

CSIRO Staff Association

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A section of the Community and Public Sector Union



Senator the Hon. Arthur Sinodinos AO
Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science
PO Box 6100
Senate
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister Sinodinos

The importance of CSIRO's staff to the National Innovation and Science Agenda

Congratulations on your appointment as Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science. The opportunities within your new Ministerial portfolio are critically important to the future of our country, particularly to foster new industries and jobs and for the sustainability of our environment and community.

CSIRO is at the centre of our innovation system. It can assist Australian industry and deliver practical solutions like no other organisation. However, CSIRO has experienced considerable setbacks in recent years with substantial funding reductions, job cuts and attacks on its research and scientific integrity. Despite this, CSIRO's outstanding researchers, the workers we represent, have continued to deliver innovations to benefit our country.

We welcomed the Government's National Innovation and Science Agenda and the aspiration of your predecessor Minister Hunt to make CSIRO the world's premier public research organisation. CSIRO Staff Association and CPSU representatives had a constructive ongoing dialogue with Minister Hunt and we hope to continue this with you and your office.

As the representative of CSIRO's staff, we have a forthright understanding of the issues that could be addressed by Government to enable CSIRO to prosper further. Staff morale continues to be very low, not only as a result of funding and job reductions, but due to the 30 month enterprise bargaining impasse under the Government's policy.

Importantly, we already have an appreciation of your own personal interest in CSIRO and Australian science. In March 2015 we met with you to discuss the challenges and opportunities for CSIRO to be an important part of the Government's future agenda.

We now welcome the opportunity to meet with you again as Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, at your earliest convenience. Your office can contact me on 03 8620 6348 or sam.popovski@cpsu.org.au Congratulations again on your appointment.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'S Popovski'.

Sam Popovski
Secretary