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Contacts

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Mr John Meyer - Acting Business Manager

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Ethics [<http://www.health.qld.gov.au/pahospital/research/ethics.asp>]

PAH HREC Chair Position

The Princess Alexandra Hospital seeks a motivated and dedicated person to Chair and oversee the functions of its Human Research Ethics Committee as outlined in the National Health and Medical Research Council National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Research Involving Humans.

For further information about this position, applicants should contact Professor John Prins, Chair of the PAH Centres for Health Research (Phone: (07) 3240 7664 or E-mail: john_prins@health.qld.gov.au).

PAH HREC General Information

The PAH HREC was kept busy this month with our members reviewing over 135 items on the November agenda. As we are gearing up for the Christmas break, this month's newsletter gives us the opportunity to share a few housekeeping items with you, which are as follows:

Invoices & Amendment Memorandums

Please remember to submit your memorandums with any fully sponsored Pharmaceutical Trials.

- For amendments:
http://www.health.qld.gov.au/pahospital/research/docs/levy_modification.pdf
- For new submissions:
http://www.health.qld.gov.au/pahospital/research/docs/levy_request.pdf

The PAH HREC is unable to formally approve new submissions and amendments without prior payment. Please contact us if you require any further clarification.

Monitoring & Reporting

Under Section 5.5 Monitoring of Approved Research, the PAH HREC must verify that the conduct of research conforms to the approved proposal. Therefore please be mindful of your obligations as a researcher to submit Annual Reports when they are due. Information that the HREC deems to be relevant when monitoring include:

- Progress to date, or the research outcome in the case of completed research
- Maintenance and security of records
- Compliance with the approved proposal
- Compliance with any conditions of approval.

These reports need to be submitted commensurate with the risk of the study. These are required at least annually and at the completion of the project. The forms are available on our website at:

http://www.health.qld.gov.au/pahospital/research/docs/annual_review.doc

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External Serious Adverse Event Reporting

The External SAE template on our website has recently been updated (<http://www.health.qld.gov.au/pahospital/research/docs/sae.doc>). Therefore, please ensure that this template is used when completing your external SAEs: We would like to clarify the 'comments' from the Principal Investigator (PI). If the front page of the template is filled in correctly and signed by the PI, there is no need to duplicate work within the 'comments' section of the spreadsheet. Please ask the PI's only to add comments here if there is a need for additional information or comments as they see fit. Otherwise, the PAH HREC is satisfied that the comments on the first page of the template and signature of the PI are sufficient.

Meeting Dates

Just to remind you that closing date for the December meeting is 16th November 2007 and the final HREC meeting will be held on 11th December 2007 for the current year. The complete details for 2008 are now available at: http://www.health.qld.gov.au/pahospital/research/meeting_dates.asp

Office Attendance

Please note that the HREC staff will be away from the office, Monday 3rd - Friday 7th December 2007 due to the 'Intensive Research Ethics Course' being held in Victoria. Please direct any enquiries that you may have during this time, to Georgina Gill ext. 7697 or Jan Singleton ext. 2115.

Contracts [<http://www.health.qld.gov.au/pahospital/research/contracts.asp>]

New Standardised Medicines Australia Clinical Trials Agreement

All Clinical Trial Agreements must now use the standard CTA developed by Medicines Australia <http://www.medicinesaustralia.com.au/pages/page39.asp>

Should you have further questions please contact the Centres for Health Research office on (07) 3240-7663, via e-mail PAH-Research@health.qld.gov.au or John_Meyer@health.qld.gov.au

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Grants [<http://www.health.qld.gov.au/pahospital/research/funding.asp>]

Queensland Clinical Research Fellowships

The 2007 / 2008 Round of the Queensland Clinical Research Fellowships are now open. The Queensland Clinical Research Fellowships offered under the Smart State Health and Medical Research Fund provide funding for outstanding early career and experienced clinical researchers to undertake innovative research in Queensland hospitals and health services, to enhance the translation of healthcare innovation from research into practice.

Applications close on Thursday, 15 November 2007.

Medical, nursing and allied health clinicians involved in clinical research are encouraged to consider applying for a Fellowship. A research-focused clinical workforce is a key goal of Queensland Health's Research and Development Plan 2007-2012. Creating a culture that values and promotes research is also an important focus of Queensland Health's Strategic Plan 2007-2012, assists in the delivery of best practice, and drives improvement, innovation and efficiency across the health system.

Features of the fund include:

- Two levels of Fellowships
 - Level 1 for experienced clinical researchers
 - Level 2 for early career clinical researchers of rising prominence
- \$100,000 per annum for three years, a total of \$300,000 for Level 1 Fellowships
- \$50,000 per annum for three years, a total of \$150,000 for Level 2 Fellowships
- Fellows are to have a proven track record in quality clinical research
- Research project is to be novel, innovative and consistent with the Queensland Research & Development priority of health and wellbeing
- Fellowship funding is to be matched by cash funding at a rate of no less than 1:1
- Up to one Level 1 and two Level 2 Fellowships will be awarded per annum
- Funding rounds will be open, competitive and merit-based

For eligibility criteria and application forms go to www.sd.qld.gov.au/innovationfunds or for further information regarding the Fund and advice relating to research and development funding, please contact Research and Development Advisory Services Branch (http://www.sd.qld.gov.au/dsdweb/v3/guis/templates/content/gui_cue_cntnht_ml.cfm?id=47314) on rdadvisory@sd.qld.gov.au or (07) 3227-7211.

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Nursing & Midwifery Research Grant Scheme

The Queensland Health, Nursing & Midwifery Research Grant Scheme is open to all nurses and midwives working with Queensland Health. The scheme aims to encourage nursing and midwifery research activities by providing financial support to nurses and midwives undertaking these initiatives. For further information, please log onto

<http://qheps.health.qld.gov.au/ocno/content/research.htm>

Indigenous Midwifery & Child Health Post Graduate Scholarships

The Maternity, Child Health and Safety Branch, Queensland Health through the Office of the Chief Nurse is offering scholarships to Indigenous Registered Nurses in Queensland. These scholarships are applicable to all Queensland Indigenous Registered Nurses. These scholarships enable the successful applicants to undertake a post graduate program in the areas of Midwifery and/or Child Health. These scholarships are valued up to \$10,000 and are to pay for study fees. Scholarships are paid directly to the University.

Applications are now open and close on Friday 30th November 2007 for scholarships in the following year.

All eligible Indigenous Registered Nurses, commencing postgraduate study in the areas of Midwifery/Child Health in 2008 are encouraged to apply for these scholarships.

The application package is available on Work for Us website:

<http://www.health.qld.gov.au/nursing/scholarships.asp>

The Private Practice Study, Education and Research Trust Fund

Junior full time Medical Staff, Technical, Scientific, Nursing, Administrative and Allied Health Professional staff employed by the Princess Alexandra Hospital District Health Service are eligible to lodge applications for funding from this trust fund.

The Private Practice Study, Education and Research Trust Fund has been established with monies generated by full-time specialists from their Princess Alexandra Hospital Private Practice in Neurology, Cardiology, Respiratory, Radiology and Radiation Oncology. Funding of up to \$1200.00 per applicant may be made available for assistance with attendance at conferences, workshops, training programs or research projects.

Applicants should outline the purpose of the request, details of the costs and if presenting a paper or poster. The full names and addresses of two referees and the Head of Department/Chairman's signature is also required.

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Applicants are also advised that requests for funding for overseas travel are subject to ministerial approval. Applicants claiming for air travel and accommodation must book through the PAH Travel Office. Retrospective claims for airfares and accommodation, not booked through the Travel Office will not be reimbursed. Applications should be lodged at least 6 weeks prior to the conference/workshop.

For further information and application instructions, log onto <http://paweb.sth.health.qld.gov.au/ceo/pp/default.asp>

Lions Medical Research Fellowships

Applications are invited for a Lions Medical Research Fellowship in 2008, available to graduates in the fields of Medicine, Pharmacy, Allied Health and Science. The Fellowship is for a term of up to 5 years and will awarded to a researcher at a stage of their career where they are ready to become chief investigator in a sustained programme of medical research with a clear relevance to clinical medical problems.

Application forms are available from the Secretary of the Lions Medical Research Foundation, GPO Box 1030, Brisbane, or from kenscells@sothertons.com.au.

Applications close on Friday 7th December 2007. For further information see attached document.

NHMRC Project Grant Applications

The 2008 round of NHMRC Project Grants will open on Friday 7th December 2007, with applications due by 14th March 2008. More information will be available on the NHMRC website by the opening date.

Also, refer to the NHMRC calendar of grants: [2006/2007 Funding by Grant Type](#)

2008 Advancing BioBusiness Award

Merck Sharp & Dohme (Australia) Pty Limited* and Advance[†] have again formed a partnership to open new doors for Australian life scientists with the Advancing BioBusiness Award. The Award will provide the next generation of leaders in Australian biotechnology with access to leading institutions, companies and individuals in the US involved in commercialising life sciences. The Award will facilitate greater opportunities for connection and exposure to the global market and commercialisation processes for Australian discoveries. Through the Award, two Australian scientists will have the support to build valuable international networks and collaborations that will benefit their business and the Australian life sciences industry. They will attend the BIO International Convention in San Diego, June 2008, as well as participate in a tailored program of meetings with leading organisations involved in the life sciences sector.

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Research – Key to Health

Each program will be specifically tailored, in consultation with the recipient, to reflect their particular research focus and commercial needs, in areas including research planning, IP management, manufacturing planning, regulatory affairs management and market forecasting.

Recipients of the Award will be required to share their experience of the program on return to Australia. This may include the preparation of a report as well as presentations at an appropriate forum and/or scientific meetings. Applications are invited from scientists who have completed their post doctoral training and are conducting research in an institution or biotech company in Australia. Applicants must be permanent residents of Australia.

Application forms containing full terms and conditions can be obtained from www.advance.org/

University of Queensland

View the available grants offered at <http://www.uq.edu.au/research/funding/>

Conferences & Events

PA Foundation Community Lecture

We are delighted to announce that, due to popular demand, Professor Mike Roberts will once again enthral an audience with a community lecture on better management of medications.

Professor Roberts will explain how rationalisation of what is being taken, how it is being taken and a review of lifestyle – in consultation with GPs and pharmacists through the residential medication management and home medicine review programs – may make a difference.

He will also discuss some of the newer and better treatment strategies being researched which, when combined with better medication management, are much more likely to have valuable outcomes.

Details are as follows:

Date: Tuesday, 20 November 2007

Time: 10-10:30am morning tea & 10:30-11am lecture

Venue: Russell Strong Auditorium, PA Hospital

RSVP: Jenny Cotter (07) 3240-2359

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NHMRC's Research Funding Outcomes & Future Challenges Seminar

Professor Warwick Anderson, Chief Executive Officer of NHMRC, is holding a series of open discussion sessions around the country during late 2007 and early 2008. These sessions will cover a wide range of issues including success rates in the 2007 funding round, improving peer review, supporting our health and medical researchers, the rising costs of research, supporting biomedical, clinical, public health and health services research, the commercialisation of research and an analysis of NHMRC supported research achievements.

This is an opportunity to hear and discuss NHMRC's current research support outcomes, and NHMRC's consideration of addressing the forthcoming challenges in health and medical research in the 21st century.

All are welcome and the Brisbane session details are as follows:

- Time: 2.00 - 4.00pm
- Date: Thursday 22 November
- Venue: QBI Auditorium, Level 7, Queensland Brain Institute (Bldg No 79), University of Queensland, 79 Upland Road, St Lucia

ARC / NHMRC Grant Writing Seminars

The UQ Research and Research Training Division is running a series of seminars on strategies and approaches to writing grant applications and fellowship applications for the ARC and NHMRC. The NHMRC Fellowship session will be held at the PAH on Thursday 29 November (see attached schedule for all session times).

Seminars are offered in different discipline groupings and will include presentations from current/recent members of Colleges of Experts (ARC), Panels of Reviewers (NHMRC) and other senior academic staff with substantial track records of success.

Staff are welcome to attend more than one seminar, according to their discipline interests, and are encouraged to attend an alternative session if they are unable to attend the one most suited to their discipline area. There will be a certain amount of common material in each of the seminars.

Registrations are essential. Please register by email to c.tattersall@research.uq.edu.au.

When registering, please supply the following information:

1. Details of the session/s for which you are registering
2. Your name and title
3. Your School or Centre (If non UQ staff, list as Centres for Health Research)
4. E-mail Address.

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PAH Research Community Christmas Function

Professors John Prins and David McIntyre,

invite members of the PAH research community
to the inaugural PAH research community end of year BBQ.

Come and enjoy a lavish barbecue lunch, mingle with fellow researchers
and research-related staff, and celebrate a challenging and successful
year of research at the PAH.

Please RSVP to Renae Miles (Centres for Health Research) on ext. 7663 or
PAH-Research@health.qld.gov.au, By 5pm on Thursday 22nd November 2007.

Details are as follows:

Date: Wednesday 28th November 2007

Time: 12.30pm – 2pm

Venue: Diamantina Court (Outdoor area adjacent to orange
lifts on ground floor, building 1)

Innovation Commercialisation & IP Summit 2007

The inaugural Innovation Commercialisation and IP Summit (ICIP) 2007 brings together a range of industry leaders in innovation development and commercialisation to addresses strategic management, legal and financial issues associated with exploiting intellectual property and technology, with a specific focus on the issues associated with the practicalities of protecting and exploiting IP assets of an organisation. Its theme revolves around protection, commercialisation and exploitation of technology and intellectual property. ICIP 2007 is being held 5th - 7th December 2007 at the Swissotel, Sydney NSW. For further information, log onto <http://www.iir.com.au/icip>

2008 Events Calendar

We are currently drafting a 2008 Events calendar for the research community. Why you may ask are we doing this? To help promote the events to the entire research community, increase promotion and to assist with planning and resource sharing. If you have an event that you would like to list and promote, please e-mail the relevant details (function name, date, time, venue and contact) to PAH-Research@health.qld.gov.au

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'Involving People in Research' Symposium

NHMRC is a major sponsor of a national symposium to be held in Perth on 5-6 March 2008 on consumer and community participation in health and medical research. The inaugural national meeting will bring together researchers, consumers, community members and students to showcase success stories and further explore the barriers to participation.

The program will include national and international speakers, showcase sessions, workshops and Posters displays. The closing date for abstracts is 21 December, 2007.

There will be a limited number of special consumer and student scholarships to offset travel costs. For more information on the Symposium, or to register interest, go to: <http://www.sph.uwa.edu.au/go/sph/involvingpeopleinresearch>

New Directions in Leukaemia Research Conference (NDLR)

The NDLR conference is being held on the Sunshine Coast from Sunday 30th March to Wednesday 2nd April 2008.

A combination of both international and national speakers will cover the full spectrum of "bench to clinic" leukaemia research. This meeting will bring together leading scientists and clinicians in an intimate and relaxed atmosphere to discuss and debate current concepts in understanding the molecular basis of leukaemia, new paradigms and breakthroughs at the forefronts of leukaemia research together with emerging therapies for the treatment of this prevalent and intractable disease.

Important Dates:

- Early bird registration deadline: 24th January 2008
- Standard registration deadline: 22nd February 2008
- Abstract deadline: 8th February 2008

Further information is available on the Conference website: <http://ndlr2008.com>

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News

QH 'Health Action Plan'

October 2007 marks the second anniversary of the release of the Action plan - Building a better health service for Queensland (Health Action Plan). This Plan addressed issues arising from the Queensland Health Systems review (Forster review) and the Queensland Public Hospitals Commission of Inquiry (Davies Inquiry).

It is now two years since the Queensland Government moved to address these challenges. The release of the Health Action Plan, coupled with the biggest funding injection in this State's history, started the reform and renewal of the public health system. The Government has built on this commitment, providing an extra \$2 billion in funding to take the 2007-08 budget to \$7.151 billion.

Health Action: delivering reform reports on the progress of this reform. There have been significant reforms including the recruitment of an additional 1,073 doctors, 3,801 nurses and 1,228 allied health professionals, establishment of both the Health Quality and Complaints Commission, an independent body to monitor the standards in health services and investigate complaints, and the Office of the Medical Board of Queensland to help tighten the assessment processes for doctors' registration.

Additional hospital beds were commissioned between 2006 and 2016 at a cost of \$3.6 billion, legislated the annual publication of the public hospital performance reports, implemented a contemporary funding model which combines population-based Resource Allocation Model (RAM) with casemix funding and developed a statewide consumer complaints information system (to be rolled out across Queensland in 2008).

Sustained population growth, an ageing population, increased levels of chronic disease, higher rates of obesity, increasing costs of medical technology, pharmaceuticals and health care treatment, and delivering services to regional areas are among many of the challenges facing the health care system and health workers in Queensland.

The report can be accessed via the following link:

http://www.health.qld.gov.au/publications/health_action_reform.pdf

Research@PAH E-Newsletter Mailing List

We are currently in the process of expanding and updating our mailing database. We recognise that there are a few glitches in the lists and are trying to eliminate these as quickly as possible. We appreciate your patience during this time. If you know of someone who would like to receive this e-newsletter, please ask them to contact us or forward their details onto us.

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2006 Centres for Health Research Annual Review

Additional copies of the 2006 Centres for Health Research Annual Review are now available. Please send details of your request to:

PAH-Research@health.qld.gov.au

Contact Details - Office of the Medical Board

Since 1 October 2007 the new Office of the Medical Board has been in operation. One of the initiatives of the newly established Office has been the redevelopment of the Board's website, which is now accessible at www.medicalboard.qld.gov.au. We trust this will become an ever increasing valuable source of information for you to use. If you wish to visit the Office in person, we are now located on level 11, Forestry House, 160 Mary Street, Brisbane.

For a full list of contact details please visit the 'contact us' page available on the website.

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LIONS MEDICAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

Applications are invited for a Medical Research Fellowship, which will be held for a maximum single term of up to five years from the date of taking up of the Fellowship. The Fellowship is intended for Medicine, Pharmacy, Allied Health Science and Science graduates who, by virtue of their experience and productivity in medical research, and their personal situations, are at a stage of their careers where they are ready to become chief investigators in a sustained programme of medical research which has a clear relevance to clinical medical problems. During the tenure of the Fellowship it is intended that the holders will become sufficiently established in the local research community that they are able to draw both their own future salary and research support from other sources.

Appointments will be made at the level of NHMRC Research Fellow, and under similar salary and other conditions, except that the research performance of Fellows will be reviewed at the end of the second year of their appointments, and thereafter at intervals as indicated. If at any stage there is judged to be evidence of an unsatisfactory performance in research, whether or not the appointee is responsible for the unsatisfactory performance, the Fellowship may be terminated, the termination to take effect within six months of the Fellow being so notified.

Applicants will normally be expected to conduct their research at Princess Alexandra Hospital, Brisbane or other approved hospital. Suitably qualified people are eligible to apply for the Fellowship whether or not they are currently working in Australia but only Australian nationals and permanent residents are eligible for the awards.

Applicants (in the case of Science, Allied Health Science or Pharmacy graduates, normally PhD holders) should provide:

1. evidence of their previous experience and performance in medical research, normally in the form of their curriculum vitae.
2. a single page outline of their proposed programme of research
3. certification that the institution in which they intend to work will provide them with accommodation and research infrastructure support for the duration of the Fellowship
4. evidence that laboratory facilities, technical support, equipment and maintenance funds will be available, or have reasonable prospects of being available, to support the project throughout its duration
5. in the event that the project is to be carried out within the research program of a larger research group, clear indication that the applicant will have final responsibility for the day-to-day direction of the applicant's project, and that the Director of the larger research group is prepared to accept and support applicant's project under the conditions of the Fellowship, as indicated above.

Applicants should nominate two referees who may be asked to comment both on the applicant's qualifications and on the general merit of the research proposed. Applications will be judged on the basis of merit, in competition with each other, after assessment by a Medical and Scientific Advisory Board Committee, which reserves the right to seek referees' reports from persons other than those nominated by the applicant.

Application forms are available from the Secretary of the Lions Medical Research Foundation, GPO Box 1030, Brisbane, or from kenscells@seibertons.com.au

Applications will close on 7 December, 2007. It is hoped that successful applicants will be able to commence their research as early as practicable in the following year.

ARC/NHMRC GRANT WRITING SEMINARS

Please note: Speakers for some sessions have not yet been finalised (TBC).

Group	Time & Date	Venue	Presenters
SEMINAR 1 NHMRC Grant Writing (HERSTON)	1.30-3.30pm Wednesday 28 November 07	*E S Meyers Lecture Theatre Mayne Medical School School of Medicine Herston Road Herston *The entrance road to the Mayne Medical School is parallel to Bramston Terrace beside Royal Children's Hospital.	Professor David Siddle, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research); Professor John Prins, School of Medicine; Professor Paul Colditz, Perinatal Research Centre; and Professor Martin Lavin (TBC)
SEMINAR 2 NHMRC Grant Writing (St Lucia)	2.00-4.00pm Friday 7 December	Auditorium Institute for Molecular Bioscience Bldg No 80, UQ Qld Bioscience Precinct Chancellors' Place, St Lucia Campus	Professor David Siddle, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research); Professor Pankaj Sah, Qld Brain Institute; Professor David Adams, Head, School of Biomedical Sciences; and Dr Melissa Brown, School of Molecular & Microbial Sciences
SEMINAR 3 - ARC Humanities, Creative Arts, Social, Behavioural & Economic Sciences	9.00-11.00am Monday 10 December	Auditorium Institute for Molecular Bioscience Bldg No 80, UQ Qld Bioscience Precinct Chancellors' Place, St Lucia Campus	Professor David Siddle, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research); Professor Debbie Terry, Executive Dean, SBS Faculty; Professor John Foster, Head, School of Economics (TBC); and Professor John Quiggin, School of Economics (TBC).
SEMINAR 4 – ARC Biological Sciences & Biotechnology	11.30am-1.30pm Thursday 13 December	Physiology Lecture Room 348 Building No 63 UQ St Lucia Campus	Professor David Siddle, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research); Professor Hugh Possingham, The Ecology Centre; Professor Peter Koopman, IMB (to be confirmed); and Professor Phil Poronnik, School of Biomedical Sciences (TBC).
SEMINAR 5 - ARC Engineering, Environ. Science, Chemistry, Physics, Geoscience, Mathematics & ICT	3.00-5.00pm Thursday 13 December	Auditorium Institute for Molecular Bioscience Bldg No 80, UQ Qld Bioscience Precinct Chancellors' Place, St Lucia Campus	Professor David Siddle, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research); Professor Stephen Walker, Executive Dean, EPSA Faculty; Professor Anton Middelberg, AIBN; and Professor Graham Schaffer, Head, School of Engineering.

ARC/NHMRC FELLOWSHIPS SEMINARS

SEMINAR 6 NHMRC Fellowships (PAH)	9.30-11.30am Thursday 29 November	Bryan Emmerson Room Level 4, Building 1 Princess Alexandra Hospital	Professor David Siddle, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor John Upham, Department of Medicine, PAH; Professor Paul Hodges, School of Health & Rehabilitation Science; and Professor Jenny Stow, IMB.
SEMINAR 7 ARC Fellowships	2.00-4.00pm Wednesday 12 December	Auditorium Institute for Molecular Bioscience Bldg No 80, UQ Qld Bioscience Precinct Chancellors' Place, St Lucia Campus	Professor David Siddle, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Assoc Professor Jenny Martin, IMB; Professor Graeme Turner, Centre for Critical & Cultural Studies; Professor Cindy Gallois, Director of Research, SBS Faculty (TBC)