

SPH eNews

School of Population Health, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry & Health Sciences, University of Melbourne

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1. Latest News

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2. Head of School News (T. Nolan)

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It has been a very busy period for the School in recent weeks, as noted in many of the entries for the Centres and Units in this Newsletter. In particular, we had a very successful formal launch of the McCaughey Centre by Minister Batchelor, attended by the Vice-Chancellor and also the CEO of VicHealth, Todd Harper. In addition, we celebrated the award of a prestigious NHMRC Australia Fellowship to Professor John Hopper (MEGA Epi) presented by the Minister for Health, Tony Abbott. This award adds to the School's Faculty-leading performance in securing top-level career research awards following our two ARC Federation Fellowships (Professor David Studdert in CHPPE and the

Law School, and Professor Lenore Manderson in KCWHS).

The University has awarded the Miegunyah Distinguished Visiting Fellowship for 2008 to Professor Julian Peto, sponsored by the School of Population Health. Professor Peto is one of the world's leading cancer researchers. He is Cancer Research UK Chair of Epidemiology, Institute of Cancer Research and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. More details will follow.

Congratulations to Associate Professor John Fitzgerald (CHS) who has been appointed the Faculty's first Associate Dean in knowledge transfer. John has also been awarded a Department of Human Services research grant to study 'Health credits: identifying the economic benefits of licensed premises and translating them into health outcomes at a local level' (\$99,800).

Dr Maggie Kirkman and Prof Doreen Rosenthal, with Louise Johnson of the Infertility Treatment Authority, have published a book to guide parents in telling their adolescent children that they were conceived using donated sperm or eggs. A World Health Organisation grant enabled Associate Professor Jane Fisher to organise an international expert meeting on maternal mental health and child health and development, co-hosted by the Research & Training Centre for Community Development, Hanoi meeting in Hanoi in June together with leading international researchers in the field including delegates from Pakistan, Japan, South Africa, France, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, Nigeria, India, Viet Nam and Australia.

We welcome many new staff who have joined us, including in MEGA Epi, Dr Katrina Scurrah and Dr Kelly Phillips (medical oncologist on sabbatical); in CHPPE, Jacqui Carter, Pauline Van Dort, Cecily Hunter, Joanne Christo, Lee Carter, Jeremy Coade, Julian Hobba, Anna and Kate Kelsey-Sugg, Sophy Liu, Melissa Reed, Liz Rowe, Hannah Dyson, Tim Bail, Sam Rankin and Alexandra Dazey; in KCWHS, Dr Tuan Tran (as an AusAID Australian Leadership Award recipient from Vietnam); and to the McCaughey Centre, Dr Rob Salter. Professor Haydn Walters (University of Tasmania) has been appointed an honorary Professorial Fellow, recognising his substantial research and PhD student contributions with Dr Shyamali Dharmage (MEGA Epi).

Congratulations to Dr Louise Keogh (KCWHS) who has been promoted to Research Fellow, Level B. Congratulations also to recent funding recipients including Dr Shyamali Dharmage: NHMRC and RAGS Major Equipment Scheme 2007 to establish a new respiratory laboratory, \$50,000 and from the same Scheme to Professor John Hopper for a MammoPro radiograph digitizer, \$66,500; Dr Julie Simpson and Dr Lyle Gurrin were awarded a Faculty Special Needs grant of \$23,000 to establish a biostatistics laboratory; Jane Fisher and colleagues for an ARC Linkage grant (\$255,000) for research on mode of conception and adjustment to parenthood together with IVF Australia and Melbourne IVF; and to Ann Brothers and the Medical History Museum (CHS), through the Cultural Collections Committee, for the digital imaging of collection items, a grant of \$3,000.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- Our newly constituted Centre for Health Policy, Programs and Economics will be formally launched on 12 September by Mr Peter Allen, Under Secretary, Portfolio Services and Strategic Projects Division,

Victorian Department of Human Services together with the Dean.

- School of Population Health strategic Planning day, Monday 8 October 2007.

3. Teaching and Learning

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3.1. Postgraduate News (C. Bennett)

An exciting new project, The E-Community of Practice, is about to be launched that will extend and sustain knowledge transfer of Master of Public Health graduates returning to developing countries. The project is led by Drs Robyn Woodward-Kron (Faculty International Student Support Unit) with Catherine Bennett (School of Population Health), and supported by a seeding grant from the Australian and New Zealand Association of Medical Education. One of our recent MPH graduates, Durga Shrestha from Kathmandu, Nepal, will also be a key contributor on the project.

A number of our MPH students elect to develop a public health research or program protocol as part of their Masters degree, for example to develop a public health intervention or evaluation program, which the students intend to implement or carry out once they return to their professional roles in their communities. The E-Community of Practice project will track the processes of, and nature of, knowledge transfer from the students to their research and practice communities. The main objective for this first phase of the program is to establish and maintain a research community amongst returning AusAID students so that they can support each other in their endeavours and share expertise. A continuing link with the University of Melbourne provides necessary research infrastructure such as access to library databases, research expertise, as well as create future projects opportunities for those MPH students with an International Health focus.

Knowledge transfer is a major focus in our postgraduate programs, particularly through the applied research projects undertaken by our postgraduate students. With our increasing numbers of graduates, more local graduates moving into international health, and our international graduates returning to their home countries, our alumni is becoming increasingly influential in public health research and practice globally through the knowledge, skills and professional capacity of our graduates. The E-community of Practice is an exciting initiative to extend the learning networks established here in the School of Population Health, and strengthen the links among our graduate community.

3.2. Undergraduate News (M. Guillemin)

3.3. RHD News (J. Fisher)

3.4. SPH Postgraduate Group – “Lofty Thoughts” (eds. Lidija Turkovic and Daria Bodzak, Co-Presidents)

3.5. SPH Academic Programs Office (Liz Lagias)

MELBOURNE GRADUATE EXPO

Wednesday 5 September 2007 from 3:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Woodward Conference Centre, 10th Floor, Law Building, University Square

185 Pelham St, Carlton

The School of Population Health will be showcasing our broad range of graduate coursework and research opportunities available in 2008 and beyond at the Melbourne Graduate Expo. This expo is targeted to current university students, recent graduates and professionals looking to develop their skills and experience in their chosen field or embark on a new direction.

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION NIGHT

Wednesday 31st October from 6:30 - 8:30pm

The Victorian Consortium for Public Health's Master of Public Health Information Night will be held at 207 Bouverie Street on Wednesday 31st October from 6:30pm-8:30pm.

Information on both events is available via our SPH website (front page) or from the APO.

4. Research Committee News

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5. Centres/Units News

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5.1 School Office (L.Taylor)

5.2 Centre for Health and Society (D. Scobie/N.Waddell)

MEDICAL HISTORY MUSEUM NEWS:

“A successful grant application for funding for the digital imaging of collection items has made by the Medical History Museum, through the Cultural Collections Committee, under the Web Presence and Digitisation Program. Although administered through the Cultural Collections Committee the grant of \$3,000 has been made available this year through funds raised from the University Appeal 2006, and the Community and Cultural Relations Advisory Group. The project will commence this year, and will result in the attachment of the images to the existing online catalogue entries, making this valuable historical collection more accessible to researchers worldwide. The Medical History Museum is most

grateful for the opportunity to be able to commence this highly significant work.”

For further information please contact Anne Brothers, Curator, Medical History Museum The University of Melbourne on 8344 5719

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

University of Melbourne Student-staff forum Series 2007

Wednesday 29th August

Chronic to Crisis: Indigenous child sexual abuse and other policy debates in Indigenous health

Professor Ian Anderson

Director, Centre for Health and Society and Onemda VicHealth Koori Health Unit, School of Population Health, The University of Melbourne

Professor Ian Anderson is the foundation Chair in Indigenous Health at the University of Melbourne. His family are Palawa Trouwunna: Plaimairrenner and Trawlwoolway clans.

Abstract:

In this presentation the current context for debates in Indigenous health and social affairs will be reviewed. There will be a particular focus on the current health need, trends over time and policy context. Policy thinking about Aboriginal health tends to be framed by persistent political discourses. This presents us with either/or options for thinking about strategies and interventions. The current debate regarding the intervention in Indigenous child sexual abuse in the Northern Territory is framed as either a crisis response or a development response. Professor Ian Anderson will compare the differences between the Little Children are Sacred Report and the Australian government's response and discuss how the political framing that is brought to bear on policy debates in Indigenous health presents significant challenges to thinking in this field.

1.10pm –2.00pm, Copland Theatre Economics and Commerce Building

Thursday 6th September

Responsibility, Human Rights & Indigenous Health: How do key stakeholders meet their responsibilities?

In the 2005 Social Justice Report, Social Justice Commissioner Tom Calma raised some key questions: Do the steps taken by government respect, protect and fulfil the right to the highest attainable standard of health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples? Are programs targeted, delivered and financed at a level that is capable of addressing the level of inequality? He expressed concerns about the availability, accessibility, acceptability and quality of health services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. With much rhetoric about the need to "take responsibility" in Indigenous affairs, in regards to Indigenous health, what are some of the key responsibilities and with whom do they sit?

2.15 – 3.45pm, Lecture Theatre 3, Alan Gilbert Building, Grattan St, University of Melbourne

Fortnightly from August 9th to October 4th.

5.3. Centre for MEGA Epi (M.Lenaghan)

STAFF NEWS:

Farewell and thank you:

Dr Jennifer Thomson, Snr Lec: who has been teaching an AMS Indonesian cohort 06/07 and presents their work at AEA conference this week.

Dr Clare Constantine, RA: has been working with HealthIron Study, leaves to take up a position at Uni of California, Irvine. Clare will continue work on HealthIron as an Honorary Fellow.

Ana Lopez-Polin, RA: has been working on the Tasmanian Asthma Study and is returning to Spain to further her medical research studies.

Gael Trytell, RA: has been working on the Mammographic Density study and leaves to further her French language studies in Paris.

Congratulations:

Dr Jennifer Stone, RA: who was awarded her PhD this month and is going to work for a time in the UK before returning to continue work with the Mammographic Density study. Jennifer will continue as an Honorary Fellow.

Welcome:

Dr Katrina Scurrah: commenced as a Lecturer in July, beginning in Sem 2 with "Linear and Logistic Regression". Katrina was previously with the Department of Physiology where her research included biostatistics, genetic epidemiology and cardiovascular disease which she will continue at SPH.

Dr Kelly Phillips: medical oncologist who is working on breast cancer studies during a sabbatical here until November.

Kate Morley: recently submitted her PhD at University of Queensland and is working primarily on breast cancer studies with Kelly Phillips and John Hopper; and also at Dept of Psychiatry, ORYGEN Research Centre with Dr Debra Foley

Dr Farhan Tirmizi: clinician who has commenced a PhD looking at Infectious Diseases

Angelina Tabuteau-Moore: commenced PhD on "Indigenous illicit drug use during pregnancy"

RECENT GRANTS:

Professor John Hopper: NHMRC Australia Fellowship, 2007-2012, \$4M over 5 years

Dr Shyamali Dharmage: NHMRC and RAGS Major Equipment Scheme 2007: Establish new laboratory, \$50,000

Professor John Hopper: NHMRC and RAGS Major Equipment Scheme 2007: MammoPro film digitizer, \$66,500

Miegunyah Distinguished Visiting Fellowship 2008: Professor Julian Peto, \$18,000

Angelina Tabuteau-Moore: Dept of Human Services PhD Scholarship, 2007-2010, \$76,410

Angelina Tabuteau-Moore: CRCAH Scholarship Top Up, \$9,390 + maintenance allowance on application

Dr Jennifer Stone: TCCV Postdoctoral Cancer Research Fellowship, Jun-Aug 2007, \$13,918

Dr Julie Simpson/Dr Lyle Gurrin: Faculty Special Needs 2007, \$23,178

RECENT PUBLICATIONS SINCE LAST eNEWS:

See 8.3 below

5.4. Centre for Health Policy, Programs and Economics (T. Mayhew/J.Yeadon)

STAFF NEWS:

Welcome to the following staff that joined the Centre recently.

- Jacqui Carter, is now a regular member of the administrative team.
 - Pauline Van Dort and Cecily Hunter have both joined the 'National Evaluation of the Australian Government Dementia Health Priority Initiative' project team.
 - Joanne Christo is assisting with the "Evaluation of the new Medicare Benefits Schedule psychologist item numbers" project.
 - And to the many "Media Monitoring 2" research assistants who have joined the Centre since the beginning of the year – Lee Carter, Jeremy Coade Julian Hobba, Anna and Kate Kelsey-Sugg, Sophy Liu, Melissa Reed, Liz Rowe, Hannah Dyson, Tim Bail, Sam Rankin and Alexandra Dazey.
- Congratulations to Cathy & Tim Segan on the birth of Adam.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

The Centre for Health Policy, Programs and Economics will be formally launched on 12 September. Speakers include, Mr Peter Allen, Under Secretary, Portfolio Services and Strategic Projects Division, Victorian Department of Human Services together with the Dean, Head of School and Head of Centre.

CHPPE SEMINARS:

29th August Emma Halliday Health policy evaluation and appraisal in the NHS in Scotland

4th Sept Bridget Hsu-Hage The value of evaluation: a rural experience

18 Sept Susan Day and Rasika Rampitige Evaluating Measure 1 of the dementia initiative

2 October Margaret Kelaher Changes in access to mainstream services among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

16 October Colleen Doyle and David Dunt Raising community awareness of successful strategies for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)

These seminars are held in room 405A, level 4, 207 Bouverie Street building from 12.30-1.30pm. A light snack will be served from 12 noon.

CHPPE SHORT COURSES

The first of the Centre’s in-house Environmental Health Services Evaluation short course was held during August over two days and attracted participants from both Victorian and interstate local and state government organisations.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS:

See 8.4 below

5.5. Key Centre for Women's Health in Society (A. Tattam)

LATEST NEWS:

Dr Maggie Kirkman and Prof Doreen Rosenthal, with Louise Johnson of the Infertility Treatment Authority, have written a book to guide parents in telling their adolescent children that they were conceived using donated sperm or eggs. The book was launched last week at the Infertility Treatment Authority, and is available on the ITA website www.ita.org.au as well as in hard copy. The world-first research on which the book is based was recently published in Human Reproduction. Funded by DHS, the research investigated secondary school students’ views on how parents could tell their adolescent children that they were donor-conceived.

See 8.5 for publications resulting from this research.

Prof Doreen Rosenthal and Dr Shelley Mallett have recently returned from a visit to the USA where they presented an invited paper ‘Influencing policy and practice through research’ at the National Institute of Mental Health in Washington. Project i, a five year cross national project on homeless young people was funded by NIMH. The audience was particularly interested in the RQF distinction between research quality and impact, and the ways in which this could be incorporated into funding strategies.

The 33rd Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australian Society for Psychosocial Obstetrics and Gynaecology entitled “Talking secret women’s business” was held in Melbourne in early August. Drs Heather Rowe and Karin Hammarberg were part of the local organising committee which provided

delegates with an array of stimulating interdisciplinary approaches to women's health problems across the lifespan. The KCWHS was well represented: A/Prof Jane Fisher presented a Keynote address entitled "Work after childbirth: fantasy and reality"; PhD Student Sara Holton was awarded the ASPOG Prize for the best paper presented by a new researcher and Dr Maggie Kirkman joined the distinguished panel of experts in an entertaining finale to the meeting, a Hypothetical on the topic "Surrogacy" presented by GP Nick Carr. The Conference was well attended by colleagues at the Royal Women's Hospital.

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The Key Centre research planning day was held at the Treacy Centre 18 July. The focus of the day was on career development and Centre staff had the opportunity to present their latest research and enter into an exchange of ideas and sharing of further career development and funding prospects.

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The Key Centre was awarded a grant by WHO to enable A/Prof Jane Fisher to organise an international expert meeting on maternal mental health and child health and development, co-hosted by the Research & Training Centre for Community Development, Hanoi. A/Prof Fisher and Prof Doreen Rosenthal attended the meeting in Hanoi in June together with leading international researchers in the field including delegates from Pakistan, Japan, South Africa, France, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, Nigeria, India, Viet Nam and Australia. Outcomes of the meeting will include a joint publication of the state of the art papers presented at the meeting, a summary of the evidence and a Consensus Statement.

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The subject 'Women and Global Health' in the Master of Women's Health course was run in block mode for enrolled students and also as a short course for outside participants July 16-20. A/Prof Jane Fisher coordinated the teaching with presentations from Professor Rob Moodie, Professor Doreen Rosenthal, A/Prof Anne Kavanagh, Dr Murray Couch, Dr Deb Keys, Professor Roger Short and Dr Shelley Mallett. The subject was rated highly by short course participants who included two staff from AusAID and one from the Tasmanian State Department of Human Services.

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Dr Tuan Tran, Director of the Research and Training Centre for Community Development is currently visiting the Key Centre. Dr Tran is the recipient of an AusAID Australian Leadership Award and will spend 3 months at the Centre continuing collaborative work on maternal and mental health in VietNam with A/Prof Jane Fisher.

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STAFF AND STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS:

Congratulations to NHMRC Post Doctoral Research Fellow, Louise Keogh, who has been promoted to Research Fellow, level B.

Masters of Public Health completion:

Lignet CHEPUKA Experiences of HIV-positive mothers with dependent children in Blantyre, Malawi

Kelsi KRIITMAA Prevalence and determinants of common mental disorders in pregnant women in Vietnam

Letsema P OAGILE Course work only

GRANTS & CONTRACTS ACTIVATED:

FISHER JRW - Australian Leadership Award – Fellowship Mental Health Vietnam Dr Tran Tuan.
\$34,752 - AusAID

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

FISHER JRW – Expert Meeting on maternal mental health and child health and development. USD \$101,249 (approx AUD \$119,000) - World Health Organisation

ROSENTHAL D, MALLET S, Williams H, KEYS D, Jordan L, - Making it Real: relevant sexual health communication for young people, \$98,536 - Department of Human Services, Victoria.

5.6. Centre for International Mental Health (J.Burchill)

5.7. Sexual Health Unit (K.Fairley/G.Fehler)

NEW STAFF:

We would like to welcome Advanced Medical Students who will spend the next year with us:

Devamalar Simatherai will explore the perceptions of men-who-have-sex-with-men (MSM) to the human papilloma vaccine (GARDASIL)

Jeremia Siregar will retrospectively evaluate the side effects, particularly of renal impairment in patients on antiretroviral therapy

Charley Simanjuntak will investigate the attitudes of female sexual health clients to having a male chaperone for consultations and examinations

RECENT PUBLICATIONS:

See 8.7 below

5.8. McCaughey Centre (J.Wiseman/J.Campbell)

CENTRE LAUNCH:

The launch of the McCaughey Centre: VicHealth for the Promotion of Mental Health and Community Wellbeing took place in the Woodward Conference Centre on the afternoon of Monday 16th July, with around 130 people in attendance. The Centre's official launch was undertaken by the Hon Peter Batchelor (Minister for Victorian Communities), with endorsement by Professor Glyn Davis (Vice-Chancellor, University of Melbourne), Mr Todd Harper (CEO, VicHealth), and Cr Janet Bolitho (Mayor, City of Port Phillip). Professor James Angus (Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences), and the Centre's patron Ms Jean McCaughey, were also in attendance. Whilst the McCaughey Centre has been busily operating for a year to date, the official launch by Minister Batchelor incorporated the launch of the new Community Indicators Victoria (CIV) website. The CIV website, hosted by the McCaughey Centre, uses local community wellbeing indicators to improve citizen engagement, community planning and policy making. McCaughey Centre Director Professor John Wiseman thanked the Centre's Advisory Committee Chair Mr Michael Wright for mc'ing the event, and the Centre's academic and professional staff for undertaking a full and challenging year of work to bring the Centre to launch. Thanks was also expressed to a number of individuals who played a key role in the Centre's inception, including Professor Pip Pattison, Professor Glenn Bowes, Professor Terry Nolan, and Professor Rob Moodie. The financial contribution and support provided to the Centre by VicHealth and the MDHS faculty was also acknowledged.

NEW SPACE FOR McCAUGHEY CENTRE:

The McCaughey Centre recently moved into new space in the School of Population Health Building on Level 5, 207 Bouverie Street, (University of Melbourne Parkville Campus). Whilst the Centre remains on the same floor as previously housed, staff have moved into a consolidated space in the north east corner of Level 5, and the Centre can now be accessed through a clearly marked reception area. The McCaughey Centre is grateful to the School of Population Health for helping make this fantastic new space a reality.

DEAN'S LECTURE:

Professor John Wiseman delivered a keynote address in the Dean's Lecture Series, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, at the University of Melbourne on the evening of Tuesday 3rd July. John's lecture examined the topic of 'Community wellbeing in an unwell world: Trends, challenges and opportunities', and was attended by a capacity crowd in the Sunderland Lecture Theatre. Attendees included a broad range of colleagues and stakeholders from academia, VicHealth, state and local government, and the community and philanthropic sectors. John was pleased to be joined by the

Centre's patron, Jean McCaughey, and a number of other guests for a dinner with the Dean following the lecture.

A copy of John's presentation can be accessed from the McCaughey Centre's website (noting this is a large file requiring some download time), and audio of the lecture can be downloaded from the MDHS Faculty's website.

Community Indicators Victoria (CIV)

CIV WEBSITE LAUNCH:

The new Community Indicators Victoria website was launched in conjunction with the official launch of the McCaughey Centre on the 16th July, and can be accessed at <http://www.communityindicators.net.au/>. The CIV team, in conjunction with developer Josh Martin, have undertaken significant work throughout the latter half of 2006 and early 2007 to have the website ready for launch, and the site has been well received with over 19,000 hits in the weeks since launch. We encourage you to forward the CIV link to your colleagues and others who may be interested in utilising the CIV website tool.

The Community Indicators Victoria website is the entry point to reporting community wellbeing indicators across Victoria.

Please contact Dr Melanie Davern with queries regarding the CIV website and CIV data.
Please contact Sue West with queries regarding CIV and community engagement.

MEASURING AND FOSTERING THE PROGRESS OF SOCIETIES

Professor John Wiseman attended the 2nd OECD World Forum on Statistics, Knowledge and Policy: Measuring and Fostering the Progress of Societies, in Istanbul, Turkey from the 27-30th June 2007, and acted as discussant around the topic 'The Development of Indicators for Local Communities', exploring the work being done to produce sets of progress indicators for local communities and the impact these have. The Istanbul World Forum was attended by 130 countries, and provided a unique opportunity for in-depth discussions about the measurement of progress, as well as some of the most important concerns facing the world, such as climate change, health and economic globalisation.

POLICY AND RESEARCH PROJECTS:

Freedom from Violence

The Centre is a partner on a recently awarded ARC Linkage project titled 'Family Violence Reform: Using knowledge to develop and integrate policy and practice'. The project, led by Social Work at UoM and including academic and external partners from the Melbourne Criminology Research & Evaluation Unit (UoM), the McCaughey Centre (UoM), Latrobe University, Monash, Victoria Police, Department of Human Services, Department of Justice, and Department for Victorian Communities, has total funding of \$963,516 over 5 years. This research will address national 'hot' issues round family violence, which poses a serious threat to the health and wellbeing of women, children and some men, costing the economy an estimated \$87.1 billion annually. Research will examine 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 arrangements in metropolitan and rural regions. The research will provide continuous feedback to policy makers and practitioners, and will establish Australia as a world leader in delivering family safety.

FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION:

Social Justice Initiative

The McCaughey Centre is a partner on a recent and successful 'Social Justice Initiative (SJI)' submission to the Melbourne Strategic Research Initiative Fund at the University of Melbourne. The Social Justice Initiative is driven by the Faculty of Arts, and includes partners from the Faculty of Economics and Commerce, the Faculty of Law, and the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences (McCaughey Centre). The aim of the Social Justice Initiative is to facilitate research into social justice of international standing and to strengthen the growing interest in questions of social justice at the University of Melbourne and within the non-university sector. The SJI aims to establish itself as a long-term major research cluster at the University of Melbourne, and has been awarded total funding of \$636,000 plus in-kind over the next three years.

Refugee Resettlement in Rural and Regional Areas

Work continues between the McCaughey Centre and colleagues from VicHealth, Foundation House, and the Latrobe University's Refugee Health Research Centre to develop an issues paper and convene a forum to inform policy and program development to support refugee resettlement in rural and regional areas. This work is now in its final stages, and further details regarding the project and the subsequent forum will be posted on the McCaughey Events page when available.

SOCIAL INCLUSION AND CONNECTEDNESS:

VicHealth Arts Scoping Paper

The McCaughey Centre recently completed a scoping paper for VicHealth with the aim of identifying new evidence and innovative practice to guide the redevelopment of the VicHealth art program to promote social participation, and reduce discrimination and disadvantage amongst marginalised groups. On the 25th July, Professor John Wiseman chaired a roundtable of representatives from the Arts, Industry and Community sectors to discuss the development of cultural indicators in Australia. John used CIV data on arts participation in Victoria to open the discussion on cultural indicators in Australia, including who is making progress and what are the gaps?

Local Government Community Planning

Sue West, in conjunction with Hayden Raysmith, Adjunct Professor RMIT, is undertaking an evaluation of Victorian local government community planning. Local Government Victoria is funding the project, which includes the development of a self assessment tool for ten pilot Councils and will result in a report on lessons from the experiences from the Councils and the policy implications.

Creating Liveable New Communities

The McCaughey Centre has joined forces with Griffith University's Urban Research Centre in a project with the Victorian Growth Areas Authority around 'Creating Liveable New Communities'.

Economic Participation and Security

Labour Market Flexibility and Regulation: Australian and International Impacts and Strategies

In late May, the McCaughey Centre hosted a seminar on "Labour Market Flexibility and Regulation: Australian and International Impacts and Strategies". Dr Iain Campbell (Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Applied Social Research, RMIT University) opened the seminar describing the current fragmentation of the Australian Labour market, and its regulation. Dr Campbell's research indicates that it is difficult to identify the positive results for employment conditions promised by labour market deregulation. Assoc/Prof Tony LaMontagne of the McCaughey Centre then described findings from the Victorian Job Stress Survey which indicate there are marked differences in job stress and other psychosocial working conditions by employment arrangement, including markedly worse working conditions for those in the most precarious arrangements.

Presentations from the forum are available here. Dr Campbell's presentation was a summary of a forthcoming publication for the RMIT Centre for Applied and Social Research.

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Tony LaMontagne has submitted a final report to the Australian Safety and Compensation Commission. We await their response before proceeding with a public report and submission of key findings to peer-reviewed journals.

LaMontagne, A., Keegel, T., and Vallance, D. 'Changing Labour Markets: Job Stress and the need for a Systems Approach', ACTU Health and Safety Conference: Reclaiming OHS Workers' Compensation for Working Australians. June 4-5 2007.

AD LaMontagne & R Bentley: Benchmarking of Current Exposures to Psychosocial Hazards in Australian Workplaces, Final Report to ASCC, 15 June 2007.

Tony LaMontagne was interviewed for a Four Corners program on 'Job stress in Telstra call centre employees' (18 June 2007). Whilst his contribution was not aired, a link to the VicHealth Job Stress Survey has been provided on the Four Corners web site. This might explain the huge interest in that report; in July 2007, the Vic Health Job Stress Survey was the second most downloaded file from the VicHealth website, with 244 downloads.

HEALTHY AND SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTS:

Climate Change and Rural Health

The McCaughey Centre is part of an upcoming forum on the challenge of climate change for health in rural and regional Victoria, titled 'Change and Rural Health: A one day seminar'. Presented by the Climate Adaptation Science and Policy Initiative (CASPI) and the Menzies Foundation, with support from the McCaughey Centre, the seminar will examine the likely impacts of climate change on the wellbeing of people in rural and regional Victoria, and how these issues should be influencing future policy and research agendas. These questions will be addressed by experts from universities,

government and community organisations.

The 'Change and Rural Health' seminar will take place on Wednesday August 22nd, 8:30am-5:00pm at Graduate House, the University of Melbourne. To register go to <http://www.caspi.unimelb.edu.au> or call 8344 4708.

SEMINARS AND EVENTS:

Consultation Workshops for new Health Promotion and Wellbeing Framework for Victoria August-September 2007: During August to September the Department of Human Services and VicHealth are hosting consultation workshops to gather input into a new framework for promoting health and wellbeing in Victoria. The state wide health promotion and equity framework will bring together key health promotion policy initiatives to guide implementation of the health promotion priorities for 2007-2012 and work to address other important health issues.

Four half-day workshops will be held in Horsham, Shepparton, Melbourne and Traralgon. Written submissions will also be invited during the consultation process. A discussion paper outlining the key components of the framework, as well as key questions for your consideration, will be available in the lead up to the workshops in mid August. For further information contact Kellie Horton at the Department of Human Services on (03) 9096 5506 or kellie.horton@dhs.vic.gov.au.

VicHealth's Mental Health Promotion Short Course - Bendigo, Ararat & Echuca

August-September-October 2007: VicHealth is excited to announce three rural mental health promotion short courses to be funded as part of the Department of Human Service's drought strategy. These FREE 2 day courses will be held in Bendigo, Ararat and Echuca, and are aimed at organisations from a wide range of sectors, including health, education, crime prevention, arts, community groups, neighbourhood houses, local government, arts and sporting groups, as "mental health is everybody's business". The course aims to increase workers' and organisations' capacity to undertake mental health promotion activity, as well as provide resources and models to enhance evidence based project planning, implementation and evaluation of activity with specific focus on VicHealth's Mental Health Promotion Framework. The course also greatly aids in cross-sectoral collaboration in drought-stricken communities.

Courses will run through August, September and October. For enquiries regarding specific course dates for each region, and the expression of interest and registration process, please contact Cassie Nicholls of VicHealth at cnicholls@vichealth.vic.gov.au or 03 9667 1317.

Visitors

The McCaughey Centre welcomes Dr Rob Salter, who holds a visiting appointment with the Centre to develop a research project around the subject of social investment. Rob is a Community Development worker with Crossroads Youth and Family Services at the Salvation Army, and his project is jointly auspiced by the Salvation Army and the McCaughey Centre. Rob's work brings together and builds evidence about the ways in which social investment yields financial and economic benefits to society across a wide range of areas of disadvantage, in addition to generating benefits for specific individuals,

and will be used to advocate for increased investment of this kind.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS:

See 8.8. below

6. Seminars/Events

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see <http://www.sph.unimelb.edu.au/seminars/>

7. IT News (N.Golovachenko)

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8. 2007 Publications (not listed previously)

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8.1 School

8.2 Centre for Health and Society

8.3 Centre for MEGA Epidemiology

Bennett C, Jenkins A, Guo M & Dharmage S. 2007. Could global standardization of A1C help it become the preferred diabetes screening method? *Review of Endocrinology*. June: 59-61.

Erbas B, Ristevski , Poon , Yeung & Ebeling P. 2007. Decreased spinal and femoral neck volumetric bone mineral density (BMD) in men with primary osteoporosis and their first-degree male relatives: familial effect on BMD in men. *Clinical Endocrinology*. 66: 78-84.

Hayes RD, Dennerstein L, Bennett C, Koochaki PE, Leiblum SR & Graziottin A. 2007. Relationship between hypoactive sexual desire disorder and aging. *Fertility and Sterility*. 87 (1): 107-112.

John EM, Phipps AL, Knight JA, Milne RL, Dite G, Hopper J, Andrulis IL, Southey M, Giles G, West DW & Whittemore AS. 2007. Medical radiation exposure and breast cancer risk: Findings from the Breast Cancer Family Registry. *International Journal of Cancer*. 121: 386-394.

Mead L, Jenkins M, Young J, Royce S, Smith L, St John D, Macrae F, Giles G, Hopper J, Southey M. 2007. Microsatellite instability markers for identifying early-onset colorectal cancers caused by germline mutations in DNA mismatch repair genes. *Clinical Cancer Research*. 13 (10): 2865-2869.

Skull SA, Andrews M, Byrnes G, Kelly H, Nolan T, Brown G & Campbell D. 2007. Missed

opportunities to vaccinate a cohort of hospitalised elderly with pneumococcal and influenza vaccines. *Vaccine*. 25: 5146-5154.

Skull SA, Andrews M, Byrnes G, Kelly H, Nolan T, Brown G & Campbell D. 2007. Pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine may not prevent hospitalization for pneumonia in elderly individuals. *Clinical Infectious Diseases*. 44: 617-621.

Skull S, Andrews M, Byrnes G, Kelly H, Nolan T, Brown G & Campbell D. 2007. Prevention of community-acquired pneumonia among a cohort of hospitalized elderly: Benefit due to influenza and pneumococcal vaccination not demonstrated. *Vaccine*. 25: 4631-4640.

Skull S, Andrews M, Byrnes G, Kelly H, Nolan T, Brown G & Campbell D. 2007. Validity of self-reported influenza and pneumococcal vaccination status among a cohort of hospitalized elderly inpatients. *Vaccine*. 25 (25): 4775-4783.

Wang Y, Wluka A, English D, Teichtahl AJ, Giles G, O'Sullivan R & Cicuttini FM. 2007. Body composition and knee cartilage properties in healthy, community-based adults. *Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases*. 66: 1244-1248.

8.4 Centre for Health Policy, Programs and Economics

Jordan, H., Dunn, L., Verrinder, G., 2007, 'Education and Training in Environmental Health Services Evaluation', *Environmental Health*, vol 7 No. 2, pp 62-68

McKenzie, R., Naccarella, L., Thompson, C. 2007, 'Innovation in Aged Care: Well for Life – Evaluation and policy implications of a health promotion initiative for frail older people in aged care settings', *Australasian Journal of Ageing*, vol. 26, no. 3, pp.135-140.

Pirkis, J., Burgess, P., Blood, R.W., Francis, C. 2007 'The newsworthiness of suicide', *Suicide and Life Threatening Behaviour*, vol. 37, no. 3, pp. 278-283.

8.5 Key Centre for Women's Health in Society

Kirkman, M., Rosenthal, D., & Johnson, L. (2007). Families working it out: Adolescents' views on communicating about donor-assisted conception. *Human Reproduction*, 22(8): 2318-2324.

Milburn N, Rosenthal D, Rotheram-Borus MJ, Mallett S, Batterham P, Rice E, Solorio R. (2007) Newly Homeless Youth Typically Return Home. *J Adolesc Health*, Jun ;40 (6):574-576 17531769

Nickson, C., Kavanagh, A. (2007) The feasibility of routinely collecting detailed information about

menopausal history and menopause therapy use from women participating in Australian State and Territory BreastScreen programs. *Australasian Epidemiologist*, 14.2, 18–21

Non peer-review journal articles

Kirkman, M., Rosenthal, D., & Johnson, L. (2007). *Telling it Your Way: A Guide for Parents of Donor-Conceived Adolescents*. Melbourne: Infertility Treatment Authority.

8.6 Centre for International Mental Health

8.7 Sexual Health Unit

Marrone J, Fairley CK, Chen MY, Hocking JS. Comparisons of trends in antiretroviral use and HIV notification rates between Australian States. 2007. 31 (2): 131-134. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health*.

Ginige S, Fairley CK, Hocking JS, Bowden FJ, Chen MY. Interventions for increasing chlamydia screening in primary care: a review. *BMC Public Health*. <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/7/95>

Newton DC, Fairley CK, Teague R, Donovan B, Bowden FJ, Bilardi J, Pitts M, Chen MY. Australian sexual health practitioners' use of chaperones for genital examinations: a survey of attitudes and practice. 2007. *Sexual Health*. 4(2): 95-97

Ling AE, Bash MC, Lynn F, Lister NA, Zhu P, Garland SM, Fairley CK, Tabrizi SN. Evaluation of PorB variable region typing of *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* using PCR-ELISA in samples collected from men who have sex with men. 2007. *Journal of Clinical Laboratory Analysis*. 21(4): 237-243

8.8. McCaughey Centre

Radi, S., Ostry A., and LaMontagne, AD. (2007): 'Job stress and other working conditions: Relationships with smoking behaviours in a representative sample of working Australians'. *American J Industrial Medicine* 50(8):584-596.

Keegel, T., Erbas, B., Cahill, J., Noonan, A., Dharmage, S., Nixon, R., 'Occupational contact dermatitis in Australia: Diagnostic and management practices, and severity of worker impairment'. *Contact Dermatitis*, Vol 56, 2007, pp. 318-324.

The McCaughey Centre has a new brochure, providing an outline of our research profile, objectives, staff, and collaborative approach. Download a copy from website, or request copies by emailing info-mccaughey@unimelb.edu.au