

Newsletter: 11 June 2009

Dear Member,

Welcome to "Research Matters" 2009 Winter Edition

Please pass this e-newsletter on to your friends and colleagues who may wish to [subscribe](#).

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Chiefly Speaking by Rebecca James, Chief Executive Officer

Medical Research an Aussie Icon

Accustomed as we are to celebrating Australian success in sport, theatre and movies, there is no doubt that medical research is emerging as another cultural icon. Most Australians can cite the bionic ear, spray on skin and cervical cancer vaccines as outstanding Australian medical achievements. What influence is this likely to have on our research sector in a future characterized by economic uncertainty and social change?

Research Australia public surveys have identified public expectation of further imminent breakthroughs and a desire to not settle for second best in our achievements and aspirations. As a community, we have a strong commitment to health improvement and a gathering impatience at being in the queue to access the latest advances to address our health needs. How realistic is this? [Read More](#)

Want to make a difference to health and medical research?

Research Australia provides strategic guidance, tools and resources to support effective partnerships between health & medical research and philanthropy.

We can help you:

- Develop effective giving strategies that make a difference.
- Find quality research projects that meet your giving needs.
- Review research projects using our expert advisory panel services including scientific review.

For further information please contact Dr. Noel Chambers (03) 9662 9366

www.researchaustralia.org



Research Australia Philanthropy

As we advance our services of connecting philanthropy with health and medical research, we now wish to invite Bronze Members and above to contribute a paragraph (80-100 words) and a linking URL on your Organisations Trusts and Foundations.

We look forward to receiving your contributions. Thank you to all members who have already provided information on their philanthropic opportunities.

If you have further enquiries please contact Dr. Noel Chambers or Jessica Gilbert in our Melbourne office on 03 9662 9366 or visit www.researchaustraliaphilanthropy.org.

Shaping Policy

New Government Innovation White paper

The Federal Government has recently produced a policy framework to guide the development of Australia's innovation system over the next ten years to address Australia's fall from fifth to eighteenth in the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Index.

The white paper titled Powering Ideas - An Innovation Agenda for the 21st Century responds to the recommendations of Venturous Australia — Building Strength in Innovation: Review of the National Innovation System and also draws from a range of research, industry and education reviews of recent years. The framework has informed the 2009-10 budget allocation to Australian science and innovation including a \$3 billion boost in funding over the next four years. The paper emphasises that innovation, which is vital to initiating new pathways to prosperity for Australia, requires a system that offers an unbroken path from vision to realisation. It makes clear that "too many Australian inventions and discoveries end up being commercialised overseas, where the value they create is captured by others. This costs Australia jobs and wealth, and denies us the chance to build new industries".

Seven equally important national innovation priorities, which complement the national research priorities, have been adopted to focus on the production, diffusion and application of new knowledge. [Read more](#) (PDF 23KB) or visit [Shaping Policy at www.researchaustralia.org](http://www.researchaustralia.org) to download.

Research Australia Reports

Research Australia has prepared two recent reports available by visiting the [Shaping Policy](#) page of our website.

Trends and Statistics

The report is a snapshot of trends and statistics on funding for health and medical research over recent years. This publication, "Trends in Health and Medical Research Funding" will assist members in the preparation of policy materials in relation to the NHMRC, competitive grants, infrastructure support, government funding, business R&D, philanthropic investment and return on investment. Download Research Australia's [Trends in Health and Medical Research Funding Report 2009](#) (PDF 162 KB) and find out more about our [publications](#).

2009-10 Budget Summary

The report is a summary of the latest 2009-2010 Federal Budget and the impacts on the Health and Medical Research Sectors. [Download Research Australia Budget Summary](#) (PDF 67KB).

Members Spotlight



Faculty of Health Sciences, The University of Queensland

The University of Queensland's Faculty of Health Science has a 70-year history of high quality education and an international reputation for health research. The Faculty is taking an energetic and innovative approach to research development.

Health research programs are well developed in each of the Faculty's seven schools - dentistry, health and rehabilitation sciences, human movement studies, medicine, nursing and midwifery, pharmacy and population health. Purpose-specific health research centres have been set up to focus on key and emerging fields, including clinical research, pre-clinical drug development, environmental toxicology, international and tropical health and nutrition, healthy communities, military and veterans' health, online health and youth substance abuse. [Read More](#)

Sponsorship Opportunities



"Thank You" Day 2009

Now in its 7th year the "Thank You" Day public awareness campaign highlights the benefits of health and medical research and is conducted nationally by Research Australia, its members and the community.

You can become sponsor the awards, including the naming rights to either the Leadership and Corporate Giving, Leadership and Innovation, Advocacy and the Lifetime Achievement Award. We thank the Macquarie Group Foundation for their long term commitment in supporting the Great Australian Philanthropy Award and Griffith University for their continued support of the Discovery Award.

Platinum sponsorship packages are available which include exclusive naming rights to four of the above awards. [Download the "Thank You" Day Awards sponsorship proposal](#) or contact kandy.musgrave@researchaustralia.org.

Visit www.thankyouday.org to find out about last years campaign and awards.

Research Australia Events

"Thank You" Day 2009 - Friday, 20 November

"Thank You" Day and the "Thank You" Day Awards will be on Friday, 20 November 2009.

Now in its 7th year, Research Australia's "Thank You" Day public awareness campaign aims to raise community awareness of the benefits of health and medical research, through a national program conducted by Research Australia and its members.

The concept of "Thank You" provides an opportunity for the public to reflect and acknowledge the importance of health research in addressing illness and promoting health. It also provides an opportunity to the research community to acknowledge the support of the public, government, industry and the philanthropic sector in building a vibrant health and medical research sector in Australia that, in turn, generates major improvements in community health.

We encourage our members and members of the community to get involved in "Thank You" Day by conducting their own "Thank You" Day events such as launches, announcements, public forums or celebrations and to send a message of thanks through the Research Australia website - www.thankyouday.org. Please visit the website in July to download your host event toolkit which gives you tips on running your "Thank You" Day event, invitations and posters.

"Thank You" Day Awards - Friday, 20 November, 6.30pm - Save the Date!
BMW Edge, Federation Square, Melbourne

The "Thank You" Day Awards are the culmination of Research Australia's "Thank You" Day campaign. Nominated by Research Australia members the awards celebrate the achievements of individuals and organisations that have helped further research in Australia through corporate giving, philanthropy, advocacy or their own research contributions. The Awards are:

- Macquarie Group Foundation Great Australian Philanthropy Award
- Griffith University Discovery Award
- Advocacy Award
- Leadership and Innovation Award
- Leadership in Corporate Giving Award
- Lifetime Achievement Award

This year the Awards will be a cocktail style event and tickets will be available in August.

Platinum sponsorship packages are available which include exclusive naming rights to four of the above awards. [Download the "Thank You" Day Awards sponsorship proposal](#) or contact kandy.musgrave@researchaustralia.org.

We thank the Macquarie Group Foundation and Griffith University for their continued support.

 Invitation Research Australia
An alliance for discoveries in health

Melbourne Members and Supporters Briefing - Wednesday, 1 July, 11.30am-1.30pm

A must see event for members and non members! Book early as places are limited.

We are delighted to announce that **Richard Gibbs, Division Director and Chief Economist at Macquarie** will join us at the next Melbourne Members and Supporters Briefing.

Richard will be recognised as one of Australia's leading global analysts with extensive experience in the analysis of the Japanese and NE Asian economies and he will share his insights on the global financial crisis, the impact on the global economy and the new reality facing Australia.

Rebecca James, Chief Executive Officer, Research Australia who also update you on our latest activities including policy and advocacy, the National Youth Ambassador program, "Thank You" Day and our member benefits.

Dr Noel Chambers, Director, Research Australia Philanthropy will provide an update on Philanthropy activities.

Melbourne - Wednesday, 1 July 2009

11.30am-1.30pm (including a light lunch)

http://www.business.vic.gov.au/BUSVIC/STANDARD/PC_50473.html

257 Collins Street, Melbourne

Members: Free Non Members: \$20 (plus GST). [Download Non Members Registration Form](#)

RSVP By: Friday, 19 June - kandy.musgrave@researchaustralia.org.

This event is proudly supported by our platinum sponsors [Macquarie](#) and [Business Victoria](#).

Adelaide Members and Supporters Briefing - Monday, 27 July, 10.30am-12.30pm

Join Rebecca James, Dr Noel Chambers and special guest Professor Mike Brooks, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice President (Research), The University of Adelaide who will provide an update on the new University Research Institutes.

Adelaide - Monday, 27 July

10.30am-12.30pm followed by a light lunch

The University of Adelaide, Level 14, Wyatt House 115 Grenfell Street, Adelaide

RSVP by Monday, 20 July - kandy.musgrave@researchaustralia.org. Please invite your friends and colleagues to join us.

This event is proudly supported by our Silver Medallion Member [The University of Adelaide](#).

Past Events

Leadership Series

Research Australia
An alliance for discoveries in health

At the "Health and Medical Research in Uncertain Times" event on 2 April members and supporters joined Gary Hobourn, Senior Regulatory Policy Analyst, ASX who shared his insights on the global financial crisis, the impact on the global economy and the new reality facing Australia and Prof. Warwick Anderson AM, Chief Executive Officer, National Health and Medical Research Council gave tips and insights on the arguments for the value in research.

On 24 April at the "Health System Reform" forum Dr Christine Bennett, Chair of the [National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission](#) provided an overview of the Health and Hospitals Reform Commission Interim Report "A Healthier Future for all Australians" released in February 2009 which outlines proposals for improving health and health care in Australia, including an increased role for research within the health sector.

Leadership Events are planned for other States. If you are interested in partnering, sponsoring or have topics and speakers you would like us to approach please contact kandy.musgrave@researchaustralia.org or T: (02) 9227 0619.



L to R: Professor Warwick Anderson AM, CEO, NHMRC, Jeremy Wright, Executive Director, MS Research Australia, Mr Peter Wills AC, Deputy Chairman Research Australia at the "Health and Medical Research in Uncertain Times" Research Australia Leadership Event



L to R: Rebecca James, CEO, Research Australia, Dr Christine Bennett, Chair, NHHRC, Professor Maree Gleeson, Director, Hunter Medical Research Institute and Research Australia Board Member at the "Health System Reform" Leadership Event

Members and Supporters Briefings

The Sydney Members Briefing on 26 May enjoyed an update from Associate Professor Emily Banks, Scientific Director, [The Sax Institute on "The 45 and Up Study"](#) - creating new knowledge for successful and healthy ageing in Australia. Carla Saunders, Executive Officer Policy & Strategy, Research Australia also presented one stage of her PhD concerning "Community involvement in Australian health and medical research" along with an update from Rebecca James, Chief Executive Officer and Dr Noel Chambers who provided an update on Research Australia Philanthropy.

With just over a month to go before applications for the National Youth Ambassador close on Monday, 13 July we have received several requests for school visits and an early career researcher from the Bio21 Cluster will be addressing an assembly of over 450 Year 9 and 10 students to encourage them to participate and consider a career in science.

If you are interested in becoming a mentor between October and December 2009 please contact us. Mentoring will offer a great deal of insight and inspiration to a unique group of emerging young researchers. This year, we are offering this unique experience to students in every state. To date participating institutes include [The Victorian Neurotrauma Initiative](#), [Bio 21 Cluster](#) and [Menzies Research Institute](#) at The University of Tasmania. The participating 9 and 10 students will be selected from their outstanding Youth Ambassador essay submissions coupled with those who have a real passion for science. The students will spend half a day with a researcher at their institute, learning about their specific area of research and participating in a tour of the facilities. Please contact Jessica.gilbert@researchaustraliaphilanthropy.org or T: (03) 9662 9420 if you would like to be a mentor or on the judging panel.

If you would like to join us a sponsor in 2010 and help inspire the next generation of health and medical professionals please contact kandy.musgrave@researchaustralia.org or T: (02) 9227 0619.

Research Australia National Youth Ambassador for Health Research

Diamond Sponsors



Platinum Sponsors



Health and Medical Research Events

To find out more about these events visit our events page events.researchaustralia.org

- 16 June - Cure Cancer Event, Sydney
- 19 June - NICM National Symposium 2009, Brisbane
- 21 June - Cure Cancer Event, NSW
- 29 June – Nominations close CSL Florey Medal
- 30 June – Nominations close Clunies Ross Awards 2010
- 9 August - Cure Cancer Event, Sydney

CSL Florey Medal

Nominations close 29 June 2009

The Australian Institute for Policy and Science invites nominations for the CSL Florey Medal for significant achievements in biomedical science and human health advancement. The Medal and \$25,000 prize will be announced on 9 November in partnership with the Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes and CSL in Sydney. To find out more and download the guidelines visit www.aips.net.au

The 2nd Adolescent and Young People's Health Research Forum - 7 September 2009 Lorimer Dods Lecture Theatre, The Children's Hospital, Westmead, NSW – 8.15am-5pm.

Research and Practice innovation – Call for Abstracts – Deadline 15 June 2009

To find out more and download the abstracts submission form download visit

<http://www.caah.chw.edu.au/events/>

11th Annual Australasian Research Management Society Conference - 15-18 September 2009,

Christchurch, New Zealand

"Evolution of Research Management" - Early bird registrations close 15 July. For further information contact

Susan Adams at s.i.adams@massey.ac.nz, visit www.ARMS2009.org or [read more](#).

News

Research Australia Sydney Office is moving in July. We will be in contact with you with our new contact details shortly.

Fulbright scholarship to advance trauma research - Brisbane nurse researcher Professor Leanne Aitken has been awarded a prestigious Fulbright Senior Scholarship to develop collaborative research with US colleagues in the area of trauma care. [Read more](#)

The AccessCR 2009 Clinical Trials Honour Roll celebrates the volunteers and professional individuals and organisations that have made a contribution to clinical research over the past year. To find out who is listed, visit www.AccessCR.com.au and follow the links."

New findings uncovered by Garvan scientists throw light on how the brain heals itself and may change the way we think about treating chronic neurodegenerative diseases like Parkinson's and Alzheimer's. Visit www.garvan.org.au

News from Victorian Neurotrauma Initiative (VNI). On the 7th of April 2009, the [Victorian Neurotrauma Initiative](#) (VNI) was pleased to award fellowships to five outstanding researchers who show great potential in their field. This was the second round of VNI capacity building funding bringing the total to thirteen fellowships funded by the VNI. The Minister for Innovation, Gavin Jennings also congratulated the recipients on their achievement in a Media Release issued the same day.

The recipients included:

- Early Career Research Fellowships: Dr Nicole Bye, Post-doctoral Research Fellow, The Alfred Hospital; Dr Cheryl Soo, Post-doctoral Researcher, Australian Centre for Child Neuropsychology Studies, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute, Royal Children's Hospital; Dr Edwin Yan, Post-doctoral Research Fellow, The Alfred Hospital.
- Early Career Practitioner Fellowship: Dr Alistair Nichol, Senior Lecturer, Intensive Care Medicine, Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care-Research Centre (ANZIC-RC), Monash University.
- Training Fellowship: Ms Kathleen Bakker, Senior Clinical Neuropsychologist, Royal Children's Hospital.

Funding & Grants

Visit our Funding for Research page at www.researchaustralia.org to find out more about the following grants and funds:

- Applications close 19 June 2009 - **2009 RACV Sir Edmund Herring Memorial Scholarship** – visit: www.racv.com.au
- Applications close 1 July 2009 - **NHMRC Program Grants 2009** Call for Applications - Visit nhmrc.gov.au
- Applications close 10 July - **Arthritis Australia 2010** research grant applications - Visit www.arthritisaustralia.com.au
- Applications close 10 July - **Australian Rotary Health** - PHD Scholarship. Visit: www.australianrotaryhealth.org.au
- Applications close 7 August - **Australian Rotary Health** - one year pilot project investigating mental health of young Australians. Visit www.australianrotaryhealth.org.au

Research Australia Membership Benefits

Need to fill a job vacancy? Advertise on [Research Australia's Employment in Research Job Centre](#) and reach over 190 Research Australia Members from the Health and Medical Research Community. Listings cost as low as \$50 + GST for Members.

EurekaAlert! reaches over 5,000 journalists worldwide and provides a central place to which universities, medical centres, journals, government agencies, corporations and other organisations engaged in research can bring their news to the media. A free service to Research Australia Medallion Members we will post your research news/media releases.

The top 5 Research Australia EurekaAlert! stories from in March - May 2009 were:

1. WEHI - Vaccine trial flags challenge to celiac disease, 2 April
2. Garvan Institute - Major breakthrough in transplantation immunity, 6 April
3. University of Queensland - Time is not on the side of older dads, 9 March
4. BUPA - School kids 'wagging' breakfast are missing healthy brain fuel - 23 March
5. University of Newcastle - Media health reporting: Accuracy improving but still a way to go, 18 March

Events. Please visit our [events page](#) frequently to find out the latest Research Australia and HMR sector events.


If you have an event you wish to promote on www.researchaustralia.org please contact kandy.musgrave@researchaustralia.org

If you require any assistance with organising an event our events team can assist you with a range of event services or you wish to partner with us please contact Kandy.musgrave@researchaustralia.org or (02) 9227 0619.

Grants and Funding - Post your [grants and funding opportunities](#) on www.researchaustralia.org.

Our websites:

www.researchaustralia.org
www.researchaustraliaphilanthropy.org
www.thankyouday.org



Member submissions for events, news and funding opportunities for the September 2009 "Research Matters" e-newsletter are due by Monday, 17 August. Please contact Kandy Musgrave, Marketing and Events Manager at E: kandy.musgrave@researchaustralia.org.

