

THE LOWITJA INSTITUTE
Australia's National Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Health Research
Incorporating the Cooperative Research Centre for
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health
e-BULLETIN — 19 JULY 2010

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NATIONWIDE CONSULTATIONS ON SOCIAL INCLUSION

The Australian Social Inclusion Board (the Board) is currently conducting research on cycles of disadvantage. As part of this research, the Board will be holding public consultations in each capital city. You are invited to attend the consultation in your capital city to share your expertise, knowledge and experiences on cycles of disadvantage, and how people avoid or break out of disadvantage. The Board is interested in hearing from people with experience and expertise on this topic, including providers of social welfare services, academics, researchers and particularly people who have experienced cycles of disadvantage themselves. Venue details and discussion agenda will be distributed on registration. To register (or if you have any queries), please contact Laura backhouse at E: <Laura.Backhouse@pmc.gov.au>.

Consultation schedule

Canberra: 22 July, 9am–12pm (RSVP by 15 July)
Sydney: 26 July, 9am–12pm (RSVP by 19 July)

Adelaide: 30 July, 9am–12pm (RSVP by 23 July)
Brisbane: 23 August, 2pm–5pm (RSVP by 16 August)
Darwin: 24 August, 10am–1pm (RSVP by 17 August)
Perth: 02 September, 9am–12pm (RSVP by 26 August)
Melbourne: 03 September, 1–4pm (RSVP by 27 August)
Hobart: 06 September, 10am–1pm (RSVP by 30 August)

More information:

<<http://www.socialinclusion.gov.au/Partnerships/Board/Pages/BreakCycleReqSubs.aspx>>.

RESEARCH WORKFORCE STRATEGY CONSULTATION

The Australian Government is developing a Research Workforce Strategy for the next decade and beyond. A consultation paper on the strategy to focus discussion and generate ideas has been released. The Research Workforce Strategy is an integral part of Powering Ideas, the Government's long-term innovation agenda for Australia. The consultation paper describes the challenges and opportunities we will need to consider as we work to strengthen our research workforce. Public information sessions on the consultation paper will be held in most capital cities over the next few weeks. The Government expects to consider the final strategy toward the end of 2010. **Submissions are invited, closing on 6 August.** The consultation paper and further details on submissions can be found at:

<<http://www.innovation.gov.au/Section/Research/Pages/ResearchWorkforceIssues.aspx>>.

CONFERENCES

9th World Indigenous Women and Wellness Conference, Darwin, 22–25

August 2010. Presented by the Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation. One of the critical aims of the 9th World Indigenous Women and Wellness Conference is to support women leaders within their communities while building networks and connections that strengthen community life. The conference program focuses on presentations, workshops and forums where issues can be discussed and collaborative approaches taken to achieve real outcomes. Conference themes include: healthy communities, strong families, law and justice, education, training and enterprise; and traditional healing and health. For more information:

<www.larrakiaevents.com>. To register: <www.larrakiaevents.com/registration>.

Information about registering: Lily May, Conference Administrator, T: 08 8985 3733, E: <reception@larrakia.com>.

International Association for Dental Research Australia New Zealand Meeting, Kiama NSW, 27–29 September. A symposium on Indigenous oral health will be held during the annual IADR ANZ meeting. The focus will be on lessons learnt and future research strategy. The date has not been finalised but it will be within the meeting dates for the conference: <<http://sydney.edu.au/dentistry/ce/iadr/>>.

JOBS

Project Manager – Indigenous Health Review Project, in Sydney, 12 months full-time. Medical Deans Australia and New Zealand has recently been funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing to undertake a comprehensive national review of the implementation of the Deans' Indigenous Health Curriculum Framework and AIDA's Healthy Futures Report. Closing date for applications is 22 July 2010. Details about the position can be found at <<http://usyd.nga.net.au/cp/index.cfm?event=jobs.startJobSearch>>, job reference 1857/0610. For more information, please contact Mary Solomon, T: 02 9036 3363, or E: <msolomon@medicaldeans.org.au>.

Expressions of Interest are invited (by 4 pm on 26 July) for the following positions:

Senior Workforce Development Officer Aboriginal Child Health, Child and Adolescent Community Health, in Perth, 6 months contract, with possibility of extension. This position is responsible for the planning, development, coordination and provision of culturally appropriate education, skills and training for WA providers of child health services to Indigenous families, in response to identified need, policy development, and clinical practice standards. For further information and job description, contact Alison Blake, T: 08 9220 9602 or E: <alison.blake@health.wa.gov.au>.

Senior Policy Officer (Aboriginal Child Health), in Perth, 6 months contract, with possibility of extension. This position is responsible for the development of policies and programs relating to child and maternal health with an emphasis on facilitating health improvements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in accordance with government and health system objectives. Further information and job description, contact Margaret Abernethy on T: 08 9323 6672 or E: <Margaret.abernethy@health.wa.gov.au>.

Aboriginal people are strongly encouraged to apply.

MEDIA

Indigenous Life Expectancy Better, Diabetes Worse, Louisa Rebgetz, ABC News, 14 July. 'New research has confirmed substance abuse, chronic disease and youth suicide remain key areas of concern among Australia's Indigenous population. The *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health* has dedicated a special issue to Indigenous health. One study found the life expectancy of Indigenous people in the Northern Territory improved over a 10-year period. But that was offset by a significant rise in diseases such as diabetes and preventable injuries, which account for two thirds of Indigenous deaths. Michael Moore from the Public Health Association of Australia says the combined research shows more focus is needed on preventing health problems among Indigenous people. "When governments look at taking action on things like

Indigenous health they use prevention as a poor cousin...”
<<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/07/14/2953724.htm?section=justin>>.

Masters Opportunity, Tammy Mills, *Shepparton News*, 8 July 2010. ‘A workshop was held last week to gauge interest from prospective Aboriginal students for a masters degree in health and social science at the University of Melbourne School of Rural Health. The meeting was attended by University of Melbourne Dean of Indigenous Studies Professor Marcia Langton, as well as members of Rumbalara and interested students. Prof. Langton said there was keen interest in the masters degree. ‘It’s an absolutely perfect location,” she said. ‘You can see there’s a roomful of local Aboriginal people who are keen to do a masters, it’s wonderful... we’re here to help them work out how to do it, how to gain entry.’ ‘We’re very hopeful we’ll have a good intake from this group.’ The two-year degree will begin next year. Indigenous health lecturer Peter Ferguson said the degree would boost the knowledge and credibility of people already working in the industry...’ <http://www.sheppnews.com.au/news_1164666.aspx>.

Health Reforms to Suit Centre, Dan Moss, *Central Australian Advocate*, 06 July 2010. ‘Central Australia is likely to get its own hospital network under new reforms planned for the nation’s health system. The National Rural Health Alliance has highlighted promising signs that the reform will not centralise control in Darwin...’

<http://www.centralianadvocate.com.au/article/2010/07/06/7765_news.html>.

Melbourne Gets Taste of First Indigenous Opera, ABC News, 5 July 2010: ‘It has been years in the making but Australia’s first Aboriginal opera is about to be performed. Opera singer, composer and creator of Pecan Summer, Deborah Cheetham, says she hopes the opera will open the way for future generations of Indigenous Australians to get involved in classical singing. She has dreamed for a long time of expanding the ranks of Indigenous Australian opera singers. She says with tens of thousands of years of ritual song and dance behind them, Aboriginal Australians are made to sing opera. It took Cheetham three years to get the cast together, travelling Australia to hear people audition...’:

<<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/07/05/2945122.htm>>.

PUBLICATIONS

Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health, special edition on Indigenous health: volume 34, issue 1, July 2010. DOI: 10.1111/j.1753-6405.2009.00543.x.

Third National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Blood Borne Virus and Sexually Transmissible Infections Strategy 2010–2013, Department of Health and Ageing: <<http://www.apo.org.au/research/third-national-aboriginal-and->

[torres-strait-islander-blood-borne-virus-and-sexually-transmi](#)>.

CARPA Standard Treatment Manual, 5th edition. Orders can be placed at:
<<http://www.carpa.org.au/fmanual.htm>>.

A Systematic Review of the Evidence on Integration of Targeted Health Interventions into Health Systems, R. Atun, T. de Jongh, F. Secci, K. Ohiri, O. Adeyi, *Health Policy and Planning*, 2010, Open Access Journal, 25, 1–14:
<<http://heapol.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/full/25/1/1>>.

The Medicines Book for Aboriginal Health Workers, 2nd edition, available from CARPA at <<http://www.carpa.org.au/fmanual.htm>>.

Snapshot of Australian Primary Health Care Research 2010, PHC RIS:
<<http://www.phcris.org.au/phcred/snapshot/2010>>.

Translating Knowledge into Practice and Policy: The role of knowledge networks in primary health care, K. Armstrong & E. Kendall (Griffith Institute of Health and Medical Research, Griffith University), *HIM Journal*, 2010, vol. 39(2): 9–17: <<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20577019?dopt=Abstract>>.

Global Justice and the Social Determinants of Health, *Ethics & International Affairs*, Vol. 24.2, Summer 2010: <<http://bit.ly/cQtPe7>>.

Through APO:

Meeting Australia's Research Workforce Needs, Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research, <<http://www.apo.org.au/research/meeting-australias-research-workforce-needs>>.

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A National Health and Hospitals Network for Australia's Future – Delivering the Reforms, Department of Health and Ageing:
<<http://www.apo.org.au/research/national-health-and-hospitals-network-australias-future—delivering-reforms>>.

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Taking Preventative Action – A Response to Australia: The Healthiest Country by 2020, Preventative Health Taskforce,
<<http://www.apo.org.au/research/taking-preventative-action-response-australia-healthiest-country-2020>>.

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Australian Social Trends, June 2010, Australian Bureau of Statistics,
<<http://www.apo.org.au/research/australian-social-trends-jun-2010>>.

RESOURCES AND WEBSITES

Cultural Orientation Plan for Health Professionals. Many health professionals have little or no knowledge of the post-colonial legacies and cultural perceptions of Aboriginal people, yet the impact of poor understanding undermines respect, devalues integrity and compounds communication barriers. These issues have a devastating impact on the health outcomes of Aboriginal people. In recognition that many health practitioners working with Aboriginal people receive little or no cultural orientation, CUCRH, in partnership with WA Country Health Service and Disability Services Commission, has developed an on-line Cultural Orientation Plan. This plan consists of five self-directed learning modules with a focus on allied health, however much of the content is generic to all health professionals (Summary by CUCRH). Access this free online course at:
<<http://lms.cucrh.uwa.edu.au/moodle/>>.

Victorian Aboriginal Youth Sport and Recreation NEW WEBSITE:

<<http://www.vaysar.com.au/>>.

Indigenous Justice Clearinghouse: <<http://www.indigenousjustice.gov.au/>>.

New Resources Page on the Lowitja Institute Website

We are continuing to develop our website, including our resources page available at: <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/resources>>. The latest information on activities related to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research:
<<http://www.lowitja.org.au/announcements>>.

SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS, FUNDING, GRANTS & TENDERS

Rowan Nicks Russell Drysdale Fellowship in Australian Indigenous Health and Welfare 2011. This Fellowship awards up to \$60,000 for a 12-month period. The Fellowship is designed to support individuals wanting to make a contribution in the area of Australian Indigenous health and welfare. The Fellowship particularly aims to support workers and the development of future leaders in Australian Indigenous health and welfare. **Australian Indigenous people are strongly encouraged to apply.** Closing date: 10 September 2010:
<<http://sydney.edu.au/medicine/scholarawards/indigenous/index.php>>.

and REMINDERS

SACOSS Conference 2010: Defining Strength, Delivering Innovation, in Adelaide, 5–6 August:

<<http://www.sacoss.org.au/events/conference2010/registration.html>>.

Emerging Health Policy Research Conference 2010, in Sydney, 11 August.:

<http://www.menzieshealthpolicy.edu.au/events_upcoming.php#ehpr2010>, or E:
<mchp@sydney.edu.au>.

2010 'Are You Remotely Interested?' Conference, in Mount Isa, Qld, 20–22 August: <<http://micrrh.jcu.edu.au/conferences-workshops/2010-remotely-interested/>>.

The Pacific Region Indigenous Doctors Congress 2010 'Sharing Our Stories: Building Strength through the Circle of Knowledge Translation', in Whistler, British Columbia, Canada, 26–29 August: <http://www.pridoc.org/>>.

Australasian Evaluation Society (AES) International Conference , Wellington NZ, 30 Aug–3 Sept: <<http://www.aesconference2010.org.nz/drupal/node/41>>.

Chronic Diseases Network Annual Conference, in Darwin, on 9–10 September: <<http://www.cdnconference.com.au/>>.

Healing Our Spirit Conference, Hawaii, 3–10 September: <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/announcements/crcatsih-funding-healing-our-spirit-worldwide-conference>>.

2010 Participatory Action Research World Congress, Melbourne, 6–9 September: <<http://www.alara.net.au/worldcongress/2010/objectives>>.

14th Annual NT Chronic Diseases Network Conference, in Darwin, 9–10 September: <<http://www.cdnconference.com.au>>.

The Mental Health Services (TheMHS) 20th Annual Conference, in Sydney, 14–17 September: <<http://www.themhs.org/home>>.

NatStats Conference, Sydney, 15–17 Sept: <<http://www.nss.gov.au/natstats2010>>

2nd Australian Rural and Remote Mental Health Symposium, Canberra, 20–30 September: <<http://www.anzmmh.asn.au/RMH10/Default.ASP>>.

Asia Pacific Regional Conference on Community Development, in the Phillipnes, 26–28 October 2010: <<http://cdconference2010.blogspot.com/2010/05/call-for-papers.html>>.

Public Health Association Australia (PHAA) 40th Annual Conference, Adelaide, 27–29 September 2010: <<http://www.phaa.net.au/documents/email/100621ScholarshipsforAboriginalPeoplettoattendPHAAConf2010.doc>>. Conference website is at: <<http://www.phaa.net.au/40thPHAAAnnualConference.php>>.

The 2nd Rural & Remote Mental Health Symposium ‘Winds of Change: New Perspectives on Rural and Remote Mental Health’, in Sydney, 29–30 September: <<http://www.ausot.com.au/newsArticle.asp?id=208>>.

Evidence Based Healthcare Conference ‘Show the Impact’, Adelaide, 27–29 October 2010. Early bird registration closes on 30 July: <<http://www.alloccasionsgroup.com/EBHC2010>>.

14th Pacific Rim College of Psychiatrists Scientific Meeting, in Brisbane, 28–30 October 2010: <<http://www.anzmmh.asn.au/PRCP10/Default.asp>>.

The inaugural National Indigenous Policy and Dialogue Conference, in Sydney, 18–19 November. For more information: <<http://nipdc.arts.unsw.edu.au/>> or E: <nipdc@unsw.edu.au>.

Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and other Drugs (APSAD) 2010 Conference, Canberra, 28 November–1 December: <<http://www.apsadconference.com.au/program/call-for-abstracts/>>.

Health and Wellness Conference 2011, University of California Berkeley, USA from 20–22 January: <<http://healthandsociety.com/Conference-2011/>>.

If you have any difficulties opening links, or other queries, please contact <cliley@unimelb.edu.au>. Archives of the CRCAH, CRCATSIH and Lowitja Institute e-Bulletins are available at <<http://www.lowitja.org.au/newsletters>>.

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