



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

SPH

School of Population Health

Department of Public Health

Annual Report

2006



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



**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."

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 Report

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 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 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, Berkley. 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, Berkley. 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 American 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

Staff Numbers (excl casual)	Academic	Professional	Total
School Executive/ Administration	1	11	12
Centre for Molecular, Environmental, Genetic & Analytic Epidemiology	23	10	33
Centre for International Mental Health	3	2	5
Centre for Health and Society	23	8	31
Diabetes Vaccine Development Centre	0	2	2
Key Centre for Women's Health in Society	19	4	23
Centre for Health Policy, Programs & Economics	26	2	28
Sexual Health Unit	5	2	7
McCaughey Centre: VicHealth Centre for Promotion of Mental Health and Community Wellbeing	8	2	10
Vaccine & Immunisation Research Group	5	0	5
TOTAL	113	43	156

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	Chairperson
Executive	Professor Terry Nolan
Strategic Planning	Professor Terry Nolan
Growing Esteem Implementation	Professor Ian Anderson
Communication	Leanne Taylor
Finance and Resources	Professor Terry Nolan
Information Technology	Dr David Irving
School Managers	Leanne Taylor
Environment, Health and Safety	Professor Terry Nolan
Social Affairs	Jennifer Burchill

Academic	Chairperson
Higher Degree Research	A/Prof Jane Fisher
Postgraduate Studies	Dr Catherine Bennett
Undergraduate Studies	A/Prof Marilyns Guillemin
Research	Professor Terry Nolan
Health Ethics Advisory Group	Dr Mark Jenkins

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.

COURSE LEVEL & FACULTY/COURSE NAME	Enrolments					
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
DPubHlth	3	6	7	7	4	4
MASTERS BY RESEARCH						
MPubHlth		-	2	4	4	3
MSocHlth			2	4	5	2
MWomensHlth	4	3	2	3	5	5
MASTERS BY COURSEWORK						
MBioStat		10	16	20	29	31
MEpid	7	11	4	5	4	19
MHlthEth	5	6	2			
MIMH			11	3	4	5
MMedAnthr	4	4				
MPubHlth	74	85	118	125	169	202
MSocHlth			10	17	28	37
MMed(Women's Health)				2	1	1
MWomensHealth	5	7	11	13	8	11
POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMAS						
GDipHlthCareHist	3	2	1	1		
GDipHlthEth	2	2	1			
GDipHlthProm	2	3	1			
GDipMedAnthr	1	2				
GDipSocHlth			11	16	12	10
PGDipBioStat				10	17	25
GDipBioStat		3	5	2		
PGDipEpid				9	19	12
GDipEpid&Biostat	42	41	27	8		
PGDipWH		-	-	3	6	3
GDipWomHlth	15	16	3			
POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATES						
GCertHlthServRsrch&Eval	9	12	10	4	2	
PGCertBioStat				7	7	8
GCertBioStat		2				
PGCertPubHlth(SexHlth)				22	22	
TOTAL	176	215	244	285	346	404

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)

Subject Title	Centre/Unit	Total Students Enrolled	Total Forms	Mean
Health, Ethics & Society	CHS	9	8	4.8
Culture, Health & Illness	CHS	15	14	3.6
Clinical Epidemiology & EBM	MEGA	14	9	3.4
Advanced Epidemiology - Special Topics	MEGA	11	8	3.6
Determinants of Women's Health	KCWHS	17	14	4.7
Research Methodology	KCWHS	9	7	4.7
Priority Issues in Women's Health	KCWHS	7	6	4.5
Control of Sexually Transmissible Infections	SHU	14	10	4.6
Sexually Transmissible Infections	SHU	11	7	4.6
Clinical & Sexual Reproductive Hlth for Nurses	SHU	17	6	4.8
Policy Processes in Aboriginal Health	CHS	10	10	4.4
Living Longer: Global Perspectives	CHS	8	8	4.4
Health Program Evaluation 1	PEU	29	25	4.7
Health Services Research 1	PEU	4	3	4.0
International Adolescent Health	AIHI	19	18	4.1
Economic Evaluation 1	PEU	14	7	4.1
Health Economics 1	PEU	10	9	4.9
Principles of Research Design	CHS	22	20	4.8

Subject Title	Centre/Unit	Total Students Enrolled	Total Forms	Mean
Research Methods in Social Health	CHS	10	10	4.6
Infectious Disease Epidemiology	MEGA	30	28	4.6
Research Project Development	KCWHS	9	9	4.4
Psychological Practice in Women's Health	KCWHS	10	9	4.6
Primary Health Care, Jamkhed, India	AIHI	8	5	4.6
Epidemiology & Analytic Methods 1	MEGA	34	33	4.4
Epidemiology & Analytic Methods 2	MEGA	31	30	4.4
Study Design in Epidemiology	MEGA	27	24	4.4

Question 9: "Overall I was satisfied with the quality of the learning experience in the subject." (score range 1 - 5)

Subject Title	Centre/Unit	Total Students Enrolled	Total Forms	Mean
Health, Ethics & Society	CHS	9	8	4.5
Culture, Health & Illness	CHS	15	14	3.6
Clinical Epidemiology & EBM	MEGA	14	9	3.0
Advanced Epidemiology - Special Topics	MEGA	11	8	3.1
Determinants of Women's Health	KCWHS	17	14	4.8
Research Methodology	KCWHS	9	7	4.7
Priority Issues in Women's Health	KCWHS	7	6	4.3
Control of Sexually Transmissible Infections	SHU	14	10	4.6
Sexually Transmissible Infections	SHU	11	7	4.3
Clinical & Sexual Reproductive Health for Nurses	SHU	17	6	4.8
Policy Processes in Aboriginal Health	CHS	10	10	4.6
Living Longer: Global Perspectives	CHS	8	8	4.4
Health Program Evaluation 1	PEU	29	25	4.6
Health Services Research 1	PEU	4	3	4.3
International Adolescent Health	AIHI	19	18	3.8
Economic Evaluation 1	PEU	14	7	4.3
Health Economics 1	PEU	10	9	4.9
Principles of Research Design	CHS	22	20	4.7
Research Methods in Social Health	CHS	10	10	4.7
Infectious Disease Epidemiology	MEGA	30	28	4.5
Research Project Development	KCWHS	9	9	4.6
Psychological Practice in Women's Health	KCWHS	10	9	4.6
Primary Health Care, Jamkhed, India	AIHI	8	5	5.0
Epidemiology & Analytic Methods 1	MEGA	34	33	4.4
Epidemiology & Analytic Methods 2	MEGA	31	30	4.4
Study Design in Epidemiology	MEGA	27	24	4.3

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)

Subject Title	Centre/Unit	Total Students Enrolled	Total Forms	Mean
Mental Health Policy Development#	CIMH	4	2	4.0
Environmental Health Services Evaluation	PEU	4	4	4.3
Research: Methods, Ethics and Uses#	CIMH	5	2	3.5
Research Project in Women's Health	KCWHS	7	3	4.0
Health Effects of Violence Against Women	KCWHS	7	5	4.6
Current Issues in Health Ethics	CHS	7	7	4.9
Policy Processes in Aboriginal Health	CHS	8	2	4.5
Community: Theory and Practice	CHS	8	4	4.3
Economic Evaluation 2	PEU	8	6	4.5
Key Perspectives in Medical Anthropology	CHS	8	7	4.3
Research Project in Health Program Evaln	PEU	9	2	4.5
Koori Heath: Past to Present	CHS	9	9	4.6
Global Health Impacts of Drug Use	Burnet	10	10	4.4
Database Systems in Epidemiology Studies	MEGA	10	6	4.0
Infectious Diseases Epi - Special Topics	MEGA	10	8	4.8
Primary Health Care (Jamkhed, India)	AIHI	10	8	3.9
Research Methodology	KCWHS	11	10	4.9
Global Mental Health Development#	CIMH	11	10	4.1
Key Concepts in Social Health	CHS	12	12	4.6
Epidemiology in Practice	MEGA	13	13	4.6
Research Project in Epidemiology/Biostat	MEGA	13	4	3.8
Sexual Function and Dysfunction	SHU	13	8	4.5
Genetic Epidemiology	MEGA	13	9	4.8
Using Evaluation in Program Design	PEU	14	14	4.7
Sexual and Reproductive Health	SHU	16	11	4.7
Health Program Evaluation 2	PEU	16	13	4.5
Harm Reduction - HIV in Drug Users	Burnet	16	16	4.1
Research Project in International Health	AIHI	16	7	4.3
Reproductive Hlth & Reproductive Rights	KCWHS	17	13	4.2
Women's Health in Asia and the Pacific	KCWHS	19	15	3.9
Disability in Developing Countries	AIHI	20	19	4.6
Women's Health Promotion and Evaluation	KCWHS	20	19	4.8
International Child Health	AIHI	26	25	4.5
Survival Analysis & Regression for Rates	MEGA	33	30	3.7
Linear & Logistic Regression	MEGA	44	42	3.8

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

Subject Title	Centre/Unit	Total Students Enrolled	Total Forms	Mean
Key Perspectives in Medical Anthropology	CHS	8	7	4.4
Current Issues in Health Ethics	CHS	7	7	4.9
Key Concepts in Social Health	CHS	12	12	4.5
Database Systems in Epidemiology Studies	MEGA	10	6	4.0
Reproductive Hlth & Reproductive Rights	KCWHS	17	13	4.2
Research Methodology	KCWHS	11	10	4.9
Women's Health in Asia and the Pacific	KCWHS	19	15	3.9
Health Effects of Violence Against Women	KCWHS	7	5	4.6
Sexual and Reproductive Health	SHU	16	11	4.6
Koori Heath: Past to Present	CHS	9	9	4.6
Community: Theory and Practice	CHS	8	4	4.5
Sexual Function and Dysfunction	SHU	13	8	4.9
International Child Health	AIHI	26	25	4.4
Disability in Developing Countries	AIHI	20	19	4.4
Research Project in International Health	AIHI	16	7	4.3
Health Program Evaluation 2	PEU	16	13	4.3
Research Project in Health Program Evaln	PEU	9	2	5.0
Economic Evaluation 2	PEU	8	6	4.3
Global Mental Health Development#	CIMH	11	10	4.0
Mental Health Policy Development#	CIMH	4	2	3.0
Research: Methods, Ethics and Uses#	CIMH	5	2	3.0
Research Project in Epidemiology/Biostat	MEGA	13	4	4.3
Genetic Epidemiology	MEGA	13	9	4.8
Infectious Diseases Epi - Special Topics	MEGA	10	8	4.5
Research Project in Women's Health	KCWHS	7	3	4.3
Women's Health Promotion and Evaluation	KCWHS	20	19	4.7
Harm Reduction - HIV in Drug Users	Burnet	16	16	4.3
Global Health Impacts of Drug Use	Burnet	10	10	4.3
Primary Health Care (Jamkhed, India)	AIHI	10	8	4.1
Environmental Health Services Evaluation	PEU	4	4	4.5
Using Evaluation in Program Design	PEU	14	14	4.5
Linear & Logistic Regression	MEGA	44	42	3.7
Survival Analysis & Regression for Rates	MEGA	33	30	3.8
Epidemiology in Practice	MEGA	13	13	4.5
Policy Processes in Aboriginal Health	CHS	8	2	4.0

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

Publication Type	Counts by Year			
	2003	2004	2005	2006
A - Books				1
A1 - Books - Authored - Research	1	3	0	3
A2 - Edited Books	2	1	6	2
A5 - Textbooks	0	1	0	0
A6 - Authored Books - Other	0	0	1	1
B1 - Chapters in Research Books	17	7	11	6
B2 - Chapters in Books	6	5	11	5
C – Journal Articles				1
C1 - Journal Articles - Refereed	73	102	162	204
C2 - Unrefereed Journal Articles	9	2	11	15
C3 - Unrefereed Letters or Notes	7	14	10	23
C5 - Other Refereed Contributions to Refereed Journals	11	5	12	11
D4 - Major Reference Works	0	2	4	1
F1 - Conference Publications - Full written paper - refereed	1	3	2	0
F2 - Fully Written Unrefereed Conference / Papers	2	2	5	7
G4 - Major Reports	14	14	34	36
G5 - Minor Reports/Working Papers	4	8	3	5
M5 - Computer Software Products	0	0	0	0
Q10 -Awards (Prizes, Medals etc)	0	2	0	0
Q8 - Research in Progress (RIP)	38	43	25	DNR
Q9 - Substantial Grants Received	25	23	10	DNR
R11 - Thesis Passed for Higher Degrees	8	9	3	13
R12 - Thesis in Progress for Higher Degrees	41	74	28	101

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

Name	Centre/Unit	Supervisor(s) at Completion	Final Thesis Topic
Bradshaw, Catriona Susan	SHU	Fairley, K; Garland, S; Tabrizi, S	Epidemiological, clinical and laboratory correlates of bacterial vaginosis and non-gonococcal urethritis
Cox, Helen Suzanne	AIHI	Morrow, M; Deutschmann, P; Toole, M	Tuberculosis treatment and control in Uzbekistan: DOTS and drug resistance
Delany, Clare Maree	CHS	Gillam, L; Brookes, A	Informed consent: ethical theory, legal obligations and the physiotherapy clinical encounter
Fuscaldo, Giuliana Fausta	CHS	Gillam, L; Savulescu, J	Genetic ties: are they morally binding?
Hammarberg, Karin	KCWHS	Fisher, J; Rowe, H	Woman's experience of birth and early mothering after assisted conception
Hester-Moore, Jennifer Sarah	CHS	Guillemin, M; Brookes, A; Macintyre, M	Going with the flow: enacting fluidity in contraceptive and menstrual decision making
Johnson, Penelope	CHS	Macintyre, M; Guillemin, M	Diasporas of medical beliefs: a multi-ethnic clinic and the experience of tuberculosis in a low incidence country
Khun, Sokrin	KCWHS	Manderson, L; Allotey, P	Community participation in the prevention and control of dengue fever in Cambodia
Kristyanti, Johana Rosalina	KCWHS	Manderson, L; Markovic, M	Understanding the dynamics of violence and exploring the potential application of logotherapy for women survivors of domestic violence in Indonesia
Lister, Nichole Ann	SHU	Fairley, K; Smith, A; Garland, S; Tabrizi, S	Screening men who have sex with men for bacterial sexually transmissible infections
MacInnis, Robert Jeffrey	MEGA	English, D; Carlin, J; Nowson, G; Gertig, D	A prospective study of body size and composition and the risk of cancer
Mann, Rosemary Helen	CHS	Macintyre, M; Anderson, I; Humphery, K	Look wide – Searching for health in the borderlands: Experiences of disease prevention and health promotion in a Central Australian indigenous settlement
Munib, Ahmed	CIMH	Minas, H; Klimidis, S	The effects of immigration and resettlement on the mental health of South-Asian communities in Melbourne
Nkosana, Josephine Mmanchibidu	KCWHS	Rosenthal, D	Intergenerational sexual relationships in urban Botswana
Paradies, Yin Carl	CHS	Cunningham, J; Anderson, I; Devitt, J	Race, racism, stress and indigenous health
Renkin, Peter Francis Becket	external	Swain, P; Anderson, I	From segregated institution to self-managed community: Community work towards indigenous self-management at Lake Tyers/Bung Yarnda, Victoria
Tinney, Dorothy Jean	CHS	Macintyre, M; Feldman, P; Guillemin, M	Still me: old and in care. The role of social and communicative interactions in maintaining sense of self and well-being in residents in aged care
Tomnay, Jane Elizabeth	SHU	Fairley, K	Partner notification for Chlamydia Trachomatis and HIV in Australia
Xeuatvongsa, Anonh	KCWHS	Manderson, L	Public ignorance, silent killer: An ethnographic study of tuberculosis control in the Lao People's Democratic Republic

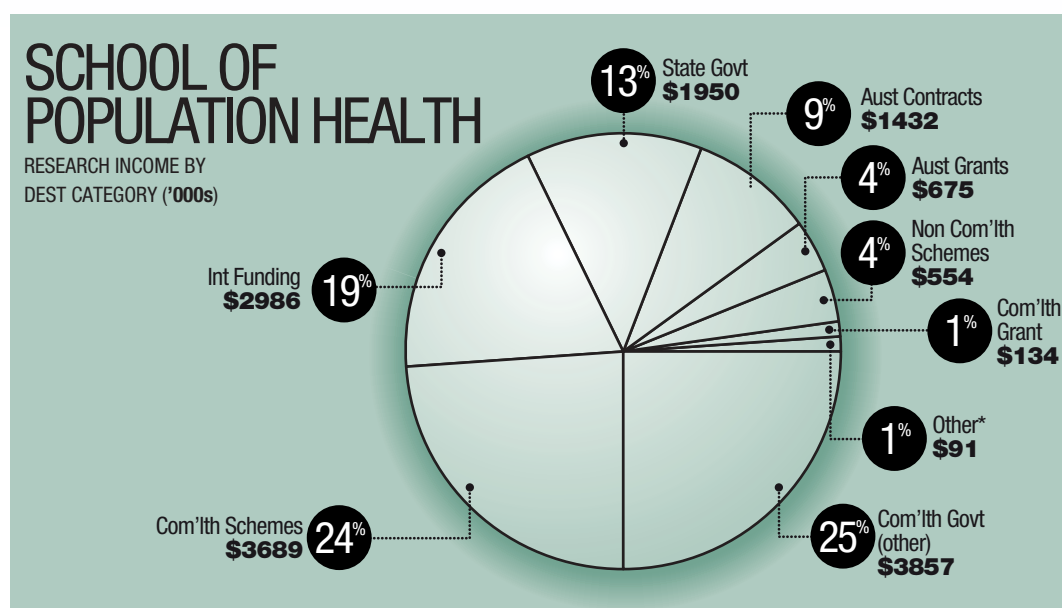
Research Grants

Higher Education Research Data Collection (HERDC)

SCHOOL of POPULATION HEALTH	2006	2005	2004	2003
C1.1 - Com'lth Schemes	\$3,688,734	\$3,719,650		
C1.2 - Non Com'lth Schemes	\$554,225	-		
Cat 1 - ACR Grants (NCGP)	\$4,242,959	\$3,719,650	\$2,635,278	\$5,102,800
C2.1 - Local Govt	-	\$20,837		
C2.2 - State Govt	\$1,950,368	\$1,768,440		
C2.3 - Com'lth Govt (other)	\$3,856,702	\$3,068,456		
Cat 2 Total OPS	\$5,807,070	\$4,857,733	\$3,581,741	\$3,463,946
C3.1 - Aust Contracts	\$1,432,204	\$1,152,838		
C3.2 - Aust Grants	\$674,839	\$458,098		
C3.3 - Aust Donations, Bequests and Foundations	\$7861	\$31,159		
C3.5 - Int Funding	\$2,986,280	\$2,533,870		
Cat 3 Total Industry & Other	\$5,101,183	\$4,175,966	\$2,718,158	\$3,818,322
C4.1. Com'lth Grant	\$134,392	\$142,199		
C4.2. Non-uni participants	\$16,034	\$18,312		
C4.3. Third Parties	\$67,501	\$45,269		
Cat 4 Total CRC	\$217,927	\$205,781	\$139,515	-
Total	\$15,369,140	\$12,959,129	\$9,074,691	\$12,385,067

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



Grants Commencing 2006

Sponsor	Responsible Ci	Description	2006 New Grants Income
ASTHMA VIC			\$5,000
	Dr Melanie Matheson	The Follow-Up Study of the Tasmanian Asthma Rich Families	5,000
AUST RESEARCH COUNCIL			\$691,932
	A/Prof Marilys Guillemin	Hamstrung by Ethics Creep? Investigating Human Research Ethics in Practice	0
	Prof Doreen Rosenthal	Understanding Women's Experiences of Unplanned Pregnancy and Abortion	320,705
	Prof Janet Mccalman	"Turning Points: Redemption, Women and Alcohol in Melbourne, 1870-1945"	7,465
	Prof David Studdart	Using Law to Improve Population Health and the Quality of Health Care Services	363,762
CRC FOR ABORIGINAL HEALTH			2,302
	Samuel Michael Crane	Urban Koori Men's Experience of Substance Abuse	2,302
DEPT OF HEALTH & AGEING			770,007
	Dr Marcus Chen	Chlamydia Screening of Antenatal Women in Melbourne	201,281
	Dr Jane Hocking	Chlamydia Incidence and Re-Infection Rates: a Longitudinal Study of Young Australian Women	151,584
	Prof Christopher Fairley	Improved Chlamydia Contact Tracing by Optimising Cost-Effective and Sustainable Supports	417,142
DEPT OF HUMAN SERVICES			\$47,710
	A/Prof David Dunt	Promoting Public Awareness of Prevention, Early Detection and Treatment of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	11,721
	Dr Margaret Kelaher	Responding to Health Inequalities: Investigating the Impact of Neighbourhood Renewal on Health & Well-Being in Disadvantaged Victorian Communities	35,989
L.E.W. CARTY CHARITABLE FUND			\$12,000
	Dr Melanie Matheson	Genetic Modifiers of Environmental Risk Factors for Longitudinal Changes in Asthma	12,000
MONASH UNIVERSITY			\$8,000
	Dr Grace Mitchell	Quantifying Stormwater Recycling Risks and Benefits	8,000
NATIONAL BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION			\$130,890
	Prof John Hopper	Mutations in Steroid Hormone Metabolism Genes and Risk of Breast Cancer	130,890

Sponsor	Responsible Ci	Description	2006 New Grants Income
NHMRC			\$520,543
	A/Prof Dorota Gertig	Molecular Epidemiology of Chronic Disease and Cancer	48,625
	Dr Marcus Chen	Improving The Control of Chlamydia in Australia	65,800
	Dr Mark Jenkins	"Germline Mutations in Mismatch Repair Genes: Prevalence, Risk of Cancer, and Environmental Modifiers of Risk."	213,000
	Dr Robert Macinnis	Statistical Models for Genetic Susceptibility to Prostate and Other Common Cancers.	61,713
	Dr Andrew Holloway	Establishment of a Latrobe Valley Power Industry Cohort and Biospecimen Bank for the Study of Asbestos Related Disease	17,576
	Prof John Mathews	Modelling the Biology & Transmission of Influenza Virus – Learning From 1918-19 and Other Outbreaks	113,829
THE CLEVELAND CLINIC FOUNDATION			\$3,795
	Prof John Hopper	Genome Wide Association Study of Colorectal Cancer	3,795
THE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN			\$81,752
	Prof John Hopper	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)	81,752
THE IAN POTTER FOUNDATION			\$400
	Dr Melanie Matheson	American Thoracic Society International Conference	400
UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE			\$3,432
	Dr Melanie Matheson	Genetic Modifiers of Environmental Risk Factors for Longitudinal Changes In Asthma - Melbourne Early Career Researcher Grant Scheme 2006	3,432
VIC HEALTH PROMOTION FOUNDATION			\$333,616
	Prof Doreen Rosenthal	Understanding Women's Experiences of Unplanned Pregnancy and Abortion	320,705
	Tania Louise King	Relationship Between Aspects of the Built Environment, SES, Physical Activity and Obesity	12,911
Grand Total			\$2,611,379

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.

Sponsor	Responsible Ci	Description	2006 New Grants Income
NHMRC Project Grants			\$5,718,539
	Shyamali Dharmage, John Hopper, Melanie Matheson, Michael Abramson, Graham Byrnes	Genetic epidemiology of chronic respiratory diseases from childhood to adult	\$840,113
	Jane Fisher, Heather Rowe, Doreen Rosenthal, Julie Quinliven, Lyle Gurrin	A randomized trial of an early parenting intervention to reduce maternal mood disorder and infant behaviour disturbance.	\$376,375
	Kit Fairley, Catriona Bradshaw, Marie Pirota, Suzanne Garland, Jane Hocking	Treatment of bacterial vaginosis: a randomised controlled trial	\$255,425
	John Mathews, Terry Nolan, Niels Becker, Jodie McVernon, James McCaw, Emma McBryde	Modelling of the effects of immunity on influenza transmission – implications for prevention and vaccine development	\$264,713
	John Hopper, Mark Jenkins, Graham Byrnes, Laura Baglietto, Carmel Apicella	Statistical analyses of breast cancer risks for BRAC1 and BRAC2 mutation carriers	\$410,250
	John Hopper, Shyamali Dharmage, Gillian Dite, Carmel Apicella	A prospective study of the effects of early life growth of adult mammographic density	\$442,838
	Kelly-Anne Phillips, John Hopper, Michael Friedlander, Mark Jenkins, Sue Ann McLachlan, Roger Milne	kConFab follow-up: A prospective study of non-genetic risk modifiers in women at high risk of breast cancer	\$698,575
	Sepher Tabrizi, Kit Fairley, Basil Donovan	Surveillance of LGV Chlamydia trachomatis types among men who have sex with men	\$186,875
Administered by Partner Institution (MCRI)	Sheena Reilly, Margot Prior, Anne Castles, Melissa Wake, Edith Bavin, John Carlin	Understanding how language and reading problems develop: a population-based longitudinal study from infancy age 7	\$633,550
Cancer Council	Gialuca Severi, Vanessa Hayes, Justine Ellis, Rodney Sinclair	Markers of Androgen action, genetic variation and prostate cancer risk	\$772,700
Cancer Council	Ron Borland, Melanie Wakefield, Hua Hie Yong, Mohammad Siahpush	Extending the Australian arm of the International Tobacco Control Policy Evaluation Study	\$837,125

Sponsor	Responsible Ci	Description	2006 New Grants Income
NHMRC Career Development Award			\$445,000
	Lyle Gurrin	Bayesian Statistical Methods for Combining Evidence in Genetic Association Studies of Complex Disease	\$445,000
NHMRC Population Health Capacity Building Grants			\$2,449,375
Administered by MCRI	Melissa Wake, John Carlin	Developing child health research with a focus on preventative interventions for common childhood disorders	\$2,449,375
NHMRC Strategic Research Grants			\$1,641,848
Administered by Peter McCallum Institute	Andrew Holloway, Anthony LaMontagne	Establishment of a LaTrobe Valley power industry cohort and biospecimen bank for the study of asbestos related disease	\$581,225
Administered by Flinders University	Sue Richardson, Anna Ziersch, Fran Baum, Diannah Lowry, Anne Kavanagh, Laurence Lester, Tony La Montagne, Rebecca Bentley	Changing patterns of work: impacts on physical and mental health and the mediating role of resiliency and social capital	\$1,060,623
ARC Discovery Grants			\$1,247,000
	John Hopper, MA Reuter, J Langford	Expert judgement of environmental health risks from exposures to contaminants in urban water systems	\$282,000
	Tony Scott	Blended payment system for doctors; evaluation of a natural experiment	\$165,000
Administered by the University of Tasmania	H Maxwell Stewart, R Kippen, Janet McCalman, G McCarth R Shlomowitz, Alison Venn, Shyamali Dharmage	Founders and survivors: Australian lifecourses in historical context	\$800,000
ARC Linkage Grant			\$255,000
Administered by Macquarie University; industry partners IVF Australia and Melbourne IVF)	C McMahon, F Gibson, Jane Fisher, J Boivin, D Saunders	Age at first birth, mode of conception and adjustment to parenthood	\$255,000

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.

Date	Speaker	Title/General topic
Feb 8	Associate Professor Gita Mishra, Medical Research Council Senior Fellow, United Kingdom Birth Cohort Study, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, University College London	Life course approach to health outcomes
Mar 1	Ms Kirsty Harris, PhD candidate, Department of History, University of Melbourne	Nursing responses to Spanish influenza 1918-19 as a basis for nursing a possible avian flu epidemic
Mar 22	Dr Elizabeth Bryan, Paediatrician and Medical Consultant, Multiple Births Foundation, London	Iatrogenic twins: Bonus or failure?
Mar 29	Associate Professor Harry Minas, Director, Centre for International Mental Health, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne	Developing a mental health system in Aceh and Sri Lanka
Apr 12	Professor Tony Jorm, Professorial Fellow, ORYGEN Research Centre, University of Melbourne	Improving the mental health literacy of the Australian public
Apr 26	Dr Richard Scotton, Former Professorial Fellow, Health Economics Unit, Monash University	Paying for health care in Australia: An historical perspective
May 10	Professor Boyd Swinburn, Professor of Population Health, School of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, Deakin University	Community-based obesity demonstration projects: Building the evidence and expertise
May 17	Associate Professor Debbie Feldman, Faculty of Medicine, School of Rehabilitation, University of Montreal	Referral to specialists for persons with new-onset rheumatoid arthritis: A population-based study
May 24	Associate Professor Jane Fisher, Key Centre for Women's Health in Society, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne	Is assisted conception a risk factor for early parenting difficulties?
Jun 7	Associate Professor John Ayanian, Harvard Medical School and School of Public Health USA	Understanding & Eliminating Racial Disparities in Health Care
Jun 8	Associate Professor John Ayanian, Harvard Medical School and School of Public Health USA	The Quest for Universal Health Insurance in the United States: What happens to Americans who can't afford to get sick?
Jun 14	Mr Todd Harper, director QUIT and the VicHealth Centre for Tobacco Control (VCTC), Cancer Council Victoria & Dr Susan Hurley, Associate Professor, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne, and director, Bainbridge Consultants	The cost-effectiveness of tobacco control
Jun 21	Professor Graham Giles, Director, Cancer Epidemiology Centre, The Cancer Council Victoria	Prostate cancer: Risk factors for the lethal phenotype(s)
Jun 28	Dr Jane Hocking, NHMRC Postdoctoral Research Fellow, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne	Epidemiology and control of genital Chlamydia infection in Australia

Date	Speaker	Title/General topic
Jul 5	Dr Carolyn Whitzman, Senior Lecturer, Urban Planning, Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning, University of Melbourne	Gender, Local Governance and Violence Prevention: An international perspective
Jul 19	Associate Professor Michael Shields, Department of Economics, University of Melbourne	Parental income and child health
Aug 2	Dr Marj Moodie, Program Evaluation Unit, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne	Economics of obesity
Aug 16	Associate Professor Jane Halliday, Head, Public Health Genetics Unit, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute	Assisted reproductive technology and perinatal outcome
Aug 30	Associate Professor Tony LaMontagne, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Health and Society, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne	Workplace Stress in Victoria: Developing a Systems Approach: Summary of Findings and Implications for Policy & Practice
Sep 13	Dr Mark Jenkins, Senior Lecturer, Centre for Molecular, Environmental, Genetic and Analytic Epidemiology, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne	Ethical issues in public health research
Sep 27	Associate Professor David Dunt, Director, Program Evaluation Unit, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne	Evaluating community-based initiatives: Lessons from Best Start
Oct 25	Professor Anne-Louise Ponsonby, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute	Epidemiologic investigation of hygiene hypothesis and immune disorders
Nov 8	Dr Catriona Bradshaw, PhD candidate, Sexual Health Unit, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne	Gaps in our understanding of common sexually transmitted infections: Current dilemmas and possible solutions
Nov 15		SPH teaching and research awards
Nov 22	Associate Professor Marilys Guillemin, Deputy Director and Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Health and Society, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne	Investigating human research ethics in practice
Dec 6	Dr Lyle Gurrin, Senior Lecturer, Centre for Molecular, Environmental, Genetic and Analytic Epidemiology, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne	Genetic and environmental modifiers of hereditary haemochromatosis: The HealthIron Study
Dec 13		SPH Christmas quiz

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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School Manager

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PGDipDietetics *Deakin*

IT Manager

Nick Golovachenko BA *Syd*

IT Officers

Niven Mathew BE *TIEC* MIT *Monash*
Andrew Poynton BAppSc *RMIT* PGrad Cert (BIT) *Melb*
Vladimir Tittl Cert IV Civil 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

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FRACP FAFPHM

Deputy Head of Department and Professor

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Professors

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Christopher Kincaid Fairley, MB BS *Melb.* PhD *Monash* FRACP
FAFPHM FACHSHM
Helen Edith Herrmann, BMedSc MB BS *Monash*, MD *Melb.*,
FFPHUK FRANZCP FAFPHM
*Janet Susan McCalman, BA *Melb.* PhD *ANU* FAHA
Doreen Rosenthal AO BA *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*
FFPHM
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*
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Jane Pirkis, BA *Tas.* MPsyh *Tas.* MAppEpi *ANU* PhD *Melb.*

Senior Lecturers

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LaTrobe
Elizabeth Bennett, MTropHlth *Qld* PhD *Melb*
Ma Luz Casimiro-Querubin, BA *Ateneo de Manila* MD
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Shaun Ewen BAppSc *S.Aust.*
Lyle Gurrin, BSc *W.Aust.* PhD *W.Aust.*
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)
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*Henrietta Williams, MB BS *Lond.* MPH *Monash* DRCOGUK
DCH MRCGP MFFP DipGUM FRACGP

Joint Senior Lecturer with Asia Institute

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Lecturers

*Lisa Amir, MB BS *Monash* MMed *Melb.* PhD *LaTrobe* IBCLC
(on leave to 2008)
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Alison Brookes, BA *Deakin* PhD *Deakin*
Angela Clarke, BA *VUT* MPublHlth *Deakin*
Shaun Ewen, BAppSc *S.Aust.*
Bill Genat, BSc *W.Aust.* PhD *W.Aust.*
*Helen Jordan, BSc *Melb.* GDipEd *Melb.* GDipEpi&Biostat
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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.

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Research Fellows

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Kathleen Brasher, CertGeneralNurs *Royal Melb* CertMidwifery *Monash* BASc(Nursing) *Monash* GradDipArts *Melb* PhD *Monash*

Graham Byrnes, BSc *Syd.* PhD *Syd.* PGDip(AppStats) *Melb.*

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James Dowty, BSc *Melb.* PhD *Melb.*

*Bircan Erbas, BSc *Melb.* MSc *Melb.* PhD *Melb.*

*Peter Feldman, BA *Tas.*

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*Deborah Keys, BA *Deakin* PhD *LaTrobe*

Tania King, BA *Melb.* BSc *Melb.*

Maggie Kirkman, BA *Melb.* PhD *LaTrobe*

*Fay Kohn, MA *Deakin* DED *Melb.* DipPT *Deakin* GDipTESOL *Deakin*

Melanie Matheson, BSc *Monash* MAppSc *RMIT* PhD *Monash*

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*Rosemary McKenzie, BA *Monash* MPH *Curtin* PGDipHlthProm *Curtin*

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Marjorie Moodie, BA *Monash*

*Belinda Morley, BA *Monash*

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Paul Stewart, GDipIndigSt *Syd.*

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Maggie Kirkman, BA *Melb.* PhD *LaTrobe*

Cathy Segar, BA *Melb.* PhD *LaTrobe*

R. Douglas Wright Research Fellow

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VicHealth Public Health Research Fellow

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Christopher Thomas McCaw, BA *Melb.* BSc *Melb.*

Cathryn Whaton, BAppSc *Deakin*

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*Claudine Chionh, BA *Melb.*

*Jennifer Foord

*Alan Headey, BA *Qld.*

Lucinda Johnson, BCom *Melb.* BSc *Melb.* MPH *Melb.*

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*Joan McPhee, BA *Rutgers* MNutr&Diet *Deakin*

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*Carolyn Nickson, BA *LaTrobe* GDipEpi&Biostat *Melb.*

Bree Rankin, BCom *Melb.*

Amanda Richardson, RN

*Janet Townsend, BA *LaTrobe* MA(AppSocRes) *Monash* GDip

WelfAdm Monash GDipEd Deakin
 Gael Trytell, BSc Monash BA Swinburne
 Christine Van Vliet, BSc NSW MB BS NSW MPH Syd. DipEd NSW

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Warwick Hugh Anderson, MB BS BMedSc MA MD Melb. PhD Penn.
 Ross Baillie, MBChB CapeTown MPhil CapeTown
 MD(CommHlth) CapeTown MRNZCGP FCCH(SA) FAFPHM
 Stephen Bird, BSc Lancaster PhD Leicester PGCE ScEdu
 Sussex FIOB FBASES
 Ron Borland, BSc Monash MSc Monash PhD Melb. MAPS
 John Nicholas Crofts, MB BS Melb. MPH Monash FAFPHM
 Graham Giles, BSc MSc Mich. PhD Tas.
 Margaret Ann Hamilton, BA MSW Mich. DipSocSt
 Allan Kellehear, BA PhD
 Lenore Hilda Manderson, BA(AsianSt) ANU PhD ANU FASSA
 John Mathews, AM, BSc Melb. MB BS Melb. MD Melb. PhD Melb. Hon DSc NT FRACP FRCPA FAFPHM
 Alan Rob Moodie, MB BS Melb. MPH Harv. FAFPHM FRACGP
 DRACOG DTM Paris FAIM
 Robert Power, BSc Lond. PhD Lond. PGCE Lond.
 Robin Room BA Princeton MA (English) MA (Sociology) PhD Berkeley
 Edward William Russell, BA Melb. BEc Monash PhD Monash
 DipArchSt Lond. FAIM FIPAA(Vic)
 Anthony Scott, BA Northumbria MSc York PhD Aberdeen
 Julian Savulescu, MB BS LaTrobe BMedSc LaTrobe PhD LaTrobe

Principal Fellows with the title Associate Professor

Donald Alexander Campbell, MBBS Monash MMedSc(Clin Epi) Newcastle MD Monash FRACP
 Christopher John Clements, MB BS. Lond. MSc Manchester
 DipChildHlth, RCP Lond. DipObst Auck. FAFPH MFPH MCCM
 LRCP MRCS
 Alex Cohen, BA NY MA NY PhD UCLA
 Joan Cunningham, BA Harv. PhD Harv.
 Peter William Deutschmann, MB BS MPH FRACS
 William Hart, MB BS Monash MBScPrelim GDipCH LaTrobe
 Fumi Horiguchi, BMed TokyoWmMed-College PhD Keio
 Susan Hurley, BPharm Vic.Coll.Pharm. MPharm Vic.Coll.
 Pharm. MSc Wash. PhD Monash GAICD
 Damien John Jolley, BSc Melb. MSc Lond. MSc LaTrobe DipEd
 SCVic.
 Heath Kelly, BSc MB BS W.Aust. MPH W.Aust. FAFPHM
 Vikram Patel, MB BS Bom. MSc Oxf. MRCPsych RCP (UK)
 PhD Lond.

Senior Fellows with the title Senior Lecturer

James Francis Patrick Black, MB BS Monash MCommH Liv.
 PhD Monash DTM&H Liv. FAFPHM
 John Carnie, MB BS Melb. MMed Melb. MPH Harv. DipCH
 Ceylon DipCH Lond. MRCP(UK) FRACMA FAFPHM
 John Condon, MB BS Monash MPH Harv. CertHlthEcon
 Monash PhD Charles Darwin
 Jisheng Cui, BSc Shandong MMedBiostat Shanghai PhD
 LaTrobe
 Louisa Flander, BA G.Wash. MA G.Wash. MA RMIT PhD
 Colorado

Michelle Haby de Sosa, BAppSc S.Aust. MAppSc Syd.
 PhD Syd.
 Wendy Holmes, MB BS Lond. MSc Lond.
 Krishna Philip Hort, MB BS Syd. DRCOG Lond DTCH Liverpool
 MCH NSW FAFPHM
 James Kimberley Humphery, BA MA MPhil Camb. PhD
 Robin Hyndman, BSc PhD
 Rosemary Ann Lester, MB BS Melb. MPH Monash MS(Epid)
 UCLA FAFPHM
 Duncan MacGregor, MB BS BMedSc PhD Melb.
 Catherine Louise Mead, PSM MB BS Syd. DPH Syd. FRACMA
 FAFPHM
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 Daniel Reidpath, BA Swinburne PhD W.Aust. DEdPsych
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 Mohammad Siahpush, BS Utah MS Utah MBIstats Melb.
 PhD Ohio
 Julie Thacker, BSc W.Aust. PhD ANU GDipEd Curtin UCLES/
 RSA CLEFLA Lond.
 Susan Treloar, BSocStud Syd. MSc Lond. MSW NSW PhD Qld.
 Tarun Stephen Weeramanthri, MB BS W.Aust. DipTropMedHyg
 Lond. PhD Syd. FRACP FAFPHM
 Godfrey Woelk, BSc(Soc) MCommH PhD Wash.

Fellows with the title Lecturer

Karyn Alexander, MBChB Leicester 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(Physio) Lincoln BEd
 LaTrobe PGDipHlthResMethods LaTrobe MPH Monash
 Richard Di Natale, MB BS Monash MPH LaTrobe MHS
 LaTrobe FAFPHM FACRRM
 Ashley Fletcher, BSc Monash MEpi Melb. GDipEpiBio Melb.
 Susan Foxman-Feldman, BA LaTrobe MA
 Jane Freemantle, PhD W.Aust.
 Craig Lindsay Matthew Fry, BSc Monash
 Jane Gibson
 Elizabeth Hoban, BA Edith Cowan MTropHlth Qld PhD Melb.
 Sonja Hood, BA Melb. MSc Penn.
 Cecily Hunter, BA Monash MSc Melb. PhD Melb.
 Marita Kefford, DipAppSc PhillipIT
 Ruth Lawrence, RN
 David Michael Lee, BAppSc(UTS) DrPH Melb. MPH Syd.
 GDip(CritCare) Syd. FRCNA FCN
 Stephanie Lenko, GDipOHP LaTrobe RN RM
 Tania Lewis, MB BS Otago BA Canterbury MA Canterbury PhD
 Melb.
 Betty Yar Yuan Lim, BNurs Deakin RN
 Tamara Mackean, MB BS NSW MB BS W.Aust. MPH Adel.
 Ethna Mary Macken, BA Swinburne DipAppSc PhillipIT RN
 Milica Markovic, BSoc Belgrade MSoc Belgrade PhD Qld.
 Brian McCoy, BA Melb. BTheol Melb. PhD Melb. GCert
 CommMentalHlth Flinders DipCrim Melb.
 Elizabeth McGrath, BA Melb.
 Roger Laughlin Milne, BA Melb. BSW Melb. BComm Melb.
 GDipClinEpi 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* MAppEpid *ANU* GDipPH *Syd.*
 Aleck Ostrey, BSc *UBC* MSc *UBC* MA *Simon Fraser* PhD *UBC*
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 (from 1 May 2006)
 Mary Rillstone, BA *Otago* MHS *Otago* DipTheoSt *Otago*
 Jane Ryrie, 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 Sonogo, BAppSc *LaTrobe* RN
 Patricia Staig
 Yvonne Stolk, BA *Melb.* MResPsych *Melb.* MAClinical Psych
Melb. PhD *Melb.*
 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*

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Professors

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 Sioban Nelson, BA *LaTrobe* PhD *Griff.*
 Loane Skene, LL.M *Monash* LL.B Barrister & Solicitor *Victoria*

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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*

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 Tracey Mayhew
 Felice Rocca, BA (Hons) *Melb*
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 Karen O'Brien
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 Leanne Prior
 Judy Pryor
 Dennellie Ricardo-Fraser
 Helen Smallwood, BA *LaTrobe* Grad Dip Soc Res Methods
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MEGA

Centre for Molecular,
Environmental, Genetic
and Analytic Epidemiology

School of Population Health
Department of Public Health

Annual Report
2006

The Centre for Molecular, Environmental, Genetic and Analytic (MEGA) Epidemiology's aim is to develop, promote and consolidate epidemiologic research and teaching. The Centre houses the Australian Twin Registry and has strong links with the Genetic Epidemiology Laboratory in the Department of Pathology, University of Melbourne.

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

2005				2006			
Course	Total	Int'l	Local	Course	Total	Int'l	Local
M Epidemiology	3	0	3	M Epidemiology	19	3	16
PgDip Epidemiology	8	1	7	PgDip Epidemiology	7	0	7
PgCert Biostatistics	6	0	6	PgCert Biostatistics	6	0	6
PgDip Biostatistics	12	0	12	PgDip Biostatistics	23	0	23
M Biostatistics	21	0	21	M Biostatistics	26	0	26
TOTAL	50	1	49		81	3	78

Professor Dallas English attributes an element of serendipity to how he started what became a long and distinguished career in cancer epidemiology.

MEGA's new Director and Professor of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Professor English recalls taking on a post graduate job to conduct an epidemiological survey of injuries among abattoir workers. "I

recognised that I needed to know more about what I was doing, consulted the textbooks and realised that this was a really interesting area," he says.

A colleague suggested he study epidemiology in the US. This led him to undertake his PhD at the University of Washington, within a department which focused primarily on cancer. The next 35 years saw him appointed to many senior roles in universities and at Victoria's Anti-



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."

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 adult asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease using a large population-based prospective study of the 1961 birth cohort enrolled in the 1968 Tasmanian Asthma Survey, their parents and siblings. This is currently funded by the NHMRC project grants scheme, Tasmanian Asthma Foundation, Victorian Asthma Foundation, GSK and Sypkes Trust.

The Centre, in collaboration with the Murdoch Childrens Research Institute and the Royal Children's Hospital, 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



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

Bernstein L, Teraoka S, **Southey M, Jenkins M**, Andrulis L, Knight A, John M, Lapinski R, Wolitzer L, Whittemore S, West D, Seminara D, Olson R, Spurdle B, Chenevix-Trench G, **Giles G, Hopper J** & Concannon P. 2006. Population-based estimates of breast cancer risks associated with ATM gene variants c.7271T>G and c.1066-6T>G (IVS10-6T>G) from the Breast Cancer Family Registry. *Human Mutation*. 27 (11): 1122-1128.

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 approximately 3700 women diagnosed with breast cancer and their relatives as well as approximately 1200 unrelated women without breast cancer all recruited

into a large international collaborative resource (including Australia) called the Breast Cancer Family Study. Women who carried one specific ATM mutation, called c.7271T>G, were nine times more likely to develop 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.

Gurrin LC, Carlin J, Sterne AC, Dite GS & Hopper J. 2006. Using bivariate models to understand between- and within-cluster regression coefficients, with application to twin data. *Biometrics*. 62: 745-751.

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

The Australian Twin Registry is looking for new recruits as scientists become increasingly aware of the value of using twins in their research. Twins offer a combination of genetic and environmental influences that provide a unique perspective for social and medical research. Both identical and non-identical twins are welcome to join.



Bailey and Jake, aged 5

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.

Jenkins M, Baglietto L, **Dowty J**, **Van Vliet C**, Smith L, Mead L, Macrae F, St John B, Jass R, **Hopper J**, **Giles G** & **Southey M**. 2006. Cancer risks for mismatch repair gene mutation carriers: a population-based early onset case-family study. *Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology*. 4: 489-498.

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.

Lowe AJ, **Carlin J**, **Bennett C**, Abramson M, Hosking S, Hill J & **Dharmage SC**. 2006. Atopic disease and breast-feeding – cause or consequence? *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology*. 117: 682-687.

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 family cancer genetics services. Consultations with heads of genetics services, genetics counsellors, and patients identified four distinct aspects to genetic counselling: providing cancer, gene, and risk information [information]; giving advice about cancer surveillance [surveillance]; preparing for genetic testing [preparation]; and,



Amy and Sarah, aged 4



Max and Jade, aged 5

assistance with decision-making [direction]. A Discrete Choice Experiment was conducted to measure women's preferences for the different aspects. Discrete Choice Experiments are an established economic method for measuring how much value people place on different elements of health services. Respondents most valued information, about twice as much as advice about surveillance, four times as much as preparation for testing, and nine times as much as assistance with decision-making, which was least valued. Women's preferences were consistent with the major goals of genetic counselling, which include providing information and surveillance advice, and avoiding direction by facilitating autonomous decision-making. There were differences between the women in which aspects they most favoured, suggesting that counselling that elicits and responds to clients' preferences is more likely to meet clients' needs.

Milne E, Jacoby P, Giles-Corti B, Cross D, Johnston R, **English DR**. The Impact of the Kidskin Sun-Protection Intervention on Summer Sunburn and Reported Sun Exposure: Was it Sustained?

Preventive Medicine 2006;42:14-20

Professor English was the chief investigator on 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.

Staff

**denotes part time*

Director, Professor and Chair of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Dallas English, BSc *Melb.* MS *Wash.* PhD *Wash.*

Director (Research) and Professorial Fellow

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

Director (Learning and Teaching), Senior Lecturer

Catherine Bennett, BSc *LaTrobe* MAppEpid *ANU* PhD *LaTrobe*

Professorial Fellow

*John Carlin, BSc *W.Aust.* PhD *Harv.*

Associate Professor and Principal Research Fellow

*Dorota Gertig, MB BS *Monash* MHSc(ClinEpi) *UBC* ScD(Epi) *Harv.* FAFPHM

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*Peter Greenberg, MB BS *Melb.* MD *Melb.* PhD *Melb.* FRACP

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James Dowty, BSc *Melb.*

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Bircan Erbas, BSc *Melb.*

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PhD *Qld.*

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*Jennifer Foord

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 Amanda Richardson, RN
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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

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Mich. PhD *Tas.*
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 Michaela Riddell, BAppSc
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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

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Kellie Vizard, AdvCert(Admin)
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Box Hill TAFE

Administration Officer

*Penny Allen

Administration Assistants

Karen O'Brien
 *Leanne Prior



CHS

Centre for Health and Society

School of Population Health

Department of Public Health

Annual Report
2006



**Director of the
Centre for Health
and Society:
Professor Ian
Anderson.**

*"Our Centre is truly
multi-disciplinary
– we draw from
such diverse
areas as history,
moral philosophy,
anthropology,
sociology and
epidemiology."*

The key focus for the Centre for Health and Society (CHS) is the interdisciplinary study of health, illness and healthcare in local, national and international settings. The Centre brings perspectives from the humanities and social sciences to the study of medical science, clinical and public health practice and health policy.

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

CHS 2006 PhD completions

PhD graduate	Thesis title
Coles, Jan	Breastfeeding and Maternal Touch after Childhood Sexual Assault
Delany, Clare	Informed consent: ethical theory, legal obligations, and the physiotherapy clinical encounter
Furler, John	Chronicity and character: Patient centredness and health inequalities in general practice diabetes care
Fuscaldo, Giuliana	What is the role of genes in determining parenthood?
Hester-Moore, Jennifer	Going with the flow: Enacting fluidity in contraceptive and menstrual decision-making
Hodgson, Jan	Testing times, challenging choices. Women, prenatal testing and genetic counselling
Johnson, Penny	Diasporas of medical beliefs: A multi-ethnic clinic and the experience of tuberculosis in a low incidence country
MacLean, Sarah	Chrome world, chrome magic: inhalant use and public policy in an Australian context
Mann, Rosemary	Look wide – searching for health in the borderlands
Paradies, Yin	Race, Racism, Stress and Indigenous Health
Renkin, Peter	From segregated institution to self-managed community
Tinney, Jean	Still me: Being old and in care

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 on-line subject development and delivery, and to work collaboratively with U21 partners (University of British Columbia, University of Auckland) to develop an on-line subject.

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.

Guillemin, M. & Gillam, L. 2006, Telling Moments: Everyday Ethics in Health Care, IP Communications, Hawthorn East.

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

Marilys Guillemin, BAppSc *RMIT Med Mord.* DipEd PhD *Melb.*

Senior Lecturers

Shaun Ewen, BAppSc *S.Aust.*

Publication highlight

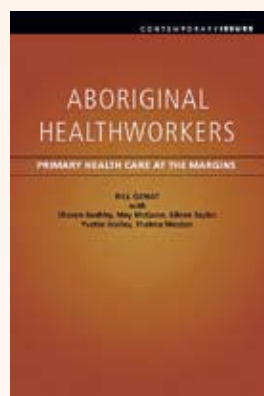
Genat, W. 2006, *Aboriginal Healthworkers: Primary Health Care at the Margins*, University of Western Australia Press, Perth.

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* MPhilHlth *Deakin*
Bill Genat, BSc *W.Aust.* PhD *W.Aust.*
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

Kyllie 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, GDipIndigSt *Syd* MPhilHlth *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*
Robin 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.* MLibArts *Harv.* PhD *Harv.*
William Hart, MB BS *Monash* MBScPrelim GDipCH *LaTrobe*

Fellows with the title Senior Lecturer

John Condon, MBBS *Monash* MPH *Harvard* CertHlthEcon *Monash* PhD *Charles Darwin*
James Humphery, BA MA MPhil *Camb.* PhD
Duncan MacGregor, MB BS BMedSc PhD *Melb.*

Fellows with the title Lecturer

Susan Foxman-Feldman, BA *LaTrobe* MA
Jane Freemantle, PhD *UWA*

Elizabeth Hoban, BA *Edith Cowan* MTropHlth *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 *Flinders* PhD *Melb.*

Tamara Mackean, BM BS (hons) *UNSW* BM BS *UWA* MPH *Adel.*

Aleck Ostrey, BSc *UBC* MSc *UBC* MA *Simon Fraser* PhD *UBC*

Mary Rillstone, BA *Otago* MHS *Otago* DipTheoSt *Otago*
Richard Sloman, MB BS *Monash* GDipEpid
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Loane Skene, LLM *Monash* LLB Barrister & Solicitor *Victoria*

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CEITC Administration Officer

Nicole McMillan

Community Development and Communications Officer

Nicole Waddell

Executive Assistant to Professor Ian Anderson

Judy Pryor

Indigenous Health Project Officer

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LIME Network Project Officer

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Senior Communications Manager

Jane Yule, BA *Monash* MA *Monash* GDipRec *PhillipIT*

Indigenous Trainee in IT (Website Administration)

Adam Moffatt

Indigenous Trainee in Business Administration

Dennellie Ricardo-Fraser

KCWHS

Key Centre for
Women's Health in Society
World Health Organisation
Collaborating Centre
for Women's Health

School of Population Health
Department of Public Health

Annual Report
2006



**Director of
Key Centre for
Women's Health in
Society: Professor
Doreen Rosenthal.**

"We focus on ensuring that the outcomes of our research provide an evidence base for changing policy and practice."

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.
- **Research:** The Key Centre continued to be highly successful in gaining competitive funding, as well as contract funding for specific work in its research fields.
- **Knowledge transfer:** 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.

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.

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.

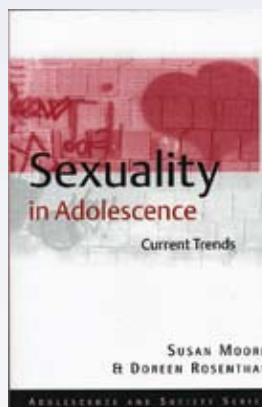
Changes to the Post Graduate Diploma in Women's Health will allow students who have met the requirements to transfer to the Master's course work program without completing the Diploma.

Publication highlight

Moore, S.M., Rosenthal, D.A., 2006.
Sexuality in Adolescence: Current Trends. 2nd ed. London Taylor and Francis

Co-authored by Professor Doreen Rosenthal, Director of the Key Centre for Women's Health in Society, this book considers the latest theory and research on adolescent development. It focuses on sexuality as a vital aspect 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.

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:

- 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 is 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
- Introduction to Multilevel Modelling – 22 to 23 June 2006.

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.

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), **6**

Student completions

Doctor of Philosophy

Karin Hammarberg *The experience of birth and early mothering after assisted conception.*

Sokrin Khun *Community participation in the prevention and control of dengue fever in Cambodia.*

Johanna Rosalina Kristyanti *Understanding the dynamics of violence & exploring the potential application of logotherapy for women survivors of domestic violence in Indonesia.*

Josephine Mmanchibidu Nkosana *Intergenerational sexual relationships in urban Botswana.*

Anonh Xeuatvongsa *Public Ignorance, Silent Killer: An Ethnographic Study of Tuberculosis Control in the Lao People's Democratic Republic.*

Master of Women's Health by Research

Kuniko Ishihara *Older Japanese war brides in Australia.*

Nasir Sudirman *Stories from the Lorong: Drug subculture and the social context of HIV-risk behaviours among intravenous drug users in Makassar, Indonesia.*

Master of Women's Health (course work/ research project)

Julie McCormack *Choosing a caesarean birth.*

Master of Women's Health (course work)

Alison Jill Bean-Hodges

Caterina Bortolot

Samira Jameel

Rasha Lubani

Master of Public Health – Research Project in Women's Health

Chandana Gurung *Attitudes of young people towards non consensual sex and barriers to resistance.*

Zhaohui Liufu *One-child policy, contraception and unintended pregnancy in China – a systematic review.*

Susan Margaret Johnson *Peer Group Support for Women Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse: Towards a Model with Health Promotion Potential.*

Mimmie Claudine Ngum Chi *Towards development at the Royal Women's Hospital, Melbourne, of an evaluation for women affected by Female Genital Mutilation.*

Mariana Panjaitan *Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) in detection of candida albicans for confirmation of clinical diagnosis of nipple thrush.*

Susan Peterson *What Does Yours Look Like? Problematising Responses to Intersex Infants as a Public Health Exercise.*

Nicola Julia Reid *Improving Young Women's Knowledge of the Menstrual Cycle: A Proposed Health Promotion Program.*

Benson Ochieng Singa *First time fathers in the early postpartum: A descriptive psychological study.*

Lara Marie Williamson *Perceptions of primary health care in mothers attending an early parenting centre.*

Post Graduate Diploma In Women's Health

Barbara Bissachi Srabani Majumder

Student Scholarships (external) & Awards

Tania King *Relationship between the built environment, socioeconomic status, physical activity and obesity. VicHealth 2006-2009.*

Raelene West *Rights, Compensation and Disability Service Delivery in Victoria. Department of Human Services Disability Plan Scholarship 2006-2009.*

Research

The vision for the Key Centre is that it will be the leading centre for research, education, knowledge transfer and advocacy in women's health, gender and society in Australia and the Asia-Pacific region. In working to this vision the Key Centre, through regular planning and review, has focused its attention to the following priority areas.

- Health services and technology,
- Mental health and wellbeing,
- Reproductive and sexual health, and

- Social and economic inequalities in health.

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

ARC linkage grant recipients/ UPAP team for 'Understanding women's experiences of unplanned pregnancy and abortion': Dr Heather Rowe, Ms Annarella Hardiman, PAS Manager, RWH, Prof Doreen Rosenthal, Dr Maggie Kirkman and Dr Shelley Mallett.



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, Ms Hammarberg K. *Adolescent Health & Development after IVF.* \$15,682 – Melbourne IVF 2006-2007.

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

McMahon C, Gibson FL, **A/Prof Fisher JRW,** Boivin J, Saunders DM. *Age at first birth, mode of conception and adjustment to parenthood.* \$255,000 – Australian Research Council, 2007-2009, Macquarie University. University of Melbourne. Partner organisations: IVF Australia, Melbourne IVF.

Richardson S, Baum F, **A/Prof Kavanagh A,** LaMontagne A, Ziersch A, Lowry D, Lester L, Ms Bentley R. *Changing patterns of employment and*

unemployment: impacts on physical and mental health and the mediating role of social capital. \$1,060,623 – NHMRC Strategic Award, 2007-2011.

Prof Rosenthal DA, Dr Kirkman M, A/Prof Fisher JR, Sullivan E. *Investigation of the reproductive lives of young adults who live in the technological age: feasibility of method.* \$23,402 – University of Melbourne Research Grant.

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

Prof Rosenthal DA. *Dissemination Strategy.* Additional \$35,000 – VicHealth 2006-2007.

A/Prof Fisher JRW, Prof Rosenthal DA. *Improving maternal mental health in Vietnam.* Additional \$30,000 – The Myer Foundation Beyond Australia Scheme, 2006-2007.

At the Richard Lovell Inaugural Travelling Scholarship in Cancer Epidemiology award presentation are: Prof James Angus, Dean, MDHS, Caroline Nickson, KCHWS PhD student and Prof David Hill, Director, Cancer Council Victoria.



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 Hammarberg, 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

The First National Conference of Gender and Health Inequalities speakers pictured from left: A/Prof Dorothy Broom, National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health at ANU; Prof Ruth Fincher, Dean of Architecture, Building and Planning, University of Melbourne; Prof Sue Richardson, Director of the National Institute of Labour Studies; Prof Doreen Rosenthal, Director, KCWHS, Prof Gary Dowsett, Deputy Director at the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society at LaTrobe University; Dr Shelley Mallett, VicHealth Public Health Research Fellow, KCWHS; Prof Janet McCalman, Centre for Health and Society, School of Population Health, and Head of the History and Philosophy of Science Department, Faculty of Arts; A/Prof Anne Kavanagh, KCWHS, A/Prof Jane Fisher, KCWHS.



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

Kavanagh AM, Thornton L, Thomas L.

Fast food intake and the density of fast food stores: A multilevel study in Melbourne, Victoria. International Society for Behavioural Nutrition and Physical Activity; 2006 Jul; Boston.

Thomas L. Socio-economic and environmental determinants of food purchasing behaviour in Melbourne, Australia. GIS and Population Science Conference on Spatial Demography, University of California, Santa Barbara, USA, 2006 Jul 21. Invited Australian seminars.



At the VicLanes award presentation for VicLanes are: Lukar Thornton KCWHS; A/Prof Anne Kavanagh KCWHS; A/Prof Damian Jolley, School of Health Sciences Deakin University; the Honourable Bronwyn Pike MP; Lyndal Thomas KCWHS; Amanda Tattam, KCWHS.

Rowe HJ, Fisher JRW, Quinlivan J. Informed decisions in prenatal genetic screening are associated with delayed maternal-fetal emotional attachment. Marcé Society Biennial Conference; 2006 Sep 13; Keele.

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, Ngoc NtN, Morrow M, Anh LTH. Traditional postpartum care and mothers' preferences and emotional wellbeing in Vietnam. Marcé Society Biennial Conference; 2006 Sep 14; Keele.

Fisher JRW. Suc khoe 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

Hammarberg K, Clarke V. Reasons for delaying childbearing: A survey of women aged over 35 seeking assisted reproductive technology, International Society for the Study of

Behavioural Development, 19th Biennial Meeting, 2006; Melbourne.

Kavanagh AM. Place and health in Australia: Future possibilities. Australasian Epidemiological Association. Plenary session speaker.

Mallett S. Homelessness research: where to from here? The Australian Federation of Homelessness Organisation (AFHO) National Homelessness Conference; 2006 Mar 1-3; Sydney.

Mallett S. Interdependence: A new vision of homelessness policy and practice for homeless young people Paper presented at Australian Federation Of Homelessness Organisation (AFHO) National Homelessness Conference; 2006 Mar 1-3; Sydney.

Keys D, Mallett S, Rosenthal D. Moving Out, Moving On: Young people's pathways out of homelessness, (With Keys D, Rosenthal D.) Paper presented at Australian Federation of Homelessness Organisation (AFHO) National Homelessness Conference; 2006 Mar 1-3; Sydney.

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.

Kavanagh AM, Bentley R. Local environments and health: A gender relationship. The First National Conference on Gender and Health Inequalities; 2006 Jun; Melbourne.

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

Fisher JRW, Hammarberg K, Baker G. Older maternal age, assisted conception, multiple gestation and operative birth increase risk of early parenting difficulties requiring hospital treatment. Symposium OS – 087 on Delayed Childbearing: Reasons, Risks and Protective Factors International Society for the Study of Behaviour and Development; 2006 Jul 6; Melbourne.

Mallett S, Rosenthal D. Disrupting stereotypes: Homelessness and drug use. The 19th Biennial Meeting, International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development; 2006 Jul; Melbourne.

Mallett S, Rosenthal D. Translating research into policy and practice: An Australian case study. The 19th Biennial Meeting, International Society for the Study of Behavioural

Development; 2006 Jul; Melbourne.

Rosenthal D, Mallett S. The consequences of HIV/AIDS for young people. The 19th Biennial Meeting, International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development; 2006 Jul; Melbourne.

Rowe HJ, Loh WM, Fisher JRW. Detecting postpartum mental disorders in women admitted to residential early parenting centres. Program and abstract booklet of the Australian Society of Psychosocial Obstetrics and Gynaecology Conference, Sydney, 2006 Aug 22.

Fisher JRW, Ong DM, Rowe HJ, Williamson L. Intimate partner relationship and maternal mood. Australian Society of Psychosocial Obstetrics and Gynaecology Conference; 2006 Aug 4; Sydney.

Hammarberg K, Fisher JRW, Rowe HJ. The Burden of Infertility and Treatment Scale: A useful measure of degree of difficulty to conceive. Australian Society of Psychosocial Obstetrics and Gynaecology Conference; 2006 Aug 4; Sydney.

Lee ASM, Kirkman M. Disciplinary Discourses: Rates of caesarean section explained by medicine, midwifery, and feminism. Annual scientific meeting of

Japanese language postgraduate Women's Health students: Reiko Imaizumi, Sakumi Kazama, Michiko Nohara, Yumi Ohkura, Mari Takahashi, Atsuko Yumoto, Yumiko Tateoka, Nao Araki, Yuka Tamaki, Tomoko Grainger and Tomoko Maruyama with Dr Deb Keys, KCWHS, and Brad Atkins from the School of Enterprise.



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.

Cooklin A, Fisher JRW, Rowe HJ. Employee entitlements during pregnancy: implications for maternal wellbeing. Program and abstract booklet of the Australian Society of Psychosocial Obstetrics and Gynaecology Conference; 2006 Aug 7-8; 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.

Rosenthal D. A Growing Experience: The Health and Well-Being of International Students at the University of Melbourne (with G. Thomson & V.J. Russell). The Australian International Education Conference; 2006 Oct; Perth.

Thomas L, Kavanagh A, Jolley D, Turrell G, King T, Crawford D. Environmental determinants of walking: a multi-level study in Melbourne, Australia. Walk21: 7th International Conference on walking and liveable communities; 2006 Oct; Melbourne.

Thomas L. Walking behaviour and walkability. Victorian Lifestyle and Neighbourhood Environment Study Research Forum for local government. VicHealth; 2006 Oct 3; Carlton.

Hammarberg K, Fisher JRW, Rowe HJ. Early parenting after assisted conception. Fertility Society of Australia Annual Conference; 2006 Oct 23. p.46, Supplement 2, A13.

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.

Fisher JRW, Rowe HJ, Ong DM, Williamson LM. Relationship between partner behaviours and mood in mothers admitted to early parenting centers. 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

Fisher, JRW, Psychosocial implications of multiple gestation and birth. Australian and New Zealand Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology 2006; 46; 26-32

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.

Keys, D, Mallett, S, Rosenthal, D, 2006. *Giving up on drugs: homeless young people and self-reported problematic drug use.* Contemporary Drug Problems, 33 (1), 63-98

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

Pictured at the Statewide Summit on Women's Health are: Dale Fisher, CEO The Royal Women's Hospital, Marilyn Beaumont, CEO Women's Health Victoria, Deb Keys, Research Fellow KCWHS, and Karen Goltz, Regional Health Promotion Manager, DHS North Western Metropolitan Region.



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 services infrequently invites questions about the scope, setting and timing of drug and alcohol treatment services for this population.

Kavanagh AM, Turrell G, Subramanian SV. *Does area-based social capital matter for the health of Australians? A multilevel analysis of self-rated health in Tasmania.* International Journal

of Epidemiology. 2006, 35(3):607-13.

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.

*Andrea Whittaker BA Qld. PhD Qld (on temporary transfer until Dec 2008)

Lecturers

*Lisa Amir MB BS Monash MMed Melb. PhD LaTrobe IBCLC (on leave until Dec 2008)

Heather Rowe BSc (Hons) La Trobe PhD Melb.

NHMRC Post Doctoral Research Fellow

*Louise Keogh BSc West Aust. MA Monash PhD La Trobe

VicHealth Public Health Research Fellow

New international journal: Dr. Lisa Amir, Lecturer on leave, KCWHS and Editor-in Chief, International Breastfeeding Journal.



AMS student/supervisor: Centre Director Professor Doreen Rosenthal with AMS student, Muhammad Budimansyah.



KCWHS visitor: Professor Lorraine Greaves, Director, British Columbia Center of Excellence for Women's Health.



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 Wirratanaopin, Josephine Nkosana, Lignet Chepuka, Phoebe Bwembya, Lauren Matheson and Benson Singa.

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 BSoc.Sc (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 ANU
Godfrey Woelk, BSc.(Soc), Rhodesia M.COMM.H, Liverpool PhD U Washington
Fellow
Milica Markovic, BSoc. Belgrade, MSoc Belgrade PhD Qld.



McCAUGHEY CENTRE

**VicHealth Centre for the
Promotion of Mental Health
and Community Wellbeing**

School of Population Health
Department of Public Health

Annual Report
2006



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 Nation 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.

international communities. Their commitment to 'knowledge for common good' is at the heart of all the McCaughey Centre's work. Jean McCaughey is the Centre's Patron. Further details regarding Davis and Jean McCaughey are available at http://www.mccaugheycentre.unimelb.edu.au/the_mccaughey_story/10000_story.php.

Teaching and learning

The McCaughey Centre's initial teaching and learning focus is on research higher degree supervision, with the Centre recruiting its first two doctoral students in late 2006 for commencement in 2007. The Centre has capacity to co-supervise research higher degree students across a range of disciplines, and will be developing a recruitment strategy in 2007 with further details at http://www.mccaugheycentre.unimelb.edu.au/postgraduate_research/11000_postgraduate_research.php. It is envisaged that as the McCaughey Centre's profile grows, a number of new subjects will be developed around themes of community strengthening and wellbeing for incorporation into the School of Population Health's existing postgraduate programs. 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.

Research

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 (VCOSS), RMIT and Swinburne



University. Further details regarding Community Indicators Victoria can be found at www.communityindicators.net.au.

Analysis of psychosocial workplace hazards

Assoc Prof Tony LaMontagne from the McCaughey Centre is the lead investigator on this research project for the Office of the Australian Safety and Compensation Council (ASCC), Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR). The project entails scoping and analysing the previously collected four waves of HILDA data for psychosocial hazard surveillance purposes, including analyses of the prevalence, magnitude, and distribution of hazards, both cross-sectionally and longitudinally over the four years of study.

Changing patterns of work: Impacts on physical and mental health and the mediating role of resiliency and social capital

Assoc Prof Tony LaMontagne is an investigator on this NHMRC funded project with research partners Prof Sue Richardson (Flinders), Prof Fran Baum (Flinders), and Prof Anne Kavanagh (KCWHS, UoM). The project provides, for the first time in Australia, a detailed understanding of the impact of the changing forms of employment and unemployment on overall health.

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 Freire 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 strengthening strategies for working with people with a disability

This policy research project, funded by the Department of Human Services, is coordinated by McCaughey Centre Research Fellow Sue West.

Understanding 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

McCaughey 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

Wiseman J., West, S., and Bertone, S., *Mainstreaming change: Learning from community strengthening in Victoria*, Just Policy, Vol. 41, September 2006, pp. 34-42

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

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.

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.

Wiseman J., Local heroes: Learning from recent community strengthening initiatives in Victoria, Australian Journal of Public Administration, Vol. 65, No. 2, June 2006, pp. 95-107
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*

Senior Research Fellow and Centre Deputy Director

Marion Frere, BA *UWA* MA *Melb* PhD *Melb*

Associate Professor and Principal Research Fellow
Anthony Lamontagne, BSc

Massachusetts MA *Harvard* ME *Massachusetts* Sc.D *Harvard*

Research Fellows

Gabrielle Berman, BComFin *RMIT* BCom (Hons) *Melb* PhD *RMIT*

Kathleen Brasher, CertGeneralNurs *Royal Melb* CertMidwifery *Monash* BSc(Nursing) *Monash* GradDipArts *Melb* PhD *Monash*

Xiaogang Chen, BSc *Hangzhou* MSc *Changchun* PostgradDipIMGP *ITC (Netherlands)* PhD *Melb* Melanie Davern, BSc *Melb* BSc(Hons) *Deakin* PhD *Deakin*

Tessa Keegel, BA(Hons) *Monash* MA *Monash* GradDipEpidBiostats *Melb* Sue West, BA *Phillip* IT MA *RMIT*

Professional Staff

Janine Campbell, BA *Melb* GradCertUM *Melb* Kate Jenkins, DipBus *RMIT*

Visiting Staff

Steve Gelsi, Australian Bureau of Statistics
Neil McLean, Australian Bureau of Statistics
Jeanette Pope, Department for Victorian Communities
Jim Stanford, Canadian Auto Workers Union





CHPPE

Centre for Health Policy,
Programs and Economics

School of Population Health

Department of Public Health

Annual Report
2006



**Director of the
Centre for Health
Policy, Programs
and Economics:
Associate
Professor David
Dunt**

*"Our work is
about getting
the products of
research into
the delivery of
services."*

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.

Head of Centre Report

The major highlight of 2006 was undoubtedly the acceptance by the University of our proposal to establish the new Centre for Health Policy, Programs and Economics. Based on the existing Program Evaluation Unit, its establishment followed a successful review of the Unit's work over the previous five years.

The primary aims of the Centre are to:

- Advance relevant knowledge and address health issues so as to better inform theory, research, policies and programs;
- Develop, evaluate and trial interventions to build further understanding of best practice models of health services;
- Engage in the development of research methods, exemplary practice and a varied program of teaching and training;
- Promote and support the development and adoption of evidence-based public health policies and practices;
- Establish systems and processes to promote effective transfer of research findings into policy and practice;
- 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

Publication highlight

Pirkis, J., Blood, R.W., Francis, C., & McCallum, K. 2006, 'On-screen portrayals of mental illness: Extent, nature and impacts', *Journal of Health Communication*, Vol. 11, pp. 523-541.

This article reviews the published literature on the extent, nature, and impacts of portrayal of mental illness in fictional films and television programs.

There is already evidence that nonfiction media may have a role in perpetuating negative attitudes to mental illness by "framing" people with mental illness as violent or dangerous, but we need more evidence about the role of fictional films and television programs in shaping community attitudes about mental illness.

This study aimed to establish:

1. What is the extent and nature of portrayal of mental illness in fictional films and television programs?

2. Is there evidence that portrayal of mental illness in fictional films and television programs can have harmful effects?

3. Is there evidence that portrayal of mental illness in fictional films and television programs can have positive effects?

Our review of the literature suggests that on-screen portrayals are frequent and generally negative, and have a cumulative effect on the public's perception of people with mental illness and on the likelihood of people with mental illness seeking appropriate help.

We conclude that the mental health sector and the film and television industries need to collaborate to counter negative portrayals of mental illness, and to explore the potential for positive portrayals to educate and inform, as well as to entertain.

For more publication highlights, see page 70

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-campus 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 (Subject Coordinator)
- 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.
- Justine Bukenya, Supervisors: Jenni Livingston & Cathy Segan. Evaluating home-based HIV counseling and testing in Bushenyi District, Uganda.
- 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?

- Kirsty Jennifer Irving, Supervisor: Jenni Livingston. Evaluation Capacity Building for Health Arts Programs in a Youth Mental Health Setting.
- Anna-Lisa Jenkins, Supervisor: Jenni Livingston. Community link issues investigation.
- Susan Jury, Supervisor Jenni Livingston. A formative evaluation of paediatric pre-referral guidelines.
- Catherine Lee Keating, Supervisor: Marj Moodie. Adolescent obesity in Australia – and the associated quality of life burden.
- Anita Lal, Supervisor: Cathy Mihalopoulos. Cost effectiveness analysis of call-back counselling for smoking cessation.
- Rachel Susan Greta Lee, Supervisor: Cathy Mihalopoulos. Private health insurance policy and incentives in Australia.
- Marcia Angeline Soumokil, Supervisor: Jenni Livingston. Engagement of male participation in HIV/AIDS prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) program: Evaluation of Indonesia's

PMTCT Program Design.

- Jose Rene Urias Huezo, Supervisor: Jenni Livingston. What are the key issues that need to be addressed to develop a culturally competent (mental) health workforce?
- Gail Beverley Miller, Supervisor: Andrew Dalton. Critique of the Quality of Economic Evaluation in the Dental Literature & Future Directions.

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.

Date	Presenter's Name	Topic of Presentation
7 March	Cathy Segan	Maximising the effectiveness of smoking cessation interventions
21 March	No seminar	Commonwealth Games
4 April	Grant Blashki	The Primary Care Evidence-based Psychological Interventions (PEP) Study: Evaluating cognitive behavioural therapy training for GPs
2 May	Rosemary McKenzie	Evaluating the Well For Life program
16 May	Alan Headey	Lessons from the evaluation of 160 local suicide prevention initiatives
23 May	Susan Day	Geographic inequities in the supply and demand for GP services
6 June	Lucio Naccarella	Why a relational perspective matters in general practice
20 June	Kiu-siang Tay	A review of influenza vaccination in high-risk groups
4 July	Michelle Williamson	Recruiting GPs and maintaining their interest in a large-scale intervention study
18 July	Dominique Cadilhac	Undertaking economic evaluation of blood pressure lowering interventions in stroke: Selecting interventions and modelling implications
1 August	Bree Rankin	Improving GPs' assessment and treatment of coronary heart disease
15 August	Theonie Tacticos	Why self-reported health status is important
5 September	Belinda Morley and Fay Kohn	Evaluating the Better Outcomes in Mental Health Care program
19 September	Jenni Livingston	An evaluation of changes to informed consent for post-mortem
3 October	Michael Otim	Priority setting in Aboriginal health
17 October	Peter Feldman	Intercultural evaluations
21 November	Sonja Hood	Implementing evidence in health care

Primary Care and Health Promotion Work Stream

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:

Title	Funding body	Chief Investigator(s)	Description	Funding
National Evaluation of the Australian Government Dementia Health Priority Initiative	Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing	Chief Investigators: Colleen Doyle, David Dunt, Richard Rosewarne (Applied Aged Care Solutions), Lynne Pezzullo (Access Economics). Other Investigators: Susan Day	This project aims to evaluate the Australian Government's 2005 Budget Dementia Initiative and to provide ongoing evaluation advice to key stakeholders.	\$1,647,100
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	beyondblue	Catherine Segar, Ron Borland (The Cancer Council Victoria), Kay Wilhelm (The University of New South Wales), Sunil Bhar (University of Pennsylvania), and David Dunt	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.	\$91,805
Responding to Health Inequalities: Investigating the Impact of Neighbourhood Renewal on health and well-being in disadvantaged Victorian communities	Department of Human Services, Victoria	Margaret Kelaher, Theonie Tacticos, Deb Warr (Centre for Health and Society)	This project involves baseline data collection for Neighbourhood Renewal in Fitzroy and Collingwood, comprising a community survey of neighbourhood characteristics, health and wellbeing.	\$89,973
Raising Awareness of Prevention Programs for Chronic Pulmonary Disease	Department of Human Services, Victoria	David Dunt	This project involves a literature review and consultation with stakeholders regarding the awareness-raising programs of greatest potential in addressing chronic pulmonary disease.	\$58,603

Title	Funding body	Chief Investigator(s)	Description	Funding
The impact of the new post mortem consent procedure on recently bereaved parents	Victorian Department of Human Services	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	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.	\$53,236
Arts and Health Strategy	The Australia Council	Lindy Joubert (Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning), Margaret Kelaher, David Dunt	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.	\$27,160
Evaluation of the Centre of Excellence for Eating Disorders	Centre of Excellence for Eating Disorders	David Dunt, Rosemary McKenzie	This project involves a review of policy for the prevention and treatment of eating disorders in primary care settings.	\$20,000

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 quite smoking.
- Evaluation of the Well for Life Initiative.
- Evaluation of the Centre of Clinical Research Excellence in Neurosciences.
- Evaluation of the VicHealth Community Arts Development Scheme.

Mental Health

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:

Title	Funding body	Chief Investigator(s)	Description	Funding
Monitoring Media Reporting of Suicide and Mental Illness	Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing	Jane Pirkis, Warwick Blood (University of Canberra) Philip Burgess (University of Queensland), Cath Francis and Andrew Dare	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.	\$714,194
Research priorities in suicide prevention	Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing	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)	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.	\$103,778
The 'Learnings from Suicide Prevention Initiatives' Project	Auseinet	Jane Pirkis, Alan Headey. Other Investigators: Penny Mitchell, Jo Robinson (ORYGEN Youth Health), Philip Burgess (University of Queensland)	This project involves an analysis of the project and evaluation reports from 156 suicide prevention projects funded under the National Suicide Prevention Strategy.	\$78,464
An evaluation of the new Medicare Benefits Schedule psychologist item numbers: Impacts for psychologists and their patients.	Australian Rotary Health Research Fund	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)	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.	\$47,375

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

Health Economics

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:

Title	Funding body	Chief Investigator(s)	Description	Funding
Multicentre randomised controlled trial of very early and frequent mobilisation after stroke (AVERT)	NHMRC	Helen Dewey, Julie Bernhardt, (National Stroke Research Institute) Geoffrey Donnan Amanda Thrift, (National Stroke Research Institute) Rob Carter	The Health Economics Group was responsible for the economic evaluation component of this project.	\$2,820,228
Maximising the effectiveness of interactive automated programs for smoking cessation	NHMRC	Ron Borland and James Balmford (Cancer Council). Consultant: Marj Moodie	The Health Economics Group was responsible for the economic evaluation component of this project.	\$3600
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	National Institute of Clinical Studies	Rob Carter. Other Investigators: Kiu-siang Tay-Teo, Stephen Colgan, Sophy Shih	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.	\$18,960

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.
- Australasian Cystic Fibrosis BAL Study: Economic Evaluation.
- The Construction and Validation of the Assessment of Mental Health Related Quality of Life (PsyQoL) Instrument.
- Career Development Award: Priority setting in population health: Past experience and future directions.
- 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)
- EVALTALK - American Evaluation Association (AEA) Discussion List. <http://www.eval.org>
- 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

- 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

Marj Moodie

- Reviewer, International Journal of Paediatric Obesity
- Reviewer, ANZJPH

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

Lee A, Colgan S, Carter R and Nixon R. (2006). *Evaluation of the economic impact of OCD*. Berlin: 8th Congress of the European Society of Contact Dermatitis.

Haby, M.M., Carter, R., Markwick, A.J., Moodie, M., Magnus, A., Vos, T., Swinburn, B. 2006, *Findings from the Assessing Cost-effectiveness in Obesity (ACE Obesity) project*, International Conference on Obesity, Sydney, September 3-8 2006. 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 2007.

Moodie, M., Carter, R., Haby, M., Swinburn, B. 2006, *The potential cost-effectiveness of Walking School Bus as an obesity reduction measure*, International Conference on Obesity, Sydney, September 3-8 2006.

Danchin, M., **Carter, R.**, Carapetis, J.R. 2006, *A cost-effectiveness analysis of the management of sore throat in children in Australia*, Paediatric Academic Societies (PAS), San Francisco, USA.

Moodie M, Haby M, Swinburn B, Markwick A, Magnus A, **Tay-Teo K, Sach T, Carter R**, 2006. *ACE-Obesity: Priority setting for obesity prevention*. European Health economics Conference, Budapest, July 2006.

Pirkis J, Neal L. (2006). *Australian legislation on suicide and the internet*. Paper presented to the 11th European Symposium on Suicide and Suicidal Behaviour, Portoroz, 9-12 September.

Pirkis J, Skehan J, Blood

RW. (2006). *Australia's experience with media guidelines*. 11th European Symposium on Suicide and Suicidal Behaviour, Portoroz, 9-12 September.

Pirkis J, Burgess P, Blood RW, **Francis C.** (2006). *The 'newsworthiness' of suicides*. 11th European Symposium on Suicide and Suicidal Behaviour, Portoroz, 9-12 September.

Workshop presentation

Taylor S, **Hood, S.** 2006, *The devil in the detail: data extraction forms for systematic reviews of complex interventions*, 14th Annual Cochrane Colloquium, October 2006, Dublin.

Poster presentations

Markwick, A.J., **Moodie, M., Carter, R., Haby, M.** 2006, *ACE: Obesity: The cost-effectiveness of two single component school-based interventions to reduce the prevalence of unhealthy weight in children in Australia*, International Conference on Obesity, Sydney, September 3-8 2006.

Hood S, Dunt D, Pirkis P, Phillips S, Taylor S 2006, *Meta-analysis of systematic reviews of complex interventions: lessons / insights from complex interventions in heart failure*, 14th Annual Cochrane Colloquium, October 2006, Dublin.

National Conferences

Carter R., Colgan S., & Nixon, R (2006). *The economic impact of Occupational Contact Dermatitis in Australia*. Occupational Contact Dermatitis: Where are we now? Melbourne.

Dunt D, 2006. *National Evaluation of the Commonwealth Government's Dementia Health Priority Initiative*, University of Tasmania, August, Invited presentation.

Moller-Saxone K, Pirkis J, Tobias G. 2006. *Successful quitting stories*, The Mental Health Services Conference, Townsville 29 August – 1 September.

Haby MM, Carter R, Markwick AJ, **Moodie M**, Magnus A, Vos T, Swinburn B. 2006. *Modelling cost-effectiveness and population impacts: the Assessing Cost-Effectiveness in Obesity (ACE-Obesity) project*. Invited paper, Community Based Obesity Prevention ICO Satellite, Geelong, August.

Faeamani G, Scragg R, Schaaf D, **Moodie M.** 2006, *The Association between Obesity and PedsQL Quality of Life Measure in South Auckland high school students*. Community Based Obesity Prevention ICO Satellite, Geelong, August.

Dare A. 2006, *Media Monitoring Project 2006-2007*, Suicide Prevention Australia's (SPA) National Conference, *Connecting Pathways, Big Country – Big Picture*, 2 November – 4 November, Adelaide.

Pirkis J, Burgess P, Blood RW, **Francis C.** (2006). *What proportion of suicides are reported in the media, and what determines their 'newsworthiness'?* Queensland Suicide and Self-harm Prevention Conference, Brisbane, 30-31 March.

Workshop presentation

Dunt D. 2006, *Final report of the statewide evaluation of Best Start* (Victorian Early Childhood Development Initiative) Department of Human Services Melbourne.

Poster Presentation

Kave C, De Courten M, **Moodie M**, Swinburn B, 2006. *Digital versus paper entry for surveys: A comparison of data quality and preferences using a quality of life instrument with adolescents*. 15th Annual Meeting of the Australasian Epidemiological Association, 18-19 September, The University of Melbourne.

De Courten M, **Moodie M**, Kave C, Swinburn B, 2006. *Cost comparison of survey data collection methods for large-scale youth survey: paper versus handheld computer based*. 15th Annual

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.

Cadilhac, D.A., Moodie, M.L., Lalor, E.E., Bilnet, L.E. & Donnan, G.A., 2006 *Improving access to evidence-based acute stroke services: Development and evaluation of a health systems model to address equity of access issues*, Australian Health Review, vol. 30, no. 1, pp. 109-118.

Dunt, D., Elsworth, G., Southern, D. Harris, C., Potiriadis, M. & Young, D. 2006, *Individual and area factors associated with GP*

integration in Australia: A multilevel analysis, Social Science in Medicine, vol. 63, pp. 680-690.

Kelaher, M., Dunt, D., Taylor-Thomson, D., Harrison, N., O'Donoghue, L., Barnes, T. & Anderson, I. 2006, *Improving access to medicines among clients or Remote Area Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Services*, Australian & New Zealand Journal of Public Health, vol. 30, pp. 177-183.

Moodie, M., Cadilhac, D., Pearce, D., **Mihalopoulos, C., Carter, R.,** Davis, S., Donnan, G. 2006, *Economic evaluation of Australian Stroke Services: A prospective multicentre study comparing dedicated stroke units with other care modalities*, Stroke, vol. 37, pp. 2790-2795.

Pirkis, J., Burgess, P., **Francis, C.,** Blood, R.W., Jolley, D. 2006, *The relationship between media reporting of suicide and actual suicide*, Social Science and Medicine, vol. 62, pp.2874-2886.

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, Kiusiang 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.*
MAdmSt *ANU* PhD *Monash*
GDipEpi&PopH *ANU*

Associate Professor

Jane Pirkis, BA *Tas.* MPsych
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 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, Kiu Tay-Teo, Michael Otim, Rob Carter, David Dunt and Jane Pirkis.

Lecturers

*Helen Jordan, BSc
Melb. GDipEd Melb.
 GDipEpi&Biostat *Melb.*
 *Jennifer Livingston, BSc
Melb. MEd Melb. DipEd Melb.

Senior Research Fellows

*Grant Blashki, MB BS
Monash MD Monash
 FRACGP RACGP
 *Andrew Dalton, BEd *Monash*
 MEd *Monash DipEd Monash*
 GDipHEcEval *Monash*
 Margaret Kelaher,
 BSc(Psych) NSW PhD NSW
 *Catherine Mihalopoulos,
 BBSc GDipEcSt
 PGDipHlthEc&Eval *Monash*

Research Fellows

*Stephen Colgan, BNurs
Deakin
 *Peter Feldman, BA *Tas.*
 *Alan Headey, BA *Qld.*
 *Fay Kohn, MA *Deakin*
 DED *Melb. DipPT Deakin*
 GDipTESOL *Deakin*
 *Rosemary McKenzie,
 BA *Monash MPH Curtin*
 PGDipHlthProm *Curtin*
 Marjorie Moodie, BA *Melb.*
 DPH *Melb. DipEd Melb.*
 DipTRP *Melb.*
 *Belinda Morley, BA *Monash*
 *Lucio Naccarella, BSc *Adel.*
 GDipMHS(Transcult) *Melb.*
 *Michael Otim, BSc *Makerere*
Uni. Uganda MEcon

Monash GDipEc Newcastle,
 PGDipHlthEc&Evln *Monash*
 *Ting Fang Shih, BS CMC
Taiwan MPH Tulane USA
 DrPH *Melb.*

*Theonie Tacticos, BBus
Monash GDipCommDev
RMIT

*Kui-siang Tay-Teo, BPharm
Monash MPH(HlthEco) Melb.

*Michelle Williamson,
 BHlthSc *LaTrobe*

NHMRC Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Cathy Segan, BA *Melb. PhD*
LaTrobe

Research Assistants

Bree Rankin, BCom *Melb.*

Honorary Appointments

Senior Fellow

Michelle Haby de Sosa,
 BAppSc *S.Aust. MAppSc*
Syd. PhD Syd.

Fellows

Sonja Hood, BA *Melb. MSc*
Penn.
 Penny Mitchell, BSc Psych
NSW MPH Syd.

Professional Staff

Centre Manager

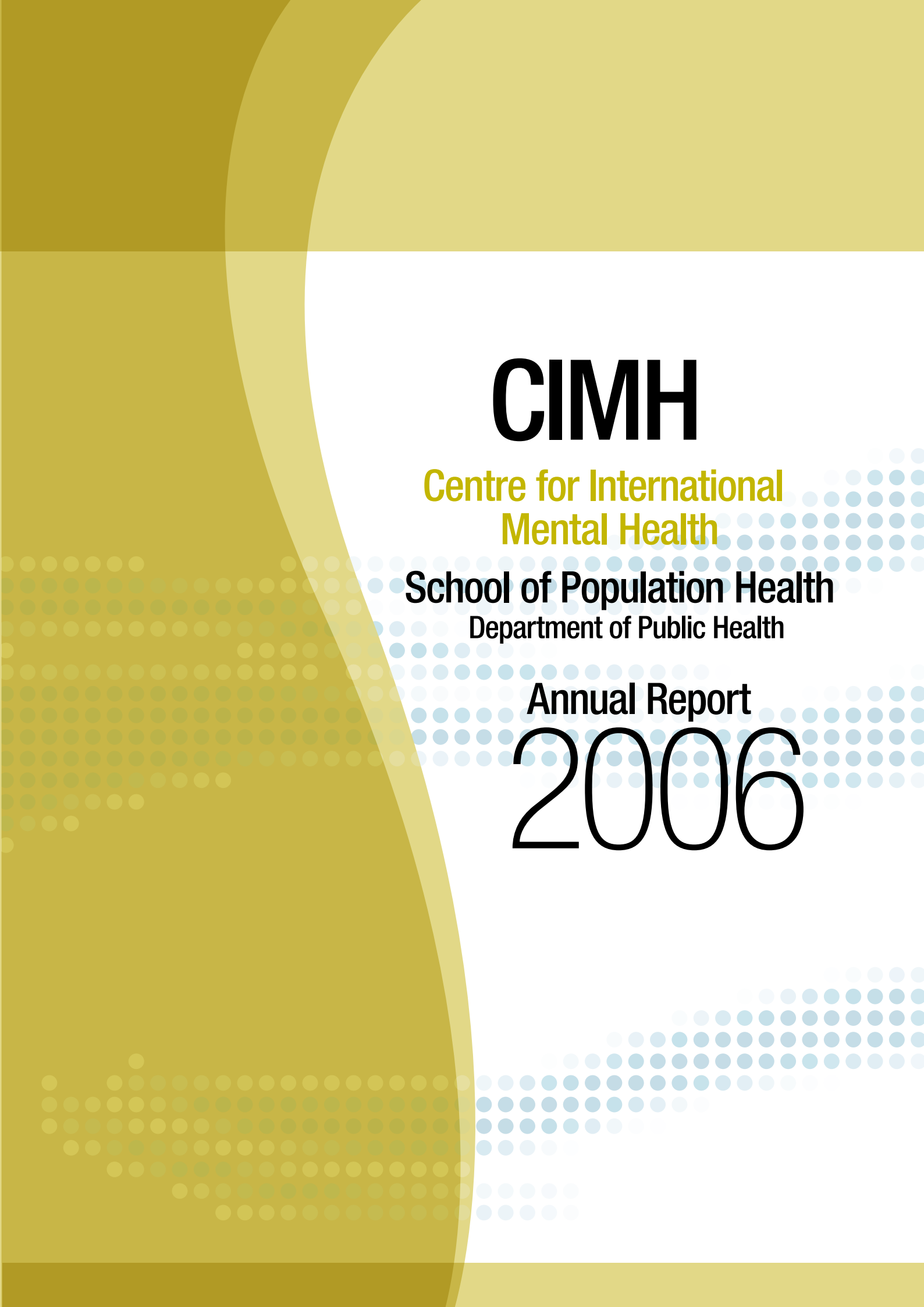
*Tracey Mayhew

Administrative Officer

*Joy Yeadon.

Administrative Assistant

*Elizabeth Gwynne



CIMH

Centre for International
Mental Health

School of Population Health
Department of Public Health

Annual Report
2006



**Director of
the Centre for
International
Mental Health:
Associate
Professor Harry
Minas.**

"Our key motivation is to improve the quality of mental health care for people in Asia and in other regions."

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, Tan 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.

It examines 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.

(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).

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.

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

Agreement with Biomed Central to launch a new journal in 2007 – *The International Journal of Mental Health Systems*.

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 Sopha, 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.

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

College of Community Physicians of Sri Lanka Conference, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 28 October 2006, *Mental Health: A Public Health Perspective*.

Indonesian Association of Psychiatrists Schizophrenia Congress, Batam, Indonesia, 18 November 2006, *Mental Health Leadership in Changing World*.

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, *Reformations and Transformations of Mental Hospitals from a Global Perspective*.

Official launch of WHO/AISRAP 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

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



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.

The Mental Health Service Conference, 29 August 2006, Klimidis S, Minas H, Sundram S, Stol Y, Carter J, Sahat N, Steiner C, Chua M, Kokanovic R, *Adaptation of organisational processes in mental health services to cultural diversity.*

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.

In this paper we examine 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 community, and we 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.

Staff

Associate Professor and Director

Harry Minas, MB BS Melbourne BMedSc Melbourne DPM Melbourne FRANZCP

Associate Professor and Research Co-Ordinator

Steven Klimidis B.Sc(Hons) Monash Ph.D (ClinPsy) MAPS ANU

Research Fellows

Tania Miletic BA Melbourne GDipPsych Melbourne M. Pub. Admin. ICU Tokyo Kate Johnston-Ata'ata, BA BComm Melbourne B Asian Studies ANU M Pub Pol GRIPS (Japan) MIMH Melbourne (in progress)

Centre Manager and Personal Assistant

Jennifer Burchill, BA VU

Administration

*Leanne Perry BA (Hons) Leeds (UK)

Honorary Staff

Alex Cohen MA CUNY/ Hunter PhD UCLA Ricki E Kantrowitz BA Simmons MA PhD Michigan State University A/Prof Vikram Patel MBBS Mumbai MSc Oxford PhD London MRCPsych London Erminia Colucci, DipEd Martina F. BPsySc (Hons) Padua GradDipDataAnalysis Florence Anura Jayasinghe MBBS Sri Lanka MSc Colombo MD Colombo Yutaro Setoya, BA Tokyo MA Tokyo PhD Tokyo Yvonne Tokol BA MA PhD Melbourne



SHU

Sexual Health Unit

School of Population Health

Department of Public Health

Annual Report

2006



Director of the Sexual Health Unit: Professor Christopher Fairley.

"Our Centre helps to improve STI control by delivering services in innovative, highly efficient ways."

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

MSHC Statistics

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

Clinic Type	Total	Male	Female	Transgender
General Clinic	22,695	12,739	9,939	17
HIV Clinic	1,813	1,610	198	5
Outreach	485	393	86	6
Counselling	1,028	768	259	1
Vaccination	697	502	195	-
Total	26,718	16,012	10,677	29
Individuals	11,580	7,111	4,455	14

DIAGNOSES

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

Diagnoses	Total
Chlamydia trachomatis	768
Neisseria gonorrhoeae	262
Nongonococcal urethritis	774
Herpes simplex virus	663
Syphilis	51
Bacterial vaginosis	496
Warts	1570
Human immunodeficiency virus (new cases)	32*
HIV post exposure prophylaxis	139
Post coital intervention	88
Trichomoniasis in women	10

* includes 2 females

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.

Master of Public Health (MPH)

Many students undertaking the MPH select sexual

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

Tomnay JE, Gebert R, **Fairley CK**. A survey of partner notification practices among general practitioners and their use of an Internet resource for partner notification for *Chlamydia trachomatis*. 2006; *Sexual Health*. 3(4): 217-220

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.

- Semester 1 – Clinical Sexual and Reproductive Health for nurses 505-434/534. This subject is also accredited by Royal college of Nursing as a pap smear provider course.
- Semester 1 – Adolescent Sexuality and Sexual Health 571-821. This subject is run collaboratively with the Centre for Adolescent Health, Dept of Paediatrics, University of Melbourne.
- Semester 2 – Sexual & Reproductive Health – 505-433/533.
- Semester 2 – Sexual Function and Dysfunction-505-41/541.
- Short course series on many different aspects relating to STIs and clinical attachments at MSHC are also offered.

Undergraduate Teaching

- Semester 5 – public health control of STIs.
- Semester 8 – clinical aspects of STIs.
- Semesters 6 and 7 – Advanced Medical Science (AMS) – clinical research projects.
- Clinical attachments to Melbourne Sexual Health Centre.

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

HIV/AIDS prevention and management. **Moshin Sidat**, PhD (submitted).

Development of questionnaire to provide the greatest sensitivity and specificity in detecting non-adherence to antiretroviral therapy used in the management of HIV. **Asiye Doxanakakis**, 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.
- 2 Workshop on Accelerating Action for Improving the Sexual and Reproductive Health of Young People – World Health Organization

(WHO), UNICEF & UNFPA. Manila, Philippines. March 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.

Bradshaw CS, Tabrizi SN, Read TR, Garland SM, Hopkins CA, Moss LM, **Fairley CK**. Etiologies of nongonococcal urethritis: bacteria, viruses, and the association with orogenital exposure. *Journal of Infectious Diseases*. 2006; 193(3):336-45

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 insertive oral sex and NGU.

Research Grants

- 1 McCarthy TD, Chatsuwat 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
- 2 Fairley CK, Donovan B, Harcourt C, Tabrizi S, Garland S, Hoban E, Cook K, Chen M. Health needs and sexual health knowledge in the unregulated sector of the Victorian sex Industry. DHS Public Health Research Grant 2006. \$97,032
- 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
- 4 Hocking J, Fairley CK, Bowden F, Donovan B, Chen M, Kaldor J, Gunn J, Pirota M, Harindra V, Gurrin L, Tabrizi S, Garland S, McNamee K, Birden H. Chlamydia incidence and re-infection rates: a longitudinal study of young Australian women. Chlamydia Pilot Program: Targeted Grants Program 2006. \$833,714
- 5 Chen MY, Garland SM, Fairley CK, Tabrizi S, Wallace E, Grover S, Petersen R, Hocking J, Pirota M, Carter R, Gurrin L. Chlamydia screening of antenatal women in Melbourne. Chlamydia Pilot Program: Targeted Grants Program 2006. \$138,381
- 6 Fairley CK, Parker R, Bowden F, Temple-Smith M, Hocking J, Chen M, Tomnay J, Russell D, Gunn J, Pitts M, Cummings R. Improved Chlamydia contact tracing by optimising cost effective and sustainable supports. Chlamydia Pilot Program: Targeted Grants Program 2006. \$229,428

Staff List

Professor of Sexual Health
Christopher Fairley

Senior Lecturer
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 Pirota, *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



DVDC

Diabetes Vaccine
Development Centre

School of Population Health
Department of Public Health

Annual Report
2006



**CEO of the
Diabetes Vaccine
Development
Centre, Dr David
Irving.**

"(The) ultimate aim is to produce that product and see it on the shelf. You must keep focused on that endgame."

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 sale.

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

Publication highlight

Mol Cancer Ther 2007; 6(1):203–11

Preclinical evaluation of ^{213}Bi -labeled plasminogen activator inhibitor type 2 in an orthotopic murine xenogenic model of human breast carcinoma
Tamantha K. Stutchbury, Fares Al-ejeh, Gillian E. Stillfried, David R. Croucher, John Andrews, **David Irving**, Matthew Links and Marie Ranson

This paper reports internationally significant advances in the development of a potential therapy that could more effectively treat tumours by targeting cancerous cells and minimising collateral damage.

These preclinical studies of toxicology and efficacy focused on the use of the molecule PAI-2 as a targeting agent that was linked to a radioactive compound which then killed cancer cells in mice.

Previously, it was known that the tumour-associated molecule, urokinase plasminogen

activator (uPA), was a critical marker of invasion and metastasis, had strong prognostic relevance, and was thus a potential therapeutic target. Experimental data published to date had established the proof-of-principle of uPA targeting by ^{213}Bi -labeled plasminogen activator inhibitor type 2 (α -PAI-2) in multiple carcinoma models.

In these studies we established that α -PAI-2 was safe in animal systems and we determined the maximum tolerated dose (MTD).

The MTD for a multiple fractionated (once daily for 5 days) administration schedule was determined to lie between 4.8 and 6.0 mCi/kg/d x 5. Comparison of the tumour growth rates and survival using sub-MTD single and multiple-dose schedules in an orthotopic human breast carcinoma xenograft murine model indicated that 4.8 mCi/kg/d x 5 was the most efficacious schedule.

The next step is to evaluate the safety of α -PAI-2 in a second species and to begin human clinical trials.

approval to commence received in early 2006.

Following development and refinement of operational procedures, establishment of a call-centre for recruitment and formulation and manufacture of the experimental 'vaccine' during 2006 (under contract and according to the code 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**.

(ii) 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.



DVDC CEO Dr David Irving and Dr Grace Wong, CSO and President of Actokine Therapeutics, at a recent international biotechnology congress held in Boston, Massachusetts.

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)



VIRG

**Vaccine and Immunisation
Research Group**

School of Population Health
Department of Public Health

Annual Report
2006



**Group Leader,
Professor
Terry Nolan.**

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 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: Randomized, clinical trial of safety and immunogenicity of a prototype H5N1 influenza vaccine in healthy adults. Presented at (1) VIII International Symposium for Respiratory Viral Infections March, 2006, Hawaii, USA, and (2) World Health Organisation Pandemic Vaccines Review, Geneva, Switzerland.

Professor Terry Nolan: A novel Haemophilus influenzae type b – meningococcal serogroups C and Y conjugate (Hib-MenCY-TT) vaccine induces persistent immune responses and immune memory. Presented at the Pediatric Academic Societies Annual Scientific Conference, San Francisco, USA.

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

Publication highlight

Block SL, **Nolan TM**, Sattler C, Barr E, Giacoletti K, Marchant CD, Castellsagué X, Rusche S, Lukac S, Bryan JT, Taddeo FJ, Esser TM, Li H, Cavanaugh P, Reisinger SK. Comparison of the Immunogenicity and Reactogenicity of a Prophylactic Quadrivalent Human Papillomavirus (Types 6,11,16,18) L1 Virus-like Particle (VLP) Vaccine in Male and Female Adolescents and Young Adult Women. *Pediatrics* 2006;118:2135-45.

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.

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

Kerry-Ann O'Grady: An electronic system to simplify the WHO process for the radiological diagnosis of pneumonia in research. Presented at the 5th International Symposium on Pneumococci and Pneumococcal Diseases, Alice Springs, Australia.

Kerry-Ann O'Grady: The WHO guidelines for the radiological diagnosis of pneumonia in children: outcomes of investigator training in the Northern Territory, Australia. Presented at the 5th International Symposium on Pneumococci and Pneumococcal Diseases, Alice Springs, Australia.

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.

Dr Jodie McVernon: Host and environmental factors associated with ongoing Hib disease in English children, 1998-2002. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the European Society for Paediatric Infectious Diseases, Basel, Switzerland.

Hocking J: A mathematical model to assess the impact of a chlamydia screening program on the prevalence of Chlamydia trachomatis in Australia. Presented at Australasian Sexual Health Conference.

Hocking J: Uncontested possessions and key positions – sexual health and risk behaviours in young men in rural and regional football clubs. Presented at Australasian Sexual Health Conference.

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.

Nolan TM, Bernstein H, Blatter HM, Bromberg K, Guerra F, Kennedy W, Pichichero M, Senders SD, Trofa A, Collard A, Sullivan DC, Descamps D: Immunogenicity and safety of an inactivated hepatitis A vaccine administered concomitantly with Diphtheria-Tetanus-Acellular Pertussis and Haemophilus influenzae type B vaccines to children under the age of 2 years. *Pediatrics* 2006;118:e602-9.

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.

McVernon J, Slack MPE, Ramsay ME. Changes in the Epidemiology of epiglottitis following introduction of Haemophilus influenzae type B (Hib) conjugate vaccines in England: a comparison of two data sources. *Epidemiology and Infection* 2006;134:570.

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.

Hocking JS, Lim M, Read T, Hellard M. Postal surveys of physicians gave superior response rates over telephone interviews in a randomised trial. *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology* 2006;59:521-524.

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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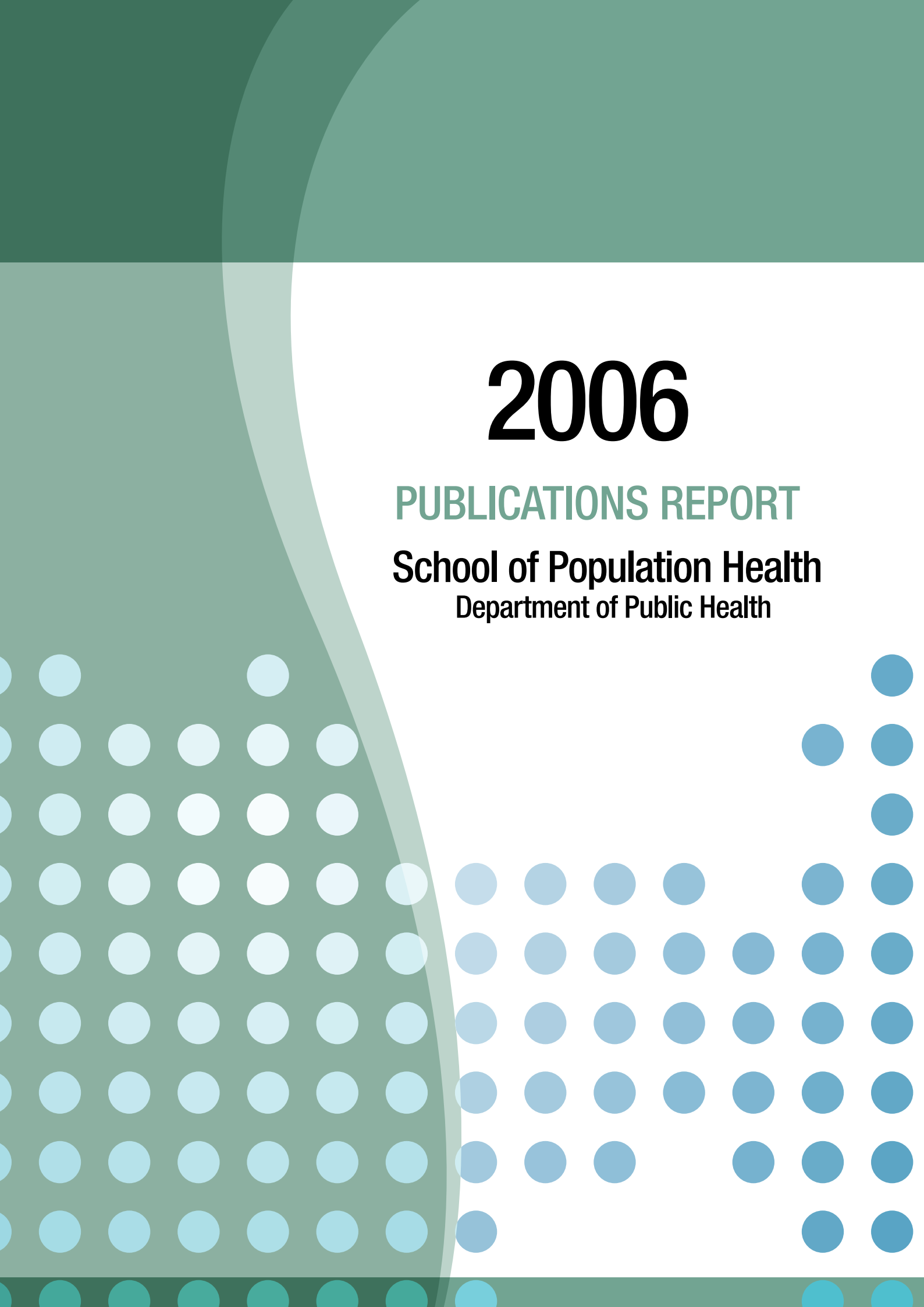
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2006

PUBLICATIONS REPORT

School of Population Health
Department of Public Health

A: Books

- **Miletic, T. & Soth Plai, N.** 2006, *Introduction to peace studies and research methods*, The Alliance for Conflict Transformation ACT, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

A1: Authored Research Books

- **Genat, W.** 2006, *Aboriginal healthworkers: Primary health care at the margins*, University of Western Australia Press, Perth.
- **Guillemin, M. & Gillam, L.** 2006, *Telling moments: Everyday ethics in health care*, IP Communications, Hawthorn East, Vic.
- **Moore, S. & Rosenthal, D.** 2006, *Sexuality in adolescence: Current trends*, Routledge, London.

A2: Edited Books

- **Lahiri-Dutt, K. & Macintyre, M.** (eds) 2006, *Women miners in developing countries: Pit women and others*, Ashgate, Aldershot.
- **Lea, T., Kowal, E. E. & Cowlshaw, G.** (eds) 2006, *Moving anthropology: Critical Indigenous studies*, Charles Darwin University Press, Darwin.
- **Tehan, M., Shain, K., Palmer, L., Langton, M. & Mazel, O.** (eds), *Settling with Indigenous people*, Federation Press, Sydney.

A6: Authored Books Other

- **McCalman, J.** 2006, *Janet McCalman on the world of the sixty-nine tram*, Melbourne University Press, Carlton, Vic.

B1: Research Book Chapters

- **Cowlshaw, G., Kowal, E. E. & Lea, T.** 2006, 'Introduction: Double binds', in T. Lea, E. E. Kowal & G. Cowlshaw (eds), *Moving anthropology: Critical Indigenous studies*, Charles Darwin University Press, Darwin, pp. 1–16.
- **Kowal, E.** 2006, 'Moving towards the mean: Dilemmas of assimilation and improvement', in T. Lea, E. E. Kowal & G. Cowlshaw (eds), *Moving anthropology: Critical Indigenous studies*, Charles Darwin University Press, Darwin, pp. 65–78.
- **Lahiri-Dutt, K. & Macintyre, M.** 2006, 'Introduction: Where life is in the pits (and elsewhere) and gendered', in K. Lahiri-Dutt & M. Macintyre (eds), *Women miners in developing countries: Pit women and others*, Ashgate, Aldershot, pp. 1–22.
- **Langton, M.** 2006, 'Earth, wind, fire, water: The social and spiritual construction of water in Aboriginal societies', in B. David, B. Barker & I. McNiven (eds), *The social archaeology of Australian Indigenous societies*, AIATSIS Aboriginal Studies Press, Canberra, pp. 139–60.
- **Macintyre, M.** 2006, 'Women working in the mining industry in Papua New Guinea: A case study from Lihir', in K. Lahiri-Dutt & M. Macintyre (eds), *Women miners in developing countries: Pit women and others*, Ashgate, Aldershot, pp. 130–44.
- **Shain, K., Genat, W. & Wensing, E.** 2006, 'Agreement-making in the local context: Case studies from regional Australia', in M. Tehan, K. Shain, L. Palmer, M. Langton & O. Mazel (eds), *Settling with Indigenous people*, Federation Press, Sydney, pp. 182–205.

B2: Book Chapters Other

- **Bird, S.** 2006, 'Exercise and the older adult', in K. Wolf-May (ed), *Exercise prescription: Physiological foundations*, Churchill Livingstone Elsevier, London, pp. 203–18.
- **Bird, S. & Woolf-May, K.** 2006, 'Adults with asthma', in K. Wolf-May (ed), *Exercise prescription: Physiological foundations*, Churchill Livingstone Elsevier, London, pp. 127–38.
- **Katz, E., Walter, M. & Anderson, I.** 2006, 'Living culture', in P. Beilharz & T. Hogan (eds), *Sociology: Place, time and division*, Oxford University Press, South Melbourne, pp. 210–14.
- **Kiropoulos, L., Klimidis, S. & Blashki, G.** 2006, 'Cross-cultural issues in GP psychiatry', in G. Blashki, F. Judd & L. Piterman (eds), *General practice psychiatry*, McGraw Hill Australia, Sydney, pp. 57–71.
- **Langton, M.** 2006, 'Goowoomji's world', in *Paddy Bedford*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, pp. 51–61.

C: Journal Articles

- **Silbert, B., Scott, D., Maruff, P., Evered, L. A. & Lewis, S.** 2006, 'Detection of postoperative cognitive decline after coronary artery bypass graft surgery is affected by the number of neuropsychological tests in the assessment battery', *Annals of Thoracic Surgery*, **81**: 2097–104.

C1: Journal Articles Refereed

- **Aghmesheh, M., Suo, Z., Friedlander, M., Nesland, M., Kaern, J., Stewart, M., Amor, D., Andrews, L., Antill, Y., Armes, J., Armitage, S., Arnold, L., Balleine, R., Begley, G., Beilby, J., Bennett, B., Bennett, I., Berry, G., Blackburn, A., Brown, M., Brennan, M., Bryon, K., Burke, J., Butow, P., Callen, D., Campbell, I., Chenevix-Trench, G., Clarke, C., Colley, A., Cotton, D., Culling, B., Cummings, M., Dawson, S. J., Dixon, J., Dobrovic, A., Dudding, T., Edkins, T., Eisenbruch, M., Farshid, G., Fawcett, S., Firgaira, F., Fleming, J., Forbes, J., Gaff, C., Gardner, M., Gattas, M., George, P., Giles, G., Gill, G., Goldblatt, J., Grist, S., Haan, E., Harris, M., Hart, S., Hayward, N., Hopper, J., Humphrey, E., Jenkins, M., Jones, A., Kefford, R., Kirk, J., Kollias, J., Kovalenko, S., Lakhani, S., Leary, J., Lindeman, G., Lim, J., Lipton, L., Lobb, L., Maclurcan, M., Mann, G., Marsh, D., McCredie, R. E., McKay, M., McLachlan, S. A., Meiser, B., Milne, R., Mitchell, G., Newman, B., O'Loughlin, I., Osborne, R., Peters, L., Phillips, K. A., Picken, S., Price, M., Reeve, J., Reeve, T., Richards, R., Rinehart, G., Robinson, B., Rudzki, B., Salisbury, E., Sambrook, J., Saunders, C., Scott, C., Scott, E., Scott, R., Seshadri, R., Shelling, A., Southey, M., Spurdle, A. B., Suthers, G., Tennant, C., Thorne, H., Wilson, J., Venter, D., Visvader, J., Walpole, I., Ward, R., Waring, P., Warner, B., Warren, G., Watson, E., Williams, R., Winship, I., Young, M. A., Dorum, A., Tucker, K. & Buckley, M.** 2006, 'Chromosome 2q24.2 is lost in sporadic but not in BRCA1-associated ovarian carcinomas', *Pathology*, **38**(2): 145–51.
- **Alsop, K., Mead, L., Smith, L., Royce, S., Tesoriero, A., Young, P., Haydon, A., Grubb, G., Giles, G., Jenkins, M., Hopper, J. & Southey, M.** 2006, 'Low somatic K-ras mutation frequency in colorectal cancer diagnosed under the age of 45 years', *European Journal of Cancer*, **42**: 1357–61.
- **Amir, L., James, P. & Donath, M.** 2006, 'Reliability of the hazelbaker assessment tool for lingual frenulum function', *International Breastfeeding Journal*, **1**(3): <<http://www.internationalbreastfeedingjournal.com/content/1/1/3>>.
- **Anderson, I.** 2006, 'Mutual obligation, shared responsibility agreements and Indigenous health strategy', *Australia and New Zealand Health Policy*, **3**(10): 1–10.
- **Anderson, I., Crengle, S., Kamaka, M., Chen, T. H., Palafox, N. & Jackson-Pulver, L.** 2006, 'Indigenous health in Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific', *Lancet*, **367**: 1775–85.
- **Apicella, C., Peacock, J., Andrews, L., Tucker, K., Bankier, A., Daly, B. & Hopper, J.** 2006, 'Determinants of preferences for genetic counselling in Jewish women', *Familial Cancer*, **5**: 159–67.
- **Baade, D., English, D., Youl, H., McPherson, M., Elwood, M. & Aitken, F.** 2006, 'The relationship between melanoma thickness and time to diagnosis in a large population-based study', *Archives of Dermatology*, **142**: 1422–7.
- **Baglietto, L., English, D., Hopper, J., Powles, J. & Giles, G.** 2006, 'Average volume of alcohol consumed, type of beverage, drinking pattern and the risk of death from all causes', *Alcohol and Alcoholism*, **41**(6): 664–71.
- **Baglietto, L., Jenkins, M., Severi, G., Giles, G., Bishop, T., Boyle, P. & Hopper, J.** 2006, 'Measures of familial aggregation depend on definition of family history: Meta-analysis for colorectal cancer', *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*, **59**: 114–24.
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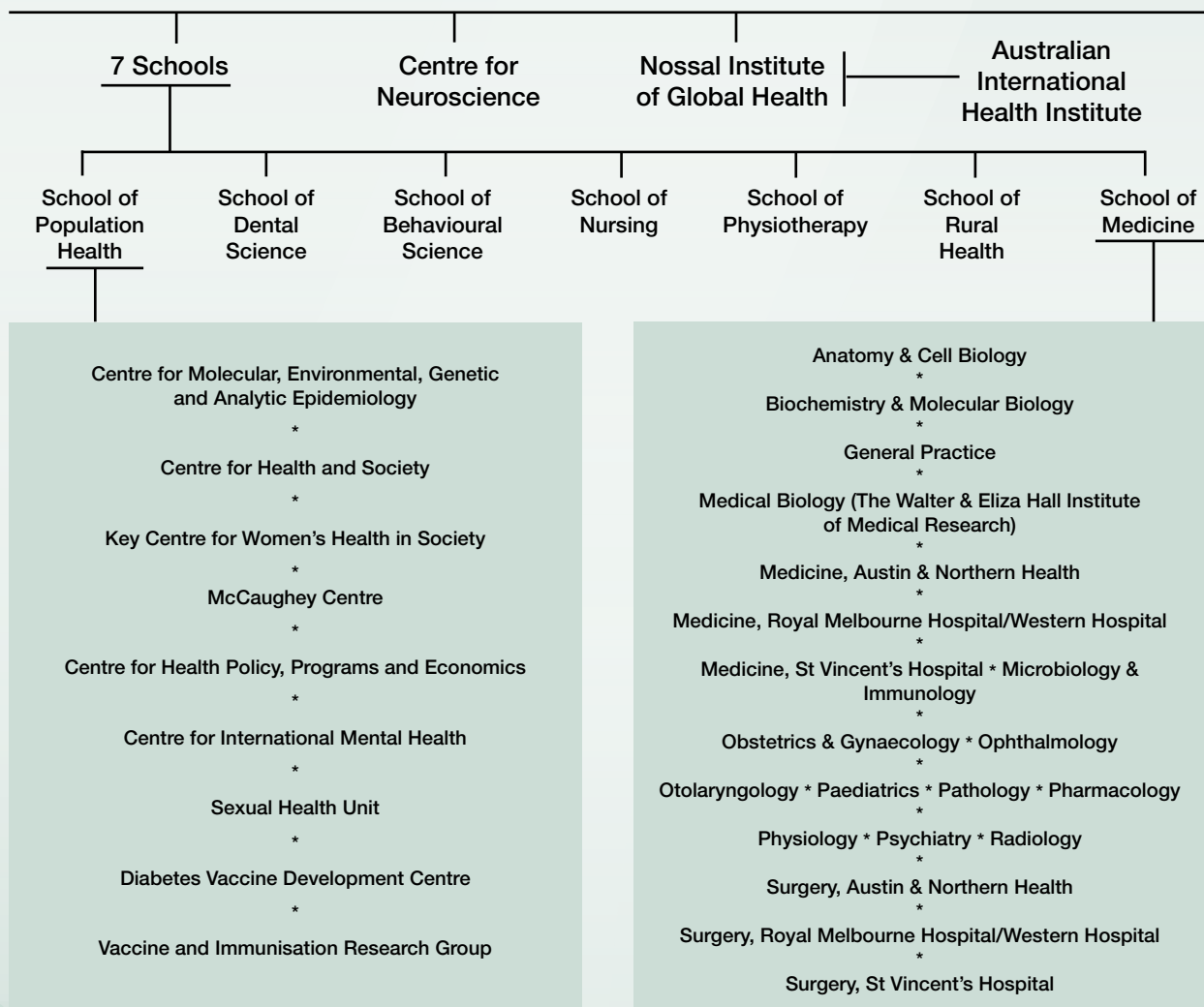
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