Annual Report 2011
Goals

• A society that is well informed and values the benefits of health and medical research

• Greater investment in health and medical research from all sources

• Ensure Australia captures the benefits of health and medical research

• Promote Australia’s global position in health and medical research
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Mission

To make health and medical research a higher priority for the nation
Board of Directors

Research Australia’s Board reflects a balanced and effective governance structure. The membership contains technical expertise drawn from medical industry associations, medical research institutes, universities, philanthropic foundations and companies. This technical expertise is complimented by members who bring professional expertise from business, finance, law, public policy and philanthropy.

Chairman

Dr Christine Bennett is Chair of Bupa Health Foundation and Dean, School of Medicine, Sydney, The University of Notre Dame Australia. Dr Bennett has diverse health industry experience in clinical care, strategic planning and senior management in the public and private health systems, and has been committed to and actively involved in medical professional issues, clinical governance, child and family health, social policy and medical research. Dr Bennett chaired the National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission in 2008/2009, and is also a board member of Obesity Australia and HeartWare Inc.

Deputy Chairman

Mr Peter Wills AC is a respected research advocate. He is currently heading up the NSW Health and Medical Research Strategic Review Committee, which is developing a comprehensive 10 year plan to ensure NSW remains a world-leader in medical research and technology. Mr Wills led a national Health and Medical Research Review in 1999 which ushered in the then new era for Australian Health and Medical Research and Biotechnology.

Professor Gary Jennings AM brings a breadth and depth of medical, research and industry knowledge to the Research Australia Board. He is the Director and Chief Executive Officer of Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute. He is immediate past President of the Association of Australian Medical Research Institute, former President of the High Blood Pressure Research Council of Australia and Head of a World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Cardiovascular Health.

Professor Perry Bartlett is an internationally renowned research scientist in the field of cellular and molecular neuroscience and also the Director of the Queensland Brain Institute, University of Queensland. Professor Bartlett is a Fellow of the Australian Academy and a recipient of the prestigious Australian Research Council Federation Fellowship.

Professor Catford is Deputy Vice Chancellor & Vice President (Academic) at Deakin University. Over the last twenty years Professor John Catford has had extensive experience in the planning, management, and evaluation of health services, both nationally and internationally.
Gerry Moriarty is Chairman of Broadcast Australia, the Bionics Institute, Nu Energy, a Director of Global Tower Partners and Consultant to Macquarie. An electrical engineer by background he received an Order of Australia in 2001 and the Centenary Medal in 2003. He is a fellow of the AICD.

Ms Sue Murray originally began her career in education, but moved to the medical research sector holding various positions with the NSW Cancer Council, AMA (NSW) Charitable Foundation, the Leukaemia Foundation and the National Breast Cancer Foundation. Presently, Ms Murray is the Executive Director of The George Foundation and is also a graduate of the AICD.

Professor Allan Cripps has extensive board experience in commercial selling as well as research management. He is the Pro Vice Chancellor Health, Griffith University and had almost twenty years experience in the health and pharmaceutical industries before he began his career as a full-time academic.

Mr John Grant AM, has over twenty years of experience in venture capital investing in technology based businesses, in Australia and internationally. John was Chair of the 2004 Commonwealth of Australia Investment Review of Health and Medical Research.

Dr Christopher Roberts is the Chief Executive Officer and President of Cochlear Limited, the global leader in implantable devices for the hearing impaired. He has extensive experience in many successful medical device companies including: ResMed Inc, the Nucleus Group of companies, Domedica Pty Ltd, and Electro-Biology Inc.

Professor Arthur Shulkes has been involved with Research Australia for many years as a member of the University Roundtable and Board. He is the Associate Dean (Research), Faculty of Medicine, University of Melbourne and an NHMRC Senior Principal Research Fellow based at the Department of Surgery, Austin Hospital.

Mr Bruce Hawker brings a wealth of knowledge regarding the Australian political landscape to the Board as a result of his activities as a campaign advisor, political commentator and Founder and Managing Director of Campaigns and Communications.

Professor Alastair Stewart has a breadth of experience in research institutes in the UK and in Melbourne and has also spent over 10 years in the University sector. Professor Stewart is a Professor of Pharmacology at the University of Melbourne and the head of the Immuno-pharmacology Laboratory.

Professor Maree Gleeson is the Director of the Hunter Medical Research Institute. Professor Gleeson was responsible for strategic planning for growth and innovation of medical research in NSW and funding of health and medical research programs of the NSW Government as former Director of Medical Research in the NSW Ministry for Science and Medical Research.

Dr Stuart Hazell has more than 30 years experience in biomedical science, this includes research, consulting within the biomedical industry and senior management at the level of Dean within the university sector.

Stuart is currently the Managing Director of Fusidium Pty Ltd and is engaged in consulting activities, including strategic planning and business development within the biotechnology sector.

Ms Anne Trimmer as been the Chief Executive Officer of the Medical Technology Association of Australia for over five years. In her earlier career, Ms Trimmer practised as a commercial partner of a major Australian law firm.

Dr Daniel Grant resigned from the board in February 2011.
Chairman’s Foreword

Dr Christine Bennett

This has been an important year for Research Australia as we celebrate the 10th anniversary of our commitment to health and medical research, our members and the community. At the end of what has been a turbulent year for the research community I’m delighted to present an annual report full of exciting and successful work.

We recently released the “Shaping Up: Trends and Statistics in Funding Health and Medical Research,” which was the result of twelve months of intensive effort by Research Australia staff and a team of expert advisers. This is an excellent example of our national leadership and strategic focus on the future of research in this country.

Other recent highlights have included the launch of ‘Cook for a Cure’, and the inaugural Philanthropy in Health and Medical Research Conference. Both of these initiatives will become annual events over the coming years to engage more of the community in valuing and supporting health and medical research.

2011 was a year of high profile for health and medical research as the sector faced the real prospect of funding cuts in the May Federal Budget. Research Australia was proud to harness our member organisations’ efforts in active advocacy both behind the scenes and in the public eye. The success of the campaign is a tribute to and an example of collaborative effort throughout the sector. Many different organisations helped make the case against the proposed cuts and demonstrated the value of research. Ultimately this influenced the government’s decision to maintain health and medical research funding for now, and was a catalyst for the upcoming federal review of health and medical research in Australia, announced by The Hon. Mark Butler MP. We look forward to working with government at both federal and state level, with the NSW Health and Medical Research Strategic Review an exciting opportunity to ensure that the state further strengthens its research agenda in the decades to come.

Of course our successful efforts at Research Australia would not be possible without our extensive membership of organisations with a passion for research. Thank you to all our members and supporters for your contribution towards Research Australia’s important work.

Thanks also to all our hard working team and dedicated Board members who make our mission a reality. In particular, sincere thanks to our CEO Rebecca James who will be moving on from her role. Rebecca has been an integral part of the success of Research Australia over the last six years and her leadership leaves the organisation well positioned in the Health and Medical Research landscape today. The Board extends our great thanks to Rebecca for a job very well done and wishes every success for the future. We know that she will remain a passionate advocate for health and medical research, and a good friend to Research Australia.

More than ever health and medical research is demonstrating its importance to our national health and after an exciting last year, we look forward to even greater success in 2012.
I am proud to have led Research Australia for the last half of the alliance’s first decade.

It has been a privilege to support Australian research and innovation, and to witness the impact on community health as a result. Preventive vaccines, new medical devices, improved diagnostics, new medicines, improvements in treatments and new systems of health care reflect an incredible legacy of research, knowledge and expertise. Australians’ health has a bright future indeed, as emerging research knowledge flows into health care.

A national, broad based advocate is essential to building a strong foundation of support from government and our relationships with policy makers has been key to our success. I am particularly proud of Research Australia’s policy influence, reflecting a high level of engagement with policy makers, in member organisations, government and the community, across a diverse range of issues, from health system reform, research funding growth, education and training of researchers, international collaboration, clinical trials and innovation. These will provide an essential resource for the recently announced national health and medical research review.

Over the past twelve months, Research Australia has achieved many new milestones. Building on the earlier success of our community outreach program “Thank You Day”, we developed a new national program, “Cook for a Cure”, linked to a national philanthropy portal on our website – the first of its kind in Australia. This year we also continued our core programs, including the Research Australia Public Opinion Poll, Youth Ambassador schools program, member policy workshops, philanthropy seminars, and the University Roundtable.

In making farewells to many friends within member organisations and the Board of Directors, I sincerely thank our staff, present and past, and Research Australia’s many supporters who voluntarily shared their wisdom, time and expertise and whose generosity of spirit makes it all worthwhile. I congratulate incoming CEO Elizabeth Foley and wish her well as she leads Research Australia to its future.
2010 Research Australia Awards recipients at Government House in Sydney NSW
2010 Research Australia Awards

This year’s Awards presentations were held on 25 November 2010, at Government House in Sydney by the NSW Governor, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO. It was followed by a dinner at the Intercontinental Hotel.

The 2010 winners were:

Mr Greg Poche AO – Macquarie Group Foundation 
Great Australian Philanthropy Award
Mr Poche received this award for his generosity in support of health and medical research programs which has included the following donations: $41 million to Sydney’s Mater Hospital to establish a centre for research and treatment of melanoma; two separate $10 million donations to establish Centres for Indigenous Health at the University of Sydney and Flinders University; $1 million for research on indigenous eye health at Melbourne University; and continuing donations of $700,000 per year to fund specialised training for doctors working to treat melanoma.

Dr Mark S Pearson – Griffith University 
Discovery Award
Dr Pearson received this award for his ground breaking work inventing and developing a vaccine against Schistosoma mansoni a parasite that infects as many as 200 million people every year in developing countries. Currently around 20,000 people die every year from these infections. The vaccine developed by Dr Pearson has the potential to save many lives.

Mr Li Cunxin – Research Australia Advocacy Award
Mr Cunxin, international ballet dancer and best-selling auto-biographer of Mao’s Last Dancer received this award for his strong advocacy for medical bionics research. He has introduced many major giving donors to the Bionic Ear Institute who have donated to research programs to develop hi-fidelity bionic ears. Furthermore, in 2009, his autobiography was made into a film and Mr Cunxin provided the opportunity for the Bionic Ear Institute and the Australian Ballet to organise Mao’s Last Dancer premiere event as a fundraiser, profits were shared between the two not for profit organisations. The Bionic Ear Institute continues to sell autographed copies of Mao’s Last Dancer with all proceeds going to the institute.

Professor John Funder AO – Pfizer Leadership and Innovation Award
Professor Funder received this award for his leadership in medical research in Australia for over 30 years. In his science he has rewritten the pathophysiology of adrenal steroid action in the cardiovascular system. He has been an innovator in publishing guidelines for the management of primary aldosteronism, and in translational research by levering off clinical studies to critically examine and recast what we believe about aldosterone, cortisol and mineralcortical receptors. In addition to this major scientific contribution, he has made very substantial contributions to research governance, representation, ethics, funding and translation nationally and internationally. He remains an intensely active thinker, passionately committed to medical research, its translation into healthcare, and to the importance of research and innovation to Australian society.

Professor Colin Binns – Research Australia Lifetime Achievement Award
Professor Binns has been a leader in health science research in Australia for more than 30 years. In 1977 Professor Binns joined Curtin University, becoming one of their most esteemed researchers. His many landmark studies have provided the evidence for improving health outcomes in the fields of nutrition, breastfeeding, cancer, drug and alcohol abuse, Aboriginal health, primary health care and health promotion. He has contributed to several Australian Government official dietary guidelines, and published almost 400 research papers. He established the school of public health at Curtin, and a number of research centres including the National Centre for Research into the prevention of Drug Abuse – now Australia’s world-renowned National Drug Research Institute. Professor Binns remains highly regarded in Australia and internationally and is engaged regularly as an advisor to national and international governments and health bodies.
Policy and Advocacy

Research Australia would like to thank the following members of parliament who granted us time and provided us with an opportunity to continue the discussion with us on the value of continued national investment in health and medical research over the past year.

We would like to give generous thanks to:
- The Honourable Nicola Roxon, Minister for Health and Ageing
- Prime Minister Julia Gillard
- The Honourable Mark Butler, Minister for Mental Health and Ageing
- Trish Woolley, Advisor, Office of the Prime Minister
- Andrew Wilkie, Independent MP

Federal Election Campaign 2010

Research Australia was actively involved in promoting member and community support to highlight health and medical research as a vital issue for Australia going forward as part of the 2010 federal election platform. As part of this promotion Research Australia released the policy platform: "Vital Research for a Vital Australia: Health and Medical Research Federal Election Policy Proposal".

Research Australia also established an “election desk” on the Research Australia website. This provided publicly available templates as a guide for the community to put forward letters to candidates. It included supportive data providing current information on relevant health and medical research policy matters and an election scorecard regarding party policies.

Federal Budget Campaign 2011

Research Australia was actively involved in a multifaceted campaign to promote the importance of health and medical research following an indication of possible funding cuts to the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). To highlight and support the NHMRC we utilised social media, a petition signed by over 14,000 people, produced video interviews on the web with former Health Minister Dr Michael Wooldridge, Dr Clare Scott, an oncologist researcher in breast and ovarian cancer and Dr Elisa Hill, who is researching the biological effects of autism.

In collaboration with the Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes, the Committee of Group of Eight Medical Deans, the Federation of Australian Science and Technological Societies, AusBiotech and Medicines Australia we produced a joint letter to the Australian Parliament supporting the ongoing essential benefits to continued funding of Health and Medical Research.

Key Outcomes:
The incoming NSW government announced a review to develop a 10 year Health and Medical Research Strategic Plan, headed by respected research advocate Peter Wills AC.

Key Outcomes:
Funding for research through the NHMRC was protected from budget cuts and will increase from $715 million in 2010–11 to $746 million in 2011–12.

There was an announcement of a strategic review for health and medical research by the Honourable Mark Butler on 10 May 2011.

As part of the Research Australia campaign strategy we commissioned JWS Research to undertake a national survey of attitudes and reactions to the possible reduction in annual funding to the NHMRC. One key result is noted on page 11. The full report is available on our website.
Three quarters of Australians disagree with proposed $400m Health and Medical Research funding cut – more than 6 in 10 strongly disagree

Q: Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with cutting NHMRC funding for health and medical by up tp $400 million in the May 2011 federal budget, or would you need more information to decide?

Total Base: n=800; Marginal Electorates Base n=400
Research Australia believes that in order to achieve its mission it must develop and strengthen its philanthropy program.

The philanthropy program’s three key strategies are:

1. Advocacy: build awareness, generate recognition, and enlist support of key stakeholders
2. Connecting: build productive relationships between philanthropists and researchers
3. Partnering: extend the alliance and leverage through effective partnerships

Research Australia Philanthropy has continued to expand member benefits providing workshops and seminars, community research project partnerships and sector analysis. These activities have established productive community connections and provided a platform for Research Australia to build awareness in the sector and enlist support from its members and supporters. A notable outcome of this work will be the inaugural philanthropy conference being held in late August.

Research Australia facilitated Philanthropy workshops across Australia attended by up to 600 people. Research Australia presented at 11 stakeholder-organised events and presented a session on philanthropy at the 2010 Translational Research Excellence conference.

We have continued to work with members on strategic concepts to enhance giving and reporting strategies for donors. We have also worked with members on the identification of research projects for potential donors and the provision of services to assist the scientific review process.

An advisory council has been established to assist and provide advice for the philanthropy program. Members include:

- Professor Maree Gleeson OAM, Hunter Medical Research Institute
- Mr Andrew Thomas, Perpetual
- Prof Alan Pettigrew, former Chief Executive Officer, NHMRC
- Ms Chris McMillan, former Chief Executive Officer, Fundraising Institute Australia

Much work in the 2010–11 year focused on the planning of the very successful inaugural conference on Philanthropy in Health and Medical Research, held recently at the Maritime Museum in Sydney’s Darling Harbour. The feedback on the conference was very positive, and we are already considering how we can develop this event further for 2012.
Research Australia’s Submissions, Support and Comment

Patent Amendment Bill Submission

Research Australia joined with a wide range of partners, including AusBiotech and Medicines Australia, to oppose a private members bill, the Patent Amendment (Human Genes and Biological Materials) Bill 2010, seeking to prohibit the patenting of any biological materials.

Our views were presented in an open letter to the Australian parliament.

The proposed Patent Amendment presented several concerns. The bill itself was too broad reaching which left the potential to hamper scientific research and limit opportunity for the provision of new drug treatments and therapies to the public. It also inferred the notion that patents stifle research and that there is currently no reasonable access to biological materials among the Australian research community. In effect there is no apparent evidence to support either of these assertions.

The absence of patents for biological materials will prove to be a serious disincentive for foreign and domestic private investors interested in commercialising innovation in Australia.

The bills’ tenor raised some concern that amendments would place Australian patent law at odds with that in most other nations worldwide. This in essence has the significant potential to threaten the development of new therapeutics for the Australian market by international pharmaceutical companies.

There is no doubt that the common practices undertaken by our researchers would definitely benefit from being enshrined in the law, however Research Australia strives to engender a consultative process that brings together the technical science, the law and world class ethical practise.

Australia’s International Research Engagement Submission

Research Australia submitted that the Senate inquiry provided a valuable exercise in collecting information on Australia’s international collaboration efforts. Research Australia also noted the importance of maintaining a broad knowledge base of international activity and reinforced the need to sensitively as well as strategically direct Australia’s international collaboration efforts.

Public Ancillary Funds Review

Research Australia supported Philanthropy Australia’s submission and noted concern regarding the viability and sustainability of Public Ancillary Funds that support health and medical research. There was some concern that the level of annual mandatory distributions and inherent differences between Public Ancillary Funds may not be fully appreciated in the reviews approach.

Meeting Australia’s Workforce Needs Submission

Research Australia put forward the concept that a productive workforce strategy could be wider in scope to include both the public and private sector workforce. To actively support a highly functioning effective research industry, this would include the biotechnology and pharmaceuticals industry, independent medical research organisations and universities.

Of course this would encompass the wide variety of roles that staff this workforce. Research Australia noted that academic and industry based research have distinct drivers and incentives, which in some cases delineate their particular workplace cultures and practices. This in turn may lead to specific training needs when transferring from an academic to a commercial environment.
The Research Australia annual public opinion poll included a qualitative and quantitative survey on the attitudes and perceptions of the community regarding the value of health and medical research. The poll was conducted by Auspoll in July 2010.

**Graph 1**
Most Australians believe it is very important, or extremely important, for Australia to have a strong health and medical research industry.

**Graph 2**
Health and medical research is seen as being an important part of a healthcare system that focuses on preventing illnesses and keeping healthy and out of hospital.

- **Our healthcare system needs to focus more on preventing illness and disease rather than just treating it.**
  - Strongly agree: 42%
  - Agree: 45%
  - Neither agree nor disagree: 11%
  - Disagree: 2%

- **Australia’s aging population will make investing in health and medical research even more important.**
  - Strongly agree: 35%
  - Agree: 48%
  - Neither agree nor disagree: 15%
  - Disagree: 11%

- **Investing in health and medical research saves the community money by keeping people healthy and out of hospital.**
  - Strongly agree: 29%
  - Agree: 50%
  - Neither agree nor disagree: 19%
  - Disagree: 2%

- **Doing health and medical research in Australia means that Australians will have faster access to the latest treatments.**
  - Strongly agree: 23%
  - Agree: 48%
  - Neither agree nor disagree: 23%
  - Disagree: 1%

- **Doing health and medical research makes the healthcare system more efficient.**
  - Strongly agree: 21%
  - Agree: 49%
  - Neither agree nor disagree: 24%
  - Disagree: 5%

- **You need to do health and medical research in order to reform the healthcare system.**
  - Strongly agree: 18%
  - Agree: 43%
  - Neither agree nor disagree: 29%
  - Disagree: 8%

There is also a strong belief that our aging population will make investing in health and medical research even more important.
Improving Australia’s hospitals and healthcare system
Protecting Australian jobs and industries
Increasing funding for health and medical research
Improving education standards and outcomes
Reducing the number of refugees that enter Australia by boat
Managing the economy in the interests of working families
Building infrastructure to make the Australian economy more productive
Reducing the level of Federal Government debt

The polling revealed valuable data and indicated a continued strong support for the health and medical research and its overall value to the Australian health care system. Some notable results from the poll are detailed in these 3 graphs. The full report is available on our website.

Graph 3

Hospitals and the healthcare system are the issues that respondents would most like the Federal Government to focus on in the next few years.
Youth Ambassador

Research Australia’s 2010 National Youth Ambassador campaign for Year 9 and 10 students allowed Australian teenagers to express their views on health and medical research. Students were invited to write an essay or submit a YouTube video on the importance of medical technology. The campaign reached over 2,500 schools.

The 2010 State and Territory winners were:

- Northern Territory – Callum Lelay, Taminmin College. (inaugural NT winner)
- Queensland – Andrew Haselgrove, St Peters Lutheran College (video) & Michael Wallace, St. Patrick’s College, Shorncliffe (essay)
- Tasmania – Devika Remash, Ogilvie High School
- Victoria – Cheryl Lim, Mount Waverley Secondary College
- South Australia – Andrew Lesenko, Portside Christian College
- New South Wales – Harry Buchanan, Dorrigo High School New South Wales
- Australian Capital Territory – Ashlea Arulanandam, St Clare’s College
- Western Australia – Alysha Loffler, Grace Christian School

All state and territory Ambassadors were awarded the opportunity to meet with inspiring Australian’s, including:

- Governor of NSW, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO
- Qld Premier Anna Bligh
- Professor Ian Frazer
- Qld Chief Scientist, Professor Peter Andrews AO
- Lord Mayor of Brisbane Campbell Newman
- Dr Karl Kruszelnicki
- Professor Allan Cripps, Griffith University
- Learne Browne, University of Queensland
- Life Sciences Queensland Group
- Research Australia Award Winners

State and Territory Ambassadors also joined together to develop a communiqué which was sent to Federal and State Health Ministers, over 200 members of Parliament and industry leaders. Two 2010 National Youth Ambassador’s were chosen from the winning state ambassadors each representing the essay and YouTube video categories. The winner of the essay competition was Michael Wallace who received an RSL Youth Development Grant worth $2,500 to use towards work experience with our Diamond Sponsor, Medtronic in Sydney. Andrew Haselgrove was the winner of the YouTube video and received a Quest Newspapers Rising Young Star Award for arts and education. The National Youth Ambassadors were presented with their plaques at the Research Australia Awards event at Government House on 25th November 2010 by Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO.
Events, Conferences & Forums

Medallion Members Lunches

The Sydney medallion member’s lunch was held at the Garvan Institute in October 2010. Dr Christine Bennett, Chairman, Research Australia welcomed guests including Professor Warwick Anderson. The special guest speaker was the Honourable Jillian Skinner MP, the Deputy Leader of NSW Opposition and Shadow Minister for Health spoke about the latest initiatives and challenges. A further Medallion member’s lunch was held on the 22nd June 2011 in Darlinghurst. Dr Christine Bennett, Chairman, Research Australia welcomed guests including Mr Peter Wills, AC, Deputy Chair of Research Australia and life member of Research Australia, Professor John Shine AO, Prof. Jill Trehella (University of Sydney), Prof. Matthew Vadas (Centenary Institute of Cancer Medicine), Prof David Currow (Cancer Institute NSW). The special guest speaker was Professor Mary O’Kane, the Chief Scientist and Scientific Engineer for the NSW government.

The Melbourne medallion member luncheons fell outside the financial year. In April 2010, Dr Andrew Cutherbertson, R&D Director and Chief Scientist of CSL was the guest speaker at held at Macquarie’s Collins Street office. The 2011 Melbourne luncheon was held in September, and Dr Cathy Foley, Chief , CSIRO Material Science and Engineering, spoke on the topic ‘Lost in Translation’.

Ausbiotech Conference

The Ausbiotech Conference was held on the 19 – 22 of October 2010 at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre. The theme for the conference was ‘Creating Global Solutions’. Research Australia sponsored a session entitled “Maximising Australia’s Investment in Medical Research– new approaches to discovery and commercialisation.” This session was moderated by Mr Alex Gosman, and included speakers Mr Ashley Bates (GSK), Dr Nicholas Gruen, Mr Peter Roberts (business editor Australian Financial Review) and Rebecca James, Research Australia’s CEO. Research Australia launched the Lateral Economics report ‘The Economic Value of Australia’s Investment in Health and Medical Research’. The session was very well attended, and attracted wide media coverage, including an item in the Australian Financial Review.

Rebecca James spoke at the conference addressing issues regarding ‘the state of the medical research industry in Australia and policy prescriptions for future health’. Dr Gabby Fennessy, Research Australia’s then Manager of Policy and Strategy also spoke at the conference on ‘future global trends in the life sciences industry–industry and legal trends’.

Policy Forums

Research Australia held three Policy forums throughout the year in Adelaide, Perth and New South Wales. The forums covered topics including: ‘staying ahead in the policy game’; and ‘how the health and medical research community can influence the agenda’. At the NSW policy forum Jillian Skinner, Deputy Leader of the NSW Opposition and Shadow Minister for Health, outlined the Liberal Opposition’s vision for building NSW’s strengths in research and innovation, this included the following commitments: $20 million funding to medical research; the establishment of an Office of Medical Research with a dedicated budget reporting to the Health Minister; and the development of a 10 year Health and Medical

In June 2011, Jillian Skinner the now Minister for Medical Research, announced the opening of the Office of Medical Research with $129 million in funding– to support innovative research, treatments and technologies aimed at improving patient care. The Office of Medical Research will have a budget of $27.3 million to start with, boosted by $5 million per annum, bringing the total funding to $32.3 million each year over the next four years.
Cook for a Cure

Research Australia recently launched the pilot ‘Cook for a Cure’ campaign, and celebrity chef and ambassador Maggie Beer was the star attraction of the launch. ‘Cook for a Cure’ is a community fundraising event.

The month-long campaign brings the community together, in the home, the park or the workplace, to host a meal to share with friends, family or work colleagues. Each participating group has the opportunity to donate to their chosen medical research project. The selected research projects will directly contribute to the prevention, treatment, and ultimately cures for major diseases impacting our community. Cook for a Cure provides a unique opportunity for individuals and organisations to connect with and get behind medical research in Australia and demonstrate their commitment to ongoing medical research and discoveries.

The Cook for a Cure campaign has a dedicated website to act as a national portal for donations and to connect Australian researchers and the community. The web based community interface allows people to select research projects of their interest. The overall objective is to educate the community while fundraising for a broad range of medallion member’s projects.

From left, Mr Peter Roberts (Australian Financial Review), Dr Ashley Bates (GlaxoSmithKline), Mr Alex Gosman, Dr Nicholas Gruen (Lateral Economics), Rebecca James, (Research Australia) following their presentation to the AusBiotech Conference in October 2010.

2010 National Youth Ambassador Andrew Haselgrove whipped up a sea of cupcakes.
Our Membership

Research Australia conducts Australia’s leading “whole of community” program to raise the profile of health and medical research. Independent of government, Research Australia’s activities are primarily funded by its members, from leading research organisations, academic institutions, philanthropy, community special interest groups, peak industry bodies, biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies, small businesses and corporate Australia.

Diverse Membership

- Businesses: 13%
- University: 17.8%
- Biotechnology: 3.4%
- Government: 2.1%
- Hospital: 1.4%
- Industry Group: 5.5%
- Medical Research Institute: 29.4%
- Professional Association: 1.4%
- Special Interest Groups: 26%

Membership by State

- NSW: 45%
- VIC: 27%
- QLD: 12%
- SA: 5%
- TAS: 2%
- WA: 4%
- ACT: 4%
- NT: 1%
Acknowledgements

This year former chairman of Research Australia Dr Chris Roberts was appointed as an Honorary Life Member of Research Australia for his outstanding contribution to Research Australia over a six year period. Research Australia would also like to acknowledge the following people for their support throughout the year:

- Sabina Donnolley, Donnolley Rush, our accountant;
- Alison Choy Flannigan, Holman Webb for legal advice;
- Tim Fairclough, Mann Judd, who is our company secretary;
- Paul MacDonald and his team, KPMG, our auditors; and
- Members of the Philanthropy Advisory Council.
Financial Summary

The organisation remains financially healthy. Research Australia’s main source of revenue continues to be from membership fees, which has remained steady this financial year. Government funding has been received through the Department of Health and Ageing to continue to develop our philanthropic endeavours.

Statement of Comprehensive Income for the Year Ended 30 June 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td>$1,156,677</td>
<td>$1,112,367</td>
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<tr>
<td>Employee benefits expense</td>
<td>(647,170)</td>
<td>(657,583)</td>
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<td>Depreciation and amortisation expense</td>
<td>(3,109)</td>
<td>(5,850)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing and events expense</td>
<td>(118,251)</td>
<td>(134,560)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travelling expenses</td>
<td>(62,390)</td>
<td>(45,548)</td>
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<td>Consultancy and contractor expense</td>
<td>(122,783)</td>
<td>(81,016)</td>
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<td>Administrative expenses</td>
<td>(323,894)</td>
<td>(205,856)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scholarship expense</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(2,083)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>(1,277,597)</td>
<td>(1,132,496)</td>
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<td>Finance income</td>
<td>87,805</td>
<td>75,012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finance expenses</td>
<td>(1,380)</td>
<td>(1,508)</td>
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<td>Net finance income/ (expense)</td>
<td>86,225</td>
<td>73,508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus/ (Loss) for the year</td>
<td>(34,695)</td>
<td>53,375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other comprehensive income</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total comprehensive income for the year</td>
<td>(34,695)</td>
<td>53,375</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Financial information was extracted from the audited Financial Statements of Research Australia Ltd for the year ending 30 June 2011 and is included here for information purposes only. A full copy of the Financial Statements, including Notes to the Financial Statements and the Audit Opinions of KPMG are available on request to Research Australia Ltd.
Summary of financial statements


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>1,545,352</td>
<td>1,567,363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade and other receivables</td>
<td>79,969</td>
<td>134,187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>1,625,321</td>
<td>1,701,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property, plant and equipment</td>
<td>2,108</td>
<td>4,133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>2,108</td>
<td>4,133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>1,627,429</td>
<td>1,705,683</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade and other payables</td>
<td>336,504</td>
<td>373,943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee benefits</td>
<td>36,966</td>
<td>52,489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>373,470</td>
<td>426,432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>18,263</td>
<td>8,860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee benefits</td>
<td>18,263</td>
<td>8,860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>18,263</td>
<td>8,860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>391,733</td>
<td>435,292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>1,235,696</td>
<td>1,270,391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EQUITY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retained earnings</td>
<td>1,235,696</td>
<td>1,270,391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EQUITY</strong></td>
<td>1,235,696</td>
<td>1,270,391</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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RA Medallion Members & Partners

**Foundation**
($50,000)
- Bupa Health Foundation

**Platinum**
($30,000)
- Cancer Institute - Australian Institute for Cancer
- Healthscope
- Pfizer
- Macquarie Group Foundation

**Gold**
($20,000)
- The University of Queensland
- Macquarie University
- The University of Sydney

**Silver**
($10,000)
- Genzyme
- Griffith University
- Lilly
- ResMed
- UNSW

**Bronze**
($5,000)
- Curtin University
- Flinders University
- George Institute for International Health
- HMRI
- IBM
- Kids Research Institute
- Macquarie University
- Roche
- University of Queensland
- Walter and Eliza Hall Institute

**Research Australia Philanthropy**
- Australian Government
- Perpetual
Sponsors

2010 Research Australia Awards
($15,000)

2011 National Youth Ambassador Program
($10,000)

($5,000)
List of members

Research Australia Member List as at 30.6.11

Businesses/Companies
Alere
Biogen Idec Australia Pty Ltd
Brooker Consulting
Bupa Health Foundation
 Cochlear Limited
Cook Medical Australia
CSL Limited
Diabetes Vaccine Development Centre
Eli Lilly Australia Pty Ltd
Global Philanthropic
Healthscope
IBM Australia
The Insight Group
Macquarie Group Foundation
Pacific Strategy Partners
Pfizer Pty Ltd
ResMed Foundation Limited
Roche Products Pty Ltd
Virginia Rigoni Consulting Pty Ltd

Hospitals
South Eastern Sydney Local Health Network
St. Vincents Health
– St. Vincents Hospital Melbourne
– St Vincent’s Private Hospital, Sydney
– Mater Hospital

Professional Associations
Australasian Research Management Society (ARMS)
Royal Australasian College of Medical Administrators

Medical Research Institutes
ANZAC Research Institute
Baker IDI Heart & Diabetes Research Institute
– Nucleus Network
Bionic Ear Institute
Brain & Mind Research Institute-Sydney University
Burnet Institute
Cancer Institute NSW
Centenary Institute
Children’s Cancer Institute Australia
Children’s Medical Research Institute
Florey Neurosciences Institute
– Brain Research Institute Pty. Ltd.
– Howard Florey Institute
– National Stroke Research Institute
Garvan Institute of Medical Research
George Institute for Global Health
Hanson Institute
Heart Research Institute
Hunter Medical Research Institute
Illawarra Health & Medical Research Institute
Kids Research Institute at the Children’s Hospital at Westmead
Kolling Institute of Medical Research
Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research
Lung Institute of Western Australia Inc.
Mater Medical Research Institute
Melanoma Institute Australia
Mental Health Research Institute
Menzies Research Institute
Menzies School of Health Research
Murdoch Children’s Research Institute
National Ageing Research Institute
Neuroscience Research Australia
O’Brien Institute
Oxygen Research Centre
Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre
Prince Henry’s Institute of Medical Research
Queensland Institute of Medical Research
Sax Institute
Schizophrenia Research Institute
St Vincent’s Institute of Medical Research
Telethon Institute for Child Health Research
Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute
Walter & Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research
Western Australian Institute for Medical Research
Westmead Millennium Institute
Women’s and Children’s Health Research Institute
Woolcock Institute

Government Agencies
Cancer Australia
Queensland Office of Health & Medical Research
Victorian Neurotrauma Initiative Pty Ltd

Biotechnology Consortia/Hubs
ATP Innovations
Bio21 Cluster
BioMelbourne Network
Genzyme Australasia Pty Ltd
The HEARing CRC & HearWorks Pty Ltd

Industry Groups
Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes
AusBiotech Ltd
Australian Society for Medical Research
Bioplatforms Australia Limited
Medical Technology Association of Australia Ltd.
Medicines Australia
Queensland Clinical Trials Network Inc.
Research Canada
ResearchAmerica
Sydney Business Chamber

Honorary Life Members
John Funder, AO
John Niland, AC
Dr. Chris Roberts
Peter Wills, AC
The Hon Michael Wooldridge

Honorary Members
Holman Webb Lawyers
KPMG
Special Interest Groups

- Arthritis Australia
- Audiology Australia
- Australian Cancer Research Foundation
- Australian Dental Research Foundation
- Australian Institute of Policy and Science
- Australian Red Cross Blood Service
- Australian Rotary Health
- Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists (ASCEPT)
- Australian Stem Cell Centre
- Beyondblue Ltd
- Bowel Cancer Australia
- Cancer Council Queensland
- Cerebral Palsy Alliance
- Children, Youth & Women’s Health Service
- Clifford Craig Medical Research Trust Ltd
- Complementary Healthcare Council of Aust.
- Cure 4CF Foundation Limited
- Cure Cancer Australia Foundation
- Cystic Fibrosis Australia
- Freemasons Foundation Centre for Men’s Health
- Garnett Passe and Rodney Williams Memorial Foundation
- Hear and Say Centre
- Heart Foundation
- HSP Research Foundation
- Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation
- Leukaemia Foundation of Australia
- Macular Degeneration Foundation
- Motor Neurone Disease Australia Inc

MS Research Australia
National Breast & Ovarian Cancer Centre
National Breast Cancer Foundation
National Stroke Foundation
Parks Forum
Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia
Queensland Centre for Mental Health Research
RACP Research and Education Foundation
Skin & Cancer Foundation Inc.
The Menzies Foundation

Universities/Academic Institutions

University of Queensland
- Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology
- Institute for Molecular Bioscience
- Queensland Brain Institute
- UQ Diamantina Institute for Cancer, Immunology and Metabolic Medicine
- Faculty of Health Sciences
- Faculty of Biological and Chemical Sciences
- School of Pharmacology

University of South Australia

University of Sydney
- Menzies Centre for Health Policy
- Bosch Institute
- The Medical Foundation
- NHMRC Clinical Trials Centre
- Sydney Cancer Institute
- Sydney Bioinformatics
- School of Molecular and Microbial Biosciences
- School of Psychology
- School of Biological Sciences
- Save Sight Institute

University of Tasmania

University of Technology Sydney

University of Western Australia

University of Wollongong