

# New Zealand Phylogenetics Conference: A snapshot history



Following an early international phylogenetics conference in Rotorua in 1993, the week-long New Zealand phylogenetic meetings began with a small gathering (~30) in Kaikoura in 1996, organised by Mike Steel, Peter Lockhart, David Penny and Mike Hendy. Apart from a gap year in 1998, this meeting has been held each February in scenic locations in the South Island (Kaikoura, Akaroa, Portobello) and the North Island (Tongariro, Whitianga, Waiheke Island, Leigh and Dannevirke).



The meetings attract 50-60 researchers and students, and aims to bring mathematicians and biologists together to discuss and report on the latest ideas in phylogenomics. Many leaders in this field have presented talks at the meeting, including Masami Hasegawa, Olivier Gascuel, Mark Pagel and Ron Shamir. The 2016 meeting in Tongariro will be the 20th in the series. In recent years, some follow-up workshops have been held later in February at Cass (2006-09, 2012-13) and in Kaikoura (2014-15).