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## St George & Sutherland Clinical School July 2017 Newsletter

### Update from Clinical Associate Dean



Welcome to the mid-year St George and Sutherland Clinical School newsletter. I hope there is information within that is useful and instructive. Many of you are now in the throes of responding to reviewers of NHMRC project grants: I wish you well in this round; it's a difficult grind and I hope local researchers are

rewarded for their efforts with a slew of funded grants later in the year.

Congratulations to **Ying Zhu** on funding of a Cancer Institute NSW Early Career Fellowship, and to **Sylvia Zheng** and **Paris Tavakoli** for NSW Health and GENCA PhD scholarships respectively. Larger project grants are one thing, but we should celebrate all of our junior colleagues who manage to compete with peers to obtain their own personal funding, well done.

You'll read more below, but development of the **Microbiome Research Centre** proceeds apace: Level 2 of the Research and Education building is being redesigned for development into state of the art laboratory and support space; MRC research grants are currently opened up for applicants; new staff are being recruited to do the work that multiple collaborations will bring. Exciting times, greatly assisted by the St George and Sutherland Medical Research Foundation.

Our students are charging through the year, with final year students coming up to their exams in September. We'll be in touch with you to help with clinical exams as we get closer to those dates – your support for these is greatly appreciated and invaluable every year and I'd like to thank you in anticipation for your assistance.

In our last newsletter, I indicated that a review of the conjoint appointments system was underway. For better or worse that's on hold for now, so I have nothing to report about any potential changes. However as soon as anything looks like changing, I'll be in touch to get feedback.

Finally, as many of you already know, the Dean of UNSW Medicine, Prof Rodney Phillips, has returned to the UK temporarily for medical reasons. I'm sure I speak for all of us when I say that we wish him a speedy and full recovery.

As always, if there are questions or needed clarifications raised by items in the newsletter, please contact me or the School directly.

**Prof Michael Grimm**  
**Clinical Associate Dean**

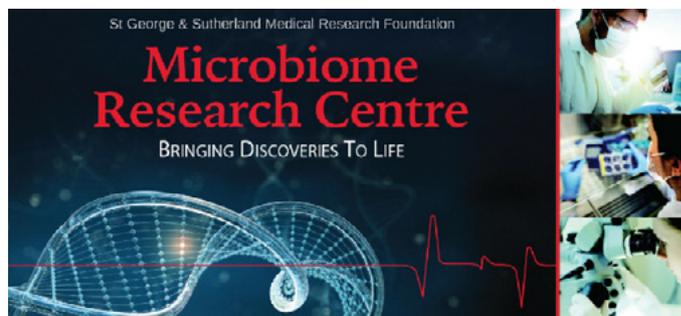
### Update from Professor of Medicine

Well, it is now official. **Professor Georgina Hold** will be joining us here at St George and Sutherland Clinical School in November. Georgina joins us from Aberdeen University in the UK and brings tremendous expertise in basic science, particularly in relation to the microbiome. Georgina will be relocating with her husband Craig and two lovely children Hannah and Sam.



Our **Microbiome Research Centre** is taking shape very rapidly. Plans have been agreed to refurbish the second floor of the Research and Education Centre, which will house the MRC. We are recruiting staff: a Senior Research Associate who will oversee the development of the MRC and coordinate the research within it. We are also seeking a bioinformatician and research nurses.

#### **Prof Emad El-Omar**



### New Conjoint Appointments

The following staff have been appointed as new conjoints with the School since March:

**Conjoint Senior Lecturers:** Lynne Roberts, Ik Lin Tan

**Conjoint Lecturers:** Alastair Carlyle, Allison Moore, Sarah Ong

**Conjoint Associate Lecturers:**

Natalie Collier, Andrew Duckworth, Aneesha Gill, Joanna Hatzistergos, Allan Kwok, Ming-Han Hugo Lee, Mani Niazi, Max Sellers, Varun Sharma

## Postgraduate Update

The St George & Sutherland Clinical School Postgraduate Student Program currently has 22 enrolled students (14 enrolled in a PhD and 8 in Masters).



We **welcome** the following new PhD students 2017:

- **Lisa Maree Hackett** (Supervisor: George Murrell)  
Research topic: *How ultrasound is used in the identification of tendinopathy in the supraspinatus tendon* (Commenced Semester 1)
- **Samuel Macdessi** (Supervisor: Ian Harris)  
Research topic: *Robotic-assisted Total Knee Arthroplasty. An analysis of clinical, radiographic and health-care expenditure related outcomes* (Commenced Semester 2)

Congratulations to the following students on the completion of their PhD over the last 6 months:

### Awaiting conferral:

- **Manoj Saxena** (Supervisor: John Myburgh)
- **Naomi Hammond** (Supervisor: John Myburgh)

**Annual progress reviews** are currently being held during August, September and November.

We are always looking for panel members to sit on each review. **If you are a conjoint or academic staff member with a PhD who could spare 2 hours to sit on a panel**, please keep an eye out for the email seeking panel members. You can also express your interest [here](#).

Students are reminded to ensure their supervisors are available to attend the reviews.

### Postgraduate Students - Dates for your diary

- **Animal Care and Ethics Course** - 18 -19 July;  
Refresher Course - 21 July
- **Thesis Submission Seminar** - 7 August, 7-10pm
- **Induction for Postgraduate Researchers** - 11 September, 4.00-6.30pm
- **3 Minute Thesis Competition** - 13 September, 4.30 - 7.30pm
- **Research Progress Review Seminar** - 27 September, 10.30 - 11.30am

See also the [Graduate Research School newsletter](#).

## Update from Clinical Teaching Unit

Since our March update, 65 **Year 1 students** have commenced their hospital sessions. Accompanied by their GP tutor, a group of Year 1 students visited the wards – some of them for the first time – to learn the skills of history taking and communication with patients.

All **Phase 2 students** are well and truly settled in their clinical activities across various departments. They will have term break from 26th June before resuming their study on 17th July.

A new group of **Year 5 students** commenced their medicine and surgical terms in May, whilst **Year 6 students** started various terms across the hospitals.

Joanna Tjojoatmodjo from St George Clinical Teaching Unit recently attended the **Student Service Centre Conference at Macquarie University** to learn from other Universities some of the best practices aimed at improving student experience. Improving student experience is a continuing process and we will keep working on some new initiatives.

We also welcome our **new Student Admin Assistant, Michael Davidson**, who will commence with the St George CTU on 17 July 2017. Michael comes from student support background in OPEN Colleges Australia and has a background in primary school education.

### CONJOINTS NEEDED TO ASSIST IN PHASE 3 (YEAR 6) MEDICAL EXAMS:

#### St George Hospital

**September** 13th, 14th, 19th and 26th  
– contact Joanna Tjojoatmodjo [djuniah@unsw.edu.au](mailto:djuniah@unsw.edu.au)

#### Sutherland Hospital

**September** 14th, 19th and 26th  
– contact Justin Joynes [j.joynes@unsw.edu.au](mailto:j.joynes@unsw.edu.au)

**Joanna Tjojoatmodjo/  
Michael Davidson  
St George CTU**

**Justin Joynes  
Sutherland CTU**



## Research in Progress Meetings 2017

It has been a very exciting first half of the year with our program filled to the brim with basic science and clinical research from a wide range of areas. To kick off the year we had Dr Valery Combes from the 3i institute brief us on parasitic infections, followed by Dr David Simar and his student Nadia Amorim who presented their findings on late complications in cancer survivors followed by A/Prof Paul Witting and his post-doc Dr Belal Chami who presented on myocardial infarcts and colitis.

We were delighted to have Prof Kate Moore, Dr Christos Venetis, Dr David Ziegler and Dr Han Shen share their work on childrens cancer, fertility and womens health. In May, we had visiting international speakers Prof Sam Shulman, Prof Philippe Langella and Dr. Jean-Marc Chatel who gave fascinating talks on new anticoagulants and microbiome research.

When we slowly moved into bitey cold winter, we had Prof Margaret Morris and Dr Neil Youngson talk on their work on the microbiome in gut-brain axis and liver diseases. Our visiting Harvard scholar Prof Richard Stevens shared his latest findings on the mast cell in inflammatory diseases followed by Prof Nicholas Shackel who presented his novel bioinformatic approach to studying liver diseases and cancer. As usual, refreshments were catered by local Kogarah café Kaimaki.

Be sure to look out for our invited guests Dr Sheila Donnelly from University of Technology Sydney, Dr Tony Cesare and Dr Noa Lamm-Shalem from Children's Medicare Research Institute, Dr Ben Roediger, Dr Patrick Bertolino and Dr Geoff McCaughan from the Centenary Institute, Prof Roland Stocker from the Victor Chang Institute and Prof Chris Goodnow from the Garvan Institute in the next few months.

If you would like to keep receiving email notification please [subscribe here](#) Otherwise, be sure to look out for the posters. We hope to see you there!

**Fatima El-Assaad, Meera Esvaran, Freda Passam & Howard Yim**

**UNSW SYDNEY** Australia's Global University

**St George & Sutherland Clinical School**  
**Research in Progress Meetings 2017**  
 April to November  
 1 - 2 PM

**Sessions are free!**  
 RSVP for lunch

Location: Auditorium  
 Research & Education Centre  
 St George Hospital  
 4-10 South Street  
 Kogarah

Look out for details of our next meeting on posters around the hospital or contact a committee member below

Dr Fatima El-Assaad [f.el-assaad@unsw.edu.au](mailto:f.el-assaad@unsw.edu.au) | Dr Meera Esvaran [m.esvaran@unsw.edu.au](mailto:m.esvaran@unsw.edu.au) | Dr Freda Passam [f.passam@unsw.edu.au](mailto:f.passam@unsw.edu.au) | Dr Howard Yim [h.yim@unsw.edu.au](mailto:h.yim@unsw.edu.au)

[www.stgcs.med.unsw.edu.au/ripm](http://www.stgcs.med.unsw.edu.au/ripm)

## RIPM 2017 Dates & Speakers

26 July	Dr Cristan Herbert and Yifan Chen	UNSW Sydney, School of Medical Sciences
16 August	Dr Sheila Donnelly	University of Technology Sydney, itthree Institute
31 August * (Thurs)	Dr Anthony Cesare/Dr. Noa Lamm-Shalem	University of Sydney, Children's Medical Research Institute
7 September	Dr Oliver Fischer	UNSW Sydney, St George Hospital
13 September	Dr Ben Roediger	University of Sydney, The Centenary Institute
27 September	Dr Patrick Bertolino/Dr Frédéric Sierro	University of Sydney, The Centenary Institute
11 October	Prof Roland Stocker	UNSW Sydney, Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute
25 October	Dr Geoffrey McCaughan	University of Sydney, The Centenary Institute
8 November	Prof Chris Goodnow/Dr Joanna Reed	Garvan Institute of Medical Research

# St George & Sutherland Medical Research Foundation

## Welcome new CEO and farewell Peter Christopher

In late June we farewelled Peter Christopher and welcomed our new CEO, Jacque Stratford.

## Grants

### EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR NEW RESEARCH GRANTS FROM ST GEORGE & SUTHERLAND MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

#### Closing 20 July 2017

This round of 2017 grants will be specifically to establish outstanding research collaborations with and within the new Microbiome Research Centre (MRC).

The MRC will be a multidisciplinary research centre of excellence of national and international significance embedded in St George & Sutherland Clinical School, with newly refurbished physical laboratories located in St George Hospital.

The MRC will target FIVE broad priority initiatives aligned with core MRC divisions. These divisions align with existing strengths within our hospitals, as well as with priority research themes identified by both the Australian Government and UNSW:

1. Maternal/foetal health
2. Cancer
3. Critical Care
4. The Three I's: Infection, Immunity and Inflammation
5. Mental Health/Neuroscience

A copy of the SSMRF MRC Grant Guidelines for Applicants can be found on the Foundation website <http://www.stgeorgemrf.com.au/apply-for-a-research-grant/>

**Virginia Venckus, Executive Director**  
**St George & Sutherland Medical Research Foundation**



## Academic 'Project Financials'

For those of you with UNSW (accounts) project financials the **Academic Project Financials platform** is now available for you. To access the platform you can Log in to myUNSW, select the 'My Finance' tab and click 'Academic Financials'.

Designed to make viewing your UNSW financials easy by looking up your project balances or expenditure. The [Academic Project Financials Video Guide](#) explains how to use the new platform. Should you wish a quick reference guide please email [admin-stgcl@unsw.edu.au](mailto:admin-stgcl@unsw.edu.au).

## Work Health & Safety

The Clinical School L3 WHS committee is involved in stimulating a culture of safety within all areas of the school and ensures that any health and safety issues and concerns are raised and addressed.



The Committee held its 2 year re-election in March - new representatives are shown in the table below.

**Minutes** of the last committee meeting held in May 2017 are on the School's website [WHS page](#).

### Lan Gong, WH&S Chairperson

Area	Representative
Chairperson	Lan Gong
Secretary	Marina Margarian
<b>Laboratory and research areas</b>	
Biological Research Centre	Marcelle Dugo/Ben Tuckfield
Cancer Care	Julia Beretov/Kevin Ni
Gastroenterology	Michal Szczesniak
Haematology	Feng Yan
Immunology	Jian Cheng Qi
Laboratory L2 REC	Lan Gong
Laboratory L3 REC	Sinead O'Reilly
Medicine	Howard Yim/Meera Esvaran
Orthopaedic Research Institute	Uphar Chamoli
O&G L1 Pitney	Ying Cheng
Surgery L3 Pitney	Javed Akhter
<b>Teaching areas / Student matters</b>	
CTU St George	Michael Davidson
CTU Sutherland	Justin Joynes
<b>External</b>	Sinead O'Reilly/
UNSW Medicine	Gregory Maxwell
St George Hosp WHS & Injury Mgr	Chris Carrett
Radiation Safety Officer	Erin McKay

## Researchers & HDR students: New 'ORCID ID'

An ORCID ID is a unique, persistent identifier for researchers that helps to distinguish your research activities and outputs from those of other researchers with similar names to ensure you get credit for your work.



This identifier would act like a DOI (Digital Object Identifier) for researchers. It aims to connect researchers with all their research outputs, including publications, grants and datasets

All researchers will be required to set up an ORCID. The ORCID can be linked to your publications, grants, databases and author identifiers (e.g. by adding your ORCID to your Scopus Author ID and Researcher ID (Web of Sciences).

For instructions please email [admin-stgcl@unsw.edu.au](mailto:admin-stgcl@unsw.edu.au). See also [UNSW Library - ORCID](#).