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Message from the Research News team

This month we are pleased to welcome our new Acting Executive Director on board. Craig Russell is a graduate of Melbourne and Ballarat University in Applied Science and Management and has since completed further studies in business with a recent completion of an Executive Leadership Program from Harvard University. Craig has spent most of his employment working within the private sector predominately in management across sport, hospitality and for the last 10 years the health sector where he has led large, diverse teams within national and international multi-site operations. Some of these leaderships roles were with Mater Health, RSL Care, Atlantic Philanthropies and the World Anti-Doping Agency which has enabled Craig to develop his leadership, customer service, operational management, business development, strategic planning, financial, people and change management skills.

Craig says he is "pleased to be working at Forensic and Scientific Services alongside each of you and I will have an open door policy to be accessible to each and every employee". He will endeavour to get to as many staff meetings as he can so staff can place a face to the name and he is looking forward to working with each of you over the next 3 months.

We would also like to highlight the ongoing successes of our teams at Forensic and Scientific Services:

* PEH Organic Chemistry has contributed to the ongoing PFAS analysis by developing and validating a test for PFAS in seafood, as a direct response from the situation with contamination in Bundaberg.
* Dr Ujang Tinggi from Inorganic Chemistry, who received ministerial approval for official overseas travel to present as a keynote speaker at the Asia Pacific Food Analysis Network (APFAN) workshop.
* Public Health Microbiology, Leptospirosis team has had a successful redesignation as the WHO reference laboratory. The laboratory has been active in the international sphere since 1958. The designation as a WHO reference laboratory recognises the expertise of the laboratory in diagnosis, holding of globally unique culture collection of the organism types, training and laboratory surveillance for the disease.

In June we said [a temporary!] farewell to Leisa who has taken a secondment to the Centre for Health Research (Translational Research Institute). Her position in the Research & Development office will not be backfilled during her absence so please note that the Research Office will only be staffed Monday-Thursday during this time.
Staff publications


New research projects

Authentication of uniquely Australian food products with claimed health benefits - Kakadu plum (Terminalia ferdinandiana) Principal investigator: Sadia Chowdhury – Organic Chemistry; Research Supervisor: Dr Jim Carter; Collaboration with QAAFI

Quantification of Phasi Charoen-like virus in the life span of Aedes aegypti mosquitoes Principal Investigator: Sonja Hall-Mendelin - Public Health Virology; Research team: Jamie McMahon and Glen Hewitson – Public Health Virology; Collaboration with UQ

Characterisation of bloom-forming marine cyanobacteria in south east Queensland by whole genome sequencing and toxin profiling Principal Investigator: Dr Barbara Sendall – Organic Chemistry; Research team: Dr Amy Jennison and Dr Rikki Graham – Public Health Microbiology; Collaboration with Griffith University, Department of Environment and Science and CSIRO

Establishment of baseline genomic data for long-term surveillance of the efficacy of the Wolbachia-based mosquito control strategy in north Queensland Principal Investigators: David Warrilow – Public Health Virology; Research team: Dr Bixing Huang and Dr Andrew van den Hurk – Public Health Virology; Collaboration with JCU and Melbourne University
Staff presentations

*Please let us know if you have collaborated or prepared a paper for, or presented at a conference or meeting recently*

Research forms

New versions of the Short form application (QIS 33017), Progress report (QIS 27401) and Project completion report template (QIS 27404) have been uploaded to QIS2.

Are you interested in developing your research skills, but aren’t yet ready to embark on a masters or PhD? CQUniversity is excited to commence a new coursework program that offers a perfect way to introduce you to research. The Graduate Certificate in Research (GCR) will provide you the opportunity to acquire advanced research skills which can be applied in a range of disciplinary contexts.

If you’d like to continue on after the course, successful completion of the GCR with a minimum GPA score of 5.5 will provide you with entry into CQUniversity’s Masters by Research, or in some cases, the PhD or other doctoral programs.

Would you like to know more? To register your interest [https://www.cqu.edu.au/research/graduate-certificate-research/expression-of-interest-registration](https://www.cqu.edu.au/research/graduate-certificate-research/expression-of-interest-registration)

New book in the library

*Randomistas: how radical researchers changed our world* by Andrew Leigh (2018) (click to request a loan)

Randomised tests are carried out on us every day: by supermarkets, search engines, online dating sites and direct marketers. Political parties use randomised trials to win elections. But how do these tests work? Are there any ethical issues? And what do they reveal about our choices?

In Randomistas, Andrew Leigh tells the stories of radical researchers who overturned conventional wisdom in medicine, politics, economics, law enforcement and more. From finding the cure to scurvy to discovering what policies really improve literacy rates, randomistas have shaped life as we know it – but they often had to fight to conduct their trials and have their findings implemented.

If you would like to borrow this item, click on the book title (ensure your details are correct) and click SEND. If the book is currently on loan, we will add your details to the reservations list.
Upcoming events

August 2018


September 2018


October 2018


November 2018


December 2018


AMSI BioInfo 3-7 December 2018 The University of Western Australia http://bis.amsi.org.au/

Research Community of Practice (RCoP)

Do you have a passion for research and continual improvement?

Are you interested in deepening and sharing your expertise by working together with others to solve common problems?

If you answered yes to either of these questions why not join the Research Community of Practice.

Monthly meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month from 1-2pm in FSS Conference Room 102. The next meeting is 8 August.

If you are still unsure if this group is for you and would like to discuss this further please contact Trish Murphy x2601 or Lucretia Angus x2609 who will be your RCoP coordinators.


**NHMRC's new code of conduct for research**

Released 14 June, the new *Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research, 2018* (the 2018 Code) and *Guide to Managing Potential Breaches of the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research* (the Investigation Guide) demonstrate Australia's commitment to ensuring the highest quality research in Australia. The 2018 Code provides a new principles-based approach to the responsible conduct of research. Both the 2018 Code and the Investigation Guide are jointly authored by Australia's premier research funding agencies, the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and the Australian Research Council (ARC), as well as Universities Australia (UA).


**Department of Health Standards Australia (AS/NZS)**

FSS library is the main contact for the Department of Health Standards Australia access to AS/NZS and ISO standards.

You can browse the Standards Australia catalogue without using a license, but to obtain full text you will need to contact the library.


ISO standards (International) are not part of the Department of Health subscription but we are usually able to find you the AS/NZS equivalent (where available) or facilitate the purchase of the standard for you.

**RACI Qld Branch presents: an introduction to Food Standards Australia & New Zealand and its functions**

DATE: Wednesday 25 July 2018
TIME: 4:00pm - 5:00pm followed by light refreshments
VENUE: Forensic and Scientific Services, 39 Kessels Road, Coopers Plains, Brisbane

COST: FREE

Dr Ujang Tinggi, Advanced Chemist, Forensic and Scientific Services (FSS), Health Support Queensland (HSQ) has received ministerial approval for official overseas travel to Jakarta, Indonesia, to present as keynote speaker at the Asia Pacific Food Analysis Network (APFAN) Workshop on food analysis and quality management being held from 25 to 27 July 2018.

Dr Tinggi's lecture will focus on the advanced techniques of food analysis and the assessment of food quality and safety and the effects on human health.

Attending the workshop will also provide an opportunity to assess the development of food quality and safety analysis programs in the Asia Pacific region for comparison with established technologies in Australia.

Dr Tinggi is an active member of the APFAN and a key contact in Australia. This workshop is a follow-up event to the Royal Australian Chemical Institute (RACI) Centenary Congress in Melbourne that was held from 23 to 28 July 2017 which focussed on developing advanced chemical analytical techniques for assessment of food quality and safety in the Asia Pacific countries.

Participation in this workshop will further enhance and promote the capability of FSS in laboratory management relating to food quality assessment and analytical services:

* The health focus of this keynote lecture is expected to benefit communities in countries from the Asia Pacific Region and in Queensland.

* Information from this conference on improvement in food quality and health management in the Asia Pacific Region will open opportunities for Queensland Health to provide advanced education and training programs.

* Promotion of our skills and capabilities at international conferences presents opportunities to provide advanced chemical analytical services to Asia Pacific countries and to generate revenue for Queensland Health.

* Attendance at international conferences establishes networks with international researchers, with the possibility of collaborative research.