

## 5<sup>TH</sup> HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH AND POLICY CONFERENCE 2007

APHCRI will be a major sponsor of the 5th Health Services and Policy Research Conference, held in Auckland, New Zealand 2-5 December this year.

As part of its sponsorship the Institute will award a \$1000 prize to each of the top five Australian primary health care research papers, as judged by the conference scientific committee.

Abstracts for this conference close 11 July 2007.

For more information about the conference see the website:

<http://chsrp.fmhs.auckland.ac.nz/health/conference2007/invitation.php>

## APHCRI VISITING FELLOWS

### PROFESSOR CHRIS VAN WEEL



*Professor Chris van Weel*

Professor Chris van Weel spent a week in Australia as an APHCRI sponsored keynote speaker at the General Practice and Primary Health Care Research Conference in Sydney and as a Visiting Fellow to APHCRI in Canberra.

While in Canberra Professor van Weel gave an ANU public lecture on Excellence in General Practice: an international challenge, outlining how building research into general practice would strengthen general practice around the world.

Professor van Weel is passionate about primary health care research and the role practitioners could play in wider research for the benefit of their patients.

It is one of his stated aims during his term as WONCA president to increase research capacity in general practice. Professor van Weel takes up his new role in July this year.

### PROFESSOR BONNIE SIBBALD



*Professor Bonnie Sibbald*

Professor Bonnie Sibbald was the second APHCRI-sponsored keynote speaker to the General Practice and Primary Health Care Research Conference. She participated in the APHCRI panel discussion: working together on policy and practice.

This lively debate, chaired by ABC health commentator Norman Swan, included consumer, health policy, GP and researcher panellists, as well as questions and comments from the audience.

Professor Sibbald was able to give the international perspective from her experience in

workforce research in the United Kingdom.

Professor Sibbald is Professor of Health Services Research and Deputy Director of the National Primary Care Research and Development Centre, University of Manchester, and is involved in two APHCRI research grants.

While in Australia she met with both teams – Dr Christine Phillips Stream Three work on practice nursing and Professor Nicholas Zwar who is examining the optimal workforce skill-mix for the care of older Australians.

## GENERAL PRACTICE AND PRIMARY HEALTH CARE RESEARCH CONFERENCE 2007

APHCRI would like to extend its congratulations to all the APHCRI teams who presented at the General Practice and Primary Health Care Research Conference last month, especially Professor Claire Jackson who led a team of Stream Four researchers who were recognised by the AAAGP Distinguished Paper presentation. Professor Jackson's Stream Four paper can be found on the APHCRI website: Integration, co-ordination and multidisciplinary care in Australia: growth via optimal governance arrangements

The Institute was a major sponsor of the conference for the third year and was pleased to bring two of the conference keynote speakers to Sydney to participate in the event.

APHCRI research was well-represented both in presentations and in posters at the conference, testimony to the high standard of work and relevance of the research and outcomes being produced by all of the teams.

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## STREAM SEVEN – APHCRI TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIPS

APHCRI is pleased to announce seven travelling scholarships have been awarded in Stream Seven of the Institute's research commissioning program.

Stream Seven was open to members of Stream Four research teams and invited them to expand on the linkage and exchange element of that work.

The researchers will travel before April next year when they will meet in Canberra to give a presentation on their visits to interested Department of Health and Ageing staff.

The grants will develop the linkage and exchange model from Stream Four, including wider dissemination of the research results and an opportunity to further develop research questions.

The successful researchers are:

Dr Sarah Dennis - UNSW - who will be expanding on work led by Professor Nicholas Zwar in Stream Four which looked at Chronic disease management. She will travel to Universities in the United Kingdom;

Professor Helen Christensen and Kathy Griffiths - ANU - these researchers were involved in a Stream Four project examining the use of Internet tools for the management of anxiety and depression. They will travel to the United Kingdom and The Netherlands;

Julie McDonald - UNSW - who looked at comprehensive primary health care models in Stream Four will travel to Canada;

Professor John Wakeman and Professor John Humphreys - Flinders University - who were involved in looking at rural and remote health care programs sustainability, will travel to Canada;

Dr Elizabeth McDonald - Menzies School of Health Research - who participated in the Ross Bailie-led project examining growth faltering in remote indigenous communities will spend time at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and the World Health Organization;

Dr Lydia Hearn and Margaret Miller - Edith Cowan University - who looked at childhood obesity in Stream Four will travel to the United Kingdom, Canada and the United States to develop the research further;

Gawaine Powell Davies - UNSW - who examined Coordination of Care within primary health care and with other sectors will travel to The Netherlands, which is a good comparator country for Australia in this area; and

Lucio Naccarella - University of Melbourne - who examined primary health care models and delivery, will go to the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine.

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## STREAM SIX- WORKSHOP UPDATE

Stream Six came together again in mid-May for the third of their meetings in Canberra.

Teams were asked to submit first drafts of their '25' page research papers and speak to the early results. Yet again the standard of these presentations and the work being done in this research stream has been outstanding and we look forward to the end outcomes.

The penultimate reports will be received at Workshop IV on 12 September, will then be sent for peer review and final delivery of all 1.3.25 papers is 30 November 2007.

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## MJA SUPPLEMENT – STREAM FOUR

APHCRI is pleased to announce that the *Medical Journal of Australia* will run a special supplement of APHCRI Stream Four projects at the end of the year.

The supplement will be a mixture of qualitative and policy research papers, depending on the research teams preference. The papers will largely focus on research outcomes and health care policy options, and be topped and tailed by an editorial from APHCRI, reflecting on the Stream Four approach, and an international commentary.

The supplement will give research teams an opportunity to be published in a peer reviewed journal and is another stage of APHCRI's research dissemination strategy.

The supplement is planned for November.

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Copies of our Visiting Fellows' presentations can be found at: [http://www.anu.edu.au/aphcri/Staff/visiting\\_fellows.php](http://www.anu.edu.au/aphcri/Staff/visiting_fellows.php)

Please send all information about your events, publications and presentations to the editor for inclusion in future newsletters.

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