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Annual Report 2016

Centre for Social Research in Health



CSRH

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About the Centre

The Centre for Social Research in Health (CSRH) is a specialist research centre based in UNSW Arts and Social Sciences. Our mission is to undertake and promote exemplary social and behavioural science research in health that informs and strengthens knowledge, policy and practice.

Our research is guided by our commitment to:

- Integrity and excellence in academic research
- A multidisciplinary approach to research and education
- Actively ensuring our unique and critical perspectives are heard
- Collaboration and engagement with affected communities, and
- Valuing diversity and promoting equity.

Since its establishment in 1990 as the National Centre in HIV Social Research, the scope of our research program has evolved to influence and respond to a broad range of national and international health strategies and priorities, with the ultimate aim of improving the health and wellbeing of affected individuals and communities.

Our researchers are leaders in their fields, with a strong reputation in the academic community, lending authority to our work and influence to public debate. We are committed to contributing to effective policy and practice by working in partnership with community, government and research partners.

The Centre fosters the talents of the next generation of social science researchers through support for early career researchers and our **postgraduate research program**.

We receive funding from a range of sources, including the Australian Government Department of Health, state and territory government departments/ministries of health, competitive funding bodies, partner organisations and international sources.

Our work is guided by the **CSRH Strategic Plan 2016-2019**. This responds to the Australian Government's five national strategies for blood-borne viruses and sexually transmissible infections (National BBV & STI Strategies 2014-2017), and supports the UNSW 2025 Strategy and priorities of UNSW Arts & Social Sciences.

Director's Report



I'm very proud to be delivering my first report as Director of the Centre for Social Research in Health. I want to thank my dear friend and colleague, Professor John de Wit, for his leadership of CSRH over eight years, and his ongoing support for all of us within the Centre.

2016 brought significant changes in the biomedical landscape for both HIV and hepatitis C. PrEP (Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis) became more widely available in most jurisdictions in Australia. This change highlights the importance of ongoing monitoring of practice among men who have sex with men, to examine how we can best adjust services and policies to support the goals of ending HIV.

After an active advocacy campaign, “equal treatment access” became a reality in 2016 when, on 1 March, all people living with hepatitis C were eligible to receive “new generation” directly acting antiretroviral treatments. These treatments represent the possibility of a step-change in the epidemic of hepatitis C in Australia. However, many questions remain, particularly around the ways in which to deliver these highly effective treatments to those not yet connected with care services.

CSRH reported more than 40 active research projects in 2016; many more than there is space to mention here. We continue to attract the interest of a range of funders, including prestigious nationally competitive schemes and strategic funding from jurisdictional health departments. In particular, I would like to highlight a new grant awarded to Christy Newman, Joanne Bryant

and Asha Persson for an ARC project examining serodiscordance in family life. This project, which involves colleagues from the Social Policy Research Centre and the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, crosses viral boundaries with a focus on HIV, hepatitis C and hepatitis B.

We ran our bi-annual conference in 2016 on the theme of 'Margins and Belonging', with key speakers including Dr Jo Neale and Professor Victor Minichiello. This vibrant event attracted more than 150 delegates to discuss and debate in a forum that involved people from research, policy, health agency and the community. We were also pleased to announce at the event Bill Bowtell AO and the honourable Michael Kirby AC CMG as newly appointed ambassadors for CSRH.

The expertise of our staff was acknowledged in a range of ways. Professor Peter Aggleton delivered the keynote address at the Sexuality and Social Work Conference in Switzerland. Peter also led satellite sessions at the International AIDS Conference in Durban. Joanne Bryant delivered the plenary at the Australian Youth Alcohol and Other Drug conference. The hard work and expertise of Christy Newman was recognised through a promotion to Associate Professor. I was appointed as a Fellow to the PLuS Alliance and was part of the launch of this network in London.

During 2016, we built a new mechanism to consult community members about our research. I have worked with a new member of staff, Melinda Walker, to develop and establish the UNSW Community Reference Panel. This panel comprises people with the range of experiences that CSRH research covers, particularly people who have experience of prison, people who inject drugs, people living with hepatitis C, people who have experience of sex work, and Aboriginal people with these experiences. We recruited about 20 people in 2016 and developed a range of protocols for researchers to seek their input. We were also successful in an application submitted in partnership with the Social Policy Research Centre to secure funding from the UNSW Research Infrastructure Grants to expand this panel in 2017.

In addition to Melinda Walker, we welcome Jessica Russ-Smith to the Community Reference Panel and Annie Madden to support our ongoing community engagement work with people who inject drugs. Other researchers supporting various projects included Jeanne Ellard, Lise Lafferty and Zahra Stardust.

Professor Carla Treloar

2016 Highlights

Publications



88 journal articles
12 book chapters

21 research reports
2 books

Presentations



38 conference presentations

Committee membership



7 international
24 state-based
10 national
9 UNSW Sydney

Editorial contributions



22 editorial roles
13 editorial board memberships

Funding



\$2.383m in funding

Our Research

Projects

Information on all 41 research projects active in 2016 is [available online](#) and is organised into our six research areas:

- [HIV and Sexual Health Risk and Risk Reduction](#)
- [Sexuality, Health and Education](#)
- [Viral Hepatitis, Injecting Drug Use and Harm Reduction](#)
- [Living with, and Treatment of, Serious and Chronic Conditions](#)
- [Health Promotion Development and Evaluation](#)

Publications

Information on research publications produced by staff at the Centre in 2016 is [available online](#) and is organised into the following categories:

- [Journal articles](#)
- [Book chapters](#) and [Books](#)
- [Research reports](#)
- [Conference abstracts](#) and [presentations](#)



Grants

The following grants awarded to staff at the Centre commenced in 2016:

Deadly Liver Mob: Engaging Aboriginal people in viral hepatitis, HIV and sexual health services

Lead Chief Investigator: Carla Treloar (CSRH)

CSRH Chief Investigator: John de Wit

Awarded by National Health & Medical Research Council/Partnership Projects

Awarded total costs: \$848,441

Understanding global biomedical technologies in local realities

Lead Chief Investigator: Angela Kelly (The Kirby Institute)

CSRH Chief Investigator: Asha Persson

Awarded by Australian Research Council/Discovery Project

Awarded total costs: \$666,361

Critical perspectives on serodiscordance in family life

Lead Chief Investigator: Christy Newman (CSRH)

CSRH Chief Investigators: Joanne Bryant, Asha Persson

Awarded by Australian Research Council/Discovery Project

Awarded total costs: \$307,550

Queensland Gay Community Periodic Survey 2016-2018

Lead Chief Investigator: Martin Holt (CSRH)

Awarded by Queensland Health

Awarded total costs: \$211,823

Strategic Research Development and Dissemination Support

Lead Chief Investigator: John de Wit (CSRH)

Awarded by UNSW/Major Research Equipment and Infrastructure Initiative (MREII)

Awarded total costs: \$120,000

Trending Sexual Health Evaluation

Lead Chief Investigator: John de Wit (CSRH)

CSRH Chief Investigators: Philippe Adam, Limin Mao

Awarded by Family Planning NSW

Awarded total costs: \$80,000

Out of The Blue

Lead Chief Investigator: Carla Treloar (CSRH)

CSRH Chief Investigators: Philippe Adam, John de Wit, Dean Murphy

Awarded by the Victorian AIDS Council/beyondblue

Awarded total costs: \$79,730

The role of implicit identity and implicit beliefs in recovery from mental illness

Lead Chief Investigator: Loren Brener (CSRH)

Awarded by University of Queensland/Aftercare ARC Linkage Partner

Awarded total costs: \$50,000

Identifying factors that improve the health of prisoners who inject drugs

Lead Chief Investigator: Carla Treloar (CSRH)

Awarded by UNSW/Goldstar

Awarded total costs: \$30,000

Development of a patient reported experience/outcome measure for hepatitis C treatment among people who inject drugs

Lead Chief Investigator: Carla Treloar (CSRH)

CSRH Chief Investigators: Max Hopwood, Annie Madden

Awarded by UNSW/PLuS Alliance Collaborative Research Seed Grant

Awarded total costs: \$24,728

Tasmanian Gay Community Periodic Survey 2016

Lead Chief Investigator: Martin Holt (CSRH)

Awarded by the Tasmanian Council on AIDS, Hepatitis and Related Diseases

Awarded total costs: \$14,565

Adelaide Gay Community Periodic Survey

Lead Chief Investigator: Martin Holt (CSRH)

Awarded by SHine SA/SA Health

Awarded total costs: \$12,977

CSRH General Expenses

Lead Chief Investigator: John de Wit (CSRH)

Awarded by the NSW Ministry of Health/NSW Research Program for HIV, STIs and Viral Hepatitis

Awarded total costs: \$12,500

Novel interventions to address methamphetamines in Aboriginal communities, including a randomised trial of a web based therapeutic tool used to treat dependence in clinical settings

Lead Chief Investigator: Carla Treloar (CSRH)

Awarded by the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute Limited (SAHMRI)/NHMRC Project Grant Shared Grants

Awarded total costs: \$0

Scholarly achievements

Carla Treloar announced PLoS Alliance Fellow for Global Health

More than 60 inaugural PLoS Alliance Fellows from across UNSW, King's College London and Arizona State University were announced at the launch in February 2016.

[Related newsroom article](#)

CSRH hosted the 14th Social Research Conference on HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Related Diseases

The conference is integral to Australia's efforts to understand the social and behavioural dynamics of blood-borne viral epidemics and sexually transmissible infections.

[Conference highlights](#)

Carla Treloar appointed new Director of CSRH

Professor Carla Treloar previously served as the Deputy Director of CSRH.

[Related newsroom article](#)

Dr Christy Newman was promoted to Associate Professor

[Associate Professor Christy Newman's profile](#)

Peter Aggleton delivers keynote address at Sexuality and Social Work Conference

Scientia Professor Peter Aggleton gave the opening keynote address at the event in Switzerland.

[Related newsroom article](#)

Peter Aggleton attended the International AIDS Conference in Durban

Scientia Professor Peter Aggleton led satellite sessions on 'Living young, with HIV' and 'HIV Prevention Literacy'.

Joanne Bryant gives plenary at the Australian Youth AOD Conference

Dr Joanne Bryant spoke on the topic of 'The making of hope and despair in the lives of young people who use drugs' at the two-day event held in Melbourne.

Postgraduate research supervision

The following students were enrolled as postgraduate students with the Centre in 2016 and had their supervision carried out by staff at the Centre.

Student	Supervisors	Topic
Isaac Addo	John de Wit Loren Brener	Determinants of Adiposity-Related Behaviour Patterns Associated with Risks of Non-Communicable Chronic Diseases (NCDs): A Study of sub-Saharan African Immigrants in Australia
Eva Buzo	John de Wit Andrea Durbach	Understanding the nature and causes of violence against women in post-conflict Sri Lanka
Hilary Caldwell	John de Wit Kath Albury	Women who buy sex in Australia: From social representations to lived experiences
Angela Cui	Limin Mao Christy Newman	Understanding empowerment of people with severe mental illness in the community: Through the eyes of social work practitioners in Sydney and Hong Kong
Nyah Harwood	Max Hopwood kylie valentine	The praxis of pleasure: Trans people's injecting practices as practices of resistance
Kamrul Hasan	Peter Aggleton Asha Persson	Sexuality, masculinity, reproductive health and sexual health
Naveed Noor	John de Wit Joanne Bryant	Influences Associated with Sexual Practices among Homeless Young People in Pakistan
Christopher Tumwine	Peter Aggleton Stephen Bell	Access to and use of HIV testing, treatment and care services: experiences and perspectives of HIV positive fisherfolk in Uganda
Nga Vu	John de Wit Martin Holt	Amphetamine-type-stimulant use and HIV-related risky sexual behaviours of men who have sex with men
Horas Wong	Peter Aggleton Limin Mao	In search of the rainbow's end: the spiritual journeys of Chinese gay men of different HIV generations living in Sydney, Australia

The following staff also supervised postgraduate students enrolled external to the Centre in 2016:

Supervisor	Student	Topic
Loren Brener	Robyn Horwitz (University of Queensland)	Using implicit associations to assess drug use trajectories of young people
John de Wit	Shaun Abbott (UNSW School of Public Health and Community Medicine)	Physical activity interventions in low socioeconomic populations: A focus on mental contrasting with implementation intentions
John de Wit	Charles Picavet (Utrecht University, The Netherlands)	What goes wrong with contraceptive behaviour, who are risk groups, and which socio-cognitive factors may be targeted to improve contraceptive behaviour
Limin Mao	Shu Su (The Kirby Institute, UNSW)	Comprehensive evaluation of national antiretroviral treatment program for the HIV-infected population in China
Christy Newman	Jessica Botfield (UNSW School of Social Sciences)	Engaging young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds with sexual and reproductive health services in Sydney, Australia
Christy Newman	Elan Lazuardi (The Kirby Institute, UNSW)	Understanding engagement with HIV care in Indonesian urban ART clinics
Christy Newman	Catriona Ooi (Sydney Medical School)	The sexual health and access to care of men who have sex with men (MSM) in western Sydney
Christy Newman	Lisa Wojciechowski (University of Queensland)	Young adults living with HIV in Australia: Understanding their relationship to their health and to HIV health services
Carla Treloar	Kari Lancaster (UNSW National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre)	Social construction and the evidence-based drug policy endeavour
Carla Treloar	Alison Marshall (The Kirby Institute, UNSW)	The study of liver disease screening and assessment among persons with a history of injection drug use in New South Wales, Australia: The LiveRLife Campaign

Further information on all current students is [available online](#).



Teaching

The School of Education undergraduate elective 'Health in Schools and other Educational Settings: An integrated approach' (EDST2093) was co-convened by Peter Aggleton, Christy Newman, and Joanne Bryant in Semester 2. Jake Rance presented a guest lecture as part of the course on 'The Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting Centre: a harm reduction case study'.

Martin Holt presented guest lectures on 'HIV testing' and 'PrEP' for the School of Public Health and Community Medicine course 'The Global HIV Epidemic: Social Aspects and Impacts (PHCM9622).

Financial Performance

Statement of financial performance for the year ended 31 December 2016

		\$'000
Revenue		
	Research Revenue	1,418
	Donations and Bequest	36
	UNSW Contributions	261
	Faculty Contributions	501
	Other Restricted Revenue	108
	Sundry Other Revenue	59
Total Revenue		2,383
Expenses		
	Salaries, Oncosts and Other Staff Costs	2,888
	Scholarship Stipends	0
	Contract and Consulting Services	209
	Consumables	23
	Travel	84
	Equipment Non-Capitalised	0
	Entertainment	1
	Marketing	20
	Miscellaneous Expenses	72
Total Expenses		3,297
Total Contribution		(914)
Depreciation		0
Total Contribution (after depreciation)		(914)

Statement of financial position as at 31 December 2016

	\$'000
UNSW Australia Internal Cash	744
Accounts Receivable	85
Sundry Assets	4
Property Plant and Equipment	0
Creditors and Other Liabilities	79
Net Assets	754

Centre Steering Committee

The Centre Steering Committee oversees the performance and direction of CSRH, ensuring the effective, efficient and sustainable pursuit of objectives, and assisting with strategic development. The Committee also monitors the Centre's operation and finances and safeguards compliance with UNSW policies and procedures.

In 2016, the Centre Steering Committee members were:

- Professor Eileen Baldry, Interim Dean, UNSW Arts & Social Sciences (Chair, part year)
- Professor Susan Dodds, Dean, UNSW Arts & Social Sciences (Chair, part year)
- Professor Duncan McDuie-Ra, Associate Dean Research, UNSW Arts & Social Sciences (part year)
- Dr David Bright, Associate Dean Research, UNSW Arts & Social Sciences (part year)
- Professor John de Wit, Director, CSRH (part year)
- Professor Carla Treloar, Director, CSRH (part year)
- David Cami, Associate Director, CSRH
- Melissa Roughley, Faculty General Manager, UNSW Arts & Social Sciences
- Jaimin Bhatt, Faculty Finance Manager, UNSW Arts & Social Sciences
- Warwick Dawson, Director, Research Strategy & Partnerships Office

The Steering Committee met on the following dates:

12 May 2016

Attended by: Susan Dodds (Dean, UNSW Arts & Social Sciences), Duncan McDuie-Ra (Associate Dean Research), Carla Treloar (Director, CSRH), David Cami (Associate Director, CSRH), Jaimin Bhatt (Faculty Finance Manager), Anthony Zwi (External)

24 October 2016

Attended by: Susan Dodds (Dean, UNSW Arts & Social Sciences), David Bright (Associate Dean Research), Carla Treloar (Director, CSRH), David Cami (Associate Director, CSRH), Jaimin Bhatt (Faculty Finance Manager), Anthony Zwi (External)

28 November 2016

Attended by: Susan Dodds (Dean, UNSW Arts & Social Sciences), Carla Treloar (Director, CSRH), David Cami (Associate Director, CSRH), Melissa Roughley (Faculty General Manager), Katie Szuprytowski (Management Accountant, UNSW Arts & Social Sciences), An Thuy Nguyen (Management Accountant [Research], UNSW Arts & Social Sciences)

Scientific Advisory Committee

The Scientific Advisory Committee brings together experts from social science and public health research, government, and non-government organisations. It provides advice and guidance on research strategy that informs the Centre's strategic and work plans and is funded by UNSW and the Australian Government Department of Health. The Committee's annual meeting took place on 25 November 2016.

The Scientific Advisory Committee comprises:

- Prof Jake Najman, Professor of Sociology, School of Social Science, University of Queensland (Chair)
- Lisa Bastian, Manager, Sexual Health and Blood-borne Virus Program, WA Government Department of Health
- Judy Byrne, Project Worker, Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug Users League (AIVL)
- Aaron Cogle, Deputy Director, National Association of People Living with HIV Australia
- A/Prof Levinia Crooks, Chief Executive Officer, Australasian Society for HIV, viral hepatitis and sexual health Medicine
- Prof Gary Dowsett, Deputy Director, Australian Research Centre for Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University (ARCSHS)
- Jules Kim, CEO, Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association

- Prof Jayne Lucke, Director, ARCSHS
- Prof Lisa Maher, Head of Viral Hepatitis Epidemiology and Prevention Program, The Kirby Institute
- Dr Jo Mitchell, Director, Centre for Population Health, NSW Ministry of Health
- Darryl O'Donnell, Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO)
- Dr Alun Richards, Director, Blood Borne Viruses and STIs, Queensland Government Department of Health, Queensland
- Helen Tyrrell, Chief Executive Officer, Hepatitis Australia
- Michael West, A/Manager, Sexual Health and Viral Hepatitis program, Victoria Government Department of Health & Human Services

Centre Management Committee

The Centre Management Committee oversees the daily operations of CSRH and decisions that impact the Centre's resources, policies, procedures and business processes.

Centre Management Committee members are drawn from within CSRH and include:

- Carla Treloar, Director
- Martin Holt, Associate Professor
- Christy Newman, Associate Professor
- Max Hopwood, Research Fellow
- David Cami, Associate Director



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