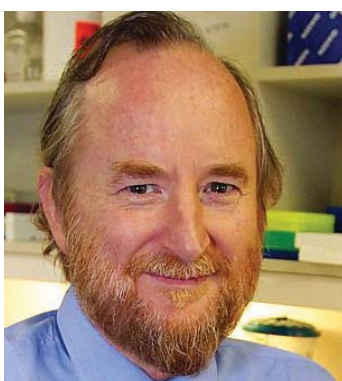


## **SPECIAL SEMINAR**

**THURSDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2012 AT 4.00PM**  
**WESTPAC AUDITORIUM, BANCROFT CENTRE, QIMR**

### ***Powerful new methods for disease gene discovery***



**Professor Grant Morahan**  
**Director of the Centre for Diabetes Research**  
**Western Australian Institute for Medical Research**  
**Perth**

Professor Grant Morahan is Director of the Centre for Diabetes Research at the Western Australian Institute for Medical Research, Perth, and Professor of Systems Genetics at the University of Western Australia. His research has included genetics of type 1 diabetes in humans and in animal models; genetics of asthma, obesity, demyelinating diseases and malaria; characterization of mechanisms of immune tolerance; and production of monoclonal antibodies.

He is a Steering Committee member of the international Type 1 Diabetes Genetics Consortium; and a founder of the Complex Trait Consortium. He founded Geniad, a company which will offer pharmaceutical services based on a world-leading genetic resource, The Gene Mine.

The past decade has seen an unprecedented increase in our understanding of the genes which control simple traits. However, many conditions of biological and medical importance have a genetic basis but do not follow simple Mendelian rules of inheritance. These genes remain extremely difficult and expensive to identify by conventional approaches. Alternative approaches are required, especially to discover genes that would be too difficult, expensive or impossible to identify in humans.

Professor Morahan's group have produced a revolutionary new genetic resource, called The Gene Mine. The Gene Mine avoids many of the tasks required in conventional genetics. By comparison of traits of interest from the Gene Mine, it is possible to identify key gene(s) which control these traits. Put simply, The Gene Mine "takes the genetics out of gene discovery".