



LA TROBE
UNIVERSITY

Care Economy
Research Institute



Summer Edition

Season's Greetings

from
**Professor Irene
Blackberry,
Director**

Raylene Walatina, born 1980 in Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Yankunytjatjara language group.
Ngayuka Ngura – My Country 2022, acrylic on linen, 101 x 167 cm.
New acquisition, 2024, La Trobe University Art Collection. Courtesy the artist and Iwantja Arts.



The Care Economy Research Institute celebrated our first birthday in June this year!

Since our launch, we've grown to over 129 La Trobe members across our 5 domains and 100 Care Economy Collaborative Network members. Your contributions have added to CERI's success - thank you.

In 2024, our research members published 545 articles (77% in Q1 journals), collaborated on 102 research projects and have been part of teams successfully awarded \$8,488,104 funding in research grants.

CERI also supported 28 industry projects, built our inaugural Care Data portal (due for launch in Q1 2025) while also contributing to the development of Australian Government Care and Support National Taskforce strategy, National Carers Strategy, and Malaysian Care Economy roadmap. We've also completed Institute-wide research into scope of care economy, workforce needs and aged care workforce microsimulation.

Working closely with the CERI team and our domain leads, we've also coordinated 24 knowledge sharing events such as:

- International Women's Day Webinar: Troubling Care: research perspectives on Womens' care work presented by Dr Pat Armstrong
- First Nations Child's Relationality with speaker Dr Mishel McMahon
- Industry: Lunch & Latte - Care Economy with guest speakers Darren Midgley, Dr Dan Douglass and Sandra Slatter
- The ADVANCE-D Programme: addressing intimate partner violence with Professor Gail Gilchrist
- Infant Mental Health and Family Violence: How to be Infant Led presented by Dr Wendy Bunston
- Connect, Collaborate and Celebrate – Researcher and Industry End of Year event

Thank you to CERI's Leadership team Dr Anne-Marie Laslett, *Associate Director, Graduate Research*, and Dr Chris Maylea, *Associate Director, Partnerships, Community and Engagement*, as well as our Domain leads – Professor James Boyd, *Care Technology*, Professor Meg Morris and Dr Rachel Winterton, *Care Workforce*, Professor Leeanne Carey, *Care Delivery*, Professor Lisa Brophy and Dr Sarah MacLean, *Care Experience*, and Dr Alex Maritz, *Care Economics, Social and Policy*. Thanks also to CERI's Management team.

On behalf of the CERI team, we'd like to wish you a safe and happy summer.



12 DAYS OF RESEARCH



1



Assessing the Usability and Effectiveness of AI-Powered Virtual Clinical Note-Taking Software

Professor James Boyd, Dr Ken Ho, Dr Tafheem Wani, Professor Raelene Wilding, and team aim to compare the effectiveness and usability of AI transcription programs in a simulated Australian healthcare setting:

- To evaluate the impact of Lyrebird and i-scribe on the efficiency and accuracy of medical documentation processes.
- To assess the user satisfaction and acceptance of Lyrebird and i-scribe among healthcare professionals.
- To identify potential challenges and limitations associated with the implementation and use of AI transcription programs in healthcare settings.

2



Do clinical practice placements in residential aged care services prepare student nurses for care of older people?

Professor Deirdre Fetherstonhaugh, Dr Anne-Marie Mahoney and team aim to:

- Determine when (what year /semester) clinical placements in residential aged care services (RACS) occur in Australian undergraduate nursing curricula.
- Identify the clinical supervision models used where the clinical placements occur in residential aged care services.
- Understand students' experience of clinical placements in residential aged care services in years one, two and three of their degree
- Understand clinical supervisors' experiences of student supervision during clinical placements in residential aged care services.

3



Impact of International Educational Programs During Pre-Registration Degree on Nursing and Midwifery Practice

Dr Jacqueline Johnston's PhD project investigated the ongoing effects on nurses and midwives who undertook international educational programs during their pre-registration education

4



The Support, Education and Learning Needs of Experienced Nurses Who Are Transitioning to Work in Intensive Care

In light of workforce issues in critical care nursing this growing cohort of nurses who move to work in ICU have not been studied to elicit their particular support needs. Meeting these needs can help to support long term staff retention. A scoping review by Dr Rachael Duncan and team.

<https://doi.org/10.1111/jocn.17593>

5



Leveraging health care workers mental well-being for personal thriving

By surveying care workers from Australia, Professor Stephen Teo's project aims to identify the positive workplace factors which contribute towards health care workers' mental well-being and thriving at work, as well as the impact of negative workplace behaviours impeding on health care workers' mental well-being and thriving at work.

6



Impact of continuity of care on the development of co-morbidity in middle-aged adults living in NSW

Dr Prabhat Lamichhane and team aim to assess the impact of continuity of care (CoC) on development of co-morbidity among adults with cardiovascular disease (CVD). The study will use the 45 and up study, a large longitudinal study conducted by the Sax Institute linked with MBS and PBS data to answer the study aim.

7

Barriers and enablers for implementation of clinical practice guidelines in maternity and neonatal settings: A rapid review

Following Cochrane and WHO guidelines, a rapid review was undertaken by Professor Christine East and team. Barriers and enablers to clinical guideline use were aligned to themes, through review of 48 studies, published from 35 countries.

8

Hand-building the sense of self: art therapy with Indian women in an assisted-living facility for the 'homeless'

Co-author and Care Experience core domain member, Dr Saoni Banerjee, designed and evaluated a structured art therapy program to enhance the sense of identity and interpersonal communication in women with chronic mental health conditions in India. It specifically aimed to design an intervention program in the Indian context for women who have experienced homelessness and living in community care assisted living facilities.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/17454832.2024.2416904>

9

Suicide prevention among men in early fatherhood: Determining the effectiveness of Working out Dads

Professor Amanda Cooklin, Professor Brian Oldenburg and team were successful in a MRFF Million Minds Suicide Prevention Grant. One in ten fathers experience mental health difficulties in the critical early years of their children's lives. Without effective early intervention and support, these difficulties may worsen over time for some fathers, have adverse consequences for families and children, and increase risks for suicide. Despite this, few evidence-based interventions to reduce mental health difficulties and suicidality in early fatherhood exist. To address this gap, Working Out Dads (WOD), a facilitated peer support group intervention for fathers of young children (0-4 years) experiencing, or at risk of, mental health difficulties was developed & RCT is underway (data collection completed 2024).

10

Leveraging health care workers mental well-being for personal thriving

Dr Alex Maritz and team aim to advance the field of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) by exploring how CSR investments can drive product and service innovations, creating value for both the firm and stakeholders. It examines the relationship between CSR initiatives and their influence on CSR investments, as well as the resulting impact on innovation that contribute to shared value creation.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2024.144189>

11

Improving Spiritual Health Care for LGBTQ+ Australians

Dr Timothy Jones and team will investigate the scope and nature of LGBTQ+ conversion practices in Australia and develop resources to improve the mental health care of survivors and support enhanced safety in pastoral care with LGBTQ+ people. Read about the project [here](#).

12

Transforming the Care Economy through Social Innovation

Dr Alex Maritz and team explore how social innovation addresses Care Economy challenges such as workforce shortages, financial constraints and inequalities. Methodology included using a scoping review as well as adopting the PRISMA-ScR framework to ensure methodological rigour and transparency.



RESEARCHER SPOTLIGHT

with DR TAFHEEM WANI



Dr. Tafheem Wani is a digital health academic, specialising in healthcare cybersecurity, socio-technical models in healthcare, virtual care, and ethical AI use. Dr. Wani's work addresses critical challenges in the care sector, such as the secure integration of personal devices (BYOD) in hospitals and developing frameworks that enable clinicians to work productively while safeguarding patient data. He has received several awards and fellowships, including an Early Career Teaching Award for innovative, inclusive teaching strategies, and a nomination for "graduate research student of the year", and selection for the ARCH 'Rising Star' research mentorship program.

What's one project you are currently working on?

CERI

"I'm developing a healthcare cybersecurity framework for Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) security management within Australian hospitals. Using co-design and action research, the socio-technical framework ensures devices are used safely and securely in hospital settings while balancing clinical needs with cybersecurity requirements."

TAFHEEM

In your opinion, what's the biggest challenge facing the Care Economy in Australia?

CERI

"Being a socio-technical researcher, I would say that the lack of a coordinated approach to technology adoption, this has slowed innovation in a sector already hindered by complex ethical and regulatory requirements. Coupled with a shortage of digitally skilled professionals and a population still adapting to new health technologies, the care sector in Australia is struggling to keep pace with advancements such as the AI boom that could significantly improve efficiency and quality."

TAFHEEM

What do you think most people would be surprised to hear about in relation to your research?

CERI

"A key finding from my PhD research was discovering widespread unsafe cybersecurity behaviours among clinicians. In a survey, a high proportion reported using public hotspots to access patient data or relying on apps like WhatsApp to share sensitive information. In a follow-up qualitative study, clinicians emphasised prioritising patient care and productivity over cybersecurity. This underscores the need for secure, user-friendly and efficient tools to deliver care safely without compromising on speed or accessibility."

TAFHEEM

What's one publication or article that you would recommend to anyone wanting to understand more about your research area or broader issues facing the Care Economy?

CERI

"I recommend my qualitative study authored with my PhD supervisors, which explores clinicians' cybersecurity practices in healthcare. It highlights the tensions between cybersecurity protocols and patient care demands, emphasising the need for secure, user-friendly tools that enhance productivity while protecting patient data. The study advocates for a socio-technical approach to healthcare innovation, aligning security with clinical workflows."

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijmedinf.2024.105606>

TAFHEEM

ACADEMIC PROMOTIONS

Congratulations to the following CERI members who were recognised for their achievements across the University in the areas of teaching and research, and we look forward to their ongoing contributions to CERI.

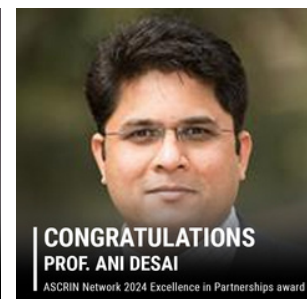
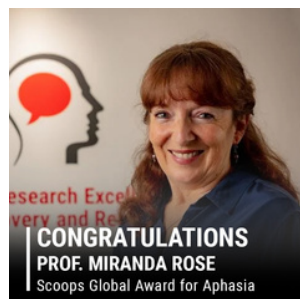


- Dr Rachel Cardwell - Level C, Senior Lecturer
- Dr Jennifer Davis - Level D, Associate Professor
- Dr Heather Downey - Level D, Associate Professor
- Dr Jason Jiang - Level D, Associate Professor
- Dr Hanan Khalil - Level E, Professor
- Dr Jacqueline Johnston - Level C, Senior Lecturer
- Dr Anne-Marie Laslett - Level E, Professor
- Dr Anne-Marie Mahoney - Level C, Senior Research Fellow
- Dr Chris Maylea - Level E, Professor
- Dr Rachel Winterton - Level D, Principal Research Fellow and Associate Professor

RECOGNISED FOR EXCELLENCE IN 2024

We'd also like to celebrate our CERI members who have been honoured in their research fields.

- Professor Jane Mills named the Health Advocate of the Year at the 2024 National Rural and Remote Health Awards
- Professor Kay Crossley receives Allied Health Research - Impact Award
- Professor Miranda Rose Scoops Global Award
- Professor James Boyd - Senior Academic Leaders Council launched to drive collaboration across digital health research and education
- Professor Ani Desai ASCRIN Network - 2024 Excellence in Partnerships



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN 2025?



Following the success of this year's International Women's Day webinar, CERI is excited to announce that **Alex Drane**, Founder and CEO of Archangels will be sharing her insights on care and caring, and how their **Carers Intensity Index Tool** can be used to make visible hidden carers; celebrating their contribution to our communities and broader society and how we can best support them.

The webinar will take place on Thursday 6th March at 10-11am AEST.

Stay tuned for the invite coming soon!

#AccelerateAction #IWD2025



CONTACT US

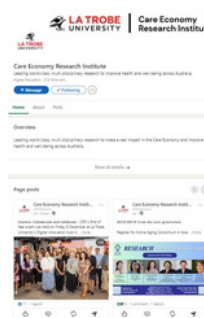
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