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The Nutrient Network: Grassroots science to address global-scale environmental change

Thursday 13 June 2013, 1pm

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Gould Seminar Room, (Rm 235) Gould Building (Bldg. 116), Linnaeus Way, ANU



Among the greatest current challenges for ecology is developing a predictive understanding of links between biodiversity and ecosystem function, on one hand, and global-scale perturbations to nutrient cycles and species distributions, on the other. While these grand challenges are global in scale, experiments and sampling must be done at local scales. Distributed networks are one tool with the potential to bridge the gap between site-scale experiments and global-scale predictions. The Nutrient Network is a distributed experiment addressing general ecological questions in the world's grasslands, including several sites in Australia. I will discuss my group's experience with conceiving and implementing a distributed network of identically-replicated grassland experiments and will present some of our most recent findings, including relationships between biodiversity and ecosystem productivity, patterns and generalities about invasive species, and the effects of nitrogen deposition on global biodiversity.

Presented by

Research School of
Biology

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**Medicine, Biology
& Environment**

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This lecture is free and open to the public

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