

Dr Richard Roush

Dr Roush graduated B.S Entomology in 1976, University of California, Davis, and PhD in Entomology in 1979 from the University of California, Berkeley.

He was exposed to the Australian University and agricultural worlds during the period 1995 – 2003 as:

- Associate Professor, Department of Crop Protection, University of Adelaide (teaching and research); and as
- CEO, Cooperative Research Centre for Weed Management (research management).

He comes to Melbourne from his current position as Director, Statewide IPM Program University of California (research management) which he has held since March 2003.

Dr Roush is concerned about declining enrollments and funding in agricultural faculties both in the US and in Australia. He believes that the single greatest challenge facing humanity is producing food for 8-9 billion people in just a few decades while preventing any further damage to the environment. He is enthusiastic about energizing public support and students to meet this goal and is active in public debates that are critical to ensure that science has a proper role in policy and decision making.

He has a proven management track record within universities, and research institutes, where he was regularly required to deal with industry and State and Federal governments. His prowess as a speaker and writer led to an impressive level of success in liaising and building successful research funding from the Commonwealth and industrial sponsors.

He is an internationally respected entomologist with experience in many agricultural crops and natural ecosystems in the US, Australia and elsewhere. His research has contributed to a range of areas including practical pest management, basic biology and toxicology of insects, molecular biology of insect neuroreceptors, biological control in insects and weeds and conservation biology. He is best known for his work on pesticide resistance and its management and has played a significant role in driving the widespread adoption of the practical application of the theoretical and experimental foundations he has developed. A committed naturalist, he will bring this experience, interest and passion to the Faculty of Land & Food Resources.