A word from...

Associate Dean (Research)

Welcome to the first HUB Newsletter for 2007, and to the year when we engage with the quickly emerging Research Quality Framework (RQF). Now that some of the expectations of the Research Quality Framework have been made public, the University, Faculty and School have begun several strategic processes to ensure we are well positioned to meet the RQF requirements as they continue to unfold. To keep abreast of the latest initiatives, meetings and news concerning the RQF, I strongly recommend to you all that you regularly check the University’s RQF webpage (http://www.flinders.edu.au/research/rqf/developments.html).

For example, copies of the papers for the recent RQF Reference Group meeting on the 16th of March are available on this webpage as is the power point presentation for the meeting. Included in the power point presentation is feedback from the three Universities’ staff, who had been invited to participate in DEST’s (Department of Education, Science and Training) discipline workshops earlier in the year. Professor Goldie was one of the three staff invited from this university.

On the 23rd of March Professor Mark Israel chaired the first meeting of RQF Impact Working Group. Current membership of the group is Associate Professor John Coveney, Professor Keryn Williams, Professor Marika Tiggemann, Dr Jonathan Bollen, Ms Catherine Brown and Ms Katrina Hall. The group is developing a process for receiving advice from other areas of the University who have particular expertise to bring to considerations of research impact. In the near future some of you will receive a call from Associate Professor John Coveney who will be seeking to explore with you ideas of how you would envisage being able to demonstrate the impact of your research. The power point presentation alluded to earlier contains within it some ideas generated in the workshops around potential ways research impact might be demonstrated, they might trigger ideas for your particular research setting.

As information concerning the RQF becomes available I will circulate it to you, however it is important that you remain very proactive in keeping abreast of the developments and efforts being made by the University to ensure that collectively we capture and present our research in the best possible manner.

Professor Jan Paterson

Research activities

Congratulations to Paul Bennett. Paul has been invited by the SA Chief Nurse to speak at the 1st Nursing and Midwifery Symposium organised by the Nursing and Midwifery Office of the Department of Health (SA). The Symposium will be held on the 7th of May in the Sebel Playford. and is a unique opportunity to learn about the innovations that have transformed nursing and midwifery in our hospitals and health care systems today.

The midwifery team has been invited to nominate a member of the teaching team to the Nurses and Midwives eCohort for Midwifery. Jen Byrne is the midwifery academic name forwarded for this project.

Congratulations to Paul Drew who, together with other investigators, has received funding ($19,720) from the RAH/IMVS Research Committee grant for his project ‘The expression of miRNAs in oesophageal disease’.

Congratulations to Julie Henderson who has won a prize for the best health sociology paper at the Australian Sociological Association (TASA) conference in December and was appointed as the convener of the TASA Sociology of Mental Health Thematic group.

Inge Kowanko and Charmaine Power have received funding ($41,531) from the Central Northern Adelaide Health Service for her project Evaluation of the Aboriginal Family and Community Healing Program. Congratulations Charmaine!
Congratulations to Linda Saunders who has been selected to fill the position of Editor for the Legal Issues National Network.

The first, 2007, issue of Connections, the Newsletter of the Royal College of Nursing, Australia, is due in June 2007.

Linda Sweet has recently been appointed as sub editor for the journal 'Women and Birth', the peer reviewed journal of the Australian College of Midwives. Congratulations Linda!

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**Research events**

**School’s Research Summit**

2006 Third Annual School’s Research Summit was held on 5 December at the Education Development Centre at Hindmarsh. The theme of the Summit was ‘Translational Research’.

Invited international and national speakers represented various areas of nursing research and addressed the topic accordingly to their interest. Three main speakers of the morning session were: Professor Mary Palmer from the University of North Carolina, Professor Debbie van den Hoonaard from St. Thomas University, Canada, and Professor Barbara Hayes from James Cook University.

After these presentations, an Area of Strategic Research Investment (ASRIs) information session took place. This included presentations titled: ‘Research in Nursing & Midwifery and the relevance of ASRI s’ by Professor Roy Goldie, the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences, Flinders University, and ‘ASRIs: positive experiences’ by ASRI members representing our School - Mr Paul Bennett, Ms Didy Button, Dr Martin Caon and Dr Charmaine Power.

The afternoon program included a panel session and a workshop brainstorming challenges and opportunities for nursing and midwifery in relation to translational research. Both sessions were facilitated by Ms Linda Saunders, School’s Dean.

Before lunch, posters of postgraduate students and undergraduate students of the mentoring project were presented.

The Health Research Hub and the Research Committee members thank you for your participation in the Summit and your contribution to the success of this event.

2007 Fourth Annual School’s Research Summit will be held on the 18 of September at the Belair Park Country Club. The theme of this year’s Summit will be – ‘Keep it real; how to effect practice change’. All School’s researchers are welcome to attend this event. Please mark this day in your diary now.

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**Colloquium series**

In 2007 the School will be running a five part Colloquium series. These are scheduled as below and will be held for a half a day each, in the University’s Ballroom.

**Colloquium 1: April 3rd**
Health Aspects of Disaster  
Chairperson: Professor Paul Arbon

**Colloquium 2: June 5th**
Midwifery Aspects  
Chairperson: Associate Professor Pauline Glover

**Colloquium 3: August 7th**
Women’s Health Aspects  
Chairperson: Associate Professor Charmaine Power

**Colloquium 4: October 4th**
Mental Health Aspects  
Chairperson: The Mental Health Teaching Team before the new Professor of Nursing (Mental Health) will be appointed.

**Colloquium 5: December 4th**
Ageing Aspects  
Chairperson: Professor Jan Paterson

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**Catheter Workshop**

A joint Flinders University initiative with Daw Park Repatriation General Hospital

On December 13th a well attended catheter workshop for nurses was held at Daw Park Repatriation General Hospital in collaboration with Flinders University School of Nursing.

In-dwelling catheter management always presents a variety of challenges to nurses across a mix of work settings. This workshop was sponsored by trade and enthusiastically attended by seventy seven in all and included nurses from a range of different services such as community nursing services, aged care, acute and rehabilitation services in both the public and private sectors of South Australia as well as Western Australia.

Trade representatives included Bard, Tyco Healthcare, Coloplast, Unomedical and Independence Solutions who demonstrated a variety of services, equipment and appliances to enhance catheter care in a practical way.

Admission to the workshop was by gold coin donation and profits from sponsorship and the gold coin donation will be directed towards nursing research.

Papers were presented by both international and local experts in the area of indwelling catheter care.

Professor Kathryn Getliffe is a Visiting Scholar to the Faculty and to the School of Nursing and Midwifery, Flinders University and is a Professor of Nursing from the School of Nursing & Midwifery, Faculty of Medicine, Health and Life Sciences at the University of South
Hampton, England. Prof. Getliffe presented an intriguing paper, “The good, the bad and the ugly”, which gave an insight into the complexities of indwelling catheter infections, associated blockages and potential management strategies. Prof. Getliffe has also co-edited a book with Mary Dolman titled, “Promoting Continence: a Clinical and Research Resource” which offers a chapter on the practical approach to understanding catheter management.

Leigh Pretty is the Practice Manager and Clinical Nurse Consultant, Urology and Continence at Daw Park Repatriation General Hospital. Leigh holds a Masters in Nursing: Continence and is the Secretary for Australian Nurses for Continence. Leigh’s presentation, “Catheters – Why, What and How” covered the fundamental principles of indwelling catheter selection, assessment and management.

Clinical nurses Lyn Walkley and Jan Rowe from the Continence/ Urology Unit at the Repatriation General Hospital gave practical demonstrations of indwelling male, female and supra pubic catheter insertion.

Overall, everyone enjoyed a generous morning tea of scones, jam and cream; the possibility to network with colleagues, to view products and above all, to take away some very valuable knowledge on such a pertinent topic. The workshop was highly evaluated with requests for more.

Visiting Scholars in 2007

Assistance Professor Vidar Karikstad - Senior Adviser to the Quality and Priorities Department of the Norwegian Directorate for Health and Social Affairs: Division Specialised Health Care, Department for Quality and Priorities, Oslo, Norway.

Professor Karikstad is an Honorary Visiting Scholar within the School until 30 September 2007. His special areas of focus are (1) National Strategy for Development of Supervisors and System for Priorities and Health Care in Hospitals; (2) National Strategy for Strengthening Health Services for Elderly Patients in Hospitals; (3) Patient safety. Vidar is on campus each Monday and would be keen to chat to any staff about their practice and service development interests. He is working with Professor Arbon on a proposal to reduce and improve the quality of care for residents of aged care facilities who require acute care. In addition he is working one day each week with the SA Department of Health in their city offices. You can contact Vidar on e-mail: vik@shdir.no.

Hub Research Prizes

The School of Nursing and Midwifery HUB Research Prizes are awarded annually to a nursing student in each of the following topics:

Undergraduate Nursing and Midwifery - NURS1508 or MIDW2003
Coursework Masters Program - (9 unit project) NURS9602
Coursework Masters Program - (18 unit project) NURS9613
Coursework Masters Program (36 unit) NURS9615.

whose pieces of work have demonstrated a high level of excellence and is either a research study or work that is research based.

The Research Committee of the School of Nursing and Midwifery resolved to award the following students The School of Nursing and Midwifery HUB Research Prize for 2007.

Ms Lisa Jones – Lisa has been selected from the topic NURS1508.
Ms Emi Patmisari – Emi has been selected from the topic NURS9602.
Mr I GedePutu Darma Suyasa – Mr Suyasa has been selected from the topic NURS9613.

No one has been selected for the 36 unit thesis.

Congratulations to all of the recipients on their outstanding achievement!

Grant/Funding Opportunities

ARC Funding

For the ARC fund research project and awards you can find more information under two main elements - Discovery and Linkage. For more information about the grants and the application procedure please refer to the University’s Office of Research web site - http://www.flinders.edu.au/research/Office/grants/arc.html or visit the ARC web site http://www.arc.gov.au/default.htm

NHMRC Funding

Research Funding

Under this web address http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/funding/index.htm you will find a range of information about the research funding provided by the NHMRC.

The NHMRC provides funding for all areas of research relevant to human health and medical research. Please
refer to this web address [http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/funding/types/index.htm](http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/funding/types/index.htm) to find a comprehensive list of the NHMRC’s funding types and the information about research, infrastructure and people support fundings.

**NHMRC Calendar Funding** – this provides key dates and grant types for research funding. [http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/funding/calendar/grant.htm](http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/funding/calendar/grant.htm)

**NHMRC - Fellowships and Awards**
The NHMRC supports a number of different Fellowship and Award schemes – please refer to the NHMRC web site. [http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/fellows/index.htm](http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/fellows/index.htm)


### FMC Foundation Grants, Scholarships and Forms

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**Grant opportunities**

Information about the current grants and tenders are now being sent out to the School regularly by the Research Associate Ms Christine Richardson.

Additionally, two more web sites of funding opportunity:

**Forum for European-Australian Science and Technology Cooperation - FEAST**
The European Union is Australia’s largest scientific partner, mainly through bilateral collaboration, but also through multilateral projects. The diplomatic missions representing the European Union in Australia, in association with major Australian S&T Organisations, have embarked on a common action to highlight and improve this bilateral and multilateral cooperation. For more information regarding Australian and European funding and services please visit: [http://www.feast.org/?about](http://www.feast.org/?about)

**EasyGrants Newsletter & Grants Education Service**
This Newsletter is the only one of Australia’s Consolidated Grants Information Service. For more information please visit [www.ourcommunity.com.au](http://www.ourcommunity.com.au)
Administrative support of the financial management of the School’s grants

One of the services offered by the Health Research Hub is the financial administration of existing and newly approved research grants or projects. This service includes administrative support of the financial management, advice to grant holders and monthly statement of the account(s) of the current grant(s).

For more information and additional queries in this matter please contact the Hub Coordinator.

Grant/project infrastructure checklist and procedure for submitting grant applications

The HUB has produced a checklist to assist researchers when they are considering infrastructure needs for grant requests. A copy of the checklist, the procedure of the office space allocation for the research assistants and research managers, as well as the procedure for submitting grant’s applications are available from the Hub’s Coordinator.

Publications 2007

Book chapters


Journal articles - refereed


Journal articles in press


Hutton, A ‘An adolescent ward; in name only?’, Journal of Clinical Nursing.

Hutton, A ‘The age of adolescence; storm and strung revisited’, Developing Practice, the Child and Family Work Journal.

Kelly, J & Luxford Y ‘Yaitiya tirka madlanna warratinna; exploring what sexual health nurses need to know and do in order to meet the sexual health needs of young Aboriginal women in Adelaide’ Collegian.


Other publications in press

de Crespigny, C ‘Alcohol, Tobacco and Other drug problems in Australia’ in Lewis’s Medical-Surgical Nursing, Assessment and Management of Clinical Problems. Elsevier Australia, Marrickville NSW.


Conference and poster presentations


SONM Student publications

This is a message for all of the Academic Staff. If you know about any publications prepared or submitted by nursing students please let us know so we can track them for inclusion in our annual publication data collection for 2007.

The initial contact person for this matter is Dr Lindy King. Lindy, with the Hub assistance, is the patron of an informal network established to assist students with their potential publications.

2006 publications completed list will be pigeon holed as a separate attachment.

FYI

School’s Publishing Initiative (SPI)

The School’s Publishing Initiative will be continued this year. The intention of the initiative is to assist the School’s academic staff with their publishing activities. All academic staff members are invited to take two weeks SPI “timeout” per semester to write peer reviewed papers.

Process

In order to establish this time the following steps should be taken.

- negotiation of the timeframe with your supervisor;
- coverage of teaching and other commitments negotiated with your supervisor; and
- space made in your diary for a dedicated commitment to the SPI during these two weeks.

Further, SPI leave will be depend upon demonstrable outcomes from the previous SPI.

Expected outcomes

Level B completion of the draft of the article
Level C completion of the article ready for submission

Level D & E completion of two articles ready for submission.

At the end of the period of SPI leave contact should be made with Christine Richardson, the Research Associate. You may simply want to advise her that the article has been submitted for publication or you may wish her to further facilitate the progression of the paper to publication. If required she will coordinate any mentoring with your nominated supervisor, mentor or critical friend and/or editorial assistance to complete the paper and if the article is ready for submission you may wish to lodge it with Christine who will ensure that it is sent on to the journal of your choice.

All staff are strongly encouraged to participate in this initiative.

SPI tips from Lindy King

One of the School’s successful publishers, Lindy King, provides some tips on how to make the best of the SPI and how to plan effectively for this leave.

Prior to taking the leave, it is important to constructively plan and prepare your time.

Planning:

- Carefully decide the dates for your writing leave so that it does not compete with other commitments.
- Plan this far enough in advance that the preparatory work for writing may be done beforehand.
- Decide what type of paper you are writing (e.g., will it be a literature review; a methodological paper; a research report; a commentary; etc.)
- Choose which journal you are writing for (and refer to their writing criteria frequently to guide the writing process).
- What depth/quality will that journal require?
- Select 3 other journals as back-up, should your paper not be accepted by the first one.

Preparation:

- Allow 12-18 months for preparation work prior to the writing leave.
- Plan your preparation time carefully with a well-structured plan.
- Work out how much time you will need for each step: i.e., literature search, reviewing the literature; analysis; and all other aspects of your research.

For staff who have little experience in publishing papers:

- First: discuss the focus of the paper with someone who is experienced in publishing. This may be one of your colleagues or a member of the Critical Reviewer Group.
- Write with a journal in mind, and stick to their criteria. Have alternative options (other journals) in mind as well, should it not be successful in the first choice.
- Select one type of paper and stick to that format (e.g., if you are writing a literature review paper, do not drift into a commentary).
- Keep the focus of the paper on the key topic you are discussing throughout the paper.
- Once you have a draft, access someone who reviews for your selected journal to obtain some friendly critical feedback (refer to the Critical Reviewer Group if you are not sure of who may be a reviewer for a journal).
- Be aware that publishing takes time. It may be 12 months or longer from the submission of your paper to it being published (be patient).
- Expect some papers may be rejected, this is part of the process, do not take it personally.

Also:
- Consider working with colleagues. This lightens the load and you have someone to collaborate and build ideas with. Colleagues across disciplines may also be worthwhile.
- Work with students when their papers are high quality. Papers may be brought up to publishing standard with your input and this assists both of you in getting published.

Faculty funds available for staff development

The Faculty Staff Development Committee approves the funds available to teaching staff members to undertake scholarly and research pursuits if they are making a significant contribution to a conference session or have an abstract or poster accepted. Another scheme provides academic, general and research staff with full academic status with an opportunity to attend conferences or develop their skills at the local, national, and international level for the benefit of the faculty and the university.

The Outside Studies Scheme (OSP)

OSP for teaching staff contributes to the travel expenses for intrastate, interstate, and overseas research and/or scholarly study. The opportunity for academic staff exists to: undertake sustained research and scholarly activities; advance the quality and scope of teaching and supervision; and keep abreast of recent developments. This program includes a range of activities around research; the gaining of professional knowledge; the development of links with external organizations; the development of teaching or curriculum materials; or an undertaking of studies for the completion of a higher degree. Applications for this program are normally received twice per year and an accrual system is used for the amount of leave and the maximum funds available. Applications can be accepted at other times if opportunities arise.

The Overseas Conference Leave (OCL)

OCL contributes funds to the travel expenses of teaching staff who have been accepted to present a paper or poster at an international conference, or will have contributed significantly to an overseas conference of international standing, such as chairing a session by invitation.

The All Staff Opportunity Scheme (ALSO)

ALSO is available to all university staff including general and research staff members with full academic status who are not eligible for OSP or OCL. The scheme is also available to teaching staff. This scheme contributes funds to provide an opportunity for staff to: attend conferences within state, interstate, or overseas; participate in activities that relate to and support the teaching programs; acquire new skills or techniques; or keep abreast of developments in their particular field, without the requirement of having to present an abstract.

Conditions apply to all the funds available. The level of funding for each of these schemes in the Faculty of Health Sciences may differ (more funding) from the funding level which appears on the generic Flinders University website, so you are advised to use the Faculty documents. Before contacting anyone, please visit the appropriate WebPages to determine your eligibility for OSP, OCL, and ALSO these have links to the Faculty Staff Development Website by scrolling down to the Staff Development heading at: http://www.flinders.edu.au/healthsc/staff/index.html

The School of Nursing & Midwifery has three representatives on this Committee: Diana Paice, Anita De Bellis, and Di Chamberlain who may be able to advise any potential applicants. Your supervisor will also be able to advise you on the opportunities to access these funds for your own development. The secretary for the committee is Hubert Orbons who can be contacted if you require further help with your application in the Faculty of Health Sciences Office, 8201 3260 or via email at: hubert.orbons@flinders.edu.au

School funds to support research activities

Research Development Fund

The Research Development Fund is intended to further support the Academic staff and those with academic status with their research related activities. It can be used as a top-up for existing funded research projects, seeding the development of new projects as well as support to existing unfunded projects (It is expected that unfunded projects will be phased out from within the School by May 2008).

Small Grants Scheme

The Faculty of Health Science and School of Nursing & Midwifery are offering an additional grant round this year only with funds quarantined for Nursing & Midwifery research. The purpose of Nursing & Midwifery Small Grants Scheme is to provide Academic staff and those with academic status the opportunity to compete for funding for projects initiated within the School and increase the capacity of staff members to compete in other grants rounds. Funding can be used as a top-up for existing funded research projects, seeding the development of new projects as well as support to existing unfunded projects however preference will be given to projects which have the capacity to develop into larger projects. For more details regarding eligibility and the application procedure aforementioned funds please visit School’s web
Beginning Researchers Handbook

The Beginning Researchers Handbook, which was prepared for new researchers in the School, provides information of the support and resources available for new researchers and who to contact. The handbook is available to download as a whole document or in individual sections at:


Research data retention and storage

School’s procedure

School of Nursing & Midwifery has an established procedure of research data retention and storage. This procedure complies with the Joint NHMRC/AVCC Statement and Guidelines on Research Practice, which were reviewed in 2003, and specifies responsibility on these matters.

The School’s Health Research Hub is responsible for appropriate arrangements of original data storage and retention including facilities and confidentiality provision.

Procedure

1. School’s researchers notify the Hub Coordinator when the research data and records they collected for a finished research project are ready to be stored.
2. Research data should be delivered to the Hub room (N116) with attached details about the project: name of the researcher, title of the project, type of data, and the date the data was published or, for some specific type of research, the date of the completion of the research data collection.
3. Original data will be stored in the School’s Compactus Room, in a specifically adjusted and locked area for the minimum period for retention which is at least five years, and for specific types of research data it is 15 years.
4. Access to research data may be limited by confidentiality provision. The Head of AOU will be entitled, on request to the relevant researcher, to have access to research records and data, ensuring compliance with the Policy on Research Practice. All confidentiality agreements should be made known at an early stage to the Head of AOU or nominated representative.
5. The Hub Coordinator and the School’s Resources Officer only have the access to the School’s storage and retention area.
6. Stored research data is recorded in the Archived Research Register which is maintained and managed by the Hub Coordinator.

Research Notice Board

The School’s Research Notice Board is now located at the first floor of the North Wing (opposite the School’s Office).

On this board you will find current research related information at the local, national and international level, profiles of the School’s successful researchers and profiles of the Hub’s team members. Please visit our board and provide us with information you consider as important and interesting to share with the School’s community.

Potential Research Assistants

In the Hub’s resources data base we have got resumes and expressions of interest in part-time research assistant roles from three persons: Amanda Joy Tovell - graduate social worker on the Master level, Rose Warehouse - graduate nurse on the Master level, and Bertha Nevada - graduate nurse and cybernetics engineer at the Bachelor level.

Please contact the Hub Coordinator for more details if you need assistance in this matter.

Critical Reviewer Group members wait for you!

Those researchers in the School who are considering writing a new publication or starting work on a research project are encouraged to approach members of the Critical Reviewer Group. Members of this Group are happy to assist you with your publications, grant proposals or reports.

For your convenience, please find the names of people who volunteered themselves as the reviewers so far:

Ms Pat Barkway
Mr Paul Bennett
Dr Martin Caon
Dr Anita De Bellis
Ms Jenny Donovan
Dr Paul Drew
Dr Pauline Glover

Ms Lyn Gum
Dr Alison Hutton
Ms Heather James
Dr Lindy King
Dr Steve Parker
Dr Jan Paterson
Ms Linda Saunders

New members are still welcome to join the group.

Newsletter prepared by Gina Kasprzyk – x1531