

CSIRO Staff Association

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A section of the Community and Public Sector Union



CSIRO and Staff Association step up to protect overseas Postdocs

Following widespread confusion in the wake of Government changes to skilled visas, the Staff Association can report that CSIRO Recruitment Services have developed a comprehensive response to protect the international cohort of the organisation's postdoctoral fellows.

Background

In the lead up to last year's Federal Budget, the Turnbull Government announced an overhaul of the skilled migration program – commonly referred to as 457 visas – in a shock move that sparked concerns across many business sectors; including science and research.

With a lack of practical detail on the cards and major concerns regarding the new policy implementation, the Government's mooted changes to skilled migration drew criticism from industry players such as Microsoft and Google.

CSIRO concerns

In response to concerns that CSIRO postdocs might be affected by Federal Government changes to visas and the skilled migration program, the Staff Association arranged a meeting with CSIRO Recruitment Services in February to raise issues on behalf of Postdoc members.

Staff Association representatives were relieved to hear that CSIRO has made provisions to support and reassure postdoctoral fellows that are potentially affected by the Government's visa changes.

This includes securing 'Accredited Sponsor Status' which should deliver 'fast tracking' of skilled visa or permanent residency applications where applicable.

Support for staff

CSIRO has engaged a specialist consultant – Fragomen Worldwide – to provide high level legal advice to CSIRO Recruitment Services on immigration matters as well as advice to affected individual Postdocs.

Management have agreed to work with the CSIRO Staff Association to help assist in resolving migration issues as the Government's changes come into full effect in coming months.

Staff Association postdoc network

The Staff Association is bringing together postdocs across CSIRO, no matter if you've come from overseas or not and regardless which Business Unit you are in.

We know that the postdoc stage of a research career is critical and the association is committed to supporting CSIRO postdocs by providing career advice and support. If you're a postdoc, contact us by email at csstaff@cpsu.org.au or visit www.cpsu-csiro.org.au/members/postdocs/



CSIRO STAFF ASSOCIATION

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I apply for membership of the CSIRO Staff Association (a section of the CPSU) and declare that the information provided is true and correct and agree that if admitted, I will abide by the Constitution and Rules of the Union.

CSIRO IDENT: _____ **DR/MR/MRS/MS/MISS/Other** (Circle one) **FIRST NAME:** _____

SURNAME: _____ **D.O.B:** _____ **M/F/Unspecified** (Circle One)

FLAGSHIP/BUSINESS UNIT: _____

SITE NAME: _____ **BUILDING:** _____ **CSOF LVL & STEP:** _____

TENURE (Indefinite or Specified): _____ **FULL or PART TIME** (Circle one) **ATSI origin YES/NO**(Circle one)

HOME ADDRESS: _____

POSTAL ADDRESS: _____

WORK EMAIL: _____

HOME EMAIL: _____

PH (Mob): _____ **(Work):** _____ **(Home):** _____

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

Please complete the next section of the form, then hand to your delegate or organiser, or email to csstaff@cpsu.org.au

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

To be financial, a member must have paid all subscriptions and all other amounts owed within 30 days of becoming due. In order to resign from the union, a member must give 2 weeks notice, in writing, to the union.

Privacy Statement: The CPSU uses members' personal information for membership management and services. Any personal information collected will only be used for this or a directly related purpose. In that context, we may contact you at a later date. Your personal information will not be disclosed to anyone or any organisation outside of the CPSU unless you consent or we are required to do so by law. You can access our privacy policy and any information we hold about you by calling 1300 137 636 8am to 8pm (AEST) Monday to Friday.

AUTHORISATION FOR PAYROLL DEDUCTION

TO: THE CSIRO PAY OFFICER

Please credit 0.60% of my salary to MEMBERS AND EDUCATION CREDIT UNION (MECU)/LABORATORY CREDIT UNION (LCU) from the first available pay period after receipt of this authority. This is in addition to previous authorities for deductions to MECU/LCU and should remain in force until further notice.

The amount to be deducted and credited to MECU/LCU may be varied from time to time and the amount of variation shall be as certified and advised to you by the CSIRO Staff Association office.

CSIRO IDENT: _____ **FIRST NAME:** _____ **SURNAME:** _____

D.O.B: _____ **CSOF LVL/STEP:** _____ **LOCATION:** _____

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____