

CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems

# **FRIDAY SEMINAR**

**16 June 2006**

**The role of knowledge brokers in improving regional NRM outcomes**  
(or have you heard the joke about the farmer, the scientist and the bull?)

***Paul Ryan***  
Knowledge Broker  
CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems

There is increasing interest in improving the flow of information and knowledge between policy makers, researchers and regional NRM organisations. Knowledge brokers, people dedicated to transferring knowledge between different organisations, are being widely promoted as one way to bridge the gap and overcome many of the barriers that have traditionally hampered knowledge sharing. But what does a knowledge broker actually do and can they really help improve the flow of knowledge between organisations?

I will present insights from my experience as the Knowledge Broker for the Better Knowledge, Better Bush project, a large multi-partner, multi-disciplinary project researching various aspects of vegetation management in NSW. I suggest that generating and sharing knowledge is a social process that relies on understanding how people seek and use information, the formal and informal networks they operate in and most importantly understanding the culture of the organisation in which they work. These factors have important implications for the way we plan, implement and communicate our research.

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**3:30 pm**

Venue:  
Seminar Room  
Graeme Caughley Building  
CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems  
Gungahlin Homestead  
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