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Cover Photo Credit: Mr Craig Farmer
FCOEVR: Director's Report 2015

Outcomes in 2015 and alignment with University Strategic Plan
Our Centre conducts clinical and translational research, strategic and applied research, and basic biomedical science research related to the eye and vision. We are physically based in Ophthalmology (School of Medicine) and Optometry (School of Health Sciences), located currently within the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, but we collaborate widely within our institution, nationally and internationally. Our ranking for "Ophthalmology and Optometry" in the three rounds of the ARC ERA held thus far were: 4 (first round), 5 (second round) and 5 (third round, 2015), and our Centre was highlighted as a flagship in the Flinders University 2015 Research Excellence publication. Over 2015, we increased our research higher degree student load compared with 2014, in alignment with the University's Strategic Plan. We are attempting to improve the quality of our research outputs, grow our Centre size, broaden our collaborations further, and increase our service to the discipline and community. Additional information on these outcomes are summarised below.

Research higher degree student load and completions
Our current PhD student load is 9 students (6 in Ophthalmology and 3 in Optometry). An additional member of the Centre has enrolled in a PhD through the FSE. Three PhD students (Dave, Irani, Kuot) completed their candidatures in 2015. Of note, Alpana Dave was awarded a Vice-Chancellor's Prize for Doctoral Thesis Excellence.

Publications
In 2015, members of the Centre published 56 research articles and letters in peer-reviewed journals. From January to August 2016, we have already generated 48 publications. In 2015, 20% of our articles were published in journals with impact factors above 5.0. A 2015 article on Ebola virus-related eye disease in the high-impact journal New Engl J Med, co-authored by Justine Smith, generated substantial national and international media attention.

Grant funding
Centre members generated $1,683,609 in research grant income as Chief Investigators in 2015, according to Flinders University Research Services Office data, and $2,142,793 according to the Centre's own records.

Presentations at national and international meetings
From January 2015 to date, Centre members delivered over 75 presentations at international and national meetings. Of these, over 30 were plenary or invited platform presentations.

Highlights of 2015
Highlights included the formal appointment of Catherine Truman as the FCOEVR Visiting Scholar: Artist-in-Residence for 2015-6. An internationally-recognized jeweller and sculptor, Ms Truman is the 2016 SALA artist of the year. In 2015, Justine Smith was elected as a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences, received a Distinguished Service Award from the Association for Research in Vision & Ophthalmology, and a Senior Achievement Award from the American Academy of Ophthalmology. She is Co-Chair of the University's Athena Swan (SAGE) initiative and presented the 2015 Inaugural Lecture in the Flinders Investigators' Public Lecture Series. Jamie Craig presented the Annual Gerard Crock Lecture in Melbourne in October 2015. Konrad Pesudovs was elected Chairman of the Board, National Vision Research Institute and became a member of The Global Burden of Diseases,
Injuries, and Risk Factors Study 2008, Vision and Hearing Loss Expert Group. Keryn Williams shared the award of the DVCR's Scientist of the Year for 2015, delivered the Coster Lecture at the 33rd Annual ANZ Cornea and Eye Bank Meeting, and was appointed as Honorary Senior Principal Research Fellow to SAHMRI.

Research impact and translation
The Centre operates the Centre for Clinical Eye Research in Evidence-Based Ophthalmology, the Australian and New Zealand Ophthalmic Surveillance Unit, the Australian and New Zealand Registry of Advanced Glaucoma, and the Australian Corneal Graft Registry. An international Ocular B Cell Lymphoma Registry is currently under construction.

Specific disease registries, operating as prospective, longitudinal cohort studies, can provide robust, real-world information in circumstances in which randomised, controlled clinical trials are impossible, impractical or too expensive. In May 2015, the Australian Corneal Graft Registry (a national research database established and operated through Flinders University) celebrated its 30th birthday. Since its inception in 1985, over 32,000 records of corneal transplantation from across the country have been registered on a voluntary basis by over 750 ophthalmic surgeons. The Registry is arguably the largest repository of data on corneal transplantation in the world, and has changed clinical practice.
Centre's Mission Statement

Blindness has an enormous impact on quality of life, may shorten life-span and, according to the World Health Organization, is the most expensive of all causes of serious disablement. We conduct research related to the eye and vision. Our goal is to improve outcomes for people with blinding eye conditions, wherever they may be: in our local community, elsewhere in Australia, or internationally. We focus on prevention of disease, as well as on amelioration and cure.

Our Centre, encompassing researchers in ophthalmology and more recently also in optometry, was first established in 2005 with support from Flinders University: we have thus been in operation for over 10 years. We focus on the nexus between vision and health of the eye, a major issue in Australia with its ageing population. Our over-arching goal is to improve patient outcomes. Our research encompasses basic biomedical science, applied research, clinical research, translational research, and health services management research.

Our multidisciplinary programs are geared to:
• understanding the pathophysiology and genetics of common eye conditions;
• developing novel therapeutic agents and biomaterials for ophthalmic use;
• establishing and interrogating registers for common eye disorders;
• understanding the relationships between optical quality and visual performance;
• developing patient-reported measures of quality of life;
• improving the evidence-base that underpins effective eye and vision care.

We currently work on:
• corneal disease, including dystrophies and ectasias;
• inflammatory and infective eye conditions;
• glaucoma;
• congenital and adult cataract;
• molecular genetics of eye disease;
• retinopathy of prematurity and diabetic retinopathy;
• central retinal artery and retinal vein occlusion;
• quality of life and patient-recorded outcomes in those with ocular disease;
• estimates of the global burden of blindness;
• some cancers affecting the eye;
• ophthalmic registries.
**Summary of Performance in 2015**

**Research Income**
The FCOEVR generated $1,683,609 in research grant income in 2015, according to Flinders University Research Services Office data, and $2,142,793 according to the Centre's own records. Approximately 65% of our research income is derived from competitive national category one granting bodies, but we are actively seeking to expand our funding base. A detailed list of grants is provided later in this report. Note that we count only grants that are related to our core business of eye and vision: some Centre members have also generated research income in other discipline areas. Our funding for 2015 was less than that reported for 2014. This may in part reflect the impending retirement of one senior Centre member, who has been stepping down her grant applications over the past two-three years, and emphasizes the need for an increase in our critical mass of senior researchers.

**Publications**
From January 2015 to December 2015, members of the Centre published 56 research articles and letters in peer-reviewed journals. From January 2016 to date, we have already generated 48 publications. High-impact papers include several in *Lancet* (impact factor = 44) and *Nature Genetics* (impact factor = 32), and a paper in *New Engl J Med* (impact factor = 60) that generated widespread media attention internationally. Overall in 2015-6, 20% of our articles were published in journals with impact factors above 5.0, better than our historical average of 12%. However, neither our publication rate nor the percentage of articles in journals with impact factors over 5 has increased over the rate reported for 2014, but has remained static. The Centre membership has not increased materially in size over the past 12-18 months and we may have reached a plateau for publications.

With respect to journal impact factors, we stress that of the 57 journals listed under the discipline area of ophthalmology and optometry in the Journal Citation Index, only two (<4%) - *Prog Ret Eye Res* and *Ophthalmology* - have impact factors over 5, at 9.4 and 6.8 respectively. Centre members have published in both these journals over the past 18 months. However, the majority of articles were published in the ophthalmic and optometric literature, because such articles tend to engender maximum translational impact: in particular, they are read by active clinicians working in the field. Selection of the journal in which our work is to be published is thus a balancing act between traditional impact (preferred by most DVCRs), and translational impact (preferred by bodies such as the NHMRC and community groups).

**RHD Outcomes**
We increased our PhD continuing student numbers in 2015 compared with 2014 and historical numbers, and have enrolled additional students in 2016. Our current load is 9 students. Three students completed their PhD degrees in 2015: Dave, Irani and Kuot. One student (Javadiyan) has submitted her thesis for examination already in 2016 and another (Kaidonis) is in the final stages of thesis preparation. Our capacity to enrol new students is limited to some extent by the numbers of our senior membership, and by considerations of available space and resources. An additional limitation is the availability of post-graduate scholarships, especially (but not only) for medically-qualified graduates. Members of our Centre are reluctant to take on unfunded PhD students. We note that Ophthalmology, in particular, does not operate on a performance-based funding model, so that no funds accrue from RHD student load or completions.
Invited Conference Presentations
Members presented more than 30 invited plenary presentations over 2015-6.

Fellowships
Justine Smith was elected Fellow of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences during 2015. Emeritus Professor Doug Coster, AO, is an elected member of the Australian Academy of Science, Technology and Engineering. Centre members include an NHMRC Principal Research Fellow (Williams), an NHMRC Practitioner Fellow (Craig) and an ARC Future Fellow (Smith).

Projected Key Performance Indicators for 2017

- Increase PhD and other research higher degree student load and ensure timely completions;
- Increase the quality of peer-reviewed publications, assessed by impact factor and number of citations;
- Maintain external grant funding;
- Increase number of invited presentations at national and international meetings;
- Further improve research translation into clinical practice;
- Extend collaborations;
- Maintain service to the disciplines of Ophthalmology and Optometry;
- Maintain ERA performance of rank = 5.
Grant and Contract Income - 2015

Total Grant Funding: 2015

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<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Cat 1</td>
<td>Cat 2-4</td>
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<td>RSO Data</td>
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<td>FCOEVR Data*</td>
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* Funding according to the records of FCOEVR, and listed in detail below.

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Granting Body</th>
<th>Lead CI*</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>2015 Allocation</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cat 1</td>
<td>Cat 2-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015-18</td>
<td>NHMRC Project Grant</td>
<td>JL Wilkinson-Berka (JE Smith CI-B)</td>
<td>$823,372</td>
<td>$37,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015-19</td>
<td>NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence</td>
<td>A Keech (JE Craig CI-G)</td>
<td>$2,479,298*</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015-19</td>
<td>NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence</td>
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<td>NHMRC Project Grant</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013-15</td>
<td>NHMRC Project Grant</td>
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<td>2013-15</td>
<td>National Institute of Health (USA)</td>
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<td>2013-15</td>
<td>National Institute of Health (USA)</td>
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<td>2013-15</td>
<td>NHMRC Project Grant</td>
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<td>No income</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012-16</td>
<td>NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence</td>
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<td>2014-16</td>
<td>Australian Organ &amp; Tissue Donation * Transplantation Authority</td>
<td>KA Williams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Granting Body</td>
<td>Lead CI*</td>
<td>Amount</td>
<td>2015 Allocation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cat 1</td>
<td>Cat 2-4</td>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>Ophthalmic Research Institute</td>
<td>K Burdon</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Ophthalmic Research Institute</td>
<td>S Lie</td>
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<tr>
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<td>FUSA DVC-R Near Miss</td>
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<td>RL Cooper Medical Research Foundation</td>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>FMCFoundation</td>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>FMCFoundation</td>
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<td>CSL Eye Antibodies Royalties</td>
<td>KA Williams</td>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>NIH – Texas Christian University</td>
<td>KA Williams</td>
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<td>2015</td>
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<td>2014-16</td>
<td>Lions Medical Research Foundation Scholarship</td>
<td>T Zhou</td>
<td>$105,000</td>
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</tbody>
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*Allocation to FUSA still being negotiated and not included in total.

The following list of grants has been maintained within the Centre.

**2015 Grant Income by Project**

2011-2015 NHMRC Principal Research Fellowship #1002044. **KA Williams.** Improving Eye Health. $795,074 ($165,659 pa)

2012-2015 NHMRC Project Grant #1031838. **K. Pesudovs.** A system for measurement of vision specific quality of life using item banking and computer adaptive testing (ViSBank). $823,522 (2015: $49,998)

2012-2016 NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence #1023911. D. Mackey, **K. Burdon, A. Hewitt and J. Craig.** Translation of genetic eye research (TOGER). $2,500,000 ($201,431pa)

2013-2015 National Institutes of Health (USA) #EY019875. **JR Smith.** Adhesion molecules in uveitis. US$1,309,000 (AS235,184 pa)

2013-2015 National Institute of Health (USA) #EY022009. **JR Smith.** B cell trafficking to the eye. US$423,500 (AS46,691 pa)


2013-2015 NHMRC Project grant#1048302. L. Keay, L. Meuleners, **K. Pesudovs, P. McCluskey, S. Boufous, J. Ng, N. Morlet and F. Stapleton.** Understanding the impact of cataract vision impairment on risk of falling. $775,262 (no income)

2013-2015 NHMRC Project Grant #1046634. **KA. Williams, HM. Brereton, S. Klebe and C. Chen.** Anti-vascular endothelial growth factor-B as a biologic for treating eye diseases. $456,727 ($124,846 pa)

2013-2016, European Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery. M. Lundstrom and **K. Pesudovs.** Including patient-reported outcome measures in the EUREQUO database. $167,250 (no income)

2013-2015 CSL Eye Antibodies Royalties. **D Coster, K Williams,** M Thiel, H Zola. $17,000 ($5,677 pa)

2013-2015, Flinders University DVC R. **K. Williams.** Flinders Centre for Ophthalmology, Eye & Vision Research. $360,000 ($120,000 pa)

2014-2018 NHMRC Practitioner Fellowship #1065433 **JE. Craig.** Disease Registry based approaches to determining molecular risk factors for glaucoma blindness, and applying them in clinical practice. $387,298 ($80,194 pa)

2014-2016 NHMRC Project Grant #1066235 **JR. Smith.** Toxoplasma gondii infection of human retinal pigment epithelium. $445,505 ($153,745pa)

2014-2017 Australian Research Council (ARC Future Fellowship). **JR Smith.** Molecular activities of retinal endothelial cells, retinal disease processes, biological therapies to address efficacy and safety deficiencies of current treatments. $989,144 ($248,835 pa)

2014-2016 Australian Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation Authority. **K. Williams.** Australian Corneal Graft Registry. $484,786 ($177,866 pa)

2014-2016 Lions Medical Research Foundation Scholarship. **T Zhou.** $105,000 ($35,000 pa)

2015-2018 NHMRC Project Grant #1078442. **JL Wilkinson-Berka, JR Smith, HH Schmidt, B Appukuttan.** Inhibition of specific NOX isoforms as a new treatment for hypertensive and diabetic retinopathy. $823,372 ($37,000 pa)


2015-2016 NHMRC Clinical Research Scholarship. **JE Craig, G Kaidonis, KP Burdon.** Epidemiological and molecular risk factors for diabetic retinopathy blindness. $75,061.40 ($37,530.70 pa)
2015 Perpetual Trustee Company Ltd. **K Williams, S Klebe.** Improving the quality of human donor corneas for corneal transplantation. $10,000

2015 Channel 7 CRF. **JE Craig, A Dubowsky, KP Burdon, ME Souzeau, M Awadalla, O Siggs.** Improving genetic diagnosis and reproductive options for families with congenital, and developmental glaucoma. $74,800

2015 Flinders University DVC-R NHMRC near miss grant. **JE Craig, KP Burdon, S Macgregor, S John, A Hewitt.** Identifying high penetrance deleterious mutations in blinding glaucoma. $45,000

2015 Ophthalmic Research Institute of Australia (ORIA). **KP Burdon, S Sharma.** Development of detailed gene expression profiles for ocular tissues: The Eye Expression Atlas Project. $50,000

2015 Ophthalmic Research Institute of Australia (ORIA). **S Lie.** Defence mechanisms of specialized cells within the eye during parasite infection. $49,000

2015 Flinders University DVC-R NHMRC Near-Miss Award. **JR Smith.** Interactions between monocytes and endothelial cells in human retina. $44,846

2015 Rebecca L. Cooper Medical Research Foundation. **JR Smith.** Entry Route of Toxoplasma into Human Retina. $21,676

2015 Flinders Medical Centre Foundation Grant. **K Williams.** Improving the quality of human donor corneas for corneal transplantation. $38,000

2015 Flinders Medical Centre Foundation Grant. **JR Smith.** Retinal arterial and venous endothelial involvement in posterior uveitis. $17,000

* Allocation to FUSA still being negotiated and not included in total.

### 2016 Grant Income by Project (grants commencing 2016)

2016-2018 NHMRC Project Grant #1107098. **JE Craig, KP Burdon, S Macgregor, A Hewitt, S John, O Siggs.** High penetrance deleterious mutations in blinding glaucoma. $1,345,055 ($448,352 pa)

2016-NHMRC Project Grant # APP1104700 . **KP Burdon, J Charlesworth, P Baird, R Mills, S Sharma.** Gene identification for keratoconus – a blinding eye disease. $912,88.30 (FUSA 2016: $36,000.00, 2017: $58,000.00, 2018: $32,000.00)

2016-2018 Australian Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation Authority. **K. Williams.** Australian Corneal Graft Registry. $503,156 ($251,578 pa)

2016, Flinders University DVCR. **K. Williams.** Flinders Centre for Ophthalmology, Eye & Vision Research. $100,000

2016 Flinders University FMNHS Equipment Grant. T Chataway, D Matusica, B Forbes, R Haberberger, D Keating, J Petersen, E Sokoya, **J Smith, B Lewis.** LICOR Odyssey ® CLx
Infrared Imaging System for a range of proteomics applications. $20,000.

2016 Flinders University FMNHS Infrastructure Grant. R Haberberger, D Dixon, D Hussey, J Smith, V Zagorodnyuk. Salary for an experienced technical assistant to provide histology-related services within Flinders Microscopy core facility. $25,000

2016 Flinders University FMNHS Seeding Grant. J Craig, O Siggs, E Souzeau. Identifying genetic causes of primary congenital glaucoma. $18,000

2016 Flinders University FMNHS Seeding Grant. J Khadka, K Pesudovs, M Goggin, J Ratcliffe. The prioritisation of people on cataract surgery waiting lists. $18,000

2016 Flinders University FMNHS Top Up Grant. J Smith. Toxoplasma gondii infection of human retinal pigment. $20,000

2016 FMC Foundation Seeding Grant. B Appukuttan, B Wilmot, M Jager. Vasculogenic mimicry and treatment resistant aggressive ocular melanoma: can we stop tumour growth using unique cell proliferation inhibitors. $18,000

2016 FMC Foundation Seeding Grant: Early Career Researcher. M Awadalla. Investigating the genetic basis for Angle Closure Glaucoma. $17,000
Research Publications

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Peer-reviewed articles</th>
<th>Books/chapters</th>
<th>Letters/editorials/other</th>
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<td>54</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>50</td>
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<td>2016*</td>
<td>44 to August</td>
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<td>4</td>
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* to date, including those in press

Publications 2015-16

Refereed journal article/letters, 2015 calendar year


Occurrence of CYP1B1 Mutations in Juvenile Open-Angle Glaucoma With Advanced Visual Field Loss. **Souzeau E**, Hayes M, **Zhou T**, Siggs OM, Ridge B, Awadalla MS,


37 CYP1B1 copy number variation is not a major contributor to primary congenital glaucoma. Souzeau E, Hayes M, Ruddle JB, Elder JE, Staffieri SE, Kearsn LS, Mackey

22


Predictive genetic testing in minors for Myocilin juvenile onset open angle glaucoma. 


**Other creative works, 2015 calendar year**


**Refereed journal articles, 2016 calendar year**


Books/Book Chapters 2016


Conference Presentations, 2015-6

Dr Mona Awadalla

Presentations at international and national meetings
2015  AMSR 2015, Adelaide; oral presentation "Candidate gene analyses and normal tension glaucoma"
2016  ANZGIG, New Zealand; oral presentation titled "DNA methylation at the 9p21 glaucoma susceptibility locus is associated with normal-tension glaucoma".
2016  Chaired an oral session for clinical research at ASMR Adelaide 2016.

Associate Professor Celia Chen

Invited presentations
2015  Tasmanian RANZCO State Branch meeting and Evidence Based Ophthalmology Workshop. 1. Practicality of randomized controlled trial 2. Evidence of visual field therapy.
2015  Australian College of Optometry. Optic neuritis - when to refer and what to look out for Dangerous diplopia.

Dr Paul Constable

Conference Presentations

Professor Jamie Craig

Invited talks: International and national meetings and organisations
2015  Update on new glaucoma genetics (Chair)
2015  Tasmanian RANZCO State Branch meeting and Evidence Based Ophthalmology Workshop, June 2015
2015  The prophylaxis of endophthalmitis. The role of OCT in glaucoma

Presentations at international and national meetings
detecting copy number variation in open angle glaucoma blindness utilizing the Australian and New Zealand Registry of Advanced Glaucoma. (poster)


Dr Miriam Keane
Presentations at international and national meetings

Dr Jyoti Khadka
Presentations at international and national meetings

Dr John Landers
Presentations at international and national meetings
2015 Tasmanian RANZCO State Branch Meeting and Evidence-Based Ophthalmology Workshop, June 2015. Tube vs trabeculectomy.
Dr Shervi Lie
2015 Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology Annual Meeting Denver, USA 2015. S Lie, LM Ashander, B Appukuttan, JR Smith. Expression of angiogenic regulators by human retinal cells infected with Toxoplasma gondii: understanding the clinical course of ocular toxoplasmosis. (Poster presentation; Young Investigator Award)

Associate Professor Richard Mills
Chaired meetings

Invited talks: International and national meetings
2015 The 32nd Annual Australia and New Zealand Cornea Society Meeting, March. Ocular surface squamous neoplasia – is surgery necessary?
2015 Tasmanian RANZCO State Branch meeting and Evidence Based Ophthalmology Workshop, June 2015. Collagen cross-linking (CCL).

Professor Konrad Pesudovs
Invited presentations
2015 World Glaucoma Congress, Hong Kong. The inclusion of quality of life measures in glaucoma datasets.
2015 World Glaucoma Congress, Hong Kong. How to measure QoL and PROMs for cost-effectiveness studies?
2015 European Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons in Barcelona, Spain. How to assess dysphotopsia from the patients’ perspective.
2015 PROM Seminar 4 Disease specific questionnaire, Stockholm. Item-banking, third generation questionnaire.
2016 ICHOM Conference, London. Developing PROMs to have more impact.

Conference presentations
2015 Evidence-Based Optometry Conference, Adelaide. Welcome and Overview of Evidence-Based Practice.
2015 Evidence-Based Optometry Conference, Adelaide. How to read and appraise a paper.
2016  University of Houston College of Optometry. Electronic delivery of teaching – lecture replacement.

Dr Shiwani Sharma
Conference presentations

Professor Justine Smith
Invited presentations
2015  International Meeting. Munich, Germany. Blocking mediators of inflammatory pathways. “Next Generation Thinking and Therapy for Inflammatory Eye Disease”
2015  27th Annual Registrars Conference and Teaching Course. Sydney, Australia. Toxoplasmosis.

Other Presentations
2015  ASIA-ARVO. Yokohama, Japan. L Ashander, B Appukuttan, Y Ma, D Gardner-Stephen, J Smith. Transcription factor expression by human retinal endothelial cells
in response to tumor necrosis factor (TNF)-α and interleukin (IL)-1β.


Dr Deepa Taranath
Presentations at national meetings
2015 Tasmanian RANZCO State Branch meeting and Evidence Based Ophthalmology Workshop. Atropine and orthokeratology for paediatric myopia.

Professor Keryn Williams
Invited presentations
2015 Global Alliance of Eye Bank Associations Scientific Meeting, San Diego, USA. The Australian Corneal Graft Registry
2015 World Cornea Congress VII, San Diego, USA. Corneal Graft Registries: benefits and risks
2015 32nd Annual Cornea Society and Eye Bank Meeting, Perth. Report from the Australian Corneal Graft Registry To whom should outcome registries report?
2015 Registries Heads Meeting, Organ Transplantation Authority (DonateLife). Update: the Australian Corneal Graft Registry

Other presentations
2015 Registries Heads Meeting, Organ Transplantation Authority (DonateLife). Update: the Australian Corneal Graft Registry
2015 RANZCO Tasmanian Branch Meeting. Lamellar and penetrating keratoplasty outcomes: a Registry study

Presentations/Posters by student members and research assistants

Y Irani won a young investigator travel award; selected platform presentation

2015 ASIA-ARVO. Yokohama, Japan. L Ashander, B Appukuttan, Y Ma, D Gardner-Stephen, J Smith. Transcription factor expression by human retinal endothelial cells in response to tumor necrosis factor (TNF)-α and interleukin (IL)-1β.

2015 Australian Network of Cardiac and Vascular Developmental Biologists (ANCVDB) Annual Meeting, Adelaide, South Australia, 3-4 December AJ Stempel, LM Ashander, Y Ma, D Deliyanti, JL Wilkinson-Berka, B Appukuttan, JR Smith. Inhibition of NADPH oxidase catalytic unit (NOX)4 in human retinal endothelial cells attenuates the production of reactive oxygen species (ROS) during hypoxia.

2015 Australian Society for Medical Research (ASMR), South Australia Annual Scientific Meeting, Adelaide, South Australia, 3 June. AJ Stempel, LM Ashander, RM Statthis, Y Ma, B Appukuttan, JR Smith. Supervillin Expression in Human Retinal Endothelial Cells is Regulated by Nuclear Factor of Kappa Light Polypeptide Gene Enhancer in B-Cells 1 (NFkB1).


2015 The Australian Society for Medical Research SA Scientific Meeting, Adelaide. June
(Poster). **M Prem Senthil, J Khadka, K Pesudovs.** Quality of life impact in people with hereditary retinal diseases and acquired retinal disease.

2015 The Australian Society for Medical Research SA Scientific Meeting, Adelaide.

(Poster). **M Prem Senthil, J Khadka, K Pesudovs.** Seeing through their eyes: lived experiences of people with retinal diseases.


Awards, Prizes, Esteem Factors

**Professor Justine Smith** delivered the President’s Symposium Talk at the 2015 International Ocular Inflammation Society Congress, and presented the 2015 Inaugural Lecture in the new Flinders Investigators’ Public Lecture Series. Research published in *New Engl J Med* in May 2015 on Ebola uveitis was the subject of a plenary presentation at ARVO in Denver, Colorado in the same month.

2015  Save Sight Institute Lecture, 27th Annual Registrars Conference & Teaching Course  
2015  Association for Research in Vision & Ophthalmology, Distinguished Service Award  
2015  American Academy of Ophthalmology, Senior Achievement Award  
2015  Inaugural Lecture, Flinders Investigators Public Lecture Series  
2015  Academia Ophthalmologica Internationalis (Chair XIII)  
2015  President’s Symposium Talk, International Ocular Inflammation Society Congress  
2015  Occasional Graduation Ceremony Address. Flinders University: Faculties of Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences and Social & Behavioural Sciences  
2015  Elected Fellow, Australian Academy of Health Sciences and Social & Behavioural Sciences  
2015  Eddie Donaldson Medal & Memorial Lecture, Sydney Eye Hospital Alumni Association 11th Biennial Meeting  
2015-  President, American Uveitis Society  
2015  Elected Fellow, Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences  
2016-  Executive Vice President, ARVO  
2016  Elected Member, Academia Ophthalmologica Internationalis

**Professor Jamie Craig** co-authored two manuscripts, one as senior author, published in the high-ranking journal *Nature Genetics* (impact factor = 31.6) in 2015, and a further two in 2016. He presented two plenary talks by invitation at the 2015 International Glaucoma Congress, and two at the Tasmanian RANZCO branch meeting in 2015. He continues to establish many productive national and international collaborations, as evidenced by his publication record. His work received substantial media attention in 2015.

2015  Gerard Crock Lecturer, Centre for Eye Research Australia, University of Melbourne  
2016  Member, ORIA Research Advisory Committee  

**Associate Professor Richard Mills**, as Medical Director of the Eye Bank of SA, regularly provides presentations to Lions Clubs as part of the Eye Bank's programme of community outreach. He also chairs the Centre's weekly internal seminar programme.

2015  Platform presentation, 32nd Annual ANZ Cornea Society Meeting, Perth  

**Professor Konrad Pesudovs** is currently a member of a number of international committees including the The Global Burden of Diseases, Injuries, and Risk Factors Study 2008, Vision and Hearing Loss Expert Group, the Swedish National Cataract Register Steering Group and the International Consortium for Health Outcomes Measurement (ICHOM) Ophthalmology Group.

2015  Elected Chairman of the Board, National Vision Research Institute  
2016  ARVO Silver Fellow  
2016  President, Australian College of Optometry
Professor Keryn Williams continued to serve as a member of the Charles and Sylvia Viertel Medical Advisory Board in 2015, and served on NHMRC Project Grant Review Panels in 2015 and 2016. In May 2015, the Australian Corneal Graft Registry celebrated its 30th birthday. Since its inception in 1985, over 32,000 records of corneal transplantation from across the country have been registered by over 750 ophthalmic surgeons.

2015  DVCR’s Scientist of the Year (shared with Colin Raston)
2015  Elected Senior Principal Research Fellow (Honorary) at SAHMRI
2015  Invited platform presentation, Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology Congress, Guangzhou
2015  Invited platform presentation, 32nd Annual ANZ Cornea Society Meeting, Perth
2015  Invited plenary presentation, Global Alliance of Eye Bank Associations, California
2015  Invited plenary presentation, World Cornea Congress VII, San Diego
2015  Local Organising Committee, Evidence-Based Ophthalmology Workshop in conjunction with the Tasmanian RANZCO Branch Meeting, Hobart
2016  Doug Coster Lecturer, 33rd ANZ Cornea & Eye Bank Meeting, Melbourne

Emeritus Professor Doug Coster will present the Gerard Crock Lecture for 2016 in Melbourne in October 2016.

Mr Tony Phillips was given the Global Speciality Lens Symposium - Lifetime Achievement Award for Contact Lens Education in 2016.

Student members and Early-Career Researchers
2015  Flinders University Best Research Higher Degree Student Publication – G Kaidonis
2016  Cole Eye Institute Imaging Summit Fellows Scholarship – G Kaidonis
2015  RANZCO Best Paper Presentation – T Zhou
2016  Flinders International Conference Travel Grant – T Zhou
2015  Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology Young Investigator Travel Grant – Y Irani
2015  Flinders University FMNHS Student Conference Travel Fund – Y Irani
2016  International Summer School on Technology Transfer in Life Sciences, Dresden – Y Irani
2016  Flinders University - All Staff Opportunity Scheme – E Souzeau
2015  Dr Raniyah Ramada Foundation Young Investigator Award in Microbiology (2nd place) The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology Annual Meeting – S Lie
2016  Falling Walls Lab Competition – Finalist – S Lie
2015  Vice-Chancellor’s Prize for Doctoral Thesis Excellence – A Dave
2016  Fresh Science 2016 Finalist – M Awadalla
Research Higher Degree Students

2015  **Completions**  
Alpana Dave, PhD  
Yazad Irani, PhD  
Abraham Kuot, PhD  

**Load PhD students**  
Sharhbanou Javadiyan  
Georgia Kaidonis  
Tiger Zhou  
Mallika Prem Sathil  
Andrew Stempel  
Himal Kandel  

2016  **Load PhD students**  
Sharhbanou Javadiyan (thesis under examination)  
Georgia Kaidonis  
Tiger Zhou  
Mallika Prem Sathil  
Sheela Kumaran  
Andrew Stempel  
Himal Kandel  
Ebony Liu  
Emmanuelle Souzeau (PhD by published work)  

In addition, Dr Stewart Lake has enrolled in a PhD through the FSE in 2016.
Centre Membership, 2015-6

Professor Keryn Williams (Director, to late 2016)
Professor Jamie Craig (Incoming Director, from late 2016)

Senior members
Professor Konrad Pesudovs
Professor Justine Smith
A/Professor Richard Mills (part-time)
Dr Binoy Appukuttan (part-time)
Dr Paul Badenoch
Associate Professor Celia Chen (part-time)
Dr John Landers (part-time)
Dr Yuefang Ma
Dr Shiwani Sharma
A/Professor Rod Watkins

Mid-career members
Dr Paul Constable
Dr Miriam Keane
Dr Jyoti Khadka

Early-career members
Dr Mona Awadalla (maternity leave from June 2015)
Dr Shervi Lie
Dr Owen Siggs (part-time; GEMP student)
Dr Veronika Bandara (to Feb 2015)
Mr Jose Estevez Bordon (from Dec 2015)
Dr Farshad Abedi (from Feb 2016)

Student members
Dr Alpana Dave (PhD awarded April 2015)
Dr Jude Fitzgerald
Dr Yazad Irani (PhD awarded June 2015)
Ms Sharhbanou (Shari) Javadiyan
Dr Georgia Kaidonis
Mr Himal Kandel
Dr Abraham Kuot (PhD awarded August 2015)
Dr Mallika Prem Sathil
Ms Emmanuelle Souzeau
Mr Andrew Stempel
Dr Tiger Zhou

Ms Sheela Evangeline Kumaran (from 2016)
Dr Stewart Lake (from 2016)
Dr Ebony Liu (from 2016)
Research Assistants
Ms Susan Aldhous
Mr Liam Ashander
Ms Nora Coffey (from July 2016, part-time)
Ms Ashleigh Hocking (to April 2015)
Ms Sarah Martin (to February 2015)
Ms Lauren Mortimer (maternity leave from May 2015)
Ms Emily Pulford (June-Dec 2015, part-time)
Ms Emmanuelle Souzeau
Ms Louise Wilson Smith (April 2015-April 2016, part-time)
Ms Jennifer Washington (from July 2015, part-time)

Adjunct members (research technical staff)
Ms Madison Helm (to Dec 2015)
Mrs Victoria Jones (part-time)
Mrs Lefta Leonardos (part-time)
Ms Bronwyn Ridge (part-time)
Ms Karina Skrzpiec (part-time)
Mr Andrew Brown (to Sept 2015, part-time)

Adjunct members (SA Health/SA Pathology/FMC staff)
Mrs Tamme Golding-Holbrook
Dr Stewart Lake
Ms Cecily Lawson
Dr Raymond Loh
Dr Shilpa Kuruvilla (to August 2016)
Dr Genevieve Oliver
Mr Stephen Pulbrook
Dr Niladri Saha
Dr Deepa Taranath
Dr Jane Wells (to April 2015)

Affiliate, external and emeritus members
Emeritus Professor Douglas Coster (retired)
Dr Helen Brereton (retired)
A/Professor Kathryn Burdon (external)
A/Professor Sonja Klebe (affiliate)
Dr Colm McAlinden (external)
Dr Roman Serebrianik (external)

Research Development Officer
Ms Deb Sullivan
Management Structure and External Advisors

Governance of the Centre operates through an Executive Group comprising Professor Keryn Williams (contact for the University), Professor Jamie Craig, A/Professor Richard Mills, Professor Konrad Pesudovs, Professor Justine Smith and A/Professor Celia Chen, supported by the Centre's senior Research Development Officer (RDO), Ms Deb Sullivan.

The Executive Group meets formally yearly, but is convened more frequently on an *ad hoc* basis when circumstances require. Informal meetings are convened to organise the Centre's Evidence-Based Ophthalmology and Optometry Workshops and to consider joint external grant applications.
# Statement of Income and Expenditure: 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>$</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income from DVCR</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income from Faculty</td>
<td>20,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Income from other sources (donations, gifts, prizes etc.)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>120,000</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>HEO Level</th>
<th>FTE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administrative staff</td>
<td>71,910.90</td>
<td>HEO6</td>
<td>1.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Development Costs (eg contracted assistance)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conference/event support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marketing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stipends (Students)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other research support</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>71,910.90</strong></td>
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* Funds brought forward from 2014 = $26,631.64 (debit)
### Centre Seminar Program 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>SPEAKER</th>
<th>PRESENTATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 March</td>
<td>Richard Mills &amp; Jamie Craig</td>
<td>Department Update</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 March</td>
<td>Dr Jude Fitzgerald Ophthalmology</td>
<td>Masters Update</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 March</td>
<td>Dr Tiger Zhou Ophthalmology</td>
<td>PhD Progress Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 March</td>
<td>Dr Saulo Martelli School of Computer Science Engineering &amp; Mathematics, FUSA</td>
<td>Modelling human motion and skeletal bio-mechanics for a better health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 March</td>
<td>Dr Paul Badenoch Flinders Ophthalmology</td>
<td>Safeguarding the recipients of eye tissue from infectious disease transmission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 April</td>
<td>Dr Stephen Hardy Commercial Manager Flinders Partners Pty Ltd</td>
<td>Making an Impact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 April</td>
<td>Dr Genevieve Oliver Retinal Fellow Flinders Ophthalmology</td>
<td>Ophthalmology in Timor-Leste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 April</td>
<td>Dr Miriam Keane ACGR Flinders University</td>
<td>The Australian Corneal Graft Registry 2015 Report Preview</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 April</td>
<td>No meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 May</td>
<td>Prof. John A. Long President, The Society of Vertebrate Palaeontology Vice President, The Royal Society of South Australia Strategic Professor in Palaeontology School of Biological Sciences Flinders University</td>
<td>Our deep distant origins: resolving the big steps in early vertebrate evolution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 May</td>
<td>Prof. Mark Taylor Professor of Biomedical Engineering Associate Dean for Research, School of Computer Science, Engineering and Mathematics</td>
<td>The Performance of Hip and Knee Replacement</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 May</td>
<td>Dr Georgia Kaidonis Ophthalmology</td>
<td>ARVO Report/PhD Update</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 May</td>
<td>No meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 June</td>
<td>Ms Emmanuelle Souzeau Flinders Ophthalmology</td>
<td>Testing Update</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 June</td>
<td>Cancelled</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 June</td>
<td>Dr Deepa Taranath Flinders Ophthalmology</td>
<td>Update on paediatric myopia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Speaker/Presenter</td>
<td>Topic</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 June</td>
<td>Dr Shao Jia (Jo) Zhou, PhD School of Agriculture, Food &amp; Wine &amp; FOODplus Research Centre University of Adelaide.</td>
<td>Food fortification to prevent iodine deficiency in Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 June</td>
<td>A/Prof Tony Phillips Flinders Ophthalmology</td>
<td>A Contact Lens Update</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 July</td>
<td>Mr Yazad Irani &amp; Dr Shervi Lie</td>
<td>Report from ARVO meeting 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 July</td>
<td>Semester Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 July</td>
<td>Semester Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 July</td>
<td>Dr Marten Snel Head, Mass Spectrometry Lysosomal Diseases Research Unit SAHMRI</td>
<td>Modern Mass Spectrometry – the Swiss Army knife of life science research</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 August</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 August</td>
<td>Dr Richard Mills Flinders Ophthalmology</td>
<td>Corneal Graft ‘Cross-linking’</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 August</td>
<td>Prof David Day Matthew Flinders Distinguished Professor Flinders University</td>
<td>Mitochondria and oxidative stress in plants</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 August</td>
<td>A/Prof Sonja Klebe Molecular Medicine and Pathology</td>
<td>Curcumin as an adjunct therapy following cancer</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 September</td>
<td>Professor Rob Saint Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Flinders University of SA</td>
<td>Flying in the face of conventional cancer research: understanding the consequences of chromosomal instability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 September</td>
<td>Dr Shiwani Sharma Senior Research Officer, Ophthalmology Flinders University of SA</td>
<td>Mechanisms of cataract development and beyond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 September</td>
<td>Dr Laura Weyrich ARC DEcRA Fellow Australian Centre for Ancient DNA University of Adelaide</td>
<td>Insights into human health and disease from the Neanderthal microbiome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 September</td>
<td>Professor Lyle J Palmer Professor of Genetic Epidemiology School of Public Health University of Adelaide</td>
<td>21st Century Epidemiology: Creating platforms for revolutionary science and transformational biology in Eye Health</td>
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<td>29 September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
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<td>6 October</td>
<td>Dr Gayle Roberton MBChB, FRCA, FANZCA</td>
<td>&quot;Evolution of LIFT&quot; (Longitudinal Integrated Flinders Training)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Senior Lecturer in Curriculum Development</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Health Professional Education Unit</td>
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<td>School of Medicine</td>
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<td>13 October</td>
<td>No meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 October</td>
<td>Dr Karin Nordström</td>
<td>Hoverfly vision is tuned to natural images, similar to the human visual system</td>
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<td>Anatomy and Histology, Centre of Neuroscience</td>
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<td>Flinders University</td>
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<td>27 October</td>
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<td>3 November</td>
<td>RANZCO Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 November</td>
<td>Catherine Truman</td>
<td>Creative Collaborations</td>
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<td>Artist-in-Residence, Anatomy &amp; Histology</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Flinders University</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 November</td>
<td>Ms Sharhanou Javadiyan</td>
<td>Final PhD seminar</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Flinders Ophthalmology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 November</td>
<td>Dr Paul Constable PhD, BSc (Optom)</td>
<td>Electrophysiology and RPE possible research links</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Senior Lecturer, Optometry and Vision Science</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Flinders Ophthalmology, Flinders University</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 December</td>
<td>No meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 December</td>
<td>Dr Georgia Kaidonis &amp; Dr Jude Fitzgerald</td>
<td>Presentations from RANZCO 2015</td>
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