School of Population Health
Department of Public Health
Annual Report 2006

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SPH

School of Population Health
Department of Public Health

SUMMARY Report

2006
Our Vision
The School of Population Health vision is to inculcate a population health approach in all areas of health care and in the community where opportunities for disease and injury prevention exist.

Our Mission
To conduct and enhance research that addresses issues of population health and health social sciences, and to educate undergraduates and postgraduate students, clinicians, scientists, professionals and public health leaders through the enrichment of our educational programs in public health.

Head of School of Population Health: Professor Terry Nolan.
“We’re drawing together superb biomedical and social science expertise, in a form that is multi-disciplinary, collaborative and synergistic. That’s what the School is about.”

2006 proved to be another landmark year for the School of Population Health. This report describes the School’s achievements and our initiatives to adopt and contribute to the University’s new strategic plan “Growing Esteem” throughout the year. The School’s contribution to knowledge through our research activities continues to be recognised nationally and internationally and we have received many new research awards which are listed later in this report that attest to the breadth and depth of quality of research within the School. Our excellent Quality of Teaching and Learning performances are also documented further in this report.

The Melbourne Model aligns the University more fully with the education framework being implemented across Europe and includes elements of the American liberal education tradition. The introduction of innovative undergraduate degrees will strengthen the recognition of Melbourne degrees. It will position graduates for global employment by providing curricula that assists students to develop a broader skills and experience base and will differentiate the University within the Australian higher education sector.

Many staff have contributed to the work of the Curriculum Commission and to the Faculty’s planning for the Growing Esteem agenda. The new Bachelor of Biomedicine, Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts will potentially incorporate contributions from staff from the School of Population Health.

Our other focus continues to be on postgraduate Masters and Doctoral training, and the full implications for this are yet to be worked through. A new medical curriculum is to be devised and just as with the current curriculum, the fundamental importance of population health for medical students will need to be both realised and maintained as the content of the new curriculum is developed.

The implementation of the Growing Esteem Strategic Plan at the School level has been led by Professor Ian Anderson. A number of working groups have been established to develop Strategic Plans for Research and Research Training, Learning and Teaching and Knowledge Transfer. The School’s planning day afforded an opportunity to fully review the work of these groups and to commence the development of the 2007-2010 Strategic Plan.

Three new Professors commenced their appointment with the School early in 2006:
- Professor Robin Room, (Chair in Social Research in Alcohol), based primarily at Turning Point,
- Professor Dallas English (Chair in Epidemiology and Biostatistics), and
- Professor John Wiseman (Chair in Health Promotion and Director of the McCaughey (VicHealth Centre for the Promotion of Mental Health and Community Wellbeing).

In addition, David Studdert was recruited from Harvard University as a new Federation Fellow jointly sponsored by the Faculties of Law and Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences. David will be co-located with the Law School and the Centre for Health Policy, Programs and Economics in the School of Population Health when he commences in 2007. He holds the second Federation Fellowship to be awarded to a researcher working within the School of Population Health.

Farewell to Associate Professor Rob Carter and his group of health economists. Rob accepted a Chair in Health and Human Services Economics in the School of Health and Social Development at Deakin University. Rob made a very considerable contribution in research, teaching and higher degree supervision. He has had considerable success in NHMRC program and project grant funding. We wish him well in his future career.

The VicHealth Centre for the Promotion of Mental Health and Community Wellbeing commenced its operation in June 2006. The Centre is now known as the McCaughey Centre named in honour of two outstanding Victorians, Davis and Jean McCaughey. Their commitment to “knowledge for the common good”; to creating and sharing knowledge about the values and actions needed to build health, just and resilient communities is at the heart of the Centre’s work program. The Centre has attracted a number of talented individuals to develop the Centre’s research and policy development program.

The proposal to rename the Program Evaluation Unit as the Centre for Health Policy, Programs and Economics was approved by Council. This was based on a successful review of the Unit’s work over the previous five years.

The Diabetes Vaccine Development Centre (DVDC) was reviewed by the NHMRC and will continue to be funded, however the DVDC will move, with its next stage of development, to the Garvan Institute. Dr David Irving (CEO, DVDC) made many valuable contributions not only to the development of the Centre but also to the School during the past three years.

The Centre for International Mental Health was reviewed in 2006. The Review Panel made a strong overarching commendation and tribute
to the achievements of the Centre for International Mental Health.
The School’s major collaborations continue with the Murdoch Childrens Research Institute through our Vaccine and Immunisation Research Group, with the Centre for International Child Health, and with The Australian International Health Institute. Through the Victorian Public Health Education and Research Program (PHERP) Consortium, we collaborate with Deakin, La Trobe and Monash Universities to deliver the Master of Public Health Program. The School receives generous support for several core activities and educational and research programs from the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing, from the National Medical and Health Research Council (NHMRC), from the Victorian Department of Human Services, and from the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation.
In 2007 we will continue to implement initiatives to become a leading School of Population Health by:
• clearly defining the paths to research excellence,
• continuing to refine our programs at both undergraduate and graduate level, and
• further developing the links with industry, government and community to enhance knowledge transfer activities with students and staff – the third strand of the triple helix that underpins the University’s Growing Esteem Strategic Plan.
Finally, I wish to acknowledge and thank the many friends of the School of Population Health who have supported and assisted us throughout the year. We hope you will find this report on the activities of the School in 2006 and the profile of its staff of interest.
— Professor Terry Nolan

Highlights of 2006

Professor Margaret Hamilton, AO

Congratulations to Professor Margaret Hamilton who was the previous Professor and Director of Turning Point. Margaret was made an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for her service to the community in the areas of social welfare and public health, especially in relation to the field of drug and alcohol. Margaret continues to be an active honorary Professorial Fellow of the School of Population Health and has been associated with the University for many years.

McCaughey Centre

The VicHealth Centre for the Promotion of Mental Health and Community Wellbeing, now known as the McCaughey Centre, commenced operation in June. The Centre’s goal is to create and share knowledge which strengthens the foundations of healthy and sustainable communities, leading to improved mental health and wellbeing. To achieve this goal the Centre will undertake policy research, workforce development and advocacy which increases understanding of the social, economic and environmental determinants of community wellbeing and mental health. The Centre is supported by and will collaborate closely with the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation (VicHealth). The Centre’s work will therefore be informed by the VicHealth definition of mental health as ‘the embodiment of social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing. Mental health provides individuals with the vitality necessary for active living, to achieve goals and to interact with one another in ways that are respectful and just’. Research underpinning the development of the VicHealth Strategic Plan has identified the following key determinants of mental health and community wellbeing: Freedom from violence; Freedom from discrimination; Economic participation and security; and Social inclusion. The Centre’s initial focus will therefore be on policy research, workforce development and advocacy leading to improvements in:
• Freedom from violence,
• Freedom from discrimination,
• Economic participation and security, and
• Social inclusion.
The Centre has attracted a number of talented individuals to develop and achieve the Centre’s research and policy development program: Professor John Wiseman, Director, Dr Marion Frere, Deputy Director, associate Professor Tony LaMontagne, Principal Research Fellow, Dr Gabrielle Berman, Research Fellow, Dr Melanie Davern, Sue West, research Fellow, Cathleen Brasher, Research Fellow, Steve Gelsi, visiting appointment and Australian Bureau of Statistics, Tessa Keegel, Research Fellow, Janine Campbell, Centre Manager, and Kate Jenkins, Centre Administrator.

AEA 2006 Meeting in Melbourne

The Australasian Epidemiological Association held its 15th Annual Meeting at The University of Melbourne on 18 and 19 September. The theme of the conference was “Opportunities and limits in epidemiological research”. The conference had the highest attendance yet of any AEA meeting, with 330 registrants, and was an outstanding success. Professor Ken Rothman, Boston University gave the opening plenary speech on the theme of the conference. His presentation was provocative and stimulating, as one would expect from such a distinguished epidemiologist. Associate Professor Ana Diez Roux, from the University of Michigan, was the second international guest to give a plenary presentation. She spoke about the rapidly emerging field of social epidemiology. The Ian Prior oration was given by Professor Judith Lumley, from La Trobe University. She spoke about the paucity of monitoring data on birth anomalies. The conference concluded with a lively enjoyable debate between Professors Konrad Jamrozik and Neal Pearce on whether epidemiologists should do more randomised trials, chaired by Professor John Carlin. There were three sets of five concurrent sessions for proffered papers and around 150 posters displayed. The oral presentations and the posters were of high quality. Associate Professor Dorota Gertig, from MEGA Epidemiology, co-convened the conference, while Professor Dallas English, also from MEGA Epidemiology, chaired the scientific committee.

Twin Registry Workshop

The Australian Twin Registry hosted a one-day workshop on Sunday 17 September that presented the opportunities that new genetic knowledge, techniques and approaches have opened up for epidemiological research, and the potential for researchers to use nationally funded resources and facilities. It also described the important contributions
that epidemiology can make to genetic research. A total of 110 delegates braved the early Sunday morning start and were introduced to a wide range of speakers from a variety of research areas, resulting in very positive feedback on the value of the day. The workshop convener, Katrina Scurrah (Dept of Physiology), said that the workshop was a great opportunity for researchers from various fields including both genetics and epidemiology to network and explore possible collaborations.

Notable highlights were speakers Sam Berkovic from the Epilepsy Research Centre, who was recently awarded the 2005 Curtin Medal for Outstanding Contribution to Australian Medical Science, and Tom Mack from the University of Southern California who presented exciting perspectives on and examples of the use of twins in research into early life risk factors for diseases such as Multiple Sclerosis and Breast Cancer.

**Diabetes Vaccine Development Centre**

The Diabetes Vaccine Development Centre (DVDC) commenced a large, multi-centre trial jointly funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) to determine if the vaccine prevents diabetes in at-risk children. This trial commenced on the basis of work done by Dr Peter Coleman (The Royal Melbourne Hospital) and Professor Len Harrison (The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute for Medical Research).

**Review of the Centre for International Mental Health**

The Centre was reviewed in 2006. The Review Panel made a strong overarching commendation and tribute to the achievements of the Centre for International Mental Health and in particular the post-December 2004 tsunami activities in Sri Lanka and Indonesia and in the International Mental Health Leadership Program. These achievements received international recognition.

During 2006 the Centre played a key role in translating post-tsunami relief efforts into longer-term mental health system development programs in Aceh, Indonesia, and in Sri Lanka. Funding from World Vision Australia has enabled substantial mental health development projects to be undertaken.

**Key Centre for Womens Health in Society – Short Courses**

Associate Professor Anne Kavanaugh hosted two successful short courses:

- The Social Determinants of Health and An Introduction to Multilevel Modelling.
- Community health managers, policy makers and researchers were among the 31 registered to attend. The Social Determinants of Health Course was facilitated by internationally renowned academics Professor Ichiro Wakachi and Assistant Professor S V Subramanian from the Harvard School of Public Health. Participants were able to glean a deeper understanding of the social and economic circumstances influencing health and to take part in hands-on workshops exploring multilevel and qualitative research methods. Assistant Professor S V Subramanian also facilitated the Introduction to Multilevel Modelling course.

**Staff Promotions/ Appointments**

Congratulations to Martha McIntyre and Lynn Gillam from the Centre for Health and Society on their promotions to Associate Professor and Reader and Associate Professor respectively. Martha’s achievements recognised at national and international levels for scholarship in anthropology, and Lynn’s for her contribution to scholarship and knowledge transfer in health ethics.

Professor Robin Room commenced in March as the inaugural Chair of Social Research in Alcohol at the School of Population Health and Director of the Centre for Alcohol Policy Research at Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre. His expertise is in the social, cultural and epidemiological studies of alcohol, drugs and gambling behaviour, studies of social responses to alcohol and drug problems, and the effects of policy changes.

Professor Room received his higher education in the United States, with a PhD in sociology from the University of California, Berkeley. From 1977 to 1991 he was scientific director of the Alcohol Research Group, a national alcohol research centre funded by the US National Institutes for Health, and from 1982 adjunct professor at the School of Public Health of the University of California, Berkeley. He moved to Toronto where, until 1998, he was vice-president for research at the Addiction Research Foundation, with professorial appointments at the University of Toronto in the departments of public health, psychiatry and sociology.

Since 1999, Robin was professor and founding director of the Centre for Social Research on Alcohol and Drugs at Stockholm University. Under his direction the centre developed an international reputation for the quality and breadth of its research and policy impact.

He has served on many professional bodies, review panels and enquiries, including membership of the WHO Expert Advisory Panel on Drug Dependence and Alcohol Problems; board membership and presidency of the Kettil Bruun Society for Social and Epidemiological Research on Alcohol; board membership and presidency of the International Council on Alcohol and Addictions; chair of the Alcohol Epidemiology Section of the International Council on Alcohol and Addictions; and an advisor to the WHO Mental Health Division and Program on Substance Abuse.

In 1983, Professor Room was co-winner of the Jellinek Memorial Award for Alcohol Studies and, in 2002, received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Section of the Canadian Public Health Association.

His latest award was the Annual Drug Research Award of the Swedish Council for Information on Alcohol and Other Drugs.

Professor Dallas English joined the School of Population Health on 24 April 2006 as Chair of Epidemiology and Biostatistics and Director of the Centre for Molecular, Environmental, Genetic and Analytic Epidemiology.

He has a Bachelors degree in Mathematics from the University of Melbourne, his Masters in Biostatistics and PhD in epidemiology are from the University of Washington in Seattle, USA. From 1982 to 1999 he worked at the University of Western Australia, first in the NHMRC Research Unit in Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, and later in the Department of Public Health. His last position there was Associate
Professor. He moved to the Cancer Council Victoria in February 2000 where he was the Associate Director of the Cancer Epidemiology Centre.

Professor English has substantial experience as a cancer epidemiologist, having worked in this field since 1982. While in Perth, his main research interests were in skin cancer prevention and in cancer screening. Since moving to Melbourne, he has been working on the Melbourne Collaborative Cohort Study and will continue to devote his research time to this study. He retains a senior appointment at the Cancer Council.

Professor John Wiseman was appointed to the inaugural Chair of Health Promotion and Director of the VicHealth Centre for the Promotion of Mental Health and Community Wellbeing. He commenced his appointment on 29 May 2006. John was the Professor of Public Policy and Acting Director of the Institute for Community Engagement and Policy alternatives at Victoria University. He has Bachelors degrees in Arts and in Social Work from the University of Melbourne and his PhD is from La Trobe University. He has been closely involved with the Victorian Community Indicators Project and has an extensive record of research in community development, sustainability and wellbeing. His experience derives from both academic and government sectors. Prior to his appointment at Victoria University, he was Assistant Director, Policy Development and Research Branch, in the Department of Premier and Cabinet where he contributed to the development and implementation of ‘Growing Victoria Together’, the Victorian Government’s social, economic and environmental policy framework.

### The School Staff Profile

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### School of Population Health Management and Governance

The School’s committees are accountable for the implementation of the strategic and operational plans incorporated within the School’s management and governance framework and reinforced through the performance development framework.

### School of Population Health Principal Committees

#### Management and Resources

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<tr>
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#### Academic

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Enrolments 2001 – 2006

From second semester 2006 there were 404 continuing students within the SPH postgraduate coursework programs. This represents an additional 60 plus enrolments from 2005. Following a number of substantial reviews within the postgraduate teaching programs a number changes came into effect in 2006.

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**MASTERS BY RESEARCH**

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**MASTERS BY COURSEWORK**

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**POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMAS**

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Note that shaded cells represent programs that are no longer offered.
Learning and teaching
Semester 1 commenced with the newly revised Epidemiology teaching program. The core new program comprising six Masters level epidemiology and analytic methods subjects began strongly with 35 students enrolled in each of the semester 1 subjects. Students have enrolled into these subjects from the Master of Epidemiology, Master of Public Health and PhD and Masters by Research. The program was officially launched by Professor John Hopper at the first teaching session. This was followed by an inspiring introductory lecture from Professor Terry Dwyer AO on his exemplar epidemiological work.

There have been a number of changes to our programs following the introduction of new subjects and changes to the structure of courses as a result of the ongoing review of our teaching. This will see the introduction in 2007 of revised programs in Women’s Health (postgraduate Diploma, Masters of Women’s Health and Master of Public Health (Women’s Health) that offer a program of purpose-built subjects and a simplified program structure. The structure of the Biostatistics programs (Postgraduate Diploma of Biostatistics and Master of Biostatistics) have been revised to include a new core subject (Probability and Distribution Theory) to further build the theoretical core of these programs. The Master of Social Health will see the introduction of a new Health Policy stream.

SPH Teaching and Learning Excellence Awards
A specialist biostatistics program (with a strong mathematical foundation) is offered in conjunction with the Biostatistics Collaboration of Australia, which consists of seven universities, for those seeking professional training in biostatistics. Student numbers across the Certificate, Diploma and Masters reached almost 150 nationally, of whom almost 50 were enrolled at the University of Melbourne. The coordinator of the program at Melbourne, Professor John Carlin, was awarded the School's Teaching Excellence Award in 2006 for his role in setting up the course and for the high quality of the two subjects that he has delivered and taught in collaboration with Associate Professor Andrew Forbes at Monash.

Quality of Teaching and Learning
SPH has continued to maintain excellent teaching evaluations in 2006. Semester One reports were most encouraging. All 26 of the postgraduate subjects evaluated were rated as well taught, 23 of these were rated as very well taught (scoring an average of 4 or more out of a possible 5), with 14 rated as exceptionally well taught (scoring 4.5 or higher). These results were supported by an equally good performance in Semester 2. Once again, our student evaluations indicated that the school was a leader across the Faculty and the University in the quality of its teaching.

Semester One Evaluations
Question 2: “This subject was well taught.” (score range 1 - 5)

<table>
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<th>Subject Title</th>
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**Question 9:** “Overall I was satisfied with the quality of the learning experience in the subject.” (score range 1 - 5)

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Semester Two Evaluations
The evaluation focussed on two main areas as shown below for Semester 2:

Question 2: “This subject was well taught.” (score range 1 - 5)

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Question 9: “Overall, I was satisfied with the quality of the learning experience in the subject.” (score range 1 - 5)
Student services

New Graduates

There were a number of course completions during the year, including 10 new Masters of Public Health (MPH) Graduates. Again there were many students completing with outstanding academic records. In addition, there were a number of award winners at the Victorian Consortium of Public Health and the VicHealth Master of Public Health awards ceremony. The joint winners of the University of Melbourne top MPH in 2005 were Jaithri Ananthapavan and Caroline King. Other Melbourne students were also among the prize winners as top students in 2005 in the foundation subjects taught by the consortium universities, winning top 3 of the 8 subjects. Catherine Hutton was top student in Epidemiology, Kate Dwyer top student in Statistics, and Mathew Hercus was joint winner for Principles and Practice of Public Health.

SPH Alumni

We are also inviting our new graduates to keep in touch with us via an alumnus email address sph-alumni@unimelb.edu.au so that we can begin to grow an active network of graduates. We also invite past students to contact us at this email address with their current contact details so that we can add these to our alumnus list.

Undergraduate News

Health Practice 1, 3 and 5 in the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery attracted a number of excellent tutors from the School in 2006 and they made important contributions to the Health Practice Tutorials and Evidence based Practice Training. This has proven to be a good way for the tutors to gain experience in undergraduate medical teaching and to contribute to the implementation of the curriculum.

With the decision to have a Bachelor of Biomedicine Degree that will commence in 2009 there will still be a need to teach Health Practice in its current form until the last intake of undergraduate medical students for this current curriculum in 2008. The establishment of the new undergraduate degree presents the School of Population Health with some exciting possibilities for curriculum input and teaching.

Advanced Medical Science

There has been a wide range of options from the various coursework and research units on offer from SPH. Associate Professor Lyn Gillam (AMS coordinator) and Anita Lucas (AMS Administrator) have organised a program of academic support and social events, including work in progress presentations and the final conference held on 26 May that involves all students. This is an opportunity for the AMS students to present their research to their family, friends and peers.

The AMS cohort that commenced in mid July had 14 local students at SPH (9 – Medical Humanities /Social Health/ Complementary Medicine; 4 – Public Health Perspectives in Women’s Health; 1 – Sexual Health). The School also hosted a number of Universitas Indonesia AMS students in Public Health and Models of Health Care Delivery units.

Research and research training

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<th>Counts by Year</th>
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<td>C12 - Thesis</td>
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SPH Research Excellence Awards

The School Research Award in the Open Category was presented to Professor John Hopper for his pioneering work with population-based family studies of cancer which are emerging as a standard for genetic epidemiological research. The Australian Breast Cancer Family Registry, the Australasian Colorectal Cancer Family Registry, the Australian Melanoma Family Study, the Victorian Paediatric Cancer Family Study, Australian Prostate Cancer Family Study (in conjunction with The Cancer Council Victoria), and The Twins and Sisters Study of Mammographic Breast Density (in conjunction with the University of Toronto and the Queensland Institute of Medical Research) are large population-based and clinic-based case-control family studies funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), VicHealth, NSW Cancer Council and the National Institutes of Health (USA). The analysis of genetic mutations and variants is a common thread to all studies and much of this work is being conducted in the Genetic Epidemiology Laboratory in the Department of Pathology at The University of Melbourne.

Research Training - PhD Completions – 2006

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Centre/Unit</th>
<th>Supervisor(s) at Completion</th>
<th>Final Thesis Topic</th>
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<td>Bradshaw, Catriona Susan</td>
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<td>Fairley, K; Garland, S;</td>
<td>Epidemiological, clinical and laboratory correlates of bacterial vaginosis and</td>
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<td>Tabrizi, S</td>
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<td>Cox, Helen Suzanne</td>
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<td>Morrow, M; Deutschmann, P;</td>
<td>Tuberculosis treatment and control in Uzbekistan: DOTS and drug resistance</td>
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<td>Delany, Clare Maree</td>
<td>CHS</td>
<td>Gillam, L; Brookes, A</td>
<td>Informed consent: ethical theory, legal obligations and the physiotherapy clinical</td>
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<td>Fuscaldo, Giuliana Fausta</td>
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<td>Macintyre, M</td>
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<td>Johnson, Penelope</td>
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<td>Diasporas of medical beliefs: a multi-ethnic clinic and the experience of</td>
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<td>Lister, Nichole Ann</td>
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<td>Fairley, K; Smith, A; Garland, S; Tabrizi, S</td>
<td>Screening men who have sex with men for bacterial sexually transmissible infections</td>
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<td>Macinnis, Robert Jeffrey</td>
<td>MEGA</td>
<td>English, D; Carlin, J;</td>
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<td>CIMH</td>
<td>Minas, H; Klimidis, S</td>
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<td>Guillemin, M</td>
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<td>Tomnay, Jane Elizabeth</td>
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<td>Partner notification for Chlamydia Trachomatis and HIV in Australia</td>
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<td>the Lao People’s Democratic Republic</td>
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According to the (un-audited) submission to DEST for research income* in 2006, the School of Population Health collected $4,243M in National Competitive Grants Revenue (DEST Category 1 Income), $5,807M in Local, State or Commonwealth Government Grants Revenue (DEST Category 2 Income), $5,101M in Other Contracts (Category 3), and $0.218 in Cooperative Research Centre Income (Category 4). The $15,369,140 is the total of continuing research grants and contracts plus new grants and contracts commencing in 2006.

*SPH Return of Higher Education Research Data Collection Report, version 2

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### SCHOOL OF POPULATION HEALTH

#### RESEARCH INCOME BY DEST CATEGORY (’000s)

- **Int Funding**: 19% ($2,986)
- **Aust Contracts**: 9% ($1,432)
- **Aust Grants**: 4% ($675)
- **Non Com’lth Schemes**: 4% ($554)
- **Com’lth Grant**: 13% ($1,950)
- **Com’lth Govt (other)**: 24% ($3,689)
- **State Govt**: 13% ($1,950)
- **Third Parties**: 1% ($67)
- **Other***: 1% ($91)
- **Total**: 100% ($15,369,140)

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<td>The Follow-Up Study of the Tasmanian Asthma Rich Families</td>
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<td>Hamstrung by Ethics Creep? Investigating Human Research Ethics in Practice</td>
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<td>Prof Christopher Fairley</td>
<td>Improved Chlamydia Contact Tracing by Optimising Cost-Effective and Sustainable Supports</td>
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<td>Dr Mark Jenkins</td>
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<td>Dr Andrew Holloway</td>
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<td>Prof John Mathews</td>
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<td>THE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN</td>
<td>Genetic Studies of Mammographic Density – (Sub-Grant Agreement Between the Hospital for Sick Children, D. Johanna Rommens, and the University Of Melbourne, Professor John Hopper)</td>
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<td>UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE</td>
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<td>VIC HEALTH PROMOTION FOUNDATION</td>
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<td>Tania Louise King</td>
<td>Relationship Between Aspects of the Built Environment, SES, Physical Activity and Obesity</td>
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<td>Grand Total</td>
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Grants awarded in 2006 to commence 2007

Researchers in the School of Population Health and affiliated institutions were awarded $11,756,762 that will flow to them from 2007. $4,367,164 will be directly administered by the School.

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<td>Shyamali Dharmage, John Hopper, Melanie Matheson, Michael Abramson, Graham Byrnes</td>
<td>Genetic epidemiology of chronic respiratory diseases from childhood to adult</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jane Fisher, Heather Rowe, Doreen Rosenthal, Julie Quinliven, Lyle Gurrin</td>
<td>A randomized trial of an early parenting intervention to reduce maternal mood disorder and infant behaviour disturbance.</td>
<td>$376,375</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kit Fairley, Catriona Bradshaw, Marie Pirotta, Suzanne Garland, Jane Hocking</td>
<td>Treatment of bacterial vaginosis: a randomised controlled trial</td>
<td>$255,425</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Hopper, Mark Jenkins, Graham Byrnes, Laura Baglietto, Carmel Apicella</td>
<td>Statistical analyses of breast cancer risks for BRAC1 and BRAC2 mutation carriers</td>
<td>$410,250</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Hopper, Shyamali Dharmage, Gillian Dite, Carmel Apicella</td>
<td>A prospective study of the effects of early life growth of adult mammographic density</td>
<td>$442,838</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kelly-Anne Phillips, John Hopper, Michael Friedlander, Mark Jenkins, Sue Ann McLachlan, Roger Milne</td>
<td>kConFab follow-up: A prospective study of non-genetic risk modifiers in women at high risk of breast cancer</td>
<td>$698,575</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sepher Tabrizi, Kit Fairley, Basil Donovan</td>
<td>Surveillance of LGV Chlamydia trachomatis types among men who have sex with men</td>
<td>$186,875</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administered by Partner Institution (MCRI)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$633,550</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheena Reilly, Margot Prior, Anne Castles, Melissa Wake, Edith Bavin, John Carlin</td>
<td>Understanding how language and reading problems develop: a population-based longitudinal study from infancy age 7</td>
<td>$772,700</td>
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<td>Cancer Council</td>
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<td>$837,125</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gialuca Severi, Vanessa Hayes, Justine Ellis, Rodney Sinclair</td>
<td>Markers of Androgen action, genetic variation and prostate cancer risk</td>
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<td>$772,700</td>
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<td>Cancer Council</td>
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<td>Ron Borland, Melanie Wakefield, Hua Hie Yong, Mohammad Siahpush</td>
<td>Extending the Australian arm of the International Tobacco Control Policy Evaluation Study</td>
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<td>$837,125</td>
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<td>Sponsor</td>
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<td>2006 New Grants Income</td>
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<td><strong>NHMRC Career Development Award</strong></td>
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<td>$445,000</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lyle Gurrin</td>
<td>Bayesian Statistical Methods for Combining Evidence in Genetic Association Studies of Complex Disease</td>
<td>$445,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NHMRC Population Health Capacity Building Grants</strong></td>
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<td>$2,449,375</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administered by MCRI</td>
<td>Melissa Wake, John Carlin</td>
<td>Developing child health research with a focus on preventative interventions for common childhood disorders</td>
<td>$2,449,375</td>
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<td><strong>NHMRC Strategic Research Grants</strong></td>
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<td>$1,641,848</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administered by Peter McCallum Institute</td>
<td>Andrew Holloway, Anthony LaMontagne</td>
<td>Establishment of a LaTrobe Valley power industry cohort and biospecimen bank for the study of asbestos related disease</td>
<td>$581,225</td>
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<td>Administered by Flinders University</td>
<td>Sue Richardson, Anna Ziersch, Fran Baum, Diannah Lowry, Anne Kavanagh, Laurence Lester, Tony La Montagne, Rebecca Bentley</td>
<td>Changing patterns of work: impacts on physical and mental health and the mediating role of resiliency and social capital</td>
<td>$1,060,623</td>
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<td><strong>ARC Discovery Grants</strong></td>
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<td>$1,247,000</td>
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<td>John Hopper, MA Reuter, J Langford</td>
<td>Expert judgement of environmental health risks from exposures to contaminants in urban water systems</td>
<td>$282,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tony Scott</td>
<td>Blended payment system for doctors; evaluation of a natural experiment</td>
<td>$165,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administered by the University of Tasmania</td>
<td>H Maxwell Stewart, R Kippen, Janet McCalman, G McCarth R Shlomowitz, Alison Venn, Shyamali Dharmage</td>
<td>Founders and survivors: Australian lifecourses in historical context</td>
<td>$800,000</td>
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<td><strong>ARC Linkage Grant</strong></td>
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<td>$255,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administered by Macquarie University; industry partners (IVF Australia and Melbourne IVF)</td>
<td>C McMahon, F Gibson, Jane Fisher, J Boivin, D Saunders</td>
<td>Age at first birth, mode of conception and adjustment to parenthood</td>
<td>$255,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
School Of Population Health Seminar Series 2006

The School seminar series was well received throughout 2006 with increasing attendance levels. It provided opportunities for staff and visitors to showcase their research.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Title/General topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 8</td>
<td>Associate Professor Gita Mishra, Medical Research Council Senior Fellow, United Kingdom Birth Cohort Study, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, University College London</td>
<td>Life course approach to health outcomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 1</td>
<td>Ms Kirsty Harris, PhD candidate, Department of History, University of Melbourne</td>
<td>Nursing responses to Spanish influenza 1918-19 as a basis for nursing a possible avian flu epidemic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 22</td>
<td>Dr Elizabeth Bryan, Paediatrician and Medical Consultant, Multiple Births Foundation, London</td>
<td>Iatrogenic twins: Bonus or failure?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 29</td>
<td>Associate Professor Harry Minas, Director, Centre for International Mental Health, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne</td>
<td>Developing a mental health system in Aceh and Sri Lanka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 12</td>
<td>Professor Tony Jorm, Professorial Fellow, ORYGEN Research Centre, University of Melbourne</td>
<td>Improving the mental health literacy of the Australian public</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 26</td>
<td>Dr Richard Scotton, Former Professorial Fellow, Health Economics Unit, Monash University</td>
<td>Paying for health care in Australia: An historical perspective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>Professor Boyd Swinburn, Professor of Population Health, School of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, Deakin University</td>
<td>Community-based obesity demonstration projects: Building the evidence and expertise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 17</td>
<td>Associate Professor Debbie Feldman, Faculty of Medicine, School of Rehabilitation, University of Montreal</td>
<td>Referral to specialists for persons with new-onset rheumatoid arthritis: A population-based study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 24</td>
<td>Associate Professor Jane Fisher, Key Centre for Women's Health in Society, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne</td>
<td>Is assisted conception a risk factor for early parenting difficulties?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 7</td>
<td>Associate Professor John Ayanian, Harvard Medical School and School of Public Health USA</td>
<td>Understanding &amp; Eliminating Racial Disparities in Health Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 8</td>
<td>Associate Professor John Ayanian, Harvard Medical School and School of Public Health USA</td>
<td>The Quest for Universal Health Insurance in the United States: What happens to Americans who can’t afford to get sick?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 14</td>
<td>Mr Todd Harper, director QUIT and the VicHealth Centre for Tobacco Control (VCTC), Cancer Council Victoria &amp; Dr Susan Hurley, Associate Professor, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne, and director, Bainbridge Consultants</td>
<td>The cost-effectiveness of tobacco control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 21</td>
<td>Professor Graham Giles, Director, Cancer Epidemiology Centre, The Cancer Council Victoria</td>
<td>Prostate cancer: Risk factors for the lethal phenotype(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 28</td>
<td>Dr Jane Hocking, NHMRC Postdoctoral Research Fellow, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne</td>
<td>Epidemiology and control of genital Chlamydia infection in Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Speaker</td>
<td>Title/General topic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jul 5</td>
<td>Dr Carolyn Whitzman, Senior Lecturer, Urban Planning, Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning, University of Melbourne</td>
<td>Gender, Local Governance and Violence Prevention: An international perspective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul 19</td>
<td>Associate Professor Michael Shields, Department of Economics, University of Melbourne</td>
<td>Parental income and child health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 2</td>
<td>Dr Marj Moodie, Program Evaluation Unit, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne</td>
<td>Economics of obesity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 16</td>
<td>Associate Professor Jane Halliday, Head, Public Health Genetics Unit, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute</td>
<td>Assisted reproductive technology and perinatal outcome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 30</td>
<td>Associate Professor Tony LaMontagne, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Health and Society, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne</td>
<td>Workplace Stress in Victoria: Developing a Systems Approach: Summary of Findings and Implications for Policy &amp; Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 13</td>
<td>Dr Mark Jenkins, Senior Lecturer, Centre for Molecular, Environmental, Genetic and Analytic Epidemiology, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne</td>
<td>Ethical issues in public health research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 27</td>
<td>Associate Professor David Dunt, Director, Program Evaluation Unit, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne</td>
<td>Evaluating community-based initiatives: Lessons from Best Start</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 25</td>
<td>Professor Anne-Louise Ponsonby, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute</td>
<td>Epidemiologic investigation of hygiene hypothesis and immune disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 8</td>
<td>Dr Catriona Bradshaw, PhD candidate, Sexual Health Unit, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne</td>
<td>Gaps in our understanding of common sexually transmitted infections: Current dilemmas and possible solutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 15</td>
<td></td>
<td>SPH teaching and research awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 22</td>
<td>Associate Professor Marilys Guillemin, Deputy Director and Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Health and Society, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne</td>
<td>Investigating human research ethics in practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 6</td>
<td>Dr Lyle Gurrin, Senior Lecturer, Centre for Molecular, Environmental, Genetic and Analytic Epidemiology, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne</td>
<td>Genetic and environmental modifiers of hereditary haemochromatosis: The HealthIron Study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 13</td>
<td></td>
<td>SPH Christmas quiz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Staff**

*denotes part-time staff

**School of Population Health**

**Head Of School and Associate Dean and Professor**
Terence Michael Nolan, BMedSc MB BS W.Aust. PhD McG. FRACP FAFPHM

**Deputy Head of School and Professor**
Ian Philip Anderson, MB BS Melb. PhD LaTrobe

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**IT Manager**
Nick Golovachenko BA Syd

**IT Officers**

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Andrew Poynton BAppSc RMIT PGrad Cert (BIT) Melb
Vladimir Tittl Cert IV Civic Eng Moorabbin Adv Sound Prod RMIT

**Academic Programs Manager**
Elizabeth Lagias

**Academic Programs Officers**

Katie Dumas BLit Melb Dip Ed Melb

**Finance and Resources Officer**
Fiona Kostidis BSc Melb

**PA to Head of School**
Nora Li Dip Exec SecStudies HK Polytechnic

**Public Health**

**Head of Department and Professor**
Terence Michael Nolan, BMedSc MB BS W.Aust. PhD McG. FRACP FAFPHM

**Deputy Head of Department and Professor**
Ian Philip Anderson, MB BS Melb. PhD LaTrobe

**Professors**

Dallas English, BSc Melb. MS Wash. PhD Wash.
Christopher Kincaid Fairley, MB BS Melb. PhD Monash FRACP FAFPHM FACHSHM
Helen Edith Herrman, BMedSc MB BS Monash, MD Melb, FFPHUK FRANZCP FAFPHM
*Janet Susan McCalman, BA Melb. PhD ANU FAHA
Doreen Rosenthal AO BA MB Melb PhD Melb FASSA
John Richard Wiseman, BA Melb. BSW Melb. PhD LaTrobe (from 29 May 2006)

**Professorial Fellows**

*John Brooke Carlin, BSc W.Aust. PhD Harv.
John Hopper, BA Melb. BSc Monash MSc Monash PhD LaTrobe (National Health and Medical Research Council Senior Principal Research Fellow)

**Associate Professors**

Robert Carter, BA Macq. MAdmSt ANU PhD Monash GDipEpi&PopH ANU
David Dunt, MB BS Melb. MAPrelim LaTrobe PhD Monash FAFPHM
Jane Rosamond Fisher, BSc Qld. PhD Melb.
*DoRota Gertig, MB BS Monash MHSc(ClinEpi) UBC ScD(Epi) Harv. FAFPHM
Lynn Gillam, BA Melb MA Oxf PhD Monash
*Peter Greenberg, MB BS Melb. MD Melb. PhD Melb. FRACP
Marlys Guillemin, BAppSc RMIT MEd Murdoch. PhD Melb. DipEd
Anne Kavanagh, MB BS Flinders PhD ANU FAFPHM
Steven Klimidis, BSc Monash PhD ANU
Harry Minas, MB BS Melb. BMedSci Melb. DPM FRANZCP
Jane Pirkis, BA Tas. MPsych Tas. MApplEpid ANU PhD Melb.

**Senior Lecturers**

Catherine Marie Bennett, BSc LaTrobe MAppEpid ANU PhD LaTrobe
Elizabeth Bennett, MTropHlth Qld PhD Melb
Ma Luz Casimiro-Querubin, BA Ateneo de Manila MD Philippines FPPA
*Steven Crowley, BAppSc Curtin MSc York MBA Monash GDipDiett Deakin
Shaun Ewen BAppSc S.Aust
Lyle Gurrin, BSc W.Aust. PhD York
Mark Jenkins, BSc Monash PhD Melb.
Martha Adele MacIntyre, BA PhD ANU CertSocAnth Camb.
Martha Morrow, BA Kalamazoo MA Harv. PhD LaTrobe (on secondment to 2007)
*Julie Simpson, BSc Melb. PhD Open Uni UK PGDip(MathStat) Cambridge UK
*Henrietta Williams, MB BS Lond. MPH Monash DRCOGUK
DCH MRCGP MFFP DipGUM FRACGP

**Joint Senior Lecturer with Asia Institute**
Andrea Whittaker, BA Qld. PhD Qld. (on transfer to 2008)

**Lecturers**

*Lisa Amir, MB BS Monash MMedMelb. PhD LaTrobe IBCLC (on leave to 2008)
Vicki Briggs BA S.Aust
Alison Brookes, BA Deakin PhD Deakin
Angela Clarke, BA VUT MPhil&MTh Deakin
Shaun Ewen, BAppSc S.Aust
*Helen Jordan, BSc Melb. GDipEd Melb. GDipEpi&Biosstat Melb.
*Jennifer Anne Livingston, BSc Melb. MEd Melb. DipEd Melb.
Heather Rowe, BA LaTrobe PhD Melb.
Amanda Tattam BA (Journalism) Monash (Community Liaison/ Research Translation Officer)
*John Waller, BA Oxf. MSc Oxf. PhD Lond.
Senior Tutor
Ann Brothers, BA Melb.

Principal Research Fellows
John Lawrence Fitzgerald, PhD Monash PhD Melb.
Anthony LaMontagne, MSc Harv. MEd Mass. PhD Harv.

Senior Research Fellows
Elizabeth Sutherland Bennett, MTrOpHlth Qld. PhD Melb.
*Grant Blashki, MB BS Monash MD Monash FRACGP RACGP
*Andrew Dalton, BEd Monash MEd Monash DipEd Monash
GDipHEcEval Monash
Shyamali Dharmage, MB BS Colombo MSc Colombo MD Colombo PhD Monash
Marion Frere, BA UWA MA Melb PhD Melb
Margaret Kelaher, BSc(Psych) NSW PhD NSW
Jodie McVernon, MB BS Monash BMEdSc Monash PhD Oxf.
*Catherine Mihalopoulos, BBSc LaTrobe GDipEcSt
PGDipHlthEci&Eval Monash
Priscilla Pyett, BA Monash PhD Deakin
Kevin Rowley, BApli Sci RMIT PhD Melb. GDipEpid Melb.

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Kathleen Brasher, CertGeneralNurs Royal Melb CertMidwifery
Monash BASc(Nursing) Monash GradDipArts Melb PhD Monash
Marcus Chen, MB BS Melb. PhD Syd. DipVen Monash MRCP
UK FACHSHM FRACGP DTM&H Lond.
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PostgradDiplMGPG ITC (Netherlands) PhD Melb
*Stephen Colgan, BNurs Deakin
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*Bircan Erbas, BSc Melb. MSc Melb. PhD Melb.
*Peter Feldman, BA Tas.
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PhD Melb
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GradDipEpiBiostats Melb.
*Louise Keogh, BSc WAust. MA Monash PhD LaTrobe
*Deborah Keys, BA Deakin PhD LaTrobe
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*Fay Kohn, MA Deakin DEd Melb. DipPT Deakin GDipTESOL Deakin
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*Rosemary McKenzie, BA Monash MPH Curtin PGDipHlthProm Curtin
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MCertInterstudies ICU Tokyo MPhubAdmin ICU Tokyo
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*Zing Fang Shih, BS CMC Taiwanese MPH Tulane USA DrPH Melb.
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*Theonie Tacticos, BBus Monash GDipCommDev RMIT
*Kui-siang Tay-Teo, BPharm Monash MPH(HlthEco) Melb.
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Lyndal Thomas, BSc Monash
Sue West, BA Phillip IT MA RMIT
*Michelle Williamson, BHlthScl LaTrobe

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LaTrobe PhD Melb.
Michelle Kermode, BA Macq. MNS LaTrobe MPH Melb.
Maggie Kirkman, BA Melb. PhD LaTrobe
Cathy Segan, BA Melb. PhD LaTrobe

R. Douglas Wright Research Fellow
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VicHealth Public Health Research Fellow
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Cathryn Whaton, BAppSc Deakin

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*Claudine Chionh, BA Melb.
*Jennifer Foord
*Alan Headley, BA Qld.
Lucinda Johnson, BCom Melb. BSc Melb. MPH Melb.
Lauren Matheson, BA Calg. MWH Melb.
*Joan McPhee, BA Rutgers MNutr&Diet Deakin
Deborah Moon, BA LaTrobe DipEd Melb.
*Carolyn Nickson, BA LaTrobe GDipEpi&Bioskot Melb.
Bree Rankin, BCom Melb.
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*Janet Townsend, BA LaTrobe MA(AppSocRes) Monash GDip
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Robin Hyndman, BSc PhD
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Catherine Louise Mead, PSM MB BS Syd. DPH Syd. FRACMA FAFPHM
Michael Montalto, MB BS Melb. PhD Melb. DipRACOG Melb. FRACGP
Daniel Reichpath, BA Swinburne PhD W.Aust. DEdPsych Monash
Mohammad Siahpush, BS Utah MS Utah MBiostats Melb. PhD Ohio
Susan Treloar, BScSocSt Stud. MSc Lond. MSW NSW PhD Qld.
Godfrey Woelk, BSc(Soc) MCommH PhD Wash.

Fellows with the title Lecturer
Karyn Alexander, MBChB Newcastle upon Tyne MPH Monash
Laura Baglietto, BSc Italy MSc Italy PhD Birmingham UK
John Biviano, BAppSc RMIT MBus RMIT GDipBus RMIT
Michelle Boglis, RN
Janet Briggs, BAppSc LaTrobe DipAppSc LaTrobe RN RM
Clare Teresa Brophy, RN
Heather Elizabeth Dawson, BAppSci(Psychol) Lincoln BEd
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Richard Di Natale, MB BS Monash MPH LaTrobe MHSc
LaTrobe FAFPHM FACRRM
Ashley Fletcher, BSc Monash MEpi Melb. GDipEpiBio Melb.
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Craig Lindsay Matthew Fry, BSc Monash
Jane Gibson
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Marita Kefford, DipAppSc Phillips T
Ruth Lawrence, RN
David Michael Lee, BAppSci(UTS) DrPH Melb. MPH Syd.
GDip(CritCare) Syd. FRCA FCN
Stephanie Lenko, GDipOHP LaTrobe RN RM
Tania Lewis, MB BS Otago BA Canterbury MA Canterbury PhD Melb.
Betty Yan Lim, BNLux Deakin RN
Tamara Mackean, MB BS NSW MB BS W.Aust. MPH Adel.
Ethna Mary Macken, BA Swinburne DipAppSc Phillips T RN
Milica Markovic, BSc Belgrade MSoc Belgrade PhD Qld.
Brian McCoy, BA Melb. BTheol Melb. PhD Melb. GCert
CommMentalHlth Flinders DipCrim Melb.
Elizabeth McGrath, BA Melb.
Roger Laughtin Milne, BA Melb. BSW Melb. BComm Melb.
GDipClinEpidemiology Monash
Penny Mitchell, BSc Psych NSW MPH Syd.
Head of School Professor Terry Nolan with Professor John Carlin, who was awarded the School’s Teaching Excellence Award for 2006 (see report page 7).

Alison Morgan, MB BS Syd. DRANZCOG DTM&H Liverpool
Christopher John Morgan, MB BS Syd. DTCH Liverpool FRACP
Paula Nathan, AssDipMedLabSci RMIT
Kerry-Ann O’Grady, BScn JCU MApEpid ANU GDipPH Syd.
Aleck Ostrey, BSc UBC MSc UBC MA Simon Fraser PhD UBC
Phillip Patterson, RN IDCert
Mary Rillstone, BA Otago MHS Otago DipTheoSt Otago
Jane Ryrine, RN
Deborah Saunders, RN
Gianluca Severi, BSc Genoa MSc Milan Italy PhD Milan Italy
PhD Birmingham UK
Serena Simms, RN
Pamela Sinclair, DipAppSc RN
Richard John Sloman, MB BS Monash GDipEpid Melb.
Jacinta Sonego, BAppSc LaTrobe RN
Patricia Staig
Kirsty Maree Thompson, BAppSc OT) Syd.
Loretta Thorn MB BS Melb.
Diane Roslyn Tibbits, BSc PhD Monash GDip LaTrobe
Eve Urban, BN LaTrobe, MED Monash RN
Sandra Walker, BA Swinburne GDipAppPsych VUT DPsych
Swinburne RN RM
Marie West, RN
Ann Felicity Westmore, BSc MSc PhD Melb.
Vanessa Wood, BAppSc Nsg LaTrobe GDip Mgmt VU
AdvSexualHealth Nurse
Tiam Yap BAppSc RMIT

Adjunct Staff

Professors
Sidney Bloch, MB ChB CapeTown PhD ECFMG DipPsyMed
Sioban Nelson, BA LaTrobe PhD Griff.
Loane Skene, LL Monash LLB Barrister & Solicitor Victoria

Senior Research Fellow
Jenny Lewis, BSc MEnvSc PhD Camb. GDipRecPling
GDipPubPol

Senior Lecturer
Tim Marjoribanks, PhD Harv.

Lecturers
Rosemary Robins, BA PhD NSW

Professional Staff
CEO Diabetes Vaccine Development Centre
David Irving BSc James Cook PhD ANU

Centre/Unit Managers
Jenny Burchill BA VJ
Janine Campbell, BA Melb GradCertUM Melb
Mary Joy Gleson, BBus VU MEd Melb
Maggie Lenaghan BA Monash BA (Fine Art) Prahran GDipFA
VCA GDip BusAdmin RMIT
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Felice Rocca, BA (Hons) Melb
Douglas Scobie, BA Deakin

Centre/Unit Staff
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Maggie Angelakos BSc Monash
Kellie Aujard, BInfo Sys Swinburne
Jennifer Boadle, BA Deakin
Kim Dorell BA Qld
Emily England BA/BSc La Trobe GDipEd Monash
Elizabeth Gwynne
Vicki King
Kate Jenkins DipBus RMIT
Judi Maskiell, BAppSc(Nurs) Monash GDipBusSt (Mgt)
Monash
Nicole McMillan
Adam Moffat
Karen O’Brien
Leanne Perry BA (Hons) Leeds
Leanne Prior
Judy Pryor
Dennellie Ricardo-Fraser
Helen Smallwood, BA LaTrobe Grad Dip Soc Res Methods
Melb MSc RMIT
Jennifer Sievers BInfMan Monash
Katie Symes BA Melb
Kellie Vizard Adv Cert(Admin) Box Hill TAFE ADipBus Box
Hill TAFE
Nicole Wadell
Davina Woods, BEd QUT Grad Cert S Aust MA Monash
Alexis Wright, BA RMIT MA RMIT
Joy Yeadon
Jane Yule, BA Monash MA Monash Grad Dip Rec PhillipIT
Overview

The Centre completed its first full year of operation in 2006. With its extensive research programs and thriving postgraduate teaching, including a revised and innovative Master of Epidemiology, it is an internationally-renowned academic centre for epidemiology and biostatistics. During 2006, the Centre continued to grow and produced research output of high quality and impact. It also accepted the first cohort of students into its revised Master of Epidemiology.

In April, Dallas English, commenced as Director and Professor of Epidemiology and Biostatistics. Professor English’s most recent appointment was in the Cancer Epidemiology Centre, The Cancer Council Victoria. Previously he had been at The University of Western Australia. His research interests are in cancer epidemiology and he remains a chief investigator on the Melbourne Collaborative Cohort Study, which is based at the Cancer Council.

The inaugural Director, Professor John Hopper was appointed Director (Research) and continues to head the thriving research activity of the Centre (see “Research” section below). Professor Hopper’s contribution in steering the new Centre through its inaugural year has been crucial to its current and future success. Dr Catherine Bennett was appointed Director (Learning and Teaching). Dr Bennett is the course coordinator for the Master of Public Health and the Master of Epidemiology and is also Chair of the School’s Postgraduate Studies Committee and Deputy Chair of the Faculty’s Academic Programs Committee.

Learning and teaching

The Centre provides two core programs in Epidemiology and Biostatistics. The program in Epidemiology, including substantial applied biostatistics, was redesigned during 2005 to provide a solid but flexible core for a new Master of Epidemiology. The Postgraduate Diploma of Epidemiology was phased out from 2005, the last year of intake.

The revised epidemiology coursework program that forms the core of the restructured Master of Epidemiology and the Epidemiology & Biostatistics stream of the Master of Public Health began successfully in 2006. This was the first time component subjects of the course have been delivered in intensive mode (five days), allowing the program to be delivered in both full time and part time mode concurrently, and increasing the accessibility to students with work commitments.

The restructure of the epidemiology curriculum has resulted in more full-time international and local students enrolling in the program, and has increased the subject load taken by our part-time local students as well. The total School of Population Health full time equivalent student load taught by the Centre grew from 39.1 in 2005 to 58.1 in 2006. The average number of students in the Centre’s classroom-based subjects also grew from an average of 13.6 in 2005 to 29.6 in 2006.

A specialist biostatistics program (with a strong mathematical foundation) is offered in conjunction with the Biostatistics Collaboration of Australia, which consists of seven universities, for those seeking professional

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training in biostatistics. Student numbers across the Certificate, Diploma and Masters reached almost 150 nationally, of whom almost 50 were enrolled at the University of Melbourne. The coordinator of the program at Melbourne, Professor John Carlin, was awarded the School's Teaching Excellence Award in 2006 for his role in setting up the course and for the high quality of the two subjects that he has delivered and taught in collaboration with Associate Professor Andrew Forbes at Monash University.

The first year of the new program attracted the largest enrolments into the Master of Epidemiology since this degree was introduced, and the course structure and delivery of individual subjects received positive feedback from students.

The Centre continues to be the largest contributor to the School of Population Health's postgraduate teaching; with our number of subjects and highest class enrolments, we were responsible for 43% of the School's postgraduate teaching in 2006.

Research
During 2006, staff of the Centre were first-named investigators on three successful NHMRC project grants and a successful ARC Discovery Project application. Centre staff were also named as chief investigators on two other successful NHMRC project grant applications and one ARC grant application. A key NIH grant, the Australian Breast Cancer Family Registry, was refunded for a further five years. In addition, Lyle Gurrin was awarded a five-year Career Development Award by the NHMRC. Income from research grants in 2006 was $6.8 million and included NIH grants, NHMRC Program Grants, a NHMRC Capacity Building Grant in Population Health Research, a NHMRC Enabling Grant, NHMRC project grants, a NHMRC Career Development Award and NHMRC postdoctoral fellowships.

We published more than 60 peer-reviewed articles on a wide variety of topics. A common theme was the use of advanced epidemiological and biostatistical methods applied to molecular, clinical and epidemiological problems. In recognition of his outstanding research achievements over many years, Professor Hopper was awarded the School of Population Health’s Award for Excellence in Research Achievement.

Major research programs

**Asthma, Allergy and Other Respiratory Disease**

The research program on allergy, asthma and other respiratory disease at the Centre is headed by Dr Shyamali Dharmage. This program mainly encompasses two major cohort studies that are currently funded by a number of external funding bodies, including NHMRC. In addition, the Centre is collaborating with other local and international research groups over studies in this research area.

The Centre, in collaboration with Monash University and the University of Tasmania, is investigating the natural history, environmental and genetic risk factors for childhood asthma and allergies using a population-based prospective study of a high risk cohort of children born from 1991-94 (i.e. Melbourne Atopic Cohort Study). Fifteen-year follow-up of the MACS cohort including their parents and siblings was recently funded by a Healthy Start to Life for All Australians NHMRC strategic award.

The Centre is part of an international working group investigating early-life risk factors for asthma in collaboration with Haraldsplass Hospital, Bergen, Norway, and Department of Public Health Sciences, King's College, London. This is a working group within the European Community Respiratory Health Survey that has been conducted in 56 centres in 28 countries including Australia. A separate collaboration with Monash University and the Centre for Public Health Research, Massey University, New Zealand, is investigating the association between indoor allergens poorly controlled asthma using the case

Cancer Council, and for a period, to international consultancy. His research is driven by curiosity, the desire to improve on past efforts and vigilance against complacency, motives he believes are common to all good researchers. His educational work is fuelled by “the realisation that not only do you have to replace yourself but you have to continually grow the discipline and the way to do that is through education and research training – particularly the research training”. Increasing MEGA's research training will be a key focus for the Centre in the years ahead, in addition to maintaining high quality post-graduate teaching and learning programs, revolving around the Masters degrees in Public Health, Epidemiology and Biostatistics. “I want MEGA to be the premier centre for epidemiology and biostatistics in Australia.”
control methodology. The Centre is part of a study investigating the impact of air pollutants and pollen on asthma hospital admissions conducted by the La Trobe University in collaboration with the Department of Human Services and Monash University. The Centre also has a collaborative study of occupational allergy underway. This is a study of prognostic indicators for occupational contact dermatitis in collaboration with the Occupational Dermatology Research & Education Centre i.e. Skin Watch Study and is currently following up a cohort of 600 workers who have been diagnosed as having occupational contact dermatitis.

**Family studies of cancer**

This program of research is headed by Professor John Hopper. The Centre has pioneered population-based family studies of cancer that are emerging as a standard for genetic epidemiological research. The Australian Breast Cancer Family Registry, the Australasian Colorectal Cancer Family Registry, the Australian Melanoma Family Study, the Victorian Paediatric Cancer Family Study, Australian Prostate Cancer Family Study (in conjunction with The Cancer Council Victoria), and The Twins and Sisters Study of Mammographic Breast Density (in conjunction with the University of Toronto and the Queensland Institute of Medical Research) are large population-based and clinic-based case-control family studies funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), VicHealth, NSW Cancer Council and the National Institutes of Health (USA). The analysis of genetic mutations and variants is a common thread to all studies and much of this work is being conducted in the Genetic Epidemiology Laboratory in the Department of Pathology at The University of Melbourne.

**The Melbourne Collaborative Cohort Study**

The Melbourne Collaborative Cohort Study (MCCS) is conducted by The Cancer Council Victoria and is headed by Professor Graham Giles (honorary professorial fellow). Professors English and Hopper are chief investigators on the study and it represents Professor English’s main research interest. It is a prospective cohort study of 41,528 people (17,049 men, 24,479 women) aged between 40 and 69 years at recruitment, which occurred between 1990 and 1994. An unusual feature of the study is that 25 percent of participants are migrants to Australia from Italy and Greece. These migrants were included to increase the variability in lifestyle and genetic factors. The main focus of the study to date has been on identifying risk factors for cancer, but there is also extensive collaboration with investigators working on type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease, eye disease and arthritis.

**Hereditary Haemochromatosis**

This program of research was begun by Associate Professor Dorota Gertig. Within the Centre, Lyle Gurrin is now responsible for it in collaboration with Dr Katie Allen from the Murdoch Childrens Research Institute. HealthIron is a study to investigate the genetic (NIH funded) and environmental (NHMRC funded) modifiers of hereditary haemochromatosis, an iron overload disease that affects about 1 in 200 people of Northern European descent. It involves collaborators at several other institutions in Australia and the University of California at both Berkeley and Irvine campuses in the USA. Almost 1438 people were selected and invited for clinic attendance based on preliminary HFE genotyping of the 31,192 Northern European participants in the Melbourne Collaborative Cohort Study, run by the Cancer Council Victoria. This includes all HFE C282Y homozygotes who are at high risk of developing iron overload and random subsets of other genotypes. SNP (genetic marker) discovery in candidate genes involved in iron metabolism by resequencing of 94 random individuals, which has now been completed for 12 genes. Analysis of the sequencing results comparing both allelic frequencies and haplotypes with published HapMap caucasian population is underway. Selected SNPs from both HealthIron resequencing and other data sources including HapMap have recently been genotyped in 865 participants using the Illumina GoldenGate genotyping platform. Investigators on the project have recently begun analysis of these genetic data. Recent results from statistical analysis of data from HealthIron clinics and baseline information from the Melbourne Collaborative Cohort Study show that people with two copies of the faulty HFE gene were at increased risk of fatigue, arthritis, bowel cancer (for men and women) and breast cancer (for women). Disease was much more common in men at risk of iron-overload than in women.
Statistical methods
This program of research is headed by Professor John Hopper. Methodological research in biostatistics has focused on the development and refinement of methods for genetic epidemiology and for the analysis of correlated data more generally. These included methods of clustering and data reduction for extracting relevant information from pathology data, optimising design of genome-wide scans and methods for analysing data from families, for both continuous and binary outcomes. These studies help us understand the aetiology of disease and provide opportunities for public health interventions such as targeted screening of high risk individuals and families.

Australian Twin Registry (ATR)
Professor John Hopper is the Director of the ATR. A new governance structure consisting of an Advisory Board and an Expert Reference Group was implemented. This structure more clearly defines the roles and responsibilities of each group and complies with the NHMRC Enabling Grant Scheme policies. The staffing was restructured and additional staff employed to manage the increasing use of the Registry. A new website (www.twins.org.au) was launched. Nine applicants were awarded travel funds from the ATR Research Travel Grant Scheme. Four new research projects began in 2006 and eight studies in the recruitment phase continued.

Community activities
Staff of the Centre have many varied and influential external advisory roles related to research policy, policy and practice of public health and policy related to teaching of public health. These include memberships of boards and advisory committees, memberships of grant review panels and membership of Human Research Ethics Committees. The Centre was pivotal to the success of the Australasian Epidemiological Association’s Annual Scientific Meeting held at the University in September. The chair of the Organising Committee (Dorota Gertig) and the Chair of the Scientific Program Committee (Dallas English) were both Centre staff and numerous other staff were involved, including Catherine Bennett, Shyamali Dharmage, Cathryn Wharton, Melanie Matheson and Penny Allen. During the year, several of the Centre’s publications received widespread media attention. Some of these publications are described below.

Publication highlights
For a full list of publications, see the 2006 Publications Report, page 89
Individuals who have inherited a mutation in a gene called ATM are at increased risk of a rare neurodegenerative disease called ataxia-telangiectasia. Several studies have shown that relatives of individuals with this disease appear to have increased risk of breast cancer indicating this gene may also be associated with breast cancer risk. For this study, we genetically tested 3700 women at increased risk of breast cancer compared to women without the mutation. The other mutation, c.1066-6T>G, was not associated with breast cancer. These results indicate that genetic tests of the ATM gene are not useful for identifying women at increased risk of breast cancer, but that testing based on the activity of the gene might be useful.
Comparing measurements on measures like breast density (a risk factor for breast cancer) within pairs of twins, both identical and non-identical, has the potential to identify genetic factors that cause disease. Scientists analysing this type of data had previously thought that if the within-pair difference in breast density measures were the same in identical and non-identical twins then genetic factors did not play a role in the origin of disease. Our theoretical...
work in statistical modelling has shown that genetic risk factors can be present even when comparisons within pairs yield similar results for identical and non-identical twins. Our proposed solution to this problem provides a new approach to distinguishing the genetic and environmental determinants of disease.


Mismatch repair genes produce proteins that detect and repair errors in DNA. Individuals who have inherited a mutation in a mismatch repair gene may have decreased ability to repair DNA and are at increased risk for some cancers, including cancer of the bowel and uterus. Previous studies have estimated that about 80% of carriers of mutations in a mismatch repair gene will develop bowel cancer. However, almost all of these studies used methods that were flawed, resulting in inflated estimates of cancer risk. This study examined the relatives of 18 bowel cancer cases diagnosed at a young age and found to have inherited a mutation in mismatch repair gene and estimated risk using sophisticated statistical techniques that produce unbiased estimates. Lifetime risk of bowel cancer in carriers was estimated to be 42%, i.e., about half the risk previously reported. These findings are particularly important for the genetic counselling of mutation carriers, and increase the evidence that genetic risk may be modified by other factors.


Historically, there has been widespread support for the concept that breastfeeding is protective against asthma and allergic disease (eczema, hay-fever, food allergies). However, a number of recent studies have observed an association between breastfeeding and increased risk of developing asthma and eczema. A primary criticism of these studies has been that their findings may be attributable to “reverse causation”. Infants at the highest risk of allergic disease (due to a strong family history of allergic disease or early signs of allergic disease such as eczema) may be breastfed longer in the hope that it will reduce the risk or delay the onset of symptoms of long term allergic disorders. In this paper, we examined the association between breastfeeding and increased risk of allergic disease. Early signs of allergic disease in infants were associated with mothers prolonging exclusive breastfeeding. This finding casts doubt on previous reports suggesting that prolonged breastfeeding may lead to an increased risk of allergic disease, and instead supports a theory of “reverse causation”. The reviewers of the Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, which is the highest ranking allergy journal, identified this as a “land mark paper”, highlighting the wider implications on studies investigating early life risk factors for allergic disease. Due to the range of benefits associated with breastfeeding and the difficulty in interpreting any association between breastfeeding and risk of allergic disease, as demonstrated in this paper, breast-feeding should be promoted when formulating public health policy or advising individual mothers. Peacock S, Apicella C, Andrews L, Tucker K, Bankier A, Daly B & Hopper J. 2006. A discrete choice experiment of preferences for genetic counselling among Jewish women seeking cancer genetics services. British Journal of Cancer. 95: 1448-1453.

The aim of this study was to determine which aspects of breast cancer genetic counselling are important to Ashkenazi Jewish women. Study participants consisted of 339 Australian Ashkenazi Jewish women who provided a blood sample for research used to test for Ashkenazi Jewish ancestral mutations in the genes BRCA1 and BRCA2, and who were offered their genetic test result through genetic testing [preparation]; and,
The Kidskin trial, which was a school-based intervention to reduce sun exposure, started in 1995 and involving a comprehensive intervention including changes to health education curricula and integration of sun protection material into other parts of the curriculum as well as environmental and policy interventions. The results of the trial demonstrate the importance of multidisciplinary collaborations, in this case between epidemiologists, statisticians, health educators and health promoters, in designing, implementing and evaluating health promotion activities. Furthermore, it also demonstrated the value of using trials to investigate questions about relationships between exposure and important health outcomes, free from the biases that often exist in observational studies. The Kidskin intervention successfully reduced sun exposure and showed that this reduced the number of naevi (moles) although the results of this publication show that unless the intervention is continued, the effects wane over time.
Amy Nisselle, BSc Melb.
Amanda Richardson, RN
*Janet Townsend, BA
LaTrobe MA(AppSocRes)
Monash GDipWelfAdm
Monash GDipEd Deakin
Gael Trytell, BSc Monash BA Swinburne
Christine Van Vliet, BSc NSW
MB BS NSW MPH Syd.
DipEd NSW

Honorary Appointments

Professorial Fellows
Ron Borland, BSc Monash
MSc Monash PhD Melb. MAPS
Graham Giles, BSc MSc
John Mathews, AM, BSc
Melb. MB BS Melb. MD
Melb. PhD Melb. Hon DSc
NT FRACP FRCPA FAFPHM

Senior Fellows
Louisa Flander, BA G.Wash.
MA G.Wash. MA RMIT PhD Colorado

Mohammad Siahpush, BS
Utah MS Utah MBiostats
Melb. PhD Ohio
Susan Treloar, BSocStud
Syd. MSc Lond. MSW NSW
PhD Qld.

Fellows
Laura Baglietto, BSc Italy
MSc Italy PhD Birmingham UK
John Biviano, BAppSc RMIT
MBus RMIT GDipBus RMIT
Ashley Fletcher, BSc Monash
MEpi Melb. GDipEpiBio
Melb.
Roger Milne, BA Melb.
BSW Melb. BComm Melb.
GDipClinEpi Monash
Michaela Riddell, BAppSc
RMIT GDipEpiBio Melb. PhD
Melb.
Gianluca Severi, BSc
Genoa MSc Milan Italy PhD
Birmingham UK

Selected Visitors
Maree Brinkman, Leuven
University, Belgium/The

Cancer Council Victoria
Bendix Carstensen,
Steno Diabetes Center,
Denmark
Philip Schluter, AUT Uni,
Auckland, New Zealand

Professional Staff
Centre Manager
Maggie Lenaghan, BA
Monash BA(FineArt) Prahran
GDipFA VCA GDipBusAdmin
RMIT

Interviewer Coordinator/
Coordinator of Family
Cancer Studies
Judi Maskiell, BAppSc(Nurs)
Monash GDipBusSt(Mgt)
Monash

Assistant Data Manager
Maggie Angelakos, BSc
Monash

Database Programmer
*Kelly Aujard, BInfoSys
Swinburne

Coordinator, Australian
Twin Registry
Kim Donnell, BA Qld.

Assistant Coordinator,
Australian Twin Registry
Emily England, BA/BSc La
Trobe GDipEd Monash

Australian Twin Registry
Project Support Officer
Jennifer Boadle, BA Deakin

Finance and Resources
Officer
Vicki King

Personal Assistant
Kellie Vizard, AdvCert(Admin)
Box Hill TAFE, ADip(Bus)
Box Hill TAFE

Administration Officer
*Penny Allen

Administration Assistants
Karen O’Brien
*Leanne Prior
Overview

At the Centre for Health and Society (CHS) we have always taken pride in our large number of high quality PhD candidates, most of whom are funded on prestigious PhD scholarships including NHMRC, Australian Postgraduate Awards, Melbourne Research Scholarships and VicHealth scholarships. In 2006 we saw the successful completion of twelve of our PhD students (see table next page). These PhD projects were excellent illustrations of the Centre’s interdisciplinary focus in combining perspectives from the humanities and social sciences to the study of medical science, clinical and public health practice and health policy.

The CHS is a joint centre within the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences and the Faculty of Arts. In relation to this, we were pleased to welcome Hans Baer, a leading medical anthropologist, who moved from the US to take up a joint appointment with us and the School of Anthropology, Geography and Environmental Studies in the Faculty of Arts.

Aboriginal Health Programs

2006 was both a year of growth and of consolidation for the Onemda VicHealth Koori Health Unit, which forms a key part of the CHS. The seven research themes identified as part of the Unit’s strategic and research planning process – Aboriginal health policy and systems; Aboriginal health research and ethics; Aboriginal community development and health; Aboriginal health and professional practice(s); Aboriginal health needs and services in a social context; evaluation of Aboriginal health services, programs and interventions; and capacity building for Aboriginal health research – have been further developed and consolidated.

In July 2006, Onemda signed Memoranda of Understanding with the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (VACCHO) and the Koorie Cultural Heritage Trust. These MOUs further build on our existing strong relationships with two significant Community organisations.

The Committee of Deans Australian Medical Schools project had a number of significant achievements during 2006. First significant steps were taken in establishing the Leaders in Indigenous Medical Education (LIME) network. A meeting in June 2006 endorsed the overarching framework for the network and the key work programs. A website is being established in order to facilitate communication between members.

At the end of 2006, the Centre for Excellence in Indigenous Tobacco Control (CEITC) received a further three years of funding, until September 2009, from the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing. The CEITC has continued to develop its Community of Practice, holds a monthly teleconference and has developed network opportunities for people engaged in Indigenous tobacco control. The Centre has recently released a tobacco control resource (kit and CD–ROM) for Aboriginal primary health care services.

Medical History Programs

The Medical History Program, under the umbrella of CHS, includes the Johnstone-Need Medical History Unit, the Medical History Museum, the Gateways to the History of Medicine, and the Australian Witness to Science and Medicine, a series of seminars aimed at contributing to the public understanding of science and medicine. Achievements in 2006 for the Medical History Program included Professor Janet McCalman being awarded an ARC Linkage Grant with Turning Point for the project: Redemption, Women and Alcohol in Melbourne 1870-1945. Professor Janet McCalman was also part of a large team awarded a major five-year ARC Discovery Grant: Approved Founders and survivors: Australian lifecourses in historical context.

Learning and teaching

Undergraduate

CHS staff members continued to play a major role in curriculum development, subject coordination and teaching in the University of Melbourne’s undergraduate medical curriculum. The Centre contributed to the teaching of ethics, Aboriginal health, sociology of health and illness, the history of medicine and health policy in the Health Practice subject of the undergraduate medical curriculum. CHS staff continued to lead the development of the national framework for inclusion of Indigenous health into medical curricula via the Committee of Deans of
A two-month summer job shaped the 40-year career of Professor Robin Room, the inaugural Chair of Alcohol Policy Research at the School of Population Health. As a graduate student, Professor Room was employed to survey drinking habits in the general population at a time when such research had mostly focused only on alcoholics. Alcohol proved to be an ideal research topic for studying change at both societal and individual levels.

“Alcohol is so deeply entrenched in the daily life of countries like Australia that it becomes a very good window for looking at society in all kinds of ways. “For instance, despite global homogenisation, there are still huge differences between countries in the cultural position of drinking: our customs about if and when and how we drink.”

After holding leadership roles in alcohol, drug and gambling research in the US, Canada, Sweden and now Australia, Professor Room is uniquely qualified to make international comparisons. Australia’s biggest drug problem is actually alcohol, he says. It is so entrenched that we don’t notice the health, social and economic problems that it generates. The trend of applying a ‘free market’ approach to regulating alcohol is making it difficult for governments to rein in its availability.

His current research includes a study measuring the effects of the density of alcohol outlets on factors such as crime, and a review charting the impact of changes in alcohol policy in Australia. Studies quantifying the effects of alcohol on other people, akin to ‘passive drinking’, are planned, he says.

Australian Medical Schools (CDAMS) project, which is examining and further developing the inclusion of Aboriginal health in the medical curricula of Australian medical schools. The CHS also offered a number of units, including Medical Humanities and Social Health units, as part of the Advanced Medical Science research year of the undergraduate medical course. A number of undergraduate medical students worked with CHS supervisors on a variety of research projects, both in Australia and overseas, that covered the different disciplinary approaches of the Centre.

Postgraduate
The CHS offers a comprehensive postgraduate coursework program in Social Health that reflects the Centre’s unique interdisciplinary environment. Within the Social Health program, students can undertake a comprehensive interdisciplinary program, or choose streams in Ethics, Medical Anthropology, Aboriginal Health, or Health Care History. In 2006 a new stream in Health Policy was offered, including a number of new subjects, such as Australian Health Systems. Following the piloting of new curricula in Aboriginal health through the Public Health

Education and Research Program (PHERP), this curriculum has continued to be further developed. These innovations aim to fill gaps in the existing Master of Public Health curricula and draws broadly on social sciences/humanities theory and method to address issues in Aboriginal health.

Shaun Ewen was awarded a prestigious Universitas 21 Fellowship and a NHMRC short-term exchange study scheme to strengthen teaching and learning skills. Shaun’s focus was on online subject development and delivery, and to work collaboratively with U21 partners (University of British Columbia, University of Auckland) to develop an on-line subject.

CHS 2006 PhD completions

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Research highlights
In 2006 the CHS continued to be highly research productive, both in terms of attracting research income and producing research outcomes. The CHS 2006 research income (not including consultancies) was over $2.44 million. Research outcomes generated included academic publications and
presentations, community reports, discussion papers, as well as refereed conference proceedings. In addition, our 2006 research achievements included:

- Karen Adams being awarded an ARC Discovery Indigenous Researchers Development Grant (with Ian Anderson and Kevin Rowley): Approved preventative health interventions for Indigenous children less than six years of age.
- Hans Baer being awarded a University of Melbourne Early Career Research Grant.
- John Fitzgerald being awarded a University of Melbourne Research Grant for “Fits and Fixes: Innovation, organisation and knowledge transfer in Australia’s drug and alcohol sector”.
- Deb Warr being awarded a five-year VicHealth Fellowship.

Key Achievements

Staff
Shaun Ewen was promoted to Lecturer Level C.
Marilys Guillemin and Lynn Gillam were nominated for the 2006 Carrick Australian Awards for University Teaching.
Jane Yule was promoted to Senior Communications Manager at Onemda (0.5) and appointed Publications Manager (0.5) for the Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health (CRCAH).

Other achievements
Rony Duncan, CHS PhD alumnus, was awarded a Tall Poppy Award for her work on the ethical implications of science, especially in adolescent health. Rony had a research position at Imperial College London before returning to Melbourne to continue her work at the Murdoch Childrens Research Institute. Rony has a passion for public engagement in science including public speaking, opinion pieces in the media and a regular slot on 3RR’s medical chat show Radiotherapy.

Publication highlights
For a full list of publications, see the 2006 Publications Report, page 89.

The following 2006 publications were illustrations of the research-teaching nexus that characterises much of the Centre’s work.

Telling Moments explores ethical practice across the range of health care disciplines. It focuses not only on ethical analysis and decision-making, but also on the more subtle, and often more important art of ‘ethical mindfulness’.

The book presents five very personal stories of health care practice, and engages in depth with each of them. Through these stories, readers are introduced to a narrative approach to health ethics that first acknowledges everyday ethics in health care as significant. The approach combines conventional bioethics principles, sociology, and narrative analysis to understand what is ethically at stake in these stories, and provide a way of engaging with the stories. The aim is to promote ethical mindfulness and enhance ethical practice in health care, in ways that are informed not just by abstract ethical principles but by real life events.

Congratulations to Martha Macintyre and Kuntala Lhiti-Dutt on the successful production and launch of their book: Lahiri-Dutt, K. & Macintyre, M. 2006, Women Miners in Developing Countries: Pit Women and Others, Ashgate, Aldershot, UK.

2006 has been a rich and productive year for publications at the CHS. In summary, CHS staff and graduate students published 97 academic publications, including the following:
- 45 Refereed journal articles (C1)
- 7 Research book chapters (B1)
- 2 Authored research books (A1)
- 2 Edited books (A2)

These publications included key refereed articles in leading journals such as The Lancet, Social Science and Medicine, and the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health. In addition to these refereed journals, were a number of significant reports that directed key research findings to relevant stakeholder audiences. These included the important and much-publicised Workplace stress in Victoria: Developing a systems approach report by Tony LaMontagne and team, and published by VicHealth.

Staff
Professor and Director
Ian Anderson, MB BS Melb. PhD LaTrobe

Professor
Janet McCalman, BA PhD ANU FAHA

Associate Professor and Deputy Director

Senior Lecturers
Shaun Ewen, BAppSc S.Aust.
Publication highlight
Genat, W. 2006, Aboriginal Healthworkers: Primary Health Care at the Margins, University of Western Australia Press, Perth.
Dr Bill Genat’s book offers a rare insight into the working lives of Aboriginal health workers (AHWs) and the highly complex issues they deal with on a daily basis. His research involved 18 months spent at an Aboriginal Health Service in Perth where he worked as a volunteer while collaborating with a group of AHWs who wanted to record their practice. Highly committed and passionate about their work within the healthcare system, AHWs are not afforded a status in keeping with their diverse skills and experience, Dr Genat found. He takes readers with AHWs as they go on home visits to clients, where AHWs find themselves acting as social workers, mediators, counsellors and legal advocates, in addition to providing grassroots health care. He also describes how AHWs encounter barriers from both clients and medical colleagues. Despite being Aboriginal, AHWs sometimes have to overcome an endemic mistrust of officialdom among clients before they can deliver health care services. Among their medical colleagues, AHWs may be highly valued for their deep local knowledge but still not be included in planning and policy making.

The book describes the unique, indigenous healing practice of AHWs and their holistic approach that encompasses the social, emotional, spiritual and physical health of their clients. According to Dr Genat, AHWs face the consequences of history – the exclusion, cultural oppression and racism that still resonate and undermine the health of Aboriginal people.
For more publication highlights, see page 36.

Lynn Gillam, BA Melb. MA Oxf. PhD Monash
Martha Macintyre, BA PhD ANU CertSocAnth Camb.

Lecturers
Viki Briggs, BA S.Aust.
Alison Brookes, BA Deakin PhD Deakin
Angela Clarke, BA Victoria UT MPublHlth Deakin
John Waller, BA Oxf. MSc Oxf. PhD Lond.

Senior Tutors
Ann Brothers, BA Melb.

Principal Research Fellows
John Fitzgerald, PhD Monash PhD Melb.
Anthony LaMontagne, MSc Harv. MED Mass. PhD Harv.

Senior Research Fellows
Priscilla Pyett, BA Monash PhD Deakin
Kevin Rowley, B Appl Sci RMIT PhD Melb. Grad Dip Epidemiology Melb

Research Fellows
Kylie Cripps, BA S.Aust PhD Monash
Johanna Monk, BA Melb. MA Monash
Gregory Phillips, BA Qld MMEd Sc Qld.
Therese Riley, B Soc Sci RMIT MA RMIT PhD RMIT
Paul Stewart, GDIplIndigSt Syd MPubHlth Deakin
David Thomas, BM BS Sydney M Med Sci Newcastle PhD NTU

R. Douglas Wright Research Fellow
Deborah Warr, BA Deakin MA Monash PhD Monash

Honorary Appointments
Professorial Fellows
Warwick Anderson, MB BS BMedSc MA MD Melb. PhD Penn.
Ross Bailie, BM BS Cape Town MPhil Cape Town DMed Cape Town
Rob Moodie, MB BS MPH Harv. RACOG RACGP RACFPH
Robert Power, BSc London PhD London PGCE London Roblin Room, BA Princeton MA(English) MA(Sociology) PhD Berkeley (Chair of Social Research in Alcohol)

Principal Fellows with the title Associate Professor
Joan Cunningham, BA Harv. MLlibArts Harv. PhD Harv.
William Hart, MB BS Monash MBScPrelin GDipCH LaTrobe

Fellows with the title Senior Lecturer
Duncan MacGregor, MB BS BMedSc PhD Melb.

Fellows with the title Lecturer
Susan Foxman-Feldman, BA LaTrobe MA

Elizabeth Hoban, BA Edith Cowan MTrpHlth Qld PhD Melb.
Cecily Hunter, BA Monash MSc Melb. PhD Melb.
Harald Klein, BA Qld. PhD Monash
Tania Lewis, BM BS Otago BA Canterbury MA Canterbury PhD Melb.
Brian McCoy, BA Melb. DipCrim Melb BTheol Melb GradCert Comm Mental Hlth Fillders PhD Melb.
Tamara Mackean, BM BS (hons) UNSW BM BS UWA MPh Adel.

Senior Lecturer
Tim Marjoribanks, PhD Harv. Rosemary Robins, BA PhD NSW

Professional Staff
Manager
Doug Scobie, BA Deakin
CEITC Project Officer
Helen Smallwood, BA LaTrobe, Grad Dip Social Res Methods, Melb. MSc, RMIT,
CEITC Administration Officer
Nicole McMillan

Community Development and Communications Officer
Nicole Waddell

Executive Assistant to Professor Ian Anderson
Judy Pryor

Indigenous Health Project Officer
Davina Woods, B Ed QUT, Grad Cert S Aust, MA Monash

LIME Network Project Officer
Alexis Wright, BA RMIT, MA RMIT

Senior Communications Manager
Jane Yule, BA Monash MA Monash GDipRec PhillipIT

Indigenous Trainee in IT (Website Administration)
Adam Moffatt

Indigenous Trainee in Business Administration
Dennelie Ricardo-Fraser
The Key Centre for Women’s Health in Society, since its foundation in 1988, has been at the forefront of thinking, researching, teaching and disseminating information about women’s health.

The vision for the Key Centre is that it will be the leading centre for research, education and advocacy in women’s health, gender and society in Australia and the Asia-Pacific region.

The Key Centre’s work recognises that women’s health and wellbeing is integral to the health and wellbeing of their families and the whole community.

**Overview and key achievements**

The Key Centre for Women’s Health in Society has continued to actively review, explore and deepen its academic program in line with meeting the requirements of the new Melbourne Model. The achievements of the Key Centre in 2006 can be summarised under the three key headings that guide the University’s direction:

- **Teaching and learning:**
  - The Key Centre conducted a review of its postgraduate teaching and subject offerings for 2007. All applications for higher degree enrolment were carefully assessed to ensure they met Centre research priorities and supervisor research interests.
  - The Key Centre continued to be highly successful in gaining competitive funding, as well as contract funding for specific work in its research fields.
  - The Key Centre has remained a leader within the University in developing its community liaison and ensuring the dissemination of outcomes of its academic program.

- **Research:**
  - The Key Centre has been a leader in women’s health in its social, economic, cultural and political contexts.
  - The new subjects will commence in 2007 and are designed to promote in students an ability to utilise new knowledge and technologies, to develop lifelong skills of critical enquiry and a sustained capacity to integrate research evidence from both the social and biomedical sciences. The Centre’s Postgraduate Diploma in Women’s Health and the Master of Women’s Health are highly regarded nationally and internationally for being dedicated to women’s health in its social, economic, cultural and political contexts.

  Our status as one of only two WHO Collaborating Centres in Women’s Health in the world has ensured that we have strong interest from international students, currently drawn from more than 25 countries.

  Changes to the Post Graduate Diploma in Women’s Health will allow students who have met the requirements to transfer to the Master’s coursework program without completing the Diploma.

- **Knowledge transfer:**
  - The Key Centre has been a leader in disseminating information about women’s health.

**Awards**

Staff at the Centre have been recognised with the following awards:

- **Dr Jane Fisher** has been promoted to Associate Professor. She is also President-elect of the Australasian Marce Society and will become President in June 2007 for a two-year term.
- **Associate Professor Anne Kavanagh** has been appointed to the NHMRC Health Services Research Working Group and has also been appointed as a member of the University’s Postgraduate Scholarships Committee.
- **Dr Lisa Amir** has been awarded a three-year NHMRC Health Professional Fellowship and will be taking extended leave from the Key Centre to undertake research on breastfeeding at La Trobe University.
- **Caroline Nickson**, PhD candidate and KCWHS research fellow, has received the Richard Lovell Traveling Scholarship in Cancer Epidemiology to travel to the Netherlands and UK.
- **Professor Doreen Rosenthal**, Centre Director, was inducted into the Victorian Honour Roll of Women for advancing understanding of sexual and reproductive health. The Honour Roll recognises the significant contributions that women have made to their communities and to the lives of other women.

**The Victorian Lifestyle and Neighbourhood Study (VicLANES)**, led by Associate Professor Anne Kavanagh, has won the 2006 Victorian Public Health Award for research innovation. The research category for innovation recognises original new research that has the potential to make a substantial contribution to public health practice or policy. Announcing the award, Health Minister Bronwyn Pike said VicLANES was inspired by the growing awareness of researchers that obesity was more than just bad food and lifestyle, but the environment was also a key component.

**Key Centre** research projects have won two Department of Human Services Public Health Research Awards in three years, with Project i, the longitudinal study of youth homelessness, also winning the innovation category in 2004.

**Teaching and learning**

**Course changes**

The Key Centre reviewed its postgraduate learning opportunities this year to reflect the changing health environment, including the development of new technologies, increased requirements for an evidence base for policy and practice and demographic changes to the population in terms of aging and fertility. All of these have distinct effects on women.

The new subjects will commence in 2007 and are designed to promote in students an ability to utilise new knowledge and technologies, to develop lifelong skills of critical enquiry and a sustained capacity to integrate research evidence from both the social and biomedical sciences. The Centre’s Postgraduate Diploma in Women’s Health and the Master of Women’s Health are highly regarded nationally and internationally for being dedicated to women’s health in its social, economic, cultural and political contexts.

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completed in 2006:  

The following projects were completed through the program with the University of Melbourne and were enrolled through the Key Centre in 2006. Eight completed projects with the Key Centre students – University of Melbourne and the University of Indonesia. The following projects were completed in 2006:  

- A survey of patient satisfaction with the breastfeeding education and support services of the Royal Women’s Hospital;  
- The social and cultural determinants of obesity in African women;  
- Disciplinary discourses: rate of caesarean section explained by medicine, midwifery and feminism;  
- Detection of postpartum mental disorders in women admitted to residential early parenting centres;  
- Barriers towards cervical cancer screening in Malaysia: a health provider’s perspective;  
- Intimate partner relationships: what are the links with postnatal mood?;  
- Sexual well-being and intellectual disability: a look at social barriers from a developmental perspective;  
- Shaping pregnancy: representations of pregnant women in Australian women’s magazines;  
- Prevalence and risk factors for suicide among homeless young people;  
- Does “stress” increase the risk of breast cancer?;  
- The role of female sex workers regarding HIV transmission in the southeast Asia: knowledge of condom use and barriers to safe sex;  
- The relationship between mammographic density and ethnicity;  
- The psychological, educational, economic and physical outcomes of teenage pregnancy for young women;  
- Endometriosis: women’s perspective.  

Japanese Master of Women’s Health  
The Key Centre welcomed 10 Japanese students to Melbourne in August. Two subjects were taught: “The health effects of violence”, co-ordinated by Deb Keys and ‘Women and ageing’, co-ordinated by Susan Feldman. Associate Professor Jane Fisher also taught Psychological Practice in Women’s Health in Japan in May. The Japanese language program – jointly run by the University’s School of Enterprise and KCWHS – is innovative because it allows Japanese-speaking students to be taught by English-speaking lecturers, via an interpreter, using teaching materials that have been translated into Japanese.  

Short Courses  
Following on from the successful short courses held in 2005, two related courses were run in June 2006:  
- The Social Determinants of Health – 19 to 21 June 2006, and  

Community health managers, policy makers and researchers were among the 31 registered to attend. The SDH course was facilitated by internationally renowned academics Professor Ichiro Kawachi and Assistant Professor S V Subramanian from the Harvard School of Public Health. Participants were able to glean a deeper understanding of the social and economic circumstances influencing health and to take part in hands-on workshops exploring multilevel and qualitative research methods. Assistant Professor S V Subramanian also facilitated the IML course.

AMS Achievements  
Fourteen Advanced Medical Science (AMS) students completed projects with the Key Centre in 2006. Eight of the Key Centre students were enrolled through the University of Melbourne and six through the program with the University of Indonesia. The following projects were completed in 2006:  

- Sexual well-being and cultural aspects of normal, healthy maturation and discusses biological changes within a social context. In presenting the latest research on key issues of our time, it includes changes in teenage sexual behaviours and beliefs, sexual risk-taking, body dissatisfaction, sex education, teen pregnancy and abortion.  
- The authors explore the roles of parents, peers, the media, social institutions and youth culture in adolescent sexual adjustment. This fully revised and updated second edition covers topical issues ranging from the role of the internet in adolescent romance to the pros and cons of abstinence education versus harm minimization. Issues, such as whether there are male-female differences in desire are examined, along with the question of whether a sexual double standard still exists. Maladaptive aspects of sexual development, including sexual coercion, are also covered. This book aims to promote sexual well-being, and argues for the importance of the adolescent period as a time for engendering healthy sexual attitudes and practices. It will be valuable reading for students in the social and behavioural sciences interested in adolescent development and the topic of sexuality and for professionals working with young people.  

For more publication highlights, see page 47.  

Students enrolled in KCWHS Courses  
Postgraduate  
Doctor of Philosophy, 33  
Doctor of Public Health, 1  
Master of Medicine (Research), 1  
Master of Public Health (Research), 1  
Master of Women’s Health (Research), 4  
Master of Medicine (Coursework), 1  
Master of Public Health (Coursework/Research Report), 3  
Master of Women’s Health (Coursework/Research Report), 1  
Master of Women’s Health (Coursework only), 10  
Postgraduate Diploma of Women’s Health, 3  

Undergraduate  
(12 month enrolment spanning two calendar years)  
Advanced Medical Science – University of Melbourne (new), 5  
Advanced Medical Science – University of Melbourne (completing), 8  
Advanced Medical Science – University of Indonesia (completing), 8  

Student completions  
Doctor of Philosophy  
Karin Hammarberg The experience of birth and early mothering after assisted conception.
Research highlights included:

**Wellbeing scores high for international students**
According to a report co-authored by Key Centre director, Professor Doreen Rosenthal, the university’s international student population is adapting well to life away from home, and only a small number are engaging in risky behaviour that could damage their health. The work was carried out by Professor Rosenthal, Dr Jean Russell and Mr Garry Thomson. The report, A Growing Experience: the health and wellbeing of international students at the University of Melbourne, was launched by Professor Glyn Davis, Vice-Chancellor, in May.

**Decisions behind abortions**
This new project, funded by the Australian Research Council and VicHealth is Victoria’s first large-scale study to examine unplanned pregnancy and abortion. It will be managed by the Key Centre with the Royal Women’s Hospital. The study will look at the demographic, social, health and economic reasons behind the termination of pregnancies.

**Male infertility project**
The long-term psychological and social consequences of male infertility are the focus of a study that has
started at the Key Centre. Four hundred men who were treated at the Royal Women's Hospital in 2001 and 2002 will be asked to participate in the confidential survey.

Update on the PEPP trial – Living well with a first baby
Participants recruited in 2006 completed only the telephone interviews. The recruitment rate was excellent, with 77% of all eligible families invited to the trial ultimately deciding to participate. In 2007 the project will move to a controlled trial to assist them with negotiating their changing roles and relationships. The trial will test an intervention.

The PEPP trial is funded by a grant from the Commonwealth Government's Department of Family and Community Services and Indigenous Affairs to assess the seminar’s efficacy in improving new parents’ mental health.

New grants
Prof Rosenthal DA, Dr Rowe HJ, Dr Mallett S, Dr Kirkman M, Hardiman A, (Royal Women's Hospital), Research Partners: RWH and Victorian Health Promotion Foundation. Understanding of women’s experiences of unplanned pregnancy and abortion. $236,000 – ARC linkage grant 2006-2008.

Dr Kirkman M, Prof Rosenthal DA, with Louise Johnson (Infertility Treatment Authority).

Supporting parents in telling their adolescent children about their donor-assisted conception: Research, resource development, and public information. $100,000 – Department of Human Services public health research project grant.

Dr Shelley J (Deakin University), Dr Chris Bayly (Royal Women's Hospital), Dr Graham M (Deakin). A/Prof Fisher JRW, Dr Rowe HJ. Associate Investigators: Ms Hardiman A, Dr Palmer D (RWH). Modelling a pregnancy advisory service for Victoria. $77,000 – Department of Human Services, public health research grants 2005-2006.

Dr Venn A (Menzies School of Health Research, University of Tasmania), A/Prof Kavanagh A, A/Prof Gertig D, (University of Melbourne), Ms Jordan H, (Menzies School of Health Research, University of Tasmania). Exposure to high dose estrogens in adolescence: long term effects on mammographic breast density. $89,050 – National Health and Medical Research Council project grant 2006-2007.

A/Prof Fisher JRW, Male infertility: the long term psychological and social consequences for men and their relationships. $31,923 – Andrology Australia.


A/Prof Fisher JRW, Dr Rowe HJ, Prof Rosenthal DA, Prof Quinlivan J, Dr Gurin L. Feasibility of the methods of an early parenting intervention RCT. $30,000 – Melbourne Research Grant Scheme.

A/Prof Fisher JRW, Dr Rowe HJ, Prof Rosenthal DA, Prof Quinlivan J, Dr Gurin L. Randomised trial of early parenting interventions (REPT). $376,375 – National Health and Medical Research Council. Partner organisation: Tweddle Child and Family Services.


Prof Rosenthal DA, Dr Mallett S, Williams H, Dr Keys D, Jordan L. Making it Real: relevant sexual health communication for young people. $98,536 - Department of Human Services, Victoria.

Prof Rosenthal DA. Website on reproductive and sexual health education for mid to late adolescents (16-24 years). $218,400 est. (CHF210,000) – Bertarelli Foundation Switzerland 2006-2007.

Current Grants – Extended

Knowledge Transfer: Community and National Activities

The Key Centre has been at the forefront of knowledge transfer activities within the University since Professor Doreen Rosenthal successfully gained, in 2004, a two-year grant from VicHealth to devise and implement a dissemination strategy.

The Community Liaison/Research Translation Officer, Ms Amanda Tattam, has been responsible for raising the Centre’s public profile and promoting research translation and knowledge exchange with policy makers and health practitioners. She has also been assisting Associate Professor Anne Kavanagh on VicLANES, a local government research translation project. The success of her work up to 2006 was recognised by an extension of the VicHealth grant for another year into 2007.

Key Centre staff were regularly in the news, offering comment about topical issues or talking about their own research. During 2006, Professor Doreen Rosenthal, Associate Professor Jane Fisher, Dr Karin Hammerberg, Dr Deb Keys, Dr Maggie Kirkman and Dr Louise Keogh appeared in print, on radio, TV and online. They spoke about sex and young people, the ethics of surrogacy, teenage motherhood, the effect of infertility on motherhood, family planning and the optimal age for childbearing.

The Key Centre in 2006 was a signatory to the Women’s Health Victoria led 10 Point Plan for Victorian Women’s Health 2006-2010. It was represented at the statewide Summit on Women’s Health in July 2006 to help refocus efforts, debate future challenges and to celebrate 21 years of women’s health in Victoria.

Another example of community activity is that over 2000 copies of a health guide for young homeless people have now been distributed across Melbourne and beyond. ‘674 – A pocket guide to keeping well on the street’ gives tips on the safe use of injecting drugs, Hepatitis C, mental health, sexually transmitted infections, contraception and pregnancy, and includes a list of places where young people can get help. Designed for use by services who come into contact with homeless young people, the booklet is based on the findings from Project i, the longitudinal study of homeless young people in Melbourne and Los Angeles. The Key Centre is also developing a multi-lingual website on reproductive and sexual health education for mid to late adolescents (16-24 years). Funded by the Bertarelli Foundation, Switzerland, it will aim to be a leading resource for educators not only in Australia but also worldwide and will be translated into both French and Spanish. The site is to be completed in 2007.

Dr Elizabeth Bennett presented the Key Centre submission to the Federal Parliamentary Group on Population and Development (PGDG) which, following the Government White Paper, is looking at the future direction of Australia’s overseas aid program. Dr Bennett was invited to present key arguments from the submission at meetings of the Group in August and September. The submission argued that Australia’s commitment to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals and its obligations under international human rights law oblige a long-term engagement with sexual and reproductive rights.

State Government policy makers and academics had a rare opportunity to debate the research and policy interface at the second Australian Health Inequities Program (AHIP) retreat in Geelong in October 2006. They explored a range of issues affecting health, including work and health, housing and neighbourhood inequality. Associate Professor Anne Kavanagh leads the AHIP team with Professor Fran Baum from Flinders University, South Australia.

International Activities

WHO Collaborating Centre status

The Key Centre for Women’s Health in Society has been a designated World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre on Women’s Health (Asia and Pacific) since 1993. In March 2006, Professor Doreen Rosenthal and Dr Elizabeth Bennett travelled to Manila to meet with Dr Shigeru Omi, WHO Regional Director for the Western Pacific, to successfully renegotiate the renewal of this status with WHO for another four years.

Over the past 13 years, the Centre has increased substantially its international training and research program and expanded its expertise in women’s health in the region. It has also provided advice to WHO programs in the Asia Pacific area and with a number of programs of WHO Geneva, and with other multilateral agencies whose mandate is women’s health. The Centre has also undertaken several...
collaborations with WHO in the past and in late 2006 was in negotiations on two further projects in 2007.

A/Prof Jane Fisher and Professor Doreen Rosenthal visited WHO Geneva during 2006, with trips in September and October respectively. While in Switzerland, Professor Rosenthal also visited the Bertarelli Foundation.

In addition, travel was undertaken by the following staff:

• Dr Elizabeth Bennett made two visits to China regarding research and education issues.
• A/Prof Jane Fisher visited Japan as part of the Japanese Master of Women’s Health Program.
• A/Prof Jane Fisher and Professor Doreen Rosenthal visited Hanoi, Vietnam, working on the Maternal Health Project.

Memo of Understanding

Canadian and Australian researchers in women’s health are driven by many of the same interests and challenges. Following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Key Centre and the British Columbia Centre of Excellence for Women’s Health (BCCEWH), one of Canada’s leading women’s health research centres, Dr Lorraine Greaves, Executive Director of BCCEWH, visited the Key Centre in late 2006 to discuss areas of common focus, including improving the health of women and girls who are marginalised due to socio-economic status, race, culture, age, sexual orientation, geography, disability and addiction. One major area of work of the BC Centre is substance use, addiction and mental health.

Overseas Visitors

International visitors and collaborators came from countries as diverse as Canada, Israel, Japan, Pakistan and the United States. They included:

• Dr Donya Aziz, Parliamentary Secretary for Population Welfare, Ministry of Population Welfare, Pakistan, visited the Centre in May 2006, meeting with A/Prof Jane Fisher and Dr Elizabeth Bennett about education and training opportunities.
• Prof Ichiro Kawachi, Professor of Social Epidemiology, and Asst Prof S V Subramanian, Department of Society, Human Development and Health, Harvard University, USA, visited in June 2006 to facilitate the short courses. Prof Kawachi was also a keynote speaker at the 1st National Conference on Gender and Health Inequalities.
• Other visitors who also participated in the Key Centre’s Seminar Program were:
  • Prof Julie Cwikel, Director Center for Women’s Health Studies and Promotion, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel, presented in July on Women’s ways of coping under conditions of chronic stress.
  • Prof Karin Schenck-Gustafsson, Professor of Cardiology, Karolinska University Hospital, Sweden, presented in December on the Centre of Gender Medicine at Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden and activity in Europe.
  • Prof Gayle Letherby School of Sociology, Politics & Law, Plymouth University, United Kingdom, presented in December on Hierarchies and Continuums of Non/Motherhood: research (and praxis) reflections. Prof Letherby also remained at the Centre for two weeks for collaborative discussions.

Conferences

1st National Conference on Gender and Health Inequalities – 22 June 2006

Over 130 researchers and practitioners seeking a greater understanding of the relationship between gender and the social determinants of health, were inspired and challenged at the Key Centre’s 1st National Conference on this subject. Convened by Associate Professor Anne Kavanagh, there were expert local and international speakers who came together to present ideas and research findings on issues of work, globalisation and poverty, health service use, historical perspectives and place and social policy as they relate to gender and health inequalities.

Conference presentations

International


Rowe HJ, Fisher JRW. Detection of postpartum anxiety disorders with the EPDS and need for tailored treatment interventions. Marcé Society Biennial Conference; 2006 Sep 14; Keele.


Fisher JRW. Suc kho tam than ba me-tre em vas u phat trine. (Maternal mental health and infant health and development) Invited keynote presentation Vietnam National Paediatrics Association Conference Mental Disorders in Children: Identification and Treatment; 2006 Oct 5; Hanoi School of Medicine, Hanoi.

National


Thomas L. Environmental determinants of walking: a multi-level study in Melbourne, Australia. Kinect Australia forum: Creating Community Friendly Environments for Physical Activity; 2006 Apr 6; Geelong.


Mallett S. Gender, health and homelessness: A view from the margins. The First National Conference on Gender & Health Inequalities; 2006 Jun; Melbourne.


Lee ASM, Kirkman M. Disciplinary Discourses: Rates of caesarean section explained by medicine, midwifery, and feminism. Annual scientific meeting of...
the Australian Society for Psychosocial Obstetrics and Gynaecology; 2006 Aug 4-5; Sydney.

McDonald K, Kirkman M. Reducing the risk of transmission of HIV from mother to baby: How do HIV-positive women interpret the evidence? Annual scientific meeting of the Australian Society for Psychosocial Obstetrics and Gynaecology; 2006 Aug 4-5; Sydney.

Sha J, Kirkman M. Shaping Pregnancy: Representations of pregnant women in Australian women’s magazines. Annual scientific meeting of the Australian Society for Psychosocial Obstetrics and Gynaecology; 2006 Aug 4-5; Sydney.


Kavanagh AM. Methodological and epistemological challenges in multidisciplinary research. One-day workshop on multidisciplinary research at the International Society for Equity and Health hosted by the Australian Health Inequities Program Health; 2006 Sep.

Kavanagh AM. Improving local areas to increase physical activity and healthy food choices. DHS Victoria. Research to Practice Forum; 2006 Oct; Melbourne.


Rowe HJ, Fisher JRW. Detection of diagnosable anxiety and depression in women admitted to residential early parenting centres. Early Childhood: Evidence into Practice. Fourth Biennial International Conference of the Queen Elizabeth Centre; 2006 Nov 23; Melbourne.


Publication highlights

For a full list of publications, see the 2006 Publications Report, page 89


Multiple gestation and birth are increasing because of the increasing use of assisted reproductive technologies. Currently 20 percent of births after ART conception are of twins or higher multiples. The rate of multiple gestation is even higher and in a proportion of these pregnancies one twin dies in utero. Women with multiple gestations and multiple births are at higher risk of operative birth, having premature infants who require intensive care and consequent separation from the infants in early life. They are at elevated risk of pregnancy anxiety, postpartum depression and complicated grief reactions. These are difficult to address because multiple gestation has often been idealised as providing an instant family and the risks and difficulties underestimated. When multiple gestation is chosen by consent to transfer more than one embryo, women are less able to express ambivalence and distress and their needs for support are underestimated. This provides evidence that in addition to obstetric and neonatal risks multiple gestation and birth are associated with psychosocial morbidity that makes adjustment to parenthood more difficult.


Numerous studies have revealed high levels of drug-taking among young people experiencing homelessness. This article draws upon 40 in-depth interviews carried out as part of a five-year longitudinal study of homeless young people (Project i). Rather
than increasing drug use over time, many young people who had experienced homelessness reduced, if not gave up, their problematic drug use. This is an unexpected finding given commonly held assumptions about the impact of the homeless lifestyle on drug use. The interviews provided insight into the way in which some young people experiencing homelessness view their drug use and the actions they take in light of these understandings. This article reports on their stated reasons for giving up or reducing usage and identifies some commonalities that may have impacted on the outcomes.

While young people sometimes referred to physiological consequences of their drug use they did not usually equate this with a chemical dependency. The way in which they dealt with their problematic use reflects this understanding and adds weight to arguments that highlight social and interpersonal rather than physiological/medical interpretations of problematic drug use.

The research identified a clear association between positive life changes and reduction in drug use for this population that is not simply confined to changes in homelessness status. Our findings indicate that stable and supportive relationships, particularly with partners, are also extremely important. Our findings raise many questions about current drug and alcohol treatment responses for homeless young people. The fact that the young people in our sample used specific drug and alcohol treatment services infrequently invites questions about the scope, setting and timing of drug and alcohol treatment services for this population.


This paper is the first (and only) multilevel study of social capital and health in Australia. We showed that the influence of area social capital on self-rated health was weak and that the effect of area disadvantage attenuated the effects of area social capital, suggesting that investments in improving the economic and material characteristics of areas is likely to bring about greater improvements in health that investing in improving the social capital of areas.

Staff
*denotes part-time

Welcome
Mid-year Karin Hammarberg began a part-time contract working on the Andrology and IVF projects with A/Prof Jane Fisher.

Farewell
In September Claudine Chionh completed her part-time contract on the VicLanes project.

Key Centre for Women's Health in Society – 2006

Director & Professor
Doreen Rosenthal AO BA Melb. PhD Melb FASSA

Associate Professors
Coordinator of Education & Training
Jane Fisher BSc Qld. PhD Melb.

Coordinator of Research
Anne Kavanagh BMBS Flinders. PhD ANU FAFPHM

Senior Lecturers
Elizabeth Bennett MTropHlth Qld. PhD Melb.
*bAndrea Whittaker BA Qld. PhD Qld (on temporary transfer until Dec 2008)

Lecturers

Heather Rowe BSc (Hons) LaTrobe PhD Melb.

NHMRC Post Doctoral Research Fellow
*Louise Keogh BSc West Aust. MA Monash PhD La Trobe

VicHealth Public Health Research Fellow
Shelley Mallett BApSc La Trobe. BA La Trobe PhD La Trobe

Research Fellows
*Rebecca Bentley BBSc (Hons) La Trobe PhD Melb.
*Karin Hammarberg RN BSc MWH Sweden, M Women’s Health Melb. PhD Melb
*Deborah Keys BA Deakin. PhD La Trobe
*Maggie Kirkman BA (Hons) Melb. PhD La Trobe
*Carolyn Nickson BA La Trobe Grad Dip (Epi & Biostats) Melb. PhD

Candidate Melb.
Lyndal Thomas BSc (Hons) Monash. PhD Candidate Melb.

Research Assistants
*Claudine Chionh BA Melb
Lauren Matheson BA Calg. MWH Melb
*Lukar Thornton BScSc (Environment) RMIT. PGDip (Environment) Melb. MEnv Melb. PhD Candidate Melb

Community Liaison/ Research Translation Officer
*Amanda Tattam, BA (Journalism) Monash RN

Administrative Manager
Mr Felice Rocca BA (Hons) Melb

Personal Assistant to the Director
Ms Katie Symes BA Melb

Postgraduate Programs Administrator
Ms Jennifer Sievers BInfMan Monash

Professorial Fellow
Lenore Manderson, BA (As. Stud.) ANU (Hons), PhD, ANU FASSA

Principal Fellow
Fumi Horiguchi, BMed

TokyoWmMed-College PhD Keio

Senior Fellows
Wendy Holmes, MSc London, MB BS U London
Julie Thacker, UCLES/RSA CLEFLA Lond. BSc West Aust. GradDipEd Curtin PhD

Godfrey Woelk, BSc (Soc), Rhodesia M.COMM.H, Liverpool PhD U

Washington Fellow
Milica Markovic, BSoc. Belgrade, MSoc Belgrade PhD Qld.

KCWHS visit to WHO Manila: Dr Shigeru Omi, WHO Regional Director for the Western Pacific, Prof Doreen Rosenthal, KCWHS Director, Dr Elizabeth Bennett, Senior Lecturer, KCWHS.

Pictured left to right are Key Centre students Julie Amalliah, Irma Nareswari, Sappaporn Wirratanapokin, Josephine Nkosana, Lignet Chepuka, Phoebe Bwembya, Lauren Matheson and Benson Singa.
The McCaughey Centre: VicHealth Centre for the Promotion of Mental Health and Community Wellbeing is a policy research centre which builds knowledge about the social, economic and environmental determinants of mental health and community wellbeing. The McCaughey Centre is supported by and works closely with the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation (VicHealth). Our mission is to be a catalyst for knowledge which strengthens the foundations of healthy, just and sustainable communities and builds social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing.

Overview
The McCaughey Centre: VicHealth Centre for the Promotion of Mental Health and Community Wellbeing commenced formal operation in June 2006, when Professor John Wiseman came on board as the Centre’s inaugural Director and began assembling a multi-disciplinary team to develop and shape the Centre’s policy research profile. By the end of 2006 the Centre had engaged nine academic staff, two professional staff, and a number of visiting staff from academia and the public sector. The disciplinary backgrounds of the Centre’s staff range from Sociology, Criminology, Occupational and Environmental Health, Economics, Accounting, Sociology of Health and Illness, Geomatics, Psychology, Epidemiology, Medicine and Public Health, providing a multi-skilled platform from which to achieve the Centre’s vision for ‘Healthy, just and sustainable communities’.

The McCaughey Centre started out as ‘The VicHealth Centre for the Promotion of Mental Health and Social Wellbeing’, however a shorter working title was sought and approved by the University of Melbourne Council in September 2006, and the Centre became the McCaughey Centre. Further details regarding the origin and significance of the McCaughey Centre name are included below.

The McCaughey Centre is a policy research centre which builds knowledge about the social, economic and environmental determinants of mental health and wellbeing. The Centre is supported by and works closely with the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation (VicHealth), which defines mental health as ‘the embodiment of social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing. Mental health provides individuals with the vitality necessary for active living, to achieve goals and to interact with one another in ways that are respectful and just’.

Focusing on the promotion of mental health and social wellbeing, the McCaughey Centre’s strategies are population based, intersectoral and grounded in the recognition that the health and wellbeing of populations is determined by how we organise ourselves as a society, and our practice and policies in diverse domains such as education, health, transport, the economy, local government and the environment.

A key priority within the McCaughey Centre’s first six months of operation was to establish an Advisory Committee comprising individuals from a range of sectors to provide the Centre Director with support in the establishment and growth of the Centre’s profile. As outlined below, the McCaughey Centre Advisory Committee bring an invaluable breadth of skill and expertise to their role.

McCaughey Centre Advisory Committee
Chair: Mr Michael Wright: Managing Director, Miller Consulting.
Professor Ian Anderson: Director, Centre for Health and Society and Onemda VicHealth Koori Health Unit, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne.
Mr Paris Aristotle: Director, Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture.
Professor Fran Baum: Faculty of Health Sciences, Flinders University & Commissioner on the WHO Commission on the Social Determinants of Health.
Ms Helen Fenney: Director, Fenney Letts Consulting.
Mr Damien Ferrie: Director, Community Strengthening, Department for Victorian Communities.
Professor Ruth Fincher: School of Social and Environmental Enquiry, University of Melbourne.
Professor John Langmore: Professorial Fellow, Centre for Public Policy, University of Melbourne; Former Director, United Nations Division for Social Policy and Development.
Mr Tony Nicholson: CEO, Brotherhood of St. Laurence.
Professor Terry Nolan: Head, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne.
Professor Pip Pattison: School of Behavioural Science, President, Academic Board, University of Melbourne.
Dr Chrissie Pickin: Assistant Director, Health Promotion & Chronic Disease Prevention, Department of Human Services.
Ms Cath Smith: CEO, Victorian Council of Social Service.
Ms Lyn Walker: Director, Mental Health & Wellbeing Unit, VicHealth.
Ms Marion Webster: Chair, Melbourne Community Foundation.
Ms Maria Wilton: Managing Director, Franklin Templeton International.

Our name
The McCaughey Centre is named in honour of two outstanding Victorians, Davis and Jean McCaughey, who have made a significant and lasting contribution to improving the health and wellbeing of a diverse range of Victorian, Australian and
For Professor John Wiseman, becoming inaugural Director of the McCaughey Centre: the VicHealth Centre for the Promotion of Mental Health and Community Wellbeing in 2006 was a personal and career highlight.

The appointment reflects Professor Wiseman’s ongoing commitment to turning knowledge about the causes of injustice and violence into actions that help build healthy, just and resilient communities.

John says that this commitment goes back to his initial awareness as a teenager of the injustices experienced by Black and First Nations peoples in America – and by Australian Indigenous communities.

In addition to sparking his opposition to injustice, this awareness of indigenous cultures alerted him that there were alternatives to the increasingly extreme consumerism and individualism of Western cultures.

He hopes the work of the McCaughey Centre will similarly create a sense that there are other possibilities to explore as it generates “knowledge for common good”.

“The McCaughey Centre creates an outstanding opportunity for researchers, students, policy makers and practitioners to work together to develop new insights into the nature and sources of community health and wellbeing,” he says, “and the actions which can turn those insights into positive and tangible social change.”

In the McCaughey Centre’s first six months, Professor Wiseman has focused on laying its foundations by appointing key staff, setting up its research program, overseeing the creation of websites for both the Centre and Community Indicators Victoria (which it hosts), developing relationships with stakeholders and hosting the Centre’s first events.

The McCaughey Centre is also developing a suite of short courses for delivery to key stakeholders, including community organisations and the government sector, focusing on key priority areas such as community strengthening and mental health promotion.

The McCaughey Centre is a research-intensive unit, with a strong emphasis upon research dissemination and community engagement. The initial focus of the McCaughey Centre’s policy research is on:

- Community wellbeing frameworks, policy directions and strategies
- Community wellbeing indicators, trends and outcomes
- Key determinants of mental health and community wellbeing:
  - Freedom from violence
  - Freedom from discrimination
  - Social inclusion and connectedness
  - Economic participation and security
  - Healthy and sustainable environments

The Centre identifies key population groups such as men and women, young people, older people, indigenous communities and CALD communities within these research areas, and undertakes a diverse range of projects with a broad range of stakeholders to work toward improved wellbeing outcomes for all. A respectful, partnership-based approach to the development and implementation of policy and research projects is at the core of the McCaughey Centre’s work.

The Centre encourages conversations with potential collaborators from the three tiers of government and associated agencies, community organisations, academia, the public and private sectors to advance the Centre’s mission, ‘To be a catalyst for knowledge which strengthens the foundations of healthy, just and sustainable communities and builds social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing’. While it was still very early days for the McCaughey Centre in 2006, Centre staff developed a range of research proposals, and initiated and contributed to numerous research projects in progress, a flavour of which is included below:

**Community Indicators Victoria (CIV)**

Community Indicators Victoria (CIV) is a collaborative project hosted by the McCaughey Centre, with the aim of supporting the development and use of local community wellbeing indicators as a basis for informed, engaged and integrated community planning and policy making. CIV has been established as a result of the recommendations of the VicHealth funded Victorian Community Indicators Project (VCIP), and the initial objectives of Community Indicators Victoria are to:

- provide a sustainable mechanism for the collation, analysis and distribution of local community wellbeing indicator trend data across Victoria;
- be a resource centre supporting the development and use of local community wellbeing indicators by local governments and their communities; and
- contribute to national and international policy research on the development and use of local community wellbeing indicators as a basis for improving community engagement, community planning and policy making.

The McCaughey Centre’s CIV project partners include the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), Departments of Victorian State and Local Government, Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV), Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA), Victorian Council of Social Services (VCROSS), RMIT and Swinburne.
Establishment of a Latrobe Valley power industry cohort and biospecimen bank for the study of asbestos-related disease

Assoc Prof Tony LaMontagne from the McCaughey Centre is Co-Investigator on this NHMRC funded project, with lead Chief Investigator Dr Andrew Holloway and Prof David Bowtell (Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre), and Assoc Prof Richard Lake (Uni of WA).

Family violence reform: Using knowledge to support integration of policy and practice

Dr Marion Frere and Prof John Wiseman from the McCaughey Centre partnered with Chief Investigators Prof Cathy Humphries (Social Work, UoM – grant lead), Dr Charles Ross (Criminology, UoM), Dr Chris Laming and Dr Karen Crinall (Monash) and with Partner Investigators Ms Christine Nixon and Dr Charles Gassner (Victoria Police), Ms Julia Griffith (Dept of Justice), Mr Terry Healy (Dept for Vic Communities), and Dr Jane Bennett and Ms Chris Asquini (Dept of Human Services) on this project proposal submitted to the November 2006 ARC Linkage round. The project aims to address national ‘hot’ issues around family violence, including the effectiveness of removing perpetrators and keeping children and women in their homes; whether the early referral of children to community services impacts on the statutory child protection system; the integration of criminal and civil justice responses; and the effectiveness of multi-disciplinary governance arrangement in metropolitan and rural regions.

Implications of community level factors that influence children’s outcomes in disadvantaged areas across Australia and Canada

Prof John Wiseman from the McCaughey Centre is a partner in this project funded by the Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY). The Project leader is Dr Sharon Goldfeld (Centre for Community Child Health, Royal Children’s Hospital), with other partners including Sally Brinkin (Murdoch Institute), Brendan Gleeson (Griffith Uni), Paul Kershaw (Uni of British Columbia), Ilan Katz (Social Policy Research Centre, Uni of NSW), Pam Muth (Office for Children, DHS), Bill Randolph (Uni of NSW), and Robert Tanton (NATSEM, Uni of Canberra).

World Health Organisation (WHO) Age Friendly Cities Project

Prof John Wiseman and Dr Kathleen Brasher from the McCaughey Centre are managing the Melbourne component of this 37-city, 22-country World Health Organisation (WHO) collaboration with the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) and the Council of the Ageing Victoria (COTA). The project aims to identify indicators of an age-friendly city, and produce a practical guide to stimulate and guide advocacy, community development and policy change to make urban communities age-friendly. A key project goal is to provide participating cities with an increased awareness of local needs, gaps and good ideas for stimulating the development of age-friendly urban settings.

Community activities

Building effective, intersectoral partnerships across academia, government departments and agencies, community groups, public and private sector organisations is a guiding principle in the
McCaughhey Centre’s approach to policy research, teaching and learning, and knowledge transfer. Initiating and developing strong stakeholder relationships has therefore been a key priority in the Centre’s first six months of operation, and details below of the Centre’s community engagement throughout this initial establishment phase gives a brief insight into the Centre’s emphasis upon collaboration, research dissemination, and community engagement:

**July 2006**: Meeting with Ministerial Staff from the Victorian Department of Employment & Youth Affairs to provide a briefing on the VicHealth Job Stress Report and related VicHealth initiatives; McCaughey Centre representation on the panel for the VicHealth ‘Get Real’ Forum on Research to Policy Translation; Participation in an initial planning meeting for the 2008 World Conference on Promotion of Mental Health and Wellbeing; Presentation to *beyondblue* on the Mental Health Impacts of Workplace Stress; Participation in an initial Victorian Health Inequalities Network planning workshop; Presentation to a Municipal Association of Victoria Human Services Directors Forum on Development and Use of Community Wellbeing Indicators.

**August 2006**: Participation in the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences’ Forum on Collaborative Research on Mental Health; Presentation to the Victorian College of the Arts on Cultural Development and Community Wellbeing Indicators; Launch of the Victorian Community Indicators Project Final Report Measuring Wellbeing, Engaging Communities by Dr Rob Moodie (CEO, VicHealth) and Mr Vince Lazarro (Regional Director, ABS); Participation in Hanover Welfare Services Forum on Homelessness Research Priorities; Presentation to Local Government Community Planners Forum on Development and use of local community wellbeing indicators; Presentation to Melbourne City Council Corporate Planning Team on Development and Use of Community Wellbeing Indicators.

**September 2006**: Joint workshop with DHS and Newfoundland Community Accounts Team (Canada) on Community Indicators; Presentation to ABS National Workshop on Local Community Indicators and Data and the Outcomes of the Victorian Community Indicators Project; Participation in VicHealth Workshop on ‘Train Stations as Creative Community Hubs’.

**October 2006**: Presentation to Key Centre for Women’s Health in Society on Towards a Gendered Approach to the Development and Use of Community Wellbeing Indicators; Presentation to the Australian Nurses Federation on VicHealth Job Stress Report; Presentation to the Work-Life Association of Victoria on VicHealth Job Stress Report; Presentation to the Centre for Adolescent Health, Adolescent Youth Forum on How Will We Know We Are Getting Somewhere?; Participation in ARACY Early Childhood Project Research Workshop on Early Childhood Policy and Research Development and Priorities; Participation in National Knowledge Access Grid on Early Childhood Research Trends (part of ARACY Early Years Project); Presentation to Women’s Health Victoria on the role of the McCaughey Centre and Community Indicators Victoria; Presentation of the Job Stress Report to the Ballarat Regional OHS Group;

**November/December 2006**: Presentation to the City of Boroondara on Community Indicators Victoria; Facilitation of a DHS Disability Services workshop on Community Strengthening Strategies; Chaired session on Workplace Stress and Health Inequalities for the Australian Health Network, and presentation on Work Stress; Presentation to the Council on the Ageing on the WHO Age Friendly Cities Project; Workshop facilitation with MAV, COTA, DVC and City of Maribyrnong on the WHO Age friendly Cities project; Lecture to medical students (510-511 “Integrated Clinical Studies”) on Occupational Health & Occupational Medicine: Linking Public Health & Medicine; Hosted a NAPCAN forum with Professor Isaac Prilleltensky and Dr Ora Prilleltensky (School of Education, Miami University) on Community Strengthening and Community Wellbeing; Presentation on Community Indicators Victoria to the Office of Women’s Policy and Office for Youth; Participation in ARACY workshop on Integrating Research, Policy and Practice.

**Key Achievements**

With the McCaughey Centre commencing formal operation in June 2006, the Centre’s key achievements for the half-year from June to December 2006 were primarily around establishment issues such as recruitment, governance, stakeholder engagement, research project start-up, and strategic planning for the Centre’s initial phase of activity. The Centre
undertook an extensive recruitment process in the first months of operation, resulting in the establishment of a highly skilled, multi-disciplinary team of nine academic staff, two professional staff, and a number of honorary staff by the end of 2006. A further priority in these initial months was to assemble a McCaughey Centre Advisory Committee with a breadth of skills, expertise and perspectives the Centre may draw upon for strategic guidance and feedback. An outstanding group of individuals assembled for the inaugural meeting of the McCaughey Centre Advisory Committee on 14 December, which was attended also by Ms Jean McCaughey, whom the Centre is thrilled to have as its patron.

Identifying and establishing relationships with a broad range of stakeholders has been a further achievement in the Centre’s first months of operation, with many meetings undertaken with representatives from local and state government departments and agencies, heads of key not-for-profit, public and private organisations, colleagues from academia, and members of the community as a first conversation in regard to collaborative potential and ongoing relationships with the McCaughey Centre. In addition to working on numerous projects in progress and future project proposals in 2006, the McCaughey Centre made a positive start in developing a strategic plan, and a vision, mission, and core set of principles to guide the Centre into the future.

To cap off a busy first six months of activity, the McCaughey Centre was thrilled to congratulate staff members Assoc Prof Tony LaMontagne and Tessa Keegel for their VicHealth award celebrating achievement in Health Promotion in Mental Health (the $15,000 to $75,000 category), presented at the VicHealth Annual General Meeting in Parliament Gardens on the evening of 13 December 2006. Tony and Tessa received the award for their work on the project ‘Workplace Stress in Victoria: Developing a Systems Approach’, which was undertaken in the School of Population Health’s Centre for Health and Society.

Conferences and public presentations
27 July: Hosted a joint forum with Centre for Health and Society, by Professor Paul James (RMIT), presenting on Community Wellbeing in a Globalising World.

4 August: Presentation to the 2006 VCOSs Congress on The Victorian Community Indicators Project.

18 September: Hosted a joint forum with the Planning Institute of Australia with Barbara Holtman (Group Leader, Crime Prevention, Defence, Peace, Safety and Security Unit, Government of South Africa) on Crime Prevention Partnerships at the Local Level: The South African Experience.

25 September: Presentation to the University of Melbourne’s Centre for Public Policy Conference on Government Community Partnerships: Local heroes: Learning from recent Victorian community strengthening initiatives.

11-13 October: Keynote presentation at the 4th World Conference on the Promotion of Mental Health and Prevention of Mental and Behavioural Disorders (Oslo, Norway - delivered on behalf of VicHealth) on The development and use of community wellbeing indicators.

18 October: Presentation to the Comcare Annual OH&S Conference on Controlling the risks of job stress.

26 October: Presentation on Stress and bullying to the Working Safe Conference and Trade Show, Hobart Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

20 November: Presentation on Acting On Job Stress – do we have a context for action? at the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society of Australia Annual Conference.

20 November: Hosted a public forum by Professor Isaac Prilleltensky and Dr Ora Prilleltensky on Promoting Wellbeing: A Change Strategy for Communities.

Publication highlights
For a full list of publications, see the 2006 Publications Report, page 89


This paper considers the lessons from community strengthening projects instigated under the Victorian State Government’s Community Building Initiative, and considers the implications of these lessons for future community strengthening policy and practice in Victoria. The first section of the paper explores the rise of more ‘community’ focused policy and practice in Australia, the drivers behind this approach, and the tensions
and issues along the way. This is followed by an outline of the specific policy context of community strengthening in Victoria and the approach by the Victorian State Government since 1999. The paper suggests that the policy direction in Victoria has moved from a projects based approach to looking at ways of ‘mainstreaming’ community strengthening. The paper then considers the findings of a research project which sought to understand, from a practice perspective, what factors have contributed to successful community strengthening. It is suggested that a community centered approach to community strengthening is what works best. The final section of the paper considers what these findings mean in the context of a search for more ‘mainstreamed’ approaches to community strengthening and a number of key strategies are identified. The paper concludes with some comments about the implications of the lessons from the ‘experimenting’ phase for alternative public policy ideas.


Policies and programs which aim to strengthen the engagement, connectedness and resilience of local communities have increasingly become a core element in public policy responses to the challenges posed by globalising social and economic relations. However, for many politicians, policy makers and citizens the conceptual framework and practical benefits of ‘community strengthening’ remain vague and unclear. This article aims to contribute to debates about the significance of community strengthening by providing a concise overview of the development and implementation of community strengthening initiatives by the Bracks Labor Government in Victoria. Initial learning from this experience suggests that engaging and linking local communities can make a useful contribution to local social, environmental and economic outcomes as well as providing a foundation for the democratic renewal of local governance. Key factors underpinning successful community strengthening programs include strong local ownership and leadership, backed by sustained government investment in the social and physical infrastructure priorities identified as important by local communities. However, while local community strengthening strategies can lead to real improvements in community networks, infrastructure and capacity, they are no substitute for the inclusive and redistributive taxation, income security, service delivery and labour market policies needed to create the conditions for sustainable reductions in poverty, inequality and social exclusion.

Staff

Professor and Centre Director
John Wiseman, BA Melb BSW Melb PhD Latrobe

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Associate Professor and Principal Research Fellow
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Professional Staff
Janine Campbell, BA Melb GradCertUM Melb
Kate Jenkins, DipBus RMIT

Visiting Staff

Congratulations to Associate Professor Tony Lamontagne and Tessa Keegel for their VicHealth award celebrating achievement in Health Promotion in Mental Health (the $15,000 to $75,000 category). Tony and Tessa received the award for their work on the project ‘Workplace Stress in Victoria: Developing a Systems Approach’, which was undertaken while they were both based in the School of Population Health’s Centre for Health and Society. The award was presented by Ted Baillieu (left) at the VicHealth Annual General Meeting in Parliament Gardens on the evening of 13 December 2006. Tony Lamontagne joined the McCaughey Centre from the Centre for Health and Society (CHS) in October 2006, and remains linked to the CHS as an honorary Principal Research Fellow and the designated academic liaison between CHS and the McCaughey Centre. Tessa Keegel also joined the McCaughey Centre in October 2006, and continues her links with the Centre for Health and Society as a PhD candidate.
CHPPE
Centre for Health Policy, Programs and Economics
School of Population Health
Department of Public Health
Annual Report
2006
The Centre for Health Policy, Programs and Economics (formerly the Program Evaluation Unit) is a multidisciplinary organisation, the core business of which is health services and policy research and health economics. Its staff have expertise in program evaluation, health economics, economic evaluation, health law, epidemiology, social sciences and research methodology, and many have clinical backgrounds.

The mission of the CHPPE is to contribute to the health of the community through research, teaching and service relevant to health programs and policy. It aims to do this by advancing relevant knowledge and addressing relevant issues productively and flexibly. It also includes methodological development, exemplary practice and a varied program of teaching and training. It aims to achieve this mission by improving the community’s ability to critically evaluate the performance and funding of health policy and health programs.

The primary aims of the previous five years of the Unit’s work over the followed a successful review. Based on the existing Program Evaluation Economics. Policy, Programs and the new Centre for Health of our proposal to establish 2006 was undoubtedly the major highlight of Report Head of Centre

- Develop skills and capacities in health services research and health economics among graduate students and practitioners; and
- Improve the capacity of the community to critically evaluate the performance and funding of health policy and health services (programs).

This is a culmination of the 16-year history of the group, first as the NHMRC National Centre for Health Program Evaluation, later as the Centre for Health Program Evaluation (in conjunction with Monash University) and still later as the Program Evaluation Unit. The Centre will build on our already very substantial contribution in the health services area at the University in research output and funding, postgraduate teaching and supervision of higher degrees and community and professional service, as set out below.

The other important highlight is the imminent arrival of Professor David Studdert, Federation Fellow and previously Associate Professor from the Harvard School of Public Health. David is a Law/Arts graduate of the University of Melbourne who holds a Doctor of Science in Public Health from Harvard University. He has an outstanding reputation for linking the skills of these areas to inform the derivation of more effective public health and health care services. He is regarded as the leading practitioner of his academic generation in his field and will make a significant contribution to this critical area in Australia. He will work jointly with the School of Law.

We are sad to say farewell to Associate Professor Rob Carter and his group of health economists, including Cathy Miholopoulos, Marj Moodie, Sophie Shih and Steve Colgan. Rob has accepted a Chair in Health and Human Services Economics in the School of Health and Social Development at Deakin University. Rob was previously Deputy Head and has made a very considerable contribution in research, teaching and higher degree supervision. He has had considerable success in NHMRC program and project grant funding. He established health economics at the University and will be very much missed. We wish him well in his future career at Deakin.

In March 2006, Jane Pirkis, Rob Carter and I attended the Melbourne-Monash Protocol Collaboration Meeting at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. The meeting was organised by the Vice-Chancellors of the two universities to promote the already existing strategic alliance that existed between the two universities. Four areas were nominated for special attention. One of the areas nominated was in health services research, and a workshop on this area was conducted on the day.

Other highlights were:
- CHPPE’s externally earned income in 2006 was $2.1 million ($4.7M including funding from collaborative grants). This is an increase of 20% on 2005 and in excess of 60% on 2004
- A total of 53 articles & reports were published in 2006 including 25 referred journal articles.
- Very large numbers (235) of MPH students from both The University of Melbourne and other universities in The Victorian Consortium of Public Health took our postgraduate units in program evaluation and health economics. Thirteen MPH students completed their research projects in program evaluation and health economics. There are 16 higher degree students, including 2 new enrolments in 2006.
- The two courses in Health Program
Evaluation continue to attract enrolments from health professions. Short Course 1 ran three workshops and attracted 28 participants and Short Course 2 ran twice with 16 participants.

- Staff members Lucio Naccarella and Belinda Morley were awarded their PhDs, and Alan Headey was awarded his Doctorate of Psychology (Health).

– Associate Professor David Dunt

Teaching and Learning

In 2006, the pattern of steady growth in enrolments in our short courses in health program evaluation, our two streams of subjects in the MPH, and research training through doctoral studies has shown that there is an ongoing demand for well-taught and supervised, and workplace relevant subjects and courses.

Although we have noted a shift in student preference towards on-campuses delivery in semester and block mode for our subjects, the flexibility that comes from the off-campus options available means that students who would otherwise be unable to gain access to our subjects are taught. In most cases, the distance and on campus students are taught concurrently with interactive online and electronic forum support.

Our two short courses in health program evaluation are becoming more popular, and we have reviewed their delivery, providing time between the linked course for students to reflect on their learnings and try out various approaches in the workplace before they return for the next block. This approach is supported as sound evidence based practice worldwide.

The suite of health program evaluation/health services research subjects was enhanced by the successful first delivery of the new Public Health Education and Research Program Innovations Grant (PHERP) funded Environmental Health Services Evaluation subject in off campus semester mode by Helen Jordan. This subject is also available Australia wide as a block mode short course.

Master of Public Health

There has been steady growth in enrolments in the subject we provide for the Victorian Consortium of Public Health, Health Economics and Program Evaluation, for students from Deakin University, La Trobe University, Monash University and the University of Melbourne. Rob Carter and Cathy Segan coordinated each section, with Andrew Dalton, Steve Crowley, David Dunt, Rosemary McKenzie, Cathy Mihalopoulos, Marj Moodie, Lucio Naccarella, Michael Otim, Theonie Tacticos and Kiu-Sang Tay-Teo providing lectures and tutorials. There were 132 students enrolled in this subject in 2006.

MPH students had access to the following suite of health economics/economic evaluation subjects:

- Health Economics, Cathy Mihalopoulos (Subject Coordinator)
- Economic Evaluation 1, Steve Crowley
- Economic Evaluation 2, Steve Crowley
- Research Project in Health Economics, Rob Carter

In the health program evaluation field, the following subjects were available in 2006. Those in distance mode have been designated ‘D’.

- Health Program Evaluation 1 (D), Jenni Livingston
- Health Program Evaluation 2 (D), David Dunt & Rosemary McKenzie
- Health Services Research 1 (D), David Dunt
- Using Evaluation in Program Design, Jenni Livingston
- Research Project in Health Program Evaluation (D), Jenni Livingston
- Environmental Health Services Evaluation (D only), Helen Jordan.

During 2006, 13 students completed their two semester Research Project in either Health Economics/Economic Evaluation or Health Program Evaluation. These students completed reports on the following topics:

- Jonathan St Clair Anderson: Supervisor Steve Crowley. The measurement of health related utility in HIV medicine.
- Pauline Maree Galvin, Supervisor: Irene Blackberry & Jenni Livingston. Predictors of compliance with preventive recommendations among older people following their recent falls.
- Yvonne Ginifer, Supervisor: Jenni Livingston. Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) HIV Program: What is the program logic underpinning the program and how is the program doing?
Higher Degree Students

There were 14 PhD students enrolled in 2006, including two students new to the program. Two students were enrolled in the DrPH program.

Short Courses

Health Program Evaluation

Two short courses in Health Program Evaluation (SC1 and SC2) attracted health professionals working across a range of health policy and program areas in Australia and overseas. The short courses provide an opportunity for very practical, workplace oriented learning about health program evaluation and the opportunity to network with other public health practitioners who share an interest in health program evaluation. Short Course 1 on Planning, Negotiation, Evaluation Approaches, Criteria Selection and Program Logic Modelling was held three times in 2006 and attracted 28 participants. Short Course 2 on Data Collection, Analysis & Reporting in Health Program Evaluation was run twice in 2006 and attracted a total of 16 participants.

SC1 is coordinated and taught by Helen Jordan, with Rosemary McKenzie providing a session as a guest lecturer. C2 is taught by Helen Jordan, Michelle Williamson, Theonie Tacticos, Peter Feldman and Sonja Hood.

Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing Short Course in Health Program Evaluation

The Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA) commissioned the PEU to deliver a two-day short course in Program Evaluation for DoHA policy makers and program managers across Australia. This two-day short course was coordinated and taught by Helen Jordan.

Five short courses were run in 2006, twice in Canberra, and one each in Victoria, Queensland and South Australia DoHA state-based offices.

Research

The CHPPE undertakes evaluations of health programs at national, state and local levels. Since its establishment, the CHPPE has attracted over $29 million in funding from key granting bodies such as the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and from organisations such as Commonwealth and state/territory health departments that fund contract research. Over half of this funding has come directly to the CHPPE and the remaining funding has been shared with collaborating agencies. Since 2004, the CHPPE has focussed its research around three work streams: Primary Care and Health Promotion, Health Economics and Mental Health. A fourth work stream, Health Policy, will be added in 2007.

Details of new and existing research activities are set out under the three work streams and includes major grants awarded.
Seminar Program

Once again, the Centre’s lunch-time Seminar Series, which is open to all colleagues and the general public, proved to be extremely successful. The seminar topics are chosen to highlight current and key aspects of the Centre’s Research Program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Presenter’s Name</th>
<th>Topic of Presentation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 March</td>
<td>Cathy Segan</td>
<td>Maximising the effectiveness of smoking cessation interventions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 March</td>
<td>No seminar</td>
<td>Commonwealth Games</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 April</td>
<td>Grant Blashki</td>
<td>The Primary Care Evidence-based Psychological Interventions (PEP) Study: Evaluating cognitive behavioural therapy training for GPs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 May</td>
<td>Rosemary McKenzie</td>
<td>Evaluating the Well For Life program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 May</td>
<td>Alan Headley</td>
<td>Lessons from the evaluation of 160 local suicide prevention initiatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 May</td>
<td>Susan Day</td>
<td>Geographic inequities in the supply and demand for GP services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 June</td>
<td>Lucio Naccarella</td>
<td>Why a relational perspective matters in general practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 June</td>
<td>Kiu-siang Tay</td>
<td>A review of influenza vaccination in high-risk groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 July</td>
<td>Michelle Williamson</td>
<td>Recruiting GPs and maintaining their interest in a large-scale intervention study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 July</td>
<td>Dominique Cadilhac</td>
<td>Undertaking economic evaluation of blood pressure lowering interventions in stroke: Selecting interventions and modelling implications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 August</td>
<td>Bree Rankin</td>
<td>Improving GPs’ assessment and treatment of coronary heart disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 August</td>
<td>Theonie Tacticos</td>
<td>Why self-reported health status is important</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 September</td>
<td>Belinda Morley and Fay Kohn</td>
<td>Evaluating the Better Outcomes in Mental Health Care program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 September</td>
<td>Jenni Livingston</td>
<td>An evaluation of changes to informed consent for post-mortem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 October</td>
<td>Michael Otim</td>
<td>Priority setting in Aboriginal health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 October</td>
<td>Peter Feldman</td>
<td>Intercultural evaluations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 November</td>
<td>Sonja Hood</td>
<td>Implementing evidence in health care</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2006 saw the completion of one of the stream’s long term projects Evaluation of the Best Start Program, which commenced in 2003. The findings from this project have received a very positive response from the Department of Human Services, Victoria and those in the field involved with the Best Start Program. Another significant project completed in 2006 was the Review of Indigenous use of MBS-funded Medical Services. The review found that some disparity remains between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and other Australians with access to MBS funded medical services, however the gap is closing.

The Primary Care and Health Promotion Work Stream attracted funding for a number of new projects including:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Funding body</th>
<th>Chief Investigator(s)</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Evaluation of the Australian Government Dementia Health Priority Initiative</td>
<td>Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing</td>
<td>Chief Investigators: Colleen Doyle, David Dunt, Richard Rosewarne (Applied Aged Care Solutions), Lynne Pezzullo (Access Economics). Other Investigators: Susan Day</td>
<td>This project aims to evaluate the Australian Government’s 2005 Budget Dementia Initiative and to provide ongoing evaluation advice to key stakeholders.</td>
<td>$1,647,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helping smokers with a history of depression quit smoking safely: Depression and smoking cessation outcomes among clients of a tailored quitline callback service offering doctor-quitline co-management of smoking cessation and depression</td>
<td>beyondblue</td>
<td>Catherine Segan, Ron Borland (The Cancer Council Victoria), Kay Wilhelm (The University of New South Wales), Sunil Bhar (University of Pennsylvania), and David Dunt</td>
<td>This project involves a prospective study in which three different groups of callers receiving the callback service will be followed up by trained telephone interviewers at two months (end of treatment) and at six months after enrolling on the callback service.</td>
<td>$91,805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responding to Health Inequalities: Investigating the Impact of Neighbourhood Renewal on health and well-being in disadvantaged Victorian communities</td>
<td>Department of Human Services, Victoria</td>
<td>Margaret Kelaher, Theonie Tacticos, Deb Warr (Centre for Health and Society)</td>
<td>This project involves baseline data collection for Neighbourhood Renewal in Fitzroy and Collingwood, comprising a community survey of neighbourhood characteristics, health and wellbeing.</td>
<td>$89,973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raising Awareness of Prevention Programs for Chronic Pulmonary Disease</td>
<td>Department of Human Services, Victoria</td>
<td>David Dunt</td>
<td>This project involves a literature review and consultation with stakeholders regarding the awareness-raising programs of greatest potential in addressing chronic pulmonary disease.</td>
<td>$58,603</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Funding body</td>
<td>Chief Investigator(s)</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Funding</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The impact of the new post mortem consent procedure on recently bereaved parents</strong></td>
<td>Victorian Department of Human Services</td>
<td>Dr Lisa Begg, Ms Maureen Johnson, Ms Christine Hennequin, Ms Barbara Robb (Royal Women’s Hospital), Professor Paul Monagle (Department of Pathology, University of Melbourne), Ms Jenni Livingston</td>
<td>Recently bereaved families were interviewed and surveyed to explore their understanding of the new fully informed consent to post mortem process introduced at the Royal Women’s Hospital in 2003.</td>
<td>$53,236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Arts and Health Strategy</strong></td>
<td>The Australia Council</td>
<td>Lindy Joubert (Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning), Margaret Kelaher, David Dunt</td>
<td>This project aims to provide a platform for the Australia council to improve recognition of the role of the arts in such areas as healthcare, ageing and community service; and to promote the practice amongst the medical and health community professions.</td>
<td>$27,160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Evaluation of the Centre of Excellence for Eating Disorders</strong></td>
<td>Centre of Excellence for Eating Disorders</td>
<td>David Dunt, Rosemary McKenzie</td>
<td>This project involves a review of policy for the prevention and treatment of eating disorders in primary care settings.</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Existing research activities carried over from previous years include:**

- Evaluation of the Best Start Program.
- National Evaluation of the After Hours Primary Medical Care Trial.
- Review of Indigenous use of MBS-funded Medical Services.
- Evaluation of the Supply of Pharmaceuticals to Remote Area Aboriginal Health Services.
- Career Development Award – Strengthening the relationship between policy and epidemiology in addressing social determinants of health.
- Public Health Training Fellowship – Helping people with concurrent medical conditions quit smoking.
- Evaluation of the Well for Life Initiative.
- Evaluation of the Centre of Clinical Research Excellence in Neurosciences.
The Mental Health Work Stream continues to be successful in attracting funding for a range of projects in the area of mental health and suicide prevention. Four new projects commenced this year and a number of projects have continued from previous years and received additional funding. New research activities funded this year include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Funding body</th>
<th>Chief Investigator(s)</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring Media Reporting of Suicide and Mental Illness</td>
<td>Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing</td>
<td>Jane Pirkis, Warwick Blood (University of Canberra) Philip Burgess (University of Queensland), Cath Francis and Andrew Dare</td>
<td>This project aims to determine whether the nature and quality of media reporting of suicide and mental illness has improved between 2000-01 and 2006-07.</td>
<td>$714,194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research priorities in suicide prevention</td>
<td>Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing</td>
<td>Jane Pirkis, Jo Robinson (ORYGEN Research Centre), Karolina Krysinska (Australian Institute for Suicide Research and Prevention, Griffith University), Sara Niner, Tony Jorm (ORYGEN Research Centre), Michael Dudley (Suicide Prevention Australia), Emily Schindeler (Suicide Prevention Australia), Diego De Leo (Australian Institute for Suicide Research and Prevention, Griffith University)</td>
<td>The Research Priorities in Suicide Prevention project aimed to identify future areas of research to be addressed in suicide prevention. It identified the suicide prevention research that is currently being undertaken in Australia, identified gaps in this research, and made suggestions with regard to a national research agenda based on priority areas for future research.</td>
<td>$103,778</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The 'Learnings from Suicide Prevention Initiatives’ Project</td>
<td>Auseinet</td>
<td>Jane Pirkis, Alan Headey. Other Investigators: Penny Mitchell, Jo Robinson (ORYGEN Youth Health), Philip Burgess (University of Queensland)</td>
<td>This project involves an analysis of the project and evaluation reports from 156 suicide prevention projects funded under the National Suicide Prevention Strategy.</td>
<td>$78,464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An evaluation of the new Medicare Benefits Schedule psychologist item numbers: Impacts for psychologists and their patients.</td>
<td>Australian Rotary Health Research Fund</td>
<td>Jane Pirkis, Philip Burgess (University of Queensland), Harvey Whiteford (University of Queensland), Grant Blashki (Department of General Practice, The University of Melbourne), Lyn Littlefield (Australian Psychological Society)</td>
<td>This project will evaluate the uptake of new Medicare Benefits Schedule item numbers which provide rebates for psychologists’ services. The evaluation will consider whether the item numbers are achieving their aim of providing improved access to high quality mental health care for Australians.</td>
<td>$47,375</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Existing research activities carried over from previous years include:
- Australian Mental Health Outcomes and Classification Network
- Career Development Award – Preventing suicidal behaviours – Ecological studies of systemic protective factors
- Journalistic news values, and medical, health professional and lay discourses on suicide and mental illness
- Evaluation of the Access to Allied Psychological Services Component of the Better Outcomes in Mental Health Care Program
- Reducing Depression and Suicide amongst Older Australians: A Cluster Randomised Clinical Trial in Primary Health Care
- Health Risk Screening of Adolescents in Primary Care: A Cluster Randomised Controlled Trial
The Health Economics Work Stream had successes with two collaborative NHMRC project grants applications. The group will be responsible for the economic evaluation component for each project. Details of these and other new research activities funded this year are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Funding body</th>
<th>Chief Investigator(s)</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Multicentre randomised controlled trial of very early and frequent mobilisation after stroke (AVERT)</td>
<td>NHMRC</td>
<td>Helen Dewey, Julie Bernhardt, (National Stroke Research Institute) Geoffrey Donnan Amanda Thrift, (National Stroke Research Institute) Rob Carter</td>
<td>The Health Economics Group was responsible for the economic evaluation component of this project.</td>
<td>$2,820,228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximising the effectiveness of interactive automated programs for smoking cessation</td>
<td>NHMRC</td>
<td>Ron Borland and James Balmford (Cancer Council). Consultant: Marj Moodie</td>
<td>The Health Economics Group was responsible for the economic evaluation component of this project.</td>
<td>$3600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A cost and cost effectiveness study of the provision of influenza vaccination to people at risk groups in the 18-64 years age group, who are not currently eligible for the government program</td>
<td>National Institute of Clinical Studies</td>
<td>Rob Carter. Other Investigators: Kiu-siang Tay-Teo, Stephen Colgan, Sophy Shih</td>
<td>The project involves a review of relevant literature which identifies and summarises any existing studies on cost and cost effectiveness for influenza vaccination in the risk population group aged between 18-64 and estimating the cost of the disease burden of influenza and cost of vaccination for at risk groups aged 18-64 years.</td>
<td>$18,960</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Existing research activities carried over from previous years include:

- Burden of Disease and a Cost-Effectiveness of Intervention Options: Informing Policy Choices and Health System Reform in Thailand.
- Assessing Cost Effectiveness (ACE) in Prevention.
- The Pacific OPIC Study: A Four Country Study of Obesity Prevention in Communities.
- The Construction and Validation of the Assessment of Mental Health Related Quality of Life (PsyQoL) Instrument.
- Referral of Newly Diagnosed Prostate and Colorectal Cancer Patients to a Telephone-based Support Program.
- Assessing Cost Effectiveness (ACE) in Obesity.
- Computer Alert to Increase Chlamydia Screening of High Risk Women in General Practice: An RCT.
- Priority Setting in Aboriginal Health: Planning for the Prevention of Non-communicable diseases in Aboriginal and Torres Strait (Islander Communities.
- Exploring the Economic Implications Arising from the Proposed National Coronary Heart Disease Initiative in General Practice.
- The economics of Celiac Disease.
- The economic impact of Occupational contact dermatitis.
- Initial scoping and development of a work plan to investigate the economics of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD).
Community activities
During 2006 CHPPE staff continued to be active in the wider community as members of important advisory committees, reviewers of potential articles for a variety of referred journals and assessors of grant applications.

Committee Memberships

Jenni Livingston
- Member, Drinkwise Australia Research Advisory Committee
- Member, Austin Health Human Research Ethics Committee (until September 2006)

Rosemary McKenzie
- Member, Evaluation Working Group of the National Prescribing Service

Lucio Naccarella
- Health Service Research Association of Australia & New Zealand (HSRAANZ)
- AAAGP participated in AAAGP Annual Research Meeting
- Social Network Analysis Association

Jane Pirkis
- Chair, Suicide and the Media Task Force,
- International Association for Suicide Prevention
- Member, International Association for Suicide Prevention
- Executive Member, Health Services Research Association of Australia and New Zealand
- Member, Australian Psychological Society
- Board Member, Suicide Prevention Australia
- Member, Local Scientific Program Committee, World Psychiatric Association Congress
- Member, School of Population Health Research Committee
- Member, School of Population Health Communications Committee
- Member, School of Population Health IT Committee

Referee and Assessor Services for Grant Applications and Journals

Grant Bodies

Marj Moodie
- Assessor, Heart Foundation Grants-In-Aid

Journals

David Dunt
- Member of the Editorial Board Family Practice
- Reviewer, Family Practice
- Reviewer, BMC Family Practice

Marj Moodie
- Reviewer, Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health

Jane Pirkis
- Member, Editorial Board, Crisis
- Reviewer, Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry
- Reviewer, Australian e-Journal for the Advancement of Mental Health
- Reviewer, Australian Journal of Primary Health
- Reviewer, BMC Psychiatry
- Reviewer, Crisis
- Reviewer, Journal of Affective Disorders
- Reviewer, Mass Communication and Society
- Reviewer, New Zealand Medical Journal
- Reviewer, Psychological Medicine
- Reviewer, Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology
- Reviewer, Social Science and Medicine

Lucio Naccarella
- Guest Editor, Australian Journal of Primary Health – Special Issue

Media Appearances

Marj Moodie
- Media Intervention TV Tonga news – 27 April 2006

Other

Jenni Livingston
- Evaluation Consultant to Talkin’ Up Good Air: Australian Indigenous Tobacco Control Resource Kit development through Centre for Excellence in Indigenous Tobacco Control
- Evaluation Consultant to Centre for Rheumatic Diseases Orthopaedic Waiting List Pilot

Conferences and public presentations

International Conferences


Magnus, A., Haby, M.M., Carter, R., Swinburn, B.
2006, ACE: Obesity: The cost-effectiveness of reduced television advertising of high fat and/or high sugar (non-core) food and drinks to Australian children, International Conference on Obesity, Sydney, September 3-8 2006.


Poster presentations


National Conferences


Workshop presentation


Poster Presentation


Meeting of the Australasian Epidemiological Association, 18-19 September, The University of Melbourne.

**Publication highlights**

The Centre for Health Policy, Programs and Economics published 53 journal articles, reports and conference papers including 25 peer reviewed journal in 2006, a selection of which are provided below. For details of all CHPPE publications please refer to the full school report located in the 2006 Publications Report, beginning page 89.


**Moodie, M., Cadilhac, D., Pearce, D., Mihalopoulos, C., Carter, R., Davis, S.; Donnan, G. 2006**


**Pirkis, J., Burgess, P., Francis, C., Blood, R.W., Jolley, D. 2006**


**Staff**

The CHPPE comprises 28 full-time and part-time staff, consisting of 25 Academic staff and three professional staff. The Centre also has three honorary staff members.

**Farewells**

Rob Carter has taken up an appointment at Deakin University as Inaugural Chair in Health Economics in the School of Health and Social Development. Other members of his health economics group, including Cathy Mihalopoulos, Marj Moodie, Sophie Shih, Kiu-siang Tay-Teo, Michael Otim and Steve Colgan have also taken up positions at Deakin. Belinda Morley has been appointed the Obesity Research and Evaluation Manager, at the Centre for Behavioural Research in Cancer (CBRC, CCV), Alan Headey has taken up a psychologist position with the Division of General Practice Northern Tasmania and Lucio Naccarella has been appointed Senior Research Fellow with the Department of General Practice at The University of Melbourne.

**Achievements**

- Lucio Naccarella and Belinda Morley were awarded their PhDs;
- Alan Headey was awarded his Doctorate of Psychology (Health);
- Margaret Kelaher gave birth to Max; and
- Shelby Williamson gave birth to Will.

**CHPPE Staff List**

* denotes part-time staff members

**Head and Associate Professor**

David Dunt, MB BS Melb. MAPrelim Latrobe PhD Monash FFPHM

**Deputy Head and Associate Professor**

Robert Carter, BA Macq. MAedSt ANU PhD Monash GDipEpi&PopH ANU

**Associate Professor**

Jane Pirkis, BA Tas. MPych Tas. MAppEpi ANU PhD Melb.

**Senior Lecturer**

*Steven Crowley, BAppSc Curtin MSc York MBA Monash GDipDietit Deakin
The Centre for Health Policy, Programs and Economics said farewell to members of the Health Economics Group after Associate Professor Rob Carter took up an appointment as Inaugural Chair in Health Economics at Deakin University. Pictured at the farewell are (from left) Cathy Mihalopoulos, Marj Moodie, Kui Tay-Teo, Michael Otim, Rob Carter, David Dunt and Jane Pirkis.
CIMH
Centre for International Mental Health
School of Population Health
Department of Public Health
Annual Report 2006
The Centre for International Mental Health (CIMH) is dedicated to research, teaching, and policy and service development in the field of mental health, in Australia and internationally. The two broad areas of activity are capacity development for mental health in low-income and post-conflict societies, and development of culturally appropriate mental health services for multicultural societies.

Overview
The Centre was reviewed in 2006. The Review Panel made a strong overarching commendation and tribute to the achievements of the Centre for International Mental Health.

“The Review Panel commends highly the work done by CIMH and its Director, particularly in the post December 2004 tsunami activities in Sri Lanka and Indonesia and in the International Mental Health Leadership Program. These achievements have received international recognition as unique and valuable ... outstanding work, which brings recognition and credit to the Faculty of MDHS and the University of Melbourne ...”

During 2006 the Centre played a key role in translating post-tsunami relief efforts into longer-term mental health system development programs in Aceh, Indonesia, and in Sri Lanka. Funding from World Vision Australia has enabled substantial mental health development projects to be undertaken.

The Centre Director, Harry Minas, was appointed by the Director-General of the World Health Organisation to the WHO Expert Advisory Panel on Mental Health.

Learning and teaching
During 2006 the following students completed their study at the CIMH:

PhD
Ahmed Munib – the effects of immigration and resettlement on the mental health of South-Asian communities in Melbourne.

Masters
Anita Gupta – cross-cultural competencies in practicing psychologists

Advanced Medical Sciences (AMS) Research Projects
Nik Isahak – they come to CCT for a life intervention: organizational processes in a mental health service continuing care team and relationship with responsiveness to cultural diversity.

Jane Carter – knowing the “middle bit”: an exploration of the organizational dynamics and responsiveness to cultural diversity of a psychiatric inpatient unit.

Maggie Chua – what is the interplay between organisational dynamics and responsiveness to cultural diversity in a mobile support and treatment service?

Claire Steiner – “it's a lifestyle choice to work on a cat team”: An investigation into organizational processes in a mental health team and responses to cultural diversity among their clients.

Michelle Foong – profile of needs in a new community mental health service in Kuala Lumpur.

MIMH – Master of International Mental Health
This postgraduate degree program is a response to the global need for strengthened capacity in mental health policy, service development and health systems research. The program has been running for four years and has been offered to students both internationally and locally. In 2006 three students enrolled in the MIMH. One of the students, from Samoa, had been a fellow in a previous iMHLP. There has also been an increase in the number of students enrolling in single subjects – most of these students are enrolled in the MPH course. The Global Mental Health Development subject has seen an increase in popularity and in 2006 the course had an enrolment of eight MPH students as well as MIMH and iMHLP students participating in the week long subject.

The following non-award courses were offered during 2006:

iMHLP–International Mental Health Leadership Program
iMHLP commenced in 2001 and is a leadership training program and a global network of mental health professionals committed to mental health system development. One of the key benefits of participation in the program is the opportunity to engage with the issues and people at the forefront of international mental health today. The iMHLP is a global network of Fellows, alumni and international faculty in dialogue and collaborating on mental health reform across diverse societies. The network of iMHLP Fellows and mentors is strong in East Asia and the Pacific. In 2006 the iMHLP course was run during September and 12 fellows from Vietnam, Japan, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Samoa participated in the course.

ausMHLP–Australian Mental Health Leadership Program
A one-year unrestricted educational grant of $A250,000 was obtained from Eli Lilly Australia allowing the successful delivery of a second year
Publication highlight
Folk concepts of mental disorders among Chinese-Australian patients and their caregivers. Hsiao FH, Klimidis S, Minas Hi, Ton ES. Department of Nursing, Taipei Medical University, Taipei, Taiwan, China.
This project continues the Centre’s long-standing commitment to improving the capacity of Australian health services to respond appropriately to diversity within the general population.
Experiments how social and cultural knowledge about mental illness influences the way Chinese-Australian patients and caregivers understand and explain patients’ problems.
We knew previously that patients and their caregivers often did not consider mental health problems to be mental illness and therefore were not inclined to use Western mental health services. A key finding of our project was that Chinese-Australians combined traditional knowledge with Western medical knowledge to develop their own labels for mental disorders.
Among our conclusions was that educational programs to introduce Chinese immigrants to psychiatric services could be made more effective if the designers took into account Chinese understanding of mental illness.
The implications of this study, however, are even broader in terms of the way all clinicians approach their treatment of patients across the culturally diverse, general population. Put simply, effective relationships between clinicians and their patients rely on the development of a common language to address health problems, be they mental or physical.
The research suggests that a greater sensitivity to the variety of beliefs on health and illness held across the community is needed to inform undergraduate health training, continuing professional education for clinicians and the way health policy and services are designed.
For more publication highlights, see page 76.

Community activities
Harry Minas continued to make a contribution to the reform of Australia’s immigration detention system through membership of the Ministerial advisory committee, the Immigration Detention Advisory Group, and through being invited by the Department of Immigration to chair the newly established Detention Health Advisory Group.

Key Achievements

Conferences and public presentations
In 2006 the Centre for International Mental Health, School of Population Health, held seminars on a regular basis with distinguished guest speakers from Australia and abroad. The International Mental Health Seminar Series help to keep staff, students and the interested public informed about current issues and research in the area of international and transcultural mental health and related fields, with a special theme for 2006 on health, peace and conflict. Seminars have been extremely well attended by a diverse range of staff and students across faculties and from a vibrant cross-section of private and public sector organisations and community groups.

Seminars
Seminars in 2006 included:
- Peace, Conflict & Development: An Emerging Paradigm for Development Workers, presented by Steve Darvill, Humanitarian/Peace-Conflict Adviser, AusAID.
- “Depression” or “Thinking too much”? Concepts of mental illness in the Somali community in Melbourne, presented by Dr Marion Bailes.
- Developments in mental health in Cambodia, presented by Dr Chhit Sophal, Cambodia.
- Mental Health Development Issues in Sri Lanka, presented by Dr Chandanie Hewage and Dr Jayan Mendis, Sri Lanka.

Keynote Addresses
Taiwan Public Health Association Conference, Taipei, Taiwan, 19 October 2006, Mental health system reform in Australia: La lotta continua.
Pacific-Rim Mental Health Policy Workshop, College of Medicine, National Taiwan University, Taipei and Hualien, Taiwan, 5 October 2006:
1 Leadership for mental health system development.

Research
Centre staff are collaborating with colleagues from Victoria University in a major new program of research ($5.65 million over five years) – D2West: Diversity and diabetes in the Western Suburbs of Melbourne. The focus of the CIMH contribution to this work is on depression and diabetes.

(2006-07) of the Australian Mental Health Leadership Program (ausMHLP) following a well received pilot in 2005-06. ausMHLP is offered as a nine-month, part-time professional development program to early career psychiatrists and senior psychiatry trainees engaged in full-time work in Australia. It comprises a mix of seminars, interactive workshops, social events and project work and aims to engender a cohort of Australian psychiatrists better able to lead mental health debate and change in the future. The program is a modification of the International Mental Health Leadership Program and is run in collaboration with Barwon Health, the Brain and Mind Institute (University of Sydney), the Queensland Centre for Mental Health Research (University of Queensland) and the Department of Psychiatry (University of Melbourne).

2 Social determinants of mental health, and social context for mental health system development.
3 Mental health system research.


Invited Lectures
Indonesian Association of Psychiatrists Schizophrenia Congress, Batam, Indonesia, 18 November 2006, The importance of mental health policy research in improving quality of life of people with schizophrenia.
Philippine Psychiatric Association. 32nd Annual Convention, Manila, 24 January 2006, Reforms and Transformations of Mental Hospitals from a Global Perspective.

Official launch of WHO/ AJSRAP Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Suicide Prevention, Griffith University, 2 March 2006, The Centre for International Mental Health.

Seoul International Mental Health Conference, Seoul, South Korea, 21-22 March
2006, The role of mental health professionals in response to disaster: Experiences from the tsunami, Aceh, Indonesia.

Conference Papers
41st RANZCP Congress, Perth, 28 May 2006:
1 The need for leadership capacity building in the Australian mental health workforce.
2 A proposal for a College Advanced Training Stream in leadership and management.


Publication highlights
For a full list of publications, see the 2006 Publications Report, page 89.

Cultural attribution of mental health suffering in Chinese societies: the views of Chinese patients with mental illness and their caregivers.

Hsiao FH, Klimidis S, Minas H, Tan ES. College of Nursing, Wan Fang Hospital, Taipei Medical University, Taiwan.

The results of this study contribute to essential knowledge for culturally appropriate nursing practices. An understanding of patient suffering that is shaped by traditional cultural values helps nurses communicate empathy in a culturally sensitive manner to facilitate the therapeutic relationship and clinical outcomes.

Mental health research, ethics and multiculturalism.

Bailes MJ, Minas IH, Klimidis S. Centre for International Mental Health, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne.

This paper examines ethical issues relevant to conducting mental health research with refugees and immigrant communities that have cultural orientations and social organisation that are substantially different to those of the broader Australian society, and relate these issues to NH&MRC Guidelines.

Ethnic minority community patients and the Better Outcomes in Mental Health Care initiative. Klimidis S, Minas H, Kokanovic R. Centre for International Mental Health, School of Population Health, The University of Melbourne and Victorian Transcultural Psychiatry, St Vincent’s Hospital Melbourne.

This study compared general practitioners registered under the Better Outcomes in Mental Health Care initiative and those not registered, in addressing mental disorders in members of ethnic minority communities. The impacts of the Better Outcomes initiative appear to be modest in relation to minority patients with mental disorders, and the program may require additional strategies for its application to minority communities, especially for patient engagement in mental health assessment and treatment.

A comparative study of sertraline dosages, plasma concentrations, efficacy and adverse reactions in Chinese versus Caucasian patients.

Hong Ng C, Norman TR, Naing KO, Schweitzer I, Kong Wai Ho B, Fan A, Klimidis S. Department of Psychiatry, University of Melbourne, The Melbourne Clinic and St Vincent’s Mental Health Service, Richmond.

This prospective six-week study examined the differences in dosage and steady state plasma concentrations of sertraline in Chinese versus Caucasian depressed patients. Sertraline was effective and well tolerated in both ethnic groups with few adverse events. Although there was a lack of difference between groups in the pharmacokinetic results, Chinese depressed patients appeared to require lower dosages with consequently lower plasma concentrations of sertraline compared to Caucasian patients to achieve clinical efficacy.

Associate Professor Harry Minas
(3rd from right), in Lhok Nga, Banda Aceh, with staff of the psychiatric hospital.

Staff
Associate Professor and Director
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Melbourne BMedSc
Melbourne DPM Melbourne FRANZCP

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SHU
Sexual Health Unit
School of Population Health
Department of Public Health
Annual Report
2006
The University of Melbourne’s Sexual Health Unit (SHU) is situated at the Melbourne Sexual Health Centre (MSHC) which is also a division of the Bayside Health Network. The vision of the MSHC is to be a leader in the management and prevention of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and its mission is to maximise sexual health through innovation and excellence in public health, education, clinical care and research.

Overview
The Centre has continued to provide high quality care for clients, with a total of 26,718 consultations and 11,580 new clients being registered in 2006. The walk-in triage system remains a rapid catalyst for treating more symptomatic clients than the past appointment system, with 90 percent of clients been seen by a triage nurse in less than 20 minutes and by a practitioner within one hour.

One of its key roles is to support health care providers (e.g. General Practitioners) in diagnosing and treating STIs. MSHC provides extensive support to GPs through various means such as extensive web page and 1800 009 903 telephone number directly to a sexual health physician. The MSHC website (www.mshc.org.au), which is frequently updated, provides a variety of sexual health education and other useful information for both healthcare professionals and the general population.

Learning and Teaching
The Centre has continued to maintain strong research and education activities through The University of Melbourne’s School of Population Health. In collaboration with the School of Population Health the Centre has developed a number of postgraduate courses, postgraduate subjects and short courses in sexual health. These have been well-attended and will provide the Victorian community with a highly trained workforce that improves the quality of sexual health services outside the Centre.

MSHC Statistics

2006 SERVICES AND CONSULTATIONS
(the number of consultations by type of service)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinic Type</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Transgender</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Clinic</td>
<td>22,695</td>
<td>12,739</td>
<td>9,939</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV Clinic</td>
<td>1,813</td>
<td>1,610</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach</td>
<td>485</td>
<td>393</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counselling</td>
<td>1,028</td>
<td>768</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaccination</td>
<td>697</td>
<td>502</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>26,718</td>
<td>16,012</td>
<td>10,677</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Individuals   | 11,580| 7,111 | 4,455  | 14          |

DIAGNOSES
(The numbers of the most frequently made diagnoses in consultations)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diagnosis</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chlamydia trachomatis</td>
<td>768</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nongonocccal urethritis</td>
<td>774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herpes simplex virus</td>
<td>663</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syphilis</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bacterial vaginosis</td>
<td>496</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warts</td>
<td>1570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human immunodeficiency virus (new cases)</td>
<td>32*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV post exposure prophylaxis</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post coital intervention</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trichomoniasis in women</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* includes 2 females

health subjects as part of their masters degree. These subjects have become increasingly popular and as a result of this, from 2008 there will be a formal Sexual Health Stream within the Masters of Public Health. This will enable students to pursue research projects in Sexual Health as part of their MPH programme.

Post Graduate Certificate of Public Health (Sexual Health)
This course continues to attract students from a variety of professional backgrounds. The PG Certificate has become a valued qualification for both nurses and doctors wanting to specialise in sexual health.

- Semester 1 – Control of Sexually Transmissible Infections 505-431/531.
- Semester 1 - Sexually Transmissible Infections 505-432/532.
Publication highlight

This research continues the Sexual Health Unit’s commitment to supporting general practitioners in their role of treating sexually transmitted infections by providing them with appropriate, easily accessible information.

We surveyed Victorian GPs to determine:
• in what circumstances do they offer chlamydia testing to patients?
• what are their attitudes to contact tracing?
• how often do they use pre-printed partner notification letters and brochures?
• and what proportion can immediately access the Internet in their consulting rooms?

As well, we assessed whether GPs would use a website that provided treatment guidelines, a printable client brochure and a partner letter for clients (index case) to pass on to their exposed sexual partners.

Our survey found that GPs most commonly test patients for chlamydia when signs and symptoms are present, patients report an infected partner or when the patient requests a test.

Women aged under 25 were infrequently tested. Our study identified that GPs expected patients to be responsible for notifying their sexual partners and GPs did not commonly use pre-printed partner letters and brochures.

GPs reported that if they received more support, they could improve partner notification.

When the Melbourne Sexual Health Centre (where the SHU is located) responded to the results of this survey by providing a website that offered appropriate information, up to 25% of GPs involved in this study used it. As a result of this study an extensive website to assist GPs with partner notification has been developed (www.mshc.org.au/gpassist).

For more publication highlights, see below.

Research
The research projects of higher degree candidates enrolled through the School of Population Health are aimed at enhancing the services and promotion of sexual health offered at MSHC.

Postgraduate Courses Completed
Recurrence rate of Bacterial Vaginosis (BV) after treatment with metronidazole over a 12 month period. Catriona Bradshaw, PhD.

Efficacy of current strategies and the role of newer technology in partner notification. Jane Tomnay, PhD.

Screening programs for men who have sex with men (MSM) in male-only saunas and a specialist clinic in Melbourne. Nicky Lister, PhD.

An analysis of Australian chlamydia notification and testing data. Kathleen McNamee, MPH.

In progress

Development of a questionnaire to provide the greatest sensitivity and specificity in detecting non-adherence to antiretroviral therapy used in the management of HIV. Asiyé Doxanakis, MPH.

Using computers to improve sexual history. Robin Tideman, PhD.

An investigation of interventions aimed at enhancing sexual satisfaction in women. Richard Hayes, PhD.

Chlamydia incidence and re-infection rates: a longitudinal study of young Australian women. Jennifer Walker, PhD.

The screening and control of Chlamydia. Jade Bilardi, PhD.

A look at two opposing STI trends in Australia: Increasing HIV and decreasing Trichomonas vaginalis. John Marrone, DPH.

More than just anal sex: the potential for STI transmission among men visiting sex on premises venues in Melbourne. Chee Wun Phang, Advanced Medical Student (AMS).

Invited Presentations
1 Chlamydia screening policy, Centre for Infectious Diseases & Microbiology (CIDM) - Public Health Symposium Series 2006. Westmead Hospital, Sydney, Australia. 2006.


Publication highlights
For a full list of publications, see the 2006 Publications Report, page 89.

Chlamydia is the most common notified sexually transmitted infection (STI) and because the symptoms are so mild, infections often remain undetected. Effective control strategies include improving partner notification and screening of at risk populations. MSHC has continued to address these issues with innovative research as shown in the list of publications below.

Tideman RL, Pitts MK, Fairley CK. Client acceptability of the use of computers in a sexual health clinic. International Journal of STD & AIDS. 2006; 17: 121-123

In the past decade there has been an increase in the use of mobile phones, including SMS, the internet and email. In view of this, a number of studies have been undertaken to determine the use and acceptability of these applications in sexual health services. These include computer-assisted self interview of sexual history which was found to be a practical and constructive
approach to streamlining clinical services.


A case-control study of men with and without symptoms of nongonococcal urethritis (NGU) was conducted and sexual practices were measured by questionnaire. Chlamydia trachomatis (20%), Mycoplasma genitalium (9%), adenoviruses (4%), and Herpes simplex virus type 1 (HSV-1) (2%) were more common in the cases with NGU (n=329). Infection with adenoviruses or HSV-1 was associated with distinct clinical features, oral sex, and male partners, whereas infection with M. genitalium or C. trachomatis was associated with unprotected vaginal sex. Oral sex was associated with NGU in which no pathogen was detected. Adenoviruses and HSV-1 were identified as significant causes of NGU with distinct clinical and behavioral characteristics and highlighted the association between invasive oral sex and NGU.

Research Grants
1 McCarthy TD, Chatsuwan T, Cook IRC, Cooper DA, Denham I, Evans SKG, Fairley CK, Heerey G, Holmes WR, Kaldor JM et al. Microbicide Design & Development Teams. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, National Institutes of Health & Proposal Summary and Data Record (NIH-NIAID-DAIDS-04-04) - $27,607,753. Phase I & II Clinical and Supporting Program for VivaGelTM. $1,000,000
3 Sanci L, Chen M, Sawyer S, Mazza D, Hocking J, Willis M, Henning D, Fairley CK. Development and testing of a tool to identify youth at risk of sexually transmitted infections in primary care. DHS Public Health Research Grant 2006. $91,625

Staff List
Professor of Sexual Health
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Hennie Williams
Post Doctoral Research Fellows
Jane Hocking, PhD (NHMRC)
Marcus Chen, MBBS Melb, DTM&H Lond, DipVen Monash, PhD Syd, MRCP UK FAcHSHM (NHMRC)
Marie Pirotta, MBBS Melb, PhD (NHMRC)
Students
Moshin Sidat, PhD student
Robin Tideman, PhD student (Doctor)
Jennifer Walker, PhD student
Jade Bilardi, PhD student
Rebecca Guy, PhD student
John Marrone, DPH student
The Diabetes Vaccine Development Centre (DVDC) is a joint initiative of the Australian Government's National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and the New York-based Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International (JDRF). Administratively based within the School of Population Health at the University of Melbourne, this $10 million initiative, which commenced in mid-2003, is part of a global coordinated effort to develop a vaccine to prevent the development of type 1 diabetes.

Overview
Type 1 diabetes, also known as juvenile or early onset diabetes, is one of the most costly and chronic of childhood diseases. It is an autoimmune disease in which the body’s own immune system attacks and destroys insulin-producing beta cells in the pancreas. The end result is a lack of insulin in the body. Without the hormone insulin, the cells of the body are unable to use glucose resulting in increases in blood glucose concentration and concomitant significant disease development to many of the body’s organs.

To stay alive, people with type 1 diabetes must test their blood sugar levels and take multiple injections of insulin daily. Even with insulin, this form of diabetes usually results in a drastic reduction in quality of life and shortens the average life span.

An estimated 140,000 people in Australia have type 1 diabetes. The International Diabetes Federation estimates that there are 16 million people with type 1 diabetes worldwide.

Experimental treatments aimed at modulating the immune system in laboratory animal models along with some preliminary clinical trials in small numbers of human volunteers over the past several years have been sufficiently encouraging for there to be a real hope that it may be possible to prevent the development of type 1 diabetes. For example, therapies analogous to vaccination programs traditionally used to prevent the development of a number of infectious diseases have been proposed.

DVDC’s mission is to identify the leading prospects for type 1 diabetes vaccines and to facilitate their development through early stages of clinical trialling such that data generated is sufficiently robust to attract the attention of partners experienced in the large scale development and marketing of vaccines for subsequent sales.

**DVDC bridges the gap between research and commercial product development.**

During 2006, DVDC initiated an Australia-wide Phase II clinical trial (INIT II) of a new preventative treatment for type 1 diabetes for young people at risk of developing type 1 diabetes. If successful, this treatment could prevent type 1 diabetes and thus the need for daily insulin injections.

An earlier stage (Phase I) study aimed at determining the safety profile of a novel peptide-based vaccine and being developed through investigators in the UK was also supported by DVDC through 2006.

On the operational side of the ledger, DVDC underwent an exhaustive externally managed Administrative Review, as had been recommended following a technical review the previous year. The outcome of the Administrative Review was that DVDC should move out of the university environment to a more focused location such as that provided by a medical research institute with a research and development philosophy more closely aligned with that of DVDC. Towards the end of 2006, a short-list of three such research institutes had been identified, again with input from facilitators external to DVDC. Thus, DVDC’s association with the School of Population Health was drawing to a close by the end of 2006.

**Scientific Program**

During 2006, DVDC consolidated its scientific program that had been established during 2004/5 following extensive global searches for projects applicable to DVDC’s mission and their subsequent reviews by high-ranking experts in the fields of diabetes, immunology and vaccine development. The intranasal insulin trial (INIT II), which originated at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, Melbourne, is DVDC’s most advanced project. This involves a large Phase II clinical trial to test the impact of delivering insulin via an intranasal route to individuals identified as being at risk of developing type 1 diabetes. The second (PI Peptide Vaccine) is an approach proposed by investigators at the University of Bristol and King’s College, London, UK. This is a Phase I safety and immunogenicity study. Following review, other projects were also deemed appropriate for DVDC to support during 2006. These are earlier stage projects and will be described in more detail following completion of experiments required to be undertaken prior to testing the respective compounds proposed as type 1 diabetes vaccines in clinical trials (post 2006).

(i) INIT II

The principal investigators for INIT II are Prof. Len Harrison (Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research) and Dr Peter Colman (Royal Melbourne Hospital). Provisional approval to commence the trial was received from the Royal Melbourne Hospital Ethics Committee in December 2005, with formal
that success the INIT II trial type 1 diabetes. Based on young adults at risk of an immune effect resulting acceptable safety profile and preclinical and early stage has shown promise in both immunotherapy approach against type 1 diabetes. This thus acting as a vaccine induce protective immunity, of intranasal insulin can that the administration of good manufacturing practice – GMP, the study was officially launched by the Federal Health Minister, Mr Tony Abbott, in December 2006. INIT II is a multi-centre, randomised, double-blind, placebo controlled trial which will determine whether intranasal administration of insulin to children and young adults at risk of type 1 diabetes will delay or prevent the onset of type 1 diabetes. There is significant evidence suggesting that the administration of intranasal insulin can induce protective immunity, thus acting as a vaccine against type 1 diabetes. This immunotherapy approach has shown promise in both preclinical and early stage clinical testing (INIT I). The INIT I trial demonstrated an acceptable safety profile and an immune effect resulting from the administration of intranasal insulin in children and young adults at risk of type 1 diabetes. Based on that success the INIT II trial will test the efficacy and assist in finding a suitable dose range in a larger population. Recruitment for INIT II is ongoing and it is hoped that 300 children and young adults will take part in the trial. The participants will be identified by screening over 20,000 people aged between four and 30 who have a blood relative suffering from type 1 diabetes. The screening process will select patients who are considered to be at high risk of developing type 1 diabetes due to the presence of two or more specific antibodies in their bloodstream. Patients taking part in the trial will self-administer the insulin solution or placebo using a nasal spray every morning for seven consecutive days and then once a week for 12 months. The patients will be monitored for a further four years after completing the 12-month trial.

Eligibility to participate in this trial
A person will be eligible to enter the trial if they have a first-degree relative (mother or father, brother or sister, son or daughter) or a second-degree relative (grandmother or grandfather, aunt or uncle, niece or nephew, half-sister or half-brother) with type 1 diabetes; are aged between four and 30 years; and have a positive blood test for antibodies against antigens expressed by their pancreatic beta cells (autoantigens). Genes play a significant role in type 1 diabetes. People with a close family member with type 1 diabetes have a 10-15 times greater risk of developing the disease than those without. The immune damage to the beta cells that results in type 1 diabetes is thought to begin months to years before the lack of insulin causes symptoms. In order to find approximately 300 high-risk participants for the trial, over 20,000 first and second-degree relatives of people with type 1 diabetes need to be screened for antibodies against components of their beta cells. This is because only about two percent of family members will have a high enough risk of diabetes to be eligible to enter the trial. The Staging Phase will commence if a participant is found to have antibodies to a number of beta cell autoantigens. The small proportion of people who are eligible for this phase will receive further blood tests to see how their body handles glucose and how much insulin they make. These tests will refine the level of risk which the person has of developing type 1 diabetes.

The trial is taking place at a number of centres across Australia and New Zealand. By the end of 2006, the following centres had agreed to participate in the trial: Mater Children’s Hospital, Brisbane, Royal Women’s Hospital, Adelaide, Princess Margaret Hospital, Perth, Royal Melbourne Hospital, Auckland City Hospital, New Zealand and Christchurch Hospital, New Zealand. A further three hospitals based in Sydney and Canberra are expected to become active trial sites in the coming months. For more information on the trial and to establish eligibility an INIT II Call Centre managed by Diabetes Australia – Victoria has been established and is operational on the toll-free number: 1300 138 712. (i) PI Peptide Vaccine Trial
This study involves the administration of T cell binding peptides that have been implicated in the onset of type 1 diabetes. T cell assays are then used to monitor the outcome of the immunotherapy. The first phase of this project is a safety study using a single peptide. Assuming this proves to be safe and generates an appropriate immune response, other peptides are proposed to be used in combination.
The principal investigators for this trial are Dr Colin Dayan (Bristol University) and Dr Mark Peakman (King’s College, London).

Through 2005, a batch of peptide of suitable quality and quantity for testing in humans was prepared and dispatched to the investigators in the UK. Following further preclinical testing in a transgenic mouse model, where the peptide was shown to be non-toxic and subsequent approval of clinical trial protocols by relevant ethics committees, first injections into patients commenced in February 2006.

The study design involves four cohorts of subjects with long-standing type 1 diabetes. One group receives no injections while the others receive one of three increasing doses of peptide delivered intradermally. Through 2006, 24 subjects completed both vaccine administration and a full six-month follow-up for the lowest dose or were enrolled in the untreated arm. No serious adverse reactions were recorded in any of the subjects. Some preliminary immunological data, showing that there had been an apparent response to the vaccine in at least some of the subjects has been obtained. These data are being followed up along with data now being generated from the higher dose groups that are participating in the study through 2007.

All data from the study is anticipated to be available for analysis towards the end of 2007, when a decision on future directions for this approach will be made.

(iii) Other Projects

Other projects that DVDC has been either directly or indirectly involved in will be described in subsequent reports.

Teaching and Academic Activities

The Chief Executive Officer, Dr David Irving, delivered the following lecture to students undertaking the University of Melbourne’s Postgraduate Diploma in Drug Evaluation & Pharmaceutical Sciences: Semester II 2006: Pharmaceutics, Biotechnology and Statistics DNA Technology – Principles and applications of recombinant DNA technology for pharmaceutical production.

Community and Professional Involvement

Dr Irving has continued as a Director of AusBiotech Ltd (Australia’s national biotechnology industry organisation), being re-elected to the Board in November 2005.

Dr Irving attended various local and international meetings and conferences through the reporting period, including FOCIS 2006 (the Federation of Clinical Immunological Societies) in San Francisco in June 2006; BIO2006 in Chicago in April 2006, and AusBiotech 2006, the National Conference of the Australian biotechnology industry, which was held in Sydney in November 2006.

Major Collaborations

As per Scientific Program above

Staff

Chief Executive Officer
David O. Irving, PhD, GAICD

Centre Liaison Manager
Mary Joy Gleeson (until June, 2006)

Executive Assistant
Sarah Thyssen (part-time casual from September 2006)
The Vaccine and Immunisation Research Group operates as a research collaboration with the Murdoch Childrens Research Institute with our staff based in the School of Population Health. Research focuses on clinical trials of new vaccines, mathematical modelling of vaccine-preventable diseases (VPDs), the epidemiology of vaccine-preventable viral diseases, and the evaluation of immunisation programs. VIRG contributes to the NHMRC National Capacity Building Program in Mathematical Modelling in Infectious Diseases, and works closely with the NHMRC Centre for Clinical Research Excellence in Immunisation (MCRI and University of Melbourne consortium).

Research

Vaccine clinical trials

1: Phase I clinical trial of a pandemic influenza (H5N1) candidate vaccine in 200 healthy adults aged 18-45 years. The purpose of this study is to identify a vaccine that may prevent the spread of “bird” (or avian) flu in the event of a human pandemic and to determine which of the four different formulations produces the best immune response. In 2006 we conducted a third (booster) dose evaluation. The results of this study will be integral to the production of the vaccine that could protect the Australian population in the event of a human influenza pandemic.

2: Phase II clinical trial of a pandemic influenza (H5N1) candidate vaccine. This study extended the Phase I trial to evaluate safety and immunogenicity (immune response) with higher antigen doses (30 mcg and 45mcg) of adjuvanted vaccine in 200 healthy adults aged between 18-64 years. In addition, a third study of this vaccine was initiated in children aged between 6 months and 8 years.

3: Phase III clinical trials of a combined Hib meningococcal serogroup C and Y conjugate vaccine in a total of 1220 infants. The purpose of this study is to provide data on the immunogenicity and safety of a primary vaccination course with this new vaccine.

4: Phase IV clinical trial of inactivated influenza vaccine in 250 children, with a booster dose in year 2 following a 2-dose primary course in the previous year.

Mathematical modelling

Mathematical modelling of the spread of infectious disease and possible epidemics is used to gain insights into potential public health interventions ranging from vaccines to community interventions such as border control measures and school and business closures. As part of an NHMRC-funded national network for infectious disease modelling (scientists from mathematics, medicine, public health and health policy backgrounds), our studies have focussed principally this year on pandemic influenza. With additional Department of Health and Ageing and NHMRC funding, we conducted studies on public health interventions for an influenza pandemic (border control, antivirals, social distancing including school closure), and established an historical database of clinical and other records from Australia, UK and elsewhere in Europe and the US. (see http://influenza.sph.unimelb.edu.au). Models have also been used to explore the 1918 ‘Spanish flu’ pandemic to try to better understand the role of poor immunity and asymptomatic infection.

Epidemiologic research

In collaboration with the University of Queensland, our studies continue on a community sample of families looking at the incidence of common and newly discovered respiratory viruses, including a novel human coronavirus, bocavirus and human metapneumovirus.

Evaluation of immunisation and screening programs

This program of research includes continuing studies to evaluate the effectiveness of screening for chlamydia infection; evaluation of the prevention by conjugate pneumococcal vaccine of severe pneumonia in Australian Aboriginal children in the Northern Territory; and studies of the effectiveness of polysaccharide pneumococcal vaccine and inactivated influenza vaccine in preventing hospital admissions due to community-acquired pneumonia.

Major presentations


Professor Terry Nolan: Safety and immunogenicity of concurrent live attenuated influenza vaccine (FluMist®) with Measles-Mumps-Rubella and varicella vaccines in
Publication highlight


The efficacy of the vaccine recently marketed as Gardasil was proven through a large-scale trial involving women aged 16-23 years. This pivotal trial established that this HPV (human papilloma virus) vaccine prevents the development of pre-malignant conditions that lead to cervical cancer.

Our research aimed to bridge these efficacy findings in young women to also apply to pre-adolescent and adolescent girls and (eventually) boys, the key target group for this vaccine because the vaccine can only be effective if given before HPV is acquired through sexual activity.

Jointly with collaborators in the US and Europe, we conducted a safety and immunogenicity study in 506 girls and 510 boys (10 to 15 years of age) and a comparison group of 513 women (16 to 23 years of age) to show that the antibody levels generated were the same or higher than achieved in young women which were sufficient to prevent pre-malignant cervix changes.

This large ‘bridging’ study showed that the vaccine induced antibody levels in children that were up to double the levels recorded in the adult comparison group composed of women in the same age group as in the pivotal trial.

This higher level of antibodies also suggests that if the vaccine is administered at a younger age, a booster dose is less likely to be necessary.

Our findings were used to support the subsequently implemented national program in Australia and elsewhere around the world to focus vaccine campaigns on females between the ages of 10-13 years of age.

It also supports extending vaccination to include boys with the aim both of preventing the spread of HPV infections and also protecting boys against the HPV-related cancers that can occur in later in life.

For more publication highlights, see below.

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infants 12 to 15 months of age. Presented at the Pediatric Academic Societies Annual Scientific Conference, San Francisco, USA.


Chris McCaw: Learning from the past – An on-line historical database to inform mathematical modelling of influenza, Australasian Epidemiology Association Annual Conference, Melbourne, Australia.

James M. McCaw: R0 and Influenza. Presented at Australasian Epidemiology Association Annual Conference, Melbourne, Australia.

James McCaw: Optimal use of an antiviral stockpile during an influenza pandemic. Presented at Australasian Society of Infectious Diseases Annual Scientific Meeting, Wellington, NZ.

Dr Jodie McVernon: Understanding the impact of Hib conjugate vaccine on transmission, immunity and disease in the United Kingdom. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the European Society for Paediatric Infectious Diseases, Basel, Switzerland.


Regan D, Philp D, Hocking J, Law M: Modelling the impact of a vaccine on HPV transmission in Australia. Presented at The International Papillomavirus Conference IPV, Prague.

Hocking J: Modelling the impact of a vaccine on HPV transmission in Australia. Presented at 10th PHAA Immunisation Conference Sydney.

Publication highlights

For a full list of publications, see the 2006 Publications report, page 89.


In a multicenter study, 1084 healthy children aged 11-25 months were allocated to 5 treatment groups based on age and previous vaccination history. Immune responses were measured at baseline and 30 days after vaccine doses, and solicited and unsolicited adverse events were collected. After 2 doses of HAV (hepatitis A virus) vaccine, all subjects in all groups were seropositive. Co-administration of HAV vaccine with DTaP and Hib vaccines did not impact the immunogenicity of the three vaccines. HAV vaccine was well tolerated in children 11-25 months of age. We concluded that the administration of 2 doses of HAV vaccine on a 0- and 6-month schedule starting at 11-13 months of age or at 15-18 months of age was as immunogenic and well tolerated as the administration of 2 doses in children 2 years of age.


Waning Hib vaccine effectiveness in the UK in the late 1990s was evidenced by a rise in invasive disease, including epiglottitis. Population trends in microbiologically confirmed child and adult
cases of Hib epiglottitis in England were reviewed, and compared with hospital admissions for acute upper airway infection. Both data sources described a marked reduction in paediatric disease following Hib vaccine implementation with resurgence in 2001. No similar correlation with adult inpatient episodes was observed, consistent with a more diverse aetiology of epiglottitis. The need for a high index of suspicion for this life threatening diagnosis was reinforced.


To compare general practitioner (GP) response to a telephone interview with response to a postal survey with three reminders in a randomised controlled trial. GPs were randomly assigned to either a telephone interview or a postal survey. GPs in the telephone group were mailed a letter of invitation and asked to undertake a telephone interview. GPs in the postal group were mailed a letter of invitation and questionnaire. Non-responders were sent up to three reminders, the final by registered post. Response rates were calculated for each group. These results show that postal surveys with three reminders can have superior response rates compared with a telephone interview.

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A: Books

A1: Authored Research Books
- Genat, W. 2006, Aboriginal healthworkers: Primary health care at the margins, University of Western Australia Press, Perth.

A2: Edited Books

B1: Research Book Chapters

B: Journal Articles

C: Journal Articles Referreed


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Manser, L., Wright, G., Byrnes, G., Hart, D., Conron,


• Phillips, K., Jenkins, M., Lindeman, G., McLachlan, S.,


Smith, P., McGuffog, L, Easton, D. F., Mann, G.


C2: Journal Articles

Unrefereed


C3: Journal Articles

Unrefereed Letters or Notes


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• Swinburn, B., Carter, R., Haby, M., Mowles, M., Bell, A. & Simmons, A. 2006, Obesity prevention—Selecting the best investments, Report No. 1 for WHO—Europe, Deakin University, Burwood, Vic.


• West, R. A. 2006, Funding and operation of the Commonwealth State/Territory Disability Agreement, Standing Committee and Community Affairs, Australian Senate, Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra.

G5: Minor Reports and Working Papers


• Szesko, H. & Kirkman, M. 2006, Telling donor-conceived people about their conception, Infertility Treatment Authority, Melbourne.

• Tran, T. & Fisher, J. 2006, Report of the strategic review
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R11: RHD Theses Passed

- Hester Moore, J. S. 2006. Going with the flow: Enacting fluidity in contraceptive and menstrual decision making.
- Kristyanti, J. R. 2006. Understanding the dynamics of violence and exploring the potential application of logotherapy for women survivors of domestic violence in Indonesia.
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- Bennett, N. J. 2006. The development and evaluation of the Victorian Hospital Acquired Infection Surveillance Program (VICHISIS) for ‘smaller’ public acute hospitals.
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- Williams, R. L. 2006, Shifting the gaze to the other: Cultural safety and curricula in universities.
- Wium, C. 2006, An economic evaluation of health initiatives funded by private enterprise within a developing economy.
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