For more than 10 years Burnet has worked to reduce the impact of HIV in Mozambique, a country where a quarter of all adults are HIV positive. As it is in other countries, much of our work involves building the capacity of local organisations and community groups to prevent the spread of HIV and care for those infected or affected by HIV and AIDS, such as these young people in Chimoio who lost both their parents to the disease.

Photo Credits: Brent Balalas, Peter Casamento, Gillian Chamberlain, Ben Coghlan, Fasseli Coulibaly, Karl Domng, Marcus Flack, Paul Gilson, Ian Haigh, Iwao Isomura, Gregor Lichtfuss, Bruce Loveland, Nigel Martin, Amanda Morgan, Chris Morgan, Dan O’Brien, Tracy Routledge, Hazel Squair, Mike Toole, John van Hausell, Evy Yunihastuti.

Cover: Responding to the HIV epidemic. For more than 10 years Burnet has worked to reduce the impact of HIV in Mozambique, a country where a quarter of all adults are HIV positive. As it is in other countries, much of our work involves building the capacity of local organisations and community groups to prevent the spread of HIV and care for those infected or affected by HIV and AIDS, such as these young people in Chimoio who lost both their parents to the disease.

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A full copy of the Burnet Institute's Financial Report is available on our website or if you would prefer a hard copy, please contact Hazel Squair at hazel@burnet.edu.au or call +61 3 9282 2135.

BigGreen (Burnet Institute Green) is a staff collective formed in 2007 that aims to make Burnet a more sustainable workplace. Anything Burnet can do to reduce our carbon footprint, such as reducing waste, energy and water use, is good for us and good for the planet.

The cost of preparing and printing this Annual Report has been generously donated to the Burnet Institute by an anonymous donor.
PREVENTION
DISCOVERY
IMPACT

Developing candidate vaccines for infectious diseases and cancers

Discovering factors that prevent AIDS developing from HIV infection

Discovering factors influencing malaria virulence and immunity

New insights into drug-resistant TB its emergence and spread

Understanding factors underlying alcohol use in Australia and the Pacific

Providing innovative disease prevention programs in post-cyclone Burma (Myanmar)

Developing the first rapid diagnostic test for HIV point-of-care management
At Burnet, everything we do is focused on making a sustainable difference to people’s health, in Australia and around the world.

The Burnet Institute is a leading Australian medical research and public health organisation focused on improving the health of resource-poor and vulnerable groups. Burnet’s culture links innovative discovery-oriented research with development and humanitarian action. We integrate our world-class laboratory and field-based research into multidisciplinary programs to prevent, detect and treat diseases of global significance. This unique approach allows us to make a tangible and sustainable impact on health in both developed and developing countries. The health and medical research programs conducted in our Australian laboratories encompass three areas: infectious diseases – hepatitis, HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, influenza, malaria and tuberculosis; drug and alcohol research; and immunity – especially as it relates to vaccines and therapies for infections diseases, cancers and auto-immune diseases.

We undertake innovative epidemiological research, including surveillance and modelling complemented by participatory social research. We work at international and regional levels, and with governments, civil society and communities in more than 15 countries. We build capacity and strengthen health services to reduce the impact of major health problems.

Some of these include: reducing the impact and spread of HIV, promoting sexual and reproductive health, and improving the health of children, youth, parents and older people.

Burnet has four Centres – Virology, Immunology, Population Health and International Health. These Centres represent our key areas of research and public health.
Our Vision and Mission

The unifying vision of all health, medical research and development undertaken at the Burnet Institute is the linking of laboratory and field research with practical public health programs; with an emphasis on addressing the health needs of disadvantaged populations.

To achieve this vision, Burnet’s mission is to create a healthier world by utilising our unique skills in infectious diseases, immunology and public health to produce health outcomes such as vaccines for infectious diseases and cancer, better strategies for the treatment and prevention of infection, and innovative public health programs both in Australia and throughout the world, especially in our region.

Burnet’s broad mission embraces all facets of its research and development work – from basic laboratory research and discovery through to clinical trials, public health, treatment and prevention, advocacy and policy development – and allows the Institute to develop unique cross-disciplinary programs to respond to the major global health problems of our time. The broad mission allows Burnet to be proactive in leading Australia’s and our region’s preparedness and responsiveness to the threat of emerging diseases, such as avian and swine influenza, while continuing to address long-term health priorities. These include: developing hepatitis C, HIV and cancer vaccines; novel treatment strategies and diagnostics for HIV, hepatitis, tuberculosis and malaria; understanding the pathogenesis of infectious diseases; and undertaking advocacy, capacity building and policy development in the international health arena.

Our Values

We are passionate in our commitment to working and growing together to create a healthier world. We value excellence, innovation and social justice, and share a desire to extend the boundaries of knowledge and understanding.
I am delighted to present the Burnet Institute's Annual Report for 2009. Burnet is an amazing organisation that addresses some of the major health challenges of our time such as HIV, malaria, TB and hepatitis. Our blend of laboratory-based research and field programs is unique within medical research organisations in Australia and provides tangible benefits for the many communities in which we work.

The past 12 months has been a rewarding, productive and challenging time. We completed the final stages of our new building, developed new and innovative research and public health programs, consolidated our international health offices and published our research outcomes extensively in peer-reviewed journals.

As with most organisations, we did not escape the impact of the global financial crisis. I am pleased to say that we have come through this period much stronger thanks to the skill and tenacity of the Burnet staff and Board and the continued support of many of our donors. We now enter 2010 with our new $100 million building completed ahead of schedule and on budget.

During the first half of 2010, Burnet staff will occupy this new building, which doubles the floor space available to the Institute. It is also the final chapter in the 2006 merger of the Austin Research Institute and Burnet Institute, enabling all staff that were spread over various geographic locations to come together on the one campus. While this is very exciting for all Burnet staff, this really is the end of an era for former Austin Research Institute staff whose laboratory facilities have been located in the Kronheimer Building on the Austin Hospital Campus for almost 20 years. The additional floor space will strengthen the capacity of the Institute to respond to existing and future global health challenges and allow for the Institute's future growth. This building would not have been possible without the generous support of the Victorian State Government and the Federal Government's Department of Health and Ageing. In addition, I would like to acknowledge the many generous donors who assisted us in the funding of this project.

I would like to acknowledge the huge effort put in by the team at our bankers, Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Ltd (ANZ). ANZ saw the funding for the new building through to completion in the midst of the global financial dislocation.

I would also like to acknowledge the Victorian Government’s Operational Infrastructure Support Scheme managed through the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development, which assists the Institute greatly with the provision of funds to support our infrastructure costs.

In 2009, we launched our new logo designed to encapsulate our focus and practical approach to global health. Our major role is to address many of the major health challenges of disadvantaged, marginalised and resource poor groups in Australia and overseas. An emphasis on disease prevention and the unique merging of discovery-orientated laboratory and field research with surveillance and public health activities defines our approach.

We continued to look at opportunities to develop closer relationships with other organisations within Australia and overseas, especially to help build capacity of organisations to respond to global health challenges. During 2009, we signed an official memorandum of understanding with the Papua New Guinea Institute for Medical Research (PNGIMR) and the Indonesian Government’s Ministry of People’s Welfare. Burnet is the first medical research organisation to have this formal relationship with the PNGIMR. This will enable stronger working relationships between both institutes and foster exchange of staff and students, as well as transfer of technology and training. The stronger ties with the Indonesian Government will enable us to focus on the control of infectious diseases, sexual and reproductive health and nutrition throughout Indonesia.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the members of the Board for their support and advice over the past 12 months during our Board meetings, on various Board subcommittees and during the extraordinary hours required during the year which focused on legal and financial matters pertaining to the Alfred Centre Stage 2 (ASC2) development. During the year, Mr Garry Hounsell and Dr Alan Finkel, AO resigned as Directors. Garry served as Chair of the Board’s Fundraising subcommittee for a number of years, helping steer the Institute’s programs to achieve increasing levels of funding for various research and public health programs. Alan, while only a Director for a short period of time, provided significant input to a range of Board matters during his time with us. I would like to take this opportunity to thank both Garry and Alan for their support and valuable counsel during their time with the Institute.

The Board has been strongly supported by a dedicated management team at the Institute led by the Director and CEO, Professor Brendan Crabb. Brendan is an exceptional talent and strong leader. Although only with the Institute for two years, he has restructured both the scientific and public health programs as well as corporate services, positioning the Institute for future growth with a streamlined and more efficient organisational structure. Already his efforts are returning dividends with increased productivity in relation to scientific publications, new research and public health programs and growing the Institute’s revenue base.

To the staff of the Burnet Institute, thank you for yet another year of successful endeavours. Your dedication and enthusiasm for the work of the Institute is truly inspirational.

I would also like to thank the many supporters of the Institute both financial and in-kind who never cease to amaze me for their belief in, and passion for, the work of the Institute. It has also been a difficult year for many individuals and businesses and I do want to acknowledge those who continued to support our work despite facing challenging times themselves.
While 2009 was a very challenging year due to the global financial downturn, it was also a period of strong growth and productivity for the Institute. Our broad mission of addressing the health needs of the world’s most disadvantaged populations continues to be the focus of Burnet’s activities and our emphasis on excellence in research and public health innovation is paying dividends. Testament to this, we had a record year for field and laboratory research performance with a significant increase in the numbers and quality of peer-reviewed publications generated. In 2009, we published 139 peer-reviewed journal articles, and importantly, we more than doubled our publication rate in high-impact journals, a major indicator of research quality. It was especially pleasing to see high-profile studies published on very different topics; malaria, HIV, hepatitis C, tuberculosis, vaccine research, cancer studies and immunology all featuring prominently.

In addition, the Institute published more than 60 commissioned public health reports. Many of these technical reports will inform future policy on a variety of national and international public health issues such as measles vaccination, adolescent health, hepatitis C transmission, HIV prevention, treatment and care, education and training, and drug and alcohol use.

Our work in understanding, diagnosing, preventing and developing therapies to major global pathogens such as HIV, hepatitis C, malaria and tuberculosis remains the mainstay of the Institute. But as well as the pathogens themselves, we are focusing more and more on the immune system that responds to foreign invaders and to cancers. This understanding provides new avenues to develop therapies and the next generation of public health tools, most particularly, more effective and affordable vaccines. In addition, we continue to develop our research and public health activities that focus on broader health issues of mothers and their babies, of adolescents in this country and abroad, and increasingly, of indigenous Australians.

Much of the focus of the Institute’s senior management during 2009 was taken up with the finance and construction of our new building The Alfred Centre Stage 2. This new facility will double the capacity of Burnet’s existing laboratory facilities and floor space, and provide room for future growth across all our programs. This has been a four-year project which really does complete the 2006 merger between the former Austin Research Institute and the Burnet Institute and enable all staff to operate as one Institute on the same campus.

The Institute now has 410 staff and offices in eight countries outside of Australia. While some growth has occurred as a result of the merger, our Centre for International Health (CIH) has grown substantially, in fact more than 100 per cent over the past four years. CIH is now the largest Centre at the Institute with almost 200 staff, 140 of which are based overseas. There are many highlights in this regard, but growth in scale and scope in our Burma (Myanmar) program has been most notable of recent times. We continue to look for opportunities to grow existing programs and to expand sensibly into countries such as Zimbabwe.

In parallel with our overseas development programs, we are keen to develop a strong international health research component to our work so we can maximise our impact, not only in the field, but to share our findings more broadly through publication in relevant peer-reviewed journals. In addition, we are strengthening our collaborations and partnerships with our Alfred Medical Research and Education Precinct (AMREP) partners. Notably, last year we welcomed Professor Sharon Lewin, Head of The Alfred hospital’s Infectious Diseases Unit, as Co-Head of Burnet’s Centre for Virology. Sharon’s expertise greatly strengthens Burnet while her dual role with The Alfred underscores the close partnership between our organisations.

This year will also see the development of the Institute’s five-year strategic plan that will help build the Institute’s capacity and steer our future direction. In addition to this, we will address how best to finance our major new initiatives with a decline in available infrastructure funding which is being felt across all independent medical research institutes in Australia.

Among the many highlights of 2009, I would like to congratulate our inaugural Gust-McKenzie Medallist, Associate Professor Heidi Drummer and Fenner Lecturer, Professor Mark Hogarth, and extend the Institute’s thanks to the 2009 Burnet Orator, Professor Sir Gustav Nossal, AC CBE, for an outstanding presentation.

I would like to thank all the staff of the Institute for their support over the past year, which has been a challenging period for everyone. Our planning and management over this time has left the Institute in a strong position and we look forward to a very positive, successful and productive 2010. I would also extend a warm welcome to all new staff that are joining the Institute this year and wish you a successful and productive time at the Institute.

I would acknowledge and thank the members of the Board for their direction and counsel, and the many hours of their time given to help guide the Institute through the impact of the global financial crisis and the various issues that arose during the year. I would especially like to thank our Board Chair, Mr Alastair Lucas for his tireless commitment to the work of the Institute, and the members of the various Board subcommittees and management teams of the Institute for their support and advice.

Finally and by no means least, the Institute is very grateful for the support it receives from the Victorian State Government through its Operational Infrastructure Support Scheme, the various competitive grant funding bodies such as the AusAID, National Health and Research Council, philanthropic trusts and foundations, and the many individuals who contribute to the Institute. It is only with this support that the Institute can operate and make a tangible and sustainable impact on the lives of millions of people around the world.

Brendan Crabb
Director and CEO
Burnet Institute
Board of Directors

The Directors of the Burnet Institute, all of whom act in an honorary capacity, along with the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Directors, who receive remuneration as paid members of staff, held office at any time during or since the end of the financial year are:

Mr Alastair Lucas, BCom, FCPA
Chair, Burnet Institute Board of Directors; Director since 1998; Member, Investment Committee, Grant Committee, Fundraising Committee, ACS2 Project Committee; Vice Chair and Managing Director, Goldman Sachs JBWere; Chair, Australian Stem Cell Healthcare; Director, Fauna & Flora International Australia; Member, Dean’s Advisory Board for Monash University, Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences; Deputy Chair, Market Policy Group, Finsia; Member, Takeovers Panel

Professor Brendan Crabb, PhD
Executive Director and CEO since March 2008; Member, Research Advisory Committee and ACS2 Project Committee; Adjunct Professor, University of Melbourne; Adjunct Professor, La Trobe University; Adjunct Professor, Monash University

Ms Denise Allen
Director since 2006; Chair, Investment Committee; Director, Medical Research Commercialisation Fund (MRCF); Former Chair and Managing Director, Legg Mason Asset Management Australia Ltd; Director, Utilities of Australia; Director, AvSuper

Associate Professor David Anderson, PhD
Director since 2006; Deputy Executive Director; NHMRC Senior Research Fellow; Member, IP and Commercialisation Committee, Burnet Institute; Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; Director, Hepitope Limited

Mr Ross E Cooke, BCom, ACA
Director since 1998; Chair, Audit, Finance and Risk Committee, and Member, ACS2 Project Committee and Grant Committee; Director, Paxton Partners; Director and President, Wintringham Housing Ltd

Professor Peter Doherty, AC, FAA, FRS
Director since 2002; Member, Research Advisory Committee; Nobel Laureate, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne

Mr John K Dowling, FREI, FAPI
Director since 2000; Member, Research Advisory Committee; Managing Partner, K L Dowling & Co

Mr Neil Edwards, BEcon (Hons), FAICD, FIPAA
Director since 2006; Member, Audit, Finance and Risk Committee and ACS2 Project Committee; CEO, Chifley Business School; Member, Advisory Board, Defence Science and Technology Organisation; Chairman, Regional Channels Authority

Professor P Mark Hogarth, PhD
Director since 2006; Deputy Executive Director, NHMRC Senior Principal Research Fellow; Former Executive Director, Austin Research Institute; Adjunct Professor University of Melbourne; Adjunct Professor Monash University; Director, IgAvax Pty Ltd; Member, IP and Commercialisation Committee, and Member, ACS2 Project Committee

Professor, the Hon Barry O Jones, AO, FAA, FAHA, FTSE, FASSA, FRSA, FRSV, FAIM
Director since 2000; Chair, Vision 2020 Australia; Chair, Port Arthur Historic Site Management Authority; Professorial Fellow, University of Melbourne; Former Vice Chancellor’s Fellow, University of Melbourne; Former Commonwealth Minister for Science; Former Chair, Victorian Schools Innovation Commission
Patrons

Patron-in-Chief
Governor of Victoria, Professor David de Kretser, AC

Patrons
Professor Gordon Adá, AO, Australian National University
Hon Steve Bracks, Former Premier of Victoria
Mr Nobby Clark, AO, Former Chief Executive Officer, National Australia Bank
Dr John Connell, AM, Founder, John Connell and Associates
Mr Bryce Courtenay, AM, Author
Rt Hon Sir Zelman Cowen, AK, Former Governor General of Australia
Professor Allan Fels, AO, Former Chairman of ACCC and Dean of the Australian & New Zealand School of Government
Mr David Rankin, AM, Director, The Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Centre, New York
Hon Michael Kirby, AC, CMG, Member of the International Bioethics Committee of UNESCO and Member of the UNAIDS Global Panel on Human Rights
Mr Eddie McGuire, Journalist and Television Personality
Professor Sir Peter Morris, AC, Royal College of Surgeons, London
Mr John So, Former Lord Mayor of Melbourne

Affiliations

The Burnet Institute is a partner in the Alfred Medical Research and Education Precinct (AMREP) with close working relationships and collaborations with The Alfred hospital, Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute, and Monash University. In addition, the Burnet Institute has formal affiliations with the University of Melbourne and Monash University.
Burnet’s New Building

Burnet’s ‘new’ building, known as ACS2 (Alfred Centre Stage 2), is in fact a horizontal and vertical extension of the existing Alfred Centre, with the four new floors delivering an additional 14,200sqm of space. Burnet will lease out three of the four new floors in ACS2 and occupy the seventh floor, which is being fitted out for laboratories, including a PC3 security level laboratory. This initiative has been developed to allow for the future growth of the Institute as well as securing our financial future via leasing arrangements.

As I write this report in mid February 2010, this $100 million project is scheduled for completion in three days time (19 February), some six weeks early. As the pictures here show there was a dramatic transformation during the year, from a demolition site in Jan 2009 to a near complete world class medical research and education facility in Jan 2010.

The construction of the building proceeded very smoothly throughout 2009, with no lost time, no cost blowouts and only few very minor issues, all resolved appropriately. This successful construction phase was a result of the extensive pre-construction planning and the collaborative relationships established between the co-sponsors (Burnet and Alfred Health) and the building contractors, Baulderstones. Dr Bruce Loveland, as the Burnet Project Manager, deserves special mention for his tireless work to ensure all of our needs were addressed and that the project delivered on its aims.

Financing such an initiative during a global financial crisis presented challenges not usually experienced by organisations such as Burnet. I would like to acknowledge the guidance and support of the Institute’s ACS2 Board Sub-committee, led by Rob Milne, our advisors (in particular Blake Dawson) and the support and confidence demonstrated by our key stakeholders, the Commonwealth Government via DoHA and the State Government of Victoria. The Institute’s ability to successfully complete this project during this period was a major accomplishment.

In fact, as you read this article, the daunting logistical challenge of relocating close to 1000 staff into this facility will be over. Burnet and our other tenants (Monash, Latrobe and Baker IDI), as well as Alfred Health occupants, will be well settled into their new ‘homes’. I look forward to advising you how smoothly this went in my report next year!

Geoff Drenkhahn
Chief Operating Officer
Burnet Institute
Burnet scientists will enjoy state-of-the-art laboratories in our new building.

Construction brings to fruition the hard work and vision of Burnet’s project team lead by Professor Bruce Loveland.
Centre for VIROLOGY

Our mission is to find innovative solutions for the world’s most serious viral diseases; focusing on understanding how viruses manipulate their host cells in order to infect them and persist in the body. Research in this area is vital in developing ways to block infection and to prevent viruses replicating and causing disease.

Basic research underpins most major scientific discoveries; we translate a number of our research findings into clinical and public health practice. The management of chronic viral diseases requires new drugs and diagnostic tools – research within our Centre investigates new drug targets at the molecular level.
Overview

With continued progress across the programs 2009 was a very positive year for the Centre for Virology. The Centre has continued the strategic planning process, building on the retreat held in November 2008, and identifying key priorities for research, resources and recruitment to further enhance the impact of our basic and translational research. We are pleased to welcome Professor Sharon Lewin, Director of the Infectious Diseases Unit at The Alfred hospital, as Co-Head of the Centre for Virology. Sharon has worked closely with Burnet for many years, but this appointment will allow both Burnet and The Alfred to fully capitalise on the synergies between our institutions in research, development and clinical care, in Australia and worldwide. We are also pleased to formalise the inclusion of the Wright Group within the Centre, headed by Dr Edwina Wright and focusing on NeuroAIDS consortia in Australia and the region.

Studies relating the degree of HIV drug toxicity to patient age and height provide an example of immediate impact of our work on clinical care (see Highlights on page 13), while studies by Dr Shuo Li (Gowans/Loveland Laboratory, in a cross-disciplinary collaboration with Burnet’s Centre for Population Health and the Centre for Immunology) have revealed new insights into the immune response to hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection that will have important implications for vaccine development.

The Centre was awarded four NHMRC Project Grants (AUD$2.3 million) to commence in 2010. Complementing these project grants, which support the core basic research of our scientists, the Centre further strengthened its efforts in translational research with the award of an NHMRC Development Grant (AUD$139,000) to Dr Elizabeth Grgacic, working on a novel approach to HIV vaccine development, and six translational research grants (AUD$875,000) from the Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology (ACH2) addressing diagnostic and treatment challenges in HIV and hepatitis C. The Drummer/Poumbourios Laboratory continued work on the development of a highly promising vaccine candidate against hepatitis C virus, and the Anderson/Crowe Laboratory received Burnet’s first investment from the Medical Research Commercialisation Fund, establishing the spin-off company See-D4 Ltd to accelerate commercialisation of the novel laboratory and point-of-care tests for CD4 T-cells developed at Burnet over the past several years.

Associate Professor Heidi Drummer was awarded the inaugural Gust-McKenzie medal. The prize is named after Professor Ian Gust and Professor Ian McKenzie, the founding Directors of the Burnet and Austin Research Institutes. Awarded by the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Burnet Institute, the Medal recognises early-mid career staff of Burnet demonstrating the highest levels of sustained excellence in basic and/or translational research and public health over the previous five years. Three PhD students from the Drummer/Poumbourios Laboratory enjoyed international recognition in 2009, with Johanna Dean receiving a full scholarship to present an invited talk at the 16th International HCV meeting in Nice, France. The talk by Johanna and the poster presented by Kitty McCaffrey at that meeting were featured as conference ‘highlights’ in a recent feature article in the journal, Gastroenterology.

Anna Bellamy-McIntyre was selected to give an oral presentation at the prestigious Cold Spring Harbor Symposium on Retroviruses. This year saw the successful integration of high-resolution imaging services between Burnet, our AMREP partners and Monash (Clayton), providing greatly improved access to these increasingly important research tools and associated expertise from within, and outside Burnet. Dr Jenny Anderson and Dr Candida da Fonseca Pereira have been instrumental in driving this initiative forward.
Highlights

Interaction between HIV and hepatitis B virus

Of the estimated 33 million people living with HIV infection, approximately 10 per cent of patients are also infected with hepatitis B virus (HBV). In parts of Africa and Asia nearly 30 per cent of HIV-infected patients are co-infected with HBV; infection with both viruses leads to a very dramatic change in the natural history of HBV. People infected with both viruses have a 15-fold higher chance of liver-related death compared to those infected with HIV or HBV alone. When patients start treatment for HIV and HBV, occasionally liver disease gets worse and liver-related mortality doesn’t improve, even with the availability of drugs active against both HIV and HBV.

Sharon Lewin and her team have been interested in how HIV and HBV interact in patients. Over the past five years our lab has worked closely with colleagues in Bangkok, Thailand and from the National Centre for HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research in Sydney to better understand the interaction of these two viruses. In 2009, our collaborative group published seven papers that significantly added to our understanding of how HIV changes a patient’s capacity to respond to HBV and treatment for HBV. These papers examined the pattern of decay of HBV from the blood following treatment, development of HBV drug resistance, the specific changes in the immune response to HBV, and why liver disease gets worse early following treatment of both viruses.

In the Journal of Infectious Diseases, Crane and colleagues identified that the key immunological change associated with worsening liver disease following initiation of HAART was the striking elevation of a protein called CXCL10 which guides infection-fighting cells to the liver. A novel strategy for the future management of HBV may be to use drugs that specifically block the activity of CXCL10 or related chemokines.

Changes in the protein CXCL10 following initiation of HAART in HIV-HBV co-infected patients in Thailand. Patients who had a decline in liver function were defined as cases (right panel) and those who had no change in liver function were controls (left panel). CXCL10 remained significantly elevated despite treatment in cases compared with controls.

Neuropathy (nerve damage in the feet) among people with HIV around the world

Neuropathy is common among people living with HIV, causing pain in the feet and impairing the patient’s quality of life and ability to work. Kate Cherry and her colleagues confirmed more than 40 per cent of HIV patients attending clinics at The Alfred hospital suffer neuropathy. This is a huge problem: there is no effective treatment for neuropathy and available analgesics typically provide inadequate relief of neuropathy pain. Our laboratory aims to understand why neuropathy occurs (to aid development of better treatments and preventative strategies), and which patients are at risk (so potentially neurotoxic medications can be avoided).

Our studies in Australian HIV patients show increasing age, increasing height and use of particular medications are important neuropathy risks in Caucasians. We also find that inflammation-related genes influence risk, suggesting inflammation may underpin the nerve damage. Genetic risk factors may vary by ethnic group. We have therefore established collaborations in Malaysia, Indonesia and South Africa to gain a global understanding of neuropathy rates and risk factors among HIV patients. Through reciprocal site visits, Dr Kate Cherry has trained all investigators in data collection and identical methods of patient assessment.

Using data from Australia, Indonesia and Malaysia we developed an algorithm based on age and height that predicts neuropathy risk. In 2009, this was confirmed in 500 black South African patients. By using this simple algorithm to guide medication choice (the use of some potentially neurotoxic medication is an economic necessity in many countries) neuropathy rates could be reduced at no added cost, even in the most resource-limited setting.

Our genetic studies have confirmed that inflammation-related genes influence neuropathy risk in various Asian populations. Ongoing studies in Africans and investigation of inflammatory responses in Australians will further clarify the role of inflammation in neuropathy. We are also investigating proposed new neuropathy treatments. Our long-term goal is to reduce the impact of this debilitating problem on people living with HIV.
Snapshots

Clinical Research
World Health Organization Regional HIV Drug Resistance Laboratory. Dr Anna Hearps, the senior scientist working within the World Health Organization Regional HIV Drug Resistance Laboratory at Burnet, has recently developed a low-cost test that detects drug resistance within HIV-infected patients. HIV can rapidly evolve to become resistant to one or more anti-HIV drugs and patients need to be tested for drug resistance to ensure their treatment remains effective. Whilst commercial versions of this test are commonly used in Australia, the high cost prohibits their use within resource-constrained countries. Burnet scientists have adapted the test so that it can be used with blood dried on to filter paper instead of the traditional fresh blood samples, allowing HIV-infected people living in remote areas to benefit from these important tests. Scientists from the Burnet Institute will soon be travelling to Papua New Guinea to train local scientists in how to perform both this test and other low-cost HIV monitoring assays.

HIV Neuropathogenesis
Astrocytes in the development of HIV-associated dementia. Dr Melissa Churchill heads the HIV Neuropathogenesis Laboratory. One of her major research interests is understanding the importance of astrocytes in the development of HIV-associated dementia, a devastating complication of AIDS. In a study recently published in the prestigious journal *Annals of Neurology*, Melissa has shown that astrocytes in brain tissue can be extensively infected with HIV, and that astrocyte infection has an important role in the development of brain disease. Studies are now aimed at characterising the contribution of extensive astrocyte infection to the development of dementia and in the establishment of latent viral reservoirs. Melissa’s studies will alter current models and provide a paradigm shift in understanding HIV-1 neuropathogenesis.

Viral Fusion
A vaccine candidate for the prevention of HCV. The Viral Fusion Laboratory led by Heidi Drummer and Andy Poumbourios focuses on how two major human pathogens, HIV and hepatitis C virus (HCV), attach to and enter target cells using their surface glycoproteins. Our studies on HCV have led to the development of a novel recombinant form of the attachment protein that is currently being tested as a vaccine candidate for the prevention of HCV in collaboration with CSL Ltd. The studies show that this vaccine candidate has the ability to elicit protective antibodies against diverse strains of HCV and is a major improvement on previously tested vaccines.

“While HIV clinical care in Australia is outstanding, there are serious deficiencies in our region. We owe it to our neighbours to help them improve their management of HIV-infected individuals.”

HIV Pathogenesis
Understanding the link between chronic immune activation and defects in innate immunity. Led by Suzanne Crowe and Anthony Jarowoski, the aim of the HIV Pathogenesis Laboratory is to understand the link between chronic immune activation and defects in innate immunity in HIV disease. Two clinical studies are being conducted: HiAct (HIV and Immune Activation) is a cross-sectional study of signal transduction defects in monocytes and natural killer cells from therapy-naïve HIV patients and patients currently receiving combination antiretroviral therapy (cART). Our data has revealed a loss of specific signal transduction proteins within NK cells even when patients are receiving cART, which correlates with loss of NK cell function. HaCH (HIV and Cardiovascular Health) is a new initiative in collaboration with the Department of Cardiovascular Medicine at The Alfred Hospital, which aims to investigate the link between innate immune activation and atherosclerosis in the setting of HIV infection.

HIV Assembly
Viral reverse transcriptase and retroviral recombination. The divergence of viral sequences in infected patients is driven by the infidelity of viral reverse transcriptase and retroviral recombination, and it has a huge impact on disease progression in patients. Correct estimation of recombination rate is critical to understand this biological process. In collaboration with Miles Davenport at the University of NSW in Sydney, Johnson Mak and his team have developed a mathematical tool to account and to correct for multiple
Some of the representative regional members of APNAC at a recent NeuroAIDS seminar.

**Molecular Interactions**

Understanding how HIV evades the effects of drugs. Gilda Tachedjian and her colleagues study how HIV reproduces in the cell, including the role of host-cell factors in HIV-1 replication, the study of drug resistance mutations in HIV, and the development of microbicide gels that can be used during sex to prevent the transmission of HIV. Our studies on **new drug resistance mutations** in the C-terminal domain of the HIV-1 reverse transcriptase (RT) have demonstrated that the N348I mutation, in addition to conferring zidovudine and nevirapine resistance, causes decreased susceptibility to tenofovir and etravirine, when present together with RT N-terminal domain mutations. This work has created a potential role for N348I in treatment failure with the newer RT inhibitors.

**HIV-associated Neurological Disorders**

The Asia Pacific NeuroAIDS Consortium (APNAC)

Edwina Wright’s laboratory focuses on HIV-associated neurological disorders with an emphasis upon epidemiology, host and antiretroviral treatment responses. The Asia Pacific NeuroAIDS Consortium (APNAC) was formed in 2002 and comprises a group of physicians, scientists and social researchers with a shared interest in neuroAIDS. APNAC has studied the epidemiology of neuroAIDS across several countries of the Asia Pacific Region and recently demonstrated that **HIV-associated neurocognitive disorders** (HAND) and depression are prevalent amongst HIV infected patients in this region. During 2009, the Wright laboratory collaborated with several national and international groups to determine the impact of HIV-associated neurocognitive disorders. This lab also runs the Australian National NeuroAIDS Brain and Tissue Bank Project, as well as the Asia Pacific Pediatric HIV/AIDS Consortium (APPHAC).

A Burnet student uses an intercalating agent and blue light to visualise and size DNA.
Centre for Virology: our staff and students

Centre Heads
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Centre for IMMUNOLOGY

Our mission is to develop novel ways to use the immune system to prevent or treat diseases such as cancer, autoimmunity and infection. Sir Frank Macfarlane Burnet was both a virologist and immunologist. His Nobel Prize winning work laid the foundation of modern immunological studies, with applications in an extraordinary range of diseases.

Burnet’s Centre for Immunology brings together outstanding research groups and integrates fundamental and applied research programs to understand the way the immune system functions in health as well as in disease. This knowledge is used for the development of novel treatments for incurable or chronic diseases.
Overview

The great strength of the Centre for Immunology is the integration of fundamental research with applied and clinically-related research and the application of this knowledge to develop new treatments. Tangible evidence for this is the clinical testing of our cancer vaccine, which is progressing to Phase Ib human trials in the USA, to commence in 2010. The vaccine is based on our basic research of 20 years ago, which found differences between cancer cells and normal cells in a molecule called MUC1. This discovery was then combined with our applied bio-organic chemistry research, to find ways to selectively stimulate the immune system to attack cancer cells by targeting the previously discovered MUC1, and so the mannan MUC1 vaccine was born. Current research also takes this broad approach, with programs ranging from work defining which atoms of different proteins interact to stimulate immune responses through to defining the functions of different cell types, and ultimately studying how the whole human body reacts to infection or to inflammatory conditions. Examples of these are given in the research Highlights and Snapshots sections on the following pages.

The work of the Gerondakis Laboratory in understanding the development of white blood cells that regulate the activities of other white cells is critical in understanding how our highly regulated immune system ultimately goes wrong in cancers, infections and autoimmune diseases.

The discovery of a new cell type by Meredith O’Keeffe in the bone marrow of mice opens the way for new understanding of mechanisms of resistance to viral infections and in the rejection of bone-marrow transplants and also has broader implications in the study of cancers.

The bio-organic chemists, led by Geoff Pietersz and his laboratory together with Vasso Apostolopoulos, continue to develop next-generation cancer ‘vaccines’ that improve our original cancer immunotherapy. They are now developing injectable cancer immunotherapies that have shown impressive results in mouse studies.

Our structural immunologists led by Paul Ramsland are able to define the nature of interactions between proteins and sugars which are critical in the defence against bacterial infection.

Comprehensive genome-wide analyses by the Hogarth Laboratory of white blood cells involved in inflammation and autoimmunity in special mice expressing human genes and in patients, are identifying new genes that are ‘switched on’ before disease is apparent in rheumatoid arthritis and lupus. This may provide new targets for the treatment of these and other intractable chronic inflammatory conditions in humans, and provide a greater understanding of connections between infection and autoimmunity.

Similarly, understanding the battle between humans and viruses is a major effort in the Ffrench Laboratory where the researchers apply novel strategies towards the development of an HIV vaccine and in understanding immune responses to pandemic influenza.

This year has seen the move of the Austin-based researchers to AMREP prior to our move into the new facility in April 2010. Regrettably, 2009 saw the departure of several research groups: cancer researcher, Associate Professor Pei-xiang Xing who worked for many years on the application of monoclonal antibodies to cancer therapy; Associate Professor Denise Jackson whose laboratory identified processes involved in the regulation of blood clotting; and Professor David Power and his work on understanding kidney function and the molecular mechanisms that regulate energy.

We continue to actively recruit exceptional scientists and Dr Amanda Gavin, presently at the Scripps Institute in the USA, was awarded an ARC Future Fellowship to return to the Centre during 2010.

The coming year promises to be a year of new opportunity with our move into our state-of-the-art purpose-built laboratories next-door to our current building.
Highlights

Pandemic H1N1 Influenza Study

Associate Professor Rose Ffrench and her team were funded from a special initiative of the NHMRC, to assess immune responses in individuals infected with the pandemic H1N1 influenza strain, compared to healthy controls. This study has involved recruitment of people with H1N1 influenza in collaboration with Professor Suzanne Crowe, and Dr Allan Cheng and Dr Julian Elliott of The Alfred hospital. Subjects had samples collected weekly for three weeks and were then assessed for antibody responses and cellular immune function by Burnet's research staff members Devy Santoso and Kylie Goy. The aim of this project was to determine if there were some cross-reactive responses from earlier infections, and to see how these responses correlated with disease severity. In addition, once the CSL PanVax vaccine became available in September we also assessed immune responses in individuals given the vaccine, compared to those who had received the seasonal vaccine earlier in 2009 or those who were not vaccinated.

We have been able to show that the majority of those infected with the H1N1 strain developed very high titre antibody responses, and we could also detect responses to earlier strains of influenza in these individuals. We also saw cross-reactive responses to the H1N1 strain in some individuals who did not appear to be infected, indicating the possibility of recent subclinical infection or cross-reactive responses. In addition while most people made strong antibody and B-cell responses to the PanVax vaccine, some had responses that reacted predominantly to earlier H1N1 strains.

This ongoing study aims to develop a suite of assays of influenza immunity that can be used for future influenza research and vaccine development, as well as informing H1N1 pandemic vaccination strategies in the northern hemisphere. The interim results from this study were presented at an NHMRC summit in Canberra in early December.

Understanding how regulatory T-cells develop

CD4 Regulatory T-cells (Tregs) are a specialised subset of T-cells that serve an essential role controlling immune function. Normally, Treg cells serve two main purposes. First, they suppress those rare, detrimental self-reactive T-cells that have managed to escape elimination during the quality control process that normally occurs in the thymus during T-cell development. Second, they curtail normal T-cell-dependent immune function, ensuring that immune responses remain restrained and immune mediated damage does not occur. Consistent with these roles, impaired or inappropriate Treg cell function has been linked to a wide variety of autoimmune diseases and the inability of the immune system to effectively eliminate cancer cells. Understanding how Treg cells develop and are maintained offers the potential to manipulate the size of this population and in turn influence the impact Treg cells have on immune functions associated with infection, autoimmune disease, cancer and transplantation. Our laboratory has recently shown that expression of the gene regulatory factor c-Rel in T-cell precursors is crucial in ensuring that these precursor cells that have a capacity to develop into different types of T-cells, specifically develop into Treg cells (Isomura et al / Exp Med 206: 3001-3014.). Our ongoing studies are directed towards understanding how c-Rel dictates this Treg cell specific genetic blueprint, and whether this information can be used to manipulate the number and function of Treg cells.

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Snapshots

**Immunology and Cancer Vaccine**
*Modifying and diverting immune responses in multiple sclerosis.* Vasso Apostolopoulos and her group have developed novel peptides from myelin basic protein, a protein responsible for auto reactive T-cells in Multiple Sclerosis (MS) patients. When these peptides were joined to a novel carrier (reduced mannan) a change in the nature of the immune response occurred. In addition, these peptides prevented the development of MS-like symptoms in animal models. Our work also demonstrated two functionally distinctive stages of dendritic cell development from mouse bone marrow, which were affected by the levels of critical reactive oxygen species (ROS). These findings indicate the role of ROS in the development of dendritic cells from haemopoietic precursor cells during responses, and have implications for new treatments for autoimmune disease and for cancer.

**Viral Immunology**
*Development of a 'microcube' vaccine for HIV.*
Associate Professor Rose Ffrench, in collaboration with Dr Fasseli Coulbaly from Monash University and Dr Johnson Mak of Burnet's Centre for Virology, were awarded a Gates Grand Challenges Exploration grant to provide proof of concept data on a novel strategy for an HIV vaccine. This involves the use of an insect virus protein that naturally forms crystals within infected cells to deliver HIV proteins in a strategy they called ‘microcubes’. Our group is assessing the immunogenicity of this novel vaccine in vitro using cells from people infected with HIV and in vivo in mice.

**Helen Macpherson Smith Trust Inflammatory Diseases**
*Understanding the causes of inflammation and autoimmunity.* Studies by Mark Hogarth’s team this year have revealed an exciting connection between autoimmune arthritis and infectious diseases. Analysis of the white blood cells of mice have revealed unexpected alterations in gene expression ‘signature’ in white blood cells, before disease onset, which are characteristic of cells normally associated with resistance to infection. Analysis of the gene expression in the cells invading joints in humans has commenced with gene array analysis of 34,000 genes in the white blood cells of patients with arthritis.

**Immunoreceptors**
*Regulating the immune system.* Receptors that invoke opposing intracellular signalling effects are considered essential for maintaining a balance between activation and quiescence of the immune system. This conceptual model may also be involved in the regulation of haemostasis and thrombosis. While this signalling balance has been established as a major means of activating and inhibiting platelets by studies on GPVI-FcR -chain collagen receptor and PECAM-1, our understanding of immunoreceptor signalling in the context of haemostasis and thrombosis is at an early stage. Associate Professor Jackson’s team demonstrated a novel role for a cell adhesion model called CEACAM1 in acting as a negative regulator of platelet-collagen interactions, involving GPVI receptor and thrombus growth in vitro and in vivo.

**Viral Immune Resistance**
*Discovering the function of new dendritic cell populations.* In 2009, Meredith O’Keeffe joined Burnet and established the Viral Immune Resistance Laboratory. Meredith arrived from previous positions at Bavarian Nordic, Immunology Research, in Munich and WEHI in Melbourne. Her research is focused on understanding the role that sentinel cells of the immune system, called dendritic cells, play in immunity to infections. Recognising how dendritic cells in different parts of the body ‘see’ infectious agents and then inform other cells of a foreign presence is a key factor in the generation of effective vaccines.

**Bio-Organic and Medicinal Chemistry**
*Improving cancer ‘vaccines’.* Geoff Peitersz and his team in the Bio-Organic and Medicinal Chemistry laboratory aim to develop novel delivery systems for cancer and infectious disease vaccines. These are based on protein or DNA vaccination. One such delivery- system is based on synthetic peptides that can enter immune cells. We have used these agents to deliver multiple breast cancer associated peptides (MAP). These internalising MAPs primed good antibody responses and activated killer cells in mouse models. Mice immunised with these MAPs were protected from a challenge with cancer cells. Furthermore, incorporation of agents such as CpG or Imiquimod that activates immune cells (danger signals) further enhanced the anti-tumour efficacy of the MAP.

**Structural Immunology**
*Recognising carbohydrates.* Recognition of carbohydrates by proteins is of fundamental importance to immunity and infection. Paul Ramsland and his team, with Mark Agostino (PhD student) and Dr Elizabeth Yuriev (Monash University), developed a validated computational approach called ‘Site mapping’ for displaying and interpreting carbohydrate binding modes generated by automated docking procedures. Site mapping is generally applicable for examining and understanding the multitude of antibody-carbohydrate interactions that are critical for immunity to pathogens, transplantation rejection and are of potential use in cancer immunotherapy.

**The surface of white blood cells is where most immune responses are initiated or stopped.**
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The Centre for Population Health (CPH) improves the health of the community by conducting high quality, policy-relevant and innovative research that addresses the major public health problems associated with infectious diseases, drug use and related behaviours. Areas of specific interest include HIV, hepatitis C, sexually transmitted infections, malaria, tuberculosis, drug and alcohol misuse and justice health; all are serious health concerns in Australia and in the Asia and Pacific Regions predominately affecting highly vulnerable populations. An important component of our work is developing effective mechanisms to communicate with these populations about how to improve their health. The problems and populations which the CPH addresses are highly challenging, but this makes our work equally rewarding and important.
Overview

HIV, hepatitis C, sexually transmitted infections, malaria, tuberculosis and drug and alcohol misuse are serious health concerns in Australia and in the Asia and Pacific Regions. It is an enormous challenge to reduce the impact of these diseases and behaviours, particularly in highly vulnerable populations and disease endemic areas.

The Centre for Population Health (CPH) implements novel, multidisciplinary scientific programs that use cutting-edge epidemiology, high-quality laboratory science, excellent clinical and social research, and strong public health principles to address these major health problems in our region.

Our Centre undertakes a broad spectrum of work, ranging from research that helps to better understand the priority diseases and their transmission and ecology, to discovery science with potential for longer-term benefits, such as therapeutics and vaccines, to health systems-oriented research that directly influences health policy.

Some areas of specific interest are described below.

Alcohol and other drug use is a major public health issue costing the Australian community an estimated $55 billion per annum. Paul Dietze and his team conduct leading-edge epidemiological and programmatic research designed to measure the nature and extent of alcohol and other drug use over time, with a view to developing effective policy responses.

Prisoners in Australia and elsewhere are disproportionately affected by social disadvantage, chronic ill health and preventable disease (including blood-borne and sexually transmitted infections), mental illness and high rates of substance misuse. Stuart Kinner’s group undertakes innovative, rigorous and policy-relevant research that aims to enhance the evidence base for justice health policy and practice, in turn improving health outcomes in this group.

Malaria is a major global public health problem, causing as many as one billion malaria episodes each year and more than a million deaths, predominantly in young children in the poorest communities. The Centre’s malaria program, led by Paul Gilson and Brendan Crabb, extends from basic laboratory research through molecular epidemiology to large field trials of anti-malarial therapy in children in Papua New Guinea, all aimed at providing evidence for more effective control and treatment.

Hepatitis C is associated with considerable mortality and morbidity; over 180 million people are infected world-wide and the virus affects over 200,000 Australians. Working closely with people who inject drugs and a multidisciplinary team of scientists, led by Campbell Aitken undertakes innovative research to improve our understanding of hepatitis C virus infection, with the ultimate aim of developing effective harm reduction strategies to reduce hepatitis C transmission and to develop a hepatitis C vaccine.

In Australia, new diagnoses of HIV increased in the past decade after declining in the 1990s. Our team headed by Mark Stoové aims to reduce the impact of HIV on the community by managing and developing innovative HIV surveillance systems on behalf of the Victorian government, working closely with the groups at greatest risk of HIV, and conducting research to better understand the transmission and prevention of HIV in these populations.

Chlamydia trachomatis is a sexually transmitted infection that predominately affects young heterosexual men and women. If untreated, chlamydia infection is a major cause of pelvic inflammatory disease and tubal infertility in women. Margaret Hellard leads the team that works to reduce the impact of chlamydia on the community by developing and managing innovative surveillance systems on behalf of the state and federal governments and developing health promotion programs that use new technologies such as SMS and Facebook to increase both chlamydia awareness and testing in young people.

Tuberculosis (TB) remains a major public health menace with the number of cases worldwide increasing. The emergence of TB that is resistant to currently available drugs is a significant threat to control programs internationally. Helen Cox is working on the epidemiology and health systems implications of the emergence of drug-resistant TB.
Highlights

An Achilles heel in malaria offers new therapy hope.

Malaria parasites extensively modify the human red blood cells they infect by exporting hundreds of proteins into the blood cells. The exported proteins are read by a barcode reading machine in the endoplasmic reticulum of the parasite and are then delivered to the PTEX machine which transports them into the red blood cell.

A major highlight for the Centre’s Gilson/Crabb Laboratory (Malaria) was publication in the leading scientific journal Nature of their discovery of a protein pore that is a chink in the life cycle of malaria – offering hope for the development of new treatment options for this devastating disease. Their research was undertaken in collaboration between The Burnet Institute, The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research and Deakin University’s Medical School.

Malaria is spread via mosquitoes and its most lethal form is caused by the parasite Plasmodium falciparum. The malaria parasite grows inside red blood cells but to survive and cause illness it must transport hundreds of different proteins to the outside. While these proteins have many different functions crucial to parasite growth and survival, a common feature is that they must all pass through the same pore in the surrounding membrane called PTEX. The main significance of the discovery of the identity of this PTEX pore is its implication for a new anti-malarial therapy – the next step being to identify drugs that block this protein channel. Therapies that block the PTEX pore could interfere with many different crucial processes in the one hit and in that sense the pore is an Achilles heel of the malaria parasite.

There are more than 400 million cases of malaria each year with more than one million people, mainly children, dying from the disease. New therapies are urgently needed to combat ever-increasing resistance to the available drugs.

Sexual health and young people – new ways to communicate about risk.

Young people are highly susceptible to health problems that begin in young adulthood but have life-time consequences. A prime example of such diseases is chlamydia infection that can have long-term consequences including pelvic inflammatory disease and infertility in women. Of major concern is that the prevalence of chlamydia is on the rise with Australian notifications increasing from 180/100,000 in 2004 to 271/100,000 in 2008.

Over the past five years CPH has undertaken a series of innovative studies aimed at increasing young people’s knowledge of chlamydia. This includes recognising their risk and their awareness of the importance of regular chlamydia testing if they are sexually active (a simple urine test) and treatment if found to be infected (two antibiotic tablets). We have also undertaken work aimed at improving young people’s access to chlamydia testing and treatment programs through outreach testing programs based in locations like sporting clubs (The Sex and Sport Study).

For the past five years the Centre for Population Health has attended the Melbourne Big Day Out music festival, and each year we interview more than 1,000 people about sexual health and behaviour. As part of this work we conducted the first randomised controlled trial to evaluate the use of SMS and email messages to improve the sexual health of young people – half the group were sent regular sexual health-related SMS and email messages, and the other half received no messages. An important outcome of the study was that young women in the intervention arm (the group who were sent messages) were significantly more likely to have had an STI test compared to those who did not receive the messages. The increase in reported sexual health-seeking behaviour among young women is a very promising and important result because chlamydia testing and treatment (if necessary) reduce the duration of infection, thereby decreasing the potential for transmission and the risk of complications associated with chlamydia infection. A second notable finding was that both young males and females in the intervention arm demonstrated increased STI knowledge after receiving these messages compared with the control group who did not receive messages. Similar findings were found when the SMS approach was scaled up to reach a larger number of young people (the SMS 2008 project and the S5 project), providing further proof of the utility of using SMS for sexual health promotion to young people.

More recently we have established The FaceSpace Project, which uses online environments such as Facebook, MySpace and YouTube, to communicate with young people about sexual risk behaviour. The project involves the development of fictional characters who exist online and communicate on social networking sites, with sexual health and behaviour messages embedded within their interactions. The Project brings together CPH, with its experience in research and evaluation related to young people’s sexual behaviour, with experience in the interaction of people and technology from the Department of Information Systems at The University of Melbourne, and creative involvement from X:_MACHINE, an online production company associated with the Victorian College of the Arts. This exciting project is a world-first in examining if and how fictional characters can be used to deliver sexual health promotion messages to young people via social networking sites.

Further information on these studies can be found on our website – burnet.edu.au/home/cph
Snapshots

HCV research
Our research into the hepatitis C virus (HCV) continued in 2009 largely through our ongoing Networks study and the collaborations it supports. The Networks study has encountered more than 400 people who inject drugs (the major risk group for HCV infection in Australia) and over 200 have been interviewed and given blood multiple times. This unique cohort produces data of interest to immunologists, virologists, mathematical modellers and network modellers. To date it has generated seven national-level collaborations and three international collaborations aimed at improving our understanding of various aspects of the hepatitis C virus, and several articles in high-impact peer-reviewed journals.

Alcohol and other drug program
The Melbourne Injecting Cohort Study (MIX) is now well underway. MIX involves the recruitment of a large cohort of approximately 750 young people who inject drugs and then following up the cohort for a period of five years. Funded by the Colonial Foundation Trust (through the Drug Policy Modelling Program at the University of New South Wales) and the National Health and Medical Research Council, this research is unique in Australia and will provide new data on the trajectories of injecting drug use over time. Baseline data have now been collected, and analyses have commenced producing initial findings around a variety of health and social issues. For example, 59 per cent of cohort members report having ever been the victim of an assault, with 22 per cent reporting being such a victim in the six months prior to interview. Future analyses will examine the impacts of these kinds of events on the lives of cohort members over time.

Early warning surveillance systems for better targeted intervention
In 2009, CPH ran two complementary surveillance systems for HIV: 1) a routine system based on mandatory notifications by laboratories and clinicians and 2) a sentinel surveillance system, where additional risk behaviour is also collected for all tests conducted at high-caseload clinics. These systems provided timely detection of a significant change in Victoria’s HIV epidemic, indicating increased risk of HIV infection among younger gay men. Findings reported to public health officials resulted in a rapid response, with new HIV prevention messages targeting younger gay men being produced by the Victorian AIDS Council.

Malaria vaccine design: overcoming parasite diversity
Many malaria vaccines are made up of purified parasite proteins that stimulate our immune system to seek out and eliminate the parasite when infection occurs. Biodiversity helps the parasite evade such attacks. To be effective a malaria vaccine may need to cover this biodiversity so we have been analysing the gene sequences for vaccine candidate proteins from parasite populations worldwide. We classified hundreds of sequences into a small number of groups, mapped their location and identified the most promising vaccine candidates. The research provides a framework for parasite diversity to be considered in the design of the next generation of malaria vaccines.

Understanding HIV in Victoria
Over the past decade new HIV diagnoses have steadily increased. In Victoria; between 1999 and 2007–2008, they rose from 2.8 to 5.3 per 100,000 people with infections predominately occurring in men who have sex with men. To understand more about the epidemic we conducted the Suck It and See Study, measuring the prevalence of HIV in men who have sex with men. Important findings included an HIV-prevalence estimate of 9.6 per cent among community-recruited men who have sex with men, with 31 per cent of those diagnosed as HIV positive being unaware of their HIV status. This result has important implications for HIV transmission and is currently informing HIV prevention and testing programs in Victoria.

“In Australia, new diagnoses of HIV increased in the past decade after declining in the 1990s.”

Scaling up treatment for drug-resistant TB
Multidrug-resistant and extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis (M/XDR-TB) are significant threats to global tuberculosis control. While it is possible to treat patients with M/XDR-TB, treatment is costly, lengthy and difficult for patients. To date, fewer than three per cent of the half a million cases estimated to emerge globally each year receive effective treatment. A program to scale up M/XDR-TB treatment through decentralisation and integration with the routine TB program is being carefully evaluated in Khayelitsha, a township in South Africa. Early results suggest improvements in case detection, treatment outcomes and survival. Similar patient-centred models of care can be implemented in other high-burden settings internationally.

Justice health research
The Centre for Population Health recently established a Justice Health Research Group, headed by Dr Stuart Kinner. This new group has received in excess of AUD$1.8m funding from various sources including NHMRC, Department of Human Services and Secretariat of the Pacific Community. Current projects include: the world’s first randomised controlled trial of a broad-based health intervention for ex-prisoners, a novel record linkage study to explore patterns of mortality among ex-prisoners, a longitudinal study of ex-prisoners with a history of injecting drug use in Victoria, the first ever longitudinal study of ex-prisoners in Fiji and a systematic review of health interventions for ex-prisoners, under the auspices of the Cochrane Collaboration. Dr Kinner was invited to co-coordinate a new (proposed) Justice Health Field in the Cochrane Collaboration, which will for the first time facilitate synthesis and dissemination of high quality evidence in the justice health field internationally.
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The Burnet Institute’s Centre for International Health leads practical action to improve the health of people in low-income countries. Our expertise spans HIV prevention and care, women’s and children’s health, sexual and reproductive health, drug use, primary health care, strengthening national health systems, and education about all these fields. Our approach is based on innovation, inquiry and influence. We work with local communities, governments, the UN system and international organisations including Australia’s development agencies. We have country offices in Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar (Burma), China (including Tibet), and Mozambique. We have regional offices in Bangkok and Fiji, and selective small projects in other countries.
Overview

The Centre for International Health was able to achieve substantial growth despite the Global Financial Crisis and a changing donor environment. We expanded our number of activities, annual turnover (close to a 50 per cent increase), and staff numbers: we now have in excess of 180 staff in our Melbourne and overseas offices. We continued to manage a number of substantial multi-year projects and strengthened our own capacity in technical assistance and program management. Following are some highlights from 2009.

The Women’s and Children’s Health Knowledge Hub undertook case studies in adolescent reproductive health, women’s ability to reach emergency obstetric care, community-level interventions for improving maternal and perinatal health, and human resources for health. These case studies will inform policy and programming, and strengthen networks of organisations working towards improved health outcomes for women and children in Asia and the Pacific. In addition, the Hub has a focus on adolescent health, which has led to new work in Asia and the Pacific by the Melbourne International Adolescent Health Group: this includes Burnet, the Nossal Institute, the Centre for Adolescent Health, the Youth Research Centre, and the Key Centre for Women’s Health.

Burnet was one of only four Australian non-government organisations to be awarded an Innovations Grant by AusAID. This 12 month maternal and child health innovation will include needs assessments of Zimbabwean women and their children on both sides of the Mozambique-Zimbabwe border and then the introduction of pilot models to help them access good quality care. We hope that this will just be the start of Burnet’s return to work in Zimbabwe. It will build on our existing work in Mozambique and extend our networks in Southern Africa.

We continue to play a leading role in harm reduction, maintaining membership in high level UN and other forums such as the UN Regional Task Force on Injecting Drug Use and HIV/AIDS in Asia and the Pacific, the UNAIDS Technical Support Facility for South Asia, the Reference Group to the United Nations on HIV and Injecting Drug Use, the International Harm Reduction Development Program, and the Open Society Institute, New York, USA. We have developed strong links with regional networks representing key affected populations, such as the 7 Sisters Coalition and the Asian Networks of People who Use Drugs (ANPUD). We continued to work with the Asian Consortium on Drugs, HIV, AIDS and Poverty (ACDHAP) to plan and organise the South Asia Regional Workshop of Response Beyond Borders, and the 1st Asian Consultation on the Prevention of HIV Related to Drug Use. Burnet also conducted an update of our earlier 2006 Baseline Assessment of Policies, Resources and Services for People Who Inject Drugs.
The Centre again contributed to improving health in the Pacific by establishing a regional presence in Fiji – in the past we had projects but no Burnet regional base. We prepared a report on regional procurement of pharmaceutical drugs for the Global Fund on AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; this resulted in the appointment of a regional advisor to build capacity in pharmacology. We hosted a regional pharmacy workshop on treatment guidelines, and continued to advise Fiji and the Solomon Islands on pharmaceutical guidelines. The first year of our new Pacific program resulted in over $1 million in contracted activities awarded to Burnet, including a review of the Pacific responses to the H1N1 virus. Burnet also played an important role in the post-tsunami relief effort in Samoa through disease surveillance with the Ministry of Health.

Through our other regional office in Bangkok, Thailand, Burnet strengthened regional relationships with donors and technical partners. We have an increasing reputation as a provider of high quality specialised services. Burnet is a partner of RTI International implementing the USAID Health Policy Initiative in the Greater Mekong Region and China; Burnet leads the program component on health of men who have sex with men. As part of this, we developed a Resource Estimation Tool for Advocacy, which will be used by community and civil society groups to estimate the level of funding needed to scale up HIV prevention programming for men who have sex with men over a five year period. Burnet also led the production of a policy brief prepared for USAID and the Health Policy Initiative in the Greater Mekong Region and China. This was titled Investing in HIV prevention for men who have sex with men: Averting a Perfect Storm. Burnet also developed the Purple Sky Network Regional Information System on Men Who Have Sex with Men – this tool allows country and provincial working groups in the Greater Mekong to map HIV programming for men who have sex with men in their areas, in order to identify gaps in geographical coverage, program areas, and target populations. The mapping will be used to advocate with governments and donors for more comprehensive programming.

Country Program Highlights

China
Burnet manages the China Australia Health and HIV Facility in Beijing, and also provides technical direction for the Australia-China health project in the Tibet Autonomous Region. We have community HIV and STI projects in Tibet, and a rural community health project supports communities to identify health needs and develop solutions themselves.

We supported training of senior health workers, and undertook Tibet’s first HIV and STI prevalence study and a health resource study. Burnet assessed methadone services, conducted a review of best practice for HIV prevention, treatment and care in closed settings, and developed a training curriculum for law enforcement and prison officials.

In Burma, our Local Resource Centre has played a vital role in the emergency response post Cyclone Nargis by supporting civil society organisations to access financial, material and technical resources.
Indonesia

Burnet signed a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Indonesian Co-ordinating Ministry of People’s Welfare, making us one of the first international non-government organisations to do this. Our training in HIV Voluntary Counselling and Testing expanded nationally, our Bali HIV Care, Support and Treatment Network grew, we developed training on HIV for doctors in public health centres and hospitals, and we further developed the national network for men who have sex with men. The 9th International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific was held in Bali in August 2009; Burnet recruited and managed 170 volunteers to assist.

Lao People’s Democratic Republic

Our Lao program now manages a wide-ranging portfolio of activities. Burnet is recognised for its strong research focus and in-depth expertise on HIV prevention, particularly among men who have sex with both men and women. We began major HIV prevention work along new road developments in northern Laos, for the Asian Development Bank, and we were commissioned by the WHO to evaluate national Community Events Based HIV Surveillance. Burnet commenced new HIV prevention among men who have sex with men with support from the Global Fund; as well as receiving approval to extend the Mother and Child Health and Nutrition project in Savannakheth Province.

Mozambique

Burnet prepared three reference manuals for community counsellors, after a long period of community consultation and field testing. These manuals will enable counsellors to provide accurate information to people on a range of topics deemed critical by communities themselves. The three manuals are on Violence against Women and the new Family Law; Nutrition for HIV Positive People; and the Proper Use of Medicinal Plants and Herbs. We now have a new Country Representative, Dr José Carlos Lopez Seisdedos, who has many years’ experience in Mozambique.

“Adolescent girls are twice as likely to die as a result of pregnancy and childbirth as adult women.”

Pacific Program

Building on our previous work, Burnet formally established a Pacific Program in 2009. Funding from the Secretariat of the Pacific Community will allow us to support national HIV and STI strategic plans, guidelines for STI tests, a study of HIV and health behaviours among prisoners in Fiji, and STI surveys in Vanuatu and Fiji. We also commenced a review of Pacific responses to the H1N1 virus; and contributed to the post-tsunami relief effort in Samoa, conducting disease surveillance.

Papua New Guinea

The Tingim Laip HIV prevention project and the East New Britain Sexual Health Improvement Project both continued. Our project on Improving Immunisation and Newborn Survival at the Aid-post Level showed that village health volunteers can deliver hepatitis B birth-dose vaccinations to women in remote locations; we also explored the potential for integrating post-natal care with programs in maternal and newborn mortality. This work was recognised in global meetings of WHO, UNICEF and GAVI. Burnet works effectively with government at national and provincial levels, multilateral agencies including WHO and UNICEF, and non-government organisations including Save International and Catholic Health Services.

Sri Lanka, Vietnam and Malaysia

Burnet maintains its presence though partnerships in a number of other countries in the Asia and Pacific Regions including: Sri Lanka (improving the health and well-being of elders), Vietnam (harm reduction) and Malaysia (harm reduction).
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El Cho Zin (from September 2009)  
Finance Coordinator  
Cho Cho Mar, BCom (Institute of Economics, Yangon), CPA (Myanmar Accountancy Council)  
Finance Manager  
Hnin Nandar Win, BCom(Hons), DA (UK), ACCA  
Finance Officers  
Aung Lwin  
Wintwar Tun  
Housekeepers  
Ni Ni Mar  
San San Aye  
HR Officer  
Aye Myat Soe, BA (Bus Management), LCCI  
Information Management Coordinator  
Aye Myat Thu, BA (Business Management)  
Information Management Officer  
Nang Nechi Minn, BA (Business Management)  
IT Officers  
Myo Min Min Htike, BSc (Physics)  
Lwin Min Ko, BCSc (Computer Science)  
Logistics Officer  
Thida Win, BA (Ec)  
Monitoring and Accountability Coordinator  
Thu Thu Nwe Hlaing, BA, M Public Policy (from April 2009)  
Program Coordinator  
Phone Myint Win, MBBS (Yangon)  
Project Managers  
Aye Aye Myint, BA (Psychology) (from August 2009)  
Nang Pann El Kham, MBBS (Yangon), MHP (Bangkok)  
Khin Pa Pa Naing, MBBS (Yangon), MHP (Bangkok), DipComputer Studies  
QLMA Coordinator  
Mon Mon, MBBS, MCH  
QLMA Program Officers  
Yadanar Khin Khin Kyaw, BSc(Hons), DipBus  
Thandar Aye (from September 2009)  
Regional Officers  
William Wayan Tin Maung Win (from Aug 2009)  
Nay Nwe Lin Maung (from August 2009)  
Senior Technical Officers  
Khin Hnin Oo, MBBS (Yangon), DipApplied Psychology (Yangon)  
Aung Myint Than, MBBS (Yangon), PhD  
Mi Mi Aung Khin, MBBS (Yangon), MA  
Sienne Lai Zaw, MBBS (Yangon) (from Feb 2009)  
Tin Aung Win, BVetSc (Inst of Animal Husbandry & Science, Yangon), DipFood Tech (Yangon Inst of Tech)  
Htar Htar, BSc (Mawlamyaing), DipAcc (London)  
Hla Htay, MBBS (Yangon), MPH (Bangkok)  
Technical Advisor  
Kelly Macdonald, MSc Reproductive & Sexual Health (London), MSc Rural Planning & Dev (Ontario), BA Int Dev Studies (Calgary)  
Technical Coordinator  
Kyi Kyi Ohn (from September 2009)  
Technical Officers  
Nwe Mar, BA (Psychology), MA (Psychology)  
Ye’ Min Htoo, BSc (Physics)  
Wai Lin Kyaw, BA (English), Dip Dev Studies, Dip Social Work, Dip English  
Ne Chye Thwin, BA (Ec), AGTI  
Nay Myo Aung, LLB  
Doi Ra, BA (Public Health & Biology)  
Sai Aung Kyaw Myint, BA (Business Science)  
Htun Htun Lynn, BNSc(Genetics) (from February 2009)  
Pyae Phyo Aung, MBBS (Yangon)  
Zaw Thein Oo, MBBS (Yangon) (from March 2009)  
Htun Naing Win, BA (Geography)  
Htwe Htwe Hlaing, BSc, DipChinese DipDS  
Technical Support Coordinator  
Wint Maw Thinn, MBBS (Yangon), DipIT (Yangon)  
Papua New Guinea  
Senior Program Manager, Port Moresby  
Jim Benn, BSocSc(Waikato), PG DipAcc (Wellington), PG Dip Community Development (Deakin)  
Administration Assistant ENBSHIP  
Elizabeth Norman  
Administration Assistant Lae Jena Rekon (from September 2009)  
Administration Assistant Port Moresby  
Freda Joup  
Administration Manager Beranice Reuben  
Community Engagement Workers ENBSHIP  
Ellen Kavang  
Hadlee Supsup  
Sakaia Luana  
Rebecca Gabong-Mano  
Drivers Port Moresby  
Harry Fong  
Raymond Nambate (to May 2009)  
Terrence Kassman (to September 2009)  
Finance Assistant Naomi Vele  
Finance Manager, Kathleen Wanihara-Kema  
Immunisation Project Officer Hedwig Winjong  
Janitor Port Moresby  
Inara Udia  
Logistics Officer Caroline Tali Bunemiga  
M&E Coordinator Fidelis Jogamup

National Manager – Tingim Laip program  
Ako Maniana  
Project Management Advisor  
Stephanie Lusby  
Project Officers  
Benson McRubins  
Bridget Taimbari  
David Dena  
Denys Waibauru  
James Sekul (to May 2009)  
Jeremiah Konga (from May 2009)  
Joseph Mocke  
Meredith Tutumang  
Paul Weiyai  
Simon Kange  
Ronald Kwenama  
Rose Mauyet  
Receptionist  
Lillian Tau  
Regional Coordinators  
Tingim Laip  
Joan Usan  
Joanne Ganoka  
Judy Tokeimota  
Tanya Mossman (to August 2009)  
Social Mobilisation Health Promotion  
Lester Bilisierra  
Team Leaders ENBSHIP  
Joan Macfarlane (to April 2009)  
Geraldine Wambo  
Technical Advisor  
Pilly Mapira (from October 2009)  
Training Coordinator  
Erica Ogoba  

Thailand  
Asia Regional Representative  
Brad Otto, BA (Denver)
Where we work

The Burnet Institute has country programs and offices in Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, the Lao PDR, Burma (Myanmar), China (Tibet), and Mozambique. We also support a range of activities in Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Vietnam, and a number of Pacific Island Countries, and Central Asian nations. The Institute has regional offices in Bangkok and Suva.

Our work in the region

Through our local and internationally-located public health staff, the Burnet Institute has the capacity to respond in a timely fashion to international health crises, as well as to provide training and support to Ministries of Health and community groups in our region. In Laos for example, Burnet staff provided training to district health staff in three provinces in disease surveillance, epidemic investigation and response. Burnet also developed the only Lao language applied epidemiology training manual which is now used throughout the country. These initiatives helped the Lao Ministry of Health to respond effectively to the avian influenza outbreak.

Over the past five years, the Burnet Institute has strengthened disease surveillance capacity throughout the Tibet Autonomous Region of China, through an Australian Government-funded program. The focus of this activity has been emergency preparation and response, and has included epidemiology training, laboratory strengthening, and the establishment of computerised database systems in three prefectures. Through its participation in the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN), Burnet has provided staff to assist with cholera surveillance in Zimbabwe, the avian influenza outbreak in Cambodia, and the 2009 swine flu outbreak.
The Burnet Institute continued to play an important role in education and capacity building during 2009, both within Australia and overseas. Burnet provided training in laboratory and social research, with students from Australian and international universities undertaking postgraduate independent research projects across all of our program areas. Burnet was also actively involved in the delivery of public health courses at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, through associations with the University of Melbourne, Monash University, Deakin University, La Trobe University, and Udayana University (Bali) and Atma Jaya Catholic University in Indonesia, and the University of Malaya in Malaysia.

During 2009, there was a major review of the education program at the Burnet Institute, conducted by the new Education Principals, Ms Marion Brown and Professor Steve Gerondakis; the review assessed the education policy and practice. The review process included consultation with relevant Burnet staff, current and past students, and external informants from other medical research institutes. The report confirmed the depth and breadth of the current Burnet education program, reflecting the commitment of each Centre to providing quality education for students, and produced a five-year strategic plan for implementing these recommendations. In addition, there was a consolidation of oversight of the research undergraduate, honours and postgraduate students with the formation of the Research Students Committee, chaired by Associate Professor Rosemary Ffrench. Associate Professor Anthony Jaworowski retired as postgraduate coordinator during 2009 and we thank him for his many years service to the Institute in this role. In addition, Dr Heidi Drummer joined Associate Professor Paul Gorry as an honours coordinator.

**Honours Program**

The Institute accepts honours students from all major universities within Victoria with the aim of providing training in public health, infectious diseases and immunology research programs.

In 2009, the Burnet Institute hosted eight honours students, three from the University of Melbourne and five students from Monash University. The honours projects covered diverse areas of research including the immunology of hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection, the structure and function of cell surface receptors, mechanisms of immune evasion by pathogens, population genetics of malaria and HIV replication.

The Burnet Institute also hosted an Honours Discipline-specific module through the Department of Immunology, Monash University. The topic for 2009 was 'Emerging Infectious Diseases’. Students were asked to write a 5000-word essay in the format of a Nature News and Views article on an emerging pathogen of their choice, followed by an oral presentation. Six students completed the module, including students from the Baker Institute, Department of Immunology and the Burnet Institute. This project contributed to the assessed component of their course work.

You will find further information about Burnet’s Honours Program at http://www.burnet.edu.au/home/education
Postgraduate Study
The Burnet Institute places great emphasis on postgraduate study, with the aim of providing high-quality research training in areas related to public health and basic science in infectious diseases and immunology.

In 2009 there were 24 students undertaking PhD research programs at the Burnet Institute, predominantly enrolled via Monash University and the University of Melbourne. These PhDs covered a range of topics including HIV entry and replication, HIV and reproduction, HCV virology and immunology, malaria, sexual health, and vaccine development.

Advanced Medical Science (AMS) Program
A one-year research program for third-year medical students from the University of Melbourne. In 2009, Burnet had three AMS students – two in Burnet’s laboratories – Pilate Omphi Ntsuke and Jing Yuan Joshua Tey; and Nik Ahmad Akmal Nik Zulkepeli in the Department of Infectious Diseases at The Alfred.

Centre for International Health (CIH)
The Centre for International Health (CIH) again offered 14 international health short courses in 2009. These CIH subjects, accredited by Monash University and/or University of Melbourne, can be credited towards a Master of Public Health or Master of International Health degree, a Graduate Diploma in International Health, or may even be attended by students not seeking any academic accreditation. A total of 225 students were enrolled in these courses, with many completing two or more subjects. Total subject enrolments within Burnet’s CIH for 2009 were 395, 17 more than for 2008. Similar to previous years, the enrolment data shows that the student cohort comprises significantly more women (181) than men (44).

In addition to this core teaching, CIH was involved in some exciting education and training activities. This year the Asia Regional HIV course was moved from Phnom Penh to Bali and held in the days leading up to the 9th International Congress. 15 participants from eight countries, the Centre was disappointed with the enrolment number. In 2010 we will not run the course but, instead, will explore other alternatives for training in the region. Under the Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Malaya, the CIH also conducted two short courses on Awareness to Harm Reduction in Kuala Lumpur. The two courses, one for paramedics and one for local NGOs in Malaysia, were funded by the University and were well received.

A major review confirmed the depth and breadth of Burnet’s current education program, reflecting the commitment of each Centre to providing quality education for students.

Centre for Population Health (CPH)
The Centre for Population Health (CPH) provided two short courses in conjunction with the Centre for International Health (CIH) during 2009. CPH staff also presented teaching sessions, as needed, for other organisations. These teaching sessions included General Practice Victoria and the HIV, Hepatitis and STI Education and Resource Centre. In addition, CPH provided the field-placement component for one Master of Applied Epidemiology student, studying the course through the Australian National University’s National Centre for Epidemiology and Public Health.

For the past four years, CPH has been successfully running a training program that offers young people from marginalised communities the chance to undertake a traineeship in which they gain practical research skills, and also allows them to study and obtain a qualification in a relevant field. The program is supported by grants from the Myer, Bokhara, IOOF, Invergowrie, Ray and Joyce Uebergang and Matana Foundations, and the Gandel Charitable Trust. Each traineeship is for a two-year period, with a new trainee selected to start each year. In 2009 two of the three trainees focused on hepatitis C outreach and field work, and the other was involved with research on sexually transmitted infections in collaboration with the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service.

This comparison of Centre for International Health enrolment data for years 1999 to 2009 shows that the student cohort comprises significantly more women (181) than men (44).
Our award winning students

The following list of awards is testimony to the high quality of students that Burnet attracts, they are highly regarded on the national and international stage.

**PhDs awarded in 2009 included:**

- **Michele Giles:** Centre for Population Health and Centre for Virology
- **Lachlan Gray:** Centre for Virology
- **Kate Jones:** Centre for Virology
- **Jasminka Sterjovski:** Centre for Virology
- **Tong Yuh Koon:** Centre for Virology

Several students were awarded prizes during 2009 including:

- **Hayley Bullen:** Student Travel Award ASP and ARC/NHMRC Parasitology Conference
- **Daniel Cowley:** Young Investigator Award, Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections, Montreal; Young Investigator Travel Award, International Conference on Neurovirology, Miami and Monash Postgraduate Travel Award
- **Johanna Dean:** Young Investigator Travel Award, International HCV Conference; Burnet Virology Travel Award; Australian Virology Group Student Award
- **Jacqueline Flynn:** ACH2 Conference Student Award for Hepatitis Research; Alfred Research Week Poster Prize for Infectious Diseases Research; AMREP postgraduate research symposium (invited speaker); FIMSA Postgraduate Workshop Travel Award; Monash Postgraduate Travel Award, International HCV conference
- **Lachlan Gray:** Young Investigator Award, Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections, Montreal
- **Gregor Lichtfuss:** ASHM Conference Travel Award; best basic science oral presentation, Australasian HIV/AIDS Conference
- **Alisa Pedrana:** Burnet Institute Public Health Travel Award
- **Michael Roche:** ACH2 Student Award
- **Tana Taechalertpaisan:** Student Poster Award and Student Travel Award, ASP and ARC/NHMRC Parasitology Conference

Burnet’s PhD students also initiated a new general journal club, held monthly, with presentations by senior scientists from the Institute, and organised by postgraduate student representative, Michael Roche.

For further information regarding postgraduate research programs at the Burnet Institute, please visit http://www.burnet.edu.au/home/education or contact Associate Professor Rosemary ffrench at ffrench@burnet.edu.au.
1. **Fenner Lecture Award:** The Fenner Lecture is presented by, and pays tribute to, a Burnet Institute staff member who has made a significant contribution to the Institute’s vision and mission in the areas of medical research and/or public health. This award honours Professor Frank Fenner, AC, CMG, MBE, one of Australia’s greatest scientists who has made outstanding contributions to international virology and public health. In 2009, the honour of presenting the Fenner Lecture was awarded to **Professor Mark Hogarth**, Deputy Director of the Institute and Head of the Centre for Immunology, pictured here with Burnet’s Director and CEO Professor Brendan Crabb (left) and Burnet’s Chair, Mr Alastair Lucas.

2. **Gust-McKenzie Medal:** The Gust-McKenzie Medal is awarded to a Burnet Institute mid-career staff member in recognition of excellence in either research and/or public health. The Medal is named in honour of the founding Directors of both the Burnet and Austin Research Institutes: Professor Ian Gust, AO, and Emeritus Professor Ian McKenzie, AM. In 2009 the winner of this award was **Associate Professor Heidi Drummer**, pictured here with Burnet’s Chair, Mr Alastair Lucas and Burnet’s Director and CEO Professor Brendan Crabb.

3. **Edelmira Peregrino Go International Health Student of the Year Award:** This award is given to the international health student who achieves the highest academic results in international health subjects in a given year. The award is in honour of Edelmira Peregrino Go (affectionately known as Mai Mai), one of the first students to complete the Master of Public Health (International Health), who died after a year-long battle with cancer in 2003. In 2009, the Edelmira Peregrino Go International Health Student of the Year Award was presented to **Geoff Chan** receiving his award from Head of the Centre, Professor Mike Toole.

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**Visitors to Burnet**

1. In December 2009 the Burma (Myanmar) program was pleased to welcome and host the senior leaders of the Phaung Daw Oo Monastic Education School (PDO) to the Burnet Institute. The **Venerable U Nayaka (Principal), U Pu Nar Nanda (Patron) and U Win Nyunt** came to discuss how HIV/health, education and civil society strengthening are being addressed through their school. It is rare for senior monks to be granted permission to travel outside of Burma, especially in recent times. It was a great privilege and honour to host U Nayaka and U Pu Nar Nanda at Burnet. Pictured here with Dino Asproloupos and Associate Professor David Anderson.

2. Burnet Institute hosted a visit by **His Highness, Prince Manvendra Singh Gohil**, Crown Prince of the former state of Rajpipla, India, in November 2009. The Prince was given a tour through the Institute, and met with the Institute’s Centre Heads. The AIDS Council of New South Wales (ACON) coordinated his visit, with assistance from the Burnet Institute. Pictured here beside Professor Brendan Crabb with Associate Professor Rose Ffrench.

3. On 3 March 2009 **Sharon Camp**, the President of Guttmacher Institute, in Washington DC, visited Burnet. She met with Mike Toole, Head of Centre for International Health, Wendy Holmes, Bruce Parnell, and the Development working group, Lisa Natoli, Mick Creati and Heads of Centre for Population Health, John Reeder and Margaret Hellard. This visit was an opportunity to discuss mutual interests, to learn about the work of the respective institutes, and for a useful exchange of experiences. The Guttmacher Institute shares common interests with Burnet in the areas of sexual and reproductive health of young people, the promotion of family planning, and prevention of gender-based violence. Pictured with Wendy Holmes (left) and Mike Toole.

4. In October 2009, **Mr Mark Butler, MP**, Parliamentary Secretary for Health with responsibility for the NHMRC, came to Burnet. The purpose of this visit was to familiarise the Minister with the work of the Institute, and for him to be briefed on issues of key importance to us as an organisation. The ministerial party was taken on a tour of the laboratories and public health areas, accompanied by Burnet’s Director, Brendan Crabb, and Chair of the Board, Alastair Lucas. Pictured here with Gilda Tachedjian.
Corporate and Support Services provide a range of management and administrative activities necessary to support the Institute’s broad range of activities. The division includes: business development, commercialisation, corporate governance, facilities management, finance, fundraising, human resources, information technology, occupational health and safety, public affairs and communications, and the research office.
Not only a year of change for the Institute, 2009 was also the year we recognised and responded to the changes that had occurred over the previous four years. While adapting to these changes, their significance and impact reached a point where a formal review and realignment was warranted. Over that time the Institute had increased in size (staff numbers) and turnover (dollars) by more than 50 per cent. So, to coincide with the consolidation of Melbourne activities to one campus, a formal review was commissioned to ensure that the Corporate and Support Services (CSS) was best placed to meet the needs of the Institute in 2009 and beyond.

Not surprisingly, many recommendations emerged from the review, identifying areas where some streamlining and efficiencies would be possible, and areas where additional attention is required. A restructured CSS created the foundation for the new scope of services to be provided with focus and efficiency, and aligned to the current and future needs of the Institute.

Key recommendations from this review included:

• the consolidation and integration of commercialisation and IP, legal services, grants management and business development activities, leading to the formalisation of a Business Development Office (BDO)
• the separation of Fundraising from the Public Affairs department, to facilitate ‘Fundraising’ and ‘Public Affairs and Communication (PAC)’ activities to be delivered with greater focus and accountability
• a revision of the skills required to support the IT requirements of the Institute
• a need to invest further in laboratory safety and OHS initiatives across the Institute
• the establishment of a precinct-wide flow cytometry facility
• the re-establishment of an Executive Officer role to join the Institute’s leadership team to allow for more a proactive and prominent role in Institute-wide, precinct-wide and sector-wide issues and initiatives.

While these changes were of great benefit at the macro/Institute level, it is acknowledged such significant changes also impact on an individual level; many staff experienced changes to their personal roles and responsibilities, and the structure of workgroups etc. The level of professionalism and enthusiasm of staff during this period of change reflected the need for change, and their desire to deliver the best possible support and to contribute to the success of the Institute.

During this period of change CSS continued to deliver on several major initiatives as well as the ongoing provision of core services. The PAC team coordinated and implemented the Institute’s rebranding, the IT team implemented a help desk system for support and implemented a new telecommunications system (VoIP), the finance team took on responsibility for the purchasing and distribution functions for BakerID – which also included the establishment of a major stores facility for both Institutes, and the Business Development Office undertook a major review of our patent portfolio.
The Research Support and Facilities team managed the relocation of staff, equipment and operations from the Austin campus, and of course (with IT) have been planning for the move into the new building and the relocation of staff within the Burnet Tower, scheduled for March/April 2010. The move from the Austin campus also signalled the end of operating our own animal facility; the successful relocation of the breeding stock to other facilities (primarily at AMREP ) was a major achievement.

2009 was also the year of the Global Financial Crisis (GFC). The GFC had an impact on Burnet, especially on CSS via the expected reduction on fundraising revenue. Like most organisations our fundraising revenue was well down in 2009 and was further reduced by the decision to defer our major event, the ROMP, from October 2009 to March 2010. While prompted by the GFC and the reduction in sponsorships, it also is a longer term re-scheduling to what we believe will be a more suitable time of year. Despite The GFC, Burnet was still generously supported and I would like to thank all of our personal donors, organisational donors and partners for their support of our events and fundraising initiatives throughout the year. Elsewhere in this Report we acknowledge the support we received and provide information on what the Institute has been able to achieve with this additional income.

While a number of people joined CSS, mainly due to the changes noted above, we also experienced departures, some related to the above changes and some for more personal reasons. I wish to thank and acknowledge all those who left the organisation in 2009 for their contribution to the Institute in the CSS areas over the years. I would also like to make special mention of Valerie Skahill, who officially left in 2010 after 16 years as the PA to the Director of the Institute. Valerie was PA to three of the four Directors in Burnet’s history, and her stellar contribution was acknowledged in a farewell presentation in February 2010.

2010 will be another challenging year, with CSS to coordinate and implement the major logistical exercise of relocating 200+ staff to our new premises at the AMREP campus. There will no doubt be a ‘bedding down’ period of operational procedures and arrangements, following the move in April. We will also focus on growing our discretionary revenue base via a new fundraising strategy, including the launching of the Sir Zelman Cowen Foundation and the redevelopment of the Institute’s website. Amid these new initiatives, we will strive to further refine and develop the core suite of CSS services and value-added inputs, to support the Institute’s staff, the Centres and various stakeholders.

“A restructured CSS created the foundation for the new scope of services to be provided with focus and efficiency, and aligned to the current and future needs of the Institute.”

Burnet’s technical leadership team is made up of Centre Heads, Principals, the Deputy Directors and the Director (absent David Anderson and Sharon Lewin).
Corporate and Support Services: our staff

EXECUTIVE

**Director**
Brendan Crabb, PhD

**Deputy Directors**
P Mark Hogarth, PhD, NHMRC Senior Principal Research Fellow
David Anderson, BSc(Hons), PhD, NHMRC Senior Research Fellow

**Chief Operating Officer**
Geoff Drenkhahn, MBA Tech Mgr (Deakin), FAIM

**Executive Officer**
Paul Rathbone, BAppSc, FAIMS, Grad Dip (Public Relations), MBus (Marketing) (from June 2009)

**Company Secretary**
Peter Spiller, BBus, CPA

**Personal Assistant to the Director**
Valerie Skahill, BA(Hons)

**Personal Assistants to Deputy Directors**
Susan Collins (Professor Hogarth)
Nadine Barnes (Associate Professor Anderson)

**Personal Assistant to the Chief Operating Officer**
Andrea Eakins (from July 2009)

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT

**BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICE**

**Head**
David Anderson, BSc(Hons), PhD, NHMRC Senior Research Fellow

**Manager, Research and Legal Office**
Alison Greenway, PhD, BSc(Hons), LLB

**Intellectual Property Manager**
Maria Harrison Smith (to July 2009)

Commercialisation Manager
Serina Cucuzza, BSc(Hons), BComm

FUNDRAISING AND EVENTS

**Head**
Brendon Grail, BBus

**Director of Events**
Fiona Rhody-Nicoll, LLB(Hons)

**Community Development Manager**
Ian Haigh, BA

**Relationships Manager**
Pin Affleck, BFA(Hons)

**Events Administrator**
Rachel Lenders, BA

**Trusts and Foundations Coordinator**
Hazel Squair, BMA (Public Relations) (to June 2009)
Louise McNeil (from June 2009)

**MELBOURNE CITY ROMP**

**Event Manager**
Petrina Boles, B Bus (from July 2009)

**Events Coordinator**
Stephanie Luketic, BBus, Dip HR, Adv Dip Bus Mgmt (from September 2009)

**Marketing Coordinator**
Clara Hilsen, BA, (from October 2009)

PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS

**Director**
Paul Rathbone, BAppSc, FAIMS, Grad Dip (Public Relations), MBus (Marketing)

**Marketing and Communications Manager**
Gillian Chamberlain, AdvCertBus (RMIT), Cert IV MagWriteEdit&Pub (RMIT), CertDirMar (ADMA)

**Event Media and Communications**
Tracy Parish, BA(Sports Journalism) (from July 2009)

Senior Public Affairs Officer
Tracy Routledge, BA (Communications)

Public Affairs Officer
Hazel Squair, BMA (Public Relations) (from June 2009)

**Receptionist**
Sieyin Phung, BBus (to July 2009)
Amanda Fairbairn (from November 2009)

RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

**FINANCE**

Chief Financial Officer
Peter Spiller, BBus, CPA

Accounting Manager
Pixie Tan, BCom, CPA

Finance Manager
Rob Tanner, BBA, CA

Assistant Accountant
Peter Dib

**Finance Officers**

Liz Kitchen
Sonja Murphy (from June 2009)

**Payroll Officer**
Jack Bambino

**Purchasing Officers**
Mark Hamilton, BA
Kevin Hesse

HUMAN RESOURCES

**Human Resources Manager**
Paul Duffy, BA, Grad Dip (HR/IR)

**Research Support and Facilities**

**Head**
Bruce Loveland, PhD

RESEARCH SUPPORT AND FACILITIES

**Head**
Bruce Loveland, PhD

SAFETY

**OHS Manager**
Margarete White, PhD (from August 2009)

**OHS Laboratory Specialist**
Sol Hall

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

**Head**
Paul Stephens, BComp

**Staff**
Britta Taylor, MA (to July 2009)
Damon Warren, BSurv(Hons)
Gary Jamieson, PhD
Matt Gray, Dip InfoSys
Dyson Simmons, BInfoSys(Hons)
John Ngo
Mark Bean, CCNA, CNA, MCP (from July 2009)

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

**Operations Manager**
Dana Herman, BAppSc, MBA (to February 2009)

**Facilities Manager**
Soto Kolivas, PhD

**Facilities Officer**
Gary Jamieson, PhD

**Animal Technology Assistant Manager**
Julie Toussaint (to March 2009)

**Staff**
Josh Lorimer (to July 2009)
Carlie Tobias, DipAppSc, Animal Technology (to July 2009)

**Senior Biological Resources Manager**
Tricia Murphy, DipAppSc, Animal Technology

LABORATORY SERVICES

**AMREP Senior Flow Cytometrist**
Geza Paukovics, BA (Med Lab Sci)

**Research Assistant – Flow Cytometry**
Michael Thomson

**Technical Assistants**
Leanne Reardon
Barb Ledwidge

**Storepersons**
Blaine Oataway
Kerry Bridges-Tull

**Maintenance Technician**
Chris Pope
Burnet researchers were again successful in securing funding from the Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology (ACH2), with seven grants commencing in 2010 across the key areas of diagnostics, vaccines and drug development. The ACH2 scheme funds translational projects specifically in the area of HIV and hepatitis.

Burnet’s Immunological Monitoring Facility has been established building on the capabilities and expertise of Associate Professors Rose Ffrench and Bruce Loveland. The facility aims to become a NATA-accredited facility that will develop optimised and validated immunological assays for clinical trials and preclinical research compliant to Good Laboratory Practice standards (cGLP). In 2009, Burnet collaborated with Nucleus Network Pty Ltd on a number of clinical trials including those for Alvine Pharmaceuticals, Nexpep Pty Ltd and Schering Plough. The facility aims to achieve accreditation by 2010 and attract further funding to enable it to become self-sustaining.

The Burnet Institute continues to be a participant in the CRC for Biomarker Translation, which officially commenced operation in 2007. Other participants include La Trobe University, The Mater Medical Research Institute, Mater Misericordiae Health Services, The Women’s & Children Health Research Institute, and The Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science. The commercial partners are Amgen (USA) and Becton Dickinson Biosciences (USA). The CRC principal objective is the development of antibodies directed against therapeutic and diagnostic targets (biomarkers) present on cells that play a key role in major diseases including autoimmune disease (especially rheumatoid arthritis) and cancers (haematological, colorectal, breast and prostate). The CRC has been awarded AUD$30.6m over seven years.

**Commercialisation Office**

**Associate Professor David Anderson** – Deputy Director and Head, Business Development Office  
**Ms Serina Cucuzza** – Commercial Development Manager  
**Dr Alison Greenway** – Legal Counsel and Research Office Manager  
**Ms Maria Harrison-Smith** – Intellectual Property Manager  
**Mr Tony Mellen** – Centre for International Health Business Development Manager  
**Dr Patricia Mottram** – Project Manager

**Working Group Committee Members (including individuals listed above)**

**Professor Mark Hogarth**  
**Professor Geoffrey Pietersz**

**Board, IP and Commercialisation Committee:**

**Mr Rob Milne** – Chairman  
**Mr Alastair Lucas**

**Associate Professor David Anderson**  
**Professor Mark Hogarth**  
**Ms Serina Cucuzza**

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**Commercial Activity**

The Institute in 2009 consolidated its commercialisation team within a formal Business Development Office (BDO). Associate Professor David Anderson was appointed head of the BDO, and has firsthand experience in commercialising medical research through his association with Burnet’s spin-off company, Select Vaccines Pty Ltd, as well as the more recent spin-out company, See-D4 Pty Ltd.

Burnet filed two new provisional applications in 2009 as listed below.

**PATENTS GRANTED – 2009**

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<th>Filing Date</th>
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<td>Prophylactic Protocols</td>
<td>Au prov</td>
<td>11-Dec-09</td>
<td>61/285,708</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Burnet’s partner companies IgAvax Pty Ltd and 4G Vaccines Pty Ltd continued their research into developing an effective intranasal vaccine for respiratory diseases and a vaccine for the treatment of, and protection against, breast cancer. Research is progressing according to milestones and both companies are likely to reach clinical stage by 2010–2011.

- Associate Professor Heidi Drummer and Dr Andy Poumbourios continued to progress work on a promising vaccine candidate for the prevention of hepatitis C virus infection.

- Associate Professor David Anderson and Professor Suzanne Crowe have continued to progress their project for the development of a rapid point-of-care CD4 test, initially funded by the CD4 Initiative, Imperial College London through a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The test aims to provide a quick and accurate method of measuring CD4 levels in HIV-infected individuals, suitable for use in resource-poor settings where there is no access to laboratory infrastructure. The team has been successful in raising further investment from the Medical Research Commercialisation Fund (MRCF) to support the optimisation and development of the ELISA-based version of this test for use in the developed world. See-D4 Pty Ltd has been established as a vehicle to commercialise the technologies.

- Associate Professor David Anderson and Professor Geoffrey Pietersz were successful in receiving NHMRC development grants commencing mid-2009 worth more than AUD$330,000 in total for the further development of Associate Professor Anderson’s diagnostic CD4 test and Professor Pietersz’ novel vaccine formulation for the immunotherapy of adenocarcinomas. Dr Elizabeth Grgacic was successful in receiving an NHMRC development grant commencing 2010 worth nearly AUD$140,000 for the further development of a novel candidate vaccine against HIV infection.

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**NEW PROVISIONALS – 2009**

- Associate Professor David Anderson and Professor Pietersz were successful in receiving a research grant worth nearly AUD$330,000 for further development of a novel vaccine candidate against HIV infection.

---

**AUD$140,000 for the further development of a novel vaccine candidate against HIV infection.**
Our Organisational Structure

Burnet’s new structure, put in place during 2008 and 2009, laid a solid foundation for the Institute’s future. A future that marries laboratory research, population studies, public health intervention and capacity building programs to address major health problems in Australia and in our region. Our special emphasis on the specific health needs of disadvantaged communities in Australia and overseas remains the central platform of the Institute.

With these issues in mind, the Institute has been reorganised into a structure that is appropriate for the effective operation of an organisation of this scale and complexity.

The cornerstone of this structure was the creation of four Centres of excellence. The Centres – Virology, Immunology, Population Health and International Health. The Centres represent Burnet’s key areas of research and public health strength, and are led by the Institute’s most experienced and highly credentialed scientists.

Two new mechanisms have also been created to foster cross-institute activities and to promote attention to our central themes. The first is the formal recognition of crosscutting themes and the appointment of Burnet Principals to represent them. The second approach to ensuring cross-institute thinking is the creation of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) which comprises Centre Heads and Principals together with the Director and Deputy Directors.

While reform to the scientific leadership has been achieved with the restructure diagrammatically represented above, Burnet Institute administration and corporate services has also been reviewed and overseen by the newly created position of Chief Operating Officer with the key purpose of ensuring that the Institute is supported in the most efficient and effective manner.
Governance Statement

The Board of Directors has adopted a Governance framework which incorporates the ‘Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations’ of the Australian Stock Exchange and which is appropriate for the size, complexity and operations of the Burnet Institute. While some of these provisions are particular to listed for-profit corporations, many are just as relevant to a complex not-for-profit entity such as the Burnet Institute as they are to the commercial sector. The ongoing relevance and effectiveness of this framework will be periodically reviewed to reflect changing circumstances and ways of improving the practices we have adopted.

Role of the Board and Management

The Board’s primary role is the protection and enhancement of the long-term interests of the Burnet Institute and its stakeholders. To fulfil this role, the Board gives consideration to the range of research and other activities that are appropriate to the Institute ensuring that the key stakeholders’ interests are addressed. The Board is responsible for the overall governance of the Institute including formulating (on the advice of the Executive Director) its strategic direction, ensuring that risk management policies are in place and are being monitored, establishing and monitoring the Executive Director’s and management’s goals and performance and ensuring the integrity of internal control and management information systems. It is also responsible for approving and monitoring financial and other reporting.

To assist the execution of its responsibilities, the Board has established the following Board committees:

- Audit, Finance and Risk
- Investment
- Intellectual Property and Commercialisation
- Fundraising
- Project
- Research Advisory

Matters attended to by Board Committees are reported to the Board following each committee meeting. Board Committees are authorised to seek any information they require from any officer of the Institute and may take such independent professional advice as they consider necessary. They have no executive powers regarding their findings and recommendations. The Board may at any time determine to address matters identified within a committee’s terms of reference at the full Board level.

Responsibility for the operation and administration of the Institute has been delegated to the Executive Director and the executive management team. These responsibilities have been delineated by formal authority delegations.

Composition of the Board

In accordance with the Institute’s Constitution, the number of directors constituting the Board must not be less than eight and not more than 20 and will include the Executive Director in its number. A majority of the Board should be independent directors, in particular the role of the Chair and Executive Director should not be exercised by the same person.

Directors shall be appointed by resolution of the Board and each Affiliated University may propose one director.

The appointment of Board Members is run by the Chair of the Board who will review nominations in consultation with the Executive Director and other Members. Appointments will be approved by the Board and confirmed at the AGM.

All Board Members appointed to the Burnet Institute Board will receive a letter of appointment from the Chair, which sets out the basis of the appointment. That letter will outline background information, documentation and policies including:

- Term of appointment
- Meeting attendance expectations
- Governance charter
- Constitution
- Committees
- Board papers
- Confidentiality
- Access to professional advice
- Conflicts of interest
- Induction

As a general rule, Board Members are not expected to serve for more than 10 years. This rule will be subject to review on a case-by-case basis.

Ethical and Responsible Decision Making

All Directors and employees are expected to discharge their duties in good faith and act honestly in the best interests of the Institute, striving at all times to enhance the reputation and performance of the Institute. Directors must ensure that they use the powers of office for the proper purpose and in the best interests of the Institute as a whole. They must not make improper use of information gained through their position as a director, or take improper advantage of their position as a director.

Directors are required to undertake diligent analysis of all proposals placed before the Board and make reasonable enquiries to ensure that the Institute is operating efficiently, effectively and legally towards achieving its goals.

Directors must keep the Board advised, on an ongoing basis, of any interest that could potentially conflict with those of the Institute and any development which may impact the directors’ perceived or actual independence. The Board has procedures in place to allow directors to disclose potential conflicts of interests.
Directors do not participate in the day-to-day management of the Institute. Consequently, representations or agreements with suppliers, clients, employees, consultants, professional firms or other parties or organisations are made by management unless such an authority is explicitly delegated by the Board to directors, either individually or as a Member of a Committee.

The Institute has adopted guidelines for dealing in securities. Directors and employees have been advised of the seriousness and consequences of trading in public companies with which the Institute has entered into commercial arrangements, when in possession of confidential information which would have a material effect on the share price of those companies. The Company Secretary’s written approval must be sought before Board Members and employees can trade shares in these companies. Approval will be granted when the Company Secretary is satisfied that the Board Member or employee does not have confidential information in these companies.

Risk Management

The Board, through its Audit, Finance and Risk Committee, has responsibility for ensuring that risk management policies are in place and are being monitored. The Audit, Finance and Risk Committee reports to the Board regularly on the status of risks.

The Institute’s risk management process is supported by:

- Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 4360:1999 - Risk Management, which provides a generic guide for the establishment and implementation of the risk management process involving the identification, analysis, evaluation, treatment and ongoing monitoring of risks
- Burnet Institute’s Risk Management guidelines
- Training as required to ensure that management and staff of the Burnet Institute understand and implement this Policy.

Audit, Finance and Risk Committee

The main role of the Audit, Finance and Risk Committee is to audit the business operations and to oversee the finance and risk management functions. The Committee shall have unlimited access to the Internal and External Auditors and to senior management and may require reports and presentations on specific items.

Specific responsibilities of the Committee include:

- Reviewing the risk management framework and internal control processes relating to all risks of the Institute
- Monitoring internal controls in relation to financial and commercial activities, legislative and regulatory conformance and asset protection
- Ensuring that the preparation and presentation of the annual financial statements show a true and fair view and comply with all relevant accounting standards and statutory requirements
- Facilitating open communication between the Board, Audit, Finance and Risk Committee, Senior Management and Auditors
- Determining the adequacy of the Institute’s administrative, quality, project and accounting systems
- Developing and enforcing a framework for accountability at all levels of the organisation.

Remuneration and Succession Planning

The Remuneration Committee reviews and makes recommendations to the Executive Director on remuneration packages and policies applicable to senior staff.

The review of the Executive Director’s performance is conducted by the Chair with one other Board Member. However, all Board Members have the opportunity to provide input into the process. The Executive Director’s remuneration is approved by the Board.

Succession planning is undertaken as follows:

- In relation to the Executive Director – conducted by the Board
- In relation to other senior staff – by the Executive Director with input from the Board
- In relation to staff below senior level – by the Executive Director with input from the senior management team.

Integrity in Financial Reporting

The Audit, Finance and Risk Committee manages the relationship between the Institute and the external auditor on behalf of the Board. It recommends to the Board potential auditors for appointment and the terms of engagement, including remuneration. The Audit, Finance and Risk Committee evaluates the performance of the external auditor during its term of appointment against specified criteria which include delivering value to stakeholders and the Institute, cost-effectiveness and maintaining the highest levels of professional integrity, objectivity and independence.

The Executive Director and the Chief Financial Officer provide formal statements to the Board that in all material respects:

- The Institute’s financial statements present a true and fair view of the Institute’s financial condition and operational results and comply with relevant accounting standards
- The risk management and internal compliance and control systems are sound, appropriate and operating efficiently and effectively.

2009 Burnet Institute Annual Report: page 53
## ASX Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASX Recommendation</th>
<th>Compliance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1 Lay solid foundations for management and oversight</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1 Establish the functions reserved to the Board and those delegated to senior executives</td>
<td>Comply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2 Structure the Board to add value</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1 A majority of the Board should be independent Directors</td>
<td>Comply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2 The Chair should be an independent Director</td>
<td>Comply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 The roles of Chair and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) should not be exercised by same person</td>
<td>Comply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4 The Board should establish a nomination committee</td>
<td>Comply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5 Disclose the process for evaluating the performance of the board, its committees and individual directors</td>
<td>Comply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3 Promote ethical and responsible decision-making</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1 Establish a code of conduct</td>
<td>Comply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2 Establish a policy concerning trading in company securities by Directors, senior executives and employees</td>
<td>Comply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4 Safeguard integrity in financial reporting</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1 Establish an Audit Committee</td>
<td>Comply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2 Audit Committee structure to include:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Only non-executive Directors</td>
<td>Comply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• A majority of independent Directors</td>
<td>Comply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• An independent chairperson who is not chairperson of the Board</td>
<td>Comply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Consists of at least three members</td>
<td>Comply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5 Make timely and balanced disclosures</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.1 Continuous policies and procedures</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6 Respect the rights of stakeholders</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.1 Design a communications policy for promoting effective communication with stakeholders and encourage their participation at general meetings</td>
<td>Comply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7 Recognise and manage risk</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.1 Establish policies for the oversight and management of material business risks</td>
<td>Comply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.2 Management to design and implement the risk management and internal control system to manage the material business risks</td>
<td>Comply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.3 Written statement to Board by CEO and CFO in accordance with section 295A of the Corporations Act</td>
<td>Comply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8 Remunerate fairly and responsibly</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.1 The Board should establish a Remuneration Committee</td>
<td>Comply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2 Distinguish non-executive directors’ remuneration from that of executive directors and senior executives</td>
<td>Comply</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Committee Members

BOARD SUB-COMMITTEES:
Audit Finance & Risk Committee:
Ross Cooke – Chair*
Neil Edwards
Investment Committee:
Denise Allen – Chair*
Sid Khotkar*
David Lee*
Alastair Lucas
IP & Commercialisation Committee:
Rob Milne – Chair*
David Anderson
Serina Cucuzza
Tracey Batten (to December 2008)
P Mark Hogarth (to December 2008)
Research Advisory Committee:
James McCluskey – Chair*
Michael Alpers*
Lorena Brown*
Nick Crofts*
Brendan Crabb
Peter Doherty
John Dowling
P Mark Hogarth
Anne Kelso* (from 2009)
Fundraising Committee:
Alastair Lucas – Chair*
Henry Lancer
Maria Myers
Natasha Stott Despoja
Rob Milne
Brendan Crabb
ACCS Project Committee:
Rob Milne – Chair*
Brendan Crabb
Alastair Lucas
Mark Hogarth
Neil Edwards
Ross Cooke
INTERNAL COMMITTEES:
Scientific Advisory Committee:
Brendan Crabb – Chair
David Anderson
Marion Brown
Suzanne Crowe
Steve Gerondakis
Margaret Helland
Mark Hogarth
Robert Power
John Reeder
Mike Toole
Geoff Drenkhahn
OH&S Committee:
Con Sonza – Chair
Margarete While
Sol Hall
Soto Kolivas
Andy Poumbourios
Bruce Lovelands
Johnson Mak
Paul Gilson
Brendan Crabb
Geoff Drenkhahn
Lab/Group Representatives:
Amanda Brass
Anne Ellett
Blaine Oataway
Laveena Sharma
Matt Gray
Nadine Barnes
Owen Proudfoot
Paula Ellenberg
Raelene Grumont
Rebecca Butcher
Sarah Charnaud
Sooing Ling
Stephanie Day
Trish Clark
Laboratory Users Group:
Heidi Drummer – Chair
David Anderson
Jenny Anderson
Alyssa Barry
Melissa Churchill
Brendan Crabb
Geoff Drenkhahn
Rosemary French
Steve Gerondakis
Paul Gilson
Paul Gorry
Elizabeth Gracac
Mark Hamilton
Anthony Jaworowski
Bruce Lovelands
Johnson Mak
Andy Poumbourios
Li Shuo
Ajantha Solomon
Con Sonza
Gilda Tachedjian
Margarette White
Sol Hall
Meredith O’Keefe
Research Students Committee:
Rosemary French – Chair
Michael Roche (student representative)
Anthony Jaworowski
Heidi Drummer
Paul Gorry
Campbell Aitken
Alyssa Barry
Melissa Churchill
Gilda Tachedjian
Paul Ramsland
Marie Powell
Laboratory Equipment and Facilities Committee:
Melissa Churchill – Chair
Ashish Banjeere
Alyssa Barry
Brendan Crabb
Kylie Goy
Vicki Greengrass
David Harrison
Marcel Hinjen
Gary Jamieson
Soto Kolivas
Maree Powell
Paul Rathbone
Gilda Tachedjian
IP Working Group:
Geoff Pietersz – Chair (to August 2009)
David Anderson – Chair (from August 2009)
Mark Hogarth
Serina Cucuzza
Alison Greenway
Pat Motttram
David Randerson*
AMREP AS Pty Ltd:
Andrew Giddy – Chair*
Brendan Crabb
Jenny Grace*
Steve Wesselingh*
Garry Jennings*
David Anderson (to October 2009)
Steve Gerondakis (to October 2009)
AMREP Animal Ethics Committee:
Raffi Gugasyan – Chair
Geoff Head – Chair
Dr Kay Juliff*
Mandy Errington*
Carol Ginn*
Helen Kiriazis*
Chris Tikelis*
Judy DeHaan*
Robert Andrews*
Charles Hardy*
Ashish Banerjee
Michael Skilton*
Jaye Chin-Dusting*
Frank Alderuccio*
Marissa Bowden*
Robyn Sullivan*
Nicholas Kanarev*
Ian Burns*
Noel Ancell*
Patricia Baitz*
Mary Klein*
Ms Debra Ramsey*
Mr David Spiteri*
* Member external to the Burnet Institute
## Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 31 December 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2009 $'000</th>
<th>2008 $'000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating revenue</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>44,988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research and development laboratory consumables expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td>(4,158)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td>(20,517)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation and amortisation expenses</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>(1,181)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research and development non-laboratory expenses</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>(16,739)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other expenses from ordinary activities</td>
<td></td>
<td>(4,220)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Operating Expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td>(46,815)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Results from operating activities</td>
<td></td>
<td>(1,827)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial income</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1,094</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial expenses</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>(293)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net financing costs</td>
<td></td>
<td>801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital grants and income on capital grants</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>20,945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building costs</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>(790)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impairment of construction in progress</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>(22,700)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital profit/(loss) before income tax</td>
<td></td>
<td>(2,545)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Profit/(loss) before income tax</td>
<td></td>
<td>(3,571)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income tax attributable to operating profit</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Profit/(loss) After Income Tax</td>
<td></td>
<td>(3,571)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other comprehensive income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2009 $'000</th>
<th>2008 $'000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Change in fair value of available-for-sale financial assets</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>(225)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income tax on other comprehensive income</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other comprehensive income for the period net of income tax</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>(225)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Comprehensive Income for the Period</td>
<td></td>
<td>(3,559)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Statement of Comprehensive Income is to be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Financial Statements set out on pages 11 to 25 of the Burnet Institute’s Annual Financial Report. Please visit www.burnet.edu.au to download a copy.
# Statement of Financial Position

**as at 31 December 2009**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2009 $’000</th>
<th>2008 $’000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents – operating</td>
<td>21(i)</td>
<td>16,331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents – capital grants</td>
<td>21(i)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade and other receivables</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4,845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventories</td>
<td></td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3,064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other financial assets</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>24,405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property, plant and equipment</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>17,079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction in progress</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>42,086</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>59,165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>83,570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade and other payables</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4,923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borrowings</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current tax liabilities</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisions</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>3,190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred income – capital grants</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred income – other grants</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>13,354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>21,985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borrowings</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>25,621</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisions</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred income – rent in advance</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>10,660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Derivatives</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>37,202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>59,187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>24,383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EQUITY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retained earnings</td>
<td></td>
<td>7,281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building reserve</td>
<td></td>
<td>17,019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair value reserve</td>
<td></td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EQUITY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>24,383</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Statement of Financial Position is to be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Financial Statements set out on pages 11 to 25 of the Burnet Institute’s Annual Financial Report. Please visit www.burnet.edu.au to download a copy.

The Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health Limited is a signatory to the Australian Council for International Development Code of Conduct (ACFID). The Code requires members to meet high standards of corporate governance, public accountability and financial management. In accordance with the ACFID code of conduct, the Institute had nil balances in the following categories as at the end of the financial year:

- **Non Current Assets**: trade and other payables, other financial assets, investment property, intangibles, and other non-current assets;
- **Current Liabilities**: other financial liabilities and other current liabilities;
- **Non-Current Liabilities**: other financial liabilities and other non-current liabilities.
## Statement of Changes in Equity

as at 31 December 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Retained Profits $'000</th>
<th>Building Reserve $'000</th>
<th>Fair Value Reserve $'000</th>
<th>Total $'000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Balance at 1 January 2008</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>18,621</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair value adjustment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total other comprehensive income for the period</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating profit/(loss)</td>
<td>(148)</td>
<td>9,694</td>
<td></td>
<td>9,546</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total comprehensive income for the period</strong></td>
<td>(148)</td>
<td>9,694</td>
<td></td>
<td>9,321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Balance at 31 December 2008</strong></td>
<td>8,773</td>
<td>19,098</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>27,942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Balance at 1 January 2009</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>27,942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair value adjustment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total other comprehensive income for the period</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating profit/(loss)</td>
<td>(1,492)</td>
<td>(2,079)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(3,571)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total comprehensive income for the period</strong></td>
<td>(1,492)</td>
<td>(2,079)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(3,559)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Balance at 31 December 2009</strong></td>
<td>7,281</td>
<td>17,019</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>24,383</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Statement of Changes in Equity is to be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Financial Statements set out on pages 11 to 25 of the Burnet Institute’s Annual Financial Report. Please visit www.burnet.edu.au to download a copy.
## Burnet Institute International Development Activities

### Operating Statement for the year ended 31 December 2009

#### Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2009 $'000</th>
<th>2008 $'000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donations and gifts – monetary</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations and gifts – non-monetary</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legacies and bequests</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• AusAID</td>
<td>15,597</td>
<td>9,985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Australian organisations</td>
<td>1,250</td>
<td>1,774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Overseas organisations</td>
<td>1,284</td>
<td>854</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Income</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>2,423</td>
<td>2,082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>20,872</strong></td>
<td><strong>14,961</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Disbursements

- **Overseas projects:**
  - Funds to overseas projects: 8,213 9,599
  - Other project costs: 8,759 3,066
- **Domestic projects:** 2,895 1,170
- **Community education:** - -
- **Fundraising costs:**
  - Public: 4 28
  - Government, multilaterals and private: 234 260
- **Administration:** 1,011 1,193
- Non-monetary expenditure: 3 66

**Total disbursements:** 21,119 15,382

**Excess/(Deficiency) of revenue over disbursements:** (247) (421)

### Notes:

No single appeal or form of fundraising for a designated purpose generated 10 percent or greater of the Burnet Institute’s total income.

The Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health Limited is a signatory to the Australian Council for International Development Code of Conduct. The Code requires members to meet high standards of corporate governance, public accountability and financial management. More information about the ACFID Code of Conduct can be obtained from ACFID.

Website: www.acfid.asn.au Tel: (02) 6285 1816 Fax: (02) 6285 1720
Achievements:

Grants

Current Grants:


**Cowley, D.** Biomedical Postgrad Scholarship (NHMRC). Viral and host determinants in the development of HIV associated dementia. $63,693.


**Crowe, S.** Fellowship (NHMRC). Uncoupled Research Fellowship. $726,250 (2008-2012).

**Crowe S, Malau C, O’Connor J, Tiban K.** Spelman Program Grant. Molecular Epidemiology of HIV and TB in Asia Pacific Secretariat of the Pacific Community. TB - Kiribati Project. $100,146 (2008-2010).

**Crowe, S.** Project Grant (New Technologies), Victoria Department Human Services. HIV susceptibility testing using genotyping. $674,626.58.


**Dietze, P.** Career Development Award (NHMRC). $550,000 (2006-2010).


**Moore D, Dietze P, Bammer G, Perez P.** Project Grant (NHMRC). Understanding the barriers to improved access, engagement and retention of methamphetamine users in health services. $756,850 (2008-2010).

**Drummer, H.** Career Development Award (NHMRC). R Douglas Wright Biomedical Career Development Award. $452,500 (2007-2011).


**French, R.** Industry Fellowship (NHMRC). Development and immunogenicity testing of ‘Virus-Like particle’ vaccines. $475,000 (2006-2010).


**Gerondakis, S.** Project Grant, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of America Specialized Center of Research Grant. Apoptosis in Hematopoiesis. $8,930,000 (2006-2010).

**Gerondakis, S.** Fellowship (NHMRC). Uncoupled Research Fellowship. $675,000 (2006-2010).


**Hellard, M.** Project Grant, Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing. Drug Policy Modelling. $70,000.

**Kinner S.** NDARC Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS) and Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS) – Queensland arm. $122,765 (2008).


**Lehmann D, Reeder J.** Welcome Trust International Collaborative Research Grant. Neonatal immunization with pneumococcal conjugate vaccine in PNG. $940,000 (2005-2010).


Hogarth M, Mottram P, Powell M. Project Grant (NHMRC). The role of Fc RII in antibody dependent tissue destruction in autoimmunity. $516,375 (2008-2010).


Kinner, S. Postdoctoral Fellowship (NHMRC). Monitoring the health and well-being of ex-prisoners in Australia a longitudinal data linkage study. $269,000 (2006-2009).


McCaffrey, K. Biomedical Postgrad Scholarship (NHMRC). Role of the variable regions of Hepatitis C Virus envelope glycoprotein E2 in glycoprotein structure and function. $65,598 (2007-2009).


Poumbourios, P. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research Project Grant. The terminal fusion clasp of gp41: new target for antiviral discovery. $150,000 (2008-2009).

Sonza, C. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research Project Grant. Lactic acid as a natural microbicide for HIV. $165,000 (2008-2009).


Pietersz G, Apostolopoulos V. Project Grant (NHMRC). Polynucleotide vaccine based on targeted delivery to antigen presenting cells. $18,250 (2008-2010).


Centre for International Health Current Grants:


Chanlivong, N. PACT Men who have sex with Men peer outreach activities IV. (Laos). $73,333 (2007-2010).


Hagerty, C. Canada Fund. Prevention education among workers exposed to the highest risk of contracting HIV. (China-Tibet). $51,347

New Grants:


Cherry, C. Career Development Award (NHMRC). Uncoupled Career Development Award Level 1. $370,000 (2009-2012).

Crowe, S. Strategic Awards (NHMRC). Immune responses to H1N1 to assist public health response. $184,712 (2009).


Drummer H, Poubouniopous P. Project Grant (NHMRC). Role of the hepatitis C virus glycoprotein E2 variable regions in viral entry and antibody mediated neutralization. $521,500 (2009-2011).

French, R. Strategic Awards (NHMRC). A centralised facility for immunological monitoring of human H1N1 immunity post infection or vaccination. $184,395 (2009).


Gerondakis, S. Project Grant (NHMRC). The transcription factors c-Rel and RelA serve distinct roles in the development and function of CD4 Regulatory T cells. $483,500 (2009-2011).


Gorry, P. Career Development Award (NHMRC). Uncoupled Career Development Award Level 2. $409,000 (2009-2012).

Gowan E, Loveland B. Project Grant (NHMRC). Multiple vector vaccine for hepatitis C virus. $463,000 (2009-2011).


Lim, M. Postdoctoral Fellowship (NHMRC). Exploring innovative epidemiological research to understand sexually transmissible infections in large cohorts. $405,072 (2009-2012).


Power R, Winter R. Position Paper commissioned by the Yarra Drug and Health Forum (auspiced by North Yarra Community Health Centre) The viability and potential for a supervised injecting facility in Melbourne, Australia. $8,500 (2009).


Centre for International Health New Grants:


Morgan, C. UNICEF. WHO PNG - Improving Immunisation Service Delivery at the Aid Post level in PNG. (PNG). $21,739 (2009).


Natoli, L. SPC. Piloting of a strategy to integrate point of care testing into current PICT responses to STIs and HIV. (Pacific). $205,400 (2009-2011).

O’Neill, S. Baker IDI Heart and Diabetess Institute . Provision of experience and capacity in relation to the pursuit of, and management of, international development opportunities. (Australia). $100,000 (2009-2010).


Renkin, L. WVA. Funding of Partner for continuation of health activities in Aceh. (Indonesia). $350,000 (2009-2010).


Whitney, R. AusAID. Needs assessments of Zimbabwean women and their children on both sides of the Mozambique/Zimbabwe border and the development of pilot interventions to help them access good quality care. (Mozambique/Zimbabwe). $150,000 (2009-2010).

Centre for International Health Consultancies:

Brown, M. UNOPS. Most significant change technique workshop (Burma). $5,636.

Chanlivong, N. Care. Community events based surveillance evaluation for the AusAID funded community based avian influenza risk reduction project (Laos). $12,696.

Chanlivong, N. WHO. Development of community based health insurance approach (Laos). $10,750.

Coghlan, B. WHO. For Mr Benjamin Coghlan to serve as a member of the Sub-Team for Afghanistan to undertake the Independent Evaluation of major barriers to interruption of poliovirus transmission (Afghanistan). $10,601.

Creati, M. WHO. Development of strategy for implementation of Adolescent Job Aid (AJA) and Orientation Program (OP) in the Philippines (Phillipines). $10,616.

Denham, G. UNODC. China desk review and field visits for HIV/AIDS control in closed settings and drug users. (China). $36,000.

Dorabjee, J. IHRA. Assist with content and programming of the harm reduction festival in London. $9,420.

Dorabjee, J. AIH. Delivery of capacity building for the country flexible program from Burma effective approach program sites (Burma). $8,000.


Dorabjee, J. East and South East Asia Technical Support Hub. Technical support to the Alliance China Office Programme Staff and Guangxi Red Cross Programme officer (Cambodia). $25,640.

Fischer, A. University Malaya. Design mission and delivery of professional development training for Prisons and Malaysian AADK (Malaysia). $19,589.


Fischer, A. Guangxi Health Bureau. Study tour on harm reduction program for Guangxi Health Bureau (China). $9,943.

Fischer, A. WHO. Updating the baseline assessment of status of policies, resources and services for people who inject drugs (2006) and analysis of gaps in the country responses to injecting drug use and HIV/AIDS. $19,785.

Hagerty, C. CHARTS. CHARTS Study Tour to Australia (Australia). $29,074.

Holmes, W. UNICEF. Contextualising global Preventing Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) of HIV strategy and guidance on global scale-up of PMTCT in low and concentrated epidemic settings in Asia Pacific (Asia Pacific). $28,571.


Kwarteng, T. IPPF. Provision of support service to the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) to revise and implement a monitoring and evaluation framework for the pacific islands HIV and STI Response Fund (Pacific). $22,444.

Morgan, C. Crucell. Advisory board member at the Crucell Unject meeting held at Geneva (Switzerland). $2,439.
O’Neill, S. SPC. Consultancy to assist in the evaluation of the Pacific Regional Strategy on HIV and AIDS (Pacific). $32,308.


Otto, B. RTI. Men who have sex with men (MSM) small grants and MSM advocacy review meeting final report. $71,258.

Otto, B. RTI. Strengthening HIV/AIDS Policy and advocacy for Men Who have Sex with Men (MSM) in the Asia Pacific Region. $164,045.

Parnell, B. WHO. Advocacy paper on neglected tropical diseases and best practice paper on HIV for Thailand (India). $16,663.


Parnell, B. WHO. Desk review, paper and attendance at regional consultation on cross border control of communicable diseases (SE Asia). $42,074.

Parnell, B. WHO. Peer review and editing of scientific papers for WHO Bulletin special issue on communicable diseases in South East Asia Region. $7,500.

Power, R. WHO. Technical support to review harm reduction programme and needle and syringe exchange program - conduct of workshop on scaling-up and sustaining the implementation (Malaysia). $9,333.

Power, R. WHO. Work with WHO Malaysia and Ministry of Health Malaysia to review the progress and gaps targeting the problematic areas of onging needle and syringe exchange program (Malaysia). $14,083.

Quartermaine, M. Australian Red Cross. Community HIV and harm reduction in Cambodia (Cambodia). $7,399.

Snell, B. WHO. Development of training modules for improved pharmaceutical and health service delivery at peripheral health settings in Fiji (Fiji). $19,012.

Snell, B. SPC. External technical review of Fiji Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Services procurement and supply management systems, policies and practices (Fiji). $17,143.

Snell, B. WHO. Organisation of the training course on improving medicines supply and management for Pacific Island Countries in Melbourne Australia (Australia). $12,278.


Stewart, T. SPC. Provide advice to the Ministry of Health in post tsunami management of potential health problems in Samoa (Samoa). $13,300.

Stewart, T. SPC. To review the national and regional responses to Influenza A (H1N1) and make recommendations on responses (Pacific). $37,400.

Sweeney, R. Monash University. Modelling costs and efficacy of primary health care services in Papua New Guinea (PNG). $55,000.

Toole, M. WHO. For Professor Michael Toole to serve as a member of the core team to lead the independent Evaluation of major barriers to interrupting poliovirus transmission (Afghanistan). $17,960.

Toole, M. AusAID HRF. Pandemics and emerging infectious diseases strategy - review of funded activities and development of a new draft strategy. $46,500.

Toole, MUNOPS. Three Diseases Fund Board Membership (Burma). $23,077.

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**Publications**

**Peer Reviewed:**


Books and Chapters:


**Commissioned Reports and Other Published Material:**


Boyle D, Kong F. A systematic mechanism for the ethical collection and interpretation of display format pathology test results from Australian Primary Care records. HIC’09 Conference, National Convention Centre Canberra (August 2009).


Dorabjee, J. Mid term review of the Cambodian Red Cross Community HIV and Harm Reduction Project: Australian Red Cross and Cambodian Red Cross (2009).


Otto B, Hughes C, Toole M. Young F. Investing in HIV prevention for men who have sex with men Averting a Perfect Storm. Policy brief prepared for USAID, Health Policy Initiative in the Greater Mekong Region and China (September 2009).


Bergeri, I. Field epidemiology case study. WHO GOARN regional training in Melbourne (March 2009).

Bergeri, I. Health and evacuation on an international mission. WHO GOARN regional training in Melbourne (March 2009).

Cherry, CL. Touching a raw nerve – neuropathic pain and HIV. Seminar with Prof A Rice organised by the Faculty of Pain Medicine, Melbourne (2009).

Crabb, B. Invasion, virulence and an Achilles heel in the malaria parasite. Department of Microbiology & Immunology, Melbourne University (April 2009).


Crabb, B. New insights into Plasmodium falciparum merozoite invasion. Department of Biochemistry, La Trobe University (October 2009).


Crowe, SM. The regional HIV epidemic (invited Grand Rounds speaker), The Alfred Hospital, Melbourne (2009).

Dean J, Boo I, Poumbourios P, Drummer HE. Thiol isomerization is an essential stage of HCV entry. 5th Australian Virology Group meeting. Lome, Victoria (December 2009).

Dean J, Boo I, Talbot G, Poumbourios P, Drummer HE. Fusion activation triggers of Hepatitis C Virus envelope glycoproteins E1 and E2: potential role for thiol disulfide isomerization. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH2) 5th National workshop, Terrigal (June 2009).


Drummer, HE. Modulation of the immune response by HCV glycoprotein E2 variable regions; can we design a vaccine for the prevention of HCV? 5th Australian Virology Group meeting, Lome, Victoria (2009).

Drummer, HE. Structure and Function of the HCV glycoproteins. Latrobe University, Department of Microbiology, Melbourne (2009).

Drummer, HE. Structure and Function of the HCV glycoproteins. Monash University, Department of Microbiology, (Melbourne 2009).

Drummer, HE. The role of the variable regions of HCV glycoprotein E2 in virus entry and modulation of immune recognition. CSL Ltd (2009).


Presentations

National:


Bellamy-Mclytyle A, Bär S, Ludlow L, Drummer HE, and Poumbourios P. Evidence that the disulfide-bonded region of HIV-1 gp41 acts as a sensor of fusion activation signals emanating from receptor-bound gp120. AVG 2009, 5th Australian Virology Group meeting, Lome (December 2009).

Bellamy-Mclytyle A, Drummer HE, Poumbourios P. A functional link between the CD4 binding domain of HIV-1 gp120 and the membrane proximal ectodomain region (MPER) of gp41. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH2), Terrigal, NSW (June 2009).

Ffrench, R. *Immune responses to pandemic H1N1 influenza*. NHMRC workshop, Canberra, (December 2009).


Flynn, J. *Reciprocal relationship between IFN-γ and IL-10 production in acute hepatitis C virus infection*. ACH2 conference, Terrigal, Australia (June 2009).

Flynn, J. *Stimulation and maintenance of effector T cell responses in acute HCV infection*. AMREP postgraduate research symposium (November 2009).


Gerondakis, S. *Role of c-Rel in CD4 regulatory T cell development*. IgV Annual Conference, Yarra Valley, Victoria (2009).


Gorry, P. *Alterations in HIV-1 envelope glycoprotein conformation influencing virus entry mechanisms and pathogenesis*. Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne, Parkville (2009).

Gorry, P. *Alterations in HIV-1 envelope glycoprotein conformation influencing virus entry mechanisms and pathogenesis*. Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Monash University.


Hogarth, PM. *The interplay between Fc receptor organisation and IgA or IgG binding in leukocyte activation and inhibition: lessons for the future*. Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research, Melbourne (2009).


Iuga A, Mueller I, Senn N,rale J, Kiniboro B, Topoura O, Reeder JC and Barry AE. *The population genetics of Erythrocyte Binding Antigen 175 (eba175) on the north coast of Papua New Guinea*. Malaria in Melbourne Conference, Melbourne, Australia (October 2009).

Jaworowski, A. *HIV and malaria: a deadly combination*. Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne (2009).


Jones, KL. *X4 and R5 HIV have distinct post-entry requirement during HIV infection*. The Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology, Terrigal, NSW (2009).


Kirwan A, Winter R, Quinn B, Stoové M. *2009 Post-release prisoners with a history of injecting drug use: changes in drug use, service utilisation and health and wellbeing following release*. Drugs in Hard Times; Australian Drugs Conference, RACV Club, Melbourne (October 2009).


Kong, F. *Ecstasy and related drugs reporting system (EDRS) preliminary results and changes*. Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD) Meeting, Presentation, Melbourne (November 2009).

Lay CS, Bellamy-McIntyre A, Tablo G, Drummer HE, Poumbourios P. *Structural and functional role of HIV-1 gp41 terminal interactions in the membrane fusion mechanism*. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH2) Terrigal, NSW (June 2009).


Lewin, SR. *HIV: Will there ever be a cure?* (Invited plenary speaker), Royal Brisbane Hospital Health Care Symposium Brisbane (2009).

Lim M, Sacks-Davis R, Aitkin C, Hocking J, Hellard M. A Randomised controlled trial of paper, online and SMS diaries for collecting sexual behaviour information from young people. ASHM Conference, Brisbane, Australia (September 2009).

Mak J, Structural rearrangement of HIV Gag during virion maturation. The Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology, Terrigal, NSW (2009).


Orlowski E, Chand R, Wong C, Yip J, Wright MD, Ashman LK, and Jackson DE. The tetraspavin superfamily member, CD151 is required in thrombus growth and stability in vivo. AVBS meeting, Canberra, ACT (2009).


Poumbourios P, Laumaea A, Maerz A, Hill M, Gorry P, Drummer HE. Evidence that engagement of alternative chemokine receptors by R5X4 gp120 evokes distinct fusion activation signals to gp41 that are sensed by the disulfide-bonded region. 5th Australian Virology Group meeting (December 2009).


Ramsland, PA. A conserved host/pathogen recognition site on immunoglobulins. Comparative and Molecular Immunobiology Symposium, University of Technology, Sydney (November 2009).


Sharma L, Solomon A, Cornall A, Gorry P, Cameron PU, Lewin SR. Use of SEVI for enhancing the infectivity of plasma HIV to be used in a co-receptor usage assay. Oral presentation at the ACH2 Meeting conducted at Terrigal (June 2009).


Sheng, KC. The ROS level defines two functionally distinct dendritic cell stages of ex vivo dendritic cell development from mouse bone marrow. TLR02 2009. Pattern Recognition Receptors in Health and Disease, Surfers Paradise, Qld (October 2009).


Sonza, S. Enhancement of HIV-1 replication is not intrinsic to all ppolanion-based microbicides. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH2) 5th Annual Workshop, Terrigal, NSW (2009).

Sonza, S. Lactic acid as a natural physiological microbicid for HIV. 5th Australian Virology Group Meeting, Lorne (2009).

Stoové M, Pedrana A, El-Hayek C, Bergeri I, and Hellard M. Getting the most out of cohort studies of MSM: innovations and research capacity in Melbourne. ASHM Conference, Brisbane, Australia (September 2009).


Tewierek K, McCaffrey K, Booc H, Drummer HE. The variable regions of Hepatitis C Virus glycoprotein E2 modulate virus entry and neutralization resistance of antibodies. 5th Australian Virology Group meeting, Lorne (December 2009).

Aung Min Thein.

Anderson, DA.

immunochromatographic test for measurement of CD4 T-cells.

Anderson, DA.

uenza vaccine viruses.

adapted in

October 2009.

09.

related harm among ex-prisoners: A randomised controlled trial Anex

Melbourne (October 2009).

Australian Drugs Conference; “Drugs in Hard Times”, RACV Club

community concerns realised in the establishment of an NSP?

Winter R,

Times”, RACV Club Melbourne (October 2009).

community response.

to public injecting drug use: components of a comprehensive

Australasian HIV/AIDS Conference (ASHM), Brisbane

(September 2009).

Winter R, Liddell S, Wain D, Aitken C, Power R. Local solutions to

public injecting drug use: components of a comprehensive

response. Australian Drugs Conference; “Drugs in Hard

times”, RACV Club Melbourne (October 2009).


community concerns realised in the establishment of an NSP?

Australian Drugs Conference; “Drugs in Hard Times”, RACV Club

Melbourne (October 2009).

Winter, R. Local Solutions to Public Drug Use: Using Guidelines in

Local Communities. Department of Health Service Provider’s

Quarterly Conference. Prevention: Better than Cure.

Winter, R. Invited speaker. Improving health and reducing drug-

related harm among ex-prisoners: A randomised controlled trial Anex

09.

Australasian Drugs Conference: Drugs in Hard Times, Melbourne

(October 2009).

Xue L, Lew AM and Tannock GA. Immunological studies of cold-

adapted influenza vaccine viruses. 5th Australian Influenza

Symposium, Melbourne (September 2009).

International:

Anderson, DA. Development of a rapid, point-of-care

immunochromatographic test for measurement of CD4 T-cells. Rush

University, Chicago, Joint Gastroenterology-Immunology seminar

program (June 2009).

Anderson, DA. Development of a rapid, point-of-care

immunochromatographic test for measurement of CD4 T-cells.

Department of Internal Medicine, University of Iowa, Iowa City

(September 2009).

Anderson, DA. Interactions of hepatitis viruses with polarized

hepatocytes. University of Texas Medical Centre, Galveston, Texas

(June 2009).

Anderson, DA. Interactions of viruses with polarized hepatocytes.

Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, Baltimore (October 2009).

Aung Min Thein. Linguistic and cultural barriers to raising awareness

about MSM among NGO staff in Myanmar. Oral presentation, 9th

ICCAP Bali, Indonesia (August 2009).

Bellamy-McIntyre A, Drummer HE, Poumbourios P. A functional link

between the CD4 binding domain of HIV-1 gp120 and the membrane

proximal ectodomain region (MPEP) of gp41. Cold Spring Harbor


Bharadwaj M, Nivarthi U, Moneer S, Atiten C, Thammanichanon

D, Drummer H, Bowden S, Hellard M, McCluskey J. Hepatitis C

virus-specific TCD8 response in recurrently exposed intravenous

drug users with diverse disease outcomes. European Congress of

Immunology, Berlin (September 2009).

Bisibisera, L. Improving Immunization and Newborn Health Project

(birthdose HepB): PNG WHO/UNICEF/GAVI 5th Annual Global


Cherry CL, Affandi JS, Yunihastuti E, Vanar S, Imran D, Smyth


Neuropathy risk before Stavudine prescription: an algorithm for

minimizing neurotoxicity in resource-limited settings. 16th

Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections. Montreal,

Canada (2009).

Crabb, B. Exporting Plasmodium proteins. Malaria Gordon

Conference 2009, Oxford University, UK (September 2009).

Crabb, B. Exporting Plasmodium Proteins. Laboratory of Parasitic

Diseases, National Institutes of Health, USA (October 2009).

Crabb, B. New insights into signaling during Plasmodium falciparum

merozoite invasion. Harvard School of Public Health, Harvard

University, USA (October 2009).

Crate M, Sirivichayakul S, Chang J, Awichingsanon A, Uboiyam

S, Buranapradiktun S, Thantwiorasit P, Wightman F, Locarnini S,

Matthews G, Dore GJ, Ruxrungtham K, Lewin SR. No change in

HBV-specific T cells in HIV-1-HBV co-infection following HBV-active

HAART. International meeting on the Molecular Biology of Hepatitis B

viruses, Loire Valley, France (August 2009).

Crowe, SM. The role of monocytes in the development of HIV-related


Dean J, Boo J, Talbot G, Poumbourios P, and Drummer HE. Fusion

activation triggers of Hepatitis C Virus envelope glycoproteins E1 and

E2: potential role for thiol disulfide isomerization. 16th International

meeting on HCV and related viruses. Nice, France (October 2009).

Dietze P, Kerr D, Kelly AM, Jolley D and Barger R. 2009 Randomised

Controlled Trial Comparing The Effectiveness and Safety of Intranasal

and Intramuscular Naloxone For The Treatment Of Heroin Overdose.


Session. 9th International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific,

Bali, Indonesia (August 2009).

Dorabjee, J. Regional Overview of HIV and Injecting Drug Use in the

Pacific. WHO Regional Harm Reduction Strategy Workshop, Kuala

Lumpur, Malaysia (December 2009).

Dorabjee, J. Response Beyond Borders. 20th International

Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm, Bangkok,

Thailand (April 2009).

Dorabjee, J. Supporting regional alliances among civil society

networks in Asia. South Asia Regional Workshop on the prevention of

HIV related to Drug Use, Kathmandu, Nepal (April 2009).

Dorabjee, J. TB in Prisons. WHO Opioid Dependence, TB and HIV

Workshop, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (December 2009).

Dorabjee, J. The role of networks in promoting harm reduction.

Asia Pacific Village Community ‘Wantylan’ Dialogue Space. 9th

International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific, Bali,

Indonesia (August 2009).

Drummer HE, Hill MK, Maerz AL, Wood S, Mak J, and Poumbourios P.

Allosteric modulation of the HIV-1 gp120-gp41 association interface by adjacent variable region 1 (V1) N-glycans linked to neutralization resistance. 5th IAS Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention, Cape Town, South Africa (July 2009).


Memory B cell responses in ‘seronegative immune’ injecting drug

users. 16th International Symposium on Hepatitis C Virus and Related

Viruses, Nice, France (October 2009).

French, R. Intradermal vaccination. Immunisation conference,

Auckland, New Zealand (December 2009).

Fischer A, Hughes C, Usan J, Tokeimota, J. Big Pla Spak, Lik Lik

Money’: Non-commercial alcohol and HIV risk in Papua New

Guinea. 20th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug

Related Harm, Bangkok, Thailand (April 2009).

Hellard, M. 2009 Co-convener, Acute hepatitis C IDU cohorts

Workshop ISVHLD Washington.


Katsara, M. Peptide mutants conjugated to reduced mannann shift immune responses in animal models. 10th International Conference in Medicinal Chemistry: Drug Discovery and Design Conference. University of Patras, Patras, Greece (March 2009).


Lewin, SR. HIV-HBV pathogenesis (invited symposium speaker), 5th IAS Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention, Capetown, South Africa (2009).


Mak, J. Snapshots of HIV assembly and uncoating. Departmental seminar, Department of Microbiology, Columbia University, New York, USA (October 2009).


Tachedjian, G. Activity of acid stable dendrimer-based microbicides and lactic acid. NIH Face to Face Meeting, Baltimore, MD, USA (2009).


Tannock, GA. Live attenuated vaccines against influenza; Australian studies over 20 years. Talk delivered at Weatherall Institute for Molecular Medicine, John Radcliffe Hospital, University of Oxford, UK (November 2009).

Ting Aung Win, Nwe Mar N, Aung Min Thein, Benton K, Weinstein B, Aung Thant Zin, Htay Maung. Training is not enough. Challenges in empowering field workers to provide psycho-social support for PLHIV in Myanmar. 9th ICCAP Bali, Indonesia (August 2009).


Wright, E. When to START treatment: the neurological perspective. Third Meeting on HIV Infection and the Central Nervous System, Stresa, Italy (October 2009).

Academic Positions and Appointments

Formal University Appointments / Affiliations:

Anderson, DA. Visiting Professor, Rush University Medical Centre, Chicago, USA.

Apostolopoulos, V. Professor, School of Molecular Sciences, Victoria University; Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Immunology, Monash University; Associate Professor, Department of Pathology, University of Melbourne.

Barry, A. Honorary Senior Lecturer, Monash University.

Chendron, A. Honorary appointment, Department of Pathology, University of Melbourne.

Cherry, CL. Senior Lecturer, Department of Medicine, Monash University.

Churchill, M. Senior Lecturer, Department of Medicine, Monash University.

Crabb, B. Adjunct Professor, Department of Medicine (Central Clinical School) and the Department of Immunology, Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, Monash University; Adjunct Professor, Faculty of Medicine, The University of Melbourne (since 2008); Adjunct Professor, School of Molecular Sciences, La Trobe University (since 2009).

Crowe, SM. Consultant Physician in Infectious Diseases, The Alfred Hospital; Professor of Medicine, Monash University; NHMRC Principal Research Fellow.

Da Fonseca Pereira, C. Adjunct Senior Lecturer, Monash Micro Imaging, Department of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Monash University.

Dietze, P. Senior Research Associate, University of Melbourne, School of Psychology; Public Health Research Fellow, VicHealth, Public Health Research Fellowship Scheme; Career Development Fellowship, National Health and Medical Research Council; Registered Psychologist, Victoria, Psychologists Registration Board.

Drummer, HE. Honorary Lecturer, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; Adjunct Senior Lecturer, Department of Microbiology, Monash University.
French, R. Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Immunology, Monash University.

Gorry, P. Honorary Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Monash University.

Gray, N. Adjunct Senior Lecturer, Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, Monash University.

Hellard, M. Honorary Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, Monash University; visiting Infectious Diseases Physician, Royal Melbourne Hospital; visiting Infectious Diseases Physician, Alfred Hospital.

Hogarth, M. Professorial adjunct appointment with Monash University

Jackson, D. Associate Professor, University of Melbourne; Adjunct Professor, Monash University; Professor of Haematology, RMIT University.

Jaworowski, A. Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Monash University; Adjunct Associate Professor, Dept. of Immunology, Monash University.

Lewin, S. Professor of Medicine Monash University; Professor/ Director Infectious Diseases Unit, The Alfred Hospital; NHMRC Practitioner Fellow, SP2; Honorary Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, The University of Melbourne.

Loveland, B. Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Immunology, Central Clinical School, Faculty of Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences, Monash University; Principal Fellow, Department of Pathology, University of Melbourne, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry & Health Sciences; Principal Fellow, Department of Surgery, University of Melbourne - Austin and Northern Hospitals.

Mak, J. Associate Professor, Departments of Microbiology, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Monash University.

Natoli, L. Honorary Lecturer, Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, Monash University

O’Keeffe, M. Adjunct Senior Lecturer, Department of Immunology, Monash University

Poumbourios, P. Adjunct Senior Lecturer, Department of Microbiology, Monash University.

Powell, M. Honorary appointment, Department of Pathology, University of Melbourne.

Power, R. Adjunct Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, Monash University; Professorial Fellow, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne.

Proudfoot, O. Honorary appointment, Department of Pathology, University of Melbourne.

Ramsland, PA. Honorary Principal Research Fellow (Associate Professor), Department of Surgery (Austin and Northern Health), The University of Melbourne; Adjunct Senior Lecturer, Department of Immunology, Monash University.

Reeder, J. Member, Scientific Organising Committee, Molecular Approaches to Malaria; Member, AusAID Malaria Reference Group; Member, Malaria Elimination Group, UCSF Global Health Sciences.

Renkin, L. Adjunct Senior Lecturer, Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, Monash University

Sonza, C. Adjunct Senior Lecturer, Department of Microbiology, Monash University.

Tachedjan, G. Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology and Department of Medicine, Monash University.

Tannoch, GA. Emeritus Professor of Virology, RMIT; Visiting Professor, Weatherall Institute for Molecular Medicine, Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine, University of Oxford, (September-December 2009).

Toole, M. Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine; Monash University.

Wines, B. Honorary appointment, Department of Pathology, University of Melbourne. Adjunct appointment, Department of Immunology, Monash University.

Other Professional Appointments:

Anderson, DA. Director, See-D4 Pty Ltd; Executive member, Australian Centre for HIV and hepatits virology (ACHV2) (since 2006).

Anderson, JL. Member, Management and Advisory Committee, Monash Microimaging (since 2008).

Apostolopoulos, V. Patron, Women’s Health Network in the West, Victoria University.


Brown, M. Advisor Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, China- Australia Health and HIV/AIDS Facility; Burnet PNG representative Child Health Advisory Committee, National Department of Health, Papua New Guinea (since 2007); Burnet PNG representative Inter-agency Coordinating Committee (for vaccines and immunisation), Papua New Guinea.

Cherry, CL. Member, Alfred Health Research Review Committee (since 2008); Member, Victorian HIV Blood and Tissue Storage Bank Steering Committee (since 2007); Member, Australian National NeuroAIDS Brain and Tissue Storage Bank Steering Committee (since 2002); Chair, Toxicology and Pharmacology Working Group, National Centre for HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research (NCHECR) since 2001, Chair since 2008); Gilead Sciences HIV Advisory Board (since 2007); Member, Australasian Society for HIV Medicine Models of Care Steering Committee (since 2007).

Churchill, M. Member, Australian National Centre for HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research (NCHECR) Neurology Working Group (since 2006).

Crabb, B. Crowe, SM. Member, WHO Working Group on Delivery of HIV Prevention, Care and Treatment at Primary Health Centres in High Prevalence, Resource Constrained Settings and accompanying country Adaptation Guide (since 2007); Member, WHO Consultation on HIV Drug Resistance Prevention, Surveillance and Monitoring in the Western Pacific Region, Beijing (since 2007); Invited Member, WHO Technical Consultation on HIV Drug Resistance Prevention, Surveillance and Monitoring In the Western Pacific Region (since 2007); Head, Regional WHO Reference Laboratory for HIV Resistance testing (since 2007); Member, WHO Network for HIV and Health in the Western Pacific Region; Invited Member, WHO HIV Monitoring Technologies Working group Meeting, Chicago; Invited Member, Consensus Meeting on WHO Antiretroviral Therapy Guidelines for Adults and Adolescents, Geneva; Member, Forum for Collaborative Research (George Washington University); Member, Forum for Collaborative HIV Research External Validation of CD4 and Viral Load Assays (2007–2009). National Health and Medical Research Council (NH&MRC) - Program Grant Review Panel - Applied Research; Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC); Advisory Panel Member Genotypic Resistance Testing of Antiretrovirals in HIV (GART) (2008-2009).

Dietze, P. Chair, Drug Policy round table; Chair of the injecting drug harm reduction network (2006-2009); deputy Editor, Drug and Alcohol Review.


Drummer, HE. Treasurer, Australian Centre for Hepatitis Virology.

French, R. Secretary, Immunology Group of Victoria; Secretary, Australian Centre for Hepatitis Virology; Member, Australasian Society for Immunology; Member, Australian Society for Medical Research.
Committee Member; member ANEX Research Advisory Board; Power, R. Otto, B. International Development, Burma Working Group (2005-2010). (Paediatrics) (since 2006); member Child Public Health Special Review Panel; Member, Ministerial Advisory Committee on Blood Chair, Grants Review Panel (Microbiology), National Health and Medical Research Council (NCHECR); ASMR Liaison to the Premiers Award for Health and Medical Research. Tachedjian, G. Member, National Centre for HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research (NCHER) Antiretroviral Working Group; (since 2004), Member, ASMR Medical Research Week Victorian Committee (since 2004); ASMR’S Liaison to the Premiers Award for Health and Medical Research (since 2005).

Tannock, GA. Member, Australian Influenza Vaccine Committee of the Therapeutic Goods Administration; Consultant/site assessor, National Association of Testing Authorities.

Toole, M. Board Member of Médecins sans Frontières Australia; Board Member of the Three Diseases Fund for Burma/Myanmar. Yangon, Myanmar (since 2007); member of the Technical Review Panel, Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria. Geneva, Switzerland. (since 2007).


Wright, E. Vice-President of ASHM (2009); Co-Director, Australian National NeuroAIDS Brain and Tissue Storage Bank (since 2002); Member, Victorian HIV Blood and Tissue Storage Bank Steering Committee (since 2005); Treatment Policy Advisor, National Association of People living with HIV/AIDS (since 2008); International Clinical Advisory Committee of Australasian Society of HIV Medicine (since 2010); Co-Chair INSIGHT Neurology Interest Group (since 2006); Member, National Centre HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research Neurology Working Group (since 2002); Member, Victorian AIDS Council/Gay Men’s Health Campaigns Reference Group (since 2009).

Journal Editorial Boards:

Aitken, C. Editorial Board member HIV Medicine Journal Club.

Apostolopoulos, V. Acta Biochimica et Biophysica Sinica (since 2006); Current Medicinal Chemistry (since 2006); Section Editor, Journal of Leukocyte Biology (since 2008 ); Expert Review of Vaccines (since 2006 ); Medicinal Chemistry (since 2004); Recent Patents Reviews on Anti-cancer Drug Discovery (since 2005); Self/Nonself: immune recognition and signaling (since 2008); Associate Editor immunotherapy (since 2008 ); Regional Editor Recent Patents Reviews on Anti-cancer Drug Discovery (since 2009).


Crabb, B. Advisory Board, Faculty1000 Biology Reports; Editorial Board, International Journal for Parasitology; Editorial Board, Journal of Biological Chemistry (since 2006).

Crowe, SM. Editorial Board of Management, Sexual Health (since 2003); Journal Editorial Board; Current HIV Research (since 2000); Journal of Infectious Diseases (since 2002); Journal of Leukocyte Biology (since 2008). Section Editor from January 2009; ARHR (2009).
Dietz, P. Associate Editor, International Journal of Drug Policy.

Gorry, P. Current HIV Research (since 2005); The Open Microbiology Journal (since 2007); Retrovirology (since 2007); Infectious Diseases: Research and Treatment (since 2008); Immunology and Immunogenetic Insights (since 2008).

Hogarth, M. Faculty of 1000 (since 2006); Journal of Biological Chemistry (since 2006); Monoclonal Antibodies Journal (since 2008).


Lewin, SR. Sexual Health (Editorial Board 2004); AIDS Care and Sexual Health (Editorial Board 2009); Clinical Immunology (2009).

Mak, J. Retrovirology (since 2004); Virology Journal (since 2004).

Ramsland, PA. Associate Editor, Journal of Molecular Recognition (since 2007); Associate Editor, BMC Structural Biology (2009); Editorial Board Member, Molecular Biotechnology (since 2006); Editorial Board Member, Molecular Immunology (2009).

Reeder, J. Scientific Editor, PNG Medical Journal.

Tachedjian, G. International Journal of Virology (since 2005); Current HIV Research (since 2005); The Open Microbiology Journal (since 2007); AIDS Research and Human Retroviruses (2009).

Tannock, GA. Journal of Medical Virology (since 2001); Gene Vaccines and Therapy (since 2003); Journal of Biomedicine and Biotechnology (since 2008); The Open Veterinary Science Journal (since 2008).


Jeremiah, Josephine. Neurological disease in HIV patients in Botswana. Monash University Supervisors: Catherine Cherry (Burnet/Monas) and Andrew Steenhoof (Botswana).

Santoso, Devy. B cell responses against Hepatitis C infection in injecting drug users. Monash University, Department of Immunology, supervised by Rosemary French.

Telewarte, Sushama. Investigation of the Role of SR Proteins in HIV-1 replication and 2kb mRNA expression in Macrophages, Monash University, Department of Microbiology. Supervisors: S. Sonza (Principal) and G. Tachedjian.

Wong, Chin Long. Investigating virion-associated host cellular factors in retroviruses. Monash University, Department of Microbiology. Supervisor: Johnson Mak and Paula Gilson

**Degrees in Progress:**

**PhD:**

Bellamy McIntyre, Anna. Receptor activated conformations of the gp120-gp41 glycoprotein complex of HIV-1. Monash University. Department of Microbiology. Supervisors: Andy Poumbourios (Principal) and Heidi Drummer. Monash Graduate Research Scholarship.

Bullen, Hayley. The characterisation of a novel family of invasion associated membrane proteins in Apicomplexan parasites with particular focus on those found in Plasmodium falciparum and Toxoplasma gondii. The University of Melbourne, Department of Medicine. Supervisors: Brendan Crabb and Paul Gilson.

Chang, Christina. The pathogenesis of cryptococcal immune restoration disease in HIV-infected patients in South Africa. Monash University, Monash Postgraduate Fellowship, Principal Supervisor Sharon Lewin.

Cowley, Daniel. Molecular studies of the astrocyte reservoir of HIV-1 in the central nervous system, Monash University, Department of Medicine. Supervisors: Melissa Churchill, Steve Wesselingh.

Dean, Johanna. Role of thiol disulfide isomerization in hepatitis C virus entry. Monash University, Department of Microbiology. Supervisors: Heidi Drummer (Principal) and Andy Poumbourios. Monash Graduate Research Scholarship.


Evans, Vanessa. DC-T cell interactions in HIV-1 Pathogenesis. Monash University, Department of Medicine, Sharon R. Lewin (Principal Supervisor), Paul Cameron, Monash Graduate Scholarship.

Flynn, Jacqueline. Stimulation and maintenance of effector T cell responses in acute Hepatitis C infection. Co-supervisors: Rose Ffrench (principal supervisor) and David Anderson and Monash University, Department of Immunology. NHMRC Dora Lush Scholarship.

Gold, Judy. The medium and the message: an investigation of how youth access, interpret and implement sexual health information. Monash University, Department of Epidemiology. Supervisors: Margaret Hellard, Jane Hocking (Uni of Melb), Louise Keogh (Uni of Melb). APA Scholarship.

Gorzlin, Ali. The role of the NS2 protein in the Hepatitis C virus life cycle. Monash University, Department of Microbiology, Eric Gowans (Principal Supervisor), Gilda Tachedjian, Paul Ramsland. Iranian Ministry of Health.

Goulkani, Hamed. Functional interactions of the structural and non structural proteins of HCV in virus entry and replication. Monash University. Department of Microbiology, Supervisor Heidi Drummer (Principal) and Andy Poumbourios. International student scholarship from the Ministry of Health, Iranian government.

Hawkes, David. Lipid biology of HIV, Monash University, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Supervisor: Johnson Mak. Burnet Scholarship.

**Awards and Prizes**

**Degrees Awarded:**

**PhD:**

Chang, Judy. HBV-specific T cell immunity. Department of Microbiology and Immunology, The University of Melbourne. Primary Supervisor: Sharon Lewin.

Giles, Michelle. HIV and pregnancy in Australia. Department of Medicine, Monash University. Primary Supervisor: Sharon Lewin.


Jones, Kate. Host cell factors and reverse transcription of HIV-1 in its natural target cells. Monash University, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Supervisor: Johnson Mak. Burnet Scholarship.


Sterjovski, Jasminka. Pathogenesis of macrophage tropic HIV-1. Monash University Department of Medicine, Supervisors: P. Gorry (Principal), M. Churchill, S. Wesselingh (NHMRC funded).


Honours:

Al-Hammad, Yousef. Conformations and antigenicity of the HCV glycoprotein E2 receptor binding domain. Monash University, Department of Microbiology, Supervisor: Heidi Drummer.

Iser, David. The pathogenesis of liver disease in HIV-HBV co-infection. Department of Medicine, St Vincent’s Hospital. University of Melbourne. Principal Supervisor Sharon Lewin, Co-supervisors: Paul Desmond, Stephen Locomini.

Khasawneh, Ashraf. Studies on the activation mechanism of the HIV-1 membrane fusion glycoprotein, gp41. Monash University. Department of Microbiology, Supervisors: Andy Pournbouris (Principal) and Heidi Drummer. International student scholarship from Hashemite University of Jordan.

Khoury, Gabriela. Naive T cell homeostasis in the setting of HIV. Sharon Lewin and Paul Cameron (Supervisors); NHMRC Biomedical Research Postgraduate Scholarship.

Kim, Hyunsuh. An analysis of mechanisms for the enhancement of yields of influenza B viruses in the preparation of human vaccines. RMIT University. G.A. Tannock (Principal Supervisor), S. Rockman (CSL Ltd), D. Anderson, Fully funded grant from CSL Ltd.

La, Jennifer. Identification of small molecule inhibitors of the HIV-1 reverse transcriptase. Monash University, Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. Supervisors: David Chalmers (Principal) and Gilda Tachedjian (Joint Supervisor 50:50), Monash Faculty Scholarship.

Lator, Phillippe. Optimisation of an Immunotherapy to treat persistent Hepatitis C Virus infection. Monash University, Department of Microbiology. Supervisors: Shuo Li (Principal) and Eric Gowans. Burnet Institute Scholarship.

Lightfuss, Greg. HIACT - Signals though ITAM. Monash University, Dept. of Medicine, Supervisors: Suzanne Crowe (Principal), Anthony Jaworowski, Sharon R. Lewin. Monash International Postgraduate Scholarship.

McCaffrey, Kathleen. Biochemical characterization of the HCV glycoprotein E2 minimal core domain for vaccine studies. Melbourne University. Department of Microbiology and Immunology. Supervisors: Heidi Drummer (Principal) and Andy Poubmbourios; Departmental Supervisor: B. Coulsou. NHMRC Dora Dush Postgraduate scholarship.


Quinn, Brendan. The Un-MET Study: Understanding the barriers to health service and treatment utilisation for methamphetamine users. Monash University, Monash Institute of Health Services Research. Supervisors: Paul Dietze, Mark Stoooe. NHMRC Scholarship.

Rajasuriah, Reena. Biological determinants of immune reconstitution following long-term suppressive antiretroviral therapy (ART). Monash University, Department of Medicine. Supervisors: Sharon Lewin (Principal), Paul Cameron, Malaysian Government.

Roche, Michael. HIV Entry and Its Inhibition. Monash University Department of Medicine, Supervisors: P. Gorry and M. Churchill.


Wapling, Johanna. The role of highly conserved reverse transcriptase (RT) residues in RT dimerisation, maturation and HIV-1 replication. Monash University, Department of Microbiology. Supervisors: Gilda Tachedjian (Principal) and Peter Wright, APA and Burnet funded.


Yang, Eunice. Targeting oncoproteins by combined immunotherapy for breast and prostate cancers. University of Melbourne, Pathology Department. Supervisor: Associate Professor Bruce Loveland.


Masters:

Andrews, Jessica. Masters of Public Health, Monash University, School of Epidemiology and Preventative Medicine.


Kong, Ying Ying. Function of immune cells in a cancer environment. Monash University, Department of Immunology, Vasso Apostolopoulos and Magdalena Plebanski, (Lab funded).

Lau, Wai. Development of a novel assay to determine HIV co-receptor use. Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University. Principal Supervisor Sharon Lewin.


Perret, Jennifer. Immune responses and cytokines in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. University of Melbourne, Department of Pathology, Vasso Apostolopoulos and Christine McDonald, (Lab funded).

Pfeifer, Sanne. Uncoating of HIV through visualization of multiple HIV proteins and host cell factors. Wageningen University, Department of Microbiology, the Netherlands. Full-time. Supervisors Johnson Mak and Candida da Fonseca Pereira.

Sacks Davis, Rachel. Master of Public Health (coursework), Monash University, Department of Epidemiology and Preventative Medicine. van Gemert, Caroline. Masters of Applied Epidemiology, National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, Australian National University.


Winter, Rebecca. Master of Public Health (coursework), La Trobe University, School of Public Health, Faculty of Health Sciences.

Honours:


Heaton, Steve. Structural and functional analysis of retroviral Gag polypeptides. Monash University, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Supervisors: Johnson Mak and Marcel Hijnen.

Ngo, Chloe. Structural and Functional Investigation of Evasion of IgA Immunity by Staphylococcus Aureus. The University of Melbourne, Department of Pathology, Supervisors: Ramsland, P.A. (principal supervisor) and Wines, B.D.

O’Neill, Anthea. Understanding ligand-induced high-affinity IgE receptor (FceRI) stabilisation. University of Melbourne, Department of Pharmacology. Supervisors: Mackay, G. and Wines, B.D.

Tan, Yick Siew. Lactic acid as a natural microbicide against human immunodeficiency virus. Monash University, Department of Microbiology. Supervisors: Gilda Tachedjian (Principal), Con Sonza and Jenny Anderson.

Other Awards and Prizes:

Cherry, CL. National Health and Medical Research Council Career Development Award. Understanding the side effects of HAART in HIV patients: $90,500 per year (2009-2012).

Crabb, B. Bancroft-Mackerras Medal, Australian Society for Parasitology; Melbourne Top 100 most Influential People, The Age Magazine.

Cowley, D. Young Investigator Award, Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic infections, Montreal: USD$1500; Young Investigator Travel Award, International Conference on Neurovirology, Miami: USD$1500; Monash Postgraduate Travel Award: $2115.
Dean, J. Young Investigator Travel Award, International HCV Conference: $1900; Burnet Virology Travel Award: $3500; Australian Virology Group Student Award: $500.

Drummer, HE. Inaugural Gust-McKenzie Award, Burnet Institute: $2,000.


Flynn, J. ACH2 Hepatitis award: $500; Alfred Research week Infectious Diseases poster prize: $200; AMREP postgraduate research symposium: $100; FIMSA postgraduate workshop travel award: $750; Monash postgraduate travel award, International HCV conference: $2165.

Gorry, P. NHMRC Level 2 Career Development Award: $400,000 (2009–2012).

Gray, L. Young Investigator Award, Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic infections, Montreal, Canada: US$1500.


Jones, K. Harold Mitchell Post-Doctoral Travel Award: $5,000; Australian Society for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Junior Post-Doctoral Award: $1,000.

Kinner, S. Australian Public Health Post-Doctoral Training Fellowship (2006 – 2009); Monitoring and improving the health of ex-prisoners. NHMRC Travelling Award: $12,500.

Lichtfuss, G. ASHM Conference Travel Award: $1,500; Best Basic Science Oral presentation, Australasian HIV/AIDS Conference: $600.

Rajasuriar, R. Young Investigator Award 2009. Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections, Montreal, Canada: USD$1500.


Roche, M. ACH2 Student Award; Qiagen Junior Scientist Award: $500.

Sterjovski, J. ACH2 2009 Conference Presentation Award: $500.

Tannock, GA. Short-term grant from the Royal Society, Weatherall Institute for Molecular Medicine, John Radcliffe Hospital, University of Oxford: UK £3,910 (September-December 2009).


Wang, SS. Monash University Postgraduate Travel Award for 16th International Symposium on Hepatitis C Virus and Related Viruses, Nice, France: $2,100.


Wright, E. Research Project Award by the Victorian Branch of PLWHA (2009).

In appreciation of those who support our work

Our Ambassadors

The Burnet Institute acknowledges the support of two recently appointed Ambassadors. Collingwood footballer Heritier ‘Harry’ O’Brien joined the Institute as a Youth Ambassador and travelled to Mozambique to experience first-hand Burnet’s work there.

Elite athlete and HIV-positive mother of two, Deanna Blegg, recently joined us as an Ambassador to promote our programs in PNG and the ‘Go for your life’ Melbourne City Romp.

Heritier recently remarked that “...I like it that Burnet does not tell young people what to do but builds qualities like assertiveness, confidence, and respect for the opposite sex...while giving them the knowledge to protect themselves.”

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Harry chats with ‘Cats’ fan and Burnet staff member, Dyson Simmons, at a footy grand final event at Burnet.

Deanna Blegg with the women of the Waterais village in Markham Valley, during her trip to PNG.

Burnet’s Ambassador Deanna Blegg and Youth Ambassador Heritier ‘Harry’ O’Brien at a Burnet World AIDS Day fundraiser.
Our Donors

The Burnet Institute was delighted to be the recipient of a number of major gifts and more than 1,500 donations during 2009. The impact that these donations make to the Institute is enormous, enabling our scientists and public health staff to initiate new and progress many existing programs as well as to purchase equipment needed to keep the Institute abreast with technological advances.

We would like to especially acknowledge all of our donors and in-kind supporters for their generosity, especially at a time when the impact of the Global Financial Crisis was being felt by many around the world. In addition, a special acknowledgement and thank you to those supporters who left a legacy to the Institute in their Will. This level of commitment and support for our on-going work is very much appreciated and we feel especially honoured to receive such gifts. Leaving a bequest to the Institute does help us plan well into the future and provides funding for the establishment of many new programs.

We were delighted to receive donations from a number of schools especially Methodist Ladies College and Mowbray Secondary College, the students of which nominated Burnet to be the recipient of special fundraisers for World AIDS Day. The willingness to help and the level of concern by these young people for those people living with HIV and AIDS in resource-poor communities, is enormously inspiring.

Of special note, we would like to acknowledge the generosity of the Janina and Bill Amiet Foundation in assisting in funding the fit-out of the Bio-organic and Medicinal Chemistry Laboratory in our new building, salaries of a number of senior cancer research staff and the purchase of a number of items of equipment. The Foundation’s thoughtfulness and its willingness to support our work is most appreciated.

We also acknowledge the Drakensberg Trust for the financial support of the Institute’s program in Mozambique, helping to strengthen the civil-society response to HIV and AIDS. This support has enabled the Institute to build the capacity of local non-government organisations to respond to the many issues associated with the HIV epidemic in this country. This funding has enabled the Institute to continue its training programs; provide peer education with sex workers and their clients; implement community education and counselling on issues associated with HIV and AIDS; and provide treatment for sexually transmitted infectious diseases through our night clinic in Manica Province.

These are just few examples of how financial support received from our donors can help to make a huge difference to the lives of many people in the world whether through direct public health programs or through specific research programs that provide a tangible benefit for the community.

“Every year, we rely on the generosity of our donors to help us continue our work; every contribution, no matter how small, assists us to make a tangible and sustainable impact on people’s health.”

Laboratory tours and donor luncheons are a great way to show our appreciation.
## In Appreciation: our very generous donors

### Individuals

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<th>Amount Range</th>
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*Page 84: 2009 Burnet Institute Annual Report*
Corporates
Arnold Bloch Liebler
Binks & Associates Pty Ltd
JWR & MM Bristow Pty Ltd
Byfields Accountants & Financial Advisers
Delta Sales Pty Ltd
Maximum Adventure
Morton Nominees Pty Ltd
NAB Personal Banking, Marketing & Research Team
National Australia Bank - BPA Marketing Dept
Oxygène Branding and Communications
Qmani
Rapid Ascent – Rainforest Ride
Ritches Stores
SmartSalary Pty Limited
Springwaters Pty Ltd

Schools and Organisations
All Souls Opportunity Shop
Beauties and the Beast
Methodist Ladies College
Motafrenz Car Club Inc
Mowbray College
Order of the Amaranth
Victorian Bridge Association

Trusts and Foundations
ANZ Trustees Foundation – Pat La
Manna OAM Cancer/Stroke Research Legacy
ANZ Trustees Foundation – Wadham
Family Gift Account
Bachrach Charitable Trust
Bell Charitable Fund
BHP Billiton Matched Giving Program
Bradshaw Foundation Trust
CASS Foundation Ltd
Commonwealth Bank Staff Community Fund
Drakensberg Trust
Felix Hiller Charitable Trust
Finkel Foundation
Fonda Family Charitable Foundation
Gandel Charitable Trust
Goldman Sachs JBWere Foundation
Goldschlager Family Charitable Foundation
Harold and Cora Brennen Trust
Harold Mitchell Foundation
Helen Macpherson Smith Trust
Invergowrie Foundation
Ivy H Thomas and Arthur A Thomas Trust
Janina and Bill Amiet Foundation
Joe White Bequest
Joyce Adelaide Healey Charitable Trust Fund
Kel and Rosie Day Foundation
Kimberley Foundation

Gifts in Kind
Bosom Buddies Ball
2XU
AIA
Annette Sanfilippo Millinery Art
Arthur Murray Dance Studios
Australian Diamond Company
Aveda
Belgian Beer Café Eureka
Bendon
Berwick Tattslootto and Fine Jewellery
Big Chunks
Bob Jane T-Marts
BodyPhysics
Brad Blaze
Clamms Seafood
Contours Hawthorn
Cooper’s Freight Management
David Nutter Ford
Debra Cooper
Design Trio on Bourke
Fifth Avenue Collection
Fiona’s of Mornington Boutique
FOG Bar & Restaurant
Geoff and Di Double
Glenmar Cottages
Glenmar Financial Services
Glenmar Wines
Go West Tours
Golf Australia
Harry O’Brien
InterContinental Hotels Group
Jane Kempe
Japanese Mountain Retreat
Jewish Museum of Australia
Jills Talking Heads
Joy Voice Pty Ltd
Kaye Jones and Ginia lingerie
La Cacciatore
Laika
Man Alive Social Interactions
McMillan Shakespeare Ltd/Maxia My Car
Melway
Mt Buller Resort
Napoleon Perdis
Nine Network Australia
Oakfern Tree Care
Paris GO Bistro
Penguin
Peter Rowland Catering
Puffing Billy
Q T girl
Revlon
Robert Piccoli Photography
Rockford Wines
Sanela Djambegovic
Sharp Corporation of Australia
St Anne’s Winery
Subaru Melbourne
Tahbilk
The Bouzy Rouge Hotel
The Chocolate Master
The Computer Initiatives
Thrive Personal Training
Trimmings and Remnants
Village Cinemas Knox
Western Bulldogs FC
Yiannis Tavern

Golf Day – Melbourne
Arbormaster Parks and Gardens
Artist Photographer
Berwick Village Travel & Cruise
Bob Jane T-Marts
Cannings Outdoor Power Equipment
Cell to Cell Mobile Phones
David Nutter Ford
Fashion Brands
Oakfern Tree Care
Piccoli Photography
RACV
Rankins Direct
Seasol Pty Ltd
Spring Valley Golf Club
St Kilda Road Parkview Hotel
Stay Cool Heating & Air conditioning
Subaru Fountain Gate
The Metropolitan Golf Club
Victoria Pty Ltd
Xerox Business Centre South East
Community Engagement

Burnet engages in many and varied activities to promote the important work we undertake here in Australia and globally. Whether it’s a major event like the Melbourne City Romp or a presentation to a Secondary College, engaging with the community assists us to raise our profile and also the much needed funds to keep our work going. Below are a few examples of the activities we undertook during 2009.

**Burnet Oration** – an annual key-note lecture aimed at a wide community audience, addressing topical health and research issues. Sir Gustav Nossal presented the 2009 Burnet Oration.

**Sex, Drugs and Rock’n’Roll** at the Big Day Out – Burnet’s study of sexual health, drug risk behaviour/s in young people attending a music festival; this serves also as a forum for raising awareness of Burnet’s research in these areas and elicits strong support amongst festival attendees.

Burnet offers **post-graduate training** by actively teaching more than nine subject areas in the Masters of Public Health offered by Melbourne and Monash Universities. This teaching capability allows the training of public health students for the implementation of public health strategies and programs in national and international settings.

**Annual Golf Days** – Melbourne and Gold Coast – Primarily fundraisers for Burnet’s work with breast cancer, the event also promotes awareness of the general work of the Institute. As a rule the events engage with those from medium to small enterprises.

**Australasian World Music Expo** – AWME is the Australia-Pacific region’s premier music industry conference and showcase of Indigenous, roots and world music. In 2009 the event attracted more than 9,000 participants and Burnet was their preferred charity and promoted its work throughout the four-day event.

**Anaconda Adventure Race Series and Rainforest Ride** – Rapid Ascent have chosen Burnet as the charity partner for their series of off-road sporting events including the Anaconda Adventure Race International Series. These national events involve swimming, kayaking, mountain biking and running. We promote Burnet’s work from a marquee, and fundraise by selling merchandise and raffle tickets. We are also involved in the same capacity with Rapid Ascent’s Annual Rainforest Ride.

**Bosom Buddies Ball** – This annual black-tie fundraiser is in its 16th year with funds and awareness focused on Burnet’s work with breast cancer.

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1. One of Australia’s most celebrated medical scientists and humanitarians, Sir Gustav Nossal, AC delivered the prestigious 2009 Burnet Oration – Recent trends in global public health.
2. Melbourne’s Big Day Out music festival offers the Centre for Population Health a valuable opportunity to gather data on sexual risk behaviour and drug use.
3. Potential students chat to Centre for Population Health staff about undertaking studies at Burnet.
4. A golf day at prestigious Kingston Heath raised funds for Burnet’s breast cancer research.
5. David Bridie and the Moab String Band visit Burnet as part of the Australasian World Music Expo.
7. John Rosenthal from the Rotary Club of Berwick presents Brendan Crabb and Mark Hogarth with a cheque at the 2009 Bosom Buddies Ball.
Support our Work

A Bequest – vital for our future research

Your support is very important...

At Burnet, everything we do is focused on making a sustainable difference to people’s health, in Australia and around the world.

Burnet’s culture links innovative discovery-oriented research with development and humanitarian action. We integrate our world-class laboratory and field-based research into multidisciplinary programs to prevent, detect and treat diseases of global significance. This unique approach allows us to make a tangible and sustainable impact on health in both developed and developing countries.

…and this is why we need your support

Every year, we rely on the generosity of Australians’ to enable us to continue our work. Scientists at Burnet are working hard to study, through innovative programs, the prevalence, transmission and impact of infectious diseases (such as hepatitis, HIV, influenza, malaria and tuberculosis), cancers (such as breast, ovarian, prostate and blood cancers), and autoimmune diseases (such as rheumatoid arthritis and lupus).

Did you know that infectious diseases such as HIV, malaria and tuberculosis cause the death of some 11 million people every year? Many of these deaths can be prevented with adequate education, vaccination or treatment programs.

In addition to working with long-established diseases, we must also be ready for outbreaks of potentially catastrophic new diseases such as the H1N1 (swine flu) pandemic.

At Burnet, we also undertake innovative epidemiological research, working at international and regional levels, and with governments, civil society and communities in more than 15 countries. We build capacity and strengthen health services to reduce the impact of major health problems.

Our scientists have implemented clinical trials for hepatitis C and cancer vaccines, and developed a range of drugs and vaccines for other infectious diseases – tangible benefits for use world-wide.

We hope you can consider these opportunities to help Burnet when you sit down to write your Will.

You can be assured that your bequest, regardless of form or amount, will make a real difference to Burnet’s future planning and programs.

A Will declared before your death gives the Burnet the chance to thank you, and allow you to be specific about its application – if you wish.

Suggested wording:

I bequeath the sum of $ ......................... (or, part/total of the estate’s revenue) to the Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health Ltd to be applied, at the discretion of, and for the purposes of the Burnet Institute (or as directed by the donor).
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F: + 61 3 9282 2100
E: info@burnet.edu.au
www.burnet.edu.au
A.B.N. 49 007 349 984

Overseas Offices
The Burnet Institute has offices in Africa, South East Asia, The Pacific region and China (Tibet).
For more information about our work overseas or to contact our international offices please email info@burnet.edu.au or call us on + 61 3 9282 2111

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Yangon, Myanmar

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Lhasa 850000, TAR China

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Ban Sihom, Vientiane, Lao PDR

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Chimoio/Manica, Mozambique

PAPUA NEW GUINEA
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Level 2, Nita Street, Boroko, Port Moresby

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East New Britain