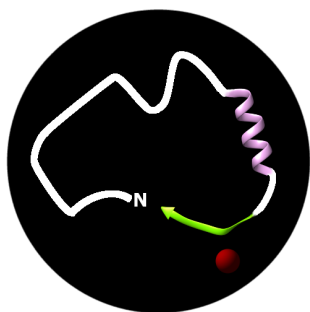


# Adelaide Protein Group: an ASBMB Special Interest Group



**APG**  
Adelaide Protein Group

The Adelaide Protein Group (APG) was founded in 2008 to bring together South Australian researchers who share similar interests in protein and molecular biology science. Our goal is to encourage SA researchers to participate in academic collaboration, to share and discuss cutting-edge research among peers, and to promote established and emerging researchers in Adelaide. A secondary goal of the APG is to help students to engage directly with scientists from Adelaide's numerous academic and research institutions. The members of the APG committee represent the Adelaide University (AU), Flinders University, South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI), South Australian immunoGENomics Cancer Institute (SAiGENCI). We continue to find new ways to bring together Adelaide's brightest minds in protein science and to showcase the excellent research being performed by postgraduate students and early-career researchers (ECRs).

To serve this goal, the APG has recently increased our networking efforts, kicking off our annual activities with events that bring together our existing community and welcome new scientists to Adelaide's thriving molecular biology scene. In 2024, we hosted the Protein Pathways Networking Night which featured a range of experts who took their protein knowledge into different scientific careers including research and industry roles. Our guest speakers shared their unique career insights and experiences in navigating their scientific roles following their studies. In 2025, the theme was 'Pep(Tide) Talk: Science Stories, Services and Solutions' with invited guest speaker Professor Stephanie Gras (La Trobe University). This event also offered the opportunity to hear from and network with several of South Australia's leading service providers in the biological sciences field.

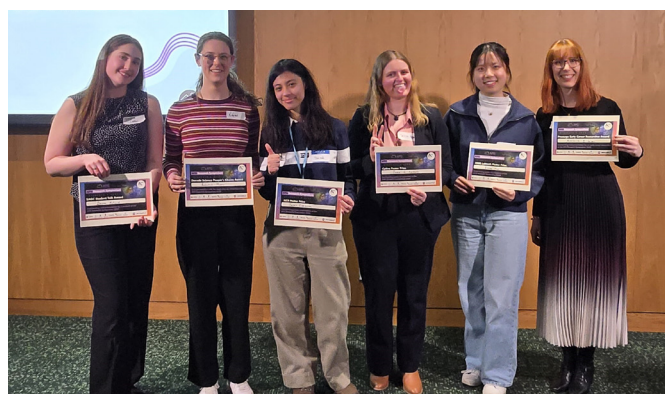
The APG Research Symposium (formerly Awards Fest) is the premier event we host annually. Over the past three years, we have been honoured to host many leading Australian scientists, with Dr Adrienne Sullivan (SAiGENCI) and Associate Professor Michael Lazarou (Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research) as our keynote speakers in 2023, Professor Brett Collins (University of Queensland) and Dr Luke Isbel (SAiGENCI) in 2024, and Professor Renae Ryan (University of Sydney) and Dr Michael Roy (SAiGENCI) in 2025. These

invited speakers gave exciting and engaging talks about their research, from their postgraduate studies to lab head positions.

This event provides the opportunity to hear about the cutting-edge research performed by postgraduate students and ECRs from across Adelaide and recognise great contributions to the field of protein science. Each year, four PhD students and four ECRs are selected to present talks, and thirty researchers are selected to present at our poster session. Thanks to our generous sponsors, we offer over \$2,000 in prizes annually to our presenters. Last year's symposium was a great success, with over 130 researchers in attendance, and we look forward to many more joining us for the APG Research Symposium in 2026!



*Keynote speaker Renae Ryan presenting at the 2025 APG Research Symposium.*



*2025 APG Research Symposium award winners, from left: Dayna Holroyd (AU), Rebekah Munro (AU), Sarah Eismann (AU), Jesse Kennedy (SAHMRI), Emma Mao (AU) and Ashleigh Geiger (SAiGENCI).*

The APG and Perth Protein Group (PPG) launched an exciting new initiative in 2025, providing the opportunity for Dr Danielle Rudler (University of Western Australia), who won the ECR Talk Award at the PPG Symposium in 2024, to travel to the 2025 APG Research Symposium as an invited speaker. In return, the APG had the opportunity to provide a travel bursary to our Student Talk Award winner, Dayna Holroyd (AU) to present at the 2025 PPG Symposium. We look forward to continuing

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*Close competition  
in the tip box  
packing table  
game at the 2025  
APG Quiz Night.*

this collaboration with the PPG, to further increase our reach and offer unique opportunities for our students and ECRs to network outside of SA.

We're not just serious scientists here at the APG, we also know how to have fun! The APG hosts an annual quiz night full of protein-flavoured questions, table games, prizes, drinks and plenty of pizza. With over 100 attendees each year, the quiz night provides a fun opportunity to test your general and protein knowledge while networking with fellow researchers. In recent years, the winners have been awarded the highly coveted APG protein meme mug, a prize that's both functional and hilarious.

We love to round out the year with our annual Proteins in the Pub event. This provides a wonderful opportunity for our protein researchers and sponsors to come together for an informal end of year networking event and dinner. In addition to this, in 2025, eight students and ECRs presented lightning talks on their exciting research.

A highlight of 2025 was remodelling our social media pages and launching our new website. In addition, we published the first issue of our new biannual APG newsletter which aims to highlight APG events and celebrate outstanding research performed by our SA protein scientists.

A major aim of the APG is to keep our events cheap or free for our members, especially our students, to encourage engagement and equality of access. Of course, this would not be possible without the support from the ASBMB and our incredible sponsors. We would like to extend our

gratitude to the ASBMB and our sponsors over the last three years: Cytiva, Decode Science, NEB, Promega, University of Adelaide, University of South Australia, SAGC, BMG Labtech, ATA Scientific and Metagene.

In 2026, we look forward to starting the year with another networking event in April ahead of our 2026 APG Research Symposium in July. We look forward to hearing about the new research emerging from Adelaide this year!

## **APG Committee**

**President:** Dr Ashleigh Geiger (SAiGENCI)

**Secretary:** Emma Mao (AU)

**Treasurer and Scholarship Officer:** Dayna Holroyd (AU)

**ASBMB Liaison Officer:** Samuel Wallis (AU)

**Webmaster:** Jack Scanlon (AU)

**Social Media Officer:** Chanelle Lai (AU) and Suet Yee Too (AU)

**Promotions Officer:** Jarryd Tiu (AU)

**Communications Officer:** Madeline Fechner (AU)

**Events Coordinators:** Lachlan Staker (SAHMRI), Shruti Deshpande (AU), Saba Ataei Kachooei (AU) and Dr Marion Turpin (SAiGENCI)

**General Committee Members:** Alison Roennfeldt (AU), Dr Alix Harlington (AU) and Renee Green (Flinders)

**Samuel Wallis**

**ASBMB Liaison Officer**

**Adelaide Protein Group**

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**X** [@AdelaideProtein](https://twitter.com/AdelaideProtein)



*Winner of the  
Proteins in the  
Pub lightning talk  
award, Shamit  
Singla (AU) (left)  
for his thrilling  
lightning talk  
titled 'Malaria,  
Proteins and  
Diapers' with  
APG Past  
President, Alison  
Roennfeldt (AU).*