Dear colleagues and students,

Welcome to the November issue of the School of Psychiatry Newsletter. Despite the impacts of COVID on all our staff and students this year, there continue to be important achievements and developments across the School that we are proud to acknowledge and promote. Our next instalment of the Newsletter will arrive in the New Year so though whilst it really feels too early, I would like to wish everyone a happy, safe and healthy Christmas and New Year period, marking the beginning of a better 2021 for all!

Please continue to let us know what you would like to see included in the Newsletter and forward us any news items for consideration.

Best wishes,

Professor Kimberlie Dean
Head of School
News

Australian Mental Health Prize
5 November 6:00-7:00pm

You are invited to join the Australian Mental Health Prize award ceremony! His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd), Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia will announce the winner of this prestigious Prize. The ceremony will also be Chaired by Ita Buttrose AC OBE and feature an address by SANE Australia CEO Jack Heath. Check out the finalists here and RSVP here.

Intellectual Disability Health Data Portal

The Department of Developmental Disability Neuropsychiatry released the Intellectual Disability Health Data Portal across NSW Health. The Portal is an interactive web-based tool which provides a unique opportunity for Local Health Districts and Networks to access data on the physical and mental health needs of people with intellectual disability in their area.

The Portal uses the results of the linkage of multiple service systems data (‘big data’) to develop a regional profile of the demographics, health, health service use, and associated costs of people with intellectual disability. The Portal allows users to generate individualised reports that compares their data to others in NSW.
Professor Silove has sadly decided to retire, and the School would like to thank and acknowledge Professor Silove for his enormous contribution to the School and mental health research over so many years, for the impact his research has had on the vulnerable populations to whom he has devoted his efforts, for his support of junior colleagues, and for his commitment to teaching.

This year, the School lost one of its great clinicians, mentors and advocates of mental health, Professor Flo Levy. Prof Levy’s colleagues have written a beautiful obituary to honour her work, passion and spirit. Read it [here](#).

Prof Levy will be greatly missed.

**Mindgardens’ COHFIT study**

To date over 500 people in Australia have taken the online survey study and 100,000 internationally. The international investigators are pushing for more Australians to complete the survey. Australians of all ages are encourage to take this survey to participate.
DCRC – Online Symposia

The Dementia Centre for Research Collaboration is hosting two online symposias on the 4th and 11th November at 10am – 12.30pm via Zoom. Register here.

Lived Experience Project Manager, Catherine O'Donnell

Catherine O’Donnell has recently joined the Mindgardens team as the Lived Experience Project Manager. Catherine has an extensive breadth of experience in project management, peer work and working with people with lived experience of mental health issues. Catherine will manage the Lived Experience stream across Mindgardens projects.

UNSW tops nation in NHMRC Partnership Projects grants

UNSW Sydney researchers have secured $5.8 million for six projects that will improve Australian public health services. Read more here for details, including Prof Colleen Loo’s project “Treating Severe Depression”.

in the world’s largest survey of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on physical and mental health, to generate new insights that can drive better health policies and investments. Take the survey here.
An international study led by CHeBA researchers

Depression and Dementia: An international study led by CHeBA researchers has found that depression is more likely to be attributable to dementia-related brain changes than a risk factor or reaction to the disease.

Media

Rhiagh Cleary

The Centre for Healthy Brain Ageing has partnered with Stitch to present a series of educational lectures. Research Assistant Rhiagh Cleary presented 'The Companion Campaign', exploring the importance of staying socially connected, particularly in times of physical isolation. She also gives us handy everyday tips on how we can safeguard against cognitive decline through social interaction. Watch here.
MEDIA RELEASE: $250,000 to implement dementia research evidence into practice

The Dementia Centre for Research Collaboration (DCRC) is pleased to announce the successful applicants receiving an Implementing Research Evidence into Practice Grant 2020.

PROMOTIONS

2021 Promotions to Associate Professor

Congratulations to our own Dr Jane Kohlhoff and Dr Julia Lappin for their promotions to Associate Professor, effective 1 January 2021. Click here for the full list.

EDUCATION

Medicine Educational Technology Support

The Medicine Education Development Unit (MEDU) has exciting awards, news and events. Check them out here.

Updates from Lead of Undergraduate Psychiatry

Click here to read updates from Dr Megan Kalucy.
Medicine Education Awards 2020

Nominations are now open and close at 5pm on Monday 16th November. Click here to find out more.

UNSW Awards for Teaching

Applications are now closed. Stay tuned for more details on the Awards Ceremony, to be held on the 20th November.

Opportunities

Nominations are now open for the 2020 Medicine Research Awards. Nominate an outstanding colleague to recognise their achievements. Nominations close at 5pm on Monday 16th November. Click here to find out more.

The Dementia Centre for Research Collaboration (DCRC) and the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) would like to announce the 2021 DCRC Postgraduate Research Scholarships for Dementia Research. Three PhD scholarships are on offer at $30,000 per annum for up to 3 years starting in 2021. Click here for more details.

Events
Academic Forums

Check out our next talk on Wednesday 25th November at 4:00 – 5:00PM via Teams.

Presenter: Prof Valsa Eapen and Prof Mark Dadds will present "The Burden of Neurodevelopmental Disorders: Call for action"

Click here to watch our last Forum and send us an email to make sure you are in our distribution list!

The Gender Working Group in the Faculty of Medicine at UNSW is planning an online event for the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence Unite Campaign on Thursday 26th November 2020, 12:30-2pm. More details and link to the event will be circulated via email.

Conjoints

Reminder for all conjoints to submit their online renewal form here, and learn more about Conjoint Onboarding here.

Students

Congratulations to Princess Neila Likhoui (Supervisor: Professor Henry Brodaty; co-supervisor: Dr Katya Numbers) and Sophia Xi (Supervisor: Dr Nicole Kochan; co-supervisor: Dr Karen Croot) for delivering exceptional talks and winning awards at the ILP 3-Minute Talks!

New Starters
Welcome to our new starters in the School, and Congratulations for those starting new roles!

Dr. Daniel Lin – Senior Lecturer (SWS)
Lyndon Reilly – Research Officer (SWS)
Valerie Arsenova – Research Assistant (CHeBA)
Nora Wong – Research Assistant (CHeBA)

We would like your feedback and suggestions! Please contact us here.