

CURRICULUM VITAE – VERA WEISBECKER

CAREER OVERVIEW:

14 November 2011 – current:	Senior Lecturer, School of Biological Sciences at UQ (continuing)
1 June 2013-12 Aug 2014:	Maternity leave with twins
Jan. 2011-Jan.2015:	Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (DECRA)
10 Sept. 2009-10 June 2010	Maternity leave
16 Sept. 2008 – 8 Oct. 2011	Volkswagen Foundation Post-doctoral Research Fellow, Friedrich-Schiller University Jena (Germany) and Cambridge University (UK)
December 2008	PhD conferral (UNSW, Australia)
June 2003	Conferral of German Diplom degree, Tübingen University (Germany)

HONOURS AND AWARDS:

2017:	UQ Teaching awards: Commendation for 3D virtual immersion teaching platform
2017:	Faculty of Science Excellence in Teaching Award for BIOL1030 1 st year course
2012	President's Early Career Researcher award, Australian Mammal Society
2009-2011	Junior Research Fellow Lucy Cavendish College, Cambridge University (UK)

MAJOR FUNDING SUPPORT:

Since obtaining my PhD in 2008, I have received competitive funding support totalling over \$1,650,000, including around \$900,000 worth of Discovery grants in 2014 and 2016 and a \$375,000 DECRA in 2011. In 2012 I was the only member of my School to win a Hermon Slade award.

PUBLICATIONS:

I have published 39 publications since 2006, including 2 book chapters and 37 journal articles. A third of all my papers (13/39) have been published from 2016 onwards (owing to the impact of two maternity gaps and my relocation to UQ). The majority of my publications (32 out of 39 or 82%) are in first impact 1st quartile journals (determined by Scopus). I am first or last author on well over half of my publications (23/39). Most of my peer-reviewed output – 31 articles - is Scimago Q1 (top quartile) scored Journals, and includes publications in high-ranking general-interest Journals such as PNAS, Proceedings B, Current Biology, or Evolution. Despite the recent surge in my publication record and two maternity gaps, my 10-year citation rate is 18/paper (Google Scholar) is well above the average 10-year citation rate for papers of 15.94 in the Biological Sciences (ISI). My average ten-year citation rate per paper is 14.2, which is far higher than the average citation rates per paper in the Plant and Animal Science (average 8.99 citations/paper). Overall, well over a quarter of my publication outputs were in the top 10 Journal percentiles as determined by SciVal (this rises to half in the last three years).

PLENARY, KEYNOTE AND INVITED TALKS:

Since my appointment AT UQ in 2011:

Sept. 2017: Invited Seminar speaker at the Department of Zoology at Melbourne University

Nov. 2016 : Paleo Evo-Devo: the New Science of the Very Old. Society of Vertebrate Palaeontology Conference, Salt Lake City, US

June 2016 : Diffusible iodine-based contrast-enhanced computed tomography (diceCT) and related imaging techniques for research in evolutionary morphology. International Congress of Vertebrate Morphology, Bethesda, US

Oct. 2011: Understanding the implications of late-stage limb and girdle development on mammalian limb/girdle evolution – adding a few monotremes really helps. Invited Symposium contribution on Limb Evo-Devo, Society of Vertebrate Palaeontology Conference, Las Vegas, US

SERVICE AND DISCIPLINE INVOLVEMENT:

I am subject editor for the Journal of Mammalian Biology, an international publication for research on mammalian biology and evolution, and I regularly review grants of diverse funding bodies, including ARC Discovery Project/Future Fellowships, Leibnitz-Foundation, Synthesys grants.

I am the organizer of the 2018 Mammal Conference in Brisbane, and have been nominated to stand for President of the Australian Mammal Society starting in 2018. I am also part of the executive committee for the next International Comparative Vertebrate Meeting (2019 in Prague), and part of the programming committee for the 2019 Society of Vertebrate Palaeontology (October 2019 in Brisbane).

MENTORING AND RESEARCH TRAINING:

I have been eligible to supervise PhD students since my appointment at UQ in late 2012. I have supervised one PhD student and five honours students to completion (one is about to finish). I currently supervise three PhD students and a Master's student (who plans to upgrade to PhD) as primary supervisor and three PhD students as co-supervisor. My honours, postgrad and even short-project students do very well: my first PhD graduate published two papers in leading journals (Proceedings B and Frontiers in Zoology). Two of my honours students and one Fulbright fellow I hosted have published their work in very high-ranking journals (Scientific Reports, BMC Evolutionary Biology, and Evolution & Development). My current PhD student Ariel Marcy won a \$10k Queensland engagement grant for outreach, and a Huxley award for conference travel, and her work on game design was recently covered in both Science and Nature.

TEACHING CONTRIBUTIONS:

At UQ, I developed new content for 9 courses of which I coordinated 2. Since 2010, I developed 53 new lectures, 4 practicals, 7 workshops, 3 online modules and 2 residential school days. With one exception, my overall teaching scores were very high (over 4.3/5), with the second-best score of my teaching career at UQ in a new course I ran and coordinated for the first time (BIOL3320). I also took over coordination of the 550-student first year BIOL1030 course in 2017. In this year, the course had its best ever student evaluations and won a UQ teaching excellence award.

My main teaching innovation, with the help of a \$45,000 Faculty T&L grant, has been a virtual zoology museum which I have used for immersive virtual reality-based teaching in the lectures and practicals of three courses. This platform was part of a commendation for excellence in teaching at the UQ teaching awards.