

Professor Simon Easteal

Simon Easteal is the Deputy Director of the John Curtin School of Medical Research at The Australian National University. He has published two books and more than 160 academic articles. He has served on numerous editorial boards, advisory committees, government taskforces and working parties and other bodies in public and private organisations, and he has provided expert opinion in relation to genetic evidence used in court cases in most Australian jurisdictions.

He has a wide range of research interests and a strong commitment to understanding the broader societal implications of his research. His current research focuses on the evolutionary interplay between humans and their environments with the aim of understanding how this dynamic process gave rise to our complex biology; how it made us such a diverse species; and how it impacts our health and wellbeing. He is particularly interested in how genes and cultures co-evolve to shape personalities, cognitive styles and social behaviour. This evolutionary perspective provides a framework for understanding the impact of human psychological diversity on health and on individual potential in a wide range of human activities within educational, management and the legal contexts.