



Australian
National
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Sex in dragons

Thursday 23 August 2012 1pm

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



Dragons are agamid lizards. There are 70 species currently described in Australia. They are a fascinating group when it comes to sex determination because both genotypic (GSD) and temperature dependent sex determination (TSD) occur within the same genus.

At least in one species, the central bearded dragon (*Pogona vitticeps*), there is an interaction between genotype and egg incubation temperature in sex determination. Therefore, this species, as well as the group, represents an ideal model to study and understand evolution of sex chromosomes and evolutionary transitions between GSD and TSD.

My research focuses on understanding the molecular and cytogenetic basis of the

origin and evolution of sex chromosomes as well as evolutionary transitions between modes of sex determination using Australian dragon lizards and other reptiles.

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