## **Life Sciences Network**



## Media Release

## 28 June 2002

## Dr Wendy Cráik appointed as Director of the Life Sciences Network

The Life Sciences Network today announced the appointment of Dr Wendy Craik as its Australian Director.

"We are thrilled that a person of Dr Craik's standing in the agribusiness sector has chosen to lead the GM debate in Australia on behalf of the Network," said Chairman Dr William Rolleston.

The Life Sciences Network is an umbrella organisation which brings together national industry organisations, universities, research organisations, producer organisations and other entities which have made an investment in biotechnology.

"The vision of the Network is to ensure responsible gene technology is an acceptable choice in Australia and New Zealand. Member organisations believe approved use of gene technology is safe," said Dr Craik.

"I look forward to the part I can play in ensuring the responsible development and application of gene technologies within an appropriate regulatory framework continues in both countries," said Dr Craik.

Dr Rolleston said that Dr Craik brings to the role her background as a fisheries biologist and her involvement in environmental issues.

"Dr Craik has also recently taken up a consultancy position with ACIL Consulting based in Canberra.

"Prior to this, Dr Craik was Chief Executive Officer of Earth Sanctuaries Limited, a publicly listed wildlife conservation company; prior to that she was Executive Director of the National Farmers Federation for 5 years, Australia's peak farm lobby group.

"From 1978 to 1995 she worked for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, the last three years as the Executive Officer responsible to the Chair of the Authority," said Dr Rolleston.

Dr Craik has extensive experience in organisational leadership and management, government and industry relations, public policy and natural resource management and rural/regional issues in both the public and private sectors.

In addition to her BSc (Hons) and PhD Dr Craik has a Graduate Diploma of Management, She was awarded Executive Woman of the Year for the rural sector in 1998 and Ansett Private Sector Business Woman of the Year for the ACT in 1999. She is a member of the Business Women's Hall of Fame.

"Dr Craik's appointment is a positive advancement for the future of biotechnology research and development in Australia and we look forward to the valuable contribution she will make to both the Life Sciences Network and the biotechnology industry," Dr Rolleston concluded.

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