Associate Professor Dr Paul Adam is a botanist and ecologist with the following qualifications:

- Bachelor of Arts (First class Honours) (Cambridge University, Emmanuel College) 1972
- Master of Arts (Cambridge University) 1976
- Doctor of Philosophy (Cambridge University) 1976 (on "Plant Sociology and Habitat Factors in British Salt marshes")
- National Trust of Australia (NSW) Voluntary Service Medallion 1999
- Fellow, Royal Zoological Society of New South Wales 2003
- Gold Medal, Ecological Society of Australia 2004
- Associate Professor, School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of New South Wales
- Head of School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of New South Wales
- Former Editor of Wetlands (Australia)
- Associate editor Journal of Ecology
- Former member of Editorial Board, Cambridge Studies in Ecology, Cambridge University Press
- Member of Editorial Board, Ecology, Biodiversity and Conservation, Cambridge University Press
- Author, Saltmarsh Ecology (Cambridge University Press, 1990 (revised paperback edition 1993)
- Author, Australian Rainforests (Oxford University Press) 1992 (revised paperback editions 1994, 1997)
- 71 scientific articles in refereed journals
- 20 chapters in scientific books
- Author, Coastal Wetlands of New South Wales A survey and report for the Coastal Council of New South Wales (Chs 1-6), Department of Environmental Planning, Sydney 1985
- Author, New South Wales Rainforests. The nomination for the World Heritage List, NPWS, Sydney, 1987
- 44 scientific articles in non-refereed publications
- Former Secretary and Vice-President, Ecological Society of Australia
- Chair and Member ANZAAS (NSW) Committee and former Chair ANZAAS (Federal)
- Former Chair and Deputy Chair, Scientific Committee established by the Threatened Species Conservation Act (NSW)
- Former Member, National Parks & Wildlife Service Advisory Council
- Former Member, State Wetlands Policy Working Party, Department of Water Resources
- Former Member, State Estuary Policy Working Party, Public Works Department
- Former Member, Special Environment Programme, Urban Bushland Committee, Sydney Water
- Former Member, Regulation Review Committee, NSW Fisheries
- Former Member, Forestry Advisory Council
- Member, Research Scientists' Qualifications Committee, Premier's Department
- Member, Bushland Management Group, Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust
- Former Member, State of the Marine Environment Review, Ocean Rescue 2000 (Cth)

- Former Member, Steering Committee for Significant Wetlands of NSW Project, Australian Nature Conservation Agency
- Former Member, NSW Natural Environment Panel, Australian Heritage Commission
- Member, Reference Group Leave No Trace Project, Commonwealth Department of Environment and Heritage