

EVOLUTION, ECOLOGY, & GENETICS RESEARCH SCHOOL OF BIOLOGY

Monday 13 December, 1pm

Diversification, radiation and adaptation: the deep and recent evolution of *Brachychiton* in the Monsoon tropics



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Brachychiton are a characteristic and charismatic plant group of the monsoon tropics of Australia. The monsoon tropics represent a great biological frontier for Australian biogeography and little is known of its evolutionary history. Through the study of exemplar taxa that have radiated and diversified into this biome we can begin to develop a picture of the evolutionary dynamics that have structured and shaped a new biome that originated and expanded only during the last 30 Myr. To do this it is also necessary to develop a complete understanding of the study species. In this talk I consider the evolution of the wider family and order to which *Brachychiton* belongs. Then I explore the relationship between the timing of geographical events and the diversification in the *Brachychiton* lineage and finally I consider the morphological signatures of the radiation of this group.

For further info please contact:

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**Seminars are held in the Gould Wing Seminar Room, Building 116 Daley Rd, ANU
ALL STAFF AND STUDENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND**