

Early Career Researcher Showcase

Friday 1st December, 2017

New Law Building, University of Sydney



12:00 – 01:00	Poster viewing and judging
	LUNCH
	Oral Presentations - students
01:00 – 01:15	Ashleigh Fordham, PhD student, Children’s Cancer Institute, Randwick <i>Validation of CD30 as a Therapeutic Target in RANBP2-ALK Rearranged Inflammatory Myofibroblastic Tumour.</i>
01:15 - 1:30	Helen Forgham, PhD student, Children’s Cancer Institute, Randwick <i>Generation of Star-Shaped Nanoparticles for the Delivery of Therapeutic siRNA – A New Strategy for the Treatment of Medulloblastoma.</i>
01:30 - 01:45	Michael Lee, PhD student, Children’s Medical Research Institute, Westmead <i>Development of a whole genome sequencing based classifier to determine telomere maintenance mechanism in tumours.</i>
01:45 - 02:00	Victoria Prior, Honours student, Kids Research Institute, Westmead <i>Mimicking the biomechanical features of the brain for improved identification of effective treatments for brain cancer.</i>
	Oral Presentations - ECR
02:00 – 02:15	Dr Alvin Kamili, Children’s Cancer Institute, Randwick <i>Personalised medicine approach for children with high-risk neuroblastoma.</i>
02:15 - 2:30	Dr Noa Lamm-Shalem, Children’s Medical Research Institute <i>ATR and mTOR regulate nuclear actin polymerization in response to replication stress to alter nuclear architecture and maintain genome stability.</i>
02:30 – 2:45	Dr Zsuzsanna Nagy, Children’s Cancer Institute, Randwick <i>Characterising ALYREF as a novel co-factor for MYC-driven oncogenesis.</i>
02:45 - 03.00	Dr Matthew Wong, Children’s Cancer Institute, Randwick <i>The histone H3 lysine 79 methyltransferase DOT1L is a novel oncogenic factor and therapeutic target of MYCN-amplified neuroblastoma.</i>
3:00 - 04:00	AFTERNOON TEA
	Expert Career Panel
04:00 - 05:00	Professor Maria Kavallaris - Head of Tumour Biology and Targeting, Children’s Cancer Institute and Director of the Australian Centre for NanoMedicine University of NSW Sydney Associate Professor Steven Lane – Group Leader, QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute, and Clinical Haematologist, Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital Dr Maree Overall - Senior Advisor to Minister for Women, Minister for Prevention of Family Violence, Victorian Government Dr Ian Street - Chief Scientific Officer of R&D, Cancer Therapeutics Cooperative Research Centre Dr Jonathan Webb – ABC Science Editor ABC RN
05:00 -06:00	AWARD PRESENTATIONS ❖ REFRESHMENTS ❖ NETWORKING

CAREERS SESSIONS PANELLIST BIOGRAPHIES



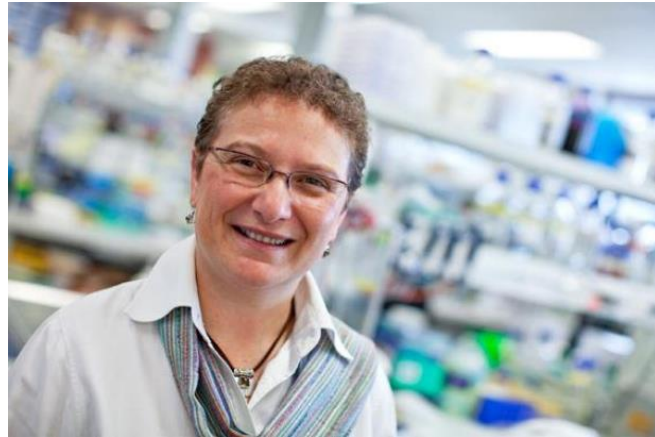
Careers in Academic and Clinical Settings

A career in academia and in the clinical setting is maybe the most straightforward outcome for a postdoc ECR scientist. Although the challenges associated with successfully running a lab, along with writing grants and publishing while juggling other commitments and possibly the clinical work, may sound daunting, the journey of making scientific discoveries is often exhilarating and rewarding.

Academic researcher

Professor Maria Kavallaris
Head of the Tumour Biology and Targeting Program at Children's Cancer Institute and Director of the Australian Centre for NanoMedicine at UNSW

Professor Kavallaris is a National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Principal Research Fellow and Fellow of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences (AAHMS). Her research contributions have been recognised by



national and international awards and prizes including an International Agency for Research on Cancer Fellowship, an American Association for Cancer Research Women in Cancer Research Award, Young Tall Poppy Award, Australian Museum Eureka Prize, AFR/Westpac 100 Women of Influence in 2015. She also received the 2017 NSW Premier's Science and Engineering Award for Leadership in Innovation. She is Chair of the Board of the Australian Institute of Policy and Science, has served as president of the Australian Society for Medical Research (ASMR) and was recognised by the NHMRC in 2014 as an Australian High Achiever in health and medical research. She serves on the NHMRC Research Committee where she contributes to high level research policy.

Clinician researcher

Associate Professor Steven Lane
Group Leader, QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute, and Clinical Haematologist, Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital

Dr. Lane is a clinical haematologist, and obtained his medical degree from the University of Queensland. After completing his clinical training at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital and Princess Alexandra Hospital, he undertook a research fellowship at Harvard Medical School in Boston, USA from 2008-2011, focusing on new treatments for acute myeloid leukaemia. In 2011, he returned to Australia and took up a position as clinical haematologist at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital and as a research laboratory head at QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute. In 2017 he was named an inaugural CSL Centenary Fellow, a highly prestigious award to support and develop his research program into finding new cures for leukaemia.



Careers in Industry

Different from academia, the incentive of the work done at the lab bench in industry is not publications, rather the desire to take a product or process from the research laboratory to the commercial market. This transition is a complex process which most of us are not familiar with. In addition to bench research, industry in both profit and non-profit sectors offers scientists ample opportunities to further their career, ranging from marketing to consulting to patent law.

Dr. Ian Street

Chief Scientific Officer of R&D, Cancer Therapeutics Cooperative Research Centre (CRC)

Dr. Street is Chief Scientific Officer of the Cancer Therapeutics Cooperative Research Centre and head of laboratory at WEHI. Dr Street's scientific training is in chemistry and biochemistry; however, over the 27 years of his independent career his passion has been applying these skills to translational research, in particular small molecule drug discovery. Dr. Street spent over 11 years working in the pharmaceutical and biotech industry (international and Australian). In 2001 he accepted an appointment at WEHI as Laboratory Head and Deputy Director of the Cellular Growth Factors Cooperative Research Centre and concomitantly established the WEHI/Bio21 High Throughput Chemical Screening (HTCS) Laboratory, the first academic group of its kind in Australia. Since its inception in 2003, the HTCS laboratory has



participated in over 100 collaborative projects undertaken with both Australian and international scientists. In 2007 he also founded the highly successful Cancer Therapeutics Cooperative Research Centre that was recently refunded until 2020. Dr. Street oversees and directs Cancer Therapeutics CRC's R&D program and project portfolio. He also manages the company's technology relationship with partners and stakeholders. In February 2016 CTx licensed the world-wide rights to the company's PRMT5 inhibitor program to Merck. Under the terms of this agreement, Merck made significant upfront, research and milestone payments, and will continue to fund the clinical development of these compounds for treatment of oncology and haemoglobinopathy indications. During his career, Dr. Street has participated in drug discovery collaborations with numerous Biotech and Pharma companies including Merck, Genentech, Abbvie, and GSK and his work has contributed to five new agents entering clinical trials and two FDA approved drugs.

Careers in Science Communications

Though no longer at the bench, science communicators still enjoy a career that satisfies their intellectual restlessness. They report on science trends, discoveries, personalities, and policies, often from the lab or in the field. Careers in science communications span from editing primary scientific papers to communicating findings to the general public and utilizing social media to highlight the latest discoveries.

Dr. Jonathan Webb

ABC Science Editor, ABC Radio National (RN)

Dr. Webb is a lapsed neuroscientist and a former BBC science reporter, now running the science unit at ABC Radio National. He hails from Adelaide but more recently spent 10 years in the UK, where he earned a PhD from Oxford by studying obscure but fascinating details of how the brain processes sound. After leaving the lab to write and waffle about science for a living, Jonathan landed a cadetship and then a staff job at BBC News, covering everything from brains to bosons. He has live-blogged a comet landing, asked silly questions inside a hadron collider, and broadcast live from under a tablecloth at a chemistry conference. In 2016 Jonathan took up the job of 'chief geek' at RN where he is lucky enough to manage a team of Australia's very best science journalists.



Careers in Science Policy/Government

A career in science policy offers a broad range of opportunities within a variety of settings including academia, government agencies, private sector, and nongovernmental organizations. Science policy professionals use their scientific knowledge and their analytical and communication skills to influence the course of scientific research, prioritize research goals, guide funding allocation, summarize scientific findings, and ultimately impact public health.

Dr. Maree Overall

Senior Advisor to Minister for Women, Minister for Prevention of Family Violence, Victorian Government

Dr. Overall was Senior Advisor to Minister Fiona Richardson during the Victorian Royal Commission into Family Violence. Her main responsibility was for the development and implementation of the Strategy for the Prevention of Family Violence and All Forms of Violence Against Women and for key aspects relating to women's leadership, economic security, STEMM and health and well-being in preparation of Victoria's first Gender Equality Strategy. This followed a career of 18 years in small business of conference management mainly for the association industry and an earlier 7-year postdoctoral career in research that involved public and political advocacy for medical research. She is a current member of the Victorian ALP Women's Policy Committee, a life member of ASMR and will be starting a new career in January next year.

