In the spirit of deep respect, the School of Public Health and Community Medicine (SPHCM) and UNSW Sydney acknowledge Aboriginal peoples as being the original owners of the land upon which much of our work occurs. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have inhabited Australia for well over 50,000 years and their unique cultures and identities are bound up with the land, sea and kinship connections. Australia is the only place in the world where Indigenous Australians belong, and there is no place in Australia where this is not true.

SPHCM and UNSW Sydney recognise the unique position of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia’s history and contemporary culture. SPHCM seeks to understand and observe Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural protocols and incorporate the knowledge of Indigenous peoples into the activities of the school. The years 2015 and 2016 saw growth in SPHCM’s student numbers, research and service related to Aboriginal health and community wellbeing, often emphasising the contributions Indigenous Australians make to enhancing our understanding of public health, including holistic health care, community development and environmental protection.
Welcome to SPHCM!

We are a leader in academic excellence, global impact and social engagement. We have the oldest and largest Health Management program in Australia, and one of the largest public health and international public health programs. Public health and community medicine are different but related disciplines, which have key elements in common that bring us together as a School. These include a concern beyond the individual, an interest in the societal context in which health care is provided, strengthening of health systems, health leadership and a commitment to equity and social justice. Public health is a powerful tool with which we can bring some equality into an unequal world. For example, vaccination programs protect the entire community, even those who are unvaccinated through herd immunity effects, regardless of socioeconomic status. Where there is poverty, inequity and suffering, public health can make a difference, and Australia has a very strong tradition and culture of public health and programs for the public good. In health management, we seek to achieve health system strengthening, translation of evidence into policy and practice, and leadership skills in health management, building on our long track record and reputation in training health managers in Australia and our region. Our programs are closely linked to our research, and we strive to be relevant to practice and policy. We are aligned with the UNSW 10 year strategy to 2025 in academic excellence, global impact and social engagement. In 2016 the PLuS Alliance was launched, for a truly global education experience with UNSW, Arizona State University and Kings College London. SPHCM pioneered the first programs in the PLuS Alliance in 2016, leading the way for UNSW and welcoming students from Arizona State University into our courses.

Personalised, flexible delivery

We understand that students have different needs. Some prefer to be on campus and have a face-to-face experience, while others are working full time or have otherwise busy lives and prefer online learning. We pride ourselves in excellence in all modes of delivery. We are leaders in online education, having delivered our programs online for nearly a decade. We offer students the choice of doing their postgraduate coursework degree fully online, fully face-to-face or in blended mode, in whatever mix of modes best suits their lifestyle and needs. Our approach to online learning is innovative, interactive and engaging, using the Moodle platform and many other add-ons to enhance your learning experience. Our dedicated team of instructional designers and educational design experts work with academics to
ensure the highest quality of our courses and that our online students get an equivalent learning experience to face-to-face students.

**Work-ready@UNSW**

At SPHCM, our teaching and training is designed to be applied, practical and relevant to the workforce. We believe that academic learning should be relevant to the workplace, and to enhance these links, we offer internships for our coursework masters programs.

We offer a range of domestic and international internship placements in Australia, Asia and the Pacific. We also have the elite UNSW Future Health Leaders Program, a work-place based program leading to a professional doctorate. We are the first choice of employers who want work-ready graduates. We offer a suite of courses in public health, international public health and health management. We offer dual degree and extension options which are in high demand. Students can also do a range of dual degrees. Our graduate Summer School in public health and health management can be taken by coursework students, but also as stand-alone courses for professional up-skilling. We provide flexible learning opportunities with face-to-face and distance education options, as well as a mix of short courses and semester long courses.

We also have a major role in teaching within the UNSW Medicine Program. UNSW SPHCM is also a founding member of the ARM network, and a member of the WHO Global Outbreak Response Network. Our other links with WHO include running a WHO course on managing communicable diseases during humanitarian emergencies.

**Career choices in public health**

These are Aboriginal Health and Wellbeing, Infectious Diseases Epidemiology and Control, Health Promotion, Primary Health Care, International Health, Health Economic Evaluation, Epidemiology, Public Security and Social Research. UNSW specialist MPH degrees are taught by leading research experts in the field, with the additional benefit of interaction within an active research environment. For those interested in a career in international health, we offer a Master of International Public Health, now one of our most sought after programs. We also have the Infectious Diseases Intelligence program, for people interested in developing advanced skills in infectious diseases epidemiology and outbreak analysis. You can choose from a graduate certificate, diploma or masters in Infectious Diseases Intelligence, available fully online or face to face to suit your needs.

**Health leadership and management**

We have the oldest, and one of the most respected health management program in Australia, which has produced many health leaders and managers across Australia and the world. Academics within SPHCM are experts in consumer engagement, teamwork, innovative approaches to workplace change including practice development, workplace learning and development, human resource management, health economics and the quality and safety of care. We are therefore ideally placed to meet the needs of Australian and international health managers faced with complex, ever changing environments for the delivery of effective health services. Our alumni network occupy senior leadership positions nationally and internationally. In 2016 we celebrated the 60th anniversary of the UNSW Health Management program.

**Research**

Our largest areas of research strength are in infectious diseases, global health, primary health care, epidemiology, social research and health systems leadership & management. We have expertise in many other areas. Some of the other highlights in our school include the Football United program and our strength in health promotion. For research students, we have a wide range of research courses and projects. We are very strong in both quantitative and qualitative research methodologies, with a mix of social scientists, qualitative researchers, clinical researchers, epidemiologists and mathematical modellers at SPHCM. We have a strong track record in attracting research funding from NHMRC, ARC and other agencies, with a NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence in Population Heath. We have several NHMRC funded research fellows within SPHCM conducting a range of exciting research programs.

**A community of practice**

Academia is not an ivory tower, but should be deeply connected and relevant to the world we live in and to sustainable futures. We believe advocacy, engagement and impact matter. At SPHCM we get involved when it matters. For example, we convened a national symposium on the health and human rights of asylum seekers at a time when this issue was highly topical and controversial. During the 2014 Ebola epidemic, students and staff came together to form the UNSW Alliance Against Ebola, which not only raised funds for the West African response to Ebola, but also provided a focal point for students and staff to unite, support each other and mobilise. During the 2015 Nepal Earthquake, again students and staff came
together for a day of action to raise funds for the earthquake relief efforts. Our Yunus Hub for Social Business for Health is working to effect change and development using principles of social business in many communities. Other staff and students have been involved in many other areas of global health importance.

This is the school to be at if you have a genuine passion for the health of populations, if you care about the inequities in health in our world, if you seek to improve and strengthen health systems, and if you want to make a difference. The people in this school are unified by a common belief in the power of education and research to bring about change in health systems and population wellbeing. We embrace our important role in mentoring and shaping the future leaders in the field. Browse these pages and learn about the breadth and depth of our teaching and research, and I hope we can welcome you into the UNSW School of Public Health and Community Medicine.

Professor Raina MacIntyre
Head, School of Public Health and Community Medicine

Research Profile

Raina MacIntyre is an international expert in infectious diseases epidemiology, and involved in numerous vaccinology and respiratory pathogen research studies. Her most significant research is on the transmission and control of infectious diseases, particularly those spread by the respiratory route. Her research encompasses clinical trials, epidemiology and modeling of face masks, vaccines and other preventive measures in communicable diseases control. She has also done research on using risk-analysis methods for analysing emerging infectious diseases outbreaks such as MERS-CoV. She does research in special risk populations such as health care workers, immunosuppressed, refugees and the frail elderly. She has led a NHMRC Capacity Building Grant in Population Health in mathematical modeling of infectious diseases from 2005-2010, and an NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence in immunization from 2012-2016, and one in Epidemic Response from 2016-2020. She has a significant track record in ARC and NHMRC grants.

Her research is underpinned by extensive field outbreak investigation experience. She is a graduate of the only Australian Field Epidemiology Training program, the MAE at ANU, and has extensive experience in shoe-leather epidemiology of infectious diseases outbreaks including influenza, meningococcal disease, clostridium perfringens, hepatitis A, legionella, mycoplasma, pertussis and gastroenteritis to name a few. Her in-depth understanding of the science of outbreak investigation draws from this experience combined with her academic training through a Masters and PhD in Epidemiology. Her passion for field epidemiology led her to co-found the ARM network for Australian outbreak response. She also has an interest in the ethics of medicine, and specifically in dual-use research of concern and the risk of bioterrorism.

Among numerous career awards, she received the Sir Henry Wellcome Medal and Prize, from the US military in 2007 for her work on bioterrorism, and has previously been awarded the Frank Fenner Award in Infectious Diseases (2003). In 2012 she won the Dean's Award, the highest honour awarded at UNSW Medicine, for outstanding contributions to the Faculty. She was the 2014 winner of the Public Health Association of Australia National Immunisation Achievement Award, which is the peak national award in the field of vaccinology. She also won the Peter Baume Public Health Impact award in 2014 for her research in infectious diseases, and the CAPHIA Research Team award in 2017.

She conceived and initiated the UNSW Future Health Leaders program. She also conceived and began the idea of internships within the MPH/ MIPH/MHM, underpinned by her belief in the importance of linking academia to health practice. She has overseen transformational change and continual growth in academic programs and research at SPHCM during her tenure as Head of School.
Research is a fundamental part of the work of the School of Public Health and Community Medicine, addressing a number of key local, national and global public health issues. SPHCM has a vibrant, thriving research culture and a pipeline for research development from research students to post-doctoral researchers and senior research leaders, which makes it one of the leading research schools in Australia.

The School's largest areas of research strength, underpinned by large research groups, are in our flagship areas. We have a Master of Public Health specialisation in each of the public health research areas, which attracts students who have a desire to learn within a strong research environment and be taught by research leaders. SPHCM is very strong in both quantitative and qualitative research methodologies across our flagship areas – and a range of other areas.

Our academic staff profile includes a mix of social scientists, qualitative researchers, clinical researchers, epidemiologists and mathematical modellers. This core is supplemented by more than 180 conjoint staff who bring experience from their external roles to contribute to the School’s research profile.

The School has five flagship research areas, each of which has dedicated staff and students:

- Infectious Diseases
- Global Health
- Primary Health Care
- Social Research
- Health Systems Leadership and Management
Clinical research

Prof Raina MacIntyre, Prof Mary-Louise McLaws, Dr Holly Seale, Dr Anita Heywood, Dr Abrar Chughtai

We conduct investigator designed and driven clinical research on interventions to control infectious diseases in Australia and overseas. Many of our clinical studies are in the area of vaccines and respiratory pathogens, and on the prevention and transmission dynamics of these pathogens. We also conduct observational epidemiologic studies in the clinical setting such as case control and cohort studies. We have a large program of research including the use of face masks in the community and in health care workers (a finalist in the 2017 Eureka Prize and winner of the CAPHIA Research Team Award), the relationship of infections to ischaemic vascular disease and adult vaccine research, including studies in vulnerable populations such as immunosuppressed and the frail elderly.

We have successfully obtained funding from key research funding bodies, such as the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and the Australian Research Council (ARC) to conduct these studies. Specific disease areas include Influenza, HPV, TB, pneumococcal disease and other respiratory pathogens. Our research sites include Australia, India, China and Vietnam. Professor MacIntyre leads a NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence which also conducts clinical studies in epidemic response.

Epidemiology and data linkage

A/Prof Bette Liu, A/Prof Anthony Newall, A/Prof Heather Gidding, Dr Anita Heywood, Prof Raina MacIntyre, Prof Mary-Louise McLaws, Dr Rob Menzies, Dr Alex Rosewell, Dr David Muscatello, Dr Abrar Chughtai

Infectious disease epidemiological research in the School aims to provide evidence for policy development.
and evaluation of disease control programs. We conduct research in the areas of infectious disease epidemiology (patterns of infectious diseases in the community) and the impact of disease prevention and control measures, such as immunisation, on the burden of disease. Primary sources of epidemiological data include routinely collected disease notification, hospitalisation and death records. Analysing linked records for people across multiple data sources brings together a wealth of information about each person and improves estimates of the burden and determinants of infectious diseases. Observational methods are also used to study the epidemiology of infectious diseases and the impact of control methods. We are involved in international research with WHO, the US CDC and other organisations. Epidemic response, field epidemiology and other research around outbreaks is also a major focus, linked to the ARM network, co-founded by UNSW, and to the WHO’s Global Outbreak Alert Response Network.

Healthcare-associated infection epidemiology, prevention and control

Prof Mary-Louise Mclaws, Prof Raina MacIntyre, Dr Holly Seale, Dr Abrar Chughtai

Our research aims to reduce the risk of acquiring and transmitting infections in healthcare facilities, in both patients and healthcare workers. Our patient safety improvement research focuses on patients and healthcare workers in healthcare facility settings. We research changes in clinical practices to reduce the risk of transmission of healthcare-associated infections and improve healthcare worker’s knowledge, attitude and beliefs associated with infection control practices.

Current collaborations include the Clinical Excellence Commission, the World Health Organization, First Global Patient Safety Challenge, The Beijing Center for Disease Prevention and Control, Beijing, China, Imperial College and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Other patient safety collaborators include the Australian Group for Antimicrobial Resistance to statistical modelling of the resistant Staphylococcus aureus infection, Sigma Sustainability Institute using cybernetics to map and predict the transmission of infection within intensive care patients. Our World Health Organization First Global Patient Safety Challenge collaboration is examining the relationship between hand hygiene and infection rates in six test sites globally.

Immunisation

Prof Raina MacIntyre, A/Prof Bette Liu, A/Prof Anthony Newall, A/Prof James Wood, A/Prof Heather Gidding, Dr Anita Heywood, Dr Holly Seale, Dr Rob Menzies, Dr Alex Rosewell, Dr David Muscatello

Vaccines are one of the greatest achievements in public health with dramatic reductions in morbidity and mortality from vaccine-preventable diseases. With the expansion of available vaccines and the cost and complexity of immunisation programs in Australia and internationally, there is a need for high quality, multi-method research that informs vaccine policy and practice. Immunisation and vaccine-preventable diseases are a key focus of the research undertaken within the School and we have advanced expertise across a range of methodologies including clinical research, epidemiology, disease and economic modelling, data linkage and social research methods. We are currently involved in numerous research projects spanning from program evaluation, the impact of immunisation program schedule changes and predictors of behavioural factors associated with vaccine uptake in vulnerable and high risk populations. Specific vaccines and vaccine-preventable diseases of interest include influenza, pneumococcal disease, HPV, herpes zoster, measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis A and travel vaccines. Our research directly contributes to national and international policy and practice in vaccine-preventable disease control. In 2016 we launched UNSW VIRL, a vaccine and infections research lab focusing on immunisation of adults and high risk groups.
Infectious disease and health economic modelling

A/Prof James Wood, A/Prof Anthony Newall, A/Prof Virginia Wiseman, Prof Raina MacIntyre, A/Prof David Heslop

We have a large program of research in mathematical modelling and economic evaluation of infectious disease prevention. Modelling has become an important tool to help inform our understanding of infectious disease epidemiology and control. Infectious disease models can be used to predict the impact of alternative control strategies and can be linked with economic models to estimate the cost-effectiveness of these programs. Together these factors can play a major role in policy and funding decisions. Infections of interest include vaccine-preventable diseases, particularly influenza, rotavirus, varicella zoster virus, measles, mumps, rubella, tuberculosis, pertussis and pneumococcal disease, among others. We also have interests in more theoretical questions such as structural uncertainty in model outcomes and the impact of antibody decline on disease elimination. We also work in biosecurity modelling and complex systems modelling for CBRN events.

Social and behavioural research

Prof Mary-Louise McLaws, Prof Raina MacIntyre, Prof Heather Worth, Dr Holly Seale, Teiphia Jospeh, A/Prof Niamh Stephenson

We have high level expertise in social research methods and sociology at SPHCM. Research in these areas includes sexual health, prison health, immunisation, biosecurity, social aspects of global control of HIV, behaviour and attitudes of health care workers and how this impacts on infection control and connections between pandemic influenza science, policy and public understandings. The School is also involved in a number of HIV social and behavioural research projects being undertaken in Asia and the Pacific. We also work in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander immunisation.

Traveller health research

Dr Anita Heywood, Prof Raina MacIntyre, Dr Holly Seale

International travellers are important sources of infectious disease in countries with low disease incidence and strong national disease control systems, such as Australia. Current research in the School aims to control the importation of diseases into Australia by understanding traveller behaviour and travel patterns, including epidemiologic research on travel related infections, travel vaccine research and social and behavioural research. Our research identifies areas for national disease control policy development in the prevention of travel-related infectious diseases in travellers and their contacts and provides data for modelling the impact of global disease transmission and travel patterns on Australia’s national disease control. Important work on travel, border control and screening has directly informed Australia’s national pandemic response. Our research examining the knowledge, attitudes and behaviours of international travellers to infectious disease risks and preventative health practices has identified poor uptake of pre-travel health advice and vaccination in travellers, particularly migrant Australians who travel. The School is also involved in the promotion of health travel through representation on the Travel Health Advisory Group.
Migrant and Refugee health research

Dr Anita Heywood, Dr Holly Seale, Prof Raina MacIntyre

The potential impact of population mobility, particularly in complex humanitarian emergencies, on health care provision is significant. Research in the School aims to develop understanding of the trends and burden of infectious diseases in complex humanitarian situations and also on refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) who resettle in Australia but become marginalised members of the community. The School is engaged in studies on the epidemiology of exotic infectious diseases of refugees and internally displaced persons, immunisation issues and access to diagnostic and therapeutic services upon resettlement. This research aims to inform planning and management of outbreaks of infectious diseases and the development of high level management guidelines to improve access to healthcare services of this cohort.

Health inequity and provision of health care is a challenge identified in migrant communities worldwide. The influence of culture on health service utilisation and health outcome has been well documented. Migrant Australians from culturally and linguistically diverse populations more like to have a passive rather than active role in treatment with under-diagnosis of health problems a concerning issue. Migrants who return to their country of birth to visit friends and relatives (VFR travellers) are at increased risk of infectious diseases compared to other travellers. VFR travellers are a special category of migrants that deserve special attention in disease prevention and travel health. Current research seeks to identify practical opportunities for addressing the higher risks of infectious diseases through quantifying the burden of travel-associated disease in VFR travellers and identifying current practices and barriers to healthcare utilisation and areas of concern within health practitioners and community members.

Frail elderly

Professor Raina MacIntyre, Prof Chris Poulos, Dr Rob Menzies

The School has strengthened its focus on aged care research with the Hammond Care group. Together with other key staff from the SPHCM, the nucleus for a new focus on aged care research within the School has been generated. We had an NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence at SPHCM until the end of 2016, which conducted a number of research projects with frail older adults undertaken in hospital and aged care facility settings. Specific projects include investigating the burden of respiratory infections in older adults; investigating specific aspects of adult immunisation practices, beliefs regarding adult immunisation in hospitals and aged care facilities involving healthcare workers, inpatients and residents and long term immunity following vaccination in older adults.
Immunisation in under studied and special risk populations: closing the gap in knowledge through a multidisciplinary approach

The $2.5m NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence in Population Health, led by Professor MacIntyre from 2012-2016, is linked to this area of SPHCM’s research. The CRE was titled “Immunisation in under studied and special risk populations: closing the gap in knowledge through a multidisciplinary approach”, and involved a multidisciplinary and collaborative team across UNSW, The National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance of Vaccine Preventable Diseases, The Children's Hospital at Westmead, The Kirby Institute, Westmead Hospital, The University of Sydney and the University of Antwerp. The NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence in Immunisation had four streams of research on immunisation in: the frail elderly; maternal and neonatal; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders; and traveller, migrant and refugee immunisation issues. The CRE held national workshops in the theme areas every year. In 2016 it convened a national workshop to inform the new Australian Immunisation Register. Its outputs have been published in over 100 peer review articles and have informed policy and practice. It led to the launch of UNSW VIRL in 2017, which continues the work of the CRE. www.creimmunisation.com.au

Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) . . .

Over the five years of the NHMRC CRE on Immunisation, our research and recommendations consistently identified the lack of a whole of life immunisation register as a major barrier to adult and high risk group immunisation. Reports from several workshops highlighting this finding were submitted to government committees. The Government announced the development of an Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) to cover all ages, implemented in stages from 2016.

The NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence in Population Health Research (CRE) – “Immunisation in Understudied and Special Risk Populations” took a keen interest in the potential of the AIR for all Australians. Research in our areas of focus – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, mothers and infants, the frail elderly, and migrants, refugees and travellers – shows that the absence of an immunisation registration has been a major barrier to identifying people at risk of under-vaccination. The creation of the AIR has enormous potential to improve uptake of recommended vaccines in adults.

The CRE hosted as its final event, a one-day workshop on 26 August 2016 in Sydney to discuss the functionality of an AIR that will be needed to best support the National Immunisation Program and related activities. The primary aim was to bring together all stakeholders and to make a constructive contribution to informing the development and future utility of the AIR. The AIR as a subject for our final event was timely, topical and highly relevant to our work. The workshop was a celebration of the CRE and its achievements, and translated to real impacts and outcomes in immunisation.
The NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence, Integrated Systems for Epidemic Response (ISER) (2016-2020) conducts applied systems research, enhances collaboration and builds capacity in health systems research for epidemic control. Epidemics can cause immediate health, social and economic impacts, and require complex cross-sectoral and global response as illustrated by the 2014 Ebola epidemic. Travel and globalisation mean that infections spread rapidly around the world, so that global solutions are required for epidemic control. Recent developments in artificially engineered pathogens (dual-use research of concern) pose an added complexity to global biosecurity. Global systems, thinking and capability in biosecurity has lagged behind quantum changes in science, leaving us more vulnerable than ever to infectious diseases epidemics.

This Centre addresses critical systems gaps in epidemic control. We bring together experts in field epidemiology and epidemic response, military experts, international law and risk science experts, and government and non-government agencies involved in epidemic response. The ARM Network (arm.org.au) for epidemic response is central to the CRE, with the co-founders all being part of the CRE. This Centre is international, with partners in Australia, New Zealand, USA, China and Malaysia who work together to solve global problems in epidemic response. A pillar of the CRE is ISER Academy, which is a think-tank and convener of important dialogue, capacity building and generation of ideas, between all stakeholders and sectors involved in epidemic response.

On the 23rd of May, the NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence (CRE) in Integrated Systems for Epidemic Response (ISER) held a stakeholder workshop at the Australian National University (ANU) in Canberra. This event was the first of its kind for the ISER Academy; a think-tank and convener of dialogue between various stakeholders and sectors involved in capacity building and innovation in epidemic response and control. The workshop brought together more than 40 national and international experts in public health, field epidemiology, defence, international law, and governance to discuss a hypothetical biological disaster with a focus on cross-sectorial collaboration.

Stakeholders from the following organisations were in attendance: Local Public Health Units, Department of Health, South Australia Health, NSW Health, NSW Ambulance, Australian Defence Force, NSW Police, Australian Federal Police, Médecins Sans Frontières, Department of Primary Industries, Animal Health, Architecture NSW, Arizona State University and the University of Texas Medical Branch Police Department. ISER conducts applied systems research, with goals to enhance collaboration and build capacity in health systems research for epidemic control.
Lifesaving sepsis study wins MJA best research article

Prof Mary-Louise McLawns

A study that implemented and examined a program for the early recognition and treatment of sepsis in all NSW public hospitals in collaboration with the Clinical Excellence Commission and UNSW’s Professor Mary-Louise McLawns has been judged the best research article published in the Medical Journal of Australia in 2016. The winning article, “SEPSIS KILLS: early intervention saves lives” was the journal’s most highly cited paper in 2016 and followed the 2011 program that transformed the way emergency departments respond to the condition. It was authored by Professor McLawns (School of Community Medicine and Public Health) with Dr Anthony Burrell, Mary Fullick, Rosemary Sullivan and Dr Doungkamol Sindhusake, all from the NSW Clinical Excellence Commission.

Sepsis is an inflammatory response to infection that can lead to organ failure and death, and is one of the most common reasons for a patient's health to deteriorate in hospital. The program in 175 hospital emergency departments in NSW promoted the principles “recognise, resuscitate, refer”. Emergency department staff were educated about the signs and symptoms of sepsis, and how to intervene within 60 minutes of recognition - including taking blood cultures, measuring serum lactate levels, administration of intravenous antibiotics, and fluid resuscitation. The final step was referring the patient to senior clinicians. Data for 13,567 patients were recorded by 97 hospitals in the study’s database. The proportion of patients receiving intravenous antibiotics within 60 minutes of triage increased from 29.3% in 2009-2011 to 52.2% in 2013.

Professor McLawns says an immediate 27% reduction in death was achieved and the continuation of the program since the publication has seen a further 4% reduction in the risk of death. An additional 150 lives are saved each year through following the program by reducing the time before antibiotics are administered and fluid resuscitation is initiated. The program has been rolled out to 200 hospitals and was awarded the international Global Sepsis Alliance Award. The authors were awarded a $10,000 prize at a ceremony held in Melbourne last week.

In her acceptance speech at the National Australian Medical Association Conference, Professor McLawns said the award showed the value of cooperation between UNSW and the NSW Clinical Excellence Commission. “At a time when universities are under financial pressures and the cost of health is under scrutiny it’s beneficial to our patients to work together to bring academic rigour and clinical expertise to the mission of patient safety. This award is testimony to the value of such cooperation,” she said.

PHAA 15th National Immunisation Conference Poster Award

Research conducted at the SPHCM has been awarded 'the best poster award' at the PHAA 15th National Immunisation Conference, held in Brisbane from 7-9 June 2016. The research showed that influenza vaccine coverage in adults aged 65 years and older may be up to 17% lower in migrants compared to Australian-born adults. In addition, those who spoke a language other than English at home also had lower vaccination coverage; and lower vaccine coverage was found even amongst those who had first migrated over 50 years ago.

The research was led by Dr Surendra Karki at the SPHCM, in collaboration with researchers from the Australian National University and the National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance. The study is a part of broader NHMRC funded research project using the Sax Institute’s 45 and Up Study and led by Associate Professor Bette Liu in the SPHCM.
GlobalHealth @ UNSW aims to promote, through teaching and research, the use of evidence and best public health practice, to enhance countries’ capacity in health policy development. We host a biennial Global Health Conference and encourage research collaborations in the Faculty of Medicine, with other UNSW researchers and with researchers in developing countries. We engage in research collaboration and conduct education and training.

Key areas of expertise

- Infectious diseases
- HIV
- Maternal, child and reproductive health
- Non-communicable diseases and control of risk factors including Tobacco Control
- Health promotion
- Health, human rights and development
- Human resources management and development
- Health policy, planning and strategy development
- Health systems financing
- Economic evaluation of complex Interventions
- Development and health
- Public health in emergencies
- Migrant and refugee health

Collaborative Partnerships – Where we work

GlobalHealth@UNSW members work in many low and middle-income areas, including the Asia-Pacific region (Solomon Islands, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Cook Islands), South East Asia and the Mekong (Lao, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia and Thailand) and have growing partnerships in Africa and in fragile states (Timor-Leste, Nepal, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and parts of Indonesia). We have a commitment to development principles, which is evident in long-term relationships with partners in a number of countries including the Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Vietnam and Cambodia. The health economics and financing group also have long standing researcher partners in Sub Saharan Africa including Nigeria, Cameroon and Kenya.
The accuracy of reported high rates of type 2 diabetes in some Pacific Island nations has been questioned, after Australian researchers found deficiencies in the methods used to test for the disease.

The joint report, from researchers at UNSW and the Baker IDI Heart & Diabetes Institute, has been published in the *Journal of Diabetes*: onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1753-0407.12447/epdf.

The methodological errors were identified in the World Health Organization (WHO) ‘STEPwise’ approach to surveillance (STEPS). These were unlikely to be limited to the Pacific Island region and there may be wider global implications, the researchers said.

The research team examined type 2 diabetes prevalence surveys conducted as part of the WHO STEPS program in Fiji and Samoa (2002) and Tonga (2004) and compared them with follow up surveys conducted 8 to 11 years later in each country. They found an incorrect diagnostic cut-off point had been applied in the WHO surveys, meaning the diabetes rates appeared erroneously inflated to around twice the actual rate found in the subsequent surveys. The discrepancy stemmed from the use of blood glucose meters that were calibrated to read blood glucose levels as whole blood in the first surveys, compared to plasma in the follow up surveys. As a result, in Fiji it appeared as though diabetes prevalence had increased from 16% in 2002 to 29.6% in 2011. The UNSW researchers found the actual prevalence had decreased by 0.4%.

In Samoa it appeared that there was a 24.3% increase in diabetes, from 21.5% in 2002 to 45.8% in 2013. The actual increase was only 2.8%.

In Tonga the prevalence surveys suggested a 12% increase, from 22.4% in 2004 to 34.4% in 2012. The actual rate from corrected data decreased by 3.4% to 19.0%.

Study co-author UNSW Professor Richard Taylor, from the School of Public Health and Community Medicine, said the integrity of the WHO surveys were crucial because they give an indication of the success, or otherwise, of health intervention programs. “These WHO surveys are widely cited and used as a reference by many organisations and individuals to make public health decisions which then influence future health program planning in the Pacific region,” Professor Taylor said.

Study co-author Professor Paul Zimmet, from the Baker IDI Heart & Diabetes Institute and Monash University, called for improved education and training in how to interpret the results for health workers who use the point of care blood glucose meters. “A recalculation of results may also be required for other country surveys where levels and apparent changes in diabetes prevalence appear suspect,” Professor Zimmet said.

The findings are from a study funded in part by the Australian Government’s Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Policy-makers must have access to the best possible research and analysis to ensure their health investments save as many lives as possible. We are a group of health economists who work in partnership with other scientists and policy-makers to improve the way health care is delivered and financed in low and middle income countries. We work across the globe in a variety of contexts: in low-income countries (Cambodia, Kenya), middle-income countries (Fiji, Cameroon, Nigeria, Ghana, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia) and post-conflict (Timor-Leste) to build stronger health systems.

Some of our projects

- Equity and Health Care Financing in Indonesia (ENHANCE study)
- A system wide analysis of health financing equity in Cambodia (CHEF Study)
- Sustainable Health Financing in Fiji and Timor-Leste (SHIFT Study)
- Effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of point-of-care testing and treatment of sexually transmitted infections to improve pregnancy outcomes in Papua New Guinea (WANTAIM study)
- Efficacy and cost-effectiveness of long-lasting microbial larvicides for malaria mosquito control in Western Kenya.

We evaluate different ways of financing health care to ensure fairness and promote universal access. Many people in low and middle income countries do not receive care when they need it or endure catastrophic costs and loss of income as a result of seeking care. We also undertake evaluations of interventions to change the way health care providers, patients and communities respond to a health problem. We evaluate the introduction of new health care technologies and interventions. These are typically trial-based studies with cost-effectiveness as a key outcome.

We generate high quality evidence on how developing countries can make greatest use of their available resources while minimising the burden on the poor. We believe that there is no ‘one size fits all’ approach. All health systems have their own unique set of goals and challenges. We design and implement research studies driven by the countries themselves, a necessary pre-condition for translating research in policy change.

Photo: ENHANCE Team from UNSW, LSHTM and University of Indonesia
The ENHANCE Study is a 4-year collaborative project between UNSW, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) and University of Indonesia (UI) and funded by the UK Medical Research Council. The study aims to evaluate the equity impact of a package of universal health coverage (UHC) reforms being implemented by the Government of Indonesia.

Like many low and middle income countries, Indonesia faces significant challenges in the health sector despite notable progress in the past decades. The country’s maternal mortality ratio, for example, remains one of the highest in Southeast Asia, estimated at 126 per 100,000 live births in 2015 compared to 40 per 100,000 in Malaysia and 20 per 100,000 in Thailand. Malnutrition is a major problem with around 37% of children under five years being stunted while overweight and obesity in adults has doubled in the past decade. Non-communicable diseases are rising alongside high incidence of communicable diseases suggesting a double burden of disease. Beneath the national averages, there are important regional and socioeconomic disparities in health indicators. For example, infant mortality is estimated at 21.6 per 1000 live births in the East Kalimantan province compared to 58.1% in Central Sulawesi.

To address these challenges the government is implementing a number of UHC reforms designed to make health care universally accessible to its 255 million population by 2019. Key among these reforms is the implementation of a national health insurance scheme known as Jaminan Kesehatan Nasional (JKN) in 2014. The JKN has already led to significant improvement in health care access with about 165 million Indonesians now members of the scheme, making it the biggest single-payer health system in the world. There is growing evidence, however, that the JKN is underperforming in several key areas and without action, it is unlikely to achieve its targets of population and service coverage or financial protection by 2019.

In response, the government has resolved to scale up the JKN by introducing a fresh package of reforms. This study seeks to evaluate the combined effects of this package of UHC reforms at study baseline in 2017 and 2 years later in 2019. Specifically, the study will:

1) Evaluate Indonesia’s equity-focused UHC-reforms and compare their impact on the distribution of health care benefits and burden of paying for health care across socioeconomic groups as well as on self-reported health outcomes;

2) Identify factors influencing equity in the delivery and financing of health care in Indonesia; and

3) Document the changing context and processes for implementing UHC-reforms in Indonesia.

The study will support the development of evidence-informed pro-poor health financing reforms in Indonesia with lessons extended to other countries in the ASEAN region that are moving towards UHC.

A/Prof Virginia Wiseman is the study PI
Dr Augustine Asante is the UNSW CI

Other CIs include:
Prof Hasbullah Thabrany (UI, Indonesia)
Dr Soewarta Kosen (NIHRD, Indonesia)
Prof Andrew Hayen (UTS)
Prof Anne Mills (LSHTM)
Prof Viroj Tangcharoensathien (IHPP, MOH Thailand)
Dr Walaiporn Patcharanarumol (IHPP, MOH Thailand)
Prof Lucy Gilson (LSHTM)
Miss Manon Haemmerli (LSHTM)
The UNSW Yunus Social Business Health Hub

The UNSW Yunus Social Business Health Hub (YSBHH) aims to improve health outcomes for poor communities in Australia, Asia, and the Pacific through social business in health research. The UNSW YSBHH, a first for an Australian university, is part of a global network of university-based Yunus Social Business Centres. The SPHCM Yunus Social Business Health Hub is one of 25 collaborating centres across the world, working with the Yunus Social Business Foundation to improve health outcomes for communities in Australia, Asia, and the Pacific. Nobel Laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus is the father of both social business and microcredit and the founder of Grameen Bank.

Key areas of focus

The UNSW Yunus Social Business Health Hub (YSBHH) includes the following key areas of focus:

- sport for social change and peace-building;
- youth empowerment through social business workshops and events;
- social business and the sustainable development goals; and
- technology including e-health and engagement with the built environment.

Sport for Social Change and Peace-building

Sport for social change and peace-building (S4SCP) is an area where the positive power of sport is harnessed to address the sustainable development goals. The integration of social business within sport for social change organisations is beginning, and the potential is vast. In this regard, the YSBHH is directly engaged with the SPHCM’s Football United S4SCP program, which operates in Australia and Myanmar. The UNSW YSBHH engages in teaching research and applied practice in S4SCP through the Creating Chances Social Enterprise. Led by Dr Anne Bunde-Birouste, the Creating Chances Lifeskills program was founded in 2013 by UNSW’s Football United sport for social change program. In 2014, in collaboration with the Rugby Youth Foundation, The Creating Chances Social Enterprise.

High school students complete the 2016 Yunus work experience program

As many high school students have a keen sense of social responsibility and want to change the world for a better place, the aim of the Work Experience Program (WEP) is to provide workplace opportunities to NSW high school students to learn practical things and introduce them to Noble Laureate Professor Yunus’s social business concepts and principles which have the potential to alleviate global, social, economic, health and environmental problem.

Photo below: NSW high school students successfully completing WEP program in 2016
Enterprise was founded which enabled the program to be expanded and develop through a self-funding social enterprise approach. Creating Chances makes social impacts in the areas of social inclusion, education, employment and health, working with schools that have disengaged students including those with youth from refugee, indigenous Australia, migrant and low socio-economic backgrounds.

YSBHH and Youth Empowerment through the Yunus Festival of Young Ideas Work Experience Program (WEP)

Since 2015, the hub has delivered an annual Work Experience Program in Social Business to high school students from the Greater Sydney area. This highly popular program is designed to engage students who are interested in entrepreneurial social development, alleviation of poverty and equity in health care, and wish to understand how public health and social equity are applied to make a difference. Students receive intensive training and had one week to work together in a group, with an assigned mentors from various UNSW Faculty and the Grameen Australia, and come up with innovative social business ideas.

Social business and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Since the SDGs, adopted as a global agenda aims at the development of society allowing leading companies and business institutions to demonstrate how their business helps to advance sustainable development, it is important to know how social business model/companies are contributing to the inclusive and sustainable development of a society by strengthening local communities and accessing them to modern technology as well as healthcare benefit. The YSBHH, led by Dr Mahfuz Ashraf is engaged with the PLuS Alliance, in a study mapping Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through socially responsible initiatives of two social business projects in Bangladesh in partnership with various regional stakeholder groups:

- Grameen Shakti Solar Home (GSSHP), is a social business program designed for social innovation by applying marketing principles to improve the people’s well-being and Social welfare.
- Grameen Caledonian College of Nursing (GCCN) was established in 2010 as an outcome of the partnership between Grameen Healthcare Trust and Glasgow Caledonian University in Scotland.

Social Business and E-Health

Led by Professor Teng Liaw, who is also the Director of UNSW’s WHO Collaborating Centre on eHealth, this project explores citizen and community engagement through the lens of social business and eHealth in the context of achieving the WHO SDGs. Clinical and population health processes, impacts and outcomes will be measured and monitored within the constructs of the WHO Integrated Patient-Centred Health System (IPCHS) Framework and eHealth Strategy.

Course work

Dr Mahfuz Ashraf has designed the first social business course to be offered at UNSW in Semester 1, 2018: Social Business for Public Health (GENM0520). The course offers students the opportunity to explore, create and grow the entrepreneurship driven innovative idea to tackle social challenges such as lack of access to clean water, education, energy, income/employment, technology, human rights, that undermine health.
Sydney teens with a social conscience show entrepreneurial flair

How would you improve the wellbeing of poor and marginalised communities in a sustainable way? This was the question posed recently to a group of budding teenage entrepreneurs with a social conscience. Their answers were surprising.

The eight students, selected from scores of applicants at high schools across Sydney and all sharing a passion to improve global health, were at UNSW to take part in Yunus Week, an initiative of UNSW’s School of Public Health and Community Medicine.

The week followed the launch of the UNSW Yunus Social Business Health Hub earlier this year, named in honour of Nobel Peace Laureate Muhammad Yunus who urged young Australians in a video address to use their creativity to make a difference in the world.

The UNSW Hub, a first for an Australian university, will see UNSW researchers collaborate to develop social business enterprises to improve the health of disadvantaged and marginalised communities. It is part of a global network of university-based Yunus Social Business Centres.

Professor Raina Macintyre, Head of the School of Public Health and Community Medicine, said the aim of Yunus Week was to introduce the concept of social enterprise to some of Sydney’s brightest youth.

“We know many young people have a social conscience and huge potential to come up with innovative health-related social business ideas,” she said.

The concept of social business involves viewing the world through the lens of ‘social gain’ rather than simply striving to maximise profits.

After receiving lectures from leading public health experts and a crash course in social business planning courtesy of the Grameen Bank, the aspiring entrepreneurs formed groups that were linked with a UNSW mentor and given five days to develop their big ideas.

The conclusion of the week saw the four groups present their ideas to a panel of experts.

A social supermarket to train and employ homeless people in western Sydney was judged to be the standout business idea. The idea was created by Aashna Khanna from Penrith Academically Selective High School and Tiffany Williams from SCECGS Redlands. They proposed purchasing remaindered products and employing homeless youth to sell the goods at a reduced cost to disadvantaged people living in the community.

Other ideas generated by the students included:

- a work program to teach Indigenous youth how to make musical instruments using recyclable materials;
- a personal hygiene pack to combat HIV and infectious diseases that can be sustainably produced and sold throughout the Democratic Republic of the Congo; and
- a program where refugees are employed to teach other refugees English to improve their employability and reduce their social isolation.

One of the mentors assigned to the group, UNSW Senior lecturer and research fellow in ageing and mental health Dr Adrienne Withall, said working with the students was inspiring. “They were a group with diverse interests, and they all had such great spirit and a wonderful desire to help people who are less fortunate. “These kinds of sustainable programs that can be established through crowdsourcing to effect social change are becoming increasingly popular with this younger generation,” she said.

UNSW News article by Dan Wheelahan
The UNSW World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for eHealth was established in 2013 as a multi-disciplinary collaborative research centre in eHealth and mHealth with UNSW Faculties of Medicine (School of Public Health & Community Medicine), Business and Engineering and their associated Research Centres. Its terms of reference and workplan (2013-7) are:

1. Evidence-based evaluation and assessment of eHealth; and
2. Scoping and appraising mHealth solutions.

Evaluation activities include optimizing the use of EHR data for research. An Internet of Things approach is used for collaborative mHealth activities.

The WHO CC is also a resource centre for the WHO Western Pacific and South East Asian Regional Offices in the implementation and evaluation of eHealth and mHealth tools used to address and improve health issues in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals. We are focused on national and international projects on the assessment of eHealth and mHealth tools for various applications in developing countries. In this role, we work very closely with the Working Council of the Asia electronic Health Information Network (AeHIN) and the WHO eHealth team in Geneva, New Delhi and Manila.

Research at the centre has been funded by the WHO, IEEE, ITU-D and governments of countries such as India, Bangladesh and Nepal. We have been engaged with the International Initiative on mHealth in Developing Countries (IEEE & ITU-D) and an assessment of eHealth in four Asia-Pacific countries, including China and India (WHO). These eHealth projects include tele-consultations, HIV/TB treatment, SMS reminders, mental health, smoking cessation and pandemic/disaster management.

Professor Teng Liaw

Director, WHO CC for eHealth, UNSW

Teng Liaw is Professor of General Practice (UNSW) and Director of the Academic General Practice Unit in Fairfield, where he cares for patients and teaches registrars and health professional students and supervises Masters and PhD students from Information, Computer and Health Sciences conducting translational, informatics and data analytics research. Prof Teng is Director of the UNSW WHO Collaborating Centre on E-Health which is hosted by the SPHCM. This is the avenue for his global eHealth research and capacity building in the Asia Pacific. His work in integrating social business practice and principles with health and eHealth is the focus of his work with the Yunus Social Business Health Hub.

He is a recognised general practice and eHealth practitioner, educator and researcher as indicated by his election to Fellowship of the American College of Medical Informatics (ACMI) and Foundation Fellowship of the Australasian College of Health Informatics; peer-reviewed publications and invited conference presentations, consultancies, professional committees; editorial boards; and peer-review panels for competitive grants and scientific conferences.

He has an excellent track record in winning competitive funding for his research in EHR-based data analytics and eHealth and clinical research. Prof Liaw’s international collaborative research examines EHR data for their fitness for patient care, quality improvement and research; and quality of software applications to collect, aggregate, link, analyse and display data. He has made sustained contributions to primary and integrated care and informatics research with a focus on cross-cultural health and disadvantaged populations. He has published 120+ peer-reviewed publications and 17 book chapters in the past 5 years.

He is Associate Editor of the International Journal of Medical Informatics and a Deputy Editor for Journal of Innovations in Health Informatics in Primary Care. He chairs the RACGP National Research & Evaluation Ethics Committee and sits on the RACGP Research Committee.
Primary Health Care

Primary Health Care research is a major strength of the School through staff located at the School's affiliated Research Centre for Primary Health Care and Equity (CPHCE) and through researchers located within the School. The Primary Health Care Group conducts research under the following five themes: 1. Behavioural risk factor management and chronic disease prevention; 2. Understanding and intervening to address health inequalities; 3. Management of chronic disease; 4. Primary health care policy; 5. Health informatics. As well as within the School, work on these themes takes place within the Centre for Primary Health Care and Equity and in collaboration with other staff in the Faculty of Medicine and with other universities. The focus of the work within the School is on: management of chronic disease; and prevention, including intervention of risk factors for chronic illness such as tobacco smoking. There is also a focus on health informatics, advanced care planning as part of end of life care and patient safety research.

Prevention, including intervention of risk factors for chronic disease

Professor Robyn Richmond has completed a major project (Quit in General Practice) in collaboration with colleagues at University of Wollongong, University of Western Sydney, University of Melbourne and the Australian National University to develop and test the role of general practice nurses to provide smoking cessation advice. This project tested a new approach to supporting smoking cessation in general practice. This involves the practice nurse, GP and Quitline working in partnership to provide a flexible program of support to meet the needs of smokers. The project has involved 101 general practices in Sydney and Melbourne and 2390 participants. The experience of the Quit in General Practice Study has led to development of work on helping people with depression to stop smoking. Primary Health Care group staff are also involved in projects on absolute cardiovascular risk assessment in general practice, implementation of preventive health guidelines in general practice, vascular disease prevention and detection of hazardous alcohol use in general practice.

Primary health care informatics

Professor Teng Liaw, Director of the General Practice Unit based at Fairfield Hospital, has been developing a stream of work in health informatics. The GP Unit is an academic general practice of SPHCM and South West Sydney Local Health District (SWSLHD). It is an integral part of the UNSW Centre for Primary Health Care and Equity (CPHCE) and works closely with the UNSW Centre for Health Informatics, Australian Institute of Health Innovation, Asia Pacific ubiquitous Healthcare Research Centre and the Ingham Institute for Applied Medical Research. The research focus of the GP Unit...
is the integrated care of patients with chronic disease, with an emphasis on cross-cultural and Aboriginal health. This is underpinned by a NHMRC-funded project to evaluate a multifaceted program to embed cultural respect in general practice.

The PHC Informatics stream is built on two research programs: the electronic Practice Based Research Network (ePBRN) and the Centre for Research Excellence (CRE) in informatics and eHealth. The CRE program is focused on Consumer Health Informatics and safety of clinical information systems. The ePBRN is the underpinning community laboratory and data repository to support the primary health care informatics research program.

The ePBRN has evolved from a data extraction and record linkage program to include a research infrastructure that underpins an integrated health neighbourhood (IHN) to enable integrated health services research. The IHN comprises a “medical home” and its referral network, including the local hospital. The archetype is the Fairfield IHN, consisting of the Fairfield Hospital and its ambulatory care and outreach services, and surrounding community health services, primary care and general practice services. This has been developed and has conducted a project, with funding from HCF, to develop a predictive model for admission of patients with diabetes in the Fairfield IHN.

The ePBRN is organised as a network of IHNs to facilitate longitudinal studies of integrated health care. The core principle is that the local IHN is the logical unit of integrated health care across the primary-secondary care continuum. Organised in this manner, the ePBRN becomes a platform for health services research and research training with a focus on the use of routinely collected in electronic health records (EHR) from multiple sources. EHR-based research necessitates a sound understanding of mixed-methods and realist approaches to the implementation and evaluation of complex interventions and the importance of good quality routinely collected data. Researchers from primary and secondary care will be empowered to conduct cohort studies, clinical trials, quality improvement audits and comparative effectiveness research cost-efficiently.

There is an active group of PhD students researching topics such as: community readiness to adopt mHealth, predicting risks of developing coronary artery disease from EHRs, big data analytics in the management of bowel cancer, social network interventions in obesity and GP education in autism spectrum disorders.

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**Professor John Hall**

Dr John Hall, Professor of Primary Care (General Practice) in the School, comes from a combined general practice and public health background. After completing his medical degree at UNSW Sydney, he worked as a volunteer doctor in South Korea and Pakistan, which resulted in a lifelong passion for the delivery of primary health care services in both Australia and globally. He then completed his GP qualifications and is a Fellow of the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine. Subsequently, he completed a Master of Tropical Health at the University of Queensland, before taking up the position of Principal Medical Officer, Community Health, in Vanuatu in the Pacific. On his return to Australia, he obtained his Public Health Medicine Fellowship and became Director of the Western NSW Public Health Unit in Dubbo.

His academic career commenced when he joined Professor Richard Taylor at the University of Sydney in the Master of International Public Health. He then moved on to directing the Human Resources for Health Knowledge Hub during its first two years, here at the School. After that, and for the past seven years, he was at Newcastle University where he was the convener of the Masters of Public Health program and for the past three years the Director of the Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics.

Additionally, for most of the past 23 years he has practiced as a GP providing primary care services in Maitland in regional NSW. He also completed a PhD on tuberculosis policy in Papua New Guinea at the University of Sydney.

His research interests are in the primary care workforce in regional and rural Australia, with a focus on international medical graduates, and the primary health care delivery of services in low- and middle-income countries. Related to these interests are previous consultancies for the: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, World Health Organization, United Nations Children’s Fund, Asian Development Bank and United States Agency for International Development – in the Pacific, Asia and Africa.
Improving patient outcomes across the cancer control continuum

The burden of chronic diseases, including cancer, continues to increase. Modifiable lifestyle risk factors such as physical activity, vegetable and fruit intake, sun protection, alcohol consumption and tobacco smoking contribute to at least 31% of the national disease burden and 22% of the national cancer burden. Dr Kylie Vuong and Professor John Hall at the School of Public Health and Community Medicine are working collaboratively with Professors Mark Harris and Margo Barr at the Centre of Primary Health Care and Equity to improve the effectiveness of the primary prevention of cancer by providing patients with their personalised cancer risk and tailored prevention advice.

Patients and doctors prefer a specialist-GP shared care team model for cancer follow-up. However, there is uncertainty on the patient scenarios that are suitable for cancer follow-up shared care and the resources needed to support this new model. Dr Kylie Vuong and Professor Mark Harris are working collaboratively with members of the Translational Cancer Research Network (funded by the Cancer Institute NSW and based at the Lowy Cancer Research Centre, UNSW Sydney) to identify low-intermediate risk patient scenarios that are suitable for shared cancer follow-up shared care based on a decision support triage tool, and assess patients’, cancer specialists’ and GPs’ perspectives on the suitability of the patient scenarios and resources needed to support the shared care team model.

Additionally, Dr Kylie Vuong is partnering colleagues at the School of Public Health and Community Medicine, the Centre of Primary Health Care and Equity and externally to explore further opportunities to improve patient care outcomes across the cancer care continuum through use of real world data such as the University of Sydney’s Bettering the Evaluation of Care and Health dataset, the Sax Institute’s 45 and Up Study and National Prescribing Service’s MedicineWise dataset.

Professor Teng Liaw elected a living leader in health informatics worldwide

Professor of General Practice Teng Liaw has been named one of 100 inaugural members of the International Academy of Health Sciences Informatics (IAHSI), and one of only five from Australia. The body will serve as an international forum for peers in the field, contributing to national and global eHealth policy and the adoption of health informatics across all nations to help achieve the WHO Sustainable Development Goals.

Professor Liaw – sometimes described by colleagues as a clinical informatician masquerading as a general practitioner – said the group would focus thought leadership in the field. “I feel extraordinarily privileged as many in this inaugural class of the IAHSI include health informatics pioneers and innovators whose research and educational expertise I have admired and learned so much from for the past two decades,” he said. “More importantly, I feel an added responsibility to lead the discipline to further academic and practical achievements and greater recognition.”

Professor Liaw, who is also Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre for eHealth, said he looks forward to robust discourse on “the science and art” of health informatics. “This will further strengthen and consolidate its credentials as an academic discipline as well as a practical inter-disciplinary science,” he said. “We will share knowledge and implementation globally, to innovate and sustain eHealth with local requirements and contexts. We are already doing this informally, through bilateral relationships with specific countries. “Importantly, our knowledge exchange activities are formally conducted through the WHO Collaborating Centre for eHealth, which is hosted by UNSW Medicine (SPHCM).”

News item by Gabrielle Dunlevy
The School of Public Health and Community Medicine has a strong group of social scientists and health researchers undertaking social research on health. Our approaches range from social epidemiology to ethnography and developing contemporary social theory on population regulation. Areas of specialisation include social studies of public health, social determinants of health, health promotion, culture and gender, sexual health, mental health, food and alcohol consumption, the quality and safety of health care, community engagement, and teamwork and leadership in health care. This research involves partnerships with a diverse range of communities locally and internationally and collaborations with researchers around Australia and overseas. Social researchers in the School include Dr Anne Bunde-Birouste, Dr Rose Leontini, Dr Sally Nathan, Dr Husna Razee, Associate Professor Niamh Stephenson, Dr Lois Meyer, Associate Professor Jan Ritchie and Dr Adrienne Withall. In addition, a strong cohort of PhD students, research staff and masters coursework students come to social research via our core and elective teaching in the Masters of Public Health, Health Management, International Public health and Infectious Diseases Intelligence. We also collaborate with SPHCM researchers in Global Health, Indigenous Health, Infectious Diseases and the International HIV Research Group.

KEY RESEARCH AREAS

Social cohesion and community engagement research

Dr Anne Bunde-Birouste, Dr Sally Nathan

Football United is a community-based action research and intervention program in health promotion. Dr Nathan and Dr Bunde-Birouste were the lead chief investigators together with Associate Professor Lynn Kemp on Social Cohesion through Football, an ARC Linkage Project that investigated Football United’s implementation and its impacts on participants’ health and wellbeing and on social inclusion and cohesion.

Sexuality and sexual health

A/Prof Niamh Stephenson, Dr Sally Nathan, Dr Patrick Rawstorne

We conduct research on sexuality and research on sexual health interventions locally, nationally and internationally. In 2016, A/Prof Niamh Stephenson, with E/Prof Susan Kippax, published Socialising the Biomedical Turn in HIV Prevention. The book provides a road map for developing effective HIV prevention programs in the present, and has been widely acclaimed, e.g. “Theoretically sophisticated, empirically grounded, and analytically rigorous – this
is the most important work to be published on the HIV epidemic in decades.” — Richard Parker (Columbia Mailman School of Public Health).

PhD candidate Michelle O’Connor, with supervisors Dr Rawstorne and Dr Razee, is conducting the Fiji Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health and Wellbeing Study, which uses a mixed method approach to explore the enablers, barriers and ways to improve adolescents’ sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing. The results will enable the identification of gaps between adolescents’ sexual and reproductive behaviour, understandings and health needs on the one hand and existing realities in Fiji on the other.

Alcohol use and harm minimisation among Australian university students

Dr Rose Leontini

Together with colleagues in Queensland, NSW and Victoria, and industry partners consisting of NSW Department of Health, Victoria Department of Health, and University Colleges Australia, Dr Leontini has conducted an ARC Linkage Project led by Professor Toni Schofield at the University of Sydney.

A number of papers have been published from the project, although the work continues to yield more important findings with implications for public and institutional/organisational policy. Further papers are under consideration, and other papers are being prepared for book chapters and journal articles. The work has been presented at 15 domestic and international conferences, symposia and seminars.

Drawing on social and behavioural sciences, the project examines alcohol use among college- and non-college-based university students in NSW and Victoria. The aim is to identify barriers and opportunities for harm minimisation.

Unlike previous studies, it focuses on the combination of the social dynamics of students’ alcohol use, their understandings of harm minimisation, what they themselves do to achieve it, and the approaches adopted by universities, university colleges and state health authorities to reduce the fallout from students’ heavy drinking.

The approach is multi-pronged, consisting of a suite of studies and mixed methods including a survey of over 3500 students, focus groups, individual interviews.

Nomination for Australian of the Year

Dr Anne Bunde-Birouste, Football United’s founder and SPHCM staff member, was honoured by being nominated as a state finalist for the 2016 Australian of the Year award. Internationally-respected for her expertise in social change, Dr Anne Bunde-Birouste has created a life-changing program for refugee youth as they transition into Australian society.

While undertaking her PhD, Anne created Football United – a program that uses the magic of the ‘World Game’ together with other strategies to inspire young people, foster their educational engagement and promote social justice and cross-cultural harmony. Since 2006, Anne has helped thousands of young people throughout Sydney, with many now taking on roles as youth leaders, project coordinators and mentors.

Anne is the convener of health promotion at SPHCM, and a world leader in using sport for social development. She demonstrates how sport can help young people adjust to their new lives, build self-esteem and forge strong community bonds. Representing the Australian values of acceptance and multiculturalism, Anne has found a new way to welcome the nation’s newest citizens.

The Football United program was also chosen along with Australia for UNHCR as recipients of the nationally launched Football Cares campaign by the Australian Football Federation. The campaign is designed to mobilise support to enable them to increase their capacity to support the new influx of Syrian refugees.
with students, interviews with college principles and management, and a detailed document analysis of institutional policies. The work published so far has informed policy documents and reports having significant on policy responses to young people’s drinking, including the Stafford & Keric report into Alcohol in the University Setting (2017, Curtin University) and the Broderick report on Cultural Renewal at the University of Sydney Residential Colleges (2017, University of Sydney).

Social studies of public health surveillance and interventions

Associate Professor Niamh Stephenson

This research focus examines how public health reaches out into people’s everyday lives and how people’s creative uptake of health messages force responses on the part of public health. Dr Stephenson currently holds two ARC Discovery Projects on this topic. One, Pandemic Influenza: People, Policy, Science (with Dr Mark Davis, Monash University) examines gaps between public concerns about pandemic influenza and Australian preparedness efforts. The second, Ultrasound, Embodiment and Abortion: An Analysis of Foetal Imaging and the Ethics of the Selective Termination of Pregnancy (with Dr Catherine Mills, Monash University), considers how the increasingly routine use of ultrasound in pregnancy is affecting women’s experiences of pregnancy and contemporary public debates about termination.

Health care and health promotion for vulnerable groups

Dr Husna Razee, Dr Sally Nathan, Dr Patrick Rawstorne, Dr Adrienne Withall

This research examines situational and structural factors that affect the provision of health promotion and the quality and safety of health care for vulnerable groups including the elderly, youth, women, people with disabilities, Indigenous people, refugees and immigrants, overseas students, people from lower socio-economic backgrounds, homeless people, geographically and socially isolated individuals and other vulnerable groups. Dr Travaglia is currently working on a number of projects with Professor Jeffrey Braithwaite in the Australian Institute of Health Innovation and Dr Nathan on the development of management skills for nurses, on indicators of a healthy clinical environment, and on models of consumer engagement.

Methamphetamine use among adolescent population has increased – top 10 media story for 2016 in UNSW Medicine

Dr Sally Nathan, Dr Patrick Rawstorne, Professor Andrew Hayen

A School of Public Health and Medicine media story on vulnerable adolescents which reported that the use of methamphetamines had doubled in five years was one of the ten top media stories for 2016 in UNSW Medicine. The story reached 1.1 million Australians with articles in the Sydney Morning Herald, The Australian, and ABC radio spots including the AM program, radio drive programs across the country and a piece in the Conversation.

The media coverage was based on an article by Dr Sally Nathan, Dr Patrick Rawstorne and Prof Andrew Hayen from the School together with Mr Mark Ferry from the Ted Noffs Foundation and Ms Anna Bethmont published in the Medical Journal of Australia.

Led by Dr Nathan, a team of researchers in the School together with the Ted Noffs Foundation and academics from the Centre for Social Research in Health and the School of Social Sciences hold an ARC Linkage Grant, Young People in a Treatment and Support Program, to do vital research to understand the pathways of vulnerable adolescents and the role of the Ted Noffs Program for Adolescent Life Management in assisting young people to get their lives back on track.

Dr Razee is working with PhD candidate Dr Nahla Hariri to explore the barriers and facilitators to accessing primary mental health care by women in Mecca, Saudi Arabia. She is also working with Professor Jan Ritchie and PhD candidate Dr Shanti Raman on a project to improve perinatal outcomes in urban India.

Dr Adrienne Withall is a Chief Investigator on the INSPIRED study, which is funded by the NHMRC, and is the first comprehensive study on young onset dementia in Australia. Since most people who develop memory and related disorders are elderly, the experiences and needs of people developing these conditions in their 30s, 40s or 50s, as well as their support network, are not well understood. In particular, we are seeking to better understand vulnerable groups such as people with intellectual disability and dementia, HIV-associated neurocognitive disorder, dementia due to head injury, and cognitive changes associated with alcohol and substance abuse. Dr Withall is also supervising PhD candidate, Monica Cations, who received a prestigious Alzheimer’s Australia Dementia Research Foundation PhD Scholarship to investigate modifiable environmental and lifestyle risk factors for younger onset dementia. Publications from the INSPIRED Study include:


Community participation in health services

Dr Sally Nathan, Dr Husna Razee

Having community representatives involved in health services can influence the way hospitals and health programs meet the needs of the community. In Australia, important research led by Dr Nathan has resulted in a number of key publications in the academic and consumer literature and keynote addresses at major conferences, challenging the way health services view and support community participation.

Dr Razee, together with Professor Anthony Zwi and PhD candidate Kolitha Wickramage, is studying community participation as practised and understood at the primary health care level in the implementation of non-communicable disease prevention and management in Sri Lanka. Using in-depth interviews, group interviews and applied ethnography, the study explores the knowledge, experiences and commitment of primary health care workers, health administrators and policy makers. Two short training films were developed from case studies profiled in the study as awareness raising tools.

Also in Sir Lanka, PhD candidate Albie Sharpe worked with supervision from Dr Razee and Professor Zwi on a project using a human security evaluation as a participatory, holistic, multi-sectoral, multi-level and ethical evaluation method. It was used to examine the outcomes of a Japanese non-communicable disease prevention project in Sri Lanka and results from health promotion groups formed during the intervention. The evaluation developed tools to identify and monitor the broader social (human security) outcomes of the intervention.

However, while the tools showed significant linkages between the intervention and identifiable social outcomes, they were not suitable for identification of program limitations and weaknesses. Findings have been presented at conferences in Oxford and Istanbul.
Using and understanding health experiences to improve patient care

Dr Adrienne Withall

This research examines attitudes towards, knowledge about, and experiences of health and health care, from the viewpoint of patients (illness, treatment and care) and health professionals (health care delivery, systems, policy and leadership).

Dr Adrienne Withall is a Senior Research Fellow and she is a Chief Investigator on a number of studies examining the characteristics, health needs and outcomes of older people (aged 50+) with alcohol and/or other substance abuse. Research in this area has been conducted as a partnership between Dr Withall and Professor Brian Draper (School of Psychiatry, UNSW and Aged Care Psychiatry at Prince of Wales Hospital) and Professor Nicholas Lintzeris, A/Professor Apo Demirkol, Dr Mark Montebello, Dr Nicole Ridley (Langton Centre, Drug and Alcohol Services, South Eastern Sydney Local Health District), and Dr Lauren Monds (Addiction Medicine: Central Clinical School, University of Sydney). This partnership was established to examine care pathways and health service needs of the growing clinical cohort of older people presenting with drug and/or alcohol abuse. Two studies were funded by grants from the NSW Health Office of Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol.

Other aspects of this research include examining challenges for health professionals servicing this group as well as their training needs, and understanding barriers and enablers to care for clients with comorbid cognitive impairment and alcohol/substance abuse. Research from this collaboration includes:


One issue causing barriers to effective treatment and care is the stigma associated with alcohol dependence, resulting in the belief that difficulties associated with alcohol related brain damage (ARBD) are ‘self-inflicted’. Cognitive changes resulting from alcohol excess and poor nutrition can directly affect an individual’s ability to motivate themselves, make decisions, and make the informed choices that underlie behaviour change. Attitudes held by professionals, reinforced by societal norms, that a person is ‘choosing to drink’ and ‘not motivated to engage with treatment’, in combination with the often subtle cognitive deficits associated with ARBD, can result in a lack of timely intervention, with enormous personal, social and economic cost.

In 2015, Dr Withall produced an edited book to update the evidence base in this field, provide a social and cultural context for alcohol use across the lifespan, and discuss up to date recommendations for diagnosis and management: Svanberg J, Withall A, Draper B, Bowden S, (eds), 2015, Alcohol and the Adult Brain, Current Issues in Neuropsychology, Psychology Press, Hove, East Sussex, UK.


The ‘magic’ of football for good is by now irrefutable, as decades of work across the globe being carried out by passionate people and organisations have been shared and amply documented. Thousands of lives and communities have been changed through the opportunities created by those working to engage with the sport they love to take its impact beyond the playing field.

SPHCN’s flagship sport for social change program, Football United continues to thrive and grow, celebrating its 10th year of activities contributing to youth empowerment and positive youth development through the programs implemented in the greater Sydney area.

SPHCN’s Football United’s Founding Director, Dr Anne Bunde-Birouste, has been elected to the international network Streetfootballworld’s Board. Streetfootballworld (SFW) is a global network of organisations working to create social change through football. In addition to providing counsel for the growth and development of the network, Dr Bunde-Birouste has led an international study on how Streetfootballworld member organisations address the challenge of sustainable funding. Results will be used to develop a suite of tools and mechanisms to enable sport for social change and peace-building to build their capacity to use social business as a mechanism for sustainability. The study is a first in the area of sport for social change, and is to be released mid-2018.

Begun in 2013 and supported by a UNSW seed grant Football United has expanded its work in Myanmar to now be situated in 6 different communities. The work in Myanmar mirrors the approach in Australia using a campus-community engagement model. In addition to regular community football for social change work, the Football United Myanmar program has a strong focus on peace building. SPHCM’s Football United Myanmar Director, Dr Tun Aung Shwe is leading a study which explores in detail the vital Football United football-for-peace initiative operating in the Kayin State.

The research examines evidence of football for social change’s contribution on outcomes such as trauma healing, psychosocial support, rebuilding and strengthening community network, and building positive relationships between and among conflict-affected communities. The study will also measure the role of change agents in the initiative and how they overcome the barriers and challenges presented by the intervention.

Financially supported by the Laureus Sport for Good Foundation, Paung Sie Facility, (PSF) Myanmar, and the UEFA Children’s Foundation, the project also includes the establishment of a Football United Football for Peace Centre which will be set up not only for project activities but will be engineered to be environmentally sustainable and will include income generation purposes and social enterprise scheme.
UNSW's Football United is using the World Game to help heal social wounds in Myanmar, which is slowly recovering from six decades of conflict.

The group launched one of the country’s largest peace projects at Pa-an University. Using football as the focus, the project will harness the power of youth to build social cohesion and reconciliation from the ground up.

Football United’s Myanmar Director, Tun Aung Shwe, from UNSW’s School of Public Health and Community Medicine, said the program is designed to empower university youth as local champions in their communities through the use of football’s social appeal.

“After being trained as football coaches in the program’s first year, youth leaders will then be taught how to introduce football-based grassroots peace initiatives to their local conflict-affected communities to promote reconciliation,” Dr Shwe said.

The Football United program is one of many peace initiatives underway in Myanmar since an openly contested general election last year ended more than 60 years of military rule.

The program had its origins in a conversation that dates back to 2013 when Dr Shwe was approached by Hpa-an University, where word had spread about UNSW’s work using football as a development tool.

The impacts of the Karen National Union’s (KNU) armed conflict against the Myanmar government, which resulted in decades of instability and hundreds of thousands of displaced people, is still being felt in Kayin State, previously known as Karen State, where Pa-an University is based.

“The armed conflict experienced in Myanmar has been described as one of the world’s longest running civil wars,” NSW President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Ian Jacobs said, in a video message to the local community. “I am so pleased that UNSW’s Football United program has the chance to contribute its expertise to hopefully bring about social change in your local community,” Professor Jacobs said.

The project is a collaboration between Football United, Hpa-an University, Kayin State Red Cross and Paung-Ku Organisation. Funding for the initiative is being provide by local NGO, Paung-Ku.

Football United, which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year, is also working with the Myanmar government to develop football-based disaster risk reduction, adolescent health promotion and school mental health promotion resources.

UNSW News article by Dan Wheelahan
Photos: Top right – Girls for Peace, Myanmar; Bottom left – FuN Myanmar
Postgraduate students and staff in the School of Public Health and Community Medicine organised a day of action on Thursday 4 June to raise funds for Red Cross Australia to provide humanitarian support to people affected by the earthquakes. The day of action was also aimed at raising awareness about how the earthquake has left thousands of young children, particularly girls, more vulnerable than ever.

The event took place on and around the library lawn and comprised Nepalese cultural activities including dancing, stories and a photograph exhibition, as well as a BBQ and bake sale. The event raised $3,471 from sales and donations on the day and further contributions were expected through online donations as a result of social and other media campaigns about the event.

Many of the Nepalese students involved in the event had suffered directly or indirectly from the earthquakes. UNSW postgraduate student Rejuta Dixit says the fear of briefly not knowing the fate of her family following the April 25 earthquake and its aftermath is something she never wants to experience again. "When I could not get through to my parents and husband on the phone I really started to panic and feared the worst," she says.

While Rejuta Dixit’s family were among the lucky ones, her husband Kapil Dixit witnessed the collapse of Kathmandu’s Dharahara tower and the deaths of hundreds of people. This left him deeply traumatised. “I don’t want to remember that time but I still think of Nepal as a beautiful place and know that it will rise again,” Rejuta says.

The 7.9 magnitude earthquake, which was followed by numerous tremors, left 7,800 people dead, 15,000 injured and 1.6 million families deeply traumatised and without safe drinking water or shelter. Senior lecturer in UNSW’s School of Public Health and Community Medicine, Dr Patrick Rawstorne says the event generated a great atmosphere and was well supported by the UNSW community. He says: “The photograph display which was complemented by music and dance, enabled people to reflect on the devastation but also to celebrate the coming together of people from different nations in a show of support for the people in Nepal.”

The Head of School, Professor Raina MacIntyre, says UNSW is a global community, and the School is committed to action and advocacy in all aspects of its work, and was proud to support UNSW students and staff in this fund raising event.

Rakesh Panthi, a postgraduate student from Nepal who helped organise the event, said “I am feeling so proud to be part of UNSW and have friends like you around me. This event was one of the most amazing days I had in my experience. Thank you everyone for your enormous effort. The collective energy of all of our friends, faculties, technical staff, supporting organisation and groups was very productive and very much fun to work with. I learned so much from you all.”
Reflections on Nepal

By Sue Clarke

“Struggle everywhere and suffering”
– Ganga age 21, mother of 4

Ganga’s words describe the common experience of women living in poverty in Nepal. The recent earthquake will exacerbate the effects of underlying poverty, malnutrition, food insecurity and lack of every kind of resource. My study setting is far from the earthquake zone but there will be ongoing consequences for the whole country.

My research is among the resilient and wonderful women of Jumla, Nepal. Jumla is in the western mountains, an isolated, exotic district high in the Himalayas with harsh winters, a traditional Hindu patriarchy and few economic resources. The women are subsistence farmers, doing the bulk of the manual labour in the fields, as well as domestic and childcare duties. They value the future - their children - aching for them to have a different life to their own, while lacking the resources to ensure it.

The women gather in self-help groups (SHGs), facilitated by a local NGO, to discuss their lives, share experiences and learn new things. Each month every member contributes to the group savings, which is available for group members to borrow and use for microbusinesses, education, family or medical expenses. It is humbling to see illiterate women learning to manage their money and the careful advocacy of the group leaders and the local facilitators.

I am a GP and had previously volunteered in Nepal, doing health screening in children in an orphanage on the Terai, south of Jumla. I saw many cases of Chronic Suppurative Otitis Media (CSOM) in these children, who mostly came from Jumla, and I wondered if this could be reduced. CSOM is a disease of poverty, common in low resource settings, and is preventable by early and simple treatment of acute ear infections.

So, in 2013 I contacted an NGO and made the exhilarating mountain journey in a tiny plane to Jumla. There, I interviewed women about their lives, their understanding of health and healthcare and their experience of ear infections in their children. I was humbled by their resilience and good humour in the face of the harshness and limitation of their lives. I met Ganga in the Nutrition Rehab Centre with her tiny malnourished baby. She had four small children and worked hard in the fields all day. Her husband was a violent man with an alcohol problem and she had few choices in her life. The women all have stories of loss and hardship.

Back in Australia, with the assistance of my wonderfully supportive and trusting supervisors, Robyn Richmond and Heather Worth, we designed a Cluster Randomised Trial, including a baseline survey and a participatory intervention in the existing SHGs. Last year, I spent 6 months in Nepal, liaising with the university in Kathmandu and undertaking the field work. This year I go back to do the follow-up assessments, and to measure the impact of the intervention. There have been many obstacles to overcome – especially with bureaucracy and logistics – and it is a great challenge to work cross-culturally. However, Nepalis are forgiving, tolerant, patient and appreciative which ensures that the work is enjoyable, useful and rewarding.

Sue Clarke is a PhD student at the SPHCM. Her supervisors are Professor Robyn Richmond and Professor Heather Worth.
The School continues its sustained contribution to the development of inspirational healthcare leaders in healthcare systems around the world. Our students and alumni can be found in government Ministries and Departments, in primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare services, in public and population health units, across the public, private and NGOs sectors, in both developed and developing countries.

Health systems and services are complex entities, formal structures and loose networks at the same time. Managers and leaders who work within them have to function within environments that are both constantly changing and steeped in century old traditions. With increased government and/or stakeholder oversight and control, a shifting regulatory environment, emerging workforce demands at a time of global workforce shortages, rapid increases in the number of patients with chronic and complex conditions, and universal financial shortfalls, the already complex professional world of healthcare managers is becoming increasingly more so.

Open to increased public and media scrutiny in the aftermath of major patient safety scandals, the spotlight firmly on the role of strong healthcare leaders as the enablers of either highly positive or disastrously dysfunctional workplace cultures. Effective leadership and management are at the core of effective healthcare delivery, and modern healthcare leaders need to know how to deal with the demands of new technologies, identify and utilise multiple data, information and knowledge sources, identify and prevent threats to, and enhance, the quality and safety of care, build capacity and manage the performance of individual staff and teams, and respond to sharp demographic changes which are shaping both client and staff profiles.

The health leadership and management program in SPHCM is the oldest and largest program of its type in Australia. The program has close links to the WHO and other key national and international NGOs, and provides students with the opportunity to undertake courses, internships and research both in Australia and internationally. Our dual degree programs open up new pathways to advanced management and leadership practice development. These dual degrees provide a value-added approach to postgraduate education. For students already in management and leadership positions they open up the opportunity to undertake electives in highly relevant specialist courses including advanced economic evaluation, applied research methods, community development and health impact assessment, as well as the chance to study in highly specialised fields such as disaster management, aged care or infection control. For students in public health programs, the dual degree provides an opportunity for career progression, by providing them with the additional skills required to manage both people and resources.

Whether in primary, community, tertiary or aged care, generalist or specialist services, in private or the public sectors, there has never been a greater need to identify and facilitate effective and inspiring leadership and management in the health field. Evidence based practice in the clinical field is well established. The need for evidence based policy making and evidence based management are both growing fields, and ones to which Health Leadership and Management@UNSW will make a significant contribution in coming years.
It is 60 years since the commencement of health management programs at UNSW. The UNSW health management program is the first and the largest health management program in Australia. Alumni from the health management programs – from the initial Bachelor of Health Administration (BHA) program to today’s Master of Health Management (MHM) program – have gone on to distinguish themselves in many senior management positions in Australia and overseas.

Academics from the School of Public Health and Community Medicine (SPHCM) have over the years been recognised as leaders in the field of health management research and have built the corpus of knowledge from their research and incorporated into their teaching to make the MHM program highly relevant to both current and future health managers.

The Master of Health Management program at UNSW is accredited by both the Royal Australasian College of Health Administrators (RACMA) and the Australasian College of Health Services Management (ACHSM). It provides local and international students with the core capabilities required to respond to the complex challenges faced by health managers and leaders in diverse health settings.

The SPHCM and our large alumni network celebrated the 60th anniversary of the UNSW Health Management program, in conjunction with the 2016 Asia Pacific Rim Universities (APRU) Global Health Program Workshop, on 28th September, 2016. The day featured keynote speakers Prof Peter Baume AC who provided insights into ‘Health Systems Challenges: Past, Present and Future’ and Prof Mary-Louise McLaws who discussed ‘Infection Control as a Patient-Safety Measure: its past and future’. Professors Baume and McLaws are distinguished academics within SPHCM, and reflected upon their considerable experience leading and contributing to the Health Management program.

The UNSW SPHCM Health Management program is built on the strong foundation developed over the last 60 years and has progressively introduced a range of innovations. The program is offered in face-to-face or fully online mode to provide flexible, innovative, student centered learning. The program is flexible to accommodate the needs of emerging health leaders within Australia’s local health care system and health care systems overseas.

Photo above: Prof Raina MacIntyre, Prof Mary-Louise McLaws, Dr Peter Baume. Photo below: UNSW President and Vice-Chancellor Prof Ian Jacobs and Prof Raina MacIntyre
APRU Global Health Program Workshop 2016

Double Burden of Disease: Practice, Teaching & Research

UNSW’s standing as one of the region’s leading research universities has been highlighted by its membership with the prestigious Association of Pacific Rim Universities network (APRU). Membership of this important network enables UNSW to engage with 44 leading research-intensive universities in the Asia-Pacific region, including Stanford, UCLA, University of Hong Kong, University of Tokyo, National University of Singapore and Seoul National University.

Pacific Rim economies face some common challenges including fast-paced economic growth and urbanisation, demographic changes and increasingly older populations and poverty. APRU’s key collaborative research themes include global health; sustainability and climate change; multi-hazards; ageing in Asia; and brain and mind research – all research strengths of UNSW.

UNSW hosted APRU Global Health program workshop from the 28th September to 1st October. The program included invited speakers from SPHCM: Prof Raina MacIntyre spoke on ‘The changing landscape of emerging infections and Prof Richard Taylor spoke on ‘Diversity of NCDs in Pacific Rim countries.’

Health economic research and teaching in the School

The School has a large program of health economic research and teaching. This includes a health economic evaluation specialisation as part of the Master of Public Health (MPH) and the dual degree with the Masters of Health Management (MHM). The specialisation provides students with knowledge and skills in the principles of the economic evaluation of healthcare programs which is an important tool to help decision makers obtain value for money in healthcare spending choices. There are also a number of health economic courses which can be undertaken as part of a degree or standalone courses for professional development.

We also supervise a number of PhD students in the area of health economics. Current PhD projects include the use of mathematical models to predict the health impact and cost of health programs. This type of research, assessing the value for money offered by health interventions, plays an important role in informing decision makers about which programs offer the biggest ‘bang for the buck’.

Academics at the School are involved in health economic research across a range of topics in both a national and international context. The growing pressure on health budgets has meant that those with health economics skills are increasingly being sought after by government, industry and the non-for-profit sector. We have a number of researchers involved in economic evaluation of infectious disease prevention strategies. Infectious disease models can be used to predict the impact of alternative control strategies and can be linked with economic models to estimate the cost-effectiveness of these programs. These analyses play a major role in immunisation funding decisions.

Researchers are also involved in health economic and financing in developing countries. Policy-makers need to have access to the best possible research and analysis to ensure their health investments save as many lives as possible. This research group works in partnership with scientists and policy-makers to improve the way health care is delivered and financed in low and middle income countries.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research Project Title</th>
<th>Granting Organisation</th>
<th>Researcher(s)</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Total Value</th>
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<tr>
<td>A community case-control study examining environmental and lifestyle risk factors for younger onset dementia</td>
<td>Alzheimer's Australia Dementia Research Foundation / Dementia Grants Program</td>
<td>Dr Adrienne Withall – CI Monica Cations, Brian Draper</td>
<td>2014-2017</td>
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<td>A pilot study of a systematic patient-centred and practice nurse coordinated model of ACP in Australian general practice</td>
<td>Royal Australian College of General Practitioners / HCF Research Foundation- RACGP Research Grant</td>
<td>Dr Joel Jin-Oh Rhee – CI</td>
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<td>A system wide analysis of health financing equity in Cambodia</td>
<td>Australian Research Council / Discovery Project</td>
<td>A/Prof Virginia Wiseman – CI Augustine Asante</td>
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<td>Activating Primary Care COPD Patients with Multi-morbidity (APCOM) Pilot Project</td>
<td>National Health &amp; Medical Research Council / Postgraduate Scholarship</td>
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<td>Activating Primary Care COPD Patients with Multimorbidity (APCOM) Pilot Project</td>
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<td>Adapting and trialing an innovative international approach to address burnout in medical students</td>
<td>University of New South Wales / SJTU-UNSW Collaborative Research Fund – Seed Grant</td>
<td>Dr Chinthaka Balasooriya – CI Wang Chunming, Raina Maclntyre, Geng Na, Joanne Travaglia, Yu Weijie, Zhou Yin</td>
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<td>An assessment of equity in health care financing in Timor Leste and Fiji</td>
<td>Australian Agency for International Development Research Awards Scheme</td>
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<td>Applied research in the prevention and control of infections in the hospital setting</td>
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<td>Applied research in the prevention and control of infections in the hospital setting</td>
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<td>Assessing the impact of acellular vaccines on B. Pertussis genotype evolution: using modelling to close evidence gaps and inform policy</td>
<td>University of New South Wales / Goldstar-NHMRC</td>
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<td>Big data analytics and the use of Information Communication Technology (ICT) for controlling dengue infection</td>
<td>University of New South Wales / UNSW-Indonesia Seed Funding</td>
<td>Dr David Muscatello – CI Mahmud Ashraf, Raymond Kosala, Lutfan Lazuardi, Aditya Lia Ramadona, A Sulistyawati, Surahyo Sumarsono</td>
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<td>Can death from chronic life-limiting illnesses be predicted in Australian General Practice?</td>
<td>Royal Australian College of General Practitioners / Primary Care Collaborative Cancer Clinical Trials Group (PC4) Research Grant</td>
<td>Dr Joel Jin-Oh Rhee – CI</td>
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<td>Centre for research excellence in E-health</td>
<td>Macquarie University / NHMRC Centres of Research Excellence Shared Grant</td>
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CI – Chief Investigator
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<td>Centre of Research Excellence in Infectious Diseases Modelling to Inform Public Health Policy</td>
<td>University of Melbourne / NHMRC Centres of Research Excellence Shared Grant</td>
<td>Dr James Wood – CI Nicholas Geard, Kathryn Glass, James McCaw, Jodie McVernon, Emma McBryde, Geoffrey Mercer</td>
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<td>Coast Connections Younger Onset Dementia Project</td>
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<td>Dr Adrienne Withall – CI</td>
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<td>Cognitive Outcomes in the Ageing Cannabis Use</td>
<td>Australian National University / NHMRC DCRC Early Diagnosis and Prevention Shared Grant</td>
<td>Dr Adrienne Withall – CI David Alisop, Raimondo Bruno, Brian Draper, Nicholas Lintzeris, Lauren Monds, Nicole Ridley</td>
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<td>Economic evaluation of alternative pneumococcal vaccination strategies</td>
<td>National Health &amp; Medical Research Council / Project Grant</td>
<td>A/Prof Anthony Newall – CI Philippe Beutels, Raina MacIntyre, Robert Menzies, James Wood</td>
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<td>Enhancing diabetes self management among disadvantaged groups using a brief self regulatory intervention in primary care</td>
<td>Diabetes Australia Research Trust / Awards and Research Grants Scheme</td>
<td>A/Prof Rohan Jayasuriya – CI Mark Harris</td>
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<td>Evaluating the Guideline Enhancement Tool (GET): an innovative clinical training tool to enhance the use of Hypertension Guidelines in General Practice</td>
<td>National Heart Foundation of Australia / Vanguard Grants</td>
<td>Dr Chinthaka Balasooriya – CI Boaz Shulruf, Nicholas Zwar</td>
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<td>Evaluation of a financial incentive to improve the use of preventive medicines by people with asthma</td>
<td>National Health &amp; Medical Research Council / Partnership Projects</td>
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<td>Evidence for Maternal and Child Nutrition Policy among Vulnerable Populations in Yogyakarta, Indonesia</td>
<td>University of New South Wales / UNSW-Indonesia Seed Funding</td>
<td>A/Prof Rohan Jayasuriya – CI Jayashree Arcot, Indria Gamayanti, Mubasysyir Hasanbasri, Yodi Mahendradhata, Digna Purwaningrum</td>
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<td>Exploring clinical governance in rural and remote primary health care - PhD Scholarship for Ruyamuro Kwedza</td>
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<td>Exploring Conventional and Traditional Practices among Women with Postnatal Danger Signs in Indonesia</td>
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<td>Forest fires (haze) associated burden of disease in Malaysia</td>
<td>NHMRC Centre for Air quality and health Research and evaluation (CAR) / Seed Funding</td>
<td>Prof Bin Jalaludin – CI</td>
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<td>HCP ELIOT-Mastering and maintaining the correct use of inhaler devices: how easy is it?</td>
<td>Woolcock Institute of Medical Research / Contract Research</td>
<td>Prof Nicholas Zwar – CI</td>
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<td>Identifying Risk Factors of a Human-to-Human Transmissible Form of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza H5N1</td>
<td>University of New South Wales / PLuS Alliance Collaborative Research Seed Grants</td>
<td>Prof Raina MacIntyre – CI, Brenda Hogue, Samsung Lim, Peter McBurney, Matthew Scotch, Kathleen Steinhofel, Sacha Stelzer-Braid</td>
<td>2016-2017</td>
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<td>Immunisation in under studied and special risk populations: closing the gap in knowledge through a multidisciplinary approach</td>
<td>National Health &amp; Medical Research Council / Centres of Research Excellence</td>
<td>Prof Raina MacIntyre – CI, Philippe Beutels, Robert Booy, Dominic Dwyer, John Kaldor, Julie-Anne Leask, Kristine Macartney, Peter McIntyre, Robert Menzies, Nicholas Wood</td>
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<td>Improving Breathing Support for Newborn Infants in Non-Tertiary Centres: The Hunter Trial</td>
<td>University of Melbourne / NHMRC Project Grant Shared Grant</td>
<td>Dr Gaston Arnolda – CI, Adam Buckmaster, Kim Dalziel, Peter Davis, Brett Manley, Louise Owen, Ian Wright</td>
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<td>Investigating the trends in non-communicable disease risk factors and premature mortality in Pacific Island countries and how best to allocate funds for control (Fiji, Samoa, Tuvalu)</td>
<td>Australian Agency for International Development Research Awards Scheme</td>
<td>Prof Richard Taylor – CI</td>
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<td>Large scale studies to inform and guide public health policy</td>
<td>National Health &amp; Medical Research Council / Career Development Fellowship</td>
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<td>Mobility and HIV risk across the Papua New Guinea/Indonesia border</td>
<td>Australian Research Council / Linkage Project</td>
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<td>Patient acceptability and attitudes to receiving alcohol use enquiry from general practitioners</td>
<td>Royal Australian College of General Practitioners / Family Medical Care, Education and Research Grants</td>
<td>Dr Michael Tam – CI Charlotte Hespe, Jinu Ge Jacob, Nicholas Zwar</td>
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<td>Population-based data linkage and modelling studies to evaluate and inform Australia’s immunisation program</td>
<td>National Health &amp; Medical Research Council / Early Career Fellowships</td>
<td>Dr Heather Gidding – CI</td>
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<td>Population-based data linkage and modelling studies to evaluate and inform Australia’s immunisation program</td>
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<td>Population-based record linkage study of the impact of chlamydia infection on reproductive health in women</td>
<td>National Health &amp; Medical Research Council / Project Grant</td>
<td>A/Prof Bette Liu – CI B Donovan, R Guy, J Hooking, J Kaldor, D Mak, S-A Pearson, D Preen, C Roberts, L Stewart, H Wand, J Ward</td>
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<td>Positive life pathways for vulnerable adolescents: The role of a life management program approach</td>
<td>Australian Research Council / Linkage Project</td>
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<td>Positive life pathways for vulnerable adolescents: The role of a life management program approach</td>
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<td>Post-implementation economic evaluation of childhood vaccination programs</td>
<td>Australian Research Council Linkage Project</td>
<td>A/Prof Anthony Newall – CI Philippe Beutels, Peter McIntyre, Robert Menzies, Robert, James Wood</td>
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<td>Post-implementation economic evaluation of childhood vaccination programs</td>
<td>The Sydney Children’s Hospitals Network / ARC Linkage Project Industry Partner Contribution</td>
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<td>Providing the evidence to guide adult immunisation strategies: a novel approach using a large prospective cohort study and record linkage</td>
<td>National Health &amp; Medical Research Council / Project Grant</td>
<td>A/Prof Bette Liu – CI Emily Banks, Anita Heywood, John Kaldor, Raina MacIntyre, Peter McIntyre, David Muscatello, Anthony Newall</td>
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<td>Quantifying the effectiveness of pertussis vaccine in older adults</td>
<td>National Health &amp; Medical Research Council / Project Grant</td>
<td>A/Prof Bette Liu – CI Bruce Armstrong, Mark Bartlett, Andrew Hayen, Raina MacIntyre, Peter McIntyre, Anthony Newall, Helen Quinn, Vicky Sheppeard</td>
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<td>Real time models to inform prevention and control of emerging infectious diseases</td>
<td>National Health &amp; Medical Research Council / Project Grant</td>
<td>Prof Raina MacIntyre – CI Lauren Gardner, Anita Heywood, Aye Moa</td>
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<td>Scoping Study for a KBHAC Healing Centre</td>
<td>Kinchela Boys Home Aboriginal Corporation Research Grant</td>
<td>A/Prof M Haswell-Elkins – CI Marcia Grand Ortega</td>
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<td>Second Australian Study of Health and Relationships</td>
<td>National Health &amp; Medical Research Council / Project Grant</td>
<td>A/Prof Juliet Richters – CI Richard De Visser, Chris Rissel, Judy Simpson</td>
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<td>Study of urban Aboriginal housing and its relationship to health – SEARCH housing extension part 1</td>
<td>National Health &amp; Medical Research Council / Postgraduate Scholarship</td>
<td>Dr Anna Williamson – CI Melanie Andersen, Sally Redman</td>
<td>2010-2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>The development of integrated approach to improve adolescent health focusing on vulnerable and most disadvantaged group in Indonesia</td>
<td>University of New South Wales / UNSW-Indonesia Seed Funding</td>
<td>Dr Jerico Pardosi – CI Nunik Kusumawardani, Christine Linhart, Rachmalina Prasodjo</td>
<td>2016-2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tingim Laip Phase 2</td>
<td>Cardno Emerging Markets (Australia) Pty Ltd</td>
<td>Dr Angela Kelly – CI Patrick Rawstoner</td>
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<td>Transmission of multidrug resistant organisms and role of nonsterile glove use by clinicians in healthcare settings</td>
<td>Medtronic Australasia / Medtronic Infection Control Scholarship</td>
<td>Mrs Susan Jain – CI Mary-Louise McLaws</td>
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<td>Travellers visiting friends and relatives: new approaches to understanding and reducing infectious disease risks</td>
<td>Australian Research Council / Discovery Project</td>
<td>Prof Raina MacIntyre – CI Anita Heywood, Holly Seale, Mohamud Sheikh, Mitchell Smith, Heather Worth, Nicholas Zwar</td>
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<td>Treating co-morbid depression and nicotine dependence in primary care: demonstration project to test the Webquit Intervention</td>
<td>Department of Health / Commonwealth Government Contract</td>
<td>Prof Robyn Richmond – CI Amanda Baker, Ron Borland, Elizabeth Halcomb, Brian Hitsman, Frances Kay-Lambkin, Dimity Pond, Kathleen Wilhelm, Nicholas Zwar</td>
<td>2016-2018</td>
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<td>Vaccination timeliness in Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal infants: risk factors for delayed vaccination and impact on disease burden – a record linkage study</td>
<td>National Health &amp; Medical Research Council / Project Grant</td>
<td>Dr Heather Gidding – CI Chris Blyth, Nicholas De Klerk, Bette Liu, Peter McIntyre, Hannah Moore, Thomas Snelling</td>
<td>2015-2018</td>
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<td>Vaccine Preventable Diseases in adults aged 45 and above in Australia</td>
<td>National Health &amp; Medical Research Council / Postgraduate Scholarship</td>
<td>A/Prof Bette Liu – CI Amelia Dyda, John Kaldor, Raina MacIntyre</td>
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<td>YOD environmental and lifestyle risk factors</td>
<td>National Health &amp; Medical Research Council, Dementia Collaborative Research Centre</td>
<td>Dr Adrienne Withall – CI</td>
<td>2013-2015</td>
<td>$43,239</td>
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</table>
Our postgraduate programs have been designed to meet the diverse learning and professional needs of our students whether they learn on or off campus, and work in local or international health related settings. We recognise that postgraduate education needs to be professional education – building on students’ initial qualifications and work experiences and equipping them with the capacities to extend their professional areas of interest and career trajectories.

We provide quality learning that is student-centred and relevant to real-world practice. Our teaching supports students to develop and apply theoretical understandings, conceptual tools, and professional skills and techniques that are relevant to being practitioners or researchers in public health and/or health service management locally or internationally.

It is now well accepted that to improve health outcomes and address the broader social determinants of health, innovative approaches are needed that require sophisticated problem solving capacities, multidisciplinary ways of working and abilities to critically interpret research and apply evidence to health related issues. Our programs have been developed to foster these abilities. Courses are mapped against agreed graduate outcomes and through our teaching, learning and assessment strategies we seek to promote workplace ready professionals who can continue to learn and manage effectively in the dynamic and increasingly global field of health.
The number of students enrolled in postgraduate coursework programs has grown by 64% since 2012 to 1025 students in 2016. Enrolments in our dual Masters programs have increased significantly from 186 in 2012 to 350 in 2016, an 88% increase in enrolments. Our Graduate Summer School has also been an area of growth, with the development of a range of popular new courses. Combined Masters Programs are a major area of growth for the school and there has been strong demand for these dual degree programs by both local and international students.

We offer a range of combined programs in public health, health management, international public health and infectious diseases intelligence. The combined degrees have been designed to prepare public health practitioners for a range of senior roles. Employers and students value the combination of the masters degrees because public health involves management of disease control, health promotion and clinical services in populations as well as the professionals and staff engaged in these activities, and health management draws on public health knowledge and skills relating to local and international health population level health issues affecting the planning and delivery of services, including the impact of infectious diseases and disasters. The dual programs extend the range of available elective courses which allows students to develop greater depth and breadth in public health knowledge and skills.

For students aiming to pursue a career in public health, our programs offer the diversity and flexibility to allow students to complete courses that will allow them to shape their future career goals. Our teaching and learning methods encourage a student-centred approach to draw on their professional and personal experience, and allow flexibility for face to face, online or blended delivery. Our courses are available wholly online, with Moodle-based interactive learning providing distance students with the enhanced opportunities to connect to other students and be
supported by the School. Our commitment to continued review of programs and courses and development of new programs and courses is in accordance with our goal of being responsive to the changing needs of our students while achieving graduate attributes essential for public health professionals and managers working in Australian and international health settings.

The Master of Infectious Disease Intelligence (MIDI) was introduced in 2015. The MIDI program is an innovative program focused on public health aspects of infectious diseases intelligence, response, prevention and mitigation. The program is relevant for anyone wanting to work in government, non-government, community and health service settings in Australia and internationally. A multi-disciplinary, public health approach is needed to understand the requirements for infectious diseases control at a population level. Infectious diseases intelligence refers to the understanding of epidemic patterns, critical analysis and application of this knowledge to disease control. The MIDI will foster sophisticated understanding and application across a complex body of multidisciplinary knowledge including infectious diseases challenges, undertaking surveillance strategies and outbreak investigations, and implementing infection prevention and control programs.

A wide range of core subjects and electives enable students to pursue their studies into specific infectious disease areas (such as Infection Prevention and Control in the Healthcare setting, Immunisation Policy and Practice, Bioterrorism and Health, or Communicable Disease Control in Emergencies and Disasters), to focus on particular skill areas (such as Epidemiology and Statistics, Predictive Modelling or Economic Evaluation), or to further their knowledge of research methodologies (both quantitative and qualitative). For those with an interest in disasters and emergency management, the MIDI can be tailored toward this interest, including with a range of electives from Arizona State University.

The Master of International Public Health and suite of related programs commenced in 2010. The program continues to experience consistent growth in demand. It attracts a diverse cohort of students from a range of countries, disciplinary and professional practice backgrounds and work settings. This level of diversity and experience contributes to a rich learning environment, whether it be through discussion and debate in the classroom or online. The Master of International Public Health and suite of related programs also continues to evolve in its course offerings to match the changing landscape of key global health issues.

The Master of Public Health program has been offered by the School since 1989 and remains one of the largest in Australia. Students can choose to enrol in the general degree or combine this with either a Master of Health Management or Master of International Public Health. Alternatively, they can enrol in the Master of Public Health in one of ten areas of specialisation: Aboriginal Health and Wellbeing; Ageing and Health; Epidemiology; Health Economic Evaluation; Health Promotion; Infectious Disease Epidemiology & Control; International Health; Primary Health Care; Public Security; and Social Research.

The Master of Health Management was the first degree of its type in Australia and has evolved for over 60 years. It retains its pre-eminent position as the largest Health Management program in Australia, and is accredited by the Australasian College of Health Services Management (ACHSM) and endorsed by the Royal Australasian College of Medical Administrators (RACMA). The program continues to grow, both on its own, and more recently through the School’s dual degrees which are becoming increasingly popular. A major focus of the Health Management Program is to support a diverse range of international and local health practitioners, administrators and managers in their desire to take on the role of health managers and leaders in Australia and Internationally. The program also caters for a range of other health practitioners who wish to broaden their experience and professional skills in a range of health care settings. The Health Management Program consults widely with its key stakeholders to drive continuous improvements in teaching methods, content and relevance to the rapidly evolving health care sector. This includes engagement with health departments and services, accrediting bodies, professional organisations, community organisations, consumers and consumer organisations, researchers, Faculty, Conjoint Faculty, students and alumni.

We are fortunate to have a team of Education Consultants in the School who help ensure continual course review and revision across all of our programs, and support academic staff in developing innovative course materials and teaching technologies. Each course has a Moodle website, which supports online learning for local students and those who choose to study by distance mode, further increasing flexibility for students.

Staff in our associated Institutes and Units provide important expertise by teaching courses in Indigenous health and wellbeing, primary health care and equity, health leadership and management, HIV/AIDS and international health. This contributes significantly to the richness, depth and diversity of our programs to prepare students to work or conduct research in key health fields.
### Student Numbers

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<tr>
<th>COURSEWORK PROGRAMS</th>
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<th>Number of Graduates</th>
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<td><strong>HEALTH MANAGEMENT</strong></td>
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## Coursework Programs – Cont’d

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## Research Programs

### Number of Students

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The School of Public Health and Community Medicine was the first school at UNSW Sydney to participate in collaborative teaching in the PLuS Alliance. The PLuS Alliance combines the strengths of three leading research universities on three continents – Arizona State University, King’s College London and the UNSW Sydney - to solve global challenges around health, social justice, sustainability, and technology and innovation.

The major challenges facing the world today are global and interdisciplinary in nature. The development of potential sustainable solutions are beyond the capacity of any single institution – public or private.

The PLuS Alliance will work to increase access to world-class higher education in high-need areas through tailored, innovative digital technologies. The Alliance will offer educational programs focused on global issues, ensuring individuals are better prepared to join a workforce that increasingly operates across cultures and borders.

As part of this innovative vision, in November 2016 the SPHCM provided the first opportunity under the PLuS Alliance for ASU students to enrol in two courses, ‘Bioterrorism and Health Intelligence’ and ‘Health Aspects of Crises, Emergencies and Disasters’ offered in the School’s Summer Session.

Both courses were reviewed to ensure they could meet the diversity of students and the expected standards for PLuS Alliance courses. ‘Bioterrorism and Health Intelligence’ convened by Professor MacIntyre, Dr Muscatello and A/Professor Heslop had been designed and developed in 2015 in anticipation of a global range of students and delivered as a face to face and external course. ‘Health Aspects of Crises, Emergencies and Disasters’ which was delivered only in face to face mode in the Summer School in collaboration with the World Health Organization was enhanced by A/Professor Heslop with new online features in readiness for the PLuS Alliance delivery.

Given the importance of this initiative, Dr Lois Meyer, the Senior Research Fellow for Postgraduate Courses in the School initiated and conducted a process evaluation for both these pilot PLuS Alliance courses. The aim was to determine if there was a need for any changes while the courses were being run as well as to better understand the experiences of the students given these were the first pilots in the Alliance. In both courses it was found that there was strong value and satisfaction in learning across both institutions and sharing understandings across both countries. The value of the PLuS Alliance in terms of collaborative learning is captured in this quote from the evaluation.

“The experience of interacting with others across the world was so invaluable, I can’t put into words how much I appreciated the opportunity to be part of this class. While it meant some very late nights for me to be part of the live schedule in Australia, it was worth it and part of the overall experience. It was great to be able to share concepts through the online chats and live discussions in real time, and gain perspective from the widest audience possible than just in the silo of information that is the USA. Thank you for the class!” (ASU student in Bioterrorism and Health Intelligence)
The School of Public Health and Community Medicine launched a new Master of Public Health program in India. The program is the first of its kind being offered by an Australian university in India. UNSW Sydney President and Vice Chancellor, Professor Ian Jacobs launched this program in Mumbai in November 2016. The program was attended by several dignitaries including Dr Prathap Chandra Reddy (Founder, Apollo Hospitals Group), Dr Preetha Reddy (Vice Chairman, Apollo Hospitals Group), Sangita Reddy (Managing Director, Apollo Hospitals Group), Prof Raina MacIntyre (Head, SPHCM), Laurie Pearcey (Executive Director, UNSW International) and Dr Padmanesan Narasimhan (Program Director, MPHI).

This program was developed with an aim to contribute to the public health workforce development in India. India is home to an estimated 1.26 billion and the sub-continent is grappling with numerous public health problems. Both communicable diseases (including emerging and re-emerging diseases) and non-communicable diseases (NCDS) are on the rise. Rising internal migration from rural to urban areas, dense population especially in urban areas, changing lifestyle are all attributed to the crises. The penurious public health system is grappling with poor infrastructure and inadequate numbers of trained public health staff. Public health training is the need of the hour, but there are limited public health training institutes in the country to bridge this gap.

Recognising this need with our partner Apollo Health, SPHCM launched an India specific Master of Public Health (MPH) program, the MPH (International) or MPHI. The MPHI is offered to resident Indian nationals. The program is offered predominantly in distance mode. Face-to-face mode will be an option for interested candidates who prefer to experience the UNSW Sydney campus. SPHCM has partnered with Apollo Medvarsity to market this program in India following our successful collaboration in delivering Fellowship programs in Infectious diseases and Epidemiology and Biostatistics programs. Apollo Medvarsity will also offer the capstone Internship program through their rural health program (Total Health Program) in Aragonda, Andhra Pradesh India.

“The new Master of Public Health (International) will help address the growing shortage of public health professionals in India. The flexible program is delivered fully online and face-to-face so that busy clinicians can keep working as they achieve this qualification. They can retain their job and get a UNSW degree, while still attending our school in Sydney.” Professor Raina MacIntyre, Head of School, SPHCM, UNSW Sydney

“At Apollo and Medvarsity we are always looking for the best education partners that can add value to our doctors and healthcare professionals. This partnership between Apollo Medvarsity and UNSW brings an exceptional, globally recognised Masters program to India. Through this course our students can also apply for jobs with global organisations including the World Health Organization and UNESCO.” Ms Sangita Reddy, Managing Director, Apollo Hospitals Group

Photo below: Dr Prathap Reddy was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Medicine conferred by UNSW President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Ian Jacobs

SPHCM launches Master of Public Health program in India

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The UNSW School of Public Health and Community Medicine Health Workforce Programs are a new and exciting addition to the education and learning profile of the School. The programs bring together existing elements in curriculum, with a range of new offerings aimed at developing health professionals, staff, managers, policy makers and researchers at every stage and level of their career and across all types of health systems and services.

The healthcare field is changing rapidly as systems and services grappling with changing population, disease profile and workforce demographics. The quadruple aim of healthcare, that is improving: patients’ and clients’ experience of care; the health of populations; the value and reducing the costs of care; and the working life (and therefore recruitment and retention) of healthcare staff and professionals requires a new breed of healthcare professionals and managers, individuals capable of predicting and responding to emerging service demands, the ongoing pressures of delivering effective, efficient, equitable and safe healthcare, all within a resource constrained environment.

With the longest running Health Management program in Australia celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2016, the Health Management team sees the UNSW Health Management Program as having a key and ongoing seminal role as an Australian and international leader in healthcare services, management and leadership research and development. An integral part of that role is our collaboration with our key stakeholders, including industry partners, service providers, government departments and ministries, professional bodies, students and alumni. The result has been a judicious expansion of our course and program offerings, which ensure our students are up to date with the latest research and best practice in their fields.

The UNSW Health Workforce Programs are built directly on the School’s strengths in health management, public health and international public health, as well as specialisations in emerging areas such as health economic evaluation, laboratory and aged care management, and disaster response, amongst many other new and exciting fields. The aim of the programs are to developing the capabilities of health professionals, staff, managers, policy makers and researchers at every stage and level of their career and across all types of health systems and services.
PRACTITIONER UP-SKILLING PROGRAM

This program is aimed at practitioners in the health and related fields, including aged and disability care. The Practitioner Up-Skilling Program draws on our existing Graduate Certificate and Graduate Diploma programs and our extensive Summer School courses.

This program provides an entry point for practitioners wanting to develop capabilities around specific issues or topics (for example infection control, healthcare economics or disaster response), and is designed for individuals who have only a short period of time in which to develop their skills, or who are returning to study, and do not yet wish to commit to a full Master’s degree.

Students undertaking the Graduate Certificate or Graduate Diploma programs commence in Semester 1 or 2. These students must pass the same entry requirements as the Masters’ program, and undertake all course assessments. Our Summer School courses (offered annually from mid-November to mid-December) are open both to students enrolled in SPHCM programs, as well as to anyone with health or associated backgrounds who wish to do a course as a matter of interest.

PROGRAMS FOR EARLY TO MID-CAREER PROFESSIONALS

Early to mid-career professionals are encouraged to consider the second tier of the UNSW Health Workforce Programs. These Masters programs are directed at individuals who are looking for more specific career advancement, either as a way of entering a new field of healthcare or to formalise and extend their current knowledge. Professionals entering at this level undertake our Masters by coursework or Masters by research degrees (see relevant report section for further details). Coursework programs include the Master of Public Health (MPH), Master of International Public Health (MIPH), Master of Health Management (MHM), Master of Infectious Diseases Intelligence (MIDI), as well as our increasing popular programs – the dual degrees (MPH/MIPH, MPH/MHM, MIPH/MHM). Extension programs are also offered in each of these primary degree areas allowing students to take additional electives or conduct world class research projects.

These programs have a local and international reputation for their up to date, research based content, relevance to current and emerging workplace challenges, and the strong emphasis the School places on innovative approaches to adult and online education. Students enrol in either face-to-face (internal) or distance (external) mode, with external...
mode including courses conducted via workshops and interactive, online learning. Students who successfully completed courses as part of the Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma or Summer School (and passed all required assignments), were able to have up to four courses credited if they subsequently applied to undertake a Master’s degree with the School.

FUTURE HEALTH LEADERS (PROFESSIONAL DOCTORATE) PROGRAM

One of the School’s most exciting new programs is the Future Health Leaders Professional Doctorate which commenced in 2013. This program was one of the first of its kind internationally and is highly regarded both locally and globally, and attracting applicants from China, India and North America as well as from across Australia. It represents the vision of leading academics in the School of Public Health and Community Medicine such as Professor Raina MacIntyre and Dr Lois Meyer, who conceived and initiated the program, to make research relevant to the workplace.

This program is unique in a number of ways. Firstly, it recognizes and supports the advancement of practitioner researchers, helping individuals to develop the capabilities required to identify, analyse and create solutions to some of the healthcare field’s immediate as well as long term problems. Secondly, candidates undertake research projects within their own workplaces, enabling them to maintain a concerted focus on their research and to build their knowledge of the healthcare system, adding value to both their organisations and to the fields of public health and health services research more broadly. The program requires a commitment from both the candidates and the employers, who agree to support students’ attendance at induction and training workshops. This benefits employers as they are able to retain talent as they nurture and ‘grow their own’ leaders to the next level of expertise while they continue to work full-time. Places on the DrPH are highly sought after but limited. Eligible candidates are selected through a formal application and interview process. Finally, the program is built on a cohort model. Candidates learn within a cohort and do coursework together with their cohort, building networks and developing professional and research partnerships. The program has been a great success, with the third intake of students commencing in 2015, and the first graduates expected in 2017.

SENIOR HEALTH EXECUTIVES PROGRAM

The aim of this program is to provide advanced health management and leadership designed specifically for senior health care executives. The program brings together Senior Faculty with health leaders who have to deal with the ‘wicked problems’ that lie at the heart of many of the difficulties facing healthcare services both in Australia and internationally. The School has a long history of providing short courses to international guests on public health and health management issues. In the past these have been short term one off programs, but more recently they have included longer term partnerships and or extended programs, with local and international organisations.

The Senior Health Executive Program is intended to challenge current practice and enhance leadership skills. Executive education brings the benefit of our international reputation in health management to both local and international students. The delivery of the program reflects our commitment to innovative approaches to workplace learning and development, and is grounded in our commitment to translational research, transdisciplinary practice and implementation science.
The Internship Program at SPHCM

The Internship Program provides a small number of high achieving students enrolled in the Master of Health Management, Master of Public Health or International Public Health degree (including dual degree) programs at the University, with the opportunity to gain real-world experience in a relevant health organisation through a workplace internship of 6 weeks duration. UNSW is the first university to provide an internship with coursework programs.

The purpose of these placements is for students to gain:

- a capacity to contribute to, and work within, a workplace setting relevant to their studies
- an opportunity to engage in professional and other networks
- an appreciation of and respect for diversity
- an understanding of translation of academic knowledge into practice

During the course, interns have an opportunity to make valuable contributions to organisational initiatives that may involve areas such as policy, planning, and evaluation, or the preparation, appraisal, or implementation of health related projects. The activities and the focus of the internship placement are relevant to the organisation and student and can be either project or normal operations-base.

During 2015-2016, forty students completed a range of domestic and international placements, including:

- Australasian Society for HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Sexual Health Medicine, NSW, Australia
- Health Protection, NSW, Australia
- Fred Hollows Foundation, NSW, Australia
- Cancer Council – NSW, Australia
- The Sax Institute NSW, Australia
- Fitness Australia
- St Vincent's Health, Australia
- Medibank NSW, Australia
- Clinical Excellence Commission NSW, Australia
- Yunus Centre, UNSW Australia
- Football United, UNSW Australia
- Integrated Systems in Epidemic Response, UNSW Australia
- SRM University Department of Community Medicine, Chennai, India
- Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), New Caledonia
- World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland

Due to the popularity of the program, the number and scope of placements has increased to include placements in other Australian states and expanded opportunities in the Asia/Pacific region. Many of the SPHCM interns are looking to transition into the public health workforce and see the internship program as the first opportunity to experience the work opportunities that are available to them.
Feedback from our students

“I’d recommend the internship to anyone that wants to gain some experience putting theory into practice. It’s also a great way to network and get some scope on what a role in public health looks like in a ‘real-world’ context. The internship gave me a great opportunity to experience a new culture and be involved in projects that are making a significant difference to larger populations.” Chris Boyd-Skinner, Master of International Public Health and Health Management. Placement at the Global Influenza Program, World Health Organization, Geneva.

“Most rewarding things about my internship program were the sense of satisfaction and recognition. I was able to work in the area of sexual health, which is a passion of mine. I met people from different international organisations working in the field of HIV, viral hepatitis and sexual health. It provided me with opportunity to build networks and connect with international community. This internship provided me with an experience that was relevant to my program.” Ashfaq Chauhan, Master of International Public Health and Health Management. Placement at ASHM.

“This internship has definitely opened the door to future opportunities allowing me to place my foot in the door. The professional relationships formed through networking is a valuable aspect that will assist in developing my career as I continue to liaise with the team members even after completing the internship.”

Damian Kotevski, Master Public Health and Health Management. Placement at Health Protection, NSW.

“In preparing the final report, I received a great amount of feedback from my supervisors, which provided me with so many learning opportunities. In a normal subject you don’t receive anywhere near as much one-on-one time as I did through the internship program. I feel my report writing and data analysis skills have been greatly improved through completing the internship.” Eileen Khaw, Master of International Public Health and Health Management. Placement at SPC, New Caledonia.

Key Contacts

Dr Holly Seale (Domestic placements)

Dr Padmanesan Narasimhan (International placements)

Dr David Muscatello (International placements)

Internship highlight in Bangladesh

Right from the get-go I knew I had made the right decision to enrol with School of Public Health and Community Medicine. The transfer process was seamless, interaction with faculty members and course convenors was thorough and personalised, and despite UNSW being a large city university, I felt like I was a part of something and not just another no name student paying fees. Throughout my degree the SPHCM staff were always available, approachable and committed to me to get the most out of my learning. Teachers went above and beyond my expectations. I was treated like an adult, and felt supported to manage the (sometimes conflicting) demands of my studies amongst my work/ life commitments.

I have two highlights from my master’s dual degree in public health and health management. The first highlight was participating in the Indigenous Wellbeing course workshops. Our teachers were incredibly knowledgeable and inspiring, and I learnt a lot about the social, cultural, historical and political contexts required for successful engagement with Aboriginal communities. The course also provided opportunity for individual reflection and personal growth.

My second highlight, was my final course where I undertook an internship with the international centre for diarrhoeal disease and research (icddr,b) in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The internship involved working with a team of local Bangladeshi researchers to conduct an evaluation of a HIV prevention program for sexual minority groups in Bangladesh. During my 6 weeks in-country, not only did I gain extensive insight into the struggles of delivering health services for minority groups in a low resourced developing country, I was also lucky enough to gain extensive insight into the Bangladeshi culture including food and religion, and made lifelong friends.

Belinda Ford, Dual Degree: Public Health / Health Management; Internship.
Clinton Foundation internship highlights public health initiatives

Packing food for disadvantaged families at three o’clock on a chilly winter morning with Chelsea Clinton, daughter of President Bill Clinton, gave UNSW Masters student Rachel Wilkins a practical perspective of initiatives supported by the Clinton family.

Rachel took part in the food rescue ‘repackathon’ while in New York for an internship with The Clinton Foundation, a philanthropic organisation that aims to make a difference in areas such as health and wellness, economic development, climate change and opportunities for women and girls.

“My internship with the Clinton Foundation really opened my eyes to a broader range of tools to help the disadvantaged,” Rachel says.

Rachel is currently studying a Master of International Public Health at UNSW and seized the opportunity to take up an internship over summer to learn more about implementing public health programs.

She was placed in the Clinton Health Matters Initiative, an area of the Foundation focused on reducing the prevalence of chronic disease in the US as well as closing the gap in health disparities.

“I worked specifically in the areas of health, technology and digital innovation, on compelling ways to leverage the power of technology to improve health in the US,” Rachel says.

Her main project was a ‘codethon’ event to encourage female developers to design and build digital applications to support women’s mental health.

“The combination of health and technology was not really an area I had thought about before the internship. There is tremendous potential with mobile technologies, as well as the rapidly expanding wearable device market, to improve health outcomes,” she says.

Rachel initially trained as a registered nurse and says she was inspired to study public health after volunteering in Cambodia and Tanzania. “I realised that the problems were not just clinical. There were also significant structural problems that contribute to poor health in developing countries,” she says.

Rachel says she would eventually like to work for an international organisation such as the WHO or the World Bank, but is also keen to keep up her clinical skills and experience.

She also encourages other Masters students to use their studies as a “springboard” to practical work experience and the opportunity to gain a wider perspective of their studies.
The SPHCM Graduate Summer School has continued to grow in strength and size over recent years, with new course offerings and a greater number of student and practitioner enrolments. One of the major changes in Summer School over this period was the addition of online offerings for many of the courses, which challenged traditional notions of summer school being solely a place for face-to-face teaching. Record enrolment numbers in the courses that were offered in online study (distance) mode reaffirmed our view that demand for the convenience of online (distance) study with access to online learning communities was high in Summer School.

Over recent years, Summer School courses were conducted in ‘block mode’ (usually between two to five days), with a range of courses offered each year between mid-November to mid-December. With greater demand now for online study, Summer School courses will increasingly be offered in both face-to-face ‘block mode’ and online (distance) study modes. Regardless of study mode, Summer School courses are designed to enable students and practitioners to engage in highly interactive and intensive periods of study, which allows participants to immerse themselves in their chosen area while drawing on their existing professional and personal experience and field knowledge.

During 2015-2016, there was also excitement in Summer School about two core courses being offered in the newly established Master of Infectious Diseases Intelligence (MIDI), which drew some of the highest enrolment numbers in their online offerings and showcased innovative ways of delivering online content. These were:

- PHCM9788 Infectious Diseases Intelligence
- PHCM9789 Bioterrorism and Health Intelligence

Also, for the first time, Summer School welcomed students enrolled through Arizona State University. In addition, the MIDI was offered as part of the PLuS Alliance, an international university partnership between UNSW, Arizona State University and King’s College, London.

Another new course offered for the first time in Summer School was Rural and Remote International Health which filled an important gap in a much-needed area in global public health. This course was also well supported through enrolment numbers in the online mode of study.

Over two years – 2015 and 2016 – SPHCM Graduate Summer School offered the following courses across three major themes including Global Health, Infectious Diseases, and Primary Health Care:

- PHCM9082 Advanced Health Economics and Financial Management
Although SPHCM Graduate Summer School continued to evolve during 2015/2016, it also retained the qualities that have made it popular over several years. It remains an exciting meeting place, whether in person or online, where students and practitioners gather, discuss and explore some of the most important and intriguing current challenges in healthcare, including disaster and emergency responses, healthcare economics, primary healthcare, the management of chronic and complex diseases.

A unique aspect of Summer School is that although most students are SPHCM postgraduates they are frequently joined by students and practitioners from around Australia or around the world, including from Arizona State University. In any of the individual courses offered by SPHCM, our students may be working closely with students from other Faculties or even other Universities, in addition to a range of healthcare practitioners, managers and policy makers, studying to extend their expertise or develop further skills in specialised areas.

Summer School courses provide a framework for advanced study in many areas of public health, international public health, health management and infectious diseases intelligence. Courses are available in the fields of: disasters and emergency responses; primary healthcare; communicable and non-communicable diseases; including health inequalities and health impact assessment; infectious diseases; bioterrorism; and healthcare economics and modelling. All the courses offered can be taken for postgraduate degree credit by both domestic and international students, or as a standalone unit, as credit courses for individuals who may wish to utilise the units for credit towards future studies at SPHCM, or even as non-credit workshops for individuals with an interest in specific topic areas. For participants undertaking the program for coursework credit, the workshops are usually followed by coursework to be completed over an eight-week period.

The Graduate SPHCM Summer School is open to and meets the needs of people at various stages in their training and careers. Whether someone is seeking to fast-track their postgraduate degree or to dabble in a course or two before committing to enrolment in a Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma or Master’s degrees, or whether someone is seeking to upskill in specialised areas, the Graduate SPHCM Summer School welcomes you all!

Dr Patrick Rawstorne
Director, Summer School
Alex, head of disease control and bioterrorism at the Counter Terrorism Unit, is having a terrible day. An infectious disease is killing hundreds across the city, with experts insisting it is flu. Yet Alex knows it is too early in the season for the virus and wonders if it is a genetically engineered strain of avian flu? His boss is sceptical. “What if I promise to wash my hands and cover my mouth when I cough?” the boss sneers dismissively. This is a scene from Pandemic, the five-part bioterrorism drama shortlisted for four awards in Melbourne’s 2016 Web Film Festival. And note the credit line on the final episode: Story by Raina MacIntyre, David Heslop and David Muscatello.

“I already had the story for Pandemic in my head,” explains Professor MacIntyre, UNSW’s School of Public Health and Community Medicine head. The Professor of Infectious Disease Epidemiology is an international leader in emerging infections and biosecurity. She conceived the series as a teaching aid for her online course on Bioterrorism and Health Intelligence, which launched in 2015. It’s part of a new suite of programs offered by the PLuS Alliance, a formidable partnership between three of the world’s top universities – Arizona State University (ASU), King’s College London (Kings) and UNSW.

Pandemic may be a dramatisation, but its threats are real. And MacIntyre understands their magnitude. Biosecurity is at the heart of many of her 280 peer-reviewed papers. Around 2014, she began using the phrase “biological winter” to refer to “a world full of man-made infections happening too fast to be controlled by drugs or vaccines”. It was a warning that biosecurity breaches could be just as catastrophic as nuclear war. MacIntyre devised a risk-priority scoring system for the most severe (category A) bioterrorism agents, which won her the 2007 Sir Henry Wellcome Medal and Prize from the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States. It was a rare honour for a non-US citizen, or military member.

When Steve Meacham met with MacIntyre at UNSW’s Sydney campus, she had just returned from a conference of PLuS Alliance Fellows in Phoenix, where ASU is based. She was presenting the details of a new project investigating H5N1 avian influenza, and the risk factors for human-to-human forms of the highly pathogenic virus. It’s among the first PLuS Alliance projects to be given seed funding and is led by Matthew Scotch, an associate professor in ASU’s Department of Biomedical Informatics. MacIntyre and Dr Kathleen Steinhöfel from Kings are also collaborators.

Scotch says in MacIntyre he has found someone “who truly complements my work in the historic and geographic distribution of viruses and public health informatics”. Part of the allure is her research impact across four areas: biosecurity, responses to emerging infectious diseases, vaccinology and personal protective equipment (PPE) for frontline health workers. “Most researchers work on one, or maybe two, of these scientific areas,” Scotch says. “Raina focuses on all four and has tremendous impact.”

Scotch and MacIntyre are among the first scholars to be named PLuS Alliance Fellows. There are now around 120, drawn equally from the three universities. Fellows are encouraged to form research and education partnerships, meet frequently, and take advantage of the cross-pollination of ideas and information that comes from the partnership.

News item written by Steve Meacham, UNSW Magazine
The school offers a range of Higher Degrees by Research (HDR) programs designed to meet a wide range of student needs. These include research only degrees (PhD and Masters by Research), combined coursework and research degrees (Master of Philosophy) and a Professional Doctorate in Public Health (DrPH), which is undertaken as part of the Future Health Leaders Program. Research students in the School are involved in a range of research areas including the flagship areas of Global Health, Infectious Diseases, Primary Health Care, Indigenous Health and Social Research. The PhD in Medical Education program provides the opportunity for candidates undertake an in-depth exploration of research priorities in medical education. The Future Health Leaders Program, in which candidates enroll in a DrPH, is offered to a limited number of successful applicants each year, in partnership with suitable health workplaces.

The School has a growing body of candidates enrolled in HDR programs. In 2015, a total of 27 HDR candidates graduated. There were 41 new enrolments in postgraduate research degrees in the School (29 PhD candidates, 8 DrPH candidates and 4 Masters by Research candidates). Overall, there was a total of 172 research degree students in 2015 enrolled in the School.

New enrolments continued in 2016, with 31 new candidates (20 PhD, 3 Masters by Research, 7 DrPH, and 1 Masters of Philosophy candidate). A total of 25 research degree students graduated (22 PhD graduates, 1 Masters by Research graduate, 1 DrPH graduate and 1 Masters of Philosophy graduate). Overall, there was a total of 177 research degree students in 2016 enrolled in the School.

Our HDR candidates represent a diversity of experience both professionally and culturally. Alongside candidates from all parts of Australia, New Zealand, India and China, the School has attracted candidates from nations as diverse as Sri Lanka, Hong Kong, Singapore, Italy, United Kingdom, Cambodia, Ireland, Germany, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Iran, Vietnam, Uganda, USA, Poland, Netherlands, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Japan, Lebanon, Pakistan, Vietnam, Chile, Sweden, Taiwan, Brazil, Solomon islands, Tanzania and Tonga. The wealth of knowledge and experience from different cultural contexts contributes to the richness of the SPHCM community.

All candidates are guided through their studies by supervisors and co-supervisors, who are academics either within the School; its affiliated Centres or conjoint staff members. These supervisors contribute enormous effort and support, and ensure rigour in guiding students to completion. A thorough review process, which includes an independent panel, provides students with a regular opportunity to receive constructive feedback from academics and practitioners in the field outside their immediate supervisory team. Almost all the staff and many conjoint staff provide this additional input to maintain the high quality of candidates’ research and to ensure on time completion. In addition to their academic supervisors, DrPH candidates are also guided by their workplace supervisors, who form part of the supervisory team.
HDR students continue to get opportunities to present their research at the School through the weekly seminar series and through faculty and university wide 3-minute thesis competitions. Examples of school presentations by PhD candidates in this period include Amit Saha speaking on cholera vaccine trial in Bangladesh and Aye Moa discussing the burden of influenza B and potential benefits of quadrivalent influenza vaccine in Australia.

The Research Degree Committee of the school is made up of key stakeholders and staff members. This committee is chaired by Prof Robyn Richmond and provides policy direction, advice and support to research students and their supervisors. Our research candidates and supervisors are supported by a Postgraduate Coordinating team.

At the end of 2016 this team consisted of three postgraduate coordinators (Dr Husna Razee, Dr James Wood and Dr Lois Meyer), a Research Student Support Officer, and a separate Student Support Officer for the DrPH program. Dr Husna Razee is responsible for admissions, and candidature management; Dr James Wood is responsible for the examination process and transfers to PhDs, and Dr Lois Meyer is responsible for the DrPH program. The PGC team liaises closely with the Faculty of Medicine Higher Degree Committee and the Graduate Research School regarding student issues and policy. Ms Catherine Brieger held the position of Research Student Support Officer, while Ms Hayley Van Elst assisted the DrPH candidates. The school coordinates activities to encourage networking within the HDR candidates, and to facilitate interaction between staff and HDR candidates.

The elite UNSW Future Health Leaders program had its annual workshop on 3-7 August 2015. UNSW President Ian Jacobs visited the School on August 4th, and enjoyed meeting the students so much that he came back for a longer discussion with them two days later. We were honoured to have the opportunity to interact with the Vice-Chancellor in the classroom.

The UNSW Future Health Leaders Program is a workplace based 3-year professional doctorate for candidates identified by the workplace as future leaders. This unique program seeks to make academia relevant to the health workplace in a partnership model. The program is based on applied research, done while working in the health sector, and using a scholarly approach to addressing problems and issues relevant to the workplace. Candidates do intensive coursework and complete a professional doctorate (DrPH) based on their professional practice.

The DrPH aims at strengthening the practitioner based knowledge and practice with graduates able to generate and use evidence within the context of real world challenges and priorities. As a qualification it is in line with international trends demonstrating the advantages of a professional doctorate for practitioners and leaders in public health and health management as an alternative to a PhD. Graduates with a professional doctorate are recognised as experienced health professionals and practitioner researchers who can take on senior and leadership roles within public health and health service settings.
**SPHCM Scholarship holders**

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<td>A randomised controlled trial of an online weight loss intervention in overweight and obese adults: A focus on goal-setting, self-compassion and mindfulness</td>
<td>Rebecca Reynolds</td>
<td>University International Postgraduate Award APA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoang Nguyen</td>
<td>Health care seeking behaviour and economic burden of health care expenditure among persons with non-communicable diseases in Vietnam</td>
<td>Rohan Jayasuriya</td>
<td>ADS 2007 contract</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyun Song</td>
<td>Measurement and Meaningful Use of Patient Experience in Australian Primary Health Care</td>
<td>Mark Harris</td>
<td>Tuition Fee Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ingrid Aneman</td>
<td>The burden and prevention of Clostridium difficile infections (CDI) in the Australian hospital setting: Setting the scene for the introduction of a new vaccine</td>
<td>Holly Seale</td>
<td>Public Health and Community Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jasim Anwar</td>
<td>Challenges of maternal and perinatal mortality surveillance in a rural district of Pakistan</td>
<td>Mohamud Sheikh</td>
<td>Tuition Fee Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kahabi Isangula</td>
<td>Conceptualization, measurement and the role of Trust in patient and provider relationships in low income African primary health care settings</td>
<td>Rohan Jayasuriya</td>
<td>International Postgraduate Research Scholarship IPRS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaniz Fatema</td>
<td>Risk factors for cardiovascular disease and prediction of coronary artery disease in a rural Bangladeshi population</td>
<td>Bayzidur Rahman</td>
<td>Australian Postgraduate Award APA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen McMillan</td>
<td>Sex work and HIV prevention in Pacific Island states</td>
<td>Heather Worth</td>
<td>Australian Postgraduate Award APA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathryn Dinh</td>
<td>Guiding principles for HIV advocacy evaluation in Vietnam</td>
<td>Heather Worth</td>
<td>Australian Postgraduate Award APA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kumiyo Inoue</td>
<td>Australian women’s understandings and experiences of contraception</td>
<td>Juliet Richters</td>
<td>Public Health and Community Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louise Shaw</td>
<td>An application of the safe system approach to cycling safety: A cohort study of NSW cyclists</td>
<td>Roslyn Poulos</td>
<td>Australian Postgraduate Award APA &amp; Elite Athlete Travel Grant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maha Pervaz Iqbal</td>
<td>Development &amp; evaluation of an educational intervention to develop collaborative learning competencies in medical students</td>
<td>Chinthaka Balasooriya</td>
<td>Australian Postgraduate Award APA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mariyam Sarfraz</td>
<td>Integrating new cadres for maternal health: study of community midwives in Pakistan</td>
<td>Rohan Jayasuriya</td>
<td>Tuition Fee Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Begun</td>
<td>Control of tuberculosis in Vietnam with active case finding; an agent based modelling approach</td>
<td>Anthony Newall, James Wood</td>
<td>Australian Postgraduate Award APA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Md Nazmul Huda</td>
<td>Unsafe sexual practices and the barriers to HIV prevention: A cross-sectional study on the Female Commercial Sex Workers (FCSWs) in Bangladesh</td>
<td>Patrick Rawstorne</td>
<td>University International Postgraduate Award UIPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melanie Andersen</td>
<td>Study of urban Aboriginal housing and its relationship to health</td>
<td>Anna Williamson</td>
<td>NHMRC Postgraduate Scholarships-Dor Lush Prio, UNSW Research Excellence Award, Ahuri Top-Up Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle O’Connor</td>
<td>Understanding young people’s perceptions and behaviours related to sexual &amp; reproductive health and wellbeing in Fiji</td>
<td>Husna Razee</td>
<td>Tuition Fee Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monica Cations</td>
<td>A community case-control study examining environmental and lifestyle risk factors for younger onset dementia</td>
<td>Adrienne Withall</td>
<td>Public Health and Community Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicole Mealing</td>
<td>Statistical approaches to the evaluation of the impact of vaccination programs</td>
<td>Andrew Hayen, Anthony Newall</td>
<td>Australian Postgraduate Award APA</td>
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<tr>
<td>PhD Students</td>
<td>Research Topic</td>
<td>Primary Supervisor(s)</td>
<td>Award</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nouhad El-Haddad</td>
<td>Ethnicity and health literacy for weight management in overweight non-English speaking migrants in primary health care</td>
<td>Mark Harris</td>
<td>Public Health and Community Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pushpa Pandey</td>
<td>Success and Challenges of Adolescent Friendly Health Facilities; A critical analysis from rural Nepal</td>
<td>Heather Worth</td>
<td>ADS 2007 contract</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajneesh Kaur</td>
<td>Improving hand hygiene (HH) compliance and its clinical implications in medical students</td>
<td>Holly Seale</td>
<td>Australian Postgraduate Award APA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repon Paul</td>
<td>Estimating the burden of maternal and neonatal deaths from Hepatitis E in Bangladesh</td>
<td>Andrew Hayen, Heather Gidding</td>
<td>University International Postgraduate Award UIPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Cunningham</td>
<td>Where are they now? The influence of sport for development and youth leadership programs on the longer-term development of young people from disadvantaged backgrounds</td>
<td>Patrick Rawstorne, Anne Bunde-Birouste</td>
<td>Australian Postgraduate Award APA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rubana Islam</td>
<td>Theory based mobile app development and testing for hypertension management in workplaces in Bangladesh</td>
<td>Rohan Jayasuriya</td>
<td>University International Postgraduate Award UIPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sameera Ansari</td>
<td>Activating primary care COPD patients with multimorbidity (APCOM) pilot project</td>
<td>Hassan Hosseinzadeh</td>
<td>Australian Postgraduate Award APA, NHMRC Postgraduate Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Gaskin</td>
<td>Empowerment to measure program and service needs and outcomes</td>
<td>Melissa Haswell-Elkins</td>
<td>Australian Postgraduate Award APA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharon Salmon</td>
<td>Improving hand hygiene compliance and its clinical implications in a sample of health care facilities across Viet Nam</td>
<td>Mary-Louise McLaws</td>
<td>ARC-School of Public Health Scholarships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shaun Abbott</td>
<td>A pilot randomised controlled trial of a physical activity intervention in a low socio-economic population: a focus on mental contrasting with implementation intentions (MCII)</td>
<td>Rebecca Reynolds</td>
<td>Elite Athlete Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoaib Hassan</td>
<td>Developing a model for capacity building and public health workforce training in WPRO countries that lack field epidemiology training programs</td>
<td>Raina MacIntyre</td>
<td>Public Health and Community Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shona Dutton</td>
<td>Quantifying physical activity behaviour in a primary care setting – an instrument for measuring physical activity change in general practise</td>
<td>Sarah Dennis</td>
<td>Australian Postgraduate Award APA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan Clarke</td>
<td>A cluster-randomised controlled trial of community education to prevent the development of chronic suppurative otitis media in children in Jumla Nepal</td>
<td>Robyn Richmond</td>
<td>Public Health and Community Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tewodros Hailemariam</td>
<td>Uptake of HIV Continuum of Care in Ethiopia: exploring determinants among couples living in Addis Ababa</td>
<td>Patrick Rawstorne, Sally Nathan</td>
<td>Tuition Fee Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trinidad Valenzuela Arteaga</td>
<td>Understanding and Improving Adherence to Exercise-based Fall Prevention Programs in Community Dwelling Older Adults</td>
<td>Kim Delbaere, Stephen Lord</td>
<td>Tuition Fee Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valentina Costantino</td>
<td>Modelling the impact of zoster vaccine on zoster morbidity in Australia</td>
<td>James Wood</td>
<td>Public Health and Community Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xin Chen</td>
<td>Advanced analytical methods for outbreak investigation</td>
<td>Raina MacIntyre</td>
<td>Public Health and Community Medicine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Public Health Seminars
From February to November the School hosts general research seminars designed to showcase important research in public health. Held three times a month, these seminars cover topics from International health, infectious disease, health promotion and Indigenous health. The seminars are designed for a broad public health audience that includes not only the school but associated centres throughout the medical faculty, the wider university and other organisations such as the NSW Ministry of Health. Convened by Dr Reema Harrison, the seminars feature a mix of invited speakers, school research staff and late-stage PhD candidates. Recordings of the seminars are available on the SPHCM website.

Quantitative Research Methodology Seminars
This qualitative discussion group series is held on the first Friday of every month in Samuels Building, Level 2, Room 241, UNSW (from 9:30 – 11:00. Each month, the discussion is led by a facilitator, who will focus on a particular topic or issue relating to qualitative research. It is not a classic seminar series, although sometimes a guest speaker may introduce a topic with a brief presentation. Participants are invited to come and share their experiences and issues around the theme for each session. Often a reading will be sent prior to the meeting. The purpose of this seminar series is to share knowledge and build a community of practice in rigorous qualitative research.

Global Health Seminars
The GlobalHealth@UNSW are held monthly on Mondays. Presenters have the choice of giving a short 10-15 minute ‘lightening’ talk or a longer 40 minute presentation. After there is a facilitated discussion. In these talks the presenter could discuss any of the following in the context of global health: summary of a planned, ongoing or recently completed piece of research; summary of a planned or ongoing teaching program; report on a recent global health meeting or conference they have attended and a couple of key messages/outcomes; an update on a topical global health issue (e.g. latest health systems strengthening responses to Ebola or Zika in affected countries).

Qualitative Research Methodology Seminars
The School runs a monthly research seminar on quantitative research methods. The seminars feature hour long talks from disciplines such as epidemiology, biostatistics mathematical modelling, health economics and related areas. Speakers come from UNSW Medicine, School of Mathematics and Statistics, NSW Ministry of Health, the NSW Cancer council and other National and International institutions. The seminars are convened by Dr Bayzidur Rahman.
The school makes a significant contribution to teaching within the postgraduate program, medicine program and general education programs. The design and delivery of these programs is informed by a scholarly approach to learning and teaching. This process is facilitated by close interaction between staff with content expertise and educational expertise. This approach has resulted in a range of educational innovations.

SPHCM has a commitment to curriculum, teaching and assessment practices underpinned by constructive alignment and inquiry based learning. This ensures a clear rationale and framework for guiding the continued academic excellence in the design of curriculum, learning strategies and assessments across the undergraduate and postgraduate programs. The core principles that inform our practice are:

- Rigorous evidence informed learning and teaching strategies
- Student-centred learning strategies
- Nexus of research and teaching
- Inquiry based learning for promoting deep learning and engagement
- Scenario based learning and authentic learning and assessment that fosters professional capacities for real-world practice
- Continuous evaluation processes for ensuring academic excellence
- Reflexive practice by academics on their teaching for strengthening own strategies
- Emphasis on academic integrity
- Commitment to engaging in scholarship of learning and teaching

**Academic excellence in Postgraduate programs**

SPHCM postgraduate learning and teaching is grounded in inquiry-based learning (Jenkins, Breen, Lindsay & Brew 2003) and the use of authentic cases and examples drawn from the real world. Students are encouraged to contribute to discussions and peer-learning activities drawing on their own experiences in health related settings whether they are interacting in

(Adapted from Healey and Jenkins 2009)
class or online. Through this approach students gain a strong understanding of a multiplicity of health contexts, challenges and approaches from local and international perspectives and also develop a network of professional relationships.

There is a strong nexus between research and teaching within the design and delivery of the courses. Relevant current research informs the content within courses and academics draw on their own research where relevant. Students are encouraged to engage with current research literature and dilemmas, and develop their critical thinking and writing for evidence informed practice. Across the programs students are encouraged to engage in all four quadrants of research informed practices as part of the inquiry based learning as in this diagram.

**Dual mode and online and blended learning**

The School has continued to build on its history and recognition within the University of leading in the delivery of flexible online courses and blended learning in postgraduate provision. It occupies a well-deserved reputation for the academic quality and effectiveness of its postgraduate programs. These are all offered in dual mode using innovative and evidence informed online and blended learning strategies. This is reflected in the increasing numbers of students attracted to the postgraduate programs consonant with our commitment to academically rigorous and meaningful learning experiences whatever our modes of delivery.

**Innovative approaches**

A number of evidence informed learning and teaching innovations have been introduced. These have been selected to optimise online learning and teaching strategies to meet the diverse needs of our expanding postgraduate student numbers and large external student cohorts.

The integration of innovations using emerging educational technologies is focused on providing an effective learning environment through connecting students to peers and course convenors, fostering meaningful dialogue, and supporting interaction and communication within a course. Throughout our approach is a commitment to enhancing the quality of students’ learning experiences by applying pedagogically sound, technologically innovative and research driven approaches to our postgraduate learning and teaching.

Our postgraduate programs offer flexible opportunities for learning whether on campus or externally through the use of innovative learning technologies in blended and fully online modes. We provide multimedia recordings of lectures, interactive learning modules, video clips of real world scenarios and case studies from the field to create media-rich, engaging learning environments. We facilitate collaborative learning opportunities through the use of wikis, blogs, and group discussion facilities and our webinar applications allow students to connect with peers and course convenors in real-time via audio/video link ups. Throughout our approach is a commitment to enhancing the quality of students’ learning experiences through applying pedagogically sound, technologically innovative and research driven approaches to our postgraduate learning and teaching.

**Academic excellence in Medical Education**

The school makes a significant contribution to the discipline of Medical Education and makes a high quality contribution to learning and teaching within the Medicine Program.

**Leadership in academic development**

SPHCM academics play a significant role in leading educational innovation, mentoring staff and conducting staff development activities. Our academics have been invited to lead seminars at international conferences and at UNSW learning and teaching fora.
The School plays a major role in fostering student learning in public health, the community context of medical care, and primary care, throughout the UNSW Medicine program. The guiding principle adopted by the School is a holistic approach to health care, recognising that health occurs within a socioecological context, and further that the majority of medical care occurs in the community. It is therefore vital that graduates of UNSW Medicine develop clinically relevant competencies in public health, as well as community and population medicine.

As the Program comprises of integrated courses, students learn public health and community medicine content and concepts within all courses, from years one to six. Academics from the School are directly involved with various types of learning activities including lectures, tutorials, clinical workshops, clinical supervision, and facilitation of scenario group sessions. In addition, they are involved in, or provide assistance for, student assessment, curriculum development, clinical supervisor education and support and academic administration. SPHCM academics play a significant leadership role in the Medicine program by co-convening Phase 2 of the medicine program, convening Phase 1 & 2 Society and Health terms and convening Phase 3 Primary Care term. They also conduct staff development activities across the three Phases. SPHCM is also actively involved in revising the medicine program to ensure the integration of indigenous health in medicine, including coordinating cultural immersion programs for medical students.

Courses
Three key courses/terms within the Medicine Program are convened by the School and have a strong public health and community medicine focus. These are described below:

Society and Health – Phase 1
Society and Health is one of eight courses within Phase 1 (Years 1 & 2) of the Medicine Program. The themes of this course are social determinants of health and disease; measuring health status; health care systems; and improving health by public health approaches. Major public health concepts covered in this course include disease epidemiology, prevention of infectious diseases, immunisation, public health policies, social justice, disease stigma, inequity and inequality, and the history of public health. Additional public health concepts are integrated through each of the other courses in Phase 1.

Society and Health – Phase 2
This is one of six terms within Phase 2 (Years 3 & 4) of the Medicine Program and builds upon the themes covered in Society and Health during Phase 1. Over six weeks, students explore and gain a deeper understanding of population health through experience in community health settings, with a direct emphasis of its application to clinical practice. Students are provided learning opportunities to enable them to integrate knowledge of the social determinants of health with patient assessment and management. In addition, they learn how to critically evaluate the way a health system balances differing priorities when providing health care on a population level, as well as developing skills in teamwork, ethical and reflective practice within the context of community health care.
Primary Care – Phase 3

Primary Care is one of ten courses within Phase 3 (Years 5 & 6) of the Medicine Program. Students spend eight weeks in one or more urban and/or rural general practice clinics under the supervision of experienced GP preceptors. They are expected to participate in the clinical activities of the practice and take responsibility as a member of the practice team. Interactive campus learning activities at the beginning of the term provide an overview of General Practice as a medical discipline, and provide a framework for students develop their consultation skills, clinical reasoning, interpersonal communication, clinical management. These are supplemented by blended learning activities that focus on cardiovascular risk factor management and the assessment and management of difficult patient presentations.

Cross-course curriculum themes

Ethics

The School contributes heavily to student learning in medical ethics. Ethics teaching is integrated throughout all three Phases of Program, and into associated courses such as the pre-admission Indigenous students course; clinical transitions course; and bridging students course. The School assists with ethics teaching in all of these arenas, with particular contributions towards teaching of general bioethics concepts; specific topics such as public health ethics, medical professionalism and clinical ethics; curriculum development; and ethics assessment. The School also provide Ethics Officer support to the Medicine Program.

Indigenous health

Academics at the School provide invaluable support in developing medical student learning in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health throughout the Program. They are involved in developing learning materials, curriculum development, direct teaching of medical students, as well as consulting and advising on improvements in the Program’s cultural appropriateness and sensitivity.

Independent Learning Projects

The Independent Learning Project (ILP) provides UNSW medical students with a period of in-depth study that engenders an approach to medicine that is constantly questioning and self-critical. The ILP aims to promote lifelong learning patterns and skills which will enable them to approach future medical challenges in their careers with a rigor and depth not possible without a detailed knowledge of the formal processes of research, literature appraisal, data collection, analysis and presentation. The School is actively involved each year in the supervision of a cohort of students undertaking their ILP. Moreover, it has also key staff involved in research training and mentoring programs for ILP students across the Medicine Faculty.

Research in learning and teaching

The Medical Education Group at the School has initiated a number of important activities to enhance student learning of public health and community medicine content and concepts, and to better integrate this learning across courses and phases.

SPHCM contribution to the General Education Program

General Education courses aim to complement the more specialised learning undertaken in a student’s chosen field of undergraduate study and contribute to the flexibility which graduates are increasingly required to demonstrate in the workplace. The School is the largest provider of General Education Courses within the Faculty of Medicine. The existing courses provided in 2015-2016 were:

- Making News: Engaging the Media (GENM0510)
- Health and Power in an Internet Age (GENM0518)
- Concepts of Physical Activity, Exercise & Health (GENM0703)
- Nutrition and Health (GENM0707)
- Principles of Health Education and Behaviour Change (GENM0708)

During 2015-2016 one new General Education course was developed:

- The Power of Sport: An Introduction to Sport for Social Change (GENM0709) – This course introduces students to the exciting new and emerging field of sport for development and social change (S4D/SC), where the power of sport goes well beyond the traditional playing fields to address health and social challenges. Through an inspiring mix of workshops, case studies, multi-media, guest experts, students will learn about the compelling power of this emerging field of sport for development and social change. This course is perfect for students wanting to learn about affecting positive change in their communities, or globally, international development, community engagement, new avenues for engaging in sport, positive social impact and change.
UNSW medical student, Thomas Barlow, has been awarded the ILP Balnaves scholarship so he can spend the year researching an important area of Indigenous healthcare. Thomas will look at the impact of alcohol and drug abuse on Indigenous communities. The Wagga Wagga Rural Clinical School student took some time out to talk about his research.

Working with A/Prof Melissa Haswell-Elkins – based at UNSW’s School of Public Health and Community Medicine – Thomas’ ILP will focus on data collected at Oolong House, an Aboriginal community-controlled alcohol and substance abuse residential rehabilitation facility in Nowra, NSW.

Thomas will explore the trends and characteristics in the use of methamphetamine in Indigenous communities. He will be looking at how empowerment, drug use and mental health are related to the way amphetamines are used and treated. “My experience with remote Indigenous communities, as well as those in regional NSW, has exposed me to some of the health challenges that Indigenous communities often face,” Thomas says. “Since Oolong House is run by the Aboriginal community, it provides a unique environment where Indigenous people have control over their own health.”

Rates of methamphetamine use within the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population is 1.6 times higher than their non-Indigenous counterparts, says Thomas, so this is a critical area of Indigenous healthcare that needs urgent attention.

UNSW’s School of Public Health and Community Medicine have worked closely with Oolong House for many years to assist them in evaluating the impact and outcome of their program.

Thomas’ time at the John Flynn Placement Program (JFPP) was a real catalyst to spark his interest in Indigenous healthcare, and he’s already been on two three-week placements in Ramingining, a small Indigenous community 560km east of Darwin in the Northern Territory. “From my experience in Ramingining, I’ve become more aware of the need for doctors to be committed to remote communities for the long term,” he says.

“Once I graduate, I’d like to work as a GP in northern rural Australia, focusing on Indigenous health. I’d love to work with local communities, working with the people to improve health literacy and access. I want to work in and be a part of vibrant and culturally impressive communities such as Ramingining!”

“I believe empowerment is a fundamental step in improving health outcomes – and by doing this research I can gain an insight into the complexities of Indigenous culture and be involved in a grass roots program that arises from Aboriginal way of life.”

See full news article UNSW Rural Clinical School
International and local engagement is important to UNSW and the School of Public Health and Community Medicine. In order to foster and sustain linkages with partners we establish a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Linkages are also developed through agreements, letters of intent and letters of support. The School values these links and the aim of these is to nurture the formation of research networks and collaboration, the sharing of knowledge, and training and development opportunities.

**Industry links**

- Boost Juice
- Cancer Council NSW
- Centre for HIV prevention and Research – University of Nairobi
- Faculty of Public Health, Mahidol University
- Fiji National University
- GP Synergy Ltd
- Indonesian Public Health Association
- Ingham Institute
- International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research
- Medvarsity-Apollo Hospitals Hyderabad
- Ministry of Health – Fiji
- Ministry of Health – Samoa
- Ministry of Health – Tonga
- Myanmar Red Cross Society
- Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association
- National Institute of Health Research and Development, Ministry of Health, Indonesia
- NSW Ministry of Health
- Pacific Community; South Pacific Commission
- Renji Hospital, Shanghai
- Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU)
- SRM University, Chennai, India
- Ted Noffs Foundation
- The East Timor National University
- Universitas Diponegoro, Indonesia
- Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia
- Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta, Indonesia
- Victoria Department of Health
- Yunus Centre
UNSW collaboration with Shanghai Jiao Tong University

UNSW and China’s prestigious Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU) have established a collaborative research fund. The fund will be used to promote and encourage collaborative research and development in areas of common interest, provide facilities for this purpose and enhance the activities of each institution.

A research team from SPHCM (Dr Chinthaka Balasooriya, Professor Raina McIntyre and Associate Professor Joanne Travaglia) was successful in receiving a seed grant to foster research collaborations with SJTU; this funding is being used to bring together findings of two doctoral projects completed at the school.

The first is the Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) project currently being undertaken by Dr Michael Wang of SJTU/Renji Hospital (Supervised by Prof Raina McIntyre, Dr Chinthaka Balasooriya and A/Prof Joanne Travaglia), which investigates the significant problem of burnout in medical students.

The second is the doctoral project of Dr Asela Olupelyawa (supervised by Dr Chinthaka Balasooriya, A/Prof Chris Hughes and Prof Tony O’Sullivan) which led to the development of an educational instrument, the TMEX, that has gained wide international recognition.

The TMEX is an instrument that is designed to develop clinical collaborative competencies in graduating medical students, so that interns are better prepared to function within healthcare teams. The proposed collaborative research project will investigate the role of the TMEX in reducing the levels of burnout in medical students. The first stage of the project will involve adapting the TMEX to suit the Chinese medical education context. The collaborative research project is a testimony to the translational value of the doctoral work conducted at SPHCM.

Photos: Dr Chinthaka Balasooriya attended the MoU signing by Professor Ian Jacobs (President and Vice Chancellor, UNSW) and Professor Zhang Jie (President of SJTU) (above left). This was followed by a round table discussion on future opportunities for collaboration between the two universities (below). Chinthaka with Professor Weiping Li, President of the Renji Hospital, Shanghai (above right).


Chapman, S., L. Azizi, Q. Luo and F. Sitas (2016). Response from the authors to correspondence related to ‘Has the incidence of brain cancer risen in Australia since the introduction of mobile phones 29 years ago?’. Cancer Epidemiology 44: 138-140.


Om, C., F. Daily, E. Vlieghe, J. C. McLaughlin and M. L. McLaw (2016). If it's a broad spectrum, it can shoot better: Inappropriate antibiotic prescribing in Cambodia. Antimicrobial Resistance and Infection Control 5(1).


Raman, S., R. Nicholls, J. Ritchie, H. Razee and S. Shafiee (2016). Eating soup with nails of pig: Thematic synthesis of the qualitative literature on cultural practices and beliefs influencing perinatal nutrition in low and middle income countries. BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth 16(1).


Raman, S., K. Srinivasan, A. Kurpad, J. Ritchie and H. Razee (2016). We have to ask and only then do: Unpacking agency and autonomy in women’s reproductive health in urban India. Health Care for Women International 37(10): 1119-1137.


Spangaro, J., S. Herring, J. Koziol-McLain, A. Rutherford, M. A. Frail and A. Zwi (2016). They aren’t really black fellas but they are easy to talk to: Factors which influence Australian Aboriginal decision to disclose intimate partner violence during pregnancy. Midwifery 41: 79-88.


Congratulations to Professor Peter Baume, AO who has been presented with the 2016 Disability Employment Australia Hall of Fame Award, in recognition of his outstanding and ongoing contribution to disability employment.

The Disability Employment Australia Hall of Fame recognises excellence, innovation and long-term commitment to the evolution of disability employment in Australia (see Hall of Fame website).

Professor Peter Baume boasts a professional history as a gastroenterologist, politician and university academic.

Peter served in the Australian Parliament from 1974 to 1991. In the late seventies, he chaired the Senate Standing Committee on Social Welfare. During his seventeen years in parliament, he has been Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Health and Minister for Education. Famously, when Shadow Minister for the Status of Women in 1987 he crossed the floor to vote for a bill giving equal employment opportunities in some government-owned bodies.

Peter held the positions of Chancellor of the Australian National University and Professor of Community Medicine at the University of New South Wales, where he also served as an honorary research associate within its Social Policy Research Centre. He has been Commissioner of the Australian Law Reform Commission, Deputy Chair of the Australian National Council on AIDS and Foundation Chair of the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority.

In 1992, he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO). In 2008, Peter was awarded the Companion in the General Division of the Order of Australia (AC).

Of particular importance to Disability Employment Australia is Peter’s role in the 1994 Review of the Commonwealth Disability Services Program, which was later dubbed the Baume Review. The review focused on the employment-related aspects of the program underpinned by the Disability Services Act 1986 and considered its objectives and effectiveness to provide a policy framework to the year 2000.

Throughout his career in medicine, politics and the academy, Peter has stressed that people are more important than their impairments and that the whole person is the proper focus of attention. He reminds us that we are all different and we should value and respect the individual nature of each other’s life journey.

(Excerpt from the Chair’s speech)
Honours and Awards

STUDENT AWARDS

The Australian Medical Association Prize for General Practice:

Best aggregate mark from course and phase assessments in Primary Care in Phase 3
Wui-Kwan Wong (2015)

The Hunt and Hunt Health Law 1 Prize:

Best performance in PHCM9331 Ethics and Law by a student in Australia, in the Master of Health Management or Master of Public Health program
Judith Ingwersen (2015)
Marcus Dabner (2016)

The School of Public Health and Community Medicine Prize:

Best performance by a student enrolled in postgraduate coursework Masters program at the School of Public Health and Community Medicine
Mitchell Burger (2015)
Anthea Duri (2016)

The John Hirshman Prize in Public Health:

Best overall performance in the Master of Public Health program
Mitchell Burger (2015)
Sharlina Lingam (2016)

The John Hirshman International Health Prize:

Best performance in PHCM9605 International Health
Sapna Walles (2016)

STAFF AWARDS

The Peter Baume Public Health Impact Prize:

Significant international impact and career achievement in public health
Professor John Kaldor – Kirby Institute (2015)
Professor Mark Ferson (2016)

The Alan Hodgkinson prize:

Outstanding contribution to teaching and student learning
Dr Holly Seale (2015)
Dr Anurag Sharma (2016)

The Early Career Teaching Award:

Dr Sophia Lin (2015)

The Young Investigator Prize:

Dr Reema Harrison (2016)

Conjoint researcher of the year:

Dr Michael Tam (2016)

Best Tutor Awards:

Shaun Abbott (2015)
Albie Sharp (2016)

Engagement (Students and Staff):

Dr Patrick Rawstorne (2015)
Visiting Academic of the Year:
Peter Trebilco (2015)

Excellence in postgraduate research supervision:
Professor Mary-Louise McLaws (2015)

Higher Degree Research Supervisor Award:
Rohan Jayasuriya (2016)

Best PhD thesis submitted:
Dr Abrar Chughtai (2015)
Dr Minh Cuong Duong (2016)

Best DrPh thesis submitted:
Belinda Crawford (2016)

"All Rounder" prize for outstanding teaching and research:
Associate Professor James Wood (2015)

Overall School Prize recognising Outstanding International Advancement:
Dr Padmanesan Narasimhan (2015)

Overall school prize recognising outstanding service to SPHCM:
Dr Reece Hinchliff (2015)
Associate Professor David Heslop (2016)

Support for Research Outcomes:
Anil Singh-Prakash (2015)
Catherine Brieger (2016)

Support for Teaching Outcomes:
Christine Rousselis (2015)
Olivia Rajit (2016)

Excellence in Customer Service:
Hayley Van Elst (2015)
Shereen Matthews (2016)

UNSW Medicine Awards

Conjoint Teaching Award:
Dr Michael Tam (2016)

Dean’s Award for Teaching:
Dr Anita Heywood (2016)

Dean’s Rising Star Awards:
Kim Delbaere (2015)

Award for Excellence in Enhancing the Student Experience:
Sarah Jacob (2015)

Please join us in congratulating Dr John Dewdney who has been appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for significant service to tertiary education as an academic, researcher and administrator, particularly in the field of public health development.

Joining the staff of the University’s then School of Hospital Administration as a Senior Lecturer in 1967, he became an Associate Professor in the School of Health Administration in the 1970s and retired as Head of School in 1987. He then continued his association with UNSW as a Visiting Research Fellow in the School of Medical Education and the WHO/UNSW Regional Training Centre. Following the establishment in 2001 of the UNSW School of Public Health and Community Medicine John became a Visiting Senior Research Fellow and is currently an Honorary Associate Professor in the School.

John’s more than forty years’ experience as a practitioner, consultant, researcher and trainer in health service development in general and human resource development in particular has included contractual engagement with the World Bank, WHO, DFID, ADB and AusAID with participation in health service development projects in more than thirty countries. His computer based health workforce planning model has been employed in the development of national health workforce plans in countries in Africa, Asia, Central America, Europe and Oceania.
CONJOINT SENIOR
LECTURER
Rosemary Aldrich
Dr Gaston Arnolda
Dr Kirsty Beilharz
Leah Bloomfield
Dr Greg Bowring
Dr Frank Brennan
Dr Rachel Burdon
Dr Kerry Chant
Dr Nicholas Collins
Dr Angela Dawson
Anne Eastwood
Dr Stella Engel
Dr H John Fardy
Dr Frank Formby
Dr Paul Freeman
Dr Susan Furber
Dr Judit Gonczi
Dr David Gorman
Dr Mary Haines
Dr Devon Indig
Dr Rowena Ivers
Dr Lorraine Jomes
Dr Christine Jorm
Dr Andrew Knight
Dr Bon Lee
Dr Robert Leitner
Dr Martin Lum
Dr Philip Lye
Peta Mantel
Dr Jeremy McAnulty
Dennis McDermott
Dr Mary Moran
Dr Litsa Morfis
Dr Philip Norrie
Dr Susan Priest
Dr Merelyn Rae
Dr Mark Ragg
Dr Alison Rutherford
Dr Alison Short
Dr George Stathers
Dr Michael Tam
Dr George Tang
Bruce Walmsley
Dr Tai-Tak Wan
Dr Eileen Watson
Meghan Williams
Dr Anna Williamson
Linda Winn
Dr Hao Zheng

CONJOINT LECTURER
Dr Ismail Abdurrahman
Dr Ian Adair
Dr Sunil Adusumilli
Dr James Atkin
Dr Ali Ajam
Dr Christopher An
Dr Huy An
Dr Paul Annett
Dr Francisco Antonio
Dr Soheyl Aran
Igal Augarten
Dr K Suresh Badami
Dr Andrew Bonney
Dr Rohan Bopage
Dr Desiree Boughtwood
Dr Jeremy Bunker
Joan Burns
Dr Christopher Carmody
Dr Joseph Casamento
Dr Aaron Cashmore
David Chiew
Dr Philip Conroy
Dr Wendy Cox
Dr Helen Cribb
Margaret Cunningham
Dr Jan Maree Davis
Dr Kahn Diep
Dr Francis Donoghoe
Dr Peter Edwards
Dr Ian Elder
Dr Jacques Ette
Dr Matthew Gardiner
Dr Cedric Gemeny
Dr Akbar Ghani
Koel Chorai
Andrew Gow
Dr Virjen Goyal
Dr Jan Gratton
Natalie Grove
Dr Stephen Hampton
Dr Scott Hannan
Dr Andrew Hardy
Dr Lara Harvey
Dr Qudsia Hasnani
Dr Ian Hilliar
Dr Wendy Hu
Dr Cynthia Hunter
Dr Amal Ibrahim
Dr John Jackson
Susan Jain

Dr Winston Kardell
Dr Pesi Katrak
Dr Martin Kennedy
Dr Matthew Kennedy
Dr Martin Kennedy
Dr Nicholas Kery
Dr Chee Khoo
Dr Geetha Kunjithapatham
Dr Linda Kurti
Dr Angela Kwok
Dr Maria Kyriagis
Dr Paul Lam
Dr David Leaf
Graham Lee
Dr Steve Liang
Tore Liljeqvist
Dr Diana Lim
Dr Monica Ling
Dr Ruchika Luhach
Dr Karen Luxford
Michelle Maxwell
Dr Jasmine Menant
Dr Fiona Millard
Dr Masoud Mirzaei
Jo Mitchell
Rosalind Montague
Dr Stuart Morris
Dr Sanjay Nijhawan
Marion Norrie
Ngein Nyi Nyi
Dr Jitendra Parikh
Susanna Petch
Dr Seema Radhakrishnan
Tony Raeburn
Dr Roger Renton
Paul Rothie
Dr Tina Scott-Stevenson
Dr Sanjaya Semanayake
Dr Gurudial Sharma
Dr John Sheppard
Dr Judith Silberburg
Dr Ram Singh
John Skinner
Dr Amanda Stalley
Dr Klaus Stelter
Dr Daisy Tan
Dr Phillip Taplin
Dr Jill Timbs
Dr Hooi Toh
John Waldon
Dr Jing Wang
Dr Kolitha Wickramage
Ivan Wilden-Constantin
Dr Jennifer Wiltshire

Dr Mounira Youssef
Dr Nagwa Youssef
Dr Paula Zeman

CONJOINT ASSOCIATE
LECTURER
Dr Thanh-Dzung Cao
Dr Dianne Chambers
Dr Jennifer Doyle
Dr Eleanor Freedman
Dr Samuel Hay
Dr Victoria Hayes
Johnny Khoury
Dr Linda Mann
Dr Grant Ross
Dr John Rule
Dr John-Paul Sanggaran
Patti Shih
Dr Annie Sunderland
Dr Abigail Yang

PROJECT OFFICER
Tun Shwe

RESEARCH ASSISTANT
Chau Bui
Adam Dillon
Guan Guo
Aurgis Hii
Fran Hyslop
Aye Moa
Costantino Valentina

PROFESSIONAL AND
TECHNICAL STAFF
Catherine Brieger
Ravit Danielli-Vlandis
Carah Figueroa-Crisostomo
Vanessa Green
Tessalonica Ho
Sarah Jacob
Sherreen Matthews
Nina Milli
Olivia Rajt
John Redmond
Christina Rofe
Christine Roussellis
Anil Singh-Prakash
SPHCM Education Programs

POSTGRADUATE COURSEWORK PROGRAMS

- Master of Public Health
- Master of International Public Health
- Master of Health Management
- Master of Infectious Diseases Intelligence

DUAL DEGREES

- 1.5 and 2 year dual degrees available in Public Health / Health Management / International Public Health / Infectious Diseases Intelligence

SPECIALISATIONS

- Ageing and Health
- Epidemiology
- Health Economic Evaluation
- Health Promotion
- Infectious Diseases Control
- International Health
- Primary Health Care
- Public Security
- Social Research

POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH PROGRAMS

- PhD
- Professional Doctorate – Future Health Leaders Program
- Masters by Research
- Master of Philosophy