30 APRIL 2012

The Lowitja Institute eBulletin is prepared by the Lowitja communications team to provide you with information of interest to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research. If you no longer wish to receive it, please unsubscribe. Alternatively, you are very welcome to subscribe.

Wangka Pulka newsletter

Issue 6, April 2012

The sixth issue of the Lowitja Institute's newsletter Wangka Pulka—'Big Talk' in the Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara language from our patron Dr Lowitja O'Donoghue’s traditional lands—features:

* Institute scholarship holder Dr Bo Remenyi plays a key role in developing world-first diagnostic guidelines on the use of echocardiograms to check for rheumatic heart disease.
* Wilcannia hosts the launch of the Institute-supported Aboriginal Adult Literacy pilot project, with first students set to graduate in May 2012.
* Latest research shows Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are 50% more likely to die from cancer in the year following their diagnosis than other Australians.
* A Guest Editorial from our Executive Director of Research, Associate Professor Janelle Stirling, in which she discusses the latest developments in our research program.
* A Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service showcases its e-health initiative ahead of the national e-health roll out starting on 1 July 2012.

Plus our regular sections:
* Research Activities
* Education and Training
* National Policy News
* News in Brief
* Lowitja Institute Update

Also of interest...

NAIDAC Inaugural National Indigenous Drug & Alcohol Awards

Reminder: Nominations for the close at midnight, 30 April.

Heart Week 2012
Congress Lowitja 2012

The Lowitja Institute will host its bi-annual Congress Lowitja in 2012, on 14–15 November 2012, in Melbourne. The venue will be the Etihad Stadium and the theme is *Knowledge Exchange and Translation into Practice*.

Congress Lowitja 2012 will be an opportunity for researchers, policy makers and Aboriginal Community Controlled and government health service organisations to engage in a conversation about knowledge exchange and translation related to the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The Congress:
- Professor Ian Anderson, the Institute's former Director of Research and Innovation, will set the scene in the first plenary session about the evolution of the Lowitja Institute's research approach, what we have learnt, what we have achieved, what the challenges have been and what we still need to work on.
- This is not a conventional conference: presentations will highlight processes that are not usually showcased, such as conversations that started research projects, quality assurance processes, innovative ways to communicate research findings and how to get research findings incorporated into policy and practice.
- Attendees will be active participants at the Congress, where we will facilitate networking and assist you to meet others who can help you with knowledge exchange and translation into practice to enhance your work in Closing the Gap.

Please note there will be no call for abstracts. All speakers will be invited.

Enquiries to Penelope Smith, Stakeholder Manager by email <penelope.smith@lowitja.org.au> or T: 03 8341 5505.

For more information about the Scientific Committee, registration, accommodation and venue, please visit our [Congress webpage](#).
National Anti-Racism Strategy consultations under way

As part of her role leading the federal Government’s National Anti-Racism Partnership and Strategy, Race Discrimination Commissioner, Dr Helen Szoke, has launched a discussion paper, website and online survey and begun conducting community consultations around the country.

People who are interested in making a contribution towards the National Anti-Racism Strategy can do so in three ways – by making a submission in response to the Discussion Paper, by completing the online survey or by participating in a public meeting.

You can make a contribution or learn more about the National Anti-Racism Strategy. Closing date for the online submission process is Friday 11 May 2012.

Reminder

Reminder: Closing date for nominations for the inaugural NIDAC Awards has been extended to midnight on 14 May 2012.

Conferences and Calls for Abstracts

List of 2012 conferences

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Call for Abstracts: Rural Health and Research Congress, 5–7 November 2012, in Wagga Wagga NSW

Who should attend? Clinicians from the multidisciplinary rural health team (allied health, nursing, medical, clinician researchers, academic partners in health, metropolitan colleagues with a rural directorate, health service managers, health workers from the private sector, Aboriginal health workers, allied health assistants). For more information, contact Jenny Preece on T: 02 6692 7716 or email <jenny.preece@ncahs.health.nsw.gov.au>. Closing date is 29 June 2012.

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Call for Abstracts: 18th Qualitative Health Research Conference, 23–25 October 2012, in Montreal, Canada

Closing date is 30 May 2012.

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RC33 8th International Conference on Social Science Methodology, 9–13 July 2012, at The University of
Sydney
The focus of the conference is on innovations and current best practice in all aspects of social science research methodology.

Closing date is 4 May 2012. Email queries to info@globalhc-conf.org.


6th Pacific Region Indigenous Doctors Congress, 3–7 October 2012, Alice Springs, NT

A limited number of Conference Support Grants is available through the AES to meet the partial or full costs of attendance at the conference for emerging Indigenous evaluators. The ultimate goal and vision of the grants is to increase the number of Indigenous evaluators in the Australasian area and to contribute to the wider development of Indigenous evaluation capacity. Applications close on 1 June 2012.

Population Health Congress 2012, 10–12 September, in Adelaide

Call for abstracts: Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses, 14th National Conference, 19–21 September 2012, Cairns, Qld
Closing date is 29 June 2012.

2012 PHC Research Conference: Delegate sponsorship
Applications closing date is 4 May 2012.

Call for abstracts: 2012 Mount Isa Remote Health Conference, 1–4 August, Mt Isa, Qld
Closing date is 30 June 2012.

Call for abstracts: Chronic Diseases Network Conference 2012, 20–21 September, Darwin
Closing date is 4 May 2012.

Call for Papers: 4th Australian Rural and Remote Mental Health Symposium, 19–21 November 2012, Adelaide
Closing date is 23 July 2012.

Call for Abstracts: International Network of Indigenous Health Knowledge and Development (INIHKD), 5th Biennial Conference, 24–28 September 2012, Brisbane
Please contact Lynda Caldwell by email <lynda.caldwell@hotmail.com>.
Call for Abstracts: CRANAplus 30th Annual Conference, 24–27 October 2012, Cairns, Queensland
Closing date is 15 May 2012.

7th Australian Women’s Conference, 7–10 May 2013, Sydney

Heart Foundation Conference 2013, 16–18 May, in Adelaide
Register your interest by calling T: 08 9389 1488 or emailing <eecw@eecw.com.au>.

Events

Thursday 3 May 2012, book launch in Warralong, WA (southeast of Port Hedland): You are invited by the Aboriginal Studies Press invites you to the launch of Kurlumarninny: We come from the desert, by Monty Hale (Minyjun)
Time and place: 12 – 1pm at Strelley School, Warralong, WA (southeast of Port Hedland)
RSVP to Aboriginal Studies Press, T: 02 6246 1183 or by email to <asp@aiatsis.gov.au>
A community BBQ will follow the official launch. Please note that Warralong is a dry community and all visitors must respect community protocols.

Saturday 19 May, in Melbourne: The LongWalk to Dreamtime at the ‘G’

Jobs

AusAID’s Indigenous Employment Strategy 2011–15
The Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) is conducting the first Indigenous recruitment round for the 2013 AusAID graduate program. AusAID manages Australia’s overseas aid program, provides advice and support to the Minister for Foreign Affairs on development policy, and plans and coordinates poverty reduction activities in partnership with developing countries.
AusAID accepts applications from all disciplines and are seeking a wide range of qualifications relevant to their business including, but not limited to: International Relations, Development Studies, Law, IT, Economics, Business Management and Education.
This is an exciting 2-year program. To find out more, visit the AusAID website or speak to their Indigenous HR Adviser on T: 02 6178 5910.
The filling of these positions is in accordance with subsection 8(1) of the Racial Discrimination Act 1975. These positions are designated and only open to applicants who are Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people.
Indigenous Employment Program at La Trobe University

La Trobe University is strongly committed to playing a leading role in 'Closing the Gap' in educational and employment outcomes for Indigenous Australians. Expressions of Interest will be held on file for a period of 12 months and actively matched against any suitable position that may arise during that time. Indigenous employment enquiries can be forwarded to the Indigenous Employment Coordinator who can be contacted on T: 03 9479 6678 or by email at <Indigenous-Employment@latrobe.edu.au>. La Trobe University is also seeking Expressions of Interest for PhD and PhD top-up scholarships examining the effects of different stressors on brain and behaviour.

Human Resources Officer at the NHMRC Human Resources Section, ongoing, in Canberra

The Human Resources Section is looking for an enthusiastic, client-focused person to provide administrative support across the full range of human resources functions with a focus on payroll and recruitment. As a Human Resources Officer, you will possess sound organisational skills, an eye for detail, and an ability to build and maintain good working relationships. If you enjoy working in a team environment, working with numbers, meeting deadlines and are self-motivated we would like to hear from you. Closing date is COB 3 May 2012.

Indigenous Jobs Australia

Indigenous Careers + Employment

Health Careers

Media

Past media releases and stories about the Lowitja Institute

Aboriginal Health Council SA Wins National Award, AHCSA media release 12 April 2012

‘The Aboriginal Health Council of SA Inc. has won the national Excellence in Indigenous Health Award for Improving Access to Primary Health Care’ for their outstanding resource ‘Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adult health checks made easy’. The 3rd Annual Excellence in Indigenous Health Awards ceremony was held in Sydney on 28 March 2012, and recognised inspirational work from service providers, communities and individuals making a difference in Aboriginal health disadvantage.

Full story and resource

Publications
The Lowitja Institute’s Wangka Pulka newsletter, issue 6 April 2012 is now available.

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The April to June 2012 issue of the Australian Indigenous Health Bulletin is now 'in progress.'

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The National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee (NIDAC) March 2012 Communiqué is now available.

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AlterNative publishes a number of book reviews in each issue – have you considered writing a book review for publication in 2012? There is a guide to book reviewing for AlterNative or you can email the editors <editors@alternative.ac.nz>.

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Improving Equity in Health by Addressing Social Determinants, edited by The Commission on Social Determinants of Health Knowledge Networks, J. H. Lee & R. Sadana 2011, World Health Organization (PDF is 319pp., 1.5 MB)

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Health system performance comparison: an agenda for policy, information and research, P. C. Smith & I. Papanicolas 2012, Joint Policy Summary #4, World Health Organization on behalf of the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies (PDF is 50pp)

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Special Issue on Patient Safety: Healthcare Quarterly (vol. 15), edited by G. Ross Baker

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Global Report for Research on Infectious Diseases of Poverty - WHO, World Health Organization on behalf of the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases
2012


Ethical professional practice: exploring the issues for health services to rural Aboriginal communities, J. L. Malone, Rural and Remote Health vol. 12 (1891) online

Evaluation of the NSW Indigenous Diabetic Foot Program for health workers whose primary role is with Aboriginal people in the lower mid north coast, Escher Townsend 2012

Gone too soon: A report into youth suicide in the Northern Territory, Select Committee on Youth Suicides in the NT 2012, Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory


Through Australian Policy Online

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Revised recommendations for clinical care guidelines on the management of Otitis Media (middle ear infection) in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations 2010, Department of Health and Ageing 2012

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Report on government services 2012: Indigenous compendium
Productivity Commission 2012

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Key work health and safety statistics booklet Australia 2012 Safe Work Australia 2012

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Improving educational outcomes for Aboriginal people, Toni Beauchamp 2012, Uniting Care Children Young People and Families

Resources and Websites
United States website First Nations Films distributes and creates educational documentary films and videos for, by and about First Nations people.

Scholarships, Awards, Funding, Grants and Tenders

Indigenous Remote Service Delivery Traineeships (IRSD)
The IRSD traineeships will provide funding to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander aged care and primary health care services in remote locations to employ Indigenous Australians as trainees in business administration. The Department of Health and Ageing will also arrange for the delivery of fully funded culturally appropriate and targeted training to suit the business and management needs of aged care and primary health care services.

Postdoctoral Research Fellowships (3 positions), University of Southern Queensland, Coffs Harbour, Lismore or Gold Coast and Tweed Heads Campuses (ref: 12050)
Southern Cross University Postdoctoral Research Fellowships aim to support excellence in full-time research undertaken across the University in areas of strategic research priority. The University will be offering up to three new Fellowships during 2012. Successful applicants are expected to be based full-time at the University for the three year duration of the Fellowship. Closing date is 23 May 2012.

Indigenous Employment Program at La Trobe University
La Trobe University is seeking Expressions of Interest for PhD and PhD top-up scholarships examining the effects of different stressors on brain and behaviour.

Endeavour Awards for Indigenous Australians
The Endeavour Awards are part of the Australia Awards initiative which brings together, under a single recognizable brand, the Endeavour Awards administered by the Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education and the Development Awards administered by the Australian Agency for International Development. Applications close at 11:59 AM Australian Eastern Standard Time (AEST) on Saturday, 30 June 2012. Applications received after the closing date will not be considered.

Indigenous Scholarships Website

Seminars, Courses, Colloquia and Symposia
If you work in Indigenous health in WA and would like to take part in a free HealthInfoNet workshop they want to hear from you

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**Master Class Series in Indigenous Research: Health, 6–8 June 2012, Byron Bay, Qld**

This Master Class is designed to give guidance on leadership development in publishing, grant writing, collaborative research, international scholarship, insight into prestigious research grants and to help grant applicants get a positive outcome to grant applications. Participants could include (but are not limited to) Indigenous and non-Indigenous scholars with research experience and an interest in Indigenous knowledge in the area of health.

This workshop is set up to give participants the necessary experiences and proficiencies to successfully develop your career in Indigenous Health Research.

For more information and registration, contact Carla Robinson (Continuing Professional Development Events Coordinator) by email <carla.robinson@scu.edu.au> or T: 07 5506 9269. Early bird registration closes 9 May.

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**Health and Society Summer School: Social Determinants of Health, 9–13 July 2012, London UK**

Applications are now open for the five-day Health and Society Summer School: Social Determinants of Health

Organised by the UCL Department of Epidemiology and Public Health International Institute for Society and Health

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