AN “EXEMPLARY” REPORT

Victoria University researchers, Associate Professor Iwona Miliszewska from the School of Engineering and Science and Dr Ewa Szendur from CILT, have produced an important research report for The Observatory on Borderless Higher Education (OBHE). Titled ‘Australian transnational education programmes in South East Asia: The student perspective’, the report is based on the findings of a comprehensive study that was supported by a VURDGS grant and involved offshore students from Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore, and Vietnam. The Chief Executive of The Observatory, Dr Don Olcott, acknowledged the outstanding quality of the report calling it “exemplary”, “a valuable contribution to the research literature”, and “very scholarly”.

The Observatory is an international strategic information service whose primary purpose is to provide strategic information to enable institutional leaders and policy makers to make informed decisions relevant to their existing and/or future transnational higher education initiatives.

HELEN MACPHERSON SMITH TRUST GRANT SUCCESS

Dr Deanne Skelly and Dr Andrew McAinch of the School of Biomedical and Health Sciences have been successful in obtaining a grant worth $46,206 from the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust for the following project titled: Impact of Obesity on Protein Handling by the Kidney.

The link between obesity and chronic kidney disease has been recently established. One of the first symptoms of kidney disease is the increased amount of the protein, albumin, in the urine. The renal tubules normally reabsorb most of the albumin from the filtrate, however in obese patients, the exact mechanism that leads to a breakdown of this process has not been investigated.

The researchers will use a rodent animal model and cell lines to investigate the changes in the renal tubules that are associated with obesity and the functional consequences of this.

This project will bring new insights into the molecular changes in renal tubules associated with obesity, and identify specific protein targets for future therapeutics to decrease the burden (both socially and financially) of renal disease in our community.

ERA UPDATE

The ERA project team, in conjunction with the VU Research Office (VURO) are busily preparing our 2010 ERA submission. Most researcher data has been entered and VURO is working hard to get the last remaining publications into the Research Data Portal (RDP) as we speak. Thank you all for your efforts in
following up with staff who hadn’t supplied FOR codes for all publications.

Selection of items for peer review for discipline clusters that will undergo peer review is currently underway by VU Research Leaders, Background Statements for disciplines are in the early stages of being drafted and Creative Works collections are now being prepared. The Library is working hard to source publications, load material into the repository and all is running smoothly so far.

If you believe there may be additional research publications from your area, or would like any further information, please contact Dr Melanie McGuire at VURO on x4704.

THINKING ETHICS

EXPERT IN HUMAN RESEARCH (REVIEW OF CLINICAL RESEARCH AND CLINICAL TRIALS) REQUIRED – VUHREC

The Victoria University Human Research Ethics Committee (VUHREC) seeks a suitably qualified and experienced member of staff to join the VUHREC as an Expert in Human Research (review of clinical research and clinical trials).

The role will provide an opportunity for staff to develop and exercise vital skills in an academic setting and provide the University with an essential service in the review of clinical research and clinical trials.

Interested staff may download the Duty Statement from the VUHREC website at:

BUSINESS RESEARCH DIRECTORS MEET AT SUNSHINE CAMPUS

A very successful meeting of Australian and NZ business academic research directors (known as BARDSNET) was hosted by the Faculty of Business and Law at the Sunshine Convention Centre recently.

The 35 business academic leaders – ranging from deputy vice-chancellors, deputy deans, deans, associate deans and research directors from universities around Australia and NZ - met for two days on 8th and 9th April to discuss several major policy issues relating to business research.

The joint hosts of the two day meeting were Associate Professor Santina Bertone, who is associate dean (research and research training) in the Business and Law faculty, and the Chair of BARDSNET, Professor Kim Langfield-Smith, of Monash University.

This is the first time that VU has hosted this meeting, which occurs twice a year. BARDSNET is a sub-group of the Australian Business Deans Council, established in 2004 to deal with common research issues facing business faculties across the sector. The meeting was a great opportunity for VU to explain its own research strategy and showcase its facilities. Professor Linda Rosenman, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Provost, welcomed delegates to the meeting and outlined the University’s Research Development and Investment Strategy.

Professor David Lamond, Executive Dean of the Faculty, added his welcomes and outlined the Faculty’s complementary strategies for boosting research volume and quality. Professor John Breen, head of the Centre for Tourism and Services Research, also gave an address to BARDSNET.

The BARDSNET agenda covered topics such as: ERA (Excellence in Research for Australia), Compacts and Sustainable Research, an update on the PBRF in New Zealand, promoting the research profile of your business school, managing research students (quantity versus quality), and enhancing research engagement with the business community. The networking continued on the first night of the meeting at the Strand restaurant in Williamstown.

Thanks go to Helen Lampp for her excellent organisation of this major event, and to the staff of the Sunshine Convention Centre, who did a great job.

PAPERS ARE INVITED – SPECIAL ISSUE ON E-HEALTH STRATEGIES INCLUDING KNOWLEDGE ACQUISITION AND MANAGEMENT OF PROFESSIONAL NURSING PRACTICE IN ACUTE HEALTH SERVICES

INTRODUCTION

In 2009 there were major statements about what a national e-health system would be like to work in [1, 2]. The electronic Journal of Health Informatics (eJHI) is calling for research papers for their special edition, which address areas relevant to improve care processes of professional nursing practice which have applied interdisciplinary health knowledge management research from an informatics perspective.

Papers are sought that fit the domain of knowledge acquisition and management of professional nursing practice in acute health services that seek to:
• optimise productivity returns
• ensure quality outcomes
• advance better configuration of heath data, health technologies and platforms
• enhance innovative connections, develop new knowledge and provide tangible benefits to professional health care workers
• streamline multi-disciplinary care management

GUEST EDITOR

This Special Issue of eJHI is guest-edited by:

Liza Heslop, Associate Professor
School of Nursing and Midwifery
Faculty of Health, Engineering and Science
Victoria University
Phone: +61 3 9919 2252
Fax: +61 3 9919 2832
Email: Liza.Heslop@vu.edu.au

SUBMISSION AND DEADLINE

Please submit all papers via the Journals Online Submission system at http://www.ejhi.net, and use the journal’s template for the preparation of your paper and follow the Author’s Guidelines, available from http://www.ejhi.net/ojs/index.php/ejhi/information/authors

When submitting please ensure that the paper is submitted as a Special Issue Paper. The deadline for all submissions is 30th September 2010.

REFERENCES
NEWS FROM THE
GOVERNANCE PROGRAM IN
THE LAW SCHOOL

PUBLICATIONS FROM THE LAW SCHOOL
MAKE SSRN TOP TEN LIST

Both Kumi Heenetigala and Aida Maria Ismail are receiving great recognition for their papers.

Aida Maria’s paper “Corporate Governance Dilemma - Evidence from Malaysia”, was recently listed on SSRN’s Top Ten download list for Asian Law eJournal. “As of 04/07/2010, your paper has been downloaded 54 times. You may view the abstract and download statistics at http://papers.ssrn.com/abstract=1541788.”

Kumi’s paper “Potential Impact of New Technology on Governance in Small Business”, was recently listed on SSRN’s Top Ten download list for Accounting Technology & Information Systems eJournal. “As of 03/15/2010, your paper has been downloaded 21 times. You may view the abstract and download statistics at http://papers.ssrn.com/abstract=1541676.”

SUBSCRIBE TO THE
RESEARCH-INFO EMAIL
LIST

All researchers are encouraged to subscribe to the research-info email list. This is a valuable source of information on research and research opportunities at VU. You can subscribe through http://lists.vu.edu.au or email neale.yates@vu.edu.au

THANK YOU to all who contributed to the content of the Research Matters bulletin. 😊