



Editorial



Welcome to the first issue of Research e-News for 2007. This will be the last issue for which I will be Editor, as I have decided to give up the role to focus on my PhD work. It has been a pleasure being Editor and has been a wonderful

opportunity to meet researchers within the School. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to the newsletter, and Katy Symmons and Nelum Salgado. My replacement will be announced before the release of the next issue in June.

In this issue you will read about upcoming funding opportunities. For a comprehensive list of the funding opportunities and internal closing dates visit the Research Office's Calendar of funding opportunities at

<http://www.monash.edu.au/research/academics/funding/>

Featured in "Meet the staff" are Dr Kathryn Gilson (Department of General Practice), Dr Jean Graham (Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria), Ms Marija Dragic (Department of Social Work), Dr Peter Kent (Department of Physiotherapy) and Mr Brian Fallows Department of Community Emergency Health and Paramedic Practice.

Finally, congratulations to Max Liddell, Louise McCall and Rosemary Sheehan on their promotion to Associate Professor late last year.

Happy reading.

Stella Koritsas

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Editor

Publications

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria

Costello H., Holt, G., Cain, N., Bradley, E., Torr, J., Davis, R., Edwards, N., Lennox, N., & Weber, G. (2007). Professional Training for those working with People with Intellectual Disabilities and Mental Health Problems. In N. Bouras & G. Holt (Eds.), *Psychiatric and behavioural disorders in intellectual & developmental disabilities*. 2nd Ed. (pp. 400-411). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

DiMarco, M., & Iacono, T. (in press). Mental health assessment and intervention for people with complex communication needs associated with developmental disabilities. *Journal of Policy and Practice in Intellectual Disabilities*.

Department of Social Work

Mendes, P. (2006). Community Development and Social Work: Different but Complementary. In *Community Development in a Global Risk Society Conference Proceedings*. Melbourne: Deakin University.

Department of Community Emergency Health and Paramedic Practice

Waxman, A., & Williams, B. (2006). Paramedic pre-employment education and the concerns of our future: What are our expectations? *Journal of Primary Emergency Health Care*, 4(4):10 pages.

Williams, B. (in press). Students' perceptions of prehospital web-based examinations. *International Journal of Education using ICT*.

Meet the Staff

Department of General Practice

Dr Kathryn Gilson

Kathryn works part time (three days per week) as a Research Fellow at the Department of General Practice. She has a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology and also practices as a Clinical Psychologist.

She has a research background in high prevalence mental disorders such as depression, generalized anxiety disorder, panic disorder, and posttraumatic stress disorder. Her research experience has dealt with high-risk populations such as adolescents, childbearing adolescents, young women with a history of childhood sexual and physical abuse, and culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) youth and adult populations. She has been involved in developing and evaluating innovative internet-based mental health information resources and evidence-based treatment programs (member of the e-therapy unit).

She has recently extended her commitment and motivation to pursue research, education and teaching in CALD health issues through her development, with Dr. Litza Kiropoulos, of the Monash Multicultural Health Unit (MMHU) within the School of Primary Health Care. The Unit is the first of its kind in Australia which aims to increase research and knowledge of important physical and mental health and wellbeing issues affecting Australian CALD communities especially as these relate to primary care.

Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria

Dr Jean Graham

Dr Jean Graham is a psychiatrist working with the Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria. Her interest in the area of intellectual disability was assisted by successive years of volunteer work with people with intellectual disability. Dr Graham did her undergraduate education at Monash University, graduating with honours. Following this she completed her post-graduate general practice training, including rural practice, with the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners. Following this she worked in a rural family practice associated with the East Tennessee State University for a number of years. On return to Australia she worked in urban general practice and in the college general practice training program. She continued a longstanding interest in mental health by pursuing further training in solution oriented counselling, marital counselling, and postgraduate qualifications in hypnosis before commencing a formal training program with the Royal Australian & New Zealand College of General Practitioners. Since completing this training she has worked in the areas of intellectual disability, general psychiatry and rehabilitation psychiatry. She has a particular interest in autism and intellectual disability.

Department of Social Work

Ms Marija Dragic

Marija has spent her social work career working with migrants and refugees and for the past 9 years was Senior Social Worker/Settlement Manager at the South Eastern Region Migrant Resource Centre, located in Dandenong, Melbourne. The Dandenong area has a high concentration of people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and is in the heart of refugee resettlement. Marija co-ordinates the Bachelor of Health Science/Bachelor of Social Work double degree offered at the Peninsula campus and teaches Cross Cultural Social Work.

Marija continues her work with refugees and is a consultant to the Springvale Community Aid and Advice Bureau in their Refugee Brokerage Program. Marija is voluntary President of the Serbian Welfare Association of Victoria – an organisation she helped establish in 1992 as a result of the war in the former Yugoslavia. Marija is currently completing her social work Masters Degree.

Department of Physiotherapy

Dr Peter Kent

Peter's clinical training was initially as a chiropractor (RMIT University) and then as a physiotherapist (La Trobe University). Since 1994, following post-graduate training, he has worked as a musculoskeletal physiotherapy clinician. His academic interests are in the epidemiology and treatment of spinal pain, the application of information technology in primary care and in primary care research, and the capacity for evidence based health to influence clinician behaviour and improve patient outcomes.

During 2006 he commenced a 4-year National Health & Medical Research Council Training Fellowship (0.7 position) and is also working part time in the Department of Physiotherapy. The post-doctoral fellowship allows Peter to extend the low back pain subgrouping and prognostic research undertaken in his PhD studies. The research aims to identify clusters of symptoms and signs that signal clinically useful subgroups of people with non-specific low back pain.

This research is being undertaken in collaboration with Associate Professor Rachelle Buchbinder (rheumatologist and Director of the Monash Department of Clinical Epidemiology at Cabrini Hospital) and Professor Jenny Keating (physiotherapist and Head of the Department of Physiotherapy, Monash University).

Peter loves his wife, bush walking, travelling to Asia without getting sick and he would like to have a closer relationship with Bayesian data-mining.

Department of Community Emergency Health and Paramedic Practice

Mr Brian Fallows

Prior to coming to the Department of Community Emergency Health and Paramedic Practice, Brian spent fifteen years in the Royal Navy. In 1980 after immigrating to Australia, he started work with the Peninsula Ambulance Service. It is therefore perhaps not surprising that he has a particular interest in disaster management and simulation. Both occupations in different ways are constantly preparing to manage critical events and sustain life and property. Brian started in the department as a research fellow participating in research designed to recognize validity in the use of simulation in pre-hospital emergency care. The results validated simulation as a valuable pre-hospital learning tool. He is currently a lecturer to undergraduate and postgraduate paramedic students in a range of topics including simulation. This involves both simple task and skills training, leading to simulations of an ever increasing complexity. It is an interesting paradox that it should be necessary to devote an increasing amount of time to developing expertise in preparing for incidents that one hopes will never happen (i.e., incidents of either natural or man made major disasters that unfortunately are occurring at an ever increasing rate). A focus for his study is the potential for global pandemics, a situation for which society or emergency providers are not yet adequately prepared.

Upcoming Funding Opportunities

Criminology Research Council. Grant applications usually re-open in April
<http://www.aic.gov.au/crc/applications/>

NHMRC Career Development Awards 2007. Applications close 1 May 2007 (with funding body). Date to be confirmed
<http://www2.nhmrc.gov.au/funding/calendar/grant.htm>

NHMRC Travelling Award for Research Training - Round 2. Applications with Research Office close on 26 July 2007
<http://www2.nhmrc.gov.au/funding/calendar/grant.htm>

Viertel (Sylvia & Charles) Foundation. Senior Medical Research Fellowships & Clinical Investigators. Applications with Research Office close on 20 April 2007
<http://www.anz.com/aus/fin/Trustees/guNamed.asp>

Conference Activity

United Cerebral Palsy 2007 Annual Conference: No Limits, Just Life
12-14 April 2007, Orlando, Florida
www.ucp.org/ucp_general.cfm/1/12438

16th National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect
16-21 April 2007, Portland, Oregon
www.pal-tech.com/cbconference/index.cfm for details.

American Occupational Therapy Association 87th Annual Conference and Expo
20-23 April 2007, St. Louis, Missouri
www.aota.org/nonmembers/area28/

3rd International Conference on Children Exposed to Violence
9 - 11 May 2007, Ontario Canada
www.lfcc.on.ca/conference.html

National Transcultural Health Conference
10 - 11 May 2007, Montreal Quebec
www.nthc2007.ca/

15th World Congress on Disaster and Emergency Medicine
13-16 May, 2007, Amsterdam, Netherlands.
<http://wadem.medicine.wisc.edu>

Canadian Down Syndrome Society Conference
18 - 20 May 2007, Calgary Canada
www.cdss2007.ca/

World Physical Therapy 2007
2-6 June 2007, Vancouver, Canada
<http://www.wcpt.org/congress/index.php?CFID=1187033&CFTOKEN=95708189>

Primary Care Research for Better Health: Delivering International Excellence: 36th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Society for Academic Primary Care
4-6 July 2007, London UK
<http://www.sapc.ac.uk/docs/SAPC%2007%20e-FLYER1610%20with%20speakers.pdf>

2007 International Doctors' Health Conference
25 - 27 October 2007, Sydney Australia
<http://www.doctorshealthsydney2007.org>

11th ISPCAN European Regional Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect
18 - 21 November 2007, Lisbon Portugal
www.ispcan.org/euroconf2007/

Working Together for Mental Health 28 Nov-2 Dec 2007, Melbourne Australia
www.wpa2007melbourne.com

Hotlink

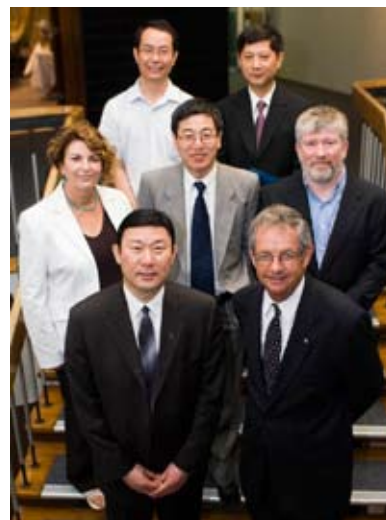
<http://learnjcu.jcu.edu.au/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp>

A set of on-line introductory research modules are available on the Learn JCU website, through the Blackboard Learning System™. Access is available to ALL Primary Health Care (PHC) practitioners and students who send a registration email with their name, contact email and organisation to phcred@jcu.edu.au

School News

Congratulations to Max Liddell, Louise McCall and Rosemary Sheehan on their promotion to Associate Professor.

Monash and China Capital Medical University (CCMU) have agreed to cooperate in health and medical research and teaching. CCMU is primarily located in Beijing and operates thirteen teaching hospitals with 20,000 staff and 4,900 medical students. CCMU houses a range of national centers including the only National Centre for GP Training. The CCMU Monash collaboration is a key component of the Monash China Ageing and Primary Care Research Program. For further information contact, Colette Browning, Shane Thomas or Hui Yang.



Front Row: Prof Xiao Min Wang, Vice President, CCMU
Prof Richard Larkins, Vice Chancellor, Monash University
Middle Row: Prof Colette Browning, Prof Wei Wang, Prof Shane Thomas
Back Row: Dr Yang Hui, Prof Yi Bing Chen