

## Faculty of Computing Health and Science

### Research Unit Annual Report

**RESEARCH UNIT NAME:** Systems and Intervention Research Centre for Health (SIRCH)

**RESEARCH UNIT LEVEL (tick):**

- Level I Research Group                      X Level II Research Centre  
 Level III Research Institute                       Centre of Excellence

**YEAR:** 2010

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#### **BRIEF OVERVIEW** (1-2 paragraphs outlining major activities conducted in past year)

In 2010 SIRCH projects spanned many areas in health and can be seen as falling into the broad domains of:

- Workforce development including interprofessional health education, e-learning and learning from Indigenous Australians
- Safety and quality in health including communication in healthcare and testing new models of service delivery

#### **MEMBERSHIP** (Full Title of Researchers, including staff, research students, adjuncts in the past year)

Director: Associate Professor Moira Sim

Research Principal: Dr Andrew Guilfoyle

Advisor: Professor Cobie Rudd, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Health Advancement)  
(Foundational Director of SIRCH till 2009)

Researchers: Ms Toni Wain  
Dr Richard Brightwell  
Mr Steven Johnston  
Dr Eric Khong

Centre staff: Ms Daniela Urzillo

Collaborators Professor Gary Hulse, University of Western Australia  
Professor Colleen Hayward, Kurongkurl Katitjin  
Associate Professor Dawn Bessarab, Curtin University of Technology  
Ms Laura Elkin, Health Consumers' Council of WA  
Dr Glenn Arendts, University of Western Australia  
Mr Joe Cuthbertson, St John Ambulance Western Australia  
Dr John Van der Post, North Metropolitan Area Health Service  
Ms Joanna Smith, Silver Chain  
Ms Lisa Bastian, Department of Health Western Australia  
Professor Donna Mak, University of Notre Dame Australia  
Dr Wendy Cheng, Royal Perth Hospital  
Dr Roger Clarnette, Fremantle Hospital  
Dr Anne Choong  
Dr Mel Genovese

**NEW GRANTS** (Identify Funding Body, Value of grant, Years funded, Chief Investigator, collaborators, title)

**Four new grants in 2010, total value: \$437,307.65**

**Grant title:** **Creating cultural empathy and challenging attitudes through Indigenous narratives**

Funding body: Australian Learning and Teaching Council.

Grant received: \$220,000 (excl. GST), 2 year grant.

Grant awarded to: Prof. Cobie Rudd, A/Prof Moira Sim, Prof. Colleen Hayward, Ms Toni Wain

Project aim: The aim is to change the underlying attitudes of many health professionals that are known to negatively impact on their treatment of Indigenous people. This will be achieved through the development and implementation of story-based learning that develops empathy.

Grant awarded: 5 March 2010

**Grant title:** **Hands on Training (HOT) Program**

Funding body: Office of the Chief Nursing Officer, Department of Health, WA

Grant awarded to: Professor Cobie Rudd & Associate Professor Moira Sim.

Unfortunately this project was removed from SIRCH and transferred to the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Post Graduate Medicine.

Grant received: \$30,038.40 (incl GST), 12 month grant.

Project aim: Implementation of up to three, 4 day placements for Year 10 students interested in nursing as a career.

Date grant awarded: April 2010, completion date June 2011.

**Grant title:** **PARAMED Home: Paramedic assessment and referral to access medical care at home: A randomised trial.**

Funding body: State Health Research Advisory Council, Department of Health Western Australia

Researchers: Chief Investigator: Sim, M., Arendts, G. (non-ECU), Johnston, S., Brightwell, R., Smith, J. (non-ECU), Van der Post, J. (non-ECU), & Cuthbertson, J. (non-ECU)

Grant received: \$145 000 (GST exclusive), 12 month grant.

Date grant awarded: 15 July 2010

**Grant title:** **Provision of medical practitioner for advice and consultancy on medical matters. Office of Health Review**

Funding body: Department of Health Western Australia

Researchers: Sim, M, Khong, E, Chong, A, Genovese, M (non-ECU)

Date awarded: 31 August 2010, 6 months with an option for another 6 months.

Amount: \$45,000 (GST exclusive)

**PUBLICATIONS, REFERRED BOOKS, CHAPTERS, JOURNAL ARTICLES, CONFERENCE PAPERS, REPORTS**

Almeida, O.P., Alfonson, H., Pirkis, J., Kerse, N., **Sim, M.**, Flicker, L., Snowdon, J., Draper, B., Byrne, G., Goldney, R., Lautenschlager, N.T., Stocks, N., Scazufca, M., Huisman, M., Araya, R., & Pfaff, J. (2010). A practical approach to assess depression risk and to guide risk reduction strategies in later life. *International Psychogeriatrics*, 1-12. doi:10.1017/S1041610210001870

**Guilfoyle, A. M.**, Siggers, S., Sims, M., & Hutchins, T. (2010). Culturally strong child care programs for Indigenous children, families and communities, *Australian Journal of Early Education*, 35(3),

**Guilfoyle, A. M.** & Taylor, C. (2010). Racism, cultural competency and Indigenous Australians: Critical reflections on the veracity of a psychodynamic discourse, *The International Journal of Interdisciplinary Social Sciences*, 4(12), 131-154.

Guilfoyle, D. R., **Guilfoyle, A. M.**, Reynolds, D. (2010). Participatory Action Research in Indigenous Cultural Heritage Management: The Gabbie Kylie Foundation, Esperance, Western Australia. *The International Journal of Diversity in Organisations, Communities and Nations*, 9(6), 95-118.

Shand, M., & **Guilfoyle, A.** (2010). Understanding and building resilience : investigating an arts program in a multicultural community centre. 20<sup>th</sup> national conference health promotion determinants of health strengthening action 10 – 13 April 2011

Bulsara, C., and Phillips, C., Travaglia, J., Mackean, T., **Guilfoyle, A.** (2010). Good systems for quality in Aboriginal health care delivery– an exploration of place, ideas and power in health, PHCRED Annual Research Conference 12 November, University Club of WA.

Harman, B., Cohen, L., Drake, D., Kaczmarek, E., Pooley, J., **Guilfoyle, A.**, Ferguson, C., & Harms, C. (2010). *Resilience and the Brain and Emotional Development Workshops*. Paper presented at the QEC2010 Conference, November, Melbourne.

**Continuing Professional Development module**

**Sim, M., Khong, E.**, Deacon, J., & Quinlivan, T. (2010, March). Challenging consultations. *Check program of self-assessment*, 456. South Melbourne: The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners. ISSN 0812-9630.

**HIGHER DEGREE BY RESEARCH LOAD** (list name of candidate and degree type)

**Candidate name:** Ms Toni Wain  
**Degree:** PhD

**VISITORS AND COLLABORATIONS** (List the organisation’s name and short summary of the nature of the collaboration. Separate into local, national and international)

SIRCH has a broad range of stakeholders and collaborators with whom we meet with regularly to seek advice on strategy and test our ideas. In 2010 we had 50 meetings with external stakeholders and collaborators. These meetings have served the purpose of the SIRCH advisory group and have allowed us to explore issues relating to the stakeholders’ areas of interest in greater depth than would have been possible with a generic meeting covering all areas of SIRCH.

The table below shows our current projects, their domains and the stakeholder groups.

Project	Summary	Domains	Stakeholders and end-users
Hepatitis workforce development (2008 - ongoing)	E-learning platform to engage health professionals to improve the detection and management of hepatitis C and B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>E-learning</li> <li>Workforce development</li> <li>Interprofessional education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communicable Disease Control Directorate, Department of Health WA</li> <li>Hepatitis WA &amp; other non-Government organisations</li> <li>WA hospitals</li> <li>Department of Corrective Services</li> <li>Royal Australian College of General Practitioners</li> <li>Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine</li> <li>GP networks</li> <li>Rural Health West</li> <li>Practice Nurses Association of WA</li> <li>Pharmaceutical Council</li> <li>Australian College of Ambulance Professionals</li> <li>Australian Society for HIV Medicine</li> <li>General practitioners and other medical practitioners, practice, community and hospital</li> </ul>

			nurses, allied health practitioners, health students, public health practitioners and those in health administration and policy.
Creating cultural empathy (2010-2012)	The collection of stories from Indigenous people about their experience of healthcare to as a resource to increase cultural empathy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interprofessional education</li> <li>• Indigenous health</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kurongkurl Katitjin</li> <li>• Aboriginal Health Council of Western Australia and Aboriginal Medical Services</li> <li>• Combined Universities Centre for Rural Health, University of Notre Dame Australia, University of Western Australia, Curtin University, Murdoch University and all Australian Universities</li> <li>• Health Consumers' Council of Western Australia</li> <li>• North Metropolitan Area Health Service, South Metropolitan Area Health Service and WA Country Health Services and all health services</li> </ul>
PARAMED Home (2010-2011)	Randomised controlled trial of paramedic referral and assessment to home hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workforce development</li> <li>• Testing new models of healthcare</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department of Health WA and WA hospitals</li> <li>• St John Ambulance WA</li> <li>• Silver Chain</li> <li>• Centre for Clinical Research in Emergency Medicine (UWA)</li> <li>• Health Consumers Council</li> <li>• Australian College of Ambulance Professionals</li> <li>• GP Networks</li> <li>• General practitioners and emergency department doctors, practice, community and hospital nurses, and those in health administration and policy.</li> </ul>
Health and Disability Services Complaints Office (2010 – ongoing)	Medical review of complaints with the aim of identifying system improvements	Safety and quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health and Disability Services Complaints Office</li> <li>• Medical defence organisations and insurers</li> <li>• Department of Health WA and health services</li> <li>• Department of Corrective Services</li> <li>• Royal Australian College of General Practitioners</li> <li>• Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine</li> <li>• Rural Health West</li> <li>• Practice Nurses Association of WA</li> <li>• Pharmaceutical Council</li> <li>• Allied health professional organisations</li> <li>• Australian College of Ambulance Professionals</li> <li>• General practitioners and other medical practitioners, practice, community and hospital nurses, allied health practitioners, health students, public health practitioners and those in health administration and policy.</li> </ul>
HOT		Workforce development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department of Health WA, Participating schools</li> <li>• Participating hospitals</li> </ul>
Hot N Deadly		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workforce development</li> <li>• Indigenous health</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kurongkurl Katitjin</li> <li>• Department of Education</li> <li>• Participating schools</li> <li>• Participating hospitals</li> <li>• Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service</li> <li>• Aboriginal Health Council of Western Australia</li> <li>• Department of Health WA</li> </ul>
Paramedic education	Identification of paramedic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interprofessional development</li> </ul>	Australian College of Ambulance Professionals

needs	education needs.	• Workforce development	
Alcohol and other drugs	Ad hoc projects including collaborations with UWA in NHMRC and APHCRI and Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	Workforce development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UWA School of Psychiatry and Clinical Neurosciences</li> <li>• Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital</li> </ul>
Motivational interviewing	Education of health professionals and production of published resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interprofessional development</li> <li>• Prevention in health</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Royal Australian College of General Practitioners</li> <li>• Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine</li> <li>• Rural Health West</li> <li>• Practice Nurses Association of WA</li> <li>• Department of Health WA, multiple areas</li> </ul>

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES AND LINKAGES** (Provide a brief overview of any significant activity)

**Hepatitis B online education for health professionals**

On 8 September 2010, the hepatitis B on-line education program was launched. The primary aim of the program is to increase the delivery of safe hepatitis B treatment to patients through the education of general practitioners, nurses and other health care workers in Western Australia.

**Hands on Training (HOT)**

Between Tuesday 6 April and Friday 9 April 2010, SIRCH delivered its sixth Year 10 'Hands on Training' (HOT) Nursing Course. The course provides a structured program promoting the diversity of a nursing career. A total of 32 Year 10 students, from 16 metropolitan schools participated in the 4-day course.

**HoT 'n' Deadly Nursing & Paramedicine @ ECU**

During the last week of June 2010, SIRCH delivered the inaugural HoT 'n' Deadly Nursing & Paramedicine @ ECU program. The program was based on the successful Year 10 Hands on Training (HOT) Program that SIRCH has run for 4 years. The HoT 'n' Deadly Program was specifically designed for Aboriginal school students and includes an Aboriginal nurse coordinator, a visit to Kurongkurl Katitjin and Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service and involvement from Aboriginal nursing and paramedic students.

17 Indigenous young people in Years 9-12 from 6 schools were involved in the program which gave them a taste of the ECU campus and what it was like to be a nurse or paramedic.

**Community and professional presentations**

Eric Khong provided the following community presentations:

- *Understanding Hepatitis B with Cartoons*, Public Health Association of Australia (WA Branch) State Conference, Fremantle (19 November 2010).

Toni Wain presented:

- *Creating cultural empathy and challenging attitudes through Indigenous narratives* (in conjunction with Associate Professor Dawn Bessarab). Public Health Association of Australia (WA Branch) State Conference, Fremantle (18 November 2010).

Moira Sim provided the following presentations

- *Come usare le medicine in modo saggio e sicuro (Safe and wise use of medicines)* (15 Apr 2010). National Prescribing Service presentation in Italian for Italo-Australian Welfare and Cultural Centre.
- *Open Disclosure in practice: The legal aspects* (21 Apr 2010). Panel member for Open Disclosure Forum led by the Office of Health Review.
- *Il sonno e l'invecchiamento (Sleep and Ageing)* (5 May 2010). National Prescribing Service presentation in Italian for Italo-Australian Welfare and Cultural Centre.

- Finding solutions with young people with drug and alcohol issues (21 May 2010). 2010 Positive Schools Conference.
- *Change talk: Motivational interviewing* (26 Jun 2010). Western Australian Practice Nurses Association.
- *Finding solutions with young people with drug and alcohol issues* (30 Jun 2010). Team Development Day for School Drug Education and Road Aware.
- *Problem based learning in alcohol and other drugs* for UWA 5<sup>th</sup> yr medical students 20<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> April.
- *Using cartoons to illustrate hepatitis B serology* (Poster presented at Hepatitis B Think Tank, Sydney, 18 June 2010).
- Addiction Medicine PBL tutorials to UWA 4<sup>th</sup> Year Medical Students. (19 and 22 April, 28 June)
- Community Program for Opioid Pharmacotherapy Annual Conference for the Drug and Alcohol Office.(19 June)
- *Motivational interviewing*. (17 July 2010). Practice Nurse Clinical Education Conference, Australian Practice Nurses Association.
- *The impaired colleague*. (31 July 2010). Workshop for the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists Western Australian Winter Scientific Meeting.
- *Alcohol and drugs: What's happening and what can we do?* (18 August 2010). Team Development Day for School Drug Education and Road Aware.
- *Motivational interviewing*. (21 September 2010). Chronic disease management study day, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital Centre for Nursing Education.
- *Alcohol and chronic disease, prevention, brief intervention and management*. (4 Nov 2010). Alcohol in general practice. Cancer Council.
- *Motivational interviewing*. (16 November 2010). WA Hepatology Interest Group.
- *Creating cultural empathy and challenging attitudes through indigenous narratives*. (26 Nov 2010). Symposium: Simulation and Beyond. Newcastle.

**FUTURE PLANS AND DIRECTION** (Provide an overview)

Please see Business Plan attached.

**DATE OF NEXT FORMAL REVIEW**

First quarter of 2014, with completion scheduled for March.

## Business Plan Systems & Intervention Research Centre for Health Edith Cowan University 2010 – 2012

### **Mission:**

The Systems and Intervention Research Centre for Health (SIRCH) develops and tests approaches that aim to improve equity, access, safety and quality in healthcare.

### **Background and introduction:**

SIRCH was approved as a Level 1 Faculty Designated Research Group in December 2005 and in February 2009 was approved as a Level 2 Research Centre.

Early projects involved prevention and early intervention in a range of systems, e.g. families, schools, communities, hospitals and other health care settings. More recently, SIRCH has responded to industry demand and opportunities, on developing a sustainable health workforce and increasing access to primary health care.

SIRCH combines intervention-orientated research and evaluation and systems improvement in the following domains: policy and planning; legislation; workforce development; and education and training. In all its work, the Centre aims to achieve positive change through engagement with the community and industry on initiatives that prepare service providers to apply theory to practice within health care settings that directly improve the health consumers' and carers' experiences.

SIRCH's research ideas are community identified and its projects are co-driven by the community.

SIRCH is a trans-disciplinary research group committed to inter-professional learning. SIRCH designs interventions across sectors, particularly at the primary health care level.

### **Objectives:**

The objectives of the Centre are:

- Facilitate the translation of research and policy to enhance healthcare practice;
- Improving the quality and sustainability of the workforce;
- Apply innovative education initiatives.

### **Strategies:**

The Centre seeks to:

- Strengthen collaborative arrangements and programs with other universities, research agencies and individuals with similar interests and objectives;
- Maintain industry networks and vigilance of health care policy to be proactive in the development and implementation of innovative health care change;
- Design strategies to engage busy health professionals in changing clinical behaviour;
- Respond to the changing role of health professions as patients become more educated and want to take a greater role in their healthcare;
- Improve communication in the health consultation including limit setting, managing aggressive behaviour, motivational interviewing and communicating in complex situations and with special groups;
- Develop initiatives that improve recruitment and retention within the health sector; and
- Develop and evaluate innovative education through on-line learning, healthcare simulation and scenario based learning to improve system responses is a key platform.

**Continuing initiatives:**

- SIRCH will continue to seek ongoing funding to implement projects that improve recruitment and retention within the health sector;
- SIRCH will maintain its involvement in the development and evaluation of innovative education strategies for health professionals and students.
- Members of SIRCH will continue to strengthen research links, collaborations and engagement with government agencies, industry and non-governmental organisations;
- SIRCH will continue to maintain a website that promotes the activities of the centre.

**Specific initiatives for 2010 to 2012:**

- SIRCH will develop resources that challenge behaviours and attitudes, such as the ALTC *Creating cultural empathy and challenging attitudes through Indigenous narratives* and increase the skills of the health workforce through innovative educational methods.
- SIRCH will test new models of service delivery, such as the SHRAC grant PARAMed Home, a randomised controlled trial which tests a model of paramedics acting as care transition coordinators facilitating access to hospital-in-the-home care versus hospital care.
- SIRCH will look for opportunities to evaluate the impact of new types of health professionals, such as physician assistants, and the combination of roles of nurse and paramedic which potentially increase work variety and contribute to sustainability, as well as increase flexibility and satisfaction of the workforce.
- SIRCH will work with health organisations, such as the Office of Health Review, to identify areas of improvement required in healthcare communication particularly in team care, including informed decision-making, inter-professional communication, and managing expectations.
- SIRCH will seek opportunities to increasing the effectiveness of the health workforce in changing behaviours which are risk factors for chronic disease.

**Centre Management:**

The Centre will continue to be managed by an executive committee. This committee will consist of the Centre Director, Program Manager and two others. The executive committee will meet at least twice a semester and more regularly if required. A meeting of all Centre members will be convened at least once each year. Contract or casual staff will be engaged to complete specific tasks.

**Performance indicators:**

<b>Measures</b>	<b>Targets 2010 - 2012</b>
Research Grant Income (\$)	\$400,000 per year
Total number of refereed journal articles	2 per year
Collaboration and linkages	Increasing number of academic, community and industry leaders collaborating on grants each year.
Higher degree research students	Increasing number of higher degree research students.
Education	Increasing number of conference presentations, education sessions and workshops for academic, industry and wider communities.

**Budget (Income):**

Sources	2010	2011	2012
Faculty Grant	40 000	40 000	40 000
<b>TOTAL</b>	40 000	40 000	40 000
Research Grant Income	400 000	400 000	400 000