



2018 Campbell Lecture

Dr Keith L. Bristow

Senior Principal Research Scientist
CSIRO, Townsville, Queensland, Australia

Soil Physics and Hydrology: My journey from small to large scale and back

Monday – October 15, 2018
1.10 – 2.00 pm in VBR 305
(Reception to follow)



Dr Keith L. Bristow is a Senior Principal Research Scientist with CSIRO in Townsville, Australia. He was born and raised in South Africa. He received his BSc Honours in Physics at the University of Natal and his MSc in Agrometeorology at the University of the Orange Free State in South Africa. He moved to the USA in September 1980 to undertake his PhD in Soil Physics with Professor Gaylon Campbell at WSU, then joined CSIRO in Australia in August 1983. Dr Bristow is an Honorary Professor at the University of Pretoria in South Africa, Fellow of the Soil Science Society of America and the American Society of Agronomy, and recipient of the 2009 Don and Betty Kirkham Soil Physics Award.

About the lecture

In his lecture Dr Bristow will discuss aspects of his research, which has in general focused on soil, water, agriculture and the environment, with particular emphasis on soil physics, groundwater, irrigated systems and agroecosystems. Dr Bristow developed one of the first models to simulate heat and water transfer through a surface residue-soil system. He initiated and led the Northern Australia Irrigation Futures (NAIF) project that delivered the first major collaboration between the Australian, Queensland, Northern Territory and Western Australian Governments in addressing the future of water and the potential for irrigation in northern Australia. Dr Bristow's current focus is on development of a Sprayable Biodegradable Polymer Membrane Technology to replace the petroleum based plastic mulch films used in horticulture and other cropping systems.