



08 AUGUST 2011

This fortnightly bulletin is prepared by the Lowitja Institute to provide you with information on issues of interest to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research. To subscribe: <www.lowitja.org.au/node/add/profile>. To unsubscribe: E: <admin@lowitja.org.au>.

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APOLOGIES

Apologies to Terri Janke, NAIDOC Person of the Year, for having misspelled her surname in the last edition (25 July)! The Editor.

NEW LOCATION FOR OUR BRISBANE OFFICE

Our Brisbane staff, who are located in the office of One21Seventy: National Centre for Quality Improvement in Indigenous Primary Health Care, moved to a new location last week. They can now be found at Level 1 / 147 Wharf Street, Spring Hill, Qld, 4000. Phone numbers will remain the same. Contact details for our offices and all staff can be found at <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/contact>>.

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NEW PUBLICATION – TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS OVERVIEW REPORT

The Lowitja Institute has released a new publication by Kate Silburn, Alister Thorpe and Ian Anderson, titled *Taking Care of Business: Corporate Services for Indigenous Primary Health Care Services – Overview Report*. It is an overview of the CRCAH Support Systems Project, which focused on corporate support for Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services (ACCHSs).

The aim of the project was to contribute to improving the viability and sustainability of ACCHSs as corporate entities through examining the corporate support needs of ACCHSs, the issues associated with obtaining appropriate support and existing support structures.

The report highlights the capacity of the ACCHS sector to develop innovative solutions to difficult issues while working in a quickly changing environment. Additional resources are likely to enable further innovation. Such work should contribute to stronger and more viable health services for Aboriginal communities.

Available at <http://www.lowitja.org.au/crcah/files/docs/Taking_Cafe_of_Business-Overview-report.pdf>.

A summary report, case studies and a web tool will be available soon.

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EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR CHIEF INVESTIGATOR – DEADLINE 12 AUGUST 2011

The Lowitja Institute is seeking a chief investigator/s to provide high-level academic leadership to an existing project team looking at the implementation of innovations in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health care.

The role of chief investigator/s is an honorary one though direct expenses will be recoverable. A more detailed description of the project is available by contacting Jenny Brands, E:

<jenny.brands@menzies.edu.au>. **Expressions of interest should be submitted by 12 August 2011.**

The expression of interest announcement and form is available at:

<<http://www.lowitja.org.au/announcements/call-eoi-chief-investigator>>.

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REMINDER: RESEARCHING INDIGENOUS HEALTH: A PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR RESEARCHERS

Researching Indigenous Health: A Practical Guide for Researchers, (2011) written by Alison Laycock with support from Diane Walker, Nea Harrison and Jenny Brands, is a companion volume to *Supporting Indigenous Researchers: A Practical Guide for Supervisors* (2009).

The guide provides existing and potential researchers with information about the history, context, values and changing priorities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research in Australia, and guidance in how to design and manage successful research projects. This publication is available for purchase from our website, where you can find an overview of the guide, more resources and case stories: <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/resources-researchers>>.

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RESEARCH AT THE LOWITJA INSTITUTE

Information about our programs is available at <www.lowitja.org.au/research-programs>.

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SPEECHES BY THE LOWITJA INSTITUTE LEADERSHIP

Archive of speeches is available at <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/speeches>>.

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PUBLICATIONS BY THE LOWITJA INSTITUTE and the Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health are available in PDF format at <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/publications>> and can be ordered by email from <publications@lowitja.org.au>.

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WE ARE ON TWITTER!

'Follow us on Twitter' button now on our home webpage: <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/>>.

CONFERENCES, CALLS FOR ABSTRACTS & FUNDING

A list of 2011 conferences is available at: <www.lowitja.org.au/conferences-2011>.

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Call for abstracts: ASMR 2011 National Scientific Conference 'Indigenous Health: ACTION on Prevention!', Cairns Qld, 13–16 November 2011. Abstracts from all facets of Indigenous health research are accepted, including: Primary and preventative healthcare, Maternal and child health, Infectious disease, Mental and Psychosocial health, Chronic diseases, Best Research Methodologies.

The 2011 Firkin Oration will be presented by Sir Mason Durie of Massey University, New Zealand, and the 2011 Edwards Oration will be given by Indigenous maternal and child health expert, Professor Sandra Eades from the Baker IDI Heart & Diabetes Institute, Victoria.

More information about the conference, the orators and how to submit an abstract is available at <www.asmr-nsc.org.au>.

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First call for abstracts: International Indigenous Development Research Conference 2012. The 5th Biennial Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga conference, to be held 27 – 30 June 2012, will highlight Indigeneity and the multidisciplinary approach used for Indigenous development. Papers are sought that address the themes of optimising Indigenous economic wellbeing, healthy and thriving Indigenous families, and enhancing Indigenous distinctiveness. They will be underpinned by one or more of the following outcomes: Indigenous knowledge creation, building excellent Indigenous research capability, and research and Indigenous transformation. Abstract submissions close on 1 December 2011. For more information go to <<http://www.indigenousdevelopment2012.ac.nz/>>.

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The Leaders in Indigenous Medical Education (LIME) Network calls for nominations for the LIMELight awards, to be awarded at the LIME Connection IV dinner on 30 November, in Auckland.

The LIMELight awards are given in recognition of significant and outstanding work that staff, students and medical schools undertake in teaching and learning of Indigenous health in medical education, as well as Indigenous student recruitment.

Nominations or applications will be accepted for the following categories:

- Leading innovation in curriculum implementation
- Leading innovation in Indigenous student recruitment, support and graduation
- Leading innovation in community engagement
- LIMELight Leadership Award for outstanding leadership by an individual
- Student Award

Nominations close on 26 August 2011. For more information, as well as application and nomination forms, please visit the LIME Network website at W:

<<http://limenetwork.net.au/content/limelight-awards-2011>> or contact E: <lime-network@unimelb.edu.au>, T: +61 3 8344 0828.

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The National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee (NIDAC) is raising funds to support workers to attend the 2012 NIDAC Conference - *Beyond 2012: Leading the Way to Action*, and is seeking your assistance to help make a difference by purchasing a high resolution limited edition print, in either quality print or canvas, of the vibrant painting *Diversity of One Working Together, 2010*, crafted by well known Aboriginal artist Mr Max Mansell.

Max is a leading Australian Aboriginal artist from the Oyster Bay area and the Big River

language groups in Tasmania. *Diversity of One Working Together* was crafted by Max on behalf of the National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee to celebrate and acknowledge the importance of the inaugural National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Conference held in Adelaide in 2010. Max donated *Diversity of One Working Together* for the purposes of raising funds and awareness of the importance of addressing the harms and impacts of alcohol and other drugs (AOD) issues in Aboriginal and Islander communities Australia-wide.

To find out more about this offer and to order your copy, go to <<http://www.nidac.org.au/>>, or contact the NIDAC Secretariat on T: 02 61669600, or E: <nidac@ancd.org.au>. For further information about the Conference, please refer to <<http://www.nidaconference.com.au/>>, or T: 07 3334 4400, or E: <info@eventcorp.com.au>.

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Bridging the gap between research, policy and practice, London, 07 December 2011

‘The importance of intermediaries (knowledge brokers) in producing research’, Organised by the ESRC Genomics Policy & Research Forum, College of Humanities & Social Science, University of Edinburgh: <<http://www.genomicsnetwork.ac.uk/forum/events/title,24718,en.html>>.

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Indigenous Pre-conference Workshop Oceania Tobacco Control 2011 ‘Burying the Habit:

Moving to a Tobacco Free Future’, Brisbane, 17 October. This Indigenous Workshop will bring together workers, researchers and policy makers in the area of Indigenous Tobacco Control to network and learn from each other. More information will be added to the CEITC website (www.ceitc.org.au) in the coming weeks. For more information, please contact Ngarra Murray, T: 03 9035 8292, E: <nmurray@unimelb.edu.au>.

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Reminder: The LSAC and LSIC Research Conference: Findings from The Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (LSAC) and The Longitudinal Study of Indigenous Children (LSIC) Growing Up in Australia and Footprints in Time, Melbourne, 15–16 November 2011. Conference website is at <<http://www.aifs.gov.au/growingup/conf/2011/>>. Call for abstracts closes on 12 August.

EVENTS

Professor Marcia Langton, Foundation Chair of Australian Indigenous Studies at the University of Melbourne, will present the **2011 Vincent Lingiari Memorial Lecture** entitled, “Culture, custom, modernity and health: a nexus of factors in the status of Aboriginal children,” on Thursday, 18 August from 7-8pm at CDU’s Casuarina campus. For more information and to register, go to <www.cdu.edu.au/indigenousleadership/lingiari-lecture2011.html>.

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Monday 26 September 2011, 6.00–7.30 pm, Queensland University of Technology, Kelvin Grove, Qld: **Oodgeroo Noonuccal Public Lecture**. Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson, Professor of Indigenous Studies and Director, Indigenous Studies Research Network, Queensland University of Technology will present the lecture, titled ‘Representations of Aboriginality in Australian media’. RSVP by 2 September on T: (07) 3138 3610 or E: <information.oodgeroo@qut.edu.au>.

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REMINDER: Tuesday 20 September, 6.00 to 7.30 pm, in Shepparton, Victoria: **Dungala Kaiela Oration**, to be delivered by Mr Saul Eslake, Program Director, Productivity Growth, Grattan Institute, at the Harder Auditorium, Goulburn Ovens Institute of TAFE, Fryers Street.

Thursday 03 November, 6.00 to 8.00 pm, in Melbourne: **Narrm Oration**, presented by Murrup Barak, Melbourne Institute for Indigenous Development. Venue: 'The Spot', Faculty of Economics and Commerce, 198 Berkeley Street, Carlton (corner of Pelham Street). The Orator will be Mr Willie Hensley, an Inuit Leader known for his extraordinary contribution to the Alaskan Native Land Claims Movement.

More details for both events available at <<http://www.murrupbarak.unimelb.edu.au/>>.

JOBS

Associate Lecturer Indigenous Health (Teaching/ Student support), Position number 11251, The Poche Centre for Indigenous Health and Wellbeing at Flinders University. Two years fixed term, at Academic Level A. As part of a developing team, this position will contribute to Indigenous health-related teaching and curriculum development, as well as to recruitment and retention of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students studying within the Faculty of Health Science programmes at Flinders University. Closing date: Monday, 29 August.

More information: <<http://www.flinders.edu.au/employment/vacancies/academic.cfm>>

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Coordinator (Senior Lecturer) Remote & Indigenous Health Education Programs, Level C, fixed term, full time for 3 years at Flinders University Centre For Remote Health – Alice Springs. The Coordinator of the Remote Health Education Programs will oversee the implementation, delivery and evaluation of the suite of educational offerings that focus on providing preparatory, ongoing, and tertiary education for remote health professionals. Closing date extended to Monday 15 August. For more information:

<<http://www.flinders.edu.au/employment/vacancies/academic.cfm>>

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Higher Degree Research Program Manager (A300-11NN) National Centre for Indigenous Studies, National Centre for Indigenous Studies, The Australian National University. An initial fixed 3 year term in this newly created position with the possibility of a further ongoing appointment following excellent performance. The Higher Degree Research (HDR) Program Manager will work with the Director (Professor Mick Dodson) and other Centre staff to deliver key strategic outcomes in research and outreach as well as effectively managing the growing demands of the HDR program and supervision of HDR candidates. The successful applicant will also make a contribution to the teaching effort of the Centre. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are strongly encouraged to apply. Closing date: 21 August. More information:

<<http://jobs.anu.edu.au/PositionDetail.aspx?p=2095>>

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Administration Officer, 12 months fixed term, in Lalor, Victoria, at the Bubup Wilam for Early Learning Centre, an integrated child and family service for Aboriginal children. For more information, please email <alisterthorpe@bubupwilam.org.au>. Closing date is 19 August.

MEDIA

Past media releases are at: <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/media-releases>>. Stories about the Lowitja Institute in the media are listed at <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/media>>.

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Indigenous infant mortality rates fall dramatically by Bridget Brennan in The ABC News Online, posted August 04, 2011. A new report on Indigenous health shows infant mortality rates have more than halved in two years.

Read full article at <<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2011-08-04/20110804indigenous-health-report/2824756>>.

PUBLICATIONS

Taking Care of Business: Corporate Services for Indigenous Primary Health Care Services – Overview Report, by Silburn, K., Thorpe, A. & Anderson, I. 2011, The Lowitja Institute, Melbourne: <http://www.lowitja.org.au/crcah/files/docs/Taking_Cafe_of_Business-Overview-report.pdf>.

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Researching Indigenous Health: A Practical Guide for Researchers, by A. Laycock with D. Walker, D., N. Harrison & J. Brands 2011, The Lowitja Institute, Melbourne. More information at <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/resources-researchers>>.

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Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service Funding: Report to the Sector 2011, by A. Martini, U. Marlina, J. Dwyer, J. Lavoie, K. O'Donnell, & P. Sullivan 2011, The Lowitja Institute, Melbourne. Available at <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/announcements/new-funding-report-released>>.

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Racism and health among urban Aboriginal young people by Priest N, Paradies Y, Stewart P, Luke J. *BMC Public Health* 2011. < <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/11/568>>

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The Millennium Development Goals Report 2011, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs: <<http://bit.ly/niNndt>>.

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Closing the Gap — Editorial: ***Social Determinants and the Health of Indigenous Australians***, M. Marmot 2011, *Medical Journal of Australia*, vol. 194(10), pp. 512–3.

<http://www.mja.com.au/public/issues/194_10_160511/mar10460_fm.html>

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Talking Strong: the community newsletter of the Onemda VicHealth Koori Health Unit, issue no 29, August 2011: <<http://www.onemda.unimelb.edu.au/docs/Newsletter%2029.pdf>>.

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Australian Indigenous Health Bulletin, September 2011 edition is now 'in progress' and available online at <www.healthbulletin.org.au>. The April to June 2011 issue is available at <<http://healthbulletin.org.au/category/issues/vol-11-no-2-april-2011-june-2011/>>.

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Through APO

'What You Do Is Important but How You Do It Is More Important': Engaging Indigenous Men in Rural Mental Health Services Research, Anton Neville Isaacs, Hugh Pepper, Priscilla Pyett, Hilton A. Gruis, Peter Waples-Crowe, and Mark A. Oakley-Browne 2011, *Qualitative Research Journal*: < <http://www.apo.org.au/research/what-you-do-important-how-you-do-it-more-important>>.

Collaborating with Consumer and Community Representatives in Health and Medical Research in Australia: Results from an Evaluation, J. M. Payne 2011, *Health Research Policy and Systems*: <<http://www.apo.org.au/research/collaborating-consumer-and-community-representatives-health-and-medical-research-australia>>.

Racism: A Major Impediment to Optimal Indigenous Health and Health Care in Australia, N. Awofeso 2011, *Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet*: <<http://www.apo.org.au/research/racism-major-impediment-optimal-indigenous-health-and-health-care-australia>>.

A profile of homelessness for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, May 2011: <<http://www.apo.org.au/research/profile-homelessness-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-people>>.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disability: wellbeing, participation and support, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, May 2011: <<http://www.apo.org.au/research/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-people-disability-wellbeing-participation-and-support>>.

RESOURCES AND WEBSITES

The Thumbs Up! Program, an interactive workshop program presented by the Jimmy Little Foundation. Over the past three years, The Jimmy Little Foundation has been working in partnership with key stakeholders across Australia to fulfill the dream of its patron Dr Jimmy Little AO – to provide a healthier future for Indigenous Australians. The Thumbs Up! program includes school nutrition workshops and a local stores program and has visited more than 25 communities over the past two years, across NT, WA, QLD and NSW. <www.jlf.org.au>

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The PHILENetwork (The Public Health Indigenous Leadership in Education Network) is the leadership group formed from the National Indigenous Public Curriculum Network. This group forms part of a larger project – Indigenous Public Health Capacity Building Project, which is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.

The broad purpose of the PHILENetwork is to provide a forum for Indigenous public health academics and practitioners to exchange resources, ideas and develop policies and programs of relevance to teaching and learning activities in public health, and specifically to build capacity of MPH programs nationally in regards to integration of Indigenous health.

Currently, the PHILENetwork comprises: Prof. Lisa Jackson Pulver (University of NSW), Wendy Anders (Deakin University), Vanessa Lee (University of Sydney), Paul Stewart (University of Melbourne), Assoc. Prof. Jenny Baker (University of Adelaide), Dylan Coleman (University of Adelaide), with administrative support from the joint Indigenous Public Health Capacity Building Project co-coordinators, Leanne Coombe (University of Melbourne) and Janice Jessen (Deakin University).

Indigenous public health academics are encouraged to join and strengthen this network.

For more information, please contact Leanne Coombe, T: (03) 8344 9375, E: <lcoombe@unimelb.edu.au>.

SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS, FUNDING, GRANTS & TENDERS

Please see our Scholarships and Grants web page for a list of available opportunities:

<<http://www.lowitja.org.au/scholarships-and-grants>>.

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The Charlie Perkins Scholarships 2012

Each year the Charlie Perkins Scholarship Trust offers two scholarships for Indigenous postgraduates to study at the University of Oxford and the University of Cambridge for up to three years. Information on the scholarship criteria, how to apply and key dates can be found at W: <www.perkinstrust.com.au>. For further information E:

<marshall.thurlow@auroraproject.com.au>. Applications open on 15 August and close on Friday 14 October 2011.

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The Nursing and Allied Health Scholarship and Support Scheme opened on 25 July 2011 and will close 16 September 2011 in several streams, including:

professional development for nurses working in an Aboriginal Medical Services

<http://www.rcna.org.au/scholarships/professional_development_ams>,

and clinical placement scholarship for students participating in clinical placement in an

Aboriginal Medical Service <http://www.rcna.org.au/scholarships/clinical_placement_ams>.

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LGA grants phase 3 are now open.

The LGA Grants will support a Healthy Communities Coordinator within LGAs to oversee and coordinate the implementation of the Initiative within target populations; AND any combination of: subsidise the costs to individuals of participating in healthy eating, physical activity or healthy lifestyle programs; AND/OR purchase or run community based healthy lifestyle programs; AND/OR purchase or subsidise training for community members to run community based healthy lifestyle programs where this does not contradict professional or accreditation requirements of specific programs.

Under Phase 3 of the HCI, funding of \$566,042 (GST exclusive) per grant is available for up to 47 LGAs across Australia for a period of up to 21 months (October 2011 – June 2013).

Application form and related documentation are available at <www.health.gov.au/tenders>.

Questions regarding the Healthy Communities Initiative can be addressed to E:

<COAGhealthycommunities@health.gov.au> or T: (02) 6289 4381. Closing date is 9 August, 2pm AEST.

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NHMRC Grants for Community Control of Hypertension

The NHMRC has advertised for applications for research into community control of hypertension as part of a worldwide initiative coordinated by the Global Alliance for Chronic Disease (GACD). The NHMRC has allocated \$5 million in funding for research to improve the prevention and control of hypertension at the community level in low and middle income countries. High quality applications aimed at such outcomes from research in our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are also being welcomed.

The aim of this GACD initiative is to learn through research how to achieve effective control of this major cause of heart and kidney disease, and stroke, in disadvantaged communities around the world. Applications are sought from teams of researchers with experience in

implementation research for chronic disease prevention and management. More information on NHMRC GACD grants is available at: <www.nhmrc.gov.au/grants/apply/strategic/global-alliance-chronic-disease.htm>. Closing date is 31 August.

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The Puggy Hunter Memorial Scholarship Scheme is now open for applications:

<www.rcna.org.au/scholarships/puggy_hunter>, T: 1800 688 628 or E: <scholarships@rcna.org.au>. Closing date is COB 16 September 2011.

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2012 Fulbright Australian Scholarships are open until 31 August. Full information is available at <<http://www.fulbright.com.au/scholarships/australian/application-information.html>>.

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Rowan Nicks Russell Drysdale Fellowship in Indigenous Health and Welfare. The fellowship supports individuals making a contribution in the area of Australian Indigenous health and welfare: <<http://www.medfac.usyd.edu.au/nicksdrysdale/>>. Closing date is 26 August.

SEMINARS, COURSES, COLLOQUIA AND SYMPOSIA

Early intervention for improved wellbeing: a half day symposium on Thursday, 4th August 2011, 9.00am – 11.40am, at Menzies Seminar Room, John Mathews Building, Royal Darwin Hospital Campus.

The BEAT depression research team invites you to attend an open symposium exploring wellbeing prevention and early intervention in remote primary care. This morning symposium will explore two practical implications of this action research study in remote NT communities: wellbeing screening and brief therapies. Presenters are Associate Professor Tricia Nagel, Dr Christine Connors and Professor David Kavanagh.

The Menzies BEAT depression 4 year study is testing the effectiveness of a low intensity intervention in treating depression and comorbid illness in remote Indigenous primary health care settings. The results of the study will guide the management of depression and comorbid physical illness and substance misuse in high risk Indigenous youth, perinatal women, and adults. The study builds on the Aboriginal and Islander Mental Health Initiative in the Northern Territory (AIMhi NT), which has developed mental health screening tools and treatment approaches.

For more information, contact Jodie Ellis, T: 08 8922 6904, E: <jodie.ellis@menzies.edu.au>.

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Seminar: **Doing Research with Aboriginal People**, on Tuesday 27 September, in Toowoomba, Qld. All research projects tend to go through certain phases. This seminar will explore ways that these phases can be worked through so as to ensure the goals of Aboriginal communities are met in the process. Researchers will share their experiences and seek advice and input from those attending. It is hoped this day can facilitate the development of research interest networks and future research.

Special Keynote Address: Prof John Lowe, RN, PhD. Professor John Lowe's contributions to the nursing profession are heavily based in his research program, which has evolved from his doctoral dissertation, 'Cherokee Self-Reliance', which investigated cultural values that contribute to the Cherokee Nation's health and well-being, particularly in regards to substance use and abuse.

This seminar is free with lunch, morning and afternoon tea provided. It will be hosted by the Centre for Rural and Remote Area Health and the Centre for Australian Indigenous Knowledges.

Please register by email: E: < wardra@usq.edu.au> or nanka@usq.edu.au, T: 07 4631 5444.
Registrations close 21 September.

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SAVE THE DATE 15 November 2011 for the **Progress toward control of meningococcal disease workshop**, to be held in Melbourne from 12 to 5.15 pm. More information is available from Danni Marchat, E: <DanielM@chw.edu.au>.

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Race, Culture, Indigeneity and the Politics of Disadvantage, two-day short course in Melbourne, 19–20 September, presented by the McCaughey Centre and the Onemda Koori Health Unit, Melbourne School of Population Health, The University of Melbourne. For more information and to register, contact Hannah Reich, E: <hsreich@unimelb.edu.au>. Registrations close 22 August.

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Walking through Research 2011, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Training in Sydney, 26–30 September 2011, presented by the University Centre for Rural Health – North Coast. For further information please contact Shawn, T: 02 66207570. Applications close 5 August.

If you have any difficulties opening links, or other queries, please contact E: <publications@lowitja.org.au>. Archives of the CRCAH, CRCATSIH and Lowitja Institute eBulletins are available at <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/newsletters>>. To unsubscribe, please E: <admin@lowitja.org.au>.

Communications Team

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