

Life at the Edge: The biochemistry and applied microbiology of extreme environments

Professor Don A Cowan

Director, Centre for Microbial Ecology and Genomics, University of Pretoria

SASBMB Gold Medal Lecture

Through my 40 year academic career, I have worked in a number of different fields of biochemistry, applied biocatalysis, microbiology and molecular biology. I have also worked in some of the most dramatic and charismatic environments on Earth, most particularly very hot and very cold aquatic and desert soil environments. In this lecture I will attempt to summarise some of the key moments, critical decisions and particular highlights of a long and thoroughly enjoyable research career.