NEWS FROM THE RSO
2012 KEY DATES REMINDERS

- The rules of the game in a rising Asia – 26 October 2012
- eResearch SA HPC Workshop – 1 November 2012
- Points of Connection – Research Discovery Forum – 14 November 2012
- FP Research to Outcome workshop – 16 November 2012
- ARC Linkage Project final applications due to the RSO – 7 November 2012

NHMRC PROJECT RESULTS

Flinders submitted 71 NHMRC project grants for funding in 2013, receiving 11 grants at a success rate of 15.5% slightly below the 19.7% national rate. We are also pleased to have been awarded one Mental Health Targeted Call for Research Grant for funding commencing in 2012, bringing the total awarded grants amount from the NHMRC announcement last week to $6,149,380.

The RSO is also currently aware of 9 flinders researchers involved in Project Grants and Mental Health Targeted Call for Research Grant that are being led by other institutions. If you are a part of a successful NHMRC grant led by another institution, please contact the RSO, so that we can start the relevant processes.

"Congratulations to all the research teams and support staff involved in the submissions. We look forward to working with all applicants to build on this success," Dr Gayle Morris said.

2013 successful NHMRC Project Grants led by Flinders

Molecular signatures of public clonotypes in human systemic autoimmunity
**Professor Tom Gordon** (Flinders Medical Science and Technology), **Dr Tim Chataway** (Flinders Medical Science and Technology)
NHMRC Funding: $521,972

Predicting drug-drug interactions due to tyrosine kinase inhibitors: Inhibition of drug metabolising enzymes and transporters
**Professor John Miners** (Flinders Medical Science and Technology), **Professor Kathleen Knights** (Flinders Medical Science and Technology), **Professor Peter Mackenzie** (Flinders Medical Science and Technology), **Dr Andrew Rowland** (Flinders Medical Science and Technology), **Professor Ross McKinnon** (Flinders Clinical and Molecular Medicine)
NHMRC Funding: $380,989

Roles and regulation of sphingosine kinase 1 during dengue virus infection
**Dr Jill Carr** (Flinders Medical Science and Technology), Associate Professor Stuart Pitson (SA Pathology)
NHMRC Funding: $466,044

Anti-vascular endothelial growth factor-B as a biologic for treating eye disease
**Professor Keryn Williams** (Flinders Clinical and Molecular Medicine), **Dr Helen Breton** (Flinders Clinical

Inspiring research
Acinetobacter baumannii virulence from a regulatory perspective: the role of two component signal transduction systems

Associate Professor Melissa Brown (School of Biological Sciences), Dr Uwe Stroeher (School of Biological Sciences)
NHMRC Funding: $588,242

Toward translation of glaucoma blindness genes into clinical practice: predicting Risk Of Glaucoma: Relevant SNPs with Strong Association (PROGRESSA) Study

Associate Professor Jamie Craig (Flinders Clinical and Molecular Medicine), Dr Kathryn Burdon (Flinders Clinical and Molecular Medicine), Professor Robert Casson (University of Adelaide), Dr John Landers, Professor Stuart Graham (Macquarie University), Associate Professor Paul Healey (University of Sydney), Dr Ashish Agar (University of New South Wales)
NHMRC Funding: $956,020

How intestinal motility activates sensory pathways

Professor Simon Brookes (Flinders Medical Science and Technology), Dr Phil Dinning (Flinders Medical Science and Technology), Associate Professor Nick Spencer (Flinders Medical Science and Technology), Dr Vladimir Zagorodnyuk (Flinders Medical Science and Technology)
NHMRC Funding: $537,065

Treating Insomnia co-morbid with Obstructive Sleep Apnoea: a randomized controlled clinical effectiveness trial

Professor Doug McEvoy (Flinders Clinical Effectiveness), Dr Simon Smith (Queenland University of Technology), Professor Leon Lack (School of Psychology), Dr J James Douglas (Prince Charles Hospital), Associate Professor Nick Antic (Flinders Clinical Effectiveness), Associate Professor Peter Catslide (Flinders Clinical Effectiveness), Dr Ching Li Chai-Coeter (Adelaide Institute for Sleep Health)
NHMRC Funding: $580,386

Hypothalamic oxexin-synthesizing neurons regulate the ultradian Basic Rest-Activity Cycle (BRAC); studies in transgenic rats and mice

Professor Bill Blessing (Flinders Medical Science and Technology), Associate Professor Youichiro Ootsuka (Kagoshima University)
NHMRC Funding: $568,794

2013 successful NHMRC Project Grants led by other Institutions

Over-expression of human cytchrome P450 2J2 activates phase II biotransformation genes that influence anti-cancer drug efficacy

Professor Michael Murray (University of Sydney), Professor Peter Mackenzie (Flinders Medical Science and Technology)
NHMRC Funding: $470,480

Falls risk associated with cataract and after first and second eye cataract surgery

Dr Lisa Keay (University of Sydney), Associate Professor Lynn Meuleners, Professor Konrad Pesudovs (Flinders Clinical and Molecular Medicine), Professor Peter McCluskey, Dr Soufiane Boufous, Dr J onathon Ng, Associate Professor Nigel Morlet, Professor Fiona Stapleton
NHMRC Funding: $775,261

Identification of glaucoma susceptibility variants by exome sequencing in extended pedigrees showing prior evidence of gene segregation

Dr Jac Charlesworth (University of Tasmania), Professor John Blaniero, Professor David Mackey, Dr Kathryn Burdon (Flinders Clinical and Molecular Medicine)
NHMRC Funding: $671,330

Can a Mediterranean dietary pattern improve cognitive health and psychological wellbeing? Dr Karen Murphy (University of South Australia), Dr Janet Bryan, Professor Jonathan Hodgson, Professor Carlene Wilson (Flinders Prevention, Promotion and Primary Health Care)
NHMRC Funding: $691,341

“Gotta be sit down and worked out together”- using participatory action research to test an empowerment intervention addressing the needs of unpaid carers of older Aboriginal people

Associate Professor Dina LoGiudice (Western Sydney University), Professor Leon Flicker, Dr Kate Smith, Associate Professor Dawn Besserab, Professor David Atkinson, Dr Melissa Lindeman (Centre for Remote Health)
NHMRC Funding: $1,742,188

Common risk factor approach to address socioeconomic inequality in oral health of contemporary Australian preschool children

Dr Doctor Loc Do (University of Adelaide), Professor A. John Spencer, Professor Murray Thomson, Professor Simon Brookes (Flinders Medical Science and Technology)
NHMRC Funding: $956,020
Inspiring research

Professor Jane Scott (Flinders Clinical and Molecular Medicine)
NHMRC Funding: $773,033

2012 successful NHMRC Mental Health Targeted Call for Research Grants led by Flinders

Eating disorder prevention in young-adult women at risk: A randomised controlled trial of two online programs
Dr Simon Wilksch (School of Psychology), Professor Tracey Wade (School of Psychology), Professor Craig Taylor (Stanford University)
NHMRC Funding: $254,904

2012 successful NHMRC Mental Health Targeted Call for Research Grants led by other institution

A randomised controlled trial of a universal and targeted intervention to reduce mental health problems from bullying among school students
Professor Donna Cross (Edith Cowan University), Associate Professor Marilyn Campbell, Professor Philip Slee (School of Education), Professor Ken Resnicow, Professor Christina Salmivalli, Associate Professor Stacey Waters
NHMRC Funding: $620,000

REPORTAL LAUNCH

The Research Services Office is pleased to launch the RePortal (research portal), a web-based research performance and activity portal. The RePortal currently includes, on an individual basis, the following:

- employment data: drawn from HR data
- research publications (both HERDC and non-HERDC): drawn from the Research Management Information System (publications)
- HERDC funded research income: drawn from the Grants Finance Office data
- research project (externally funded) data [we are aware that currently this data has a high degree of incompleteness]: drawn from RMIS
- HDR students: to come later
- esteem measures: to come later

RePortal can be accessed here.

The portal has been made available to Executive Deans and their support staff, for data checking and we now invite researchers to review data; if any information is missing or incorrect, please contact the Research Data Team via email.

Ben Jacobs and the Research Data and Systems team have worked hard on developed this new, dynamic and powerful system over the past few months which we anticipate will be of high value to researchers and the University.

RESEARCH NEWS AND SUCCESSES

MARITIME ARCHAEOLOGY GOES 3D!

Earlier this year Dr Jennifer McKinnon led a team of researchers and videographers to collect footage to develop a 3D interpretive film of Saipan's WWII underwater cultural heritage (i.e., shipwrecks, aircraft wrecks and assault vehicles).

The film was developed to provide access to the mysterious and beautiful underwater world, a place where non-divers and non-swimmers have little opportunity to go. The project was funded by a US National Park Service Grant and was supported by the US non-profit research institute, Ships of Discovery, of which McKinnon is a Research Associate.

The team consisted of professionals from Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, the largest independent oceanographic organisation in the US and the group who filmed Titanic, and the US National Park Service’s Submerged Resources Center.

The film will take the audience on a journey underwater in which they can explore the sunken wrecks and swim with the fishes. Viewers will learn about the history of the Battle of Saipan (June/July 1944) and how the wrecks that litter the seafloor came to be located there.

US Sherman Tank. Photo by Brett Seymour, National Park Service

"There are mysteries that have been solved as a result of the archaeological research we've conducted on these heritage sites over the last several years, and what better place to deliver the answers than in a 3D film," said project director McKinnon.

"The community on Saipan and visitors to the island are curious about what is in the water and this..."
The film will provide them with an extraordinary opportunity to visit the sites without even getting wet."

The film is part of a larger research project McKinnon began developing in 2007 to investigate the story Saipan’s underwater WWII heritage has to tell about what happened during the battle.

"What is preserved on land is only half of the evidence we have for piecing together the battle. Underwater sites and their exceptional preservation have the ability to elucidate individual actions and troop movements. They can tell us so much more than what is in the written military documents." McKinnon is also interested in the ethics behind interpreting and presenting conflict sites to the public.

The film has a strong conservation message about protecting the sites so that they may be preserved into the future. It promotes sustainable heritage tourism and is aimed at stimulating the economy of Saipan. The film will be shown in National Parks throughout the Pacific and will be made available to school children as part of an education program.

Article submitted by Joy Tennant, Research Support Officer, Flinders Research Institute in the Humanities

ANOTHER LINK WITH OXFORD

Once more, a Flinders researcher is enhancing the link between Flinders and Oxford University. Mr Hamish King, a Research Assistant in Dr Jonathan Gleade and Dr Michael Michael's laboratory in Flinders Clinical and Molecular Medicine, won a prestigious scholarship earlier this year.

The Oxford University and Wellcome Trust Graduate Training Programme in Chromosomal and Developmental Biology is a four year programme culminating in a PhD enrolment a D. Phil degree. The Wellcome Trust offers a large number of these programmes across the majority of universities in the United Kingdom on different subjects and topics. This particular program enables applicants to do a number of placements through different laboratories to undertake a series of short projects in the first year, before the applicant commences a three year PhD programme. On average, there are 100-150 applications to each programme with only 5-6 places on offer.

King graduated from Flinders with a Bachelor of Science. During his undergraduate study he was a part of the High Achievers Program with Associate Professor Jamie Quinton, School of Chemical and Physical Sciences. He then moved to the Faculty of Health Science to pursue an Honours degree with Michael and Gleade.

Since his graduation he has continued work in the lab as a Research Assistant. It was the work the group was doing on exosomes that interested King to pursue an Honours degree in that area.

Exosomes are vesicles which are released by cells within the body and they possibly carry biologically important and relevant signals and genetic materials to other cells. While vesicles were discovered 30 years ago, it is only in the last few years that the study of exosomes has taken off as its own discipline. "I was really excited by working on, really new and exciting cutting edge work and that is what made me come down here most of all," King said.

Gleade, originally an Oxford graduate himself, encouraged King to be ambitious and look at scholarships overseas. One of King’s Honours thesis examiners, Dr Karen Lower, Molecular Medicine and Genetics, is another of our staff with links to Oxford. She was a Flinders graduate who did her postdoctoral degree at Oxford and then stayed for seven years doing laboratory work before returning to Australia and Flinders. It was Lower’s Oxford supervisor with whom King will be working.

We wish King all the best for his future and hope to see him back at Flinders later in his career.

SHARK SHIELD TRIALS

A recent trial in South Australian and South African waters tested responses of Great White sharks to the Shark Shield Freedom 7 device. Dr Charlie Huveneers, School of Biological Sciences, was the lead researcher on the trial, funded by SafeWork SA, Save Our Seas Foundation, Flinders University, Marine Innovation South Australia, Neiser Foundation, the Winifred Violet Charitable Trust and the University of Adelaide.
The Shark Shield is a commonly used device which emits an electronic pulse intended to repel sharks when activated. The idea behind the pulse is to overwhelm the electroreceptors that sharks have on their snout to help locate food sources.

The aim of the research by Huveneers was to see how the device affected the behaviour of Great White sharks. The results varied from shark to shark and even between the two different testing conditions used, Huveneers discovered.

During testing near Seal Island, South Africa, a seal decoy towed behind a boat was used. When the device was activated, there were no surface breaches observed and some sharks were seen to abort their predatory approach. These differed from the results off Neptune Island in South Australia which only involved a static bait. Sharks were capable of being within half a metre of the Shark Shield and to consume baits two metres away when the device was turned on. However, on average, sharks stayed further away from the bait when the Shark Shield was activated.

The conclusion of the report was that, in respect to the Shark Shield that it, “had an effect on the behaviour of white sharks, but did not deter or repel them in all situations nor did it repel all individual sharks.”

Great White Shark – photograph courtesy of Andrew Fox

Future studies will focus on testing the effect of deterrents less than two metres from the bait and on other potentially dangerous sharks, such as tiger sharks (Galeocerdo cuvier) and bull sharks (Carcharhinus leucas).

Article information from Brett Williamson, ABC local

SEMINARS, CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

eRESEARCH SA HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING WORKSHOP

eResearch SA is holding a one day, hands-on workshop for researchers interested in using their High Performance Computing facilities. It will be suitable for researchers needing a complete introduction to HPC as well as those familiar with HPC but wanting to know more about eResearch SA’s new Tizard machine.

Where: Collaborative Teaching Suite (Room 218) in the Ingkarni Wardli Building at the University of Adelaide’s North Terrace Campus

When: Thursday 1 November 2012
Time: 9:30 am to 4:00 pm

For more information, see the event site.

Funding is available for a limited number of Flinders researchers to attend. If you would like to take advantage of this, please contact amanda.nixon@flinders.edu.au before registering.

POINTER OF CONNECTION - RESEARCH DISCOVERY FORUM

The free CRC-Remote Economic Participation (CRC-REP) Points of Connection discovery forum will be held on 14 November 2012.

The purpose of this forum is to profile the work of the CRC-REP and to promote interdisciplinary research opportunities.

The program will consist of four twenty minute presentations:

- An overview of the CRC-REP Research and Partnerships by Professor Murray McGregor, General Manager Research, Quality and Innovation, Curtin University

- An outline of the CRC-REP Remote Education Systems project with Associate Professor John Guenther, Principal Research Leader, Flinders University

- A snapshot of the CRC-REP Aboriginal Community Research Teams by Sam Osborne, Senior Research Fellow CRC-REP, UniSA

- An introduction to the CRC-REP Regional Economies – Enduring Community Value from Mining with Professor Fiona McKenzie, Principal Research Leader, Curtin University

After morning tea there will be an opportunity for researchers to connect with each other, and to consider and generate potential research ideas.
PREMIER'S SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY FUND INFORMATION SESSION

Flinders staff are invited to attend the Premier’s Science and Industry Fund Information Session on Friday 9 November.

The session will provide background on the recently renewed Premier’s Research and Industry Fund, the South Australian Government’s strategic priorities in science and research; an explanation of each program and will include a question and answer session on each program.

The Premier’s Research and Industry Fund comprises four key categories, these are:

- South Australian Research Fellowship Program
- Collaboration Pathways Program, including the Cooperative Research Centre Assistance Program
- Innovation Voucher Program
- International Research Grants Program

Information Session Agenda:
- Introduction
  - Dr Craig Fowler, Deputy Chief Executive, DFEEST
  - Dr Leanna Read, Premier’s Science and Industry Council member, Chief Scientist’s representative

State Government Priorities
- Dr Mary Rieger, Manager, Science and Research, DFEEST

Innovation Voucher Program & Collaboration Pathways Program
- Mr David Lee, Principal Policy Officer, Science and Research, DFEEST

International Research Grants Program & South Australian Research Fellowship Program
- Ms Iris Dobrzinski, Principal Policy Officer, Science and Research, DFEEST

Where: Level 4, 11 Waymouth St, Adelaide
When: Friday 9 November 2012
Time: 12:30 – 2:30 PM
RSVP: to Vicki Tindall by COB Wednesday 7 November

A light lunch will be provided.
Further information can be found at Premier’s Research and Industry Fund.

FLINDERS PARTNERS RESEARCH TO OUTCOME WORKSHOP

The Final Research to Outcome workshop for 2012 will be held on Friday, 16 November 2012. The one-day workshop, presented by Anthony Francis, Managing Director of Flinders Partners Pty Ltd, is a great opportunity for researchers to learn about what is involved in commercialisation.

Researchers that have attended this workshop in the past have said that the workshop provided them with an interesting overview of the commercialisation process from concept to market, and that they appreciated the clarity, simplicity and application of the information to a variety of research areas.

If you are interested in attending, be sure to book in early; the May session booked out within two weeks.

Many enjoyed the opportunity to meet other researchers that they had not met previously, and the discussions that allowed them to advance their research project and to consider alternative angles and aspects that they had not yet thought of.

Please register your details here. If you have any queries, please contact Fiona Smith by email or phone on 8201 7606.

GRADUATE RESEARCH OFFICE NEWS

FIND A RESEARCH SUPERVISOR UPDATE

The Dean, Graduate Research, Professor Jeri Kroll recently announced that work is underway on the Flinders University website to introduce a significant new tool to assist students to find a research supervisor. Titled: Find a Supervisor, this new web-based facility will enable prospective students as well as Research Higher Degree (RHD) Officers and Postgraduate Coordinators to identify appropriate research higher degree supervisors quickly and easily for projects.

This facility builds on the existing staff business web pages’ application. A public Find a Supervisor will be made available...
Inspiring research

Once the relevant content is added to staff pages. Input is now being sought from researchers themselves to make this a reality. In order to provide relevant information for prospective research higher degree students, new research fields have been added to the staff pages. Academic staff are requested to update their staff page and to ensure that all information is accurate and their most recent publications are added and research interests and capabilities are included in the new research supervision fields.

Please update the content in these research fields on your staff page by 24 November 2012.

For details about this process, please refer to the Add and edit content – Research section of the staff business web pages user guide.

For enquiries relating to the new research supervision fields please contact the Office of Graduate Research via email.

If you have a recently, or soon to be, published book we would be pleased to receive notification of it.

Share your research successes or information regarding upcoming research related events in your area. Contact Nikki Johnson for article submissions or further information.