He still receives invitations to participate in campus-based and online conferences, awards and readership schemes. He is proactive in new staff induction programs, buddy/mentor schemes for fixed-term and continuing staff and professional development for postgraduate students. He has written several articles about T&L for various journals and newsletters and has provided opinion pieces for several newspapers. He remains an outspoken advocate for institutionalised tertiary teacher training and mentoring schemes to improve overall teacher quality. With increasing seniority, he teaches into more generalist science classes as well as core vocational para-clinical courses. He continues to be heavily involved in program, course and curriculum review, theory and practice of science, and innovative approaches to T&L to engender engagement.

### IMPACT ON CAREER

The Award highlighted his reputation in his field, which provided better networking opportunities and improved access to resources. He has continued to be an active researcher and teacher despite increased strategic leadership responsibilities. He is involved in numerous university committees (appointments, promotions, reviews, pedagogy, program & curriculum review, facilities & resources, OH&S, awards, readerships, T&L chair, Chief Examiner, Integrity Officer, Engagement, School Executive, Academic Board). Recently, he has focused on leaving a lasting legacy by writing an e-book on parasitology and compiling data-bases on protozoa in Australia. He has also been keen to address any peer misconceptions that teaching awards label individuals as teaching-intensive rather than holistic teaching-and-research academics, especially since he believes research informs teaching.

## PROFESSOR PETER O'DONOGHUE



### CURRENT ROLE

Professor O'Donoghue is a senior statesman in the Faculty of Science, with a holistic portfolio covering teaching, research and service. He is both a generalist and specialist teacher. He contributes in 10 courses to over 1,000 students in three Faculties, including foundational biology to science students, pre-clinical microbiology to medical, veterinary and science students, advanced parasitology to postgraduate students, problem-based learning in the Graduate Medical Course, and continuing education for medical and veterinary practitioners. He is heavily involved in curriculum development and review.

### WHAT THE AWARD HAS MEANT

Rewarding | Challenging | Horizon expanding |  
Corporate citizenship | Community building

### MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2016** Elected to Academic Board of The University of Queensland;
- 2006** Elected Fellow of the Australian Society for Parasitology;  
Promoted to Professor at The University of Queensland;
- 2005** Awarded Doctor of Science, The University of Queensland;
- 2002** Life Member, Australian Association of von Humboldt Fellows.

### NETWORKS

Australian Wildlife Research Network | ARC/  
NHMRC Parasitology Research Network