



Australian
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Australian biogeography, confusing phylogenetics, and cryptic species in the Myobatrachid frog genus *Uperoleia*

PhD exit seminar

Thursday 22 November 2012 1pm

Renee Catullo Division of Evolution, Ecology & Genetics, Research School of Biology, ANU

Gould Seminar Room (Room 235) Gould building, 116 Daley Road, ANU



The Australian native Toadlets (*Uperoleia*) represent the largest species group in the Gondwanan Myobatrachid frog family, as well as having the most extensive range of any Myobatrachid genera. Their long history on the Australian continent, the large number of species in monsoonal northern Australia, and extensive existing collections provided an unequalled opportunity to examine patterns of diversity in the relatively underexplored monsoonal regions. However, substantial confusion exists regarding the validity and identification of each species. I will be presenting my PhD research that combines genetics, morphology, acoustics, and spatial modelling. Using this data I investigate patterns of Australian

diversification, review the biogeography of the monsoonal tropics, identify previously undescribed species, and discuss potential hybrid speciation in a unique group of frogs.

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