

florey medical research fund



Faculty of Health Sciences



November 2005

The Florey Medical Research Fund welcomes bequests and donations to expand its ability to fund medical research now and in the future

NEW FLOREY PRESIDENT



In March of 2004 Raymond Grigg was appointed by the South Australian Government as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Central Northern Adelaide Health Service and as President of the Board of Governors of University of Adelaide's Florey Research Foundation.

The Whyalla Area Cancer Support and Service Group

This dedicated team has been supporting The Florey Medical Research Foundation for many years. Mrs Marilyn Johns, President, Mr Brian Ledington, Secretary and Mrs Sandra Plew (recently retired) have organised many successful events. Every year the substantial cheque they present to the Florey Foundation is committed to cancer research at the University of Adelaide. We are very grateful for their dedication and marvellous organisational skills.

Florey Bachelor of Medical Science Scholarship 2005



Sam Maloney (right) with Ricky Mentha

Sam Maloney has been named the recipient of this year's Florey Scholarship of \$5,000. He is enrolled in the Honours Degree of Bachelor of Medical Science at the University of Adelaide and is working within

the Department of General Practice and Rural Health. Sam's Honours Project is 'Heart attacks in Central Australia: investigating the experience of indigenous and non-indigenous people'. Sam has been based at the Centre for Remote Health in Alice Springs since February 2005 and is particularly interested in exploring the difficulties of communication with western medical professionals when indigenous people suffer acute myocardial infarction.

Florey Adelaide Male Ageing Study (FAMAS)

In April 2005 the clinics for the FAMAS were completed; this brought the final number of participants to approximately 1,200, making this the largest study of this type in Australia. Participants are now being asked to submit yearly questionnaires and the study is branching out into new research efforts in eye care, bone health and cognitive functioning. Two Honours students continue to work on the project plus the four PhD students who are profiled here.

Donel Martin

In 2002 Donel completed a Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Adelaide which included a semester abroad at the University of Konstanz, Germany. In 2003 he completed a Bachelor of Social Sciences first class honours degree in Psychology. Donel's current PhD in medicine at the Royal Adelaide Hospital is entitled 'Gonadal Steroids and Cognitive Function in Ageing Males' and is concerned primarily with determining whether declining levels of gonadal steroids that occur with ageing in males are related to generalised age-related cognitive decline. Complementing this project Donel is analysing the FAMAS neuropsychological data collected since the study's inception.

Greta Bradman

Greta is in her first year of a PhD in the Departments of Medicine and Psychology and a Master of Psychology (Clinical) at the University of Adelaide. Her research interests involve exploring the associations between cognitive ability, personality, mood, and chronic health problems, and investigating predictors of behavioural and biological health risk factors for chronic disease (e.g. physical inactivity, alcohol intake, smoking, obesity, high blood pressure, high blood cholesterol and impaired glucose tolerance). In 2004, Greta undertook Honours Psychology at the University of Adelaide, receiving the Australian Psychological Society Prize. Greta has a keen interest in multidisciplinary research involving health and ageing.

Eleanor Need

Eleanor is developing novel methods to measure androgen activity in men. She graduated from the University of Adelaide with Honours in Genetics in 2000. In 2001 she took up a position as a research Assistant in the Department of Biological Sciences at Columbia University in New York. In 2003 she started work in the Dame Roma Mitchell Cancer Research Laboratories. Eleanor began her PhD in 2004 on a project entitled 'Androgens and Androgen Receptor Signalling in Men'. The FAMAS study provides an invaluable set of well-characterised serum samples to utilise in the development and evaluation of the bioassay. Eleanor is the recipient of a Health Sciences divisional PhD scholarship.



James Smith



Donel Martin



Greta Bradman

James Smith

James Smith is currently enrolled as a joint PhD candidate in the Department of Public Health & Department of Medicine at the University of Adelaide. He is currently completing a qualitative investigation into men's help-seeking behaviour and health service use as a component of the FAMAS. James also works as a Health Promotion Officer at Royal Adelaide Hospital (RAH) where he co-ordinates Health In Men (HIM), RAH's men's health initiative. He has delivered over 30 conference presentations related to men's health, nationally and internationally. James is the recipient of numerous awards including being nominated for the 2005 Young South Australian of the Year.

Faculty of Health Sciences New Appointments



Justin Beilby – Executive Dean

On 1 July 2005 Professor Justin Beilby, previously the Head of the Department of General Practice and Rural Health at the University of Adelaide, succeeded the retiring Professor Derek Frewin AO, as the University's Executive Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences.

Professor Beilby is a University of Adelaide graduate; he received his MBBS in 1980, a Masters of Public Health in 1991 and a MD in 1999. He is a Fellow of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners and has also worked extensively with the National Health Medical Research Council, Commonwealth and State Governments and general practices and division of general practice in research, strategic and workforce planning.

Professor Beilby is a member of the Clinical Senate for the South Australian Department of Health and has been Chair of the National Evaluation Committee of the National Prescribing Service. When Associate Dean (Rural) for the Faculty of Health Sciences, he oversaw the establishment of the very successful Rural Medical Student Education Program. He is still active in general practice.

For the future Professor Beilby sees the recent expansion of the Faculty's teaching programs and the increasing international links as positive steps. An initial priority will be to foster the continuing growth in international and higher degree students. The training of psychology, nursing and health sciences graduates will become increasingly important in providing service delivery in South Australia along with our medical graduates.

The Faculty of Health Sciences already has an impressive research and teaching record with excellent academic programs, and for the future has enormous potential to be an active and creative partner with the South Australian Department of Health in workforce planning and development within the reforms currently underway following the recent Generational Health Review.

Andrew A Somogyi Associate Dean (Research)

Andrew Somogyi is Professor of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology in the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Adelaide. He trained as a pharmacist in Tasmania and obtained his PhD in Clinical Pharmacology from Sydney University in 1978. He undertook postdoctoral training in the Department of Medicine at the University of Bonn, Germany and in 1982 joined the Department of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology at the University of Adelaide. He teaches basic and clinical pharmacology to medical, dental, health science and science students and supervises Honours and a large cohort of PhD students. His research interests are in elucidating the mechanisms of variability in drug action through studies on drug metabolism and absorption, pharmacokinetics, pharmacogenomics and concentration-effect relationships with specific reference to the opioid class of drugs used in the therapeutic areas of pain therapy and addiction. A recent international collaborative focus is on intestinal drug disposition.

He has active research collaborations with investigators in Stuttgart, Copenhagen, Los Angeles and Heidelberg. He has published over 170 scientific papers and communications and is a member of the Editorial Boards of the *British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology* (as an Executive Editor), *Pharmacogenetics*, *Current Drug Delivery*, *International Journal of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics* and the *Australian Medicines Handbook*. He is Deputy Head of the University Department, a member of the Investigational Drugs Subcommittee of the Royal Adelaide Hospital, and Medicines Evaluation Committee of the Therapeutic Goods Administration of the Department of Health and Ageing. He maintains his professional practice and is President-Elect of ASCEPT (Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists).



Pocket Research Statistics

The Faculty of Health Sciences' continuing growth in recent years is demonstrated below in time series data relating to key performance indicators used by the Commonwealth Government covering research income, publications and higher degree by research students.

Table 1: Research Income: 1998 through 2004

1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
\$16,081,846	\$18,775,583	\$20,491,573	\$24,271,402	\$26,831,841	\$30,190,146	\$34,561,546

Table 2: Research Publications

Unweighted DEST Points

1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
258.36	332.19	338.32	373.44	376.86	383.31	471.40

(DEST = Department of Education Science and Training)

Table 3: Research Students (PhD and Masters by Research)

The following table shows the number of Effective Full Time Student Load (EFTSL) for the Faculty of Health Sciences where a full time student for a full year represents 1 EFTSL.

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Domestic	199.4	186.5	193.4	213.7	201.8	231.7	247.4	257
International	18.5	23.0	24.8	28.8	26.4	27.9	30.6	33.5
Total	217.9	209.5	218.1	242.5	228.2	259.6	278.0	290.5

Source: University Office of Planning and Quality Web site at: <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/opq/stats/research/>

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