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Celebrating the Clinician Researcher

Thursday 23rd Nov 4-7pm

The Melbourne Medical School invites you to celebrate the diversity of clinical research taking place across the School. Clinicians from different career stages will share their inspirational research journeys, followed by an opportunity to network over drinks.

[Register here](#)

College of Anaesthetists awards APPMU researchers over \$500,000 in grants

Nine clinician researchers affiliated with APPMU, from six MACH partner hospitals have been awarded more than \$500,000 in the annual Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA) grant round. This program is open to Fellows of ANZCA across Australia, New Zealand and Hong Kong, approximately 5,000 medical specialists, and is administered by the ANZCA Research Foundation.

Academic Enhancement Grant: Each year a program grant is awarded to a senior academic anaesthetist. **A/Professor Alicia Dennis**, Department of Anaesthesia, Royal Women's Hospital, received the 2018 Academic Enhancement Grant, to pursue her haemodynamic and cardiovascular research program in obstetric anaesthesia and critical care.

Project grants:

- **Prof David Story**, Chair of Anaesthesia with **Prof Guy Ludbrook**, University of Adelaide: Extended Post-Anaesthesia Care – a feasibility study. This study was also awarded the Elaine Lillian Kluver ANZCA Research Award
- **Prof Bernhard Riedel**, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre: Volatile Anaesthesia and Perioperative Outcomes Related to Cancer: The VAPOR-C Trial (Feasibility Study)
- **Dr Jai Darvall**, Royal Melbourne Hospital: A randomized non-inferiority trial of chewing gum versus ondansetron to treat postoperative nausea and vomiting in female patients after breast and laparoscopic surgery (The Chewing Gum Study)
- **Dr Forbes McGain**, Western Health: Capturing anaesthetic gases; an exploration of the chemistry and chemical engineering required to capture and potentially reuse sevoflurane
- **Dr Lachlan Miles**, Austin Hospital: A prospective observational study examining the impact of iron deficiency on patient outcomes after cardiac surgery, and
- **Dr Lachlan Miles**, Austin Hospital: The Impact of non-anaemic iron deficiency correction on exercise capacity and perioperative outcomes in colorectal cancer surgery (ADEPT)
- **Dr Tuong Phan**, St Vincent's Hospital: Optimisation of Perioperative Cardiovascular Management to Improve Surgical Outcomes II "OPTIMISE II"

Novice Investigator Grants: The grants support investigators who have not had previous grant support. **Dr Ned Douglas** from Department of Anaesthesia and Pain Medicine Royal Melbourne Hospital received a Novice Investigator Award for High flow humidified nasal oxygen to prevent desaturation during EBUS, a randomised trial. His supervisor is Dr Irene Ng, also from RMH.

In congratulating the grant recipients Professor David Story noted the diversity of research interests of University of Melbourne anaesthetists, ranging from nanotechnology for scavenging anaesthesia drugs through to cardiac ultrasound for patients with pre-eclampsia, translational, cardiometabolic and onco-anaesthesia.

Launching a new scholarship for emerging researchers

Thanks to a generous donor we are thrilled to launch a scholarship of up to \$20,000 to support research activities for an early to mid-career researcher enrolled in a research higher degree under the oversight of APPMU.

Sponsored by APPMU and the ANZCA Research Foundation, the **ANZCA Melbourne Emerging Researcher Scholarship (AMERS)** recognises the strategic importance of encouraging relatively new FANZCAs or Provisional Fellows in establishing their research careers.

The award can be used for a range of flexible purposes, e.g. living expenses, biostatistics, or general research costs.

This type of flexible scholarship grant has not previously been available within the ANZCA Research Foundation's grant categories.

Through providing research support to current students, the AMERS aims to advance scientific knowledge and enhance the evidence base for practice in the specialties.

Enquiries: Anna Parker, APPMU Manager, anna.parker@unimelb.edu.au

Applications for both awards (AMERS & AMEARA) close on **Monday 27th November**.

More details can be found in the flyer at the end of this newsletter.

AMEARA applications also now open

ANZCA Fellows within 5 years of award, working at University of Melbourne hospitals, are invited to apply for the **ANZCA Melbourne Emerging Anaesthesia Researcher Award (AMEARA)**.

Designed to foster multicentre research across our hospitals, up to \$10,000 will be awarded for the best proposal for a pilot/feasibility study.

More details can be found in the flyer at the end of this newsletter.



MUM SIZE: a world first, multicentre study at seven University hospitals



Associate Professor Alicia Dennis,
Principal Investigator, MUM SIZE Study

Our world first multicentre prospective study examined the associations between maternal BMI and clinical, time and economic outcomes for women undergoing caesarean section. Understanding the characteristics of women undergoing caesarean section is important so women can have the best possible experience during this key time. One important characteristic is maternal size (body mass index - BMI). Rates of obesity are increasing in women undergoing caesarean section.

The MUM SIZE Study demonstrates that obesity in pregnant women undergoing caesarean section is associated with:

- ***increased total theatre time, anaesthesia time and surgical time***
- ***increased risk of intensive care unit admission, and***
- ***increased total hospital costs.***

We call for a **new classification of body mass index at delivery** that takes into account gestational weight gain so that women are correctly classified according to their body mass index at caesarean section, enabling them to receive extra time in theatre and closer monitoring in the perioperative period. Addressing the issue of obesity in young women prior to pregnancy is a key area of intervention. This will not only reduce complications of pregnancy for women but will also reduce obesity related caesarean section health costs which are estimated to be approximately \$AUD50 million over the next 10 years.

→ **The MUM SIZE Study in BMJ Open**

Support for grant season: biostatistics, health economics & health informatics

MCATS (Melbourne Clinical and Translational Sciences research platform) provides access to Biostatistics, Health economics and Health informatics resources for your research activities. MCATS services for University of Melbourne

Academics and Honorary staff are in high demand and with NHMRC grant season approaching, we encourage you to check MCATS submission timelines to ensure access to the assistance you need to make your grant submission competitive.

For more information contact:

Ronelle Welton, MCATS Manager
mcats-info@unimelb.edu.au

clinicalresearch.mdhs.unimelb.edu.au



University researchers scoop ASM research awards

Congratulations to University of Melbourne researchers who scooped the research prizes at the ANZCA Annual Scientific Meeting in Brisbane this year.

Chair of Anaesthesia at the University of Melbourne, Professor David Story, was awarded ANZCA's highest honour, the Robert Orton Medal, for his distinguished service to anaesthesia, perioperative and pain medicine.

Prof Story was thrilled by the award and proud of all the winners. *“While I was aware that across our 14 hospitals the University of Melbourne has the strongest collection of anaesthesia researchers in the world, this prize success came as a pleasant surprise,”* he said.

Award winners included:

- Gilbert Brown Prize: Dr Jai Darvall, Royal Melbourne Hospital
- Trainee Academic Prize: Dr Julia Dubowitz, Royal Melbourne Hospital
- ePoster Prize: A/Professor David Canty, Royal Melbourne Hospital and Dr Marissa Ferguson, PeterMacCallum Cancer Centre (joint winners)
- Robin Smallwood Bequest: A/Professor Philip Peyton, Austin Hospital
- ANZCA Melbourne Emerging Anaesthesia Researcher Award: Dr Lachlan Miles, Austin Hospital.



Dr Marissa Ferguson, PeterMacCallum Cancer Centre, accepts her award at the ASM

Honorary appointments

Congratulations to the following clinician researchers who have recently received honorary appointments with APPMU:

- Dr Anjalee Brahmabhatt, St Vincent's
- Dr Alison Graham, St Vincent's
- Dr Gaylene Heard, St Vincent's
- Dr Phillipa Hore, St Vincent's
- Dr Georgina Imberger, Western Health
- Dr Craig Ironfield, St Vincent's
- Dr Jamahal Luxford, St Vincent's
- Dr Lachlan Miles, Austin Hospital
- Dr Niki Tan, Epworth Hospital
- Dr Daniel Wong, St Vincent's.

Honorary staff play a critical role in the life of APPMU and the Melbourne Medical School (MMS) through our teaching, learning, research, clinical care and advocacy.

The relationship between honorary staff and the University is a mutually beneficial one in which APPMU and the University benefit from your knowledge, skills and influence while you benefit from the opportunities, resources and reputation of APPMU, the MMS and University of Melbourne.

Some University benefits include:

- **Research professional:** create a profile to receive tailored information about the latest grant opportunities

- **Researcher@Library:** library staff can create research impact profiles for you, to assist with grant applications, as well as many other services and resources.
- **Minerva Elements:** log in to regularly claim your publications, which will populate your 'find an expert profile' and Orcid ID, as required by NHMRC.
- **Education sessions:** check the weekly staff news for information on a wide range of activities, including 'How to write for The Conversation'.

If you are interested in applying for an honorary appointment with us, contact **Professor David Story** to discuss your application. Further information can be found on the **MMS website**.

Selected recent publications

Hughson J, Marshall F, Daly JO, Woodward-Kron R, Hajek J, Story D. *Health professionals' views on health literacy issues for culturally and linguistically diverse women in maternity care: barriers, enablers and the need for an integrated approach.* **Australian Health Review** [accepted 10/10/17]

Story D, Leslie K, French C. *Feasibility and pilot studies: small steps before giant leaps.* **Anaesthesia & Intensive Care** [accepted 3/10/2017]

Leslie K, Hopf HW, Houston P, O'Sullivan E. *Women, Minorities, and Leadership in Anesthesiology: Take the Pledge.* **Anesthesia & Analgesia**. 2017 May;124(5):1394-1396.

Dennis AT, Lamb KE, Story D, Tew M, Dalziel K, Clarke P, Lew J, Parker A, Hessian E, Teale G et al. *Associations between maternal size and health outcomes for women undergoing caesarean section: a multicentre prospective observational study (The MUM SIZE Study).* **BMJ OPEN** 2017;7. June 2017

McGain F, Story D, Lim T, McAlister S. *Financial and environmental costs of reusable and single-use anaesthetic equipment.* **British Journal of Anaesthesia** 118(6):862-869 01 Jun 2017.





THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

Anaesthesia, Perioperative
and Pain Medicine Unit,
Melbourne Medical School

ANZCA Melbourne Emerging Researcher Scholarship

The ANZCA Melbourne Emerging Researcher Scholarship (AMERS) is designed to support early-career researchers in Anaesthesia, Perioperative and Pain Medicine, enrolled in a Research Higher Degree at The University of Melbourne.

The scholarship recognises the strategic importance of supporting and encouraging relatively new FANZCAs and Provisional Fellows* in establishing their research careers, to advance scientific knowledge and enhance the evidence base for practice in the specialties.

A scholarship grant of \$20,000 will be awarded annually to a Fellow or Provisional Fellow* who is enrolled in a PhD or other Research Higher Degree at the University of Melbourne, and under the oversight of the Anaesthesia, Perioperative and Pain Medicine Unit (APPMU).

This scholarship is a flexible funding grant that may be used either for a living expenses stipend or for research project expenses, or both.

The recipient will be determined by a panel of independent, appropriately qualified clinical academics, with final confirmation by the donor. In the event of a tie, the monies will be divided equally amongst the winners. The process will be overseen by the APPMU Advisory Board.

Eligibility:

The scholarship is available to Provisional Fellows, and Fellows ideally within five years of original specialist qualification in anaesthesia; and who are:

- currently working at a hospital in the state of Victoria
- enrolled in a PhD or other Research Higher Degree at the University of Melbourne under the oversight of APPMU
- planning or in the process of conducting research directly contributing to the thesis
- engaged in research activity for at least 20 hours per week.

Sponsored by:

The Anaesthesia, Perioperative and Pain Medicine Unit (APPMU), Melbourne Medical School, The University of Melbourne; and the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists' ANZCA Research Foundation.

** Fellows of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists within five years of admission to Fellowship and of obtaining their original specialist qualification in anaesthesia.*

How to apply:

Contact Anna Parker, APPMU Manager, to obtain an application form:
anna.parker@unimelb.edu.au

Applicants will be invited to submit a project overview of approximately 2,000 words.

Enquiries:

Contact Professor David Story, Chair of Anaesthesia:
dastory@unimelb.edu.au

**Applications close at
5pm on Monday 27th
November 2017.**



**ANZCA
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For more information, visit medicine.unimelb.edu.au/visit/appmu



THE UNIVERSITY OF
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Anaesthesia, Perioperative
and Pain Medicine Unit
Melbourne Medical School

ANZCA Melbourne Emerging Anaesthesia Researcher Award

The ANZCA Melbourne Emerging Anaesthesia Researcher Award has been established to foster multicentre research at University of Melbourne affiliated hospitals. The award is open to ANZCA Fellows within five years of fellowship* who are emerging researchers, working part time or full time at Departments of Anaesthesia at University of Melbourne affiliated hospitals.

Up to \$10,000 will be awarded to a Fellow who proposes the best pilot or feasibility work for a larger clinical study.

The recipient will be determined by a panel of judges: Chair of Anaesthesia at The University of Melbourne, Chair of the ANZCA Trials Network (or delegate) and a member of the Retired Anaesthetists Group, with final confirmation by the donor. In the event of a tie, the monies will be divided equally amongst the winners.

The panel will assess applications using a range of criteria including: the contribution of the pilot / feasibility work towards a larger study and the potential clinical value of the larger study. Recipients must agree to be profiled in publications and websites of The University of Melbourne, ANZCA and the hospital in which they work.

How to apply: All eligible ANZCA Fellows* are invited to submit a proposal for a pilot or feasibility study. Proposals should be no more than 5 pages long or 2,000 words.

Please refer to the following publications when preparing your application:

Moore CG, Carter RE, Nietert PJ, Stewart PW. Recommendations for planning pilot studies in clinical and translational research. *Clin Transl Sci.* 2011; 4:332-7.

Thabane L, Ma J, Chu R, Cheng J, Ismaila A, Rios LP, Robson R, Thabane M, Giangregorio L, Goldsmith CH. A tutorial on pilot studies: the what, why and how. *BMC Med Res Methodol.* 2010;10:1.

Email proposals to Anna Parker, APPMU Manager: anna.parker@unimelb.edu.au Applicants must include their contact details, including Anaesthesia department or workplace and year of admission to Fellowship.

Applications close at 5pm on Monday 27th November 2017.

Enquiries: Professor David Story, dastory@unimelb.edu.au

Sponsored by: The Anaesthesia, Perioperative and Pain Medicine Unit (APPMU), Melbourne Medical School, The University of Melbourne; the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists' ANZCA Research Foundation.

** Fellows of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists within five years of admission to Fellowship and of obtaining their original specialist qualification in anaesthesia.*



Dr Lachlan Miles

Dr Miles, Staff Specialist Anaesthetist at Austin Health, received the 2016 award for his pilot study: Iron Therapy for Non-Anaemic Iron Deficiency in Perioperative Colorectal Malignancy (FeRIC-II).

"The award enabled me to enter a collaborative research partnership with scientists at the Australian Institute of Sport to study the pre-operative optimisation of colorectal cancer patients."

For more information, visit medicine.unimelb.edu.au/visit/appmu



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