Welcome to the December edition of the School Newsletter. I hope that you enjoy reading about the activities and achievements of the School in the latter part of the year. There have been a number of staff that have been acknowledged for their achievements with Awards in the Faculty and University Research and Innovation, Learning and Teaching and Professional Staff Awards. In addition we were notified in late November of the success of promotion applications from Alan Reubenson and Anne-Marie Hill.

As I write this I’m just about to commence a month of leave. We are still awaiting the outcome of interviews for a new Head of School. Hopefully we can inform you very soon of the outcome and timelines of the commencement of a new Head of School. I wish you all a wonderful end of year and hope that you enjoy some well-earned time relaxing with those closest to you. We look forward to continuing the School’s success into 2019.
School Directors

Following a handover, Leo Ng will be taking on the role of Director Learning and Teaching in 2019.

We take this opportunity to thank Anne Furness for all the work she has put into this role over a number of years. The school is seen as an extremely high performer in the learning and teaching space and Anne’s guidance and expertise has contributed strongly to the school’s development in this area.

Kathy Briffa has expressed interest and been appointed to the role of Director Graduate Research for a second term. Kathy has shown strong leadership in this portfolio over the last few years and with Kathy currently acting in the position of Deputy Head of School, Leanda McKenna will be continuing to assist Kathy in performing the duties of the role.

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Academic Staff Promotions

Two staff members applied for promotion this year and we’re delighted to let you know both were successful.

Alan Reubenson has been promoted to Senior Lecturer
Anne-Marie Hill has been promoted to Professor

Congratulations to Alan and Anne-Marie on this well-deserved recognition of their achievements.

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Farewells

Merv Travers will be taking up a fulltime position at the University of Notre Dame at the beginning of January 2019. Merv has been a tremendous contributor to the school in his time with us including teaching particularly in the Anatomy stream in both Undergraduate and Postgraduate courses and contributing strongly to our Postgraduate projects and Honours programs. We will certainly miss him, but wish him well in his new position. We hope to continue a relationship with Merv through an adjunct appointment.

Novia Minaee will be stepping down from her statistician position with the school in January to concentrate on her PhD studies. Novia has also been a strong contributor to the school in her work primarily with Honours and HDR students and we will certainly miss her calm and competent manner. We wish her well with her HDR studies.

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Excellence and Innovation in Teaching Award

During Curtin’s Festival of Learning in November, Tara Binnie received an Excellence and Innovation in Teaching Award in the category of Sessional Teacher.

The Festival of Learning presents the ideal opportunity to recognise our outstanding teaching staff who are working every day to ensure the leaders of tomorrow are learning in the most innovative way.

Congratulations Tara.

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Arrivals

And we are pleased to welcome another bouncing baby boy to the School family with Jeremy Briggs birth on Friday, 5 October, weighing 3.5kg.

Congratulations Andrew and Jo.
IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE

Curtin Research and Engagement Awards

On Monday, 5 November, Curtin held its annual Research and Engagement Awards, which celebrate the achievements of our excellent researchers, recognise academics who are making a positive contribution to raising the University’s research profile in the media, and acknowledge research collaborations with our external partners.

The School was well represented with the following Research Excellence awards:

Research Impact and Engagement Award:
Professor Andrew Briggs and Professor Helen Slater

The Early Career Researcher Award:
Dr Vinicius Cavalheri

Associate Professor Kevin Netto and Dr Julie Netto were awarded the Highest readership of an article on The Conversation for ‘We asked five experts: is walking enough exercise?’.

Congratulations everyone!

Winners Group

John Curtin Distinguished Professors

The John Curtin Distinguished Professors were announced on 11 December and the School can claim two staff from the six awarded the highest honour across the University Professor Keith Hill (on the left) and Professor Peter O’Sullivan (on the right).
IN THE PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE

VC’s Excellence Awards for Professional Staff

The presentation ceremony for the Vice Chancellor’s Excellence Awards for Professional Staff was held on Thursday 8 November 2018. These awards recognise the outstanding achievements of Curtin’s professional staff in the areas of innovation, collaboration, leadership and service. The School was, again, represented with an award for:

**Student Ergonomic Assessment Partnership:** This is a collaborative project between the School’s Health and Wellness Centre and People Wellness. The Project members are Sean Ralph, Lyn Haigh, Michelle Bradfield, John Watson, Suzanne Gibson, Caroline Cooper, Troy Campbell, Kathryn Malley, Pamela Winskell. In an effort to help manage the risk of soft tissue injuries across campus, the Staff Wellness Team collaborated with the School of Physiotherapy and Exercise Science and the Health and Wellness Clinic to provide an opportunity for final year Physiotherapy students to provide ergonomic workstation assessments for Curtin staff. The partnership forms a key component of Curtin’s injury prevention capability while providing valuable real world experience for our final year students.

During the year the School was fortunate to have had Gemma Richman assist over a number of weeks and we’d like to acknowledge her award as well for Professionals @ Curtin. Congratulations to everyone.

The Student Ergonomic Assessment Partnership team with VC Professor Debbie Terry

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**Curtin rises to world’s top 100 universities for Sport Science**

The School of Physiotherapy and Exercise Science has been named among the world’s top 100 in the latest Shanghai Ranking Consultancy’s global sport science results. The 2018 Global Ranking of Sport Science Schools and Departments placed Curtin in the 51-100 band, an improvement on the 101-150 band last year. VC Professor Debbie Terry said “This result is testament to the quality of research being carried out by Curtin’s School of Physiotherapy and Exercise Science researchers, placing the University among the world’s top 100 sport science schools and departments.”

This, along with the University rising to equal ninth ranking in Australia is great news and shows Curtin continuing to rise through the prestigious global rankings. The ranking measures several indicators of academic or research performance, including papers indexed in Web of Science, total citations, citations per paper, papers published in top 25 per cent journals, and the percentage of internationally collaborated papers.

**Curtin attains Bronze Award**

Curtin University’s commitment to advancing the careers of women in science, technology, engineering, maths and medicine (STEMM) has been recognised with bronze accreditation at the SAGE Athena SWAN Awards.

Curtin was among the recipients of the Athena SWAN Bronze Award at the ceremony, hosted by SAGE (Science in Australia Gender Equiity) at Parliament House in Canberra on 5 December highlighting gender equity and diversity through STEMM in higher education across Australia and globally.

Curtin University Vice-Chancellor Professor Deborah Terry said she was delighted Curtin’s commitment to improve gender equity and diversity and address barriers to the progression of females had been acknowledged by SAGE.
I was fortunate enough to be awarded the School of Physiotherapy and Exercise Science Prize for the best Honours presentations in my final year of study. During October this year, I travelled over 13,000km from Perth to Helsinki, Finland, to attend and present in my first ever conference.

IADMS brings together an international audience of dance medicine practitioners, dance educators and dancers. Throughout the four day conference, I attended many lectures and interactive workshops that were presented by highly acclaimed allied health and medical professionals. There were also many social networking events, which included a dance performance, organised by Dance Finland. I had to wait anxiously until the final day of the conference to present my honours thesis ‘Biomechanics of turnout in tertiary-level dancers’ which, from the comments I received afterwards, was very well received.

Helsinki is a very beautiful city that has a very strong contemporary arts heritage. We had hoped for a warmer stay in Helsinki, but in the end settled for a glimpse of sunshine at times and freezing cold temperatures. Upon leaving Helsinki we were lucky enough that we even got a bit of a snow drizzle. After the conference, my partner and I travelled to the northern part of Finland to go searching for the Northern Lights.
Mark Liveris Research Student Seminar

Our students had a successful run in the Health Sciences Mark Liveris Research Student Seminar on Thursday, 27 September. It was a packed program, with over 75 students presenting, as well as keynote speakers.

Kevin Wernli received first prize for his Poster 3 minute presentation and Danica Hendry received first prize for her 10 minute Paper presentation. Abbey Sawyer also received second prize for her 10 minute Paper presentation.

Overall the students who attended the seminar found it a great experience, with some excellent presentations and they got a lot out of the panel presentation at the end. These forums are an excellent way for students to gain experience and awards (which looks fantastic on the CV!) so all students should consider participating in the future.

Academic Writing and English for Health Sciences
Free academic and professional language development activities

The GRASP program is being run at the library and these workshops include information on academic writing for HDR students. For more information, he link is found on the library webpage.

For writing assistance, you can also access the learning website for English on: http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/composition/composition.stm

Students who do not have English as their first language (EAL), would benefit from engaging with the language learning activities linked to the English for Health Sciences BlackBoard unit. This unit can be accessed by emailing: EnglishSupportHS@curtin.edu.au

Curtin University also has free online learning resources on sentence structure, grammar and essay writing, great for academic writing development.


Top: Kevin presenting
Middle: Danica presenting and Kevin with his award
Left: Danica receiving her award
The Honours students presentations were held in September and October. Our ESRS students presented with the School of Public Health students in October and the standard across all courses was extremely high.

Congratulations to everyone who participated. The winners of the Honours presentations will be announced at the Student Awards presentation in February.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Title of Research Project</th>
<th>Supervisors</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corey Evans</td>
<td>Can exercise-induced hypoalgesia be trained)</td>
<td>Penny Moss, Will Gibson and Merv Travers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kieren Hill</td>
<td>Isometric training improves exercise-induced analgesia in sedentary individuals</td>
<td>Penny Moss, Will Gibson and Merv Travers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katherine Atkins</td>
<td>The use of the Trunk Impairment Scale by Australian physiotherapists for the assessment of postural control in patients with stroke</td>
<td>Liz Bell, Meg Harrold and Robyn Fary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathleen Sullivan</td>
<td>Implementation of the Trunk Impairment Scale for the assessment of trunk function in a stroke population in two neurological units.</td>
<td>Liz Bell and Robyn Fary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beth Frame</td>
<td>Investigating Physical Activity Behaviours in Children with Joint Hypermobility</td>
<td>Sue Morris, Tony Wright and Robyn Fary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I-ning Wang</td>
<td>An investigation into the application of the new checklist criteria and new framework for joint hypermobility in a clinical paediatric population</td>
<td>Sue Morris, Tony Wright and Robyn Fary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Fernando</td>
<td>Relationship between peak-passive and peak-functional wrist range of motion in typically developing children and children with cerebral palsy</td>
<td>Sian Williams, Corrin Walmsley and Catherine Wild</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joanne Page</td>
<td>Measuring the validity of session rating of perceived exertion to monitor exercise intensity during physiotherapy sessions in individuals with burn injuries</td>
<td>Tiffany Grisbrook, Carly Brade, Dale Edgar and Pail Gittings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evan Gow</td>
<td>Long term outcomes for people with hand burns</td>
<td>Tiffany Grisbrook, Dale Edgar, Dale Edwick and Katrina Spilsbury</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Rim</td>
<td>Physiotherapy graduate employability</td>
<td>Peter Gardner, Trudi Fischer and Sharon Parry</td>
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# HONOURS PRESENTATIONS

## Physiotherapy Honours Presentations - 26 September

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Title of research project</th>
<th>Supervisors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin Kooiman</td>
<td>Do children with disabilities gain physical benefits from participating in an all-abilities Australian rules football program: ‘Starkick’?</td>
<td>Sian Williams, Lynn Jensen and Noula Gibson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan Hitch</td>
<td>Kicking goals: the psychosocial benefits of an AFL sporting programme for children with disabilities</td>
<td>Sian Williams, Lynn Jensen and Noula Gibson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katelyn Baumgartel</td>
<td>Developmental outcomes at 12 months of age for infants born with intrauterine growth restriction</td>
<td>Lynn Jensen and Jenny Downs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophie Caporaso</td>
<td>An investigation into measures of activity in infancy: direct observation, parent report diary and accelerometry</td>
<td>Lynn Jensen and Jenny Downs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aleisha Strugnell</td>
<td>Quality of life in individuals with Rett Syndrome</td>
<td>Jenny Downs and Helen Leonard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emily Abbott</td>
<td>How sensitive are physiotherapists at detecting change in movement?</td>
<td>Amity Campbell and Peter Kent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eleanor Andrew</td>
<td>Investigating factors influencing physiotherapy involvement in the treatment and management of people with severe and persistent mental illness</td>
<td>Robyn Fary, Kathy Briffa, Flavie Waters and Samantha Lee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jean Teoh</td>
<td>An exploration of the feasibility of introducing a tailored dance program in residential aged care facilities to improve physical activity and physical function, and decrease sedentary behaviour amongst older adults.</td>
<td>Sharon Parry, Robyn Fary, and Juliana Gomes Zabatiero</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kellie Reid</td>
<td>Enjoyment and quality of life outcomes of a tailored dance program in residential aged care facilities</td>
<td>Sharon Parry, Robyn Fary and Juliana Gomes Zabatiero</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galina Wong</td>
<td>An action-based approach to implementing standing desks in a year 4 classroom</td>
<td>Beatriz De Oliveira and Sharon Parry</td>
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## Exercise Science and Rehabilitation Science Honours Presentations - 16 October and 12 December

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Title of Research Project</th>
<th>Supervisors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ian Kester Thaver</td>
<td>Strength training - does having a peer buddy help with engagement?</td>
<td>Anne-Marie Hill and Elissa Burton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corey Morris</td>
<td>Relationship between mechanical effectiveness in sprint running and force- velocity characteristics of a counter-movement jump in AFL athletes</td>
<td>Kevin Netto and Jason Weber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob Shaw</td>
<td>Comparison between traditional vs cluster sets in aerobic conditioning</td>
<td>Kagan Ducker, Carly Brade and Daniel Hiscock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jazmin Nash</td>
<td>Effects of caffeine supplementation on training adaptations</td>
<td>Kagan Ducker, Carly Brade and Daniel Hiscock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conor Andrews</td>
<td>The effect of hockey equipment mass on team sport performance during a simulated circuit</td>
<td>Kagan Ducker, Carly Brade and Brendyn Appleby</td>
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</table>

Make tomorrow better.
CONFERENCE NEWS

Australia and New Zealand Falls Conference - Hobart

Anne-Marie Hill and Keith Hill were both involved in Plenary sessions at the ANZFP Conference in Hobart from 18—20 November.

Anne-Marie presented “Falls after hospital discharge – providing patient education” and Keith presented “International falls prevention evidence: gaps and translation issues”.

All in all it was a successful team event for the School with Lex de Jong (Adjunct Fellow) and Elissa Burton also giving oral presentations and posters.

A great highlight of the conference was Chiara Naseri winning the Best Student Presentation amid stiff competition! The title of her presentation was “Engagement in falls prevention strategies after receiving tailored education: a process evaluation.” Congratulations Chiara!

Human Factors and Ergonomics Society of Australia - Perth

Sharon Parry, Juliana Zabatiero and Leon Straker ran a very successful symposium on standing at work at the 53rd Human Factors and Ergonomics Society of Australia Annual Conference held in Perth from 26 to 28 November.

They presented papers on systematic reviews of epidemiological evidence, laboratory studies by PhD candidate Richelle Baker, a field study on children involving Honours student Jolyn Ee and a field study conducted in collaboration with Sydney University.

Leon Straker, together with ex-PhD student Ari Antonovsky and his primary supervisor Clare Pollock, received the Alan Welford Award 2018 for the best peer reviewed paper on human factors and ergonomics at the conference and was for their paper: “System reliability as perceived by maintenance personnel on petroleum production facilities”, published in Reliability Engineering and System Safety 152:58-65
Over the past several years, the Curtin Ageing Research Network (CARN) has been steadily growing in profile and outcomes (grants, publications and research students). CARN is a cross disciplinary grouping of researchers with a mission to improve the experience of ageing through quality research. CARN is led by a management committee that includes Professor Keith Hill (as Chair), and Dr Elissa Burton, Dr Robyn Fary and Professor Anne-Marie Hill from the School, as well as other researchers from Schools of Nursing Midwifery and Paramedicine, and Psychology.

On Friday, 7 December, CARN ran a very successful one day forum to showcase the variety of recent and current research by our researchers and students. We hosted invited speakers from Canada (Assistant Professor Susan Hunter, School of Physical Therapy, University of Western Ontario, speaking on effect of gait aid use for people with dementia) and Sydney (Professor Yun-Hee Jeon, Susan and Isaac Wakil Professor of Healthy Ageing, Sydney Nursing School, The University of Sydney, speaking on quality care and workforce quality in residential care settings).

Seventy-five people attended, mostly external partners / clinicians / stakeholders / other researchers. The School had a number of staff and students presenting including Elissa Burton, Anne-Marie Hill, Keith Hill, Chiara Naseri (PhD student), Eyvonne Sim (PhD student) and Jean Teoh (Honours student). The Forum appeared to generate some new networks and potential future collaborators among those attending. Special thanks to Elissa, Janet Hutson and Kerry Higgins for all of the background work to ensure the successful running of this event.
During September, six final year physiotherapy students visited both University of South Australia and Bellarmine University in Louisville Kentucky and delivered a simulation activity to their peers under the supervision of Dr Diane Dennis, Anne Furness and John Owens and collaborators at each facility. The activities were a positive learning experience for all concerned, and outcomes are currently under review in order to disseminate results in the future. The activity was made possible by a Curtin University Innovation Grant that was awarded to the group and was formatted as a collaborative research project with Bellarmine university. Students were also included into classes on musculoskeletal, paediatric, neurology evaluations, assessments and treatment, and anatomy dissection labs.

The program included private presentations by Bellarmine faculty on the American Health Care System and the History of the Bellarmine Physical Therapy program and the development of the now common Doctoral program. Curtin students had rotations in the Bellarmine Service Learning Clinic where they shadowed Bellarmine students conducting examination, evaluation and treatment of a wide range of musculoskeletal, neurological, and developmental conditions.

They had day visits to various private clinics where they shadowed the private clinicians and experienced the different treatment and billing and insurance regimes. As well as assisting in the community based clinical projects Bellarmine run in the poorer socio-economic areas of Louisville.

A guided tour by Dr Blake LaBlanc gave the students a behind the scenes view of the University of Louisville Football training facilities and rehabilitation procedures within the impressive Cardinal stadium.

Dr Elizabeth Ulanowski from the Bellarmine University and Norton Healthcare Neurologic Residency program provided a private talk about the residency program and a tour of the hospital facilities which included an active demonstration of the Norton Healthcare Mobility lab, designed to assess and correct gait patterns associated with neurological injury. https://nortonchildrens.com/news/norton-mobility-lab-now-available-gait-issues/
Bellarmine Report 2018 continued

A two and a half hour tour of the Frazier Rehabilitation Neurosciences Centre and Spinal Hospital lead by Kimberly Atkinson, the director of the NeuroRecovery Training Institute, allowed the students to observe and communicate with the clinicians in the various clinics throughout the hospital and observe the gait training and walking recovery sessions that were in progress.

Culturally the students managed to visit the Louisville Slugger museum, the Muhammad Ali museum, 21C Hotel gallery and Locust Grove — a restored 1792 Georgian house with links to the development of Louisville and visits from two US presidents. While a Friday night High School gridiron game introduced them to tailgating, and a Bourbon distillery tour gave them the understanding that the taste of straight Bourbon, can be softened by the taste of Bourbon flavoured chocolate. They experienced the Halloween culture with a trip to Huber’s farm in Indiana, with enough time to hit most of the shopping malls in Louisville.

All agreed that Bellarmine is a Beautiful University and that Louisville is well worth a visit, even a virtual visit: https://www.youvisit.com/tour/bellarmine?tourid=tour1_10_31_16_63617

The students and staff of Curtin sincerely thank the students and staff of Bellarmine for their very generous hospitality, and a youtube video produced by the 2018 students is viewable on https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8YUMDUV2H9M

Any Perth clinicians that would be interested in allowing a Bellarmine student to shadow themselves or their staff, during their visit in May 2019 can contact John Owens on jowens@curtin.edu.au or 92663655.
Elissa Burton was invited earlier in the year as one of only two Australian researchers to be part of the International ReAble Network. The Network brings together academics from across the world who research reablement services and how these services affect the adults receiving them.

Elissa recently travelled to Trondheim, Norway for the second workshop and she has been working on four chapters for a book the Network are writing. She is also part of a small team who are conducting a Delphi study to establish an international definition of reablement.

The third workshop will be held in Copenhagen in 2019 after the Transforming Care Conference where Elissa will present as part of a symposium on reablement in Australia.

In October Sharon Parry, Leon Straker and two of Leon’s previous post-doctoral fellows Pieter Coenen and Erin Howie attended the 7th International Congress on Physical Activity and Public Health in London. The conference, which is co-sponsored by the World Health Organisation, launched the “WHO Global Action Plan on Physical Activity 2018-2030, More active people for a healthier world”.

Sharon presented two posters - one poster described the physical activity and sedentary behaviour in residential aged care facilities and the other poster reported the results of an intervention study looking at the effects of providing standing desks in a grade four classroom. Leon also presented two posters - one poster was on the associations between technology use and academic performance of children in a higher educational technology school. The other poster discussed the issue of prolonged occupational standing – how long is too long for musculoskeletal health?
LEARNING AND TEACHING GRANT SUCCESS

Learning and Teaching Innovation and Seeding Grants

The University Learning and Teaching Innovation Grants were announced on 15 November 2018 with success for a number of staff from the School:

Anne Furness, Tony Petta and Heidi Welch along with Janie Brown and Jaci Mason from the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Paramedicine were successful in obtaining an Innovation Grant of $19,234.07 for the project “A Virtual Learning Experience for Health Professionals to Develop Lifelong Learning Attributes”

Alan Reubenson, Daniel Gucciardi and Leo Ng along with Margo Brewer from the Faculty of Health Science were successful in obtaining and Innovation Grant of $24,066.00 for the project “How can we enhance student success in work integrated learning (WIL)? The P4manCE Study”.

In addition Sharon Parry and Peter Gardner were successful in being part of a seeding grant application with Dave Parsons and Sharon Smart from the School of Occupational Therapy, Social Work and Speech Pathology for $9,235.30 for “A pilot interprofessional mindfulness program for allied health students to improve engagement, retention and well-being.”

Penny Moss, Carly Brade and Kate Smith collaborated with Hugh Soord from the Faculty Learning Engagement Teams and Shelley Appleton from the School of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences and were successful in receiving $18,256 for “How well do Physiotherapy, Pharmacy and Exercise Science students transition through first year biomedical stream units?”

Heidi Welch also was a part of an interprofessional team that was successful in gaining a seed grant through the School of Occupational Therapy, Social Work and Speech Pathology with Brooke Sanderson (Speech Pathology), RickLadyshewsky (Graduate Business School), Emily Jeffery (Dietetics) Caroline Randles (Occupational Therapy) and Margo Brewer (Faculty of Health Sciences). The project “Peer Coaching & Work Integrated Learning to Enhance Employability: Exploring Tacit Knowledge of Skilled Supervisors”.

There were several other projects that staff within the school put up that were not successful, however we acknowledge the amount of work that goes into these submissions and all were excellent ideas with some very well thought out scholarly activity built into the proposals. It was extremely competitive for project funding this year with 20 Innovation Grants and five Seed Grants approved for funding, from a pool of 49 applications.

Congratulations to all for the continued tremendous work on scholarship within the school.

National Business Start Up Competition

Leo Ng was a finalist in a National Business Start Up competition through EduGrowth on 16 November. This was a spin off from the Accelerate Program which Leo attended some months ago. EduGrowth, is a national company that helps businesses develop Education Technology (EdTech). Their business plan competition brings cutting-edge EdTech products and services to light.

55 applications were submitted and Leo was one of five finalists selected to do a three minute pitch to a panel of three experts, followed by a pitch online to a national audience online. Leo won $5,000 to go towards building this innovation, the Research Screener. It is a web app that uses artificial intelligence or machine learning to help screen research articles for researchers.

Congratulations Leo on this inspirational achievement.
**RESEARCH GRANT SUCCESS**

**Research Grant Success**
**Danish Work Environment Research Fund**

Professor Andreas Holtermann (National Centre for the Working Environment, Copenhagen, Denmark), Professor Svend Erik Mathiassen (Centre for Musculoskeletal Research, Gavle University, Sweden) and **Professor Leon Straker** are the researchers for the project “Goldilocks Principle: can work be designed to make it healthier to do it?” The project is being funded through the Danish Work Environment Research Fund for AUD $1 million.

**NHMRC**
**Project Grant Successes**

**Professor Graham Hall** was successful in his NHMRC grant application for funding of $1,600,448 for “Developing sensitive endpoints for respiratory disease progression in children and young people with neuromuscular disease”.

Graham is also a Chief Investigator on another project grant being led through the Murdoch Children’s Research Institute.

**Professor Leon Straker** is also a chief investigator on an externally funded NHMRC Project grant being led through the University of Sydney: “The health, social and economic implications of risk-taking in adolescence over the life-course: a data linkage study of the Raine cohort.”

**Professors Anne-Marie Hill and Keith Hill** are Chief Investigators on a successful new NHMRC Project grant led by Associate Professor Chris Toye (School of Nursing, Midwifery and Paramedicine), titled “Multicentre randomised controlled trial: caregiver, patient, and system outcomes from a program supporting informal caregivers of older people discharged home from hospital”. This project received $1,500,380. in funding.

**Research Grant Success**

Dr **Vin Cavalheri**, A/Professor **Kylie Hill** and Professor **Anne-Marie Hill** received this trophy after a successful application for the Amgen / Osteoporosis Australia / Australia and New Zealand Bone and Mineral Society Research Grant. The project title is “Low bone mineral density in people with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: a novel intervention to tackle this highly prevalent comorbid condition”. The rest of the research team includes Dennis Taaffe (ECU), David Manners (SJG-Midland), Rob Newton (ECU) and Daniel Galvão (ECU).

**And another successful Research Application**

**Vin Cavalheri** was also successful with his application for SPRINT, an international research agreement between the São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) and the Australian Technology Network of Universities (ATN).

Vin submitted the application with Associate Professor Ercy Ramos and two of her PhD Students at the São Paulo State University. The project title is “The effects of elastic resistance training in patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: a systematic review and meta-analysis”. Ercy and her students will be visiting Curtin next year and Vin will spend some time with them in Brazil.

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*Make tomorrow better.*


RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

Articles published to 30 November 2018 by Staff and Adjuncts


Articles published to 30 November 2018 by Staff and Adjuncts


Tampin B, Vollert J, Schmid AB. Sensory profiles are comparable in patients with distal and proximal entrapment neuropathies while the pain experience differs. Current Medical Research and Opinion, 2018, https://doi.org/10.1080/03007995.2018.14513

Dr Andrew Lavender
Move it or Lose it
Article in the West Australian on 18 September

Bones need stimulation through loading to keep their density and joints need stimulation from movement to keep stiffness at bay. You can read the article in full on The West Australian.

Best ways to be healthier
Interview with Barry Nicholls on ABC Statewide Drive on 1 October

Andrew says moving around, not being lazy, and eating healthy is a big factor in being healthy at 100. A lot of common age related diseases are hereditary like heart diseases. Andrew suggests exercising for 20-30 minutes per day at least three days a week.

Why do our muscles stiffen as we age?
Article in The Epoch Times on 5 October

Bones, joints, and muscles tend to become weaker as we age and aging-associated conditions such as osteo-arthritis, osteoporosis and rheumatoid arthritis can contribute to muscle stiffness. You can read the article in full on The Epoch Times.

Potential long-term impact of concussion
Interviews on Channel 7 News on 15 October

The potential long-term impact of concussion has already transformed the rules of contact sport, but another hidden danger is now being investigated. An Australian-first study is looking at the impact of head knocks that do not cause a concussion. As Andrew is one of the researchers looking for a link between minor head knocks and conditions like dementia and Alzheimer’s, he was interviewed for these news shows. You can read this interesting article on: MiNDFOOD (Australia)

Professor Leon Straker and Professor Peter O’Sullivan
A difficult position: Experts Question whether ergonomics holds up

Leon and Peter are quoted in this article questioning the evidence that supports ergonomic intervention in the office.

You can read this very though provoking article on:
WA Today  Brisbane Times  Sydney Morning Herald; The Age  Canberra Times  Sunday Canberra Times  The Sunday Age  The Sun Herald

Professor Peter O’Sullivan
Standing Proud
Article in MiNDFOOD on 12 November

Peter describes our obsession with “good posture” as being part of our cultural preoccupation and can serve as a point of judgement, particularly for women and girls. Women tend to sit, stand and walk with their limbs close to them, whereas men tend to adopt a more relaxed posture. Have we developed a fearful mindset around our spines?

You can read this interesting article on:
MiNDFOOD (Australia)

Read all about it!

Make tomorrow better.
Dr Elissa Burton

**Strength exercises could help older adults get back on their feet**

*Articles in Mirage News, Medical Express, Knowridge Science Report and Aged Care Guide on 6 - 10 December*

Elissa is the lead author of a study that has found older adults who participate in strength training may have a better chance of being able to get up independently after they have a fall.

You can read these articles in full on [Mirage News](#), [Medical Xpress](#), [Aged Care Guide](#) and [Knowridge Science Report](#).

Professor Anne-Marie Hill

**Stand strong and tall – and you won’t fall**

*Article in the Koori Mail, Lismore on 28 November*

Each year more than 30% of Aboriginal people aged over 44 are hospitalised after falling so the Wadjak Northside Aboriginal Community Centre is now recruiting participants into the Ironbark falls prevention program.

Anne-Marie is the Chief Investigator for the program that includes weekly strength and training exercises in a culturally safe environment.

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**Self Directed Staff Research: M&M’s Taste Test**

In November the Staff Research group conducted a taste test on another popular treat—M&Ms. 14 highly skilled researchers deduced that the Crispy M&M is most popular and a successfully introduced new flavour. The original chocolate and peanut flavours still commanded some respect, along with newcomer caramel.

Unfortunately Lamington has well and truly missed the mark — they may have assumed they would capture a large Aussie following using an iconic cake as its inspiration, but we painfully discovered there is no way to reproduce that flavour in a candy covered chocolate.

Dr Sue Morris

**Rare disease outreach: The Ehlers-Danlos Society launches Australian conferences**

*Articles in Newswire, KRGV (America) and Digital Journal on 9 December*

The Ehlers-Danlos Society presented its first Australian global learning conferences in Sydney and Perth. Curtin hosted the Perth conference with Sue Morris assisting with the arrangements and, along with the Executive Director of EDS, Lara Bloom provided the opening addresses.

You can read more about the Ehlers-Danlos Society conferences on [Newswire](#), [KRGV (America)](#), [Digital Journal](#).
Mental Health Week—Scavenger Hunt

Catherine Wild, Carly Brade and Bea De Oliveira, along with a group of undergraduate students organised a Scavenger Hunt during Mental Health Week to raise awareness around mental health and some funds for Act Belong Commit. The Scavenger Hunt was held on Wednesday, 10 October and provided a great opportunity for staff and students to take break from sitting at their desks and get competitive while enjoying some fresh air. There were big smiles (and some sweat) across everyone’s faces – so I’d say it was a great success! First place went to the Library UniPass team and the neuro ladies came in a close second!

Above: participants and teams starting to work out their strategy.
Below L-R: Physio Neuro Team (and Liz Bainbridge); Physio student team; Library UniPass team

And how the Scavenger Hunt went for the Professional Staff Team

Renae, Sharon and Suzanne were keen to start the Scavenger Hunt though Rosette tried to get out of it by pretending she was asleep. Suzanne and Sharon weren’t having any of that and dragged Rosette along. Sharon slipped off and was last seen having a drink at the Tav then, slightly unsteady on her feet, fell face first into the garden. Suzanne gracefully showed how them all how to find peace and tranquillity amid the chaos.
EVENTS

Annual School Thank You Event

The School held it’s Thank You event on Tuesday, 9 October. The evening included speakers presenting information on their current research and practical / clinical applications:

**Brendyn Appleby, Head of Strength and Conditioning, Hockey Australia**
Reflections from Rio and Gold Coast: Managing elite teams at international sporting events.

**Kylie Hill, Associate Professor**
The impact of sedentary behaviour (on respiratory diseases).

**Simon Rosalie, Lecturer**
Case studies in perceptual-motor skill performance and rehabilitation in motorsport athletes.

**Kathleen Sullivan, Physiotherapy Honours Student**
Implementation of the Trunk Impairment Scale for the assessment of trunk function in a stroke population.

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School’s End of Year Function

The School held it’s End of Year Function on Friday, 7 December on the Burswood foreshore. The perfect weather and beautiful venue ensured staff had a great day socialising and enjoying the odd game of Bocce and Klop. It was also lovely to see a few of our younger family members joining in on the day.

Thanks to everyone who helped organise the event and provide a much needed wind-down after a very hectic year.
The 4th year students held their formal dinner at Frasers in Kings Park on Saturday, 17 December. Michelle Jupp and Emma Mignanelli, along with a number of willing helpers organised a wonderful night. Everyone had a fabulous time and it was a great opportunity to catch up and find out about everyone’s prospective careers! John Owens, Karen Richards and Lynn Jensen went along to enjoy to help the students celebrate.
NOT QUITE SO HEALTHY COMPETITION

Telethon Bake-Off
Tuesday, 2 October

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the morning tea on Tuesday, 2 October – the bakers, the consumers and the judges. We raised $123.10 of the $1552.15 Curtin donated to the Telethon Speech and Hearing campaign.

Peter Gardner and Gemma Richman had the onerous task of tasting and rating the entries, with the winners being:

**Best Dish Overall:** Meg’s Lemon Slice
For the perfectly balanced tang, smooth texture and consistent presentation

**Close Runner Up:** Stephanie’s Walnut Tart
For its buttery flavour, delicate crunch and evenly baked crust

And the hands-down favourite in the **Most Popular Staff Choice** was Vittoria’s Brigadeiro for its rich chocolate flavour.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season

END OF NEWSLETTER

If you would like to contribute to our next newsletter
Contact: Janet Hutson
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Please provide a photo (if applicable) with your news