

## **Citation**

Professor Fritz Geiser has led a long and distinguished career at UNE, from 1988 through to his recent retirement in March this year. His tenure at UNE is characterised by sustained research excellence that has seen him win numerous grants, fellowships and awards. Highlights from an impressive research CV include UNE's own title of Madgwick Distinguished Professor in 2016, and international recognition in the form of a Discovery Outstanding Researcher Award in 2013.

These fellowships recognise the significant achievements of Professor Geiser and his research team at the University of New England, which have pioneered investigation globally in the field of environmental and comparative physiology of animals, with a particular focus on ecological physiology, the biochemistry of mammals and birds, and thermal biology and energy conservation. An ongoing thread throughout this research has been understanding hibernation and torpor patterns across a range of taxa, including identifying the world's sleepest animal, the Eastern Pygmy Possum, which Professor Geiser recorded hibernating for over one year! This expertise has been recognised globally, with Professor Geiser undertaking projects abroad in countries such as Argentina, Austria, Canada, China, Germany, Israel, South Africa, and the USA, as well as Australia of course.

With over 270 peer reviewed papers, an edited book and a single-author book to his name, Professor Geiser has also been a highly productive and influential researcher. He has presented over 250 papers at scientific conferences, including prestigious Plenary Lectures at key international conferences. His work is very highly cited, with a current h-index of 65 and his Research Interest Score being higher than that of 99% of all Research Gate members in his areas of research expertise. In addition to his publishing achievements, Professor Geiser has a well-funded track record of obtaining research grants, including eight Category 1 grants from the Australian Research Council Discovery program, multiple ARC Linkage grants, and awards from international funding bodies such as the Alexander von Humboldt-Foundation. This combination of productivity, impact, and funding success places Professor Geiser among the very top tier of researchers in his field.

Professor Geiser has also made a significant impact to UNE through his service in numerous administrative roles, such as Convenor of the Zoology discipline at UNE, Chair of the UNE Animal Ethics Committee, Associate Dean Research in the Faculty of the Sciences, and as the Director for the Centre for Behavioural and Physiological Ecology, a service that has lasted for more than 20 years. His expertise and leadership have also been recognized at a national and international level, where he has been elected as the President of the Australian Mammal Society, and served multiple terms as a member of the Research Evaluation Committee for the Biological and Biotechnological Sciences for Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) program of the Australian Research Council, and as a College of Experts Member for the Biological Sciences and Biotechnology for the Australian Research Council. When coupled with significant achievements in research student mentorship and teaching, this long and distinguished service to UNE and his research field is fittingly recognised by the award of the title of Emeritus Professor.