

# Queensland Centre for Public Health



GRIFFITH  
UNIVERSITY



Queensland University  
of Technology



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND

# ANNUAL REPORT 2000

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# Director's Foreword

Welcome to the annual report for 2000. A number of major changes affecting the Queensland Centre for Public Health occurred during the year. The most significant of these occurred in January when the Centre Directorate moved from Griffith University to the University of Queensland. We thank our colleagues from Griffith University for their excellent work over the last three years and their assistance during the move. On behalf of the new Directorate, we look forward to continuing collaborative activities with our partners to maintain the success of the Consortium.

The Centre has continued in its efforts to provide quality, timely and relevant public health education, training and research. As part of the Quality Enhancement Review process the Centre has reviewed its core MPH curriculum and developed a new core subject – Social and Behavioural Determinants of Health. In addition to this, a broader offering of electives by each University has been developed for 2001. Considerable effort has been made to streamline administrative structures across the three Universities.

During 2000 the Centre continued to develop links with the Queensland Public Health Forum (QPHF) where it represents all Universities in Queensland with a public health interest. The Centre endorses and promotes the three-priority public health areas identified in the QPHF Strategic Plan. The areas are Social Determinants of Health, Food and Nutrition and Indigenous Health. The Centre demonstrates a strong commitment to the Forum, particularly with representation on the Research and Communication Working Groups.

The Centre welcomed 50 new students in 2000 and farewelled 47 graduates. There were six international graduates with representation from Mozambique, Papua New Guinea, The Philippines and Bangladesh. We congratulate Louisa Collins on receiving the 1999 PHA Prize for her Dissertation titled *Economic Evaluation of Cardiac Rehabilitation Programs*.

The Centre is pleased to have secured continuing funding from the Public Health Education Research Program for 2001-2005. It is the aim of the Centre to respond to a changing environment and strengthen partnerships which will contribute to improving public health outcomes for Queensland.

*Associate Professor Peter O'Rourke  
Director  
Queensland Centre for Public Health*

# Acknowledgments

The following individuals and agencies have made significant contribution to the Queensland Centre for Public Health during the year 2000. The Centre would like to acknowledge:

- The Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care who fund the Public Health Education and Research Program.
- The continuing support and funding by Queensland Health, a significant contribution to the Centre's programs and initiatives. The support of Dr John Scott, Ms Jackie Steele, Ms Andrea Casasola, Jeff Allen and Dr Magnolia Cardona is particularly acknowledged.
- All academic staff from the Consortium Universities who have been involved in the teaching of the formal award programs.
- Administrative staff from the three Universities, for their significant assistance with the management of the Directorate and support to academic staff and students.
- Mr John O'Brien (Public Health Association) Ms Susan Chisholm and Ms Sharon Sweeny (Public Health Forum), for their invaluable collaborative assistance to the Centre's activities.



# Introduction

The Queensland Centre for Public Health is the joint initiative of Griffith University, Queensland University of Technology and the University of Queensland.

The consortium established Queensland's first Master of Public Health Program in 1991 and has been delivering post-graduate Public Health programs since that time. The Queensland Centre for Public Health was established in 1995 and has resulted in a sustainable and fully developed agency. The Management of the Centre Directorate rotates among the Consortium members every three years providing the opportunity for each institution to host the Public Health Programs in turn.

Currently, the Centre Directorate is based in the School of Population Health, Mayne Medical School, University of Queensland from 2000-2002. After this time the Centre will be located at Queensland University of Technology, Kelvin Grove Campus.

The Centre is one of nine State/National level Centres that receive funding under the 1995 Public Health Education and Research Program (PHERP) of the Department of Health and Aged Care. The other two Queensland Centres which receive PHERP funding are the Australian Centre for International and Tropical Health and Nutrition (ACITHN) at the University of Queensland and The Anton Breinl Centre at James Cook University of North Queensland.

The aims of the PHERP initiatives are met through successful collaboration and partnerships with academic, government and non-government organisations.

The 2000 Annual Report highlights the achievements and activities of the Centre in addressing the State's public health education, training and research needs.

# Management and Governance

The management and governance of the Centre will alter in 2001 in line with PHERP Phase 3 guidelines. However during 2000, the Queensland Centre for Public Health continued to be governed by three Committees - the Board of Management, the Executive Committee and the Steering Committee. The structure of these Committees allows key stakeholders to participate in the strategic planning, policy development and operation of the Centre. The Directorate coordinates the administrative and academic activities of the Centre.

University of Queensland will host the Queensland Centre for Public Health Directorate for 2000-2002.

## **2000 Directorate**

Director:	Associate Professor Peter O'Rourke
Deputy Director:	Sandi Pirozzo
Centre Manager:	Carolyon Young/ Kathleen Lilley
A/ Centre Manager:	Diana Glynn Connolly/ Vicki Roy
Administration:	Diana Glynn Connolly/Vicki Roy

## **Board of Management**

Strategic planning, policy direction, monitoring of program quality, overseeing administration and finance is within the governance of the Board of Management Committee.

## **2000 Board of Management**

Chair:	Dr Don Staines – leave of absence Associate Professor Peter O'Rourke
Members:	Associate Professor Rod Simpson Dr Stella Stevens/Dr Eberhard Wenzel Professor Brian Oldenburg Associate Professor Don Stewart Sandi Pirozzo Professor Ian Riley John O'Brien Michael Dart Dr John Scott Robyn Brown/Alison Mott Diana Glynn Connolly/ Vicki Roy Carolyon Young/Kathleen Lilley

# Management and Governance

## Executive Committee

The Executive Committee manages the formal award programs. The curriculum, teaching and student matters are within its governance. It also acts as the Board of Examiners to the Centre. A Dissertation Review Committee reports to the Executive Committee.

*Chair:* Sandi Pirozzo

*Members:* Associate Professor Don Stewart  
Dr Eberhard Wenzel/Dr Stella Stevens  
Diana Glynn Connolly / Vicki Roy  
Carolyon Young / Kathleen Lilley

## Steering Committee

The on-going development of the Centre and its activities is guided by the Steering Committee.

*Chair:* Associate Professor Peter O'Rourke

*Members:* Associate Professor Rod Simpson  
Professor Brian Oldenburg  
Carolyon Young/ Kathleen Lilley

IPHERP Phase 3 will introduce changes to the Management and Governance of the Queensland Centre for Public Health from 2001.

# Advocacy

## **The Queensland Centre for Public Health manages the Queensland Inter-University Public Health Network (QIUPHN).**

*The role of the collaborative network is to:*

- Provide a state focus for academic public health institutions in Queensland to work together
- Provide a viable network to respond to research opportunities and consultancies
- Develop partnerships between institutions which will vary depending on project, expression of interest, expertise and availability
- Develop and promote excellence in public health education and research in Queensland
- Maximise effective and efficient delivery of public health education and research in Queensland through sharing of expertise and innovations
- Facilitate increased availability of public health programs in Queensland using new technologies and flexible delivery modes

### **Queensland Public Health Forum**

*Dynamic Network for Strategic Leadership and Advocacy for a Healthier State*

#### ***Mission:***

To be a strategic leadership forum which facilitates activities between organisations with the aim of maximising public health outcomes

#### ***Vision:***

Achieving equitable and optimal health status by continuously improving the health of the whole population and reducing health inequalities in Queensland

#### ***Will be achieved through:***

A strong and sustainable intersectoral public health partnership approach which targets the main determinants of health

#### ***QCPH representatives on the Forum:***

- Associate Professor Peter O'Rourke is a Forum member representing Queensland Universities
- Associate Professor Don Stewart is a member of the Research Working Group
- Kathleen Lilley is a member of the Communication Working Group.

# Student Dissertations

## Student Dissertations

A priority of the Centre is the promotion of research. As part of the requirements for the Master of Public Health Program, students undertake a research dissertation which is intended as a practicum. This is usually undertaken on an individual basis. Twenty-four MPH students completed their dissertation in 2000.

The Program expects the level or standard of a MPH dissertation to lie between that of an honours thesis and that of a research master thesis. It is expected that the dissertation will form the basis of a paper publishable in a major public health journal (eg. Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health).

## Topic and Supervision

Academic staff of the Centre guide students in regard to the appropriateness and development of their Dissertation topic.

The Centre acts as an agency for external service providers seeking assistance with research. There are many projects in the community and within Queensland Health which may be suitable for a dissertation.

Work-place mentors with appropriate qualifications may co-supervise a dissertation. The Centre provides mentor training and academic support for this process.

## Dissertation Format

Dissertations may take various forms:

- Analysis and interpretation of a pre-existing data set of known good quality
- Individual solutions to small-scale practical public health problems identified by the organisation as a key priority area
- Development of a detailed research proposal which could include a literature review, critical appraisal and piloting of proposal methodology
- Critical review of an issue of major public health importance.

# 2000 Dissertations

*Candidate:* Brown, Gwen

*Supervisor:* Melinda Service

## **The effectiveness of asthma education in schools**

This study involved an evaluation of a whole school community approach to asthma management in schools. A “knowledge” intervention was used in an experimental research model which included teachers, asthmatic students and their peers. Findings indicate that there was an increase in both students’ knowledge, such as trigger factors, and teachers’ knowledge, for example taking medication prior to sport or activities.

*Candidate:* Christie, Carol

*Supervisor:* Maria Donald

## **“PEACE BUILDERS”: a community approach to violence reduction in schools: An Evaluation of the Effectiveness of the Program in One Public Primary School in the Greater Brisbane Area**

This case study evaluates one long-term, school and community based violence reduction program - PeaceBuilders®. The problem of violence, factors that contribute to the problem and potential solutions to the problem are discussed. Although the study results cannot be generalised to other schools, the author concludes that the PeaceBuilders® program fits the literature parameters for a potentially effective behaviour-change intervention.

*Candidate:* Doan, Nghiem

*Supervisor:* Suzette Porter

## **An Investigation into the Barriers to Oral Health Care for Adult Vietnamese in Brisbane South Health Region**

This dissertation examines the barriers to oral health care in the Vietnamese community of Brisbane South Health Region. The findings highlight a number of significant issues such as cost, lack of perceived need and language barriers. This study has provided an insight into the needs and perceptions of the Vietnamese community in Brisbane and supports findings of a similar study in Melbourne. Some recommendations for removing or minimising these barriers are explored.

*Candidate:* Duggan, Cate

*Supervisor:* Peter O'Rourke

**Playing it safe: A preliminary food safety research project**

This study was undertaken to determine the current knowledge and practices of food handlers in voluntary organisations, the types of environmental settings being utilised for the preparation and serving of food and the perceived need for further information or education. The study identified problem areas in the preparation of food within voluntary organisations and made a number of recommendations for decreasing the incidence risk of food borne disease.

*Candidate:* Dwyer, Sophie

*Supervisor:* Don Stewart

**Integrating public health: exploring models of local practice**

This study explores issues related to current approaches to the development of public health programs in Australia. In particular it investigates the strengths and limitations of single purpose programming, for example on a disease or risk factor basis, and concepts of integration across the areas of effective program delivery, program sustainability and multiple determinants/multiple outcomes. Using a case study approach, two holistic programs are selected - health promoting schools and municipal public health planning - to explore the proposition that holistic approaches to public health practice provide an effective alternative to single purpose programs. While they may make good use of resources, be sustainable, provide a response to health inequalities and can incorporate interrelated health determinants into program design, the evidence is mixed, or lacking, in terms of whether these models improve on single-issue health programs.

*Candidate:* Forster, Haydee

*Supervisor:* Eberhard Wenzel

**“Development of a Municipal Green Waste Management Framework for Use When Developing a Green Waste Strategy for Local Government”**

This study provides a summary of the green waste processing methods available worldwide and on this basis, presents a framework for a green waste management system at the municipal level. Links between environment and health are systematically identified and presented in an environment and health effects matrix.

*Candidate:* Hauengue, Maria

*Supervisor:* Melissa Stoneham

**Environmental health priority setting in Mozambique: Maputo City as an example**

The combination of poverty, natural disasters and civil war has led to a wide range of environmental health issues becoming increasingly problematic in Mozambique. This study uses qualitative and quantitative methods to investigate what these needs are and how they should be prioritised. Results indicated that the core of all environmental concerns in Maputo City were related to urbanisation and its consequences. Three priority needs were established: housing, water supply and sanitation facilities. The results of the study have been integrated into the next Environmental Action Plan for the city.

*Candidate:* King, David

*Supervisor:* Robert King

**Understanding depression: beyond the Biomedical Model**

This study is comprised of a literature review of the evidence regarding aetiology, classification, epidemiology and treatment of depressive disorders. All of the domains that constitute the biopsychosocial model were investigated as a basis for testing the hypothesis that a biomedical approach, or any domain in isolation, is inadequate for fully understanding depression. An integrative, explanatory, conceptual model was developed, based on supportive evidence that can better inform the clinical encounter.

*Candidate:* Lang, Carolyn

*Supervisors:* Adele Green & Rachel Neale

**Sun protection during outdoor activities in summer and winter in a Queensland community**

This study examined the sun protection behaviours in an adult sample of the Nambour community in South East Queensland, and determined how these behaviours varied by type of outdoor activity and by season. Nested within the Nambour Skin Cancer Prevention Trial, 300 people were randomly chosen to participate. The findings are presented with concluding public health recommendations.

*Candidate:* MacLaren, David

*Supervisor:* Eberhard Wenzel

**Kastom and Health: A Study of Indigenous Concepts of Health and Appropriate Health Care within Kwaio, Malaita, Solomon Islands**

This dissertation analyses Indigenous concepts of health within East Kwaio, Malaita Province, Solomon Islands. This group, although having the opportunity to follow the line of 'development' of the rest of the Solomon Islands, have made deliberate choices to maintain their cultural autonomy. The conflict between modern medical care based predominantly on a Western medical paradigm, and traditional *kastom* (custom) based on Indigenous cosmological boundaries and spiritual paradigms, is analysed. Recommendations have been made to minimise the hegemonic processes that dominate health care within this area.

*Candidate:* Martinek, Nada-Marie

*Supervisor:* Ernest Hunter

**Primary mental health care: A conceptual basis for mental health policy within a public health framework**

Worldwide, governments are acknowledging the urgent need to address the social and financial burdens of rising mental health problems and disorders on individuals, families, communities and nations within public health policy frameworks. This study reviews the policy history, literature and other information sources of the 1980's and 1990's to map the socio-historical perspectives of primary mental health care. Policy implications are discussed and the parameters of a conceptual basis for primary mental health care for public mental health policy in Australia are provided.

*Candidate:* Murray, Simon

*Supervisors:* Chris Del Mar & Peter O'Rourke

**Development of an instrument for investigating the use of antibiotics for respiratory tract infections by General Practitioners**

The overuse of antibiotics by Australian General Practitioners for respiratory tract infections (RTI's) is a major public health problem, incurring significant monetary cost and aggravating antimicrobial resistance to antibiotics. This study examined general practitioner beliefs of prescribing antibiotics. The author concludes that, if the results of this pilot are confirmed in a larger study, erroneous doctor beliefs in the effectiveness of antibiotics for RTI's is one of the causes of the overuse of antibiotics.

*Candidate:* Mylne, Susan Maree

*Supervisors:* Lloyd Reed, Michael Dunne

**Pilot study: "Foot Ulceration Assessment Record" - a foot ulceration assessment and documentation record developed for diabetic foot ulcerations**

This study involved identification and investigation of the problem of assessment and documentation of neuropathic and neuro-ischaemic foot ulcerations; it then involved the development of an assessment and documentation record (FUAR); and finally involved pilot implementation using a case study approach to investigate implementation issues with preliminary reliability checks. The study was conducted in consultation and collaboration with Princess Alexandra Hospital and, after testing in the ward, it is concluded that the process of developing and piloting the FUAR has led to a brief, user-friendly comprehensive wound assessment and documentation tool with the potential to deliver information considered essential to best practice.

*Candidate:* Nepel, Maria

*Supervisor:* Don Stewart

**An evaluation of the Diploma in Health Education (DHE) program at the University of Goroka in the Eastern Highlands Province of Papua New Guinea from the perspective of the graduates and the stakeholders: a case study**

This study investigates the extent to which the DHE is seen to equip graduates with adequate and appropriate knowledge, skills and attitudes to function with efficiency and effectiveness as professional health promotion educators and in-service coordinators and trainers. Using a qualitative methodology, the study found that the DHE failed to provide graduates with the necessary attributes. While a number of strengths were identified, such as the availability of a wide range of qualified staff, the study provides a number of recommendations for improving the current program.

*Candidate:* Rafei, Azette

*Supervisors:* Eberhard Wenzel, Rod Simpson

**A Critical Literature Review of Existing Federal and State Greenhouse Gas Policy Incorporated within a Case Study of Greenslopes Private Hospital, in Light of Current Public Health Teachings**

In addition to a review of state and federal greenhouse gas policies, this dissertation addresses the reasons why effective global warming policies are needed and why effective public health policies are difficult to formulate.

*Candidate:* Rey-Conde, Thesese

*Supervisor:* Sandi Pirozzo

**Evidence-based care for long term therapy of post myocardial infarction patients**

Coronary heart disease is the most common cause of death in Australia, with increased risk of sudden death in those with known coronary heart disease. This study is a systematic review of long term post myocardial infarction care and an evaluation of randomized control trials, with the purpose of establishing guidelines for the care of post myocardial infarction patients. Practice guidelines for use by General Practitioners were developed and are presented.

*Candidate:* Reynolds, Adrian

*Supervisor:* Eberhard Wenzel

**Review of the role and Performance of the United Nations in Supporting Member States to Develop more Effective and Socially Just Approaches to Drug Policy and Intervention**

This dissertation analyses the role and performance of key United Nations Agencies in International drug policy. It is argued that many drug policies may be responsible for substantial inequality, human suffering and injustice. Case studies are presented from several countries including Australia. Recommendations are given for both the United Nations Agencies and Australia.

*Candidate:* Rokkas, Philippa

*Supervisor:* Penny Webb

**Travellers' Health: Perceived Risks, Advice Sources Accessed and Health Protection Strategies Employed before Travel**

The huge growth in international travel and tourism is producing an associated increase in, and diversity of, Australian travellers requiring health advice and protection. This cross-sectional study investigates the pre-travel perceptions of health risk and health protection methods employed by Australians travelling overseas from Brisbane International Airport. A random sample of 240 individuals was surveyed and data analysed both quantitatively and qualitatively. The results indicate that there is a clear need to strengthen the research and knowledge base of all individuals connected with the travel industry and the health profession.

*Candidate:* Saide, Mouzinho

*Supervisor:* Don Stewart

**The process of decentralisation of human resource management in the health sector in Mozambique: the impact and experiences from Nampula Province 1996-1998. Are better practices possible?**

In Mozambique, as in many countries, decentralisation of the main decision-making centre to local and provincial levels is regarded as an important means of achieving more equitable distribution of health care and as a means of achieving better management practices aligned with local priorities and needs. This qualitative study examines this contention in terms of the management of 'basic' and 'elementary' nurses. Surveys of provincial health managers and review of core policy documents indicate that decentralisation must be accompanied by adequate planning, policies, strategies and procedures in a comprehensive effort to involve all the health care stakeholders, including local communities.

*Candidate:* Saleheen, Hassan

*Supervisor:* Warren Stanton

**Variations in the levels of sun exposure among young children attending day care**

This study investigates variation in the levels of sun exposure among young children attending four Day Care Centres in the Central Brisbane District. The results indicated that on average, the levels of UVR (ultraviolet radiation) exposure received by the children were insufficient to induce an erythematous effect. However this was dependent on certain conditions such as time of day of exposure and length of exposure. The results of this study have implications for the development of policy for sun safe activities in Day Care Centres.

*Candidate:* Scott, Debbie

*Supervisor:* Fran Boyle

**The effects of participation in a case-control study on the families of children with Ewing's Sarcoma**

This study investigates people's experiences of participation in a research interview that focused on a sensitive and painful topic: their child's diagnosis with Ewing's Sarcoma, an often fatal cancer of the bone and soft tissue that is most predominant in young boys. The study was conducted in response to concerns raised by ethics committees about the potential harm for families participating in such research. The main finding was that despite the pain involved, most felt participation was a worthwhile and often even beneficial experience. This study of research participation is important for public health research from ethical and methodological perspectives.

*Candidate:* Slack, Anne-Louise

*Supervisors:* Dr Syed Abid Naqvi,  
Margo Eyeson-Annan

**Impact of a stretching, strengthening and warm-up program on workers' experience of pain or injury**

Using an intervention study with a case-control design, the objective of this research was to determine the prevalence of musculoskeletal pain and injury in the study population (243 employees of a building products company) and to establish whether a stretching, strengthening, warm-up program reduced such pain and injury. The study found that the employees experienced a high level of pain and injury, but that there was no significant change in workers' experience of musculoskeletal pain and injury that related to the stretching, strengthening, warm-up program. A number of related recommendations are made, including the importance of a good ergonomic design of the work process.

*Candidate:* Stuart-Fox, Elisabeth

*Supervisors:* Mark Brough, Wendy Foley &  
Phil Harvey

**Survey on traditional and bush foods in the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander community in Brisbane**

This report presents the results of a consultation process within the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community of Brisbane in relation to the promotion and consumption of traditional foods. Through a survey questionnaire, the current consumption patterns of traditional foods and the factors that influence these patterns were investigated. A number of conclusions were drawn and recommendations given to improve the health, nutrition, cultural and spiritual needs of Australian Indigenous people.

*Candidate:* Subasinghe, Deepthi

*Supervisors:* Vivienne O'Connor & Penny Webb

**Knowledge and attitudes to smoking among women with pap smear changes and the acceptance of an information brochure**

This study examines the level of knowledge of the association between smoking, illness, cancer of the cervix and abnormal Pap smears among two hundred women with Pap smear abnormalities attending a colposcopic clinic. The results indicated that there was a greater proportion of current smokers than would be expected in the general population of the same age group, with lower knowledge of the association between smoking and abnormal Pap smears. Colposcopic clinics potentially provide an excellent intervention opportunity to encourage smoking cessation among women in the younger age group.

*Candidate:* Vinit, Thomas

*Supervisors:* Helen Longbottom & Peter O'Rourke

**Assessment of the potential health risk on a population exposed to heavy metals along the Fly River**

Mining industries, especially open cut mines have been shown to be a source of heavy metals that are toxic to human health. This ecological study aims to describe the level of cadmium and its conjugate metals downstream from Ok Tedi mine, describe the health status of the people in the area, and to make possible associations. The author compares 1990-91 environmental data with a 1981 baseline study and a 1994 independent study in the Fly River region in Western Province, Papua New Guinea.

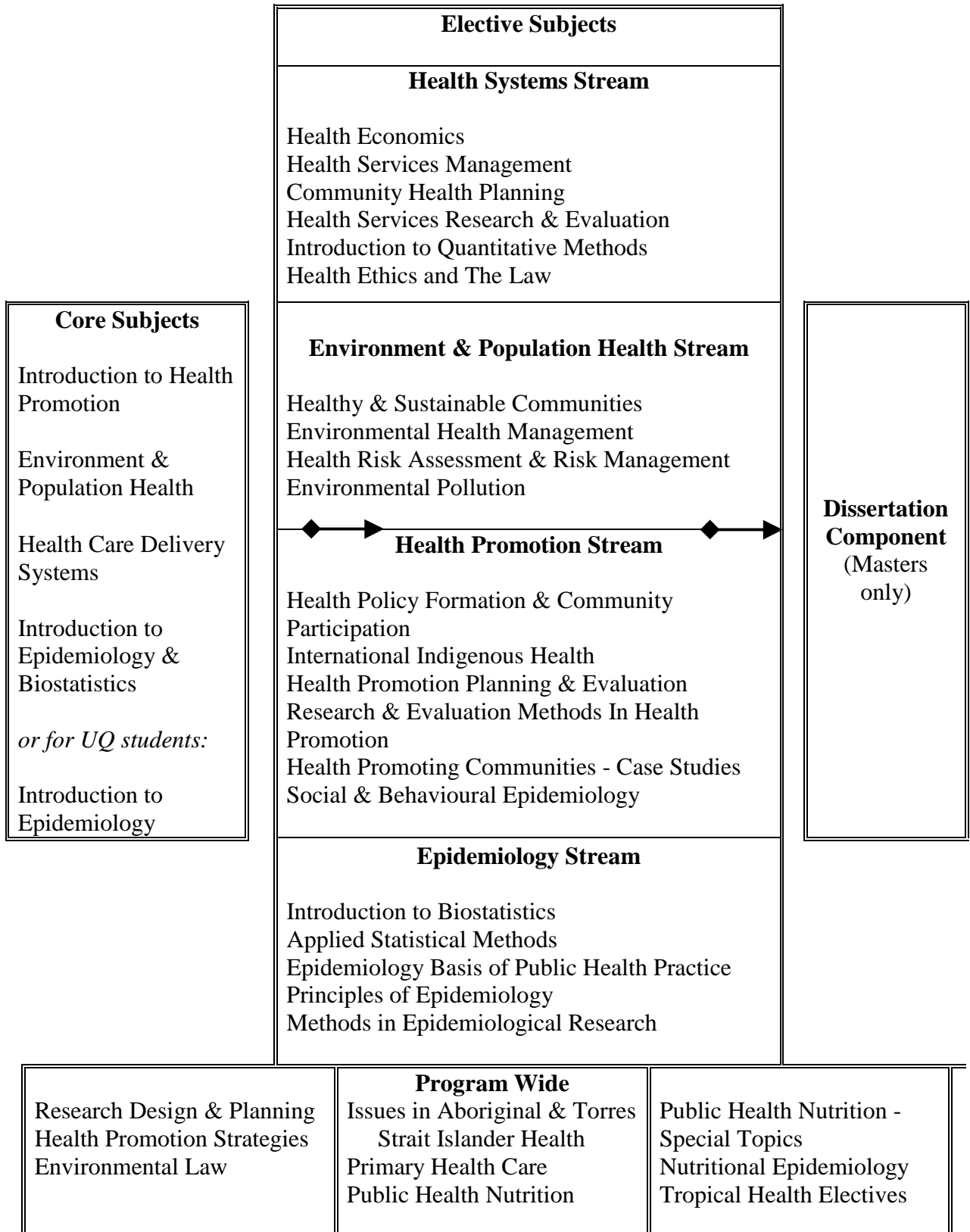
*Candidate:* Willis, Michelle

*Supervisor:* Warren Stanton

**The dietary intake of Masters Athletes**

This study aimed to determine if the dietary intakes of Masters Athletes are adequate for meeting the nutritional requirements as recommended for individuals of similar age and activity levels. Issues such as attitudes to food and exercise and barriers to achieving better nutrition were explored. The results found that the mean dietary intakes of Masters Athletes are generally over the Recommended Dietary Intakes with the exception of retinol, fibre, calcium and zinc intakes. Recommendations for dietary education are made.

# Year 2000 MPH/ Graduate Diploma Program Structure



# Student Data

## Student Data as at 31 December 2000

- 47 students graduated with either a Masters of Public Health or a Graduate Diploma in Public Health; 28 MPH students completed their Dissertation
- 218 students have completed the requirements for graduation from the Masters of Public Health since 1991
- 60 students have completed the requirements for the Graduate Diploma in Public Health since 1991
- 141 enquiries were received for the Centre's 2000 programs
- Of this total, 31 were from overseas students

## Public Health Program - 2000 Enrolment Statistics

University	Female	Male	Total	O/Seas	% Part Time
<b>New Students</b>					
Griffith Univ.	4	1	5	0	80%
Qld. Univ. of Technology	14	2	16	1	94%
Univ. of Qld.	20	8	28	4	86%
<b>Total New</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>88%</b>
<b>Continuing Students</b>					
Griffith Univ.	9	3	12	0	92%
Qld. Univ. of Technology	23	10	33	3	85%
Univ. of Qld.	42	9	51	3	88%
<b>Total Continuing</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>88%</b>
<b>Total Students</b>					
Griffith Univ.	13	4	17	0	88%
Qld. Univ. of Technology	37	12	49	4	78%
Univ. of Qld.	62	17	79	7	87%
<b>Total Students</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>84%</b>

# Staffing

## Directorate

Director	Associate Professor Peter O'Rourke
Deputy Director	Sandi Pirozzo
Centre Manager	Carolyon Young / Kathleen Lilley
Acting Centre Manager and Administration	Diana Glynn Connolly / Vicki Roy
MPH Coordinators	Dr Eberhard Wenzel (GU) Associate Professor Don Stewart (QUT) Sandi Pirozzo (UQ)

## IPHERP Funded Personnel

### Academic

Dr Helen Longbottom	Senior Lecturer (UQ)	45%
Ms Sandi Pirozzo	Senior Lecturer (UQ)(IPHERP funded to 30.4.01)	100%
Ms Catherine Cameron	Associate Lecturer (UQ) (from 1.7.01)	50%
Dr Leigh Tooth	Research Fellow (UQ)	15%
Prof Des Connell	Professor (GU)	15%
Ms Bronwyn Diprose	Associate Lecturer (GU)	100%
Ms Sue Gargett	Lecturer (QUT)	100%

### Administrative

Diana Glynn Connolly*	Administrative Officer [66% appt] (UQ)	33%
Vicki Roy*	Administrative Officer (UQ)	50%
Alison Butler	Administrative Assistant (QUT)	50%
Shannon Anderson	Casual Admin. Officer 24 hrs/pw(GU)	100%
Mitch McGregor	IT Consultant	5%

\* each including periods as Acting Centre Manager

## Program Academic Staff Funded from other University Sources and Other Personnel Associated with Curriculum Development & Delivery

GU	QUT	UQ
Associate Professor Rod Simpson	Professor Brian Oldenburg	Professor Ken Donald
Dr Eberhard Wenzel	Associate Professor Don Stewart	Professor Paul Glasziou
Dr Cordia Chu	Dr Michael Dunne	Dr Chris Bain
Zoe Murray	Dr Diana Battistutta	Dr Rod McClure
Peter Davey	Melissa Stoneham	Dr Fran Boyle
Shannon Rutherford	Dr Elizabeth Parker	Dr Zandy Clavarino
Bronwen Diprose	Dr Shilu Tong	Dr John Hay
	Associate Professor Mike Capra	Associate Professor John Lowe
	Dr Mary Lou Fleming	Dr Peter O'Rourke
	Lloyd Reed	Dr Philip Schluter
	Peter Anderson	Dr Penny Webb (to 31.3.00)
	George van der Heide	Sandi Pirozzo (from 1.5.00)
		Dr Heather Eastwood

# Resourcing

The Queensland Centre for Public Health receives funds from a number of sources. The main source of funding for 2000 was the Public Health Education and Research Program of the Department of Health and Aged Care.

Queensland Health provided funding for the position of Centre Manager.

Financial support totalling \$533,588 was allocated to the Centre for 2000:

- \$433,588 grant from the Public Health Education and Research Program of the Commonwealth Department of Health & Aged Care (DHAC)
- \$80,000 grant from Public Health Services Division of Queensland Health, to fund the position of Centre Manager

In addition, each of the three universities contributed to the running of the Centre through provision of services in kind, namely academic time, services and facilities.

The University of Queensland, through the Department of Social and Preventive Medicine hosted the Directorate in 2000. The new University of Queensland School of Population Health will host the Directorate from 2001-2002.

The Centre will continue endeavours to secure additional funding and other assistance from current and new sources to support and expand its education, research and collaborative activities.

Refer to page 35 for the Centre's 2000 Consolidated Financial Statement to the Commonwealth Department of Health & Aged Care.

# Educational Activities

## 2000 QCPH Lunchtime Seminar Series

- Date: 24 February 2000  
Topic: *Benign Breast Disease: What causes it and is it really benign?*  
Presenter: Dr Penny Webb
- Date: March 30 2000  
Topic: *Community reintegration of patients after stroke: Long term functional outcomes, health status, and health care utilisation.*  
Presenter: Dr Leigh Tooth and Dr Kryss McKenna
- Date: April 27 2000  
Topic: *The effects of participation in a case-control study on the families of children of Ewing's Sarcoma.*  
Presenter: Debbie Scott
- Date: May 26 2000  
Topic: *HIV/AIDS/STI Health Education as an Entry Point for the Development of Health Promoting Schools in China.*  
Presenter: Associate Professor Don Stewart
- Date: 27 July 2000  
Topic: *Medicine Keepers: Issues in International Indigenous Health.*  
Presenter: Dr Eberhard Wenzel
- Date: August 2000  
Topic: *Evaluating School-based Drug Education in Vietnam: Aims, Methods, Data and Challenges.*  
Presenter: Dr Michael Dunne
- Date: 28 September 2000  
Topic: *Devastation and Disease: The East Timor Story.*  
Presenter: Dr Brad McCall and Dr Rod Davison
- Date: 29 October 2000  
Topic: *Assessing the Impact of Moving People with Long-Term Mental Illness to Independent Living in the Community – The 'Project 300' Experience in Queensland.*  
Presenter: Tom Meehan
- Date: November 30 2000  
Topic: *Injury in Older People: Are older people safe to drive?*  
Presenter: Nancye Peel.

# Promotion

The Queensland Centre for Public Health strives to foster recognition as a leading agency in Queensland for public health training education and research.

The promotion of the Centre occurs through direct advertising of:

- Public Health Programs
- Information Evening
- Lunchtime Seminar Series
- Joint Seminars
- Short Courses
- Conferences

In addition to print advertising in newspapers, professional journals, and newsletters, an increasing use of electronic resources has been implemented. The hosting of the QCPH website changed in 2000 from the Queensland University of Technology to the University of Queensland. The website provides links to each of the Consortium Universities' Public Health Schools and PHERP. Promotion of the Lunchtime Seminar Series is now predominantly via email distribution lists.

The QCPH website offers information about the entire spectrum of the Centre's activities including:

- Overview of the Centre
- Contact Details
- Public Health Programs
  - Handbook
  - Objectives
  - Admission
  - Structure
  - Subject Codes
  - Timetables
- Educational Activities
- Seminar Series
- Research and Consultancies
- Student Dissertation Abstracts
- Annual Report
- Links to Consortium Schools of Public Health
- Link to PHERP

# Student Reports

## **Robyn Brown: Student Representative 1999, 2000**

My 1999 report focussed on the student desire to see the Master of Public Health Program continue to improve so that all courses were of a similar high standard.

The most important issue raised by students in 1999 was consistency in teaching across the participating Universities, particularly for those 'core' subjects that have now been enhanced during 2000. All three participating Universities have now adopted an equitable standard of flexible delivery. Metropolitan flexible delivery students in particular now have the same rights as non-metropolitan students with respect to library access and availability of readings.

The apparent differential in charging policy between the Universities identified by students in 1999 was clarified in 2000. In the past, students had to pay an additional fee for course notes that were necessary to complete the GU courses, whereas at UQ and QUT essential course notes were provided at no charge.

Students welcomed the improvements to the cross-institutional enrolment procedures that have consequently resulted in better library access. The encoding of student identification cards with an endorsement indicating their cross-Institutional enrolment status enabled library staff to identify students in the Program. International students have particularly benefited from the easier access to course requirements.

The MPH can now be completed by flexible or internal delivery through the increased use of web-based materials, and the electronic lodgment of lecture material for all 'core' subjects. The QCPH web-site has links to each of the participating Universities to enable student access to lectures, tutorials and important course information from that University. This feature of the Program is particularly supported by flexible delivery students and also by internally enrolled students who attended most, but not all, lectures due to work commitments.

I would like to thank the Members of the Board of Management for QCPH for examining these issues and implementing them as improvements to the MPH Program.

## **Alison Mott: Student Representative 2000**

The role of the Student Representative for the MPH is to provide feedback to the Program Coordinators on issues of concern for the student body. They represent the interests of the students at regular meetings held by the Centre's advisory body, the Board of Management, and are involved in discussions concerning proposed changes to the program. In 2000 a second student representative position was created so that the perspective of both full-time and part-time students could be represented.

Consideration was given in 2000 to the feedback from students in a survey conducted at the end of 1999. Issues raised at that time included consistency of course material (quality and access); consistency of course structure/delivery; library access; use of electronic/web-based materials and assessment procedures. On behalf of the course students, I would like to acknowledge the responsiveness of the program coordinators to constructive suggestions for change raised at that time. Significant alterations to the program in 2001 will hopefully help to address some of these issues.

Overall, there was also a lot of positive feedback relating to the delivery of certain subjects. Students valued being able to access lecture notes on-line, comprehensive course notes, access to lecturers/ tutors via e-mail, and opportunities for valuable group discussions in tutorial settings. Ongoing adjustment to the program will need to be evaluated to ensure a consistently high standard across all Public Health subjects.

# Collaborative Activities

**Queensland University of Technology and University of Queensland** staff collaborated in a successful bid to the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care for a national project on: “Integrating the principles of sustainable development into environmental health practice”. The project required a research component and an organisational component which involved the conduct of an international conference and a high level workshop, with a view to developing a comprehensive action plan for integrating sustainable development into environmental health practice in Australia. In addition, as a third component, an evaluation plan was developed. These various components required the completion of a detailed international literature review and a national research project, which informed the development of reports and position papers for the international conference to consider, as well as a final report to the Commonwealth which summed up this extensive exercise.

## **Griffith University Collaborative activities and relationship with industry**

*Consultant, WHO-Office for the Western Pacific and Ministry of Health, China*

Review community health education and promotion work in Liaoning; provide training courses and advice to health educators of the Liaoning Health Education Institute. May 3-June 3.

*Consultant, WHO-Office for the Western Pacific and Ministry of Health, Vietnam*

Development of training modules and materials on the development of healthy workplaces in small and medium enterprises. Sept 13-30.

*Identifying health and safety issues in small fast food industries.*

Department of Community Health and safety, Brisbane City Council.

The *Healthy Cities and Shires Project Team* at Griffith University were involved in the development, implementation and evaluation of Municipal Public Health Plans (MPHP) in several Local Governments in Queensland.

The project is directed by Peter Davey, Senior Lecturer in Environmental Health and project managed by Zoe Murray, Associate Lecturer in Environmental Health from the School of Public Health. Dr Cordia Chu, Associate Professor Rod Simpson and Councillor Annette Sheppard, Cairns City Council sit on an Advisory Committee to the Project together with representatives from the health and environment agencies. This Integrated 'seven step' Healthy Cities Approach to Planning has been developed collaboratively with Queensland Health, Local Government and the Local Government Association of Queensland. Councils participating with the Regional Public Health Units and Griffith University in 2000 include: planning models were completed in Hervey Bay City, Maryborough City and Kilcoy Shire; new plans have been initiated in Bundaberg City, Kolan Shire, Logan City and Cooloolool Shire. Griffith University is also assisting Gold Coast City Council in the review of its 1997-2000 Community Health Plan. MPHP has been jointly funded by Qld Health and Local Government and special thanks to all staff involved particularly Sophie Dwyer, Mal Price and Darren Hauser, Qld Health; Bryan Barker, Gold Coast City Council; Jeff Bacchi, Maryborough City Council; and Greg Crisp and Linda Govan from Hervey Bay. Through the Centre of Environment and Population

Health at Griffith research is being completed in the areas of 'best practice' community consultation and needs assessment; MPHP evaluation and review; and improved 'community health' profile data collection and reporting.

### Short Courses

◆ Dr Cordia Chu

*Short Course on Gender Analysis in Management and Policies*

Teaching gender awareness and qualitative methods in a two-day workshop sponsored by the Centre for Gender Studies, and the School of Public Health, Chinese University of Hong Kong. Sept 1-2.

◆ Professor Des Connell

*Health Risk Assessment and Risk Management in conjunction with QCPH*

## 2000 Academic Publications

### Publications/Conference Presentations of Academic staff involved in the program

#### Griffith University

##### Books / Book Chapters

**Chu C**, Allen J, Dwyer S, Harris N. (2000) Workplace Health Promotion: The Australian Experience. In G.Breucker (Ed), *Towards Better Health at Work: Successful European Strategies*. Essen: BKK 337-371.

**Chu C**, Breucker G, Harris N, et al (2000) Health-Promoting Workplaces - International Settings Development. In *Health Promotion International*. Great Britain: Oxford University Press. Vol 15, no.2: 155-167.

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**Simpson R**, Williams G, Petroeshevsky A, **Rutherford S**, Mitchell C, Thalib L. (2000). Air Quality and Health Risk Studies in Brisbane. In T Beer (Ed), *Air Pollution and Health Risk*, CSIRO ISBN 0643 065024. 116pp.

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**Simpson R**, Denison L, Petroeshevsky A, Thalib L, Williams G. (2000). Effects of ambient particulate pollution on daily mortality in Melbourne 1991-1996. *Journal of Exposure Analysis and Environmental Epidemiology* 10: 488-498.

**Simpson R**, Petroeshevsky A, Lowe I. (2000). An ecological footprint analysis for Australia. *Australian Journal of Environmental Management* 7(1): 11-18.

**Wenzel E**. (2000) Medicine Keepers. Issues in Indigenous Health. *Critical Public Health*, 10(2): 243-256.

## Report

**Chu C, Burches T, Eckerman C, Macracken L.** (2000) Evaluation of the Alcohol and Drug Project of the Brisbane City Council. Report to the Brisbane City Council. (Oct).

## Conference Presentations / Conference Proceedings

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**Chu C.** (2000) The Impact of Globalization on Sexual and Reproductive Health. *Globalization and Women's Health: Changes in Asian Societies*, Hong Kong: Conference Proceedings (Aug 30-31), 23-24.

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**Chu C, Diprose B.** (2000) Strategic Responses to Globalization & Workforce Pressures: The Development of Health-Promoting Workplaces. *Australian Health Promotion Association - 12th National Health Promotion Conference*, Melbourne: (Oct 29-Nov 1).

**Chu C, Diprose B, Harris N.** (2000) Integrated Training Programs to Meet the Needs of Workplace Health Issues. *Australian Health Promotion Association - 12th National Health Promotion Conference*, Melbourne: (Oct 29-Nov 1).

**Chu C, Diprose B, Harris N.** (2000) Building a Multi-skilled Workforce for Workplace Health and Safety. *Environment and Occupational Health*, Brisbane: Conference Proceedings (June 13-14).

**Chu C, Harris N, Diprose B.** (2000) The Need for an Integrated Approach for Workplace Health & Safety Education. *7<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Australian & New Zealand Occupational Health & Safety Educators*, Hong Kong: Conference Proceedings (Jan 19-21). 137-154.

**Chu C, Harris N, Diprose B.** (2000) Building a Multi-Skilled Workforce to Manage the Challenges in Workplace Health & Safety. *Australian Industry Group Conference*, Brisbane: (June 12-14).

**Davey P.** (2000) Health Planning at a Local Level, Queensland Experience. Invited Speaker and keynote address at *Australian Pacific Healthy Cities Conference*, Canberra.

**Davey P, Allan M, Simpson R.** (2000) Flexible Learning and Environmental Health at Griffith University. *International Federation of Environmental Health Conference*, Oslo.

**Davey P, Murray Z.** (2000) Municipal Public Health Planning in Queensland. Plenary presentation, *WHO International Conference*, Tokyo.

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Kelly B, Raphael, B, Burrows G, Judd F, Kernutt G, Burnett P, Perdices, M, **Dunne M**. (2000) Measuring psychological adjustment to HIV infection. *International Journal of Psychiatry in Medicine*, 30(1): 41-59.

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## **University of Queensland**

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**QUEENSLAND CENTRE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH**  
**Consolidated Income and Expenditure Statement for 1 Jan. 2000 - 31 Dec. 2000**

	Griffith University	Queensland University of Technology	University of Queensland	Centre Non- PHERP	Qld. Centre for Public Health Total
<b>INCOME</b>	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
carried forward	5,799.05	12,950.82	40,516.85	11,956.60	71,223.32
PHERP funding	199,155.52	157,323.78	275,719.98		632,199.28
adjustments – see note 1.	(107,589.00)				
Qld Health				80,000.00	80,000.00
other			2,524.73	2,407.58	4,932.31
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 97,365.57</b>	<b>\$ 170,274.60</b>	<b>\$ 318,761.56</b>	<b>\$ 94,364.18</b>	<b>\$ 680,765.91</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Salaries</b>					
Academic salaries	113,935.68	112,110.01	97,394.83		323,440.52
Administrative salaries		22,852.43	71,259.14	41,940.87	136,052.44
<b>Sub Total 1</b>	<b>113,935.68</b>	<b>134,962.44</b>	<b>168,653.97</b>	<b>41,940.87</b>	<b>459,492.96</b>
<b>Administration</b>					
Advertising		1,269.56			1,269.56
Appointment expenses					
Catering					
Conference fees					
Hire charges		100.93			100.93
Library resources					
Miscellaneous expenses		1,721.74	15,798.49	2,359.43	19,879.66
Printing/publishing	1,206.09	1,206.09			2,412.18
Stationery/photocopying					
Telephone & fax	155.99	621.25			777.24
Travel expenses		1,466.38	8,635.04		10,101.42
<b>Sub Total 2</b>	<b>1,362.08</b>	<b>6,385.95</b>	<b>24,433.53</b>	<b>2,359.43</b>	<b>34,540.99</b>
<b>Furniture &amp; Equipment</b>					
Furniture					
Equipment			1,585.00	1,845.00	3,430.00
Maintenance costs					
<b>Sub Total 3</b>			<b>1,585.00</b>	<b>1,845.00</b>	<b>3,430.00</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>\$ 115,297.76</b>	<b>\$ 141,348.39</b>	<b>\$ 194,672.50</b>	<b>\$ 46,145.30</b>	<b>\$ 497,463.95</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS/ (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>\$ (17,932.19)</b>	<b>\$ 28,926.21</b>	<b>\$ 124,089.06</b>	<b>\$ 48,218.88</b>	<b>\$ 183,301.96</b>

*Notes -*

1. QCPH transferred from GU to UQ at the beginning of 2000. Commonwealth Grant income for Jan - Mar 2000 was remitted to GU and subsequently transferred to UQ: \$107,589.
2. Nov payment to QUT was forwarded by UQ to QUT in December where it was processed in 2001 and will appear in the 2001 statement: \$11,635.83 Dec payment to QUT was processed in 2001 and will appear in the 2001 statement: \$11,635.83
3. Nov & Dec payments to GU were processed in 2001 and will appear in the 2001 statement: \$18,477.16

*Note re surplus funds at 31.12.00* - Funds were retained into 2001 to enable programs to meet contractual obligations extending beyond 31.12.00, pending finalisation of new Agreement.