

27/03/2025

UTS Public

Re: 2025 Hong Kong Laureate Forum – Letter of support for Dr. Hannah Brown

To whom it may concern,

Hannah has been working in my group since 2018 in various roles, including for her honours degree and PhD which was recently conferred in February 2025. She is a talented researcher and communicator who has been awarded several UTS awards and grants, including the Graduate Research Excellence Scholarship for her candidature, the 2021 Cross Faculty HDR Collaboration Award, and the 2023 Vice Chancellors Conference scholarship. She has also won several poster and speaking prizes at conferences, such as at the prestigious European Molecular Biology Organisation (EMBO) workshop on the Molecular Biology of Archaea where she received an EMBO travel grant and prize for best talk.

Hannah's research outcomes from her time in my laboratory are extensive, as demonstrated by her list of first-author publications, and her research has contributed significantly towards improving our fundamental understanding of cytoskeletal protein function in archaea and their evolution. Hannah is also an excellent speaker and clear explainer of complex information, and she is passionate about science communications to non-experts. This, exemplified through her work with JAMS (Joint Academic Microbiology Seminars), outreach with school students, and engagement on radio.

Although Hannah has engaged in other communications opportunities with the broader scientific community, opportunities to network and present within much broader scientific fields are rare, especially on an international stage. Therefore, this upcoming opportunity to attend the Hong Kong Laureate Forum, 2025, will be of great benefit to Hannah and her career and development as a scientist in Australia and will facilitate the expansion of her networks in Australia significantly as she develops independence in her research. I strongly endorse Hannah's application and believe that her attendance at the Hong Kong Laureate Forum will be beneficial for her professional development.

Yours Sincerely,

Associate Professor Iain Duggin

