

## Citation – Professor Jeremy Bruhl

Professor Jeremy Bruhl was born in Taree, NSW and growing up on the east coast of Australia he soon developed a love for Botany that would see him graduate from Burnley Horticultural College, Melbourne in 1976. He moved on to higher academic excellence with a B.Sc. (1st Class Hons) from UNSW in 1984 and he holds a PhD from ANU (1991) where the global scope of his research, with accessible databases, not only allowed others to benefit from his research but he set the scene for others to make their work globally accessible. Jeremy joined UNE in 1992 as a lecturer in Plant Taxonomy. In order to teach and train students on the importance of plants to Agriculture and Natural Sciences, Jeremy quickly set about re-imagining the NCW Beadle herbarium (Herbarium NE) of New England, to take it from a mainly locally-focussed resource, with a large volume of unincorporated material, to make it what it is today – an Internationally recognised collection of some 121,000 specimens (90% incorporated into a publicly accessible data base) that meets Commonwealth and International regulations for systematics (Nagoya Protocol), including CITES protocols for the Australian flora.

Professor Bruhl has held the important position of Director of the NCW Beadle Herbarium for 30 years. Early in his tenure Jeremy successfully brought a LIEF grant to UNE (1997) to fund a new building for the herbarium, at which time it was named the NCW Beadle Herbarium to house the collection and to provide our agricultural, environmental scientists and ethnobotanists with resources that would allow them to learn and recognise the rich biodiversity in Australia's flora - some 25,000 species. Today, the collection is valued at \$18 million (source NE herbarium 12 Nov 20). Herbarium NE is the first university-only herbarium to deliver data to Australia's Virtual Herbarium and Atlas of Living Australia (ALA c. 83 000 records from 2013). Usage statistics of NE records on ALA over the last 3 months show that our UNE herbarium has had 978,129 records downloaded from 1,407 requests. The oldest specimen owned by UNE was collected by FW Ludwig Leichhardt 26 Dec. 1843 and is a specimen of Brushbox, *Lophostemon confertus*. From these humble beginnings, UNE is now able to augment the exchange of specimens with a rich data source. It is significant that UNE is listed as an internationally recognised herbarium with *Index Herbariorum* (<http://sweetgum.nybg.org/science/ih/>), that it is a recognised member of the Australian University Herbaria, with a voice on the Council of Heads of Australasian Herbaria (CHAH; <https://chah.gov.au/>).

Professor Bruhl is a world renowned systematist and through his 234 publications (journals, monographs) he has shaped modern systematics in this country through his research that includes new techniques for studying the phylogeny of species and their morphologies, species descriptions and major contributions to the conservation of the flora of the New England. Professor Bruhl is excited by discovering and understanding biodiversity. He focuses on the scientific questions of “*what are the plant species in the world*” and “*what are their evolutionary relationships*”, which are fundamental to all natural history and biological sciences. Names, classifications and understanding how plants work are also important across society for gardeners, farmers, producers of natural plant products and pharmaceutical companies. Professor Bruhl has set up countless students for rewarding careers in agriculture, natural resource management, taxonomy and botany, many of whom are University medal winners — and to this day he continues to mentor many of them.

Professor Bruhl is nominated for the title of Emeritus for his contribution to the University's Botany department.

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