

Dean's Lecture Series 2010



Professor Peter Smith introducing Dr Fiona Wood AM



After their presentations, Dr Charlie Teo and Professor Cyndi Shannon Weickert prepare to take questions

The Dean's Lecture Series continues to be an outstanding success, with the last in the series for 2010 which was held last week. The Facilitator was **Dr Fiona Wood AM** who is the 2005 Australian of the Year. She is the director of the Royal Perth Hospital Burns Unit and the Western Australia Burns Service. In addition, Dr Wood is also a Clinical Professor with the School of Paediatrics and Child Health at the University of Western Australia and Director of the McComb Research Foundation. She has become world renowned for her patented invention of spray on skin for burns victims, and for leading a courageous and committed team in the fight to save 28 Bali bombing patients suffering from between two and 92 per cent body burns, deadly infections and delayed shock.

A very entertaining lecture was given by **Dr Charlie Teo**, an internationally renowned neurosurgeon and currently the Director of the Centre for Minimally Invasive Neurosurgery at the Prince of Wales Hospital. He is also President of Think First Australasia, established for the prevention of brain and spinal cord injuries, and a Founding Board Member of V.I.N.E. (Volunteers for International Neurosurgical Education). He is the Founder of the Cure for Life Foundation, the largest charity in Australia devoted to the advancement of the research and treatment of patients with brain tumours. The Cure for Life Foundation has provided a leadership donation to establish Australia's first research group at the Lowy Cancer Research Centre, UNSW- dedicated to tackling the rising incidence of brain tumours.

The final talk was given by **Professor Cyndi Shannon Weickert** who is a world leading researcher in the field of Schizophrenia and currently holds the Macquarie Group Foundation Chair of Schizophrenia Research - a joint position between the Schizophrenia Research Institute, the University of New South Wales and Neuroscience Research Australia (formerly the Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute). Her awards include the Eli Lilly Young Investigator Award, NIH Fellows Award for Research Excellence, Independent Investigator Award and two Young Investigator Awards from NARSD.

Dr Matthew Miles, Director of Development and External Relations commented: *"We are thrilled with the response to the recent UNSW Medicine Dean's Lecture. Not only from a size and scope perspective, where we can engage an audience of over 1200 people and keep them enthralled with seamless presentations and incorporate an inspiring audio-visual accompaniment that brings a great balance to the evening. More importantly, that fantastic number of attendees seen this week incorporates a now much greater percentage of alumni and members of the general public who can come on to campus and see UNSW Medicine at their best...."*

The Dean's Lecture Series will continue in 2011 and I look forward to another successful year of lectures.

Peter Smith
Dean, UNSW Medicine

POSTER COMPETITION PRIZES 2010

The Faculty invited undergraduate Honours students from the Medicine and Medical Sciences programs and postgraduate Medicine research students to submit posters for a research poster competition. We are pleased to be able to exhibit quality research that these participants have done. Their work can be found [here](#).

A panel of medical science experts had the task of judging the submissions based on content and visual appeal and the winners are as follows.

Undergraduate Honours Prize (\$100)

- **Hayden Alicajic**
Cellular uptake mechanisms and characterisation of the excitotoxin quinolinic acid in human primary neurons
- **Theo Mahendradatta**
Cancer Associated Cachexia: Dysregulation Of The Renin-Angiotensin System And Associated Effects On Muscle Wasting
- **Timothy Nicholas**
Novel $\alpha 1$ -adrenoceptor subtype selective ligands display significant 5-HT_{1A} receptor affinity

Postgraduate Research Prize (\$500)

- **Angie Shum**
MEF2C: A Novel Regulator Of Cancer-Induced Skeletal Muscle Structural Disruption
- **Ahmed H Mekkawy**
Sprouty Protein Interacts With Urokinase Receptor And Inhibits Cellular Proliferation And Adhesion
- **Cecilia Chan**
A Dnazyme Suppresses Retinal Neovascularization In Vitro And In Murine Model Of Retinopathy Of Prematurity Model Via The C-Jun Pathway
- **Malgorzata Drwal**
Exploring the DNA topoisomerase I ligand space in search of novel anticancer agents

Postgraduate Research Consolation (\$250)

- **Li Sze Yeo**
Lamin A/C-deficient mice do not have an enhanced propensity for pressure overload-induced cardiac contractile dysfunction
- **Eric Chow**
Concern For A New Era Of Hiv/Aids In China: Rapid Transmission Of Hiv Among Men Who Have Sex With Men
- **Fiona Kumfor**
Enhanced salience and emotion recognition in frontotemporal dementia
- **Ahsan K Murad**
Homology Modelling of Human Dopamine D₃ Receptor

I congratulate the winners and encourage all researchers to continue with the excellent work they are doing.

Denis Wakefield

Associate Dean Research



Congratulations to Mark Raftery who has been appointed Director of the Bioanalytical Mass Spectrometry Facility (BMSF), in the Mark Wainwright Analytical Centre, located in the Wallace Wurth (M302) and Chemical Sciences building (B50). The BMSF (www.bmsf.unsw.edu.au) provides access and research support to sophisticated mass spectrometry to a wide variety of researchers in Medicine, Science and Engineering. Techniques range from large scale proteomics, isolating and identifying phosphorylated peptides, iTRAQ and SILAC quantitation and quantification of small molecules. Mark's own research interests in biological mass spectrometry range from high through-put mass spectrometry-based proteomics to careful elucidation of novel post-translational and oxidative modifications and their effects on protein function. Mark may be contacted on 93851892 or m.raftery@unsw.edu.au.

Importance of Materials Transfer Agreements (MTAs) in Research

- **What is an MTA ?**

An MTA is a *legally-binding contract* that governs the transfer of tangible biological materials between two or more parties. Biological materials transferred include reagents, cell lines, antibodies, research tools, insertional mutant populations (as in mutant/knock-out mice), genome sequence databases, novel vectors, and plant genetic resources. In particular, an MTA will usually provide that the material can be used only for an agreed research purpose, and only at an agreed location.

- **Why bother with MTAs ?- "I can just get the material from my colleague..."**

Whilst the physical transfer of the material might allow you to start or continue your research, it does not transfer title to the material. Unique biological materials are valuable research tools, and therefore, are generally protected by intellectual property (IP) rights where the party who transfers the material retains full ownership. In addition, an MTA may contain licensing provisions for the transfer of embedded IP rights.

What this means for you is that although you may have obtained the material without an MTA, you may be severely limited to use the results of the use of the material in your research. MTAs carry with them conditions around the term of the transfer, specified use of the material, confidentiality (which may affect your ability to publish w/o the other parties consent), and ownership. The definition of "materials" is very important as it may have significant implications for the recipient (what is meant by modifications, derivatives, progeny, etc...)

- **"Surely, a simple letter between my colleague and I should be sufficient to obtain the material"**

NO. As mentioned at the beginning an MTA is a legal contract and provides for the transfer of "property". The material (although likely to have been generated by specific researchers) is usually the property of the employer of the researcher/s (the institution). Therefore, neither the "creator" nor his recipient colleague/friend has the authority to draft or sign any document associated with the transfer of the material.

- **So, what to do when you want to receive/provide materials for research? Who can sign the MTAs ?**

Contact the UNSW Legal Office-

Alan Melrose

Legal Counsel (Research)

Legal Office, The Chancellery

Telephone +61 2 9385 8477

Email: a.melrose@unsw.edu.au

Of particular importance is that you make sure that you contact Alan BEFORE you obtain any materials to be used in projects involving students, as the inappropriate transfer of the material could have severe implications for the student's project.

In some instances where there are potential IP issues or existing patents NSI may also get involved in reviewing MTA. If you have any questions, please contact me at your convenience:

Dr Alfredo Martinez-Coll | Commercialisation Manager, Faculty of Medicine

NewSouth Innovations Pty Limited

T +61 2 9385 4679 | F +61 2 9385 6600 | M 0404 014 686

The Legal Office will organise for either the Director of the Grants Management Office (GMO) to sign on behalf of UNSW, and/or NSi when appropriate.

- Resources around MTAs

<http://www.iphandbook.org/handbook/ch07/p03/>

http://www.autm.net/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Technology_Transfer_Resources&Template=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=2810

Major Research Equipment & Infrastructure Initiative

28 MREII applications were received this year. These have been ranked by a Faculty Committee and the outcome of the applications will be announced by the DVC at the end of November.

Faculty Research Grants/Early Career Research Grants

Application forms and guidelines for Faculty research grants are now available on the Faculty of Medicine website:

<http://www.med.unsw.edu.au/medweb.nsf/page/researchne#rn3>

Applications should be sent electronically to Wendy Wartho at w.wartho@unsw.edu.au by **25 October 2010**. Enquiries should be directed to Prof Denis Wakefield on d.wakefield@unsw.edu.au or 9385 8210.

Dean's Awards

There is still time to send in nominations for the Dean's Awards for 2010, closing date 28 October 2010. The categories are:

Dean's Award: To acknowledge and salute outstanding achievements by academic staff in the Faculty of Medicine.

Dean's List: To acknowledge the achievements of undergraduate and postgraduate students in the Faculty of Medicine who have made a significant contribution to teaching, research or community activity.

Dean's Rising Star Award: To acknowledge achievements of post doctoral and early career scientists within the Faculty of Medicine who have made significant contributions to research.

There are three new categories:

Dean's Award for Professional and Technical Staff: To acknowledge achievements of professional and technical staff in the Faculty of Medicine who have made a significant contribution to the Faculty.

Dean's Award for Lifetime Achievement - Academic Staff: To acknowledge the lifetime achievements of Academic staff in the Faculty of Medicine who have made a significant contribution to the Faculty.

Dean's Award for Lifetime Achievement – Professional and Technical Staff: To acknowledge the lifetime achievements of Professional and Technical staff in the Faculty of Medicine who have made a significant contribution to the Faculty.

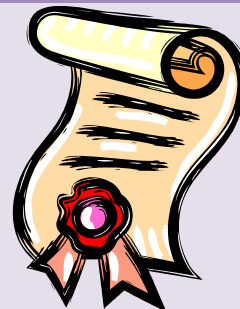
Policy documents and nomination forms are available at:

<http://www.med.unsw.edu.au/medweb.nsf/page/deansawards>

The closing date for nominations is **28 October 2010** - please complete the nomination form and send to Wendy Wartho at w.wartho@unsw.edu.au. At the beginning of November, nominations will be reviewed by an executive committee comprising the Senior Associate Dean, Associate Dean Research, Associate Dean of Teaching and the Presiding Member who will make appropriate recommendations to the Dean.

The Awards will be made at the end of November, date and venue to be announced in due course.

For any enquiries please contact Prof Denis Wakefield.



2011 ARC Linkage Projects, Round 2: Alert 1

LINKAGE TIMELINES

Further details and information are available on the Faculty website:

<http://www.med.unsw.edu.au/medweb.nsf/page/researchne>

ARC Discovery Project 2010

Emeritus Prof. Alan Johnson will be presenting seven sessions on the ARC Discovery Project – 2012 grant round from 4 November to 12 November 2010:

ARC Discovery Project Information Sessions – 2012 grant round - 4/5/8 November

ARC Discovery: APD Information Sessions – 2012 grant round - 9&10 November

ARC Discovery: ARF/QEII Information Session – 2012 grant round – 11 November

ARC Discovery: NHMRC to ARC DP Information Session – 2012 grant round – 12 November

For further details on these sessions and to register online:

<http://www.dvcresearch.unsw.edu.au/workshop.html>

CONTACT DETAILS: Please contact Wendy Wartho at w.wartho@unsw.edu.au or 9385 8210 with any news/information.