The Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society (ARCSHS) is the leading institution in Australia conducting social research into sexuality, health and the social dimensions of human relationships. ARCSHS is a major player in framing the agenda and delivering the evidence to understand sex and sexuality in contemporary Australia. Our program focuses on: Sex, gender and sexuality; Blood-borne viruses and sexually transmissible infections; International social research; and Translating research into policy and practice.

ARCSHS, Melbourne, Australia
# Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STAFF</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIRECTOR’S REPORT</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STRATEGIC PLAN</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESEARCH PROGRAM</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex, Gender and Sexuality</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood-borne Viruses and Sexually Transmissible Infections</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Social Research</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research into Policy and Practice</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAY AND LESBIAN HEALTH VICTORIA (GLHV)</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIGHER DEGREE RESEARCH PROGRAM</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING PROGRAM</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FELLOWSHIPS</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FUNDING</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROFESSIONAL PARTICIPATION</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBLICATIONS AND OUTPUTS</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ARCSHS has a multidisciplinary team of researchers with qualifications and expertise in psychology, anthropology, sociology, public health, health promotion, methodology, epidemiology, education, women’s health, history, gender studies, men’s health, sexualities, cultural studies, consumer advocacy and health policy.

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In 2013 ARCSHS continued the successful implementation of the 2012–2015 Strategic Plan. The 2013 Annual Report reflects this focus, and details of the achievements in each of the four priority areas are outlined in the body of the report.

ARCSHS staff also spent 2013 actively planning for a number of bittersweet transitions. Although Professor Marian Pitts officially stepped down as Director in 2012, she has continued to play a major role at ARCSHS and within the research programs and services throughout La Trobe University, Faculty and ARCSHS staff have all benefited from Marian’s leadership and commitment, and were sorry to see her fully retire in early 2014. We wish Marian all the best.

In addition, Professor Anne Mitchell is retiring in early 2014. Anne’s key work with ARCSHS has been as leader of successful teams of research and community liaison staff working in the research-into-practice area. The focus of this work has been to link research to the community and help research outcomes influence and be incorporated into policy and practice in the sexual health, sex education and public health arenas. Within ARCSHS, Anne established and successfully led the growth of the Community Liaison and Education Unit, and Gay and Lesbian Health Victoria. Professor Mitchell joined The Centre for the Study of AIDS (now ARCSHS) at La Trobe University more than 20 years ago and has been an active and inspiring member of staff since then. We send our best wishes to Anne in her retirement as she also will be missed.

More positively, I am very pleased to announce that Professor Jayne Lucke joined ARCSHS in February 2014 as the new Director.

Jayne Lucke was Principal Research Fellow at the Centre for Clinical Research at The University of Queensland. She is an Investigator and member of the Steering Committee of the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health and an Associate Investigator of the Centre for Research Excellence in Women’s Health in the 21st Century.

Between 2009 and 2012 Jayne was a Director of Family Planning Queensland. Jayne has exciting plans for the future and will be an excellent addition to ARCSHS.

During the year a number of new staff joined ARCSHS: Levinia Crooks, Adjunct Associate Professor; Jeanne Ellard, Research Fellow; Emily Bariola, Research Officer; Pauline Crameri, Research Officer; Daniel du Plooy, Research Officer; Bianca Fileborn, Research Officer; Natalie Hendry, Research Officer; Daniel Reeders, Research Officer; and Tomas Rozbroj, Research Officer. The following staff left the Centre and we wish them well in their next endeavours: Stephen McNally, Senior Research Fellow; Naomi Ngo, Research Fellow; and Julienne Corboz, Research Officer.

Staff and students continued to receive support from the Harold Mitchell Foundation. In a field of excellent applications, Elizabeth Smith was awarded the Harold Mitchell Postdoctoral Travelling Fellowship and Samuel Muchoki was awarded the Harold Mitchell Postgraduate Travelling Fellowship. Both recipients were able to make significant contributions to international conferences through these Fellowships and we are grateful to the Harold Mitchell Foundation.

I have enjoyed my brief tenure as Acting Director of ARCSHS and thank the staff for their patience and support over the year. In particular, I would like to thank Professor Gary Dowsett, Deputy Director, and members of the Leadership Team who have continued to ensure the success of ARCSHS.

Sandra G. Leggat
Acting Director
In 2012, ARCSHS adopted a strategic plan for 2012–2015. Preparation of the plan involved intensive internal discussions, as well as consultation with key stakeholders in government at state and federal levels, community-based organisations, researchers and research institutions, including La Trobe University. The plan outlines five key aims for the Centre:

- Increase the quantity, quality and impact of multidisciplinary social research into sexuality, health and the social dimensions of human relationships
- Build and promote an evidence base to influence policy, research and professional practice to support Victorian, interstate, national and international strategic responses to health issues
- Maintain and expand capacity building for social researchers through teaching, training and mentoring
- Increase research collaboration in Australia and internationally, and maintain partnerships to support strategic research
- Improve workplace well-being and sustainability for the future.

Under each of these aims, the Centre has adopted goals, strategies and performance indicators to set directions and allow progress to be measured. Staff have been working to improve data collection processes to inform reporting against these key aims.

The plan also outlines four key priority areas for the ARCSHS research program over the next three years. These are intended to guide the Centre in consolidating its existing profile and work as the leading institution in Australia conducting social research into sexuality, health and the social dimensions of human relationships.

Each Annual Report is now organised in the following key priority areas:

- Sex, gender and sexuality
- Blood-borne viruses and sexually transmissible infections
- International social research
- Research into policy and practice.

ARCSHS recognises that there are important intersections between, and interactions across, these areas. The Centre seeks to build and draw upon expertise, approaches and activities within and across these priority areas to ensure the quality of its research and maximise its impact in the real world. The 2012–2015 Strategic Plan is a key public document stating ARCSHS’ mission, aims and plans. It informs internal planning at the Centre and is reviewed annually. A new plan will be prepared during 2015, involving both internal discussions and external consultations with key stakeholders.
Research Program

The Strategic Plan 2012–2015 identifies four key priority areas for the ARCSHS research program over the next three years:

- Sex, gender and sexuality
- Blood-borne viruses and sexually transmissible infections
- International social research
- Research into policy and practice.

SEX, GENDER AND SEXUALITY

ARCSHS is the major player in framing the agenda and delivering the evidence to understand sex and sexuality in contemporary Australia. Through national surveys of the general population, the Centre helps track patterns and practices over the life course and across time. Other research in this area involves qualitative research and evaluation. ARCSHS seeks to maintain, profile and draw upon these major research activities, while also building on areas of expertise in specific aspects of health and well-being with diverse sexual and gender minorities, including same-sex attracted and gender-questioning young people. The Centre has a focus on the intersection of sexuality and ageing, disability and mental health. Another focus on gender and its intersection with sexuality and health involves research into the conditions that normalise violence and abuse, and the ways that these cultures can be changed to promote respect and non-violence. ARCSHS research provides evidence upon which to base policy development and culture-change programs in a wide range of community, sport, workplace and education settings.

The Australian Longitudinal Study of Health and Relationships

Anthony Smith, Marian Pitts, Julia Shelley, Juliet Richters (University of New South Wales), Judy Simpson (University of Sydney), Wendy Heywood and Kent Patrick

This NHMRC-funded study was established in 2003 to document the natural history of sexual and reproductive health in the Australian population. Evidence provided from this study allows for more effective sexual health interventions and enables researchers to understand the links between risk events and health outcomes. In 2005, the first wave of data was collected, and the fifth and final wave of data collection was completed in 2010. The results of this ground-breaking study not only provide the foundations for future research but are used to inform government policies, health professionals and the Australian public as a whole. More than 25 articles from the study have been published to date in international journals.

Creating Healthy Workplaces: ‘Y Respect Gender’

Sue Dyson, Elizabeth Smith and Daniel Reeder

This project is part of the three-year VicHealth ‘Creating Healthy Workplaces’ program, which has funded five projects to study different aspects of workplace health between 2011 and 2014. One of these projects focuses on preventing violence against women and is run by the YMCA. ARCSHS is evaluating this particular project, Y Respect Gender, which addresses gender inequality and respectful behaviours. In this second year of evaluation, qualitative data collection has continued, and a full report was delivered on the baseline survey carried out in year one, to contribute to continuous improvement in the program. Regular meetings have also been held throughout the year with the project management group, which consists of the YMCA, ARCSHS and VicHealth representatives. As part of this project, ARCSHS also participates in a VicHealth ‘researcher community of practice’ to share learning as the different projects develop. 2014 will be the final year of the evaluation.

Does Talking About Sexuality Change the Game?: Victorian Health Promotion Foundation (VicHealth) Innovations Grant

Gillian Fletcher and Sue Dyson

Sport is acknowledged as a site of homophobia; yet gay, lesbian and bisexual (GLB) people participate in sport across Victoria. This two-year project seeks to examine the experiences of GLB sports people and that of their straight counterparts. What benefits arise from sports participation, and what, if any, are the associated costs? A total of 26 interviews with sports people were conducted in 2013, as well as a review of Australian and Victorian documents related to sport, participation and inclusion. The final year will see data collected to date used in discussions with leaders of sporting representative bodies in Victoria in pursuit of the overall research aim: development of practical, evidence-based principles for effective promotion of greater inclusion of GLB people in sport.

Evaluation of AFL Victoria’s Fair Game Respect Matters Project

Sue Dyson and Jo Grzelinska

Fair Game Respect Matters is a six-year program run by AFL Victoria in one regional and two metro community football leagues (2008–2014). The program has aimed to change cultures in community clubs to make them safer and more inclusive for women and girls. This is a primary prevention of violence against women approach that aims to spread changed social norms from settings such as community sports clubs, to the wider community. The evaluation uses a constructivist approach and has focused on the impact of the program, unexpected change, and the transferability of the program to other sports and settings. Knowledge exchange activities are planned in the first half of 2014.

Evaluation of the AFL ‘Club Champions’ Community Education Program

Jo Grzelinska and Sue Dyson

In 2011, 2012 and 2013, the AFL conducted a community education program for football players from community- and state-based clubs all over Australia. The program aimed to change attitudes and behaviours concerning alcohol, illicit drugs and respectful behaviours in social settings, with a focus on relationships with women. ARCSHS was engaged to evaluate the program, which was delivered by trained, mixed-gender teams of elite players and ex-players, and women with health promotion or similar skills. The evaluation reported on the process, outcomes and medium-term impact of the program up to twelve months after the training was delivered. The report informs future education programs in community sports settings.
Exploring the Relationship between Hazardous Drinking, Depression and Anxiety in Lesbian, Bisexual and Same-sex Attracted Women: Culture, motivation and behaviour

Ruth McNair (University of Melbourne), Dan Lubman (Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre), Tonda Hughes (University of Illinois), Kelsey Hegarty (University of Melbourne), William Leonard, Rhonda Brown (Deakin University), Amy Pennay (Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre)

The study looks at the reciprocal influence of hazardous alcohol use, depression and/or anxiety among women of minority sexual orientations. The study explores the cultural significance of alcohol use among lesbian, bisexual and same-sex attracted women, and the relationships between their experiences of discrimination, stress and abuse, and hazardous drinking and mental health problems. The study looks at the barriers these women face in accessing mental health services and, in particular, a perception that mental health-care professionals lack cultural awareness of and sensitivity to their issues. The project is funded for two years (2012–2013) by beyondblue as part of its Victorian Centre of Excellence in Depression, Anxiety and Related Disorders grants round.

Fair Go, Sport! (Phase 2): Evaluation

Gillian Fletcher and Lottie Turner

The Fair Go, Sport! project, implemented by the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission, is drawing attention across the country for its innovative approach to increasing awareness of sexual and gender diversity, and promoting safe and inclusive environments in sports settings. In 2013, the project implemented a pilot in a school setting and extended from its initial focus on hockey to other sporting codes. This second phase was evaluated by ARCSHS and the reports were available in early 2014.

From Private Lives to Public Policy: Improving the mental health and well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) Australians

Anthony Lyons and William Leonard

This project extends Private Lives 2: The second national survey of the health and well-being of LGBT Australians and is funded by beyondblue and the Movember Foundation. The project is a targeted study of the mental health of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Australians, with particular focus on links with resilience, stigma, social support, LGBT community connectedness, and health service use. It involves a detailed analysis of data from the Private Lives 2 survey to deliver a national community report and a series of academic publications that provide much-needed knowledge of factors related to the mental health of LGBT populations and practical guidance for improving health outcomes. This project began in December 2013 and will continue in 2014.

The Healthy Equal Youth Project (The HEY Project): A Victorian same-sex attracted and sex and gender diverse (SSASGD) youth suicide prevention initiative

William Leonard

The HEY Project is an initiative funded by the Department of Health, Victoria, and aimed at reducing self-harm and suicide among SSASGD youth and improving their mental health. The project is funded for four years (2011–2014) at a total cost of $4 million. The project involves funding of seven separate agencies and programs with proven expertise and success in working with, and on behalf of, SSASGD young Victorians. The project aims to increase the capacity of each of these organisations to address a particular area of need among SSASGD youth. It also aims to encourage these agencies to work in partnership with each other, and with mainstream youth and youth mental health services, to build an SSASGD youth platform within the mainstream youth sector. Gay and Lesbian Health Victoria in partnership with the Youth Affairs Council of Victoria is responsible for project management and coordination.

Male Sex Workers and HIV and STI Risk Project

Garrett Prestage (ARCSHS and Kirby Institute)

This study explores the circumstances and contexts of male-to-male sex work in New South Wales and Queensland. It explores how male sex workers and their clients form their beliefs about HIV and risk, and how they negotiate sex in the context of sex-work encounters and with other partners, and compares these with men not engaged in male-to-male sex work, either as workers or clients. There has also been little investigation into how male sex workers obtain HIV-prevention information and resources, and whether they do so differently with respect to their professional and private lives. It will also investigate the idea that the way that men identify themselves, in terms of both their sexuality and their involvement with sex work, will influence what resources and information they believe they need, and how and where they will obtain them. The study aims to recruit at least 200 men who have engaged in sex work, as well as a sample of male clients of male sex workers, and a sample of men who have not engaged in male-to-male sex work as either workers or clients. They will complete a self-administered questionnaire online. In addition, about 15 in-depth interviews with individuals who have recently engaged in male-to-male sex work will be conducted. Participants will be recruited through community organisation programs servicing men engaged in male-to-male sex work, as well as through more broad-based publicity. Recruitment into this study commenced in November 2013.
**Improving Online Therapy for Mood Disorders among Lesbians and Gay Men**

*Anthony Lyons, Tomas Rozbroj, Marian Pitts, Anne Mitchell, Marina Carman and Helen Christensen (Black Dog Institute)*

This project, funded by beyondblue, aims to improve online therapies for depression and anxiety by identifying ways to make them more inclusive, appropriate and effective for lesbians and gay men. Beginning in June 2013, the project involves two main phases. The first phase comprises focus groups with lesbians and gay men to explore strategies for making online therapy gay-friendlier. Both phases commenced in 2013. Findings from this project will be used to develop an online toolkit to provide researchers, clinicians and organisations with guidelines and recommendations for developing therapeutic web- and app-based interventions that are inclusive, appropriate and effective for lesbians and gay men.

**Mental Health, Resilience and Sexual Recovery among Gay Men with Prostate Cancer**

*Gary Dowsett, Garrett Prestage, Duane Duncan and Daniel du Plooy*

This study investigates the experiences of Australian gay men, and their partners, following a diagnosis of, and treatment for, prostate cancer. A review of the medical and health literature revealed that little is known about gay men’s experiences or those of their partners. This study focuses on gay men’s mental and sexual health, particularly on experiences of depression and sexuality side-effects following prostate cancer treatment. The study employs a qualitative methodology, using in-depth individual interviews and electronic diary-keeping to provide new evidence to strengthen both mainstream and gay-community health service responses to the needs of these men. The study is funded by a grant from beyondblue through its National Priority Driven Research Program—Men’s Stream (funded by The Movember Foundation), from 2013–2015.

**LGBTI Mental Health Promotion Framework**

*William Leonard*

Gay and Lesbian Health Victoria has been commissioned by the National LGBTI Health Alliance to produce Australia’s first National Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) Mental Health Promotion Framework. The project has been overseen by an LGBTI Mental Health Promotion Framework Task Group and is funded through the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing.

**From Blues to Rainbows: The mental health needs of young people with diverse gender identities**

*Lynne Hillier, Anne Mitchell, Elizabeth Smith and Tiffany Jones (University of New England)*

This project explores the mental health needs and protective factors of gender diverse, trans*, and intersex young people in Australia. Australian research with same-sex attracted and gender-questioning young people in 2010 demonstrated that gender diverse, trans* and gender-questioning young people were at greater risk of suicide and self-harm than their same-sex attracted peers. It was also found that these young people were more likely to take a stand against discrimination and to be engaged in activism of various kinds. With funding from beyondblue, the study involves both qualitative and quantitative methods to investigate not only the mental health needs of 14–21 year olds in this cohort, but also the factors that contribute to positive mental health outcomes (for example, involvement in activism and supportive/inclusive school and healthcare policies, practices and experiences). The project is overseen by a group of gender-diverse, trans* and intersex people (including young people) who have provided advice and guidance on the survey and interview questions. The results of the research will be used to improve policy, service planning and training for both health and school professionals, which will help to meet the needs of these young people.

**Sexual Health and Ageing: A resource kit targeting depression and anxiety among older gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex Australians**

*Briony Dow (National Ageing Research Institute), Catherine Barrett, Phil Maude (RMIT), Jean Tinney (National Ageing Research Institute) and Carolyn Whyte*

This project is funded by beyondblue and is a collaboration between the National Ageing Research Institute, Val’s Café and RMIT. The project will interview 40 older LGBTI Australians to draw on their strategies for managing discrimination and preventing depression and anxiety. This information will form the basis of educational resources, which will be piloted and evaluated in workshops for service providers, lectures for undergraduate students, and a community forum for LGBTI communities. The project provides the opportunity to learn from older LGBTI people about strategies for handling challenging times and to share lessons with service providers who can build on the strengths of older LGBTI people.
Sexual Health and Ageing: How to address sexuality after stroke

Catherine Barrett, Marian Pitts and Carolyn Whyte

This research and interdisciplinary practice-change project is a collaboration with the Victorian Stroke Network. The project aims to build the capacity of stroke clinicians to provide clients and their partners with information on sexuality after stroke. Nineteen clinicians from eight stroke services around Victoria are participating in the project as co-researchers and change facilitators. The clinicians were supported to conduct a needs analysis in their service, including an organisational audit, staff survey and patient interviews. Data from this needs analysis were then utilised to educate staff and inform service improvements. Outputs from the project to date include: a guide to interdisciplinary practice and sexuality after stroke; a program logic model; a staff survey tool; and an organisational audit tool. In 2014, the program participants will share their work at a state conference for stroke clinicians and write about their achievements in a report on the project.

Sexual Health and Ageing: Preventing the sexual assault of older women

Catherine Barrett, Jean Tinney (National Ageing Research Institute), Rose Mann (University of Melbourne) and Philomena Horsley

The project was funded by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs. It involves collaboration with the National Ageing Research Institute, the McCaughey Centre and the Centre for Women’s Health, Gender and Society (all at University of Melbourne), Alzheimer’s Australia, and the Council on the Ageing, Victoria. The project aims to strengthen the community’s ability to prevent the sexual assault of older women in aged-care services and the broader community. The first stage of the project involves interviews and a survey to gather evidence from older women, their families, service providers and the broader community on the context of sexual assault. This stage of the project was completed in 2013 and will form the basis of a national strategy for the primary prevention of the sexual assault of older women. To accompany the strategy, new resources and an educational program will be developed. As the first project to provide an evidence base and strategy for the primary prevention of the sexual assault of older women, it has generated significant community interest. A project support network has been established to engage stakeholders, who are considered pivotal to the development and successful implementation of the strategy.

Sexual Health and Ageing: LGBTI-inclusive Home and Community Care services

Pauline Crameri, Catherine Barrett and Carolyn Whyte

This project is a partnership with the Municipal Association of Victoria, with funding from the Department of Health, Victoria. The project initially sought to work with Home and Community Care (HACC) Assessors to develop their capacity to conduct LGBTI-inclusive assessment. However, feedback from pilot workshops highlighted that the project focus needed to include all HACC staff to ensure that LGBTI-inclusive services could be provided to LGBTI clients who disclosed at assessment. As a result, the project scope was broadened to support the development of LGBTI HACC services. The project involved working with HACC services to understand how the National Standards for LGBTI-inclusive action apply to HACC services, and developing a related resource or HACC Pack. A capacity-building approach has been taken, with education and support provided to over 80 change facilitators to assist them to become resource people within their service. Many of the facilitators have gone on the deliver education in their workplace and build organisational interest in achieving a Rainbow Tick, or increasing their commitment to LGBTI-inclusive services.

Sexual Health and Ageing: LGBTI-inclusive Aged Care Assessment Services (ACAS)

Pauline Crameri, Catherine Barrett, Carolyn Whyte and Tim Firth (Western Health)

This project was funded by the Department of Health, Victoria, to support Aged Care Assessment Services (ACAS) in Victoria develop LGBTI-inclusive assessment practices and services. To guide the project, a survey of ACAS Assessors is being conducted, particularly to identify barriers to LGBTI-inclusive assessment. A set of fact sheets will then be developed to guide assessment and a series of workshops facilitated to educate ACAS Assessors and support them to become resource people within their services. The partnership with an ACAS service has assisted in ensuring the project activities address the needs of assessors, as well as fostering recognition for state-wide experts within the field. The project outputs are expected to generate interest nationally, given the focus on LGBTI-inclusive assessment with the development of a National LGBTI Ageing and Aged Care Strategy and the development of a Gateway for aged care and the My Aged Care website.

Sexual Health and Ageing: Discrimination, depression, anxiety and older LGBTI people

Catherine Barrett, Carolyn Whyte, William Leonard and Jude Comfort (Curtin University)

This project was a collaboration with Curtin University and funded by beyondblue. The project involved interviews with 12 older LGBTI people in three states, the analysis of themes from these interviews, and the construction of small case studies to highlight the links between discrimination and mental health. The inclusion of participant narratives in the report aimed to raise the visibility of older LGBTI Australians and assist service providers to empathise with the experiences of discrimination.
Sexual Health and Ageing: Supporting the development of LGBTI-inclusive aged care services in Australia

Catherine Barrett, Carolyn Whyte and Pauline Crameri

This project was funded through the Aged Care Service Improvement and Healthy Ageing Grants Fund, administered by the Commonwealth Department of Health. The project aim is to support the development of LGBTI-inclusive services nationally. As a result, we are undertaking the following projects:

1. Dementia Project: in partnership with Alzheimer’s Australia, we will conduct research to understand the needs of older LGBTI people with dementia and develop a guide to LGBTI-inclusive services for people with dementia.
2. Carers Project: in partnership with Carers Australia, we will conduct research to understand the needs of the carers of older LGBTI people and the needs of older LGBTI people who are carers. The research will be utilised to develop a guide to LGBTI-inclusive services for carers. An information booklet and workshop will also be developed specifically for carers by Carers Victoria.
3. Gender Project: in partnership with organisations supporting transgender and intersex people, we will conduct research to understand the needs of older trans and intersex people. This information will be utilised to develop a guide to providing inclusive aged care services for older trans and intersex people.
4. Sexuality Project: in partnership with the Council on the Ageing (COTA) Victoria, we will research older people’s needs related to sexuality and diversity. A module on Sexuality and Ageing will be developed in consultation with older people for COTA’s Challenging Ageing education program. The education will include information about sexual and gender diversity and will be delivered to groups of older people.
5. The Film Project: in partnership with organisations supporting older LGBTI people, we will produce a film on the needs of older LGBTI people. The film will increase visibility of older LGBTI people in the broader community and will be packaged with an education kit for use by aged care services.
6. How to create an LGBTI-inclusive aged care service: this twelve-month program will coach up to 20 aged care services through the practical steps involved in becoming LGBTI-inclusive. The program involves five workshops over a twelve-month period and phone support in between. The aged care program will be piloted in Victoria and then offered to other states and territories.
7. Conference: A national conference on LGBTI Ageing and Aged Care will be facilitated in 2014 and 2015. The two-day conference will focus on practical information to support the development of LGBTI-inclusive aged care services.

Sexual Well-being and Ageing: A study of older Australian women

Marian Pitts, Victor Minichiello, Gail Hawkes (University of New England), Rachel Thorpe, Bianca Fileborn and Catherine MacPhail (University of New England)

This study of the sexuality of older women is the first to examine a significant cohort of women now entering old age; the women who demanded freedom of sexual expression in the swinging sixties. They present a unique and historic opportunity to explore the subjective world of the first generation of post sexual-liberation women growing old sexually. We have interviewed 60 women born between 1930 and 1950, living in New South Wales and Victoria, to identify and challenge the complex relationships between ageism, sexism and sexual subjectivity. In addition, 100 older women were invited to participate in an online discussion of their understandings and experiences of sex and sexuality. Journal articles and policy briefings will be developed from these findings.

Testing and Developing a Community Resilience Tool in Rural Communities

Anthony Lyons, Gillian Fletcher, Amanda Kenny (La Trobe Rural Health School), Marco Amati (La Trobe Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences), Jane Farmer (La Trobe Rural Health School), Julie Rudner (La Trobe Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences), Lisa Bourke (University of Melbourne), Kaye Knight (La Trobe Rural Health School) and Emily Bariola

This project is funded by the La Trobe University Research Focus Area ‘Building Healthy Communities’. The project pilots a Collective Resilience Assessment (CRA) tool, developed by Gillian Fletcher, Anthony Lyons and Emily Bariola, and assesses associations between collective resilience, community activities, and health and well-being in two rural Victorian communities. The CRA tool is an innovative approach to understanding resilience, which has strong policy and practice implications. Current tools focus on individual-level resilience, while government policy emphasises collective resilience for overcoming community problems. The project began in November 2013. It comprises a household survey, face-to-face interviews, and a community mapping exercise using a geographic information system to locate community activities and journeys spatially, and to assess areas of high and low collective resilience. Data collected from this project will further refine and extend the CRA tool and provide new information for understanding collective resilience in rural communities.
Understanding the Support Needs of LGBT Young People from Refugee and Newly Arrived Backgrounds

Olivia Noto, William Leonard and Anne Mitchell

The three-month pilot study explores the support needs of LGBT young people from refugee and newly arrived backgrounds. The study was prompted by anecdotal reports that services delivered to refugee and newly arrived young people do not consider the needs of LGBT young people or those who may be questioning their sexual feelings and/or gender identity. The report aims to document relevant resources and services, identify gaps, and make recommendations about further activities and projects that could be undertaken to improve the outcomes for these young people. The project was funded through the Asia Altman Sub-fund from the Australian Communities Foundation.

Women’s Health West ‘United – Preventing Violence Together’ Project Evaluation

Sue Dyson and Elizabeth Smith

Women’s Health West, a women’s health service in the west of Melbourne, have been funded to coordinate a prevention of violence against women program with fourteen local government and non-government organisations in 2013-2016. The project is known as United, and uses an equity approach to address gender inequalities within workplaces. ARCSHS has been engaged to evaluate the project. In 2013, the evaluators conducted two reflection workshops with stakeholders from the project and a survey of staff in the fourteen participating organisations, forming the baseline for the evaluation in the coming years.

Work, Love and Play: Understanding resilience in same-sex parent families

Amaryll Perlesz (Bouverie Centre), Andrew Bickerdike (Relationships Australia), Jen Power (Bouverie Centre), Marian Pitts and Margot Schofield (La Trobe School of Public Health and Human Biosciences)

Same-sex attracted parents and their children can experience discrimination within health, welfare, education and legal systems. This national and international longitudinal study – the largest ever conducted with same-sex parented families – examines family patterns and relationships, and factors supporting resilience in same-sex attracted parents and their children. The study explores ways that health and community service providers can enhance the health and well-being of same-sex parented families. A major outcome of the study is the development of Good Practice Guidelines for working with same-sex parented families that will inform policy and practice in a range of sectors, including health, counselling, education and courts.

BLOOD-BORNE VIRUSES AND SEXUALLY TRANSMISSIBLE INFECTIONS

ARCSHS delivers high-quality and inter-linked strategic research that improves our understanding of the experiences and needs of communities at risk of, and affected by, blood-borne viruses (BBVs) and sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and contributes to the evidence base for the national and state strategies. This includes projects that link to national indicators for the health and well-being of people living with HIV, hepatitis C (HCV), and hepatitis B, and the sexual health, knowledge and practice among young people. ARCSHS research into health promotion practice involves understanding and promoting health at a community and social, rather than simply individual, level.

Funded as a national research centre since 1995, ARCSHS has a strong history of collaboration and integration of its research program into Australia’s national response across BBVs and STIs. ARCSHS receives funding for BBV and STI research and policy work from a range of state, national and international sources. In 2013, the Centre established a BBV and STI Strategic Directions Committee whose membership includes a cross-section of stakeholders, and it provides a forum for discussing long-term strategic directions and priorities for ARCSHS.

W3 What Works and Why: Developing monitoring, evaluation and learning and quality improvement frameworks and tools for enhancing BBV and STI health promotion

Graham Brown, Kylie Johnston, Natalie Hendry and Marina Carman

Health promotion in BBV and STI in Australia needs to respond to rapidly changing circumstances, emerging conditions, and new opportunities and priorities. The evidence base on which to devise adaptations is inconsistently developed, often with an understanding of what works, but with limited evidence on why and how it works, what makes one program more effective than another, and how strategies work together at a systems level. The W3 Project will research and develop sustainable monitoring, evaluation, learning and quality improvement frameworks, tools and other resources. These will then be field-tested to assess capacity to increase understanding of what works, why it works, in what context, and how to adapt it to changing environments. The initial focus of the project will be peer- and network-based programs and their role in health promotion at the individual, community, structural and systems level. This will be achieved through working in partnership with national and state community organisations from affected populations in HIV and HCV with the greatest history and experience in peer-based programs. This project was funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health.
C the difference: Hepatology nursing in the era of expanding hepatitis C evidence

Jacqui Richmond and Sue Mason (Royal Prince Alfred Hospital)

In Australia, the management and treatment of hepatitis C, genotype 1, is undergoing a dramatic change with:

- the introduction of two protease inhibitors or Direct Acting Antivirals (DAAs);
- increased access to genetic testing (IL28B), which is a strong predictor of treatment response for patients with hepatitis C, genotype 1;
- Fibroscan technology, which allows for a non-invasive assessment of liver damage.

Each of these advances will inform patients’ management plans and their subsequent treatment choices. The rapid evolution of scientific evidence means that performing a nursing assessment for a patient with hepatitis C, and supporting and managing a patient on treatment is becoming more complex and time-consuming. The study utilises a mixed methods design (interviews, questionnaire and focus groups) to explore the strategies used by hepatology nurses in Australia to incorporate new evidence into their clinical practice. In the era of evolving hepatitis C treatment and care, a clearer understanding of the education and support needs of hepatology nurses is required to ensure that new evidence is presented using appropriate strategies to aid implementation in nursing practice. This project was funded by an unrestricted educational grant from Merck Sharp & Dohme (Australia) and Janssen.

The Charting Health Impacts (CHI) Study

Stephen McNally, Marian Pitts, Jack Wallace, Anthony Smith and Jen Johnson

The CHI study was a national study charting the impact of hepatitis C on people infected with the virus. The study documented the health and social well-being following a diagnosis of hepatitis C, and how people responded to these changes. CHI was a web-based study using self-administered questionnaires. Participants were asked about their health and well-being, their social and economic circumstances, and their experience of diagnosis, and (if relevant) treatment. CHI collected information on all aspects of living with hepatitis C, including decisions about treatment and the management of treatment side-effects, the use of complementary therapies, and the impact of hepatitis C on health, work, relationships and family situations. While the study was intended as a longitudinal cohort using an anonymous online survey, challenges with recruitment and resourcing meant that only one data wave was produced. A report of the project was produced in 2013 and will be disseminated in early 2014. This project was funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health.

The Liver Health Project

Jeanne Ellard, Jacqui Richmond and Behzad Hajarizadeh

The number of people with hepatitis C developing advanced liver disease and dying as a result of it continues to increase. The first study of Australians with chronic hepatitis C, the Charting Health Impacts (CHI) study, produced baseline data on the social, economic, cultural and clinical aspects of 170 people with hepatitis C. The Liver Health Project will deepen understanding of the experience of people living with hepatitis C. Using a qualitative methodology, in-depth interviews will be conducted with 30 people living with hepatitis C, in three waves at eight-month intervals between 2013 and 2016. The repeated interviews are designed to capture participants’ responses to a rapidly changing treatment environment and subsequent shifts in their experiences at clinics and with their healthcare providers. The sample will be purposively recruited to explore several sub-themes: ageing, living with advanced liver disease, and the lived experience of Indigenous Australians with hepatitis C. This project is funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health.

Constituting an Enabling Environment in Chronic Hepatitis B

Jack Wallace, Jacqui Richmond, Behzad Hajarizadeh and Duane Duncan

Indigenous Australians make up ten percent of the total number of people in Australia infected with chronic hepatitis B. At an individual level, chronic hepatitis B in Indigenous people occurs within a complex clinical context with a lack of clarity in the priority of responses. An enabling environment for hepatitis B consists of a supportive and coordinated policy environment, and engaged and resourced health services. This activity will investigate how Indigenous health services respond to people with chronic hepatitis B, with a situational analysis being conducted in both an urban and rural setting. This research will investigate health service delivery to Indigenous people with hepatitis B and aims to identify systemic gaps in the health service response. This project is funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health.

Investigating General Practice and Hepatitis B

Jack Wallace, Behzad Hajarizadeh, Jacqui Richmond and Stephen McNally

General practitioners are essential to ensuring that people with hepatitis B understand and respond effectively to their infection. Over 200,000 people in Australia are living with chronic hepatitis B, with an increasing number dying as a result of the infection. Only a small minority of people who are eligible currently receive hepatitis B specialist services. This investigation identified the barriers and challenges to effective management of people with hepatitis B, determined how the response can be strengthened from the perspective of general practitioners, developed insight into how general practitioners address or are challenged by cultural and linguistic diversity, and identified where support is or could be provided to general practitioners to respond to hepatitis B effectively. Funding came from an unrestricted educational grant from Bristol Myers Squibb through BlueSpark Healthcare Communications.
RESEARCH PROGRAM

Hepatitis B Patient and Clinical Practice Survey
Behzad Hajarizadeh, Naomi Ngo, Jack Wallace and Jacqui Richmond

More than half of the estimated 200,000 people in Australia with chronic hepatitis B were born in the Asia-Pacific region. The number of deaths among people with chronic hepatitis B and the number of cases of hepatitis B-related liver cancer are rising, despite improvements in antiviral therapy. The effective clinical management of people with chronic hepatitis B can slow the progression of hepatitis B-related liver disease and requires lifelong monitoring and, for many people, pharmaceutical treatment. This project identifies how people with chronic hepatitis B understand and respond to clinical management, and identifies barriers to the successful clinical management of chronic hepatitis B. The project, funded through the Coalition to Eradicate Viral Hepatitis in Asia Pacific (CEVHAP) was conducted in three stages to identify potential and perceived barriers to effective hepatitis B clinical management from the perspective of people with chronic hepatitis B. Stage 1 comprises semi-structured interviews with 10-15 people with hepatitis B to document their clinical experiences; stage 2 comprises semi-structured interviews with clinical specialists to describe their perspectives on the challenges in the clinical management of patients; stage 3 comprises a self-administered questionnaire for people with hepatitis B.

Strengthening Community Responses to Hepatitis B
Marian Pitts, Jack Wallace, Alex Thompson (University of Melbourne) and Jacqui Richmond

The increasing number of chronic hepatitis B-related deaths in Australia is directly related to the number of people living in Australia who were born in countries where hepatitis B is endemic. Mortality resulting from chronic viral hepatitis in the World Health Organization’s South-East Asia and Western Pacific Regions outnumber that of HIV, malaria and dengue combined. Australia has developed a National Hepatitis B Strategy, but there are significant gaps in its implementation, particularly within at-risk communities. While the early detection, follow-up and monitoring of chronic hepatitis B can reduce the development of primary liver cancer, only one-third of people with the infection have been diagnosed, and only three percent of people with chronic hepatitis B access clinical management for their infection. Chronic hepatitis B disproportionately affects Australians born in countries of high prevalence such as China, Vietnam and the Sudan. This project identifies how people with hepatitis B from key affected communities understand and respond to the infection. It will provide evidence for government, clinical services and non-government organisations to understand and respond better to their needs. This three-year project, funded by the Australian Research Council, is being conducted in partnership with Hepatitis Australia, the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, Hepatitis Victoria, Hepatitis SA, Relationships Australia SA, the Centre for Culture, Ethnicity and Health, and the Cancer Council Victoria.

Strengthening Victoria’s Response to Chronic Hepatitis B
Jack Wallace and Daniel Reeders, on behalf of the Victorian Hepatitis B Alliance

The Victorian Department of Health provided funding to ARCSHS to undertake a consultation on behalf of the Victorian Hepatitis B Alliance to identify opportunities to strengthen Victoria’s response to hepatitis B. The Victorian Hepatitis B Alliance is an independent, multidisciplinary group (whose establishment was initiated by ARCSHS in 2008) that aims to build momentum in the Victorian response to hepatitis B. This project has consulted with a multidisciplinary range of key individuals and organisations seeking to reduce the impact of chronic hepatitis B and will assist the Victorian hepatitis B sector to respond to the National Hepatitis B Strategy and Implementation Plan by:

- Identifying opportunities in the hepatitis B and community sectors to support delivery of the National Hepatitis B Strategy and Implementation Plan in Victoria
- Determining key priorities to reduce the burden of chronic hepatitis B in the Victorian hepatitis B and community sectors
- Identifying discrete service delivery and operational responses that aim to reduce the burden of chronic hepatitis B in Victoria and work with agencies
- Maintain and facilitate the development of collaborations and partnerships
- Produce a report containing project outline and methods, priorities, mapping data and consultation data, challenges and recommendations.

HIV Futures 7
Jeffrey Grierson and Marian Pitts

This national project is a self-completed, cross-sectional survey of Australian people living with HIV (PLHIV). The first HIV Futures Survey was undertaken in 1997 with a sample size of 925, the second in 1999 with a sample of 924, the third in 2001 with a sample size of 894, the fourth in 2005 with a sample of 1059, the fifth in 2005 with a sample of 970, and the sixth in 2008 with a sample of 1106 respondents. The Seventh National HIV Futures Survey was launched after extensive review and revision in collaboration with NAPWHA, AFAO, ASHM and their member organisations. The survey was completed by 1058 HIV-positive Australians from all states and territories. The survey aims to: establish and maintain baseline data on social, economic, cultural and clinically-related aspects of the experience of living with HIV; and examine changes in, and newly emerging aspects of, the experience of living with HIV. Information collected through the HIV Futures Survey is used in the development and provision of education and support services for PLHIV. This survey has provided valuable insights into the use of new therapies among PLHIV as well as the social and personal impact of HIV on their lives. This study has added significantly to the discourse on living with HIV both nationally and internationally at academic and community levels. The report HIV Futures 7: The Health and Wellbeing of HIV Positive People in Australia was launched at the ASHM conference in October 2013 by Robert Mitchell, President of the National Association of People with HIV Australia. The sustained commitment to this project from the HIV-positive population in Australia demonstrates the power of information to enhance the lives of HIV-positive people. This project was funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health.
The HIV and Mental Health Study
Anthony Lyons and Tomas Rozbroj

This project examines the impact of living with HIV on mental health. Findings from the LifeTimes survey revealed that HIV-positive gay men have poorer mental health outcomes than HIV-negative gay men. In addition to being a significant problem in its own right, poorer mental health has been linked to poorer physical health, lower HIV treatment adherence, and riskier sexual behaviour. Mental health is therefore a major area of concern with numerous implications for the treatment and prevention of HIV; yet little is known about factors related to mental health problems among people living with HIV (PLHIV). This project provides new understanding of the mental health of PLHIV. It involves a national online survey, expected to be completed by 500 PLHIV from metropolitan, regional and rural areas. Development of the survey began in 2013 and the survey is scheduled to launch in 2014. PLHIV who complete the survey will be contacted again in 2015 for a twelve-month follow-up survey. The project is expected to deliver detailed information on current and previous mental health, including treatment experiences and use of mental health services. Mapping of twelve-month trajectories of mental health will also be carried out to identify successful treatment paths plus a range of risk and protective factors specific to the mental health of PLHIV. Both waves of the survey will contain a suite of standardised instruments for measuring depression, anxiety, resilience and other important components of psychological coping, and will provide much-needed knowledge for understanding and improving the mental health and well-being of PLHIV. This project is funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health.

HIV and Mobility in a Resource Boom Economy (Western Australia)
Graham Brown, Gemma Crawford (WA Centre for Health Promotion Research) and Trish Langdon (WA Centre for Health Promotion Research)

The Sixth National HIV Strategy identifies people who travel from or to countries of high prevalence as a priority emerging epidemic. This joint venture with the WA Centre for Health Promotion Research (Curtin University) is investigating the social, structural and community contexts of the increased transmission of HIV in a resource boom economy in Western Australia (WA) to develop evidence-based program, policy and research recommendations for national and state/territory responses to HIV and mobility. The study is focusing on three priority areas: (1) people travelling to Australia from high prevalence countries entering resource boom economies on 457 visas; (2) people travelling from Australia to high prevalence countries for work or extended stay and returning with HIV; and (3) HIV within various sub-Saharan African-Australian communities. While investigating the current developments in WA, the project will be focusing on the implications applicable nationally as this emerging epidemic develops across jurisdictions. This project is funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health.

HIV Seroconversion Study
Garrett Prestage, Ian Down (Kirby Institute), Jeanne Ellard (ARCSHS and Kirby Institute), Kathy Triffit (Kirby Institute) and Graham Brown

This study identifies demographic, behavioural, social, situational and other characteristics in individuals recently diagnosed with HIV infection. An understanding of those factors associated with HIV infection and individuals’ experiences of diagnosis and the period after diagnosis will lead to improved education in both individual counselling and community-wide strategies. The study aims to recruit at least 100 recently diagnosed individuals across Australia each year, who complete a self-administered questionnaire online. In addition, about 20 in-depth interviews with individuals who have recently been diagnosed with HIV are conducted. Participants are recruited through community organisation programs servicing those who have recently been diagnosed, and through clinic sites with a high caseload of recent HIV diagnoses, as well as through more broad-based publicity. By the end of October 2013, 578 individuals who had recently been diagnosed with HIV had participated in the survey and 98 had been interviewed. Several community reports have been published. Data collection and analysis is ongoing.

Evidence Synthesis and Application for Practice and Policy
Graham Brown, Kylie Johnston, Jeanne Ellard and Marina Carman

HIV prevention and health promotion interventions operate at a number of levels, ranging from individual to broad community and structural levels. With the advent of combination prevention, it is critical to build evidence on how the different levels work and do so in synergy. This project undertook a review of: where the published evidence of effectiveness of community HIV prevention and quality practice is most, modestly, and least developed; which monitoring and evaluation methods used in community organisations are most, modestly and least developed; and capacity-building approaches to increase the quality of evidence being developed in community-based HIV health promotion. The review included over 60 documents and led to the development of a conceptual framework to improve quality, evaluation and evidence-building. Influenced by developments in program theory evaluation, realist evaluation and systems thinking, the framework underwent an iterative refinement process through presentations and workshops with national, state and territory community-based HIV organisations and is now being used within the What Works and Why project. This project was funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health.
Health Map: A cluster randomised trial of interactive self-care plans to prevent and manage chronic conditions by people living with HIV

Lewin Sharon (Alfred Hospital), Christopher Fairley (Melbourne Sexual Health Centre), Julian Elliott (Alfred Hospital), Richard Osborne (Deakin University), Michael Kidd (Flinders University), Malcolm Battersby (Flinders University), Marian Pitts, Levinia Crooks (Australasian Society for HIV Medicine), Jo Watson (National Association of People With HIV Australia) and Karalyn McDonald

Australians living with HIV are exposed to an increased incidence and earlier onset of several chronic conditions of ageing. The expansion of the primary health model of HIV care in Australia now requires robust systems to prevent and manage this complex set of chronic co-morbidities. The purpose of this project is to improve the health status of people living with HIV in Australia. The overall goal is to evaluate the impact of interactive self-care plans and self-management support on chronic condition outcomes in Australians living with HIV. The hypothesis is that the use of interactive self-care plans and self-management support will result in improved health outcomes for people with HIV, as measured by estimated coronary heart disease risk, and will be acceptable and cost-effective. Funded by a NHMRC Partnership Grant, 2011–2015.

LifeTimes: A national cohort study of HIV and ageing

Anthony Lyons, Marian Pitts and Jeffrey Grierson

LifeTimes is a national project developed in response to the rapid ageing of Australia’s HIV population. It seeks to identify and understand the many challenges and experiences of ageing with HIV, particularly among gay men. In November 2010, a national online longitudinal survey was launched. The survey specifically targets HIV-positive and HIV-negative gay men aged 40 years and over, taking a detailed look at their health and well-being, sex and relationships, living arrangements, and the many things that bring happiness and challenges to their lives. Over 1200 men from all states and territories participated in Wave 1, completed in April 2011. Waves 2 and 3 were subsequently completed in April 2012 and April 2013 respectively, with follow-up participation rates of between 40% and 50%. During 2013, findings from LifeTimes were published in three peer-reviewed journal articles in AIDS and Behavior. This project was funded by the Australian Research Council (ARCSHS) and Victoria University. Review journal article in AIDS and Behavior. This project was funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Victoria University.

Sexually Adventurous Men Project Development and Process Evaluation

Graham Brown, Kylie Johnston and Garrett Prestage

The Sexually Adventurous Men (SAM) Project is a partnership with the Victorian AIDS Council/Gay Men’s Health Centre (VAC/GMHC) and Living Positive Victoria (LPV). ARCSHS’ role since 2009 has been to evaluate the SAM Project’s efforts in improving sexual health. This study documents and analyses the project’s process of community engagement and development, resource production and online initiatives within sexually adventurous men’s networks. From its inception, the SAM project has worked to establish and maintain strategic alliances with party organisers, venues owners and social groups, and sexually adventurous men. The project has also trialled the engagement of community groups in monitoring and evaluation through interviews and surveys. The project is funded by the VAC/GMHC and LPV.

Men’s Own: Health behaviours of young gay men

Anthony Lyons and Warwick Hosking (Victoria University)

This project involves a national online longitudinal survey. It focuses on young gay men and undertakes a detailed investigation of HIV-related health behaviours, including patterns of HIV testing, STI testing, risky sexual behaviour and condom use. It examines social and psychological predictors of health behaviours, including issues of stigma, discrimination, body image, self-esteem and social support. This project provides new understanding of the health behaviours of gay men who have recently become sexually active, and offers guidance to the HIV and health sectors for devising strategies that predict and address risky sexual behaviour. Data collection for the first wave of the survey was completed in early 2013, with a national sample of 1177 gay men aged 18-39 years. A follow-up wave of the survey commenced in July 2013 to monitor changes in health behaviours twelve months later. In 2013, findings from this project were presented at the Society of Australasian Social Psychologists Conference in Cairns and at the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine Conference in Darwin. Findings were also published in a peer-reviewed journal article in AIDS and Behavior. This project was funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Victoria University.
Monogamy as an HIV and STI Prevention Strategy for Gay Men

Anthony Smith, Jeffrey Grierson, Garrett Prestage and Duane Duncan

Monogamy, however defined, appears relatively common among Australian gay men and yet is relatively under-researched. At present, little is known about the motivations of Australian gay men to enter into and maintain monogamous relationships. Drawing on data from face-to-face interviews, this study brings into clear view a phenomenon—i.e. a social and intimate practice—that has been almost entirely overlooked, and will significantly advance the understanding of the dynamics of gay men’s sexual behaviour and sexual cultures. Regardless of the motivations for monogamy, its practice is by definition an effective means of interrupting the transmission of HIV and STIs, and is worthy of investigation. The aims of this study are particularly significant given the sustained increase in the reported incidence of new cases of HIV in most states in Australia. It would seem that the old ‘safe sex’ messages have lost their effectiveness and there is a need for innovative responses to the challenges of HIV prevention. The analysis of gay men’s social and sexual behaviour from this study provides the basis for effective and focused health promotion campaigns. Data collection including in-depth, face-to-face interviews has been completed, with over 60 interviews conducted in six sites: Melbourne, regional Victoria, Sydney, Northern Rivers, Brisbane and Cairns. Key emerging themes include the rich variation in the definitions of monogamy, the aspirational worlds of gay men, the relationship ‘careers’ of the participants, and the ways in which the normative social worlds of gay men and their other peers interact. Papers have been prepared examining the typologies of monogamy evident among Australian gay men, monogamy as a social practice, and relationship expectations of young gay men. An online survey building on these findings will examine the experience of monogamy, poly-partnering and other relationship styles. This project was funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council.

Fifth National Survey of Secondary Students and Sexual Health

Anne Mitchell, Marian Pitts, Kent Patrick, Wendy Heywood and Pam Blackman

A national survey of the sexual health of Australian secondary students has been carried out approximately every five years since 1992, each of them funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing. The study examines sexual behaviour among Australian secondary school students and their knowledge of STIs. It has been a significant source of key information for policy and programming about STIs and other BBVs for young people, and contributes to the indicators of the National STI Strategy. The fifth iteration of this survey was in the field throughout 2013 and was successful in recruiting over 2000 students from state, independent and Catholic schools in every state and territory of Australia. These data are currently being analysed and will form the basis of a community report for teachers and health promotion personnel in early 2014. A number of journal articles and teaching resources are also planned as outcomes of the study.

Sexual Health and Relationships in Young Indigenous People

James Ward (Kirby Institute), Heather Worth (University of New South Wales), Anthony Smith, Dea Thiele (National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation), John Kaldor (Kirby Institute), Joanne Bryant (National Centre in HIV Social Research) and Marian Pitts

This study was funded by an ARC Linkage grant to conduct the first Australian study describing levels of knowledge, risk practice and health service access of young Indigenous people in relation to STIs and BBVs. It will determine behavioural, demographic, access and sociocultural predictors of STIs and BBV acquisition. It will establish the foundation for a repeatable study to assess changes over time in these areas. Information has been collected using innovative technology from attendees at Indigenous community events. The study includes research capacity and partnership initiatives with Indigenous communities. It will provide compelling evidence to shape policy and programs in this area. There have been a total of 30 survey collection events from all states and territories collecting more than 3000 surveys. The final report from this study is in preparation.

Sexual Health and Young Adults

Graham Brown, Natalie Hendry, Kylie Johnston and Gary Dowsett

This two-year project focuses on young adults beyond secondary education who are in transition to greater independence in further studies, employment or unemployment, or otherwise distancing from parental and educational institutions such as moving from rural and regional areas to cities. This qualitative study will examine sexual practice and risk, sexual identity, relationship contexts, and barriers to accessing sexual healthcare services, in order to inform the development of strategies to sustain and enhance the effectiveness of STI prevention programs and increase utilisation of sexual health testing. The study will recruit young adults who regularly attend mainstream, busy, nightlife precincts in Melbourne to participate in focus groups. The sample of approximately 80 young adults will be aged 18-30 years providing an appropriate focus on that segment of the population with the highest number of chlamydia notifications and increased risk of STIs such as genital herpes and gonorrhoea. This project was funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health.
RESEARCH PROGRAM

Rapid Review into Reducing Sexually Transmissible Infections in Young People

Graham Brown, Samantha Croy, Kylie Johnston, Marian Pitts and Virginia Lewis (Australian Institute for Primary Care and Ageing)

This review was commissioned to provide a synthesis of available evidence on public health interventions that are most effective in reducing STIs in young people. The review analysed evidence for identified public health intervention settings (e.g. school, primary care, community, structural and multi-level), types of interventions (e.g. social marketing and mass media, computer-mediated communication technology and social media interventions) and socio-demographic groups (e.g. at-risk or minority youth), as well as community, structural and multi-level interventions. Young people were defined as those aged less than 30 years and the review was limited to existing systematic reviews, meta-analyses and economic evaluations. Across all settings there was evidence that programs were most effective in increasing protective behaviours for STI when they: were skills-based, self-efficacy based and motivation-based programs rather than knowledge-based programs; targeted multiple components of young people’s lives, the context in which they live, and addressed multiple domains across interpersonal, social and structural levels; and were explicitly based on recognised behavioural and social theories. The report is being used to guide policy and program investment in the prevention of STIs in young people. This project was funded by the Victorian Department of Health.

BBV and STI Research Investment Audit

Graham Brown, Kylie Johnston and Natalie Hendry

The aim of this audit was to generate a map of current and planned research that was intended to support the National BBV and STI Strategies and to assist in identifying research gaps and priorities. The audit was conducted by ARCSHS on behalf of the Commonwealth Ministerial Advisory Committee on Blood Borne Viruses and Sexually Transmissible Infections (MACBBVS) and the intergovernmental Blood Borne Viruses and Sexually Transmissible Infections Subcommittee (BBVSS). The Joint Research Evaluation and Priorities Working Group of MACBBVS and BBVSS oversaw the project. This group advised on the aims and scope of the audit and the format of the survey. Research centres, non-government organisations and government services working in BBVs and STIs in Australia were invited to participate in the survey, with 222 projects and multi-study programs being submitted. The studies included ranged across epidemiological, surveillance, biomedical, clinical practice, social, health promotion intervention, health systems and models of service/care, mathematical modelling, economic and policy research. The results were presented to a joint workshop of MACBBVS and BBVSS that discussed research priorities for the STI and BBV strategies. The audit was funded by the Victorian, NSW and WA Departments of Health.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL RESEARCH

In 2013, ARCSHS’ International Social Research Program continued its commitment to Asia and the Pacific, with a particular focus on examining issues affecting men who have sex with men (MSM) in Indonesia and across the region, and people living with hepatitis B and C (in China and Taiwan, respectively). Staff members also increased their participation in international organisations and networks that raise issues related to gender, sexuality and the field of international development.

ARCSHS is now represented on the Boards of the Association for the Social Sciences and Humanities in HIV, the International Association for the Study of Sexuality, Culture and Society, and the Social Research Working Group of the Asia-Pacific Coalition on Male Sexual Health (APCOM). ARCSHS also supported the staging of a one-day workshop in Melbourne organised by The Big Push Forward initiative, an informal international network of practitioners that discusses the ways in which international development work is assessed and what forms of knowledge are valued.

ARCSHS staff members and students had a strong presence at several international conferences throughout 2013, including: the XI International Conference on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific; the IX Biennial Conference of the International Association for the Study of Sexuality, Culture and Society; Women Deliver: The Third Global Conference; the International Network for Sexual Ethics and Politics Conference; the International Council of Nursing 25th Quadrennial Congress; and The Politics of Evidence Conference (organised by The Big Push Forward).

ARCSHS’ international research interests continue to broaden, with a large and dynamic graduate student body. Our students are working in Bangladesh, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam and the United Arab Emirates.

Asia-Pacific Coalition on Male Sexual Health

Gary Dowsett and Jan Willem de Lind van Wijngaarden

The Asia-Pacific Coalition on Male Sexual Health (APCOM) was formed as a coalition of community, government and donors, along with UN partner agencies and UNAIDS. It advocates for increased investment to scale up MSM intervention programming and increased program coverage, research to address gaps in knowledge, and the promotion of individual rights for MSM and transgender persons across the region. ARCSHS has been supporting APCOM through participation in a number of activities, including its Social Research Working Group (co-chaired by Gary Dowsett, and including ARCSHS postgraduate student Jan Willem de Lind van Wijngaarden) and on a project to develop a knowledge hub on MSM and transgender prevention and care. Reports were commissioned and received in 2013 examining gaps in research evidence on MSM in the region, and on examining key assumptions underlying programming for HIV prevention. A new work plan will be developed in 2014 based on these reports.
Association for the Social Sciences and Humanities in HIV

Gary Dowsett

The Association for the Social Sciences and Humanities in HIV (ASSHH) was formed in 2011 to promote greater inclusion of the social sciences and humanities in HIV and AIDS globally. It held its first international conference in Durban, South Africa, in 2011. During 2012, the Association was formally incorporated as a not-for-profit organisation in New South Wales, with a Board of Directors managing its activities. ASSHH has a two-tier membership structure (Academy Members and Standard Members) designed to develop the Association over the next few years into a fully-fledged international academic organisation. Gary Dowsett is a founding member of ASSHH, an Academy Member, and a Director of its Board. ASSHH’s second international conference was held in Paris from 7-10 July 2013. The conference, entitled ‘Knowing Practices’, attracted over 300 participants, including many young scholars, from 25 countries. The opening addresses were given by Professor Françoise Barré-Sinoussi, who won the Nobel Prize for her discovery of HIV and is now President of the International AIDS Society, and Professor Didier Fassin, whose work on HIV in Africa and France has had a profound influence in social sciences in HIV. Papers were presented at the conference by ARCSHS delegates Gary Dowsett, Jeanne Ellard, Karalyn McDonald and Garrett Prestage.

The Big Push Forward

Gillian Fletcher

April 2013 saw Gillian Fletcher travel to the UK to take part in The Big Push Forward’s Politics of Evidence Conference, hosted by the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) at the University of Sussex, England. The conference sought to identify and analyse the dominance of certain forms of knowledge and evidence within international development, and participants were invited based on their experience and ability to contribute to discussions. Gillian Fletcher was also a Visiting Fellow with the Participation, Power and Social Change team of the IDS in the weeks before the conference (with funding from a 2012 Harold Mitchell Postdoctoral Travel Fellowship). When The Big Push Forward held a one-day workshop event in Melbourne in July 2013, ARCSHS was one of the event sponsors and Gillian Fletcher acted as one of the facilitators for the day.

International Association for the Study of Sexuality, Culture and Society

Gillian Fletcher and Gary Dowsett

This year saw a big ARCSHS contingent presenting at ‘Sex and the Marketplace: What’s Love Got to do With it?’, the IX Biennial Conference of the International Association for the Study of Sexuality, Culture and Society (IASSCS), held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 28-31 August 2013. Two ARCSHS students – Samuel Muchoki and Joni Meenagh – received awards for their conference presentations. Gary Dowsett presented one of the four invited plenary addresses at the conference, and he and Gillian Fletcher were both invited to teach at the post-conference training program for emerging sexuality scholars from around the world. Gary Dowsett is the chair of the IASSCS Research and Training Committee. Gillian Fletcher is a member of the committee and in 2013, was elected to the Board of IASSCS. She has been Chair of the Board from January 2014.
Men-4-Health Indonesia. Networks of MSM in Indonesia: A two-mode study of MSM and sites of engagement
Jeffrey Grierson, Stephen McNally, Irwan Hidayana (University of Indonesia), Anthony Smith and Jayne Russell

This project is a two-mode network study of gay and other men who have sex with men with the Centre for Gender Studies at the University of Indonesia; the National AIDS Commission; the National Gay, MSM and Transgender Network (GWL-ina); and a number of local community organisations. Recruitment and interviewing took place over three months in 2012 and a total of 1229 men participated. The aim of the project is to produce structural, relational maps of communities of MSM in three cities in Indonesia: Jakarta, Medan and Bali. This assists in determining the reach, target populations, and appropriate foci of opportunities for HIV/STI interventions in the sites and contexts mapped. Specifically, the study fulfils this aim by:

- Mapping and characterising the groups and networks of MSM in these cities and the relationships that exist between them
- Describing the extent of the shared participation between these groups and sites
- Exploring appropriate channels for delivery of HIV/STI health interventions to gay men who participate in these groups.

This project uses cutting-edge social network methodology to examine the structural characteristics of MSM communities in these settings. The methodology examines the ways in which men connect to sites and therefore, to each other. The findings were presented in a report released in September 2013. The network maps generated through this process are able to quantify structurally the pathways through which information and social influence flow. These structures enable identification of optimal pathways and modes of engagement to access men that are traditionally considered ‘hard to reach’.

MSM Norms, Practices and Values: A national study about Indonesian men who have sex with men
Stephen McNally, Jeffrey Grierson and Irwan Hidayana (University of Indonesia)

This qualitative study explores the means by which Indonesian MSM engage with each other both socially and sexually, and what their value structures are in relation to broader, dominant societal norms. The study was conducted across three sites in Indonesia: Medan, Surabaya and Bali. A total of 98 men were interviewed for the study. These men, aged 18-45 years, talked about their experiences of being either gay or a man who has sex with other men in Indonesia. They talk about their personal values, what is important to them, and how their values differ from and are shaped by dominant societal norms. The study findings help policy makers and program workers understand what these men do, both socially and sexually, and the values they hold in relation to the broader normative environment in which they live. The study partners include: The Indonesian National Gay, MSM and Transgender Network (GWL-ina), Gaya Nusantara (Surabaya), Gaya Dewata (Bali), Udayana University (Bali), saHIVa (Medan) and University of Sumatera Utara (Medan). A technical report on the project was presented to the Indonesian National AIDS Commission. Workshops with community representatives, key stakeholders, service providers and funders were held in late 2013 to identify the key implications of the research and the key actions to be taken based on these findings.

Processes of Learning about Sexual Health among Young People
Irwan Hidayana (University of Indonesia), Jeffrey Grierson and Stephen McNally

The study comprises a series of nine focus group discussions with young gay men, MSM, lesbian, transgender and heterosexual young people to explore how young people learn about sex, sexuality and gender. The study is a collaboration with the Centre for Gender Studies at the University of Indonesia, the National AIDS Commission, the National Gay, MSM and Transgender Network (GWL-ina), and a number of local community organisations. The focus in this study is how young people develop their understandings of sexuality (including same-sex attraction) and sexual health, and the sources that they consider credible in this process. The content is not the sexual practices of the young people, but the processes of learning, the barriers and enablers to learning, and the unmet needs in this area. The project provides a greater understanding of processes of learning from young people’s perspective, helps identify key barriers to sexual education, and identifies key opportunities for improving sexual health knowledge among young people.

Social Inclusion and Sexual Minorities
Jeffrey Grierson, Stephen McNally and Irwan Hidayana (University of Indonesia)

This project is a multi-method study of stigma experienced by MSM using case studies in three sites: Surabaya, Makassar and Jakarta. The study is a collaboration with the Centre for Gender Studies at the University of Indonesia, the National AIDS Commission, the National Gay, MSM and Transgender Network (GWL-ina) and a number of local community organisations. The unit of analysis is the site, with mixed-method data collection from key populations. The project enables triangulation of these to understand the environment in which stigma operates and the interrelationship between these populations. The choice of sites reflects particular environments that have had differing histories of MSM visibility, social discourse and social context. In each site:

- 30 interviews were conducted with health workers, NGOs, educators, religious leaders and cultural leaders
- 12 focus group discussions were held with gay men and transgender waria
- A brief rapid survey was conducted with a general population sample of 611
- A systematic document analysis of media coverage was conducted over a six-month period.

The project documents the specifics within each site of stigma, exposure to MSM and understandings of MSM issues. It provides a thorough understanding of the relationships between these populations that enables a whole-of-community approach to stigma minimisation. In addition, it assists with the identification of opportunities and needs within key communities and possible synergies between these.
RESEARCH PROGRAM

National Hepatitis B Needs Assessment – China
Jack Wallace, Marian Pitts, Professor Lai Wei (Peking University People’s Hospital), Vivien Lin (La Trobe School of Public Health and Human Biosciences), George Liu (La Trobe China Health Program, School of Public Health and Human Biosciences), Jacqui Richmond and Behzad Hajarizadeh

It is estimated that up to 150 million people in China are infected with chronic viral hepatitis, with 93 million people living with chronic hepatitis B and between 30 and 60 million people living with hepatitis C. Deaths among people with chronic hepatitis B and the number of cases of hepatitis B-related liver cancer are rising despite improvements in antiviral therapy. The Chinese Government has made a significant impact on reducing new cases of chronic hepatitis B through the implementation of an expanded vaccination program, but the burden related to hepatitis C continues to increase. A significant gap in research supporting the development and implementation of effective interventions to reduce the burden of chronic viral hepatitis in China is the systematic documentation of how people with chronic viral hepatitis respond to their infection. Undertaking this type of investigation uncovers a perspective that provides the policy and health workforce with evidence of systemic gaps and barriers that are often invisible in more clinical or epidemiological research. The identification and analysis of these gaps can guide the development of more nuanced and relevant interventions and health services. This project is being funded by the Coalition to Eradicate Viral Hepatitis in Asia Pacific (CEVHAP) with data collection beginning in November 2013.

Viral Hepatitis in Asia-Pacific – Policy Assessment – Taiwan
Jack Wallace, Marian Pitts and Stephen Locarnini (Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory)

Over 500 million people globally are estimated to be infected with chronic viral hepatitis with most (75%) living in the Asia-Pacific Region. Hepatitis B and hepatitis C cause significant global mortality and morbidity with 1,285,000 deaths each year attributable to them and their sequelae of cirrhosis, liver failure and hepatocellular cancer. The burden of viral hepatitis and liver cancer is significant for Taiwan with the Taiwan Centers for Disease Control reporting a population prevalence of 10-15% for hepatitis B and 2-5% for hepatitis C. Recognising the importance of effective public policy, the Sixty-third World Health Assembly in 2010 adopted a resolution acknowledging the impact of chronic viral hepatitis and identified a series of interventions to reduce its impact, including the development of ‘guidelines, time-bound goals, strategies and tools for the prevention and control of viral hepatitis’. Data collection for this project occurred in Taiwan in July 2012. The project report describes, assesses and analyses the public policy responses to chronic viral hepatitis B, hepatitis C and liver cancer in Taiwan with an aim of identifying the successful components of the Taiwanese approach, including existing best practice and public policy strengths and challenges. Data for the report were obtained through semi-structured interviews with clinicians and other professionals working in public health, communicable diseases or public policy advocacy in Taiwan and a review of publicly available policy documents. The report was completed in December 2013. The project is funded by the Coalition to Eradicate Viral Hepatitis in Asia Pacific (CEVHAP).

RESEARCH INTO POLICY AND PRACTICE

ARCSHS has unique expertise in the conduct of community-engaged research, and in utilising research findings to produce training activities and resources for practitioners and to advise policy outcomes. This work constitutes a major part of the Centre’s approach. The focus of this priority area is on establishing ways to utilise research findings to make a difference in policy and practice. This priority area also incorporates the work of Gay and Lesbian Health Victoria, which is a ‘practice unit’ based at ARCSHS, and is reported on separately in the following section of the Annual Report. Processes engaging communities in research and research development are set up prior to research being carried out and, in turn, help to drive research dissemination to those for whom it is most relevant. Health resources, training programs and policy advice are the most common outcomes of research projects. This report focuses on two areas that were central to our work in 2013 and constitute good examples of our efforts in the policy and practice priority area: school-based sexuality education and the blood-borne virus workforce development project.

Ansell Sex-Ed
Pam Blackman

Ansell Sex Ed. is the product of a partnership between Ansell and ARCSHS. This online resource is sponsored by Ansell and moderated by Pam Blackman, an experienced teacher and teacher trainer at ARCSHS. Ansell Sex Ed. is an online community library designed to support sex education teachers of Australia. It gathers in the one place information and resources to keep teachers up to date on all things in sex education. There are currently 1851 subscribers to the site and in excess of 1500 free Ansell Education Kits have been sent to schools and educational organisations. The most visited webpages are:

- Free Ansell Education Kit
  Australian teachers who register online can receive a free Ansell Sex Ed. Kit, which assists in teaching young people about safe sex.
- Resources
  The extra materials teachers use to enhance classroom teaching in the area of relationships and sexuality education.
- Classroom Activities
  Teaching and learning activities for teachers working with students from lower primary to upper secondary in the area of sexuality education.

New Ansell Education Kits are being prepared for the start of the 2014 school year. The changes to the kit are based on feedback provided by teachers during 2013. The next project will be the development of video material for the website, beginning in January 2014.
The Blood Borne Virus Program: Supporting the HIV and hepatitis workforce

Jen Johnson

Jen Johnson is the coordinator of the Blood Borne Virus (BBV) Program, which focuses on getting ARCSHS research directly into workforce practice in Victoria and around Australia. The BBV News electronic bulletin is published every three weeks, and sent to a readership of almost 800 workers in Victoria and nationally. The BBV News keeps the highly diverse BBV workforce in touch with the latest research, training, policy and developments relating to HIV and viral hepatitis. The BBV Program coordinates and delivers a Course in HIV and Hepatitis Pre- and Post-Test Discussion. This training enables primary and community health workers to deliver HIV positive test results in accordance with Victorian legislation. The training was delivered four times in 2013, with a total of 53 people awarded accreditation in HIV and hepatitis pre- and post-test discussion. The BBV Program also ran four half-day refresher courses in 2013 to provide continuing professional development, to update, review and revisit best practice in pre- and post-test discussion in the range of settings in which HIV and hepatitis testing occurs. Throughout 2013, the BBV Program responded to regular requests for HIV and hepatitis-related training, and contributed to the development of a variety of programs, policies and resources, and participated in a range of sector reference groups and committees. Other workforce development activities included the facilitation of regular BBV Update Forums, and the biannual meeting of the BBV Workforce Network. These activities were themed on a wide range of current and emerging issues of importance to the HIV and viral hepatitis sector, including new technologies in BBV testing, and preparation for the 2014 AIDS conference.

Val’s Café

Carolyn Whyte

Carolyn Whyte is the coordinator of Val’s Café, established in 2009 to improve the health and well-being of older LGBTI Australians. Central to this aim is creating safe and inclusive services that recognise and value older LGBTI clients. This is achieved by working directly with service providers to foster an understanding of the unique histories and experiences of their older LGBTI clients. The name Val’s Café is inspired by the pioneering work of Val Eastwood who ran Val’s Coffee Lounge, a meeting place for the ‘camp’ community in early 1950s Melbourne. Many LGBTI people of Val’s generation are currently receiving aged care services, and Val’s Café works to ensure that they receive the welcome that many found in Val’s Coffee Lounge. Val’s Café works alongside service providers in a number of ways to create inclusive services for older LGBTI people. These include: research, education, networking, resource development, capacity-building, advocacy, policy and strategy, and workforce support and development. In 2013, Val’s Café provided education to over 2000 people and consultation to over 30 organisations. Currently, Val’s Café has membership from over 200 aged care service providers. In 2013, Val’s received a GALFA grant to establish a website valscafe.org.au. The website has had over 2000 unique visitors since it was established and 170 followers on Twitter (@ValsCafe_AU).

Talking Sexual (and Reproductive) Health – Part 2

Anne Mitchell and Jenny Walsh

Over the past two years, a team from ARCSHS has worked with a national reference group to develop a new set of materials to replace the decade-old Talking Sexual Health resource for teaching sexuality education in Australian schools. This work is particularly important as the new Australian Curriculum in Health and Physical Education will be implemented in 2014 and will require teachers to take new approaches. The original resource was developed for year 9 and 10 students, so the new resource was also designed for this level. In mid-2013, ARCSHS was awarded further funding to complete a companion resource for teaching students in years 7 and 8, as well as a nationwide professional development program for teachers. The project is guided by a national reference group and will have a strong link with ARCSHS research in that its work will be based on the results of the 5th National Survey of Secondary Students and Sexual Health, released in early 2014. This will enable the project to identify and analyse data on emerging sexual and reproductive health trends in the target population of young people and be ahead of the game in the provision of highly relevant teaching materials for Australian schools.
Gay and Lesbian Health Victoria (GLHV)

Gay and Lesbian Health Victoria is an independent, government-funded gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex (GLBTI) health and well-being policy and resource unit, which sits within ARCSHS. Its mission is to enhance and promote the health and well-being of GLBTI Victorians and to improve the quality of health care they receive. GLHV’s key tasks include:

- Providing training in the health, education and community sectors on GLBTI health and well-being and appropriate service delivery
- Developing and implementing GLBTI-inclusive professional practice guidelines
- Establishing and managing a GLBTI health research and information clearinghouse
- Developing and distributing GLBTI health promotion resources in partnership with GLBTI and mainstream organisations
- Providing advice to government on the planning, development and implementation of future GLBTI policies, programs and services.

2013 has been another year of growth and consolidation with the bedding down of GLHV’s work in three priority areas: same-sex attracted and sex and gender diverse (SSASGD) young people; LGBTI ageing; and LGBTI-inclusive practice. Work in each of these areas has continued to grow in 2013, witnessed in the ongoing demand for GLHV training; new alliances with LGBTI community organisations in Victoria and nationally; and new areas of research in partnership with ARCSHS, government and other agencies.

HEALTH IN DIFFERENCE 2013

From 18–20 March in 2013, Melbourne was host to Health in Difference 2013, the 8th national LGBTI health and well-being conference. The conference was managed by the National LGBTI Health Alliance, and GLHV hosted one of the conference’s six streams – Doing LGBTI Health Differently. The stream provided an opportunity to reflect on the strengths and limitations of dominant approaches to LGBTI health policy in Australia. GLHV and ARCSHS staff presented papers and delivered plenaries and workshops in three of the conference streams: Doing LGBTI Health Differently, Ageing and Aged Care, and Families and Young People. Audio recordings of the plenary sessions can be accessed at lgbthealth.org.au/hid

TRAINING AND RESOURCES

Professional development – Generic and targeted GLBTI training

In 2013, GLHV continued to deliver training in the health and community services sectors. GLHV delivered three-hour professional development sessions on GLBTI health and well-being to nearly 400 staff from a wide range of agencies across Victoria, including aged care, fostering, family services, community health, mental health, housing, hospitals and residential rehabilitation. GLHV finalised its training agreement with headspace as part of the HEY Project for the rollout of SSASGD youth mental health training to all Victorian headspace offices in 2014. GLHV also entered into a licensing agreement in 2013 with the Peter MacCallum Centre to develop a series of short training videos that aim to assist staff, including clinical staff, develop LGBT-inclusive practice. The videos will be released in early to mid-2014 and posted on GLHV’s website.

Organisational change – The HOW2 program

GLHV continues to deliver the HOW2 program, which provides participants with strategies and tools to implement LGBTI-inclusive practices, protocols and procedures within their organisation. The program consists of four half-day workshops run over a six-month period. In 2013, GLHV ran its fourth HOW2 in Geelong with the assistance of Susanne Prosser from the GASP Project. The program brought together 30 people representing nine agencies from the Geelong area, including GP practices, mental health, aged and disability services, local council, youth services and family violence services. This unique opportunity provided cross-agency learning, information-sharing and networking, and strengthened a collaborative approach towards the delivery of LGBTI-inclusive services throughout the region.

Resources

In 2013, there was increasing demand for GLHV resources and information. The clearinghouse and e-newsletter continue to attract users from all over the country and abroad. A recent review showed that over 4000 copies of the GLHV/ARCSHS report, Private Lives 2: The second national survey of the health and wellbeing of LGBT Australians had been downloaded from GLHV’s website since the report was posted in 2012. In May 2013, Val’s Café website valscafe.org.au was launched, followed in November by Rainbow Network’s rainbownetwork.com.au revamped and user-friendly site for professionals. In the same month, Rainbow Network released Guidelines for Establishing Same Sex Attracted, Trans* and Gender Diverse Youth Groups in Victoria: A better practice guide. Late in 2013, Safe Schools Coalition Victoria (SSCV) released its Safe Schools do Better. A guide to supporting sexual diversity and gender diversity in schools, which will complement the suite of resources developed by SSCV in partnership with Minus18, including the popular and highly successful ‘Stand Out’ series. In 2013, GLHV entered into a partnership with the Peter MacCallum Centre to develop a series of short training videos that aim to assist staff, including clinical staff, develop LGBT-inclusive practice. The videos will be released in early to mid-2014 and posted on GLHV’s website.

YOUNG PEOPLE

Safe Schools Coalition Victoria (SSCV)

Safe Schools Coalition Victoria is jointly funded by the Victorian Departments of Health and Education and Early Childhood Development (DH and DEECD respectively) to provide training, resources and guidance to schools. SSCV aims to reduce homophobia and transphobia in schools, and to increase the inclusion of sex and/or gender-diverse and same-sex attracted members of school communities. In November 2013, SSCV celebrated its third birthday at an event which included a keynote address from Carol Kelly, Executive Director, Student Inclusion and Engagement Division, DEECD, and which marked its success and continued growth. The Coalition has a current membership of 119 schools (see the website for details). In 2013 a total of 2307 staff and students took part in training or workshops, including 1742 practitioners teachers, and 6000 copies of information booklets were distributed to Victorian schools, including Safe Schools do Better.

ARCSHS Annual Report 2013

23
SSCV has been working closely with DEECD to improve and update policy and guidance in the areas of gender diversity and sexual diversity. This has included creating specific resources to address homophobic bullying as part of the new Bullystoppers anti-bullying program for schools. Work is also underway to update policy on the support given by schools to transgender students seeking to transition at school. In August 2013, the Commonwealth Department of Education announced an eight million dollar investment to establish Safe Schools Coalition Australia. This program will be delivered by the Foundation for Young Australians (FYA) over four years and is modelled on SSCV. The Coalition will work in partnership with FYA to assist in the development of the national program while also allowing for further innovation and development in Victoria.

Rainbow Network (RN)
Rainbow Network provides information, training and support to individuals and organisations that work with same-sex attracted, intersex and gender-diverse (SSAIGD) young people. In 2013, RN provided professional development to nearly 160 workers across Victoria, delivered SSAIGD youth training to 200 people from local government and university youth services, and distributed over 600 copies of resources to youth service providers across Victoria. In 2013, RN continued to offer much-needed and valued secondary consultations, which included supporting the establishment of smaller regional professional networks (Q North, Q West, Q East and Q South East). The Network has also offered professional supervision to members, with eight sessions provided during the course of the year.

Cyberbullying Project
The webWise cybersafety project was funded by the Office for Youth, Department of Human Services, and aimed to train SSASGD young people to support one another in digital citizenship and staying safe online. The project ran for two years and ended in September 2013. In partnership with Minus18, the project produced the Year 7 Self (year7self.org.au) campaign, which provided support and training to 40 youth peer mentors, and produced a short film and online video of seven young people’s stories of having LGBT friends and family. The project also ran a social media campaign that has reached more than 100,000 people.

The Healthy Equal Youth (HEY) Project
The HEY Project, outlined earlier in the Sex, Gender and Sexuality research program, aims to build an SSASGD youth platform within the mainstream youth sector and improve the quality of mental health and support services provided to this group. On 6 November 2013, YACVic and GLHV co-hosted HEY DAY, which brought together HEY project partners and the recipients of the HEY Grants to discuss their work, share ideas and develop new initiatives. The event was opened by the Hon. Mary Wooldridge, Minister for Mental Health and Community Services with keynote addresses by Chris Bush and GLHV alumnus, Professor Anne Mitchell.

LGBTI Ageing
In 2013, GLHV and ARCSHS secured two large grants from the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA) to conduct research and deliver LGBTI training in the Aged and Community Care sectors.

LGBTI aged care research and the aged care How²
In mid-2013, Catherine Barrett was awarded a grant for one million dollars (2013–2015) to conduct research on the aged care needs and experiences of older LGBTI people and to deliver a targeted aged care How² to aged and community care services in Victoria. The training will also be piloted over the next two years in Western Australia and Tasmania. The research and training will be managed by Val’s Café. Given the rapid growth and diversification of the Sexual Health and Ageing program, management of the area was transferred from GLHV to ARCSHS late in 2013, including the responsibility for Val’s Café.
LGBTI aged care training

Late in 2013, GLHV was awarded a further $140,000 over two years to deliver LGBTI training to aged and community care workers across Victoria. The training is part of a national project managed by the National LGBTI Health Alliance and funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing. GLHV is seeking to run the training in partnership with Positive Living Victoria (PLV) and Transgender Victoria (TVG).

The partnership offers a unique opportunity to deliver professional development to aged and community care workers that is inclusive and representative of older LGBTI Victorians. As the two components of the DoHA-funded aged care training are rolled out in 2014 – the aged care How² and LGBTI professional development – GLHV will be working with certification organisation Quality, Innovation, Performance (QIP), to encourage uptake of LGBTI-inclusive service accreditation (The Rainbow Tick) within the aged and community care sector.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

On 19 April 2013, and in collaboration with QIP, GLHV formally launched the Rainbow Tick. The Rainbow Tick is a set of six national, LGBTI-inclusive practice standards against which organisations can be accredited. In August 2013, GLHV (La Trobe University) trademarked the Rainbow Tick including a new logo that organisations can use to show that they are Rainbow Tick-accredited and LGBTI-inclusive. GLHV has revised the Evidence and Good Practice Guide that outlines the process for gaining a Rainbow Tick. The Guide can now be accessed on QIP’s website.


RESEARCH AND GRANTS

In 2013, GLHV continued to build its research profile and assisted in securing a number of research and training grants:

- beyondblue 2012 - 2014, Exploring the Relationships Between Hazardous Drinking, Depression and Anxiety in Lesbian, Bisexual and Same-Sex Attracted Women: Culture, Motivation and Behaviour (the ALICE Study), lead investigator Ruth McNair, University of Melbourne
- Aged Care Service Improvement and Healthy Ageing Grants Fund, Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing 2013–2015, Supporting Aged Care Services to Develop Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) Inclusive Services, lead investigator Catherine Barrett
- Department of Health and Ageing through the National LGBTI Health Alliance, 2014–2015, Delivery of National LGBTI Aged Care Training in Victoria
- The Asia Altman Sub-fund from the Australian Communities Foundation, 2013, Nothing For Them: Understanding the Support Needs of LGBT Young People from Refugee and Newly Arrived Backgrounds, lead investigator Olivia Noto
- National LGBTI Health Alliance 2013, National LGBTI Mental Health Promotion Strategy, lead investigator William Leonard
- La Trobe University Faculty Research Program in Sex, Health and Society grant, Pilot Study: Disability, Sexuality and Gender, lead investigator Philomena Horsley
HIGHER DEGREE RESEARCH PROGRAM

Postgraduate students at ARCSHS have had another exemplary year, winning a variety of awards, presenting at conferences and publishing papers, in addition to working on their own research. At the start of 2013, we had 22 postgraduate students at ARCSHS. During the year, we farewelled three students who graduated (Cuong Manh La, Deepa Dhital and Biswajit Banik), welcomed three new students (Damian Wilson, Frances Bird and Martin de Graaf), and by the end of 2013 there are nine students who are at various stages of writing their dissertations. Rachel Thorpe presented her research to her progress panel during 2013, and Wendy Heywood, Andrew Westle, Joe Latham and Emerich Daroya presented their research after their proposal confirmation panels to combined ARCSHS staff and students seminars.

In 2013, Samuel Muchoki won the Culture, Health and Sexuality award for the best paper written by an early career researcher/relative newcomer to research on society, culture and sexuality. Samuel was also awarded the Harold Mitchell Postgraduate Travelling Fellowship to attend ‘Sex and the Marketplace: What’s love got to do with it?’, the IX Biennial Conference of the International Association for the Study of Sexuality, Culture and Society, in August 2013 in Argentina.

At the same conference, Joni Meenagh received an honorary mention for Best Paper Presenting Original Work by a single author no more than three years after obtaining a Master’s or Doctorate Degree in the field of sexuality. Andrew Westle received the runner-up award in the Faculty of Health Sciences Three-Minute Thesis heats. Joe Latham was awarded the Professor Anthony Smith Travel Award to attend the Sexuality Studies Conference in Victoria, Canada, in June 2013.

Postgraduate supervisors contribute their time and expertise to work with students for the course of their studies. Supervisors work in teams, with one principal supervisor and one co-supervisor for each student, as well as a panel of two or three other staff who meet twice a year to monitor students’ progress.

ARCSHS principal supervisors in 2013 were Graham Brown, Gary Dowsett, Sue Dyson, Jeffrey Grierson, Lynne Hillier, Anthony Lyons, Stephen McNally and Marian Pitts. Co-supervisors included Steven Angelides, Paul Badcock, Leigh Blizzard, Catherine Barrett, Duane Duncan, Sue Dyson, Gillian Fletcher, Patsie Frawley, Gail Hawkes, Lynne Hillier, Timothy Jones, Anthony Lyons, Karalyn McDonald, Celia McMichael, Stephen McNally, Anne Mitchell, Kent Patrick, Garrett Prestage and Elizabeth Smith.

Active Student Projects in 2013

Frances Bird
LGBTQI choral community: Identity, action and meaning
Supervisors: Sue Dyson, Timothy Jones

Huong Thu Bui
Locating pleasure: Narratives of women’s intimate experiences in the quest for sexual well-being in contemporary Vietnam
Supervisors: Stephen McNally, Jeffrey Grierson

Bern Chua
Men who have sex with men (MSM) in Malaysia: Case studies in peninsular Malaysia
Supervisors: Stephen McNally, Jeffrey Grierson

Emerich Daroya
HIV fetishism: Exploring the practices of barebacking
Supervisors: Gary Dowsett, Steven Angelides, Duane Duncan

Jan Willem de Lind van Wijngaarden
Negotiating traditional genders and modern sexualities: The emergence of sexual subjectivity among young same-sex attracted men in rural Thailand
Supervisors: Gary Dowsett, Duane Duncan

Martin de Graaf
(Masters thesis)
Supervisors: Sue Dyson, Elizabeth Smith

Alissar El-murr
Kicking off cultural change: Primary prevention of violence against women in the AFL
Supervisors: Graham Brown, Gillian Fletcher

Karyn Fulcher
The language of policing gender and sexuality among young people
Supervisors: Anthony Lyons, Sue Dyson

Jo Grzelinska
The ‘blind spot’ in Bangladeshi sexuality: Bisexually active men telling their own stories
Supervisors: Gary Dowsett, Duane Duncan

Wendy Heywood
Age at sexual debut and subsequent sexual activity and functioning among Australian men and women: A population based panel study
Supervisors: Marian Pitts, Kent Patrick, Leigh Blizzard (University of Tasmania)

Joe Latham
Ftm bodies and pleasure, trans-sexuality and power
Supervisors: Gary Dowsett, Steven Angelides, Catherine Barrett
TEACHING PROGRAM

Joni Meenagh
Practising ethics of the self: Young people’s negotiation of love/sex relationships within new media environments
Supervisors: Lynne Hillier, Sue Dyson

Marisa Monagle
Face(book)ing homophobia on the net: Same-sex attracted young people and online community
Supervisors: Lynne Hillier, Anne Mitchell

Samuel Muchoki
Migration, sexuality and sexual health: The case of men with refugee backgrounds from the horn of Africa
Supervisors: Gary Dowsett, Karalyn McDonald, Celia McMichael

(My La Trobe Anthropology)

My Linh Nguyen
Masculinities of Vietnamese men who experience erectile dysfunction: the gaze of ‘the clinic’
Supervisors: Stephen McNally, Jeffrey Grierson

Amie O’Shea
Sexuality and young women with an intellectual disability
Supervisors: Sue Dyson, Lynne Hillier, Patsie Frawley

Laoy Othman
The impact of social stigma on HIV/AIDS in the United Arab Emirates
Supervisors: Jeffrey Grierson, Garrett Prestage

Jayne Russell
Social support and the experience of living with HIV/AIDS for women in Australia
Supervisor: Jeffrey Grierson, Paul Badcock

Rachel Thorpe
Sexual well-being and ageing: A study of older women
Supervisors: Marian Pitts, Gail Hawkes (University of New England), Catherine Barrett

Andrew Westle
Masculinity as a social performance: How Australian hypermasculinity situates the other
Supervisors: Gary Dowsett, Duane Duncan

Damian Wilson
The impact of traditional martial arts on the psychosocial aspects of bullied same-sex attracted males
Supervisor: Gary Dowsett, Duane Duncan

UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING PROGRAM – CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN SEX AND SEXUALITY

An online, cross-faculty elective for first-year undergraduate students
Gary Dowsett, Dion Kagan and Lilian Austin

The second semester in 2013 saw ARCSHS deliver its path-breaking, online, undergraduate, elective unit called Contemporary Issues in Sex and Sexuality for the third time. The unit is notable for its subject matter, its mode of teaching – which includes the use of both synchronous and asynchronous sessions designed specifically to promote active learning – its cross-faculty and cross-campus availability, and its status as Faculty of Health Sciences’ Signature Unit. Contemporary Issues in Sex and Sexuality (unit code HLTICSS) cuts across disciplinary boundaries to offer a valuable and interesting learning experience for students from all backgrounds. The Unit is offered entirely online, using advanced web teaching and learning technologies. It draws on a wide range of sources including media, web-based material and theory from the social sciences to help students examine and re-assess the range of meanings, values, assumptions and expectations embedded in social understandings of sex and sexuality. This third offering of the unit was completed by a total of 36 students from the Melbourne, Bendigo, Albury-Wodonga and Mildura Campuses.
ARCSHS Annual Report 2013

Fellowships

HAROLD MITCHELL FELLOWSHIPS
The Harold Mitchell Foundation has been generous over recent years in funding a program of travel fellowships for young scholars in medical and health research. ARCSHS has been part of that program and we are very grateful to the Foundation for its continuing support. The Fellowships offered in 2013 included:

- The Harold Mitchell Postdoctoral Travelling Fellowship, which provides $5000 for a junior postdoctoral fellow to present his/her work at a major overseas meeting and to visit cognate laboratories/research workers.
- The Harold Mitchell Postgraduate Travelling Fellowship, which provides $5000 for a senior PhD student to do similarly.

Recipients of the 2013 Harold Mitchell fellowships were:

- Research Officer, Elizabeth Smith
- Postgraduate student, Samuel Muchoki

Elizabeth Smith used the fellowship to enable travel to Ghent, Belgium, to attend the International Network of Sexual Ethics and Politics (INSEP) conference. There she presented in a plenary session on the main findings from her doctorate. Elizabeth also used the opportunity for networking with many early career and established academics from around Europe. Elizabeth was invited to submit an article to the new INSEP journal based on the quality of her conference presentation. Elizabeth also travelled to Durham University in the United Kingdom, where she addressed around 30 scholars and HDR students through the crime and deviance research group, attracting a larger than usual attendance. She also networked with scholars interested in sex work, crime and deviance, presenting a unique Australian context of sex work. Through networking with Professor Maggie O’Neil and Professor John Clarke, Elizabeth gained invaluable career advice and encouragement, inspiration about biographical research and innovative research methodologies.

Samuel Muchoki travelled to Buenos Aires, Argentina, to attend the International Association for the Study of Sexuality Culture, and Society (IASSCS) biennial conference. Samuel presented a paper titled ‘Using intimate citizenship framework to understand the experience of Horn of Africa men with refugee backgrounds in Australia’, based on his PhD research. The paper received the Culture, Health and Sexuality journal award for the best paper by a newcomer to research in the field of sexuality, culture and health, and was invited to submit the award-winning paper for publication in the journal. Samuel also attended the Sexual Policy Watch pre-conference workshop.

PROFESSOR ANTHONY SMITH TRAVEL AWARD
The Professor Anthony Smith Travel Award was established to honour the memory of Anthony Smith, who passed away in 2012. Anthony was a foundation member of ARCSHS, and during his twenty years at the Centre, he published or delivered more than 300 articles and presentations, directed major research projects and became a scholar of international repute. He is best known as the creator and chief investigator of Australia’s first major study into health and relationships: The Australian Study of Health and Relationships. The award is made annually to a full-time PhD student of outstanding merit carrying out sexuality-related research in order to support attendance at an international conference.

Joe Latham received the award for 2013. Joe travelled to the University of Victoria, British Columbia, to take part in the inaugural Sexuality Studies Association (Association d’études de la sexualité) annual meeting, a part of the Canadian Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences Congress. Joe presented the following paper, ‘Queering Plastic Surgery: Ftm Sex at the Edge of Technology’, for which he was nominated for the ‘Best Paper by a Graduate Student’ prize. Joe also visited the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center to meet with Dr Trystan T Cotten, Associate Professor of Gender and African American Studies at California State University, Stanislaus, and Managing Editor of Transgress Press. Joe attended the launch of Cotten’s new book Hung Jury: Testimonies of Genital Surgery by Transsexual Men, which Joe reviewed for the journal Culture, Health and Sexuality (forthcoming in 2014). Joe also met with postgraduate students at the University of Washington in Seattle and attended a class on literary monstrosity. The meeting with the latter built on relationships formed while Joe was attending the ‘Sensualizing Deformity’ conference at the University of Edinburgh in 2012.
## Funding

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<tr>
<th>Funding Source</th>
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<td><strong>Funds received from the sources listed here totalled</strong></td>
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<td>HIV, STI, Blood Borne Viruses Strategic Research</td>
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<td>Talking Sexual (and Reproductive) Health Revision</td>
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<td>Supporting Aged Care Services to Develop LGBTI-Inclusive Spaces</td>
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<td>From Understanding to Action: A social research program to provide an evidence base for the implementation of the National Blood Borne Viruses and Sexually Transmissible Infections Strategies</td>
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<td>Talking Sexual (and Reproductive) Health – Part 2</td>
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<td><strong>Faculty of Health Sciences - La Trobe University</strong></td>
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<td>Joint Research Engagement</td>
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<td>University of New England Collaborative Research Network for mental health and well-being in rural regions</td>
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<td><strong>Australian Research Council (ARC)</strong></td>
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<td>ARC Discovery Grant – The tensions for parents, educators and children in building a sustainable culture of ethical and respectful relationships early in life (DP110104431)</td>
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<td>ARC Discovery Grant – Sexual Well-Being and Ageing: A study of older Australian women (DP110101199)</td>
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<td>ARC Linkage Grant – Strengthening community responses to Hepatitis B (LP130100624)</td>
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<td>ARC DECRA Fellowship – Whose family values? The Christian right and sexual politics in post-secular Australia (DE120101854)</td>
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<td>GLBT Mental Health Resource Development And Training</td>
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### FUNDING

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<td>NHMRC Project Grant – The Second Australian Study of Health and Relationships</td>
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<td>Department of Health, Victoria</td>
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<td>Rapid Literature Review of STIs and Young People</td>
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<td>Rainbow Network</td>
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<td>HIV Seroconversion Study</td>
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<td>Documentation of STI/BBV Project</td>
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<td>Safe Online Spaces for SSAGQ Young People: A peer education cybersafety project</td>
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<td>Blood Borne Virus – Training and Evaluation</td>
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<td>Department of Early Education and Childhood Development (DEECD)</td>
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<td>Victorian Health Promotion Foundation</td>
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<td>Creating Healthy Workplaces: Preventing violence against women in the workplace intervention</td>
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<td>Does talking about sexuality change the game?</td>
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<td>Evaluation of Peer Education Training Prevention of Violence Against Women</td>
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<td>National AIDS Commission (NAC) Indonesia</td>
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<td>Men Who Have Sex with Men Research Projects</td>
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## Funding

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<td>Discrimination, Depression, Anxiety and Older GLBTI People</td>
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<td>Improving Online Therapy for Mood Disorders Among Lesbians and Gay Men</td>
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<td>Mental Health, Resilience and Sexual Recovery Among Gay Men with Prostate Cancer</td>
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<td>The Mental Health Needs of Young People With Diverse Gender Identities</td>
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<td>Coalition to Eradicate Viral Hepatitis in Asia Pacific (CEVHAP)</td>
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<td>Hepatitis B: Patient and clinical practice survey</td>
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<td>Department of Social Services, Australia</td>
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<td>'Norma's Project': Primary prevention of the sexual assault of older women</td>
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<td>LGBTI Mental Health Promotion Framework</td>
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<td>National Ageing and Aged Care Strategy</td>
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<td>Sexual Health and Family Planning ACT</td>
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<td>Building Better Relationships: Literature review</td>
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<td>Victorian AIDS Council/People Living with HIV/AIDS</td>
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<td>SAM Sexually Adventurous Men</td>
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<td>Victorian Equal Opportunity &amp; Human Rights Commission</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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<td>Course Fees, Royalties and Other Income</td>
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MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

International

Academic Committee for the IX International Conference of the International Association for the Study of Sexuality, Culture and Society (IASSCS), member, Gillian Fletcher

Coalition to Eradicate Viral Hepatitis in Asia Pacific (CEVHAP), Executive member, Jack Wallace

International Association for the Study of Sexuality, Culture and Society (IASSCS), Executive Board member, Gillian Fletcher

Research and Training Sub-Committee, International Association for the Study of Sexuality, Culture and Society (IASSCS), Chair, Gary Dowsett

Research and Training Sub-Committee, International Association for the Study of Sexuality, Culture and Society (IASSCS), member, Gillian Fletcher

Social Research Working Group, Asia-Pacific Coalition on Male Sexual Health (APCOM), Co-chair, Gary Dowsett

Association for the Social Sciences and Humanities in HIV (ASSHH), Board member, Gary Dowsett

National

A Survivorship Action Partnership (ASAP) network, a program of Prostate Cancer Canada, member, Richard Wassersug

Ageing Expert Advisory Group, reporting to the National Aged Care Alliance, LGBTI representative, Catherine Barrett

Alzheimer’s Association Diversity Working Group, GLBTI representative, Catherine Barrett

Australian Association of Gerontology, LGBTI Special Interest Group, member, Catherine Barrett

Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations, Secretary of Board, Graham Brown

beyondblue LGBTI National Campaign Reference Group, member, Lynne Hillier

Contemporary Look at Hepatitis B organising committee, Chair, Jacqui Richmond

CRN Mental Health and Well-being Conference 2014, Program Committee members, Anthony Lyons, Gary Dowsett

Department of Health and Ageing, Working party to develop the National LGBTI Ageing and Aged Care strategy, Co-chair, Catherine Barrett

Federal Ageing Consultative Committee, for the Federal Minister for Ageing, Mental Health and Social Inclusion, GLBTI representative, Catherine Barrett

Hawke Research Institute Advisory Board, member, William Leonard

Health in Difference 2013, 8th National LGBTI Health Conference, Conference Working Group, member, William Leonard

Health in Difference 2013, 8th National LGBTI Health Conference, Steering Committee for development of separate Gay and Lesbian Health Victoria stream, member, William Leonard

Janssen Hepatitis C Nursing Advisory Board, Chair, Jacqui Richmond

LGBTI Parliamentary Friendship Network, Federal Parliament, cross-party LGBTI policy group, member, William Leonard

Ministerial Advisory Committee on Blood Borne Viruses, HIV and STIs (MACBBVS), member, Graham Brown

Ministerial Advisory Committee on Blood Borne Viruses, HIV and STIs (MACBBVS), member, Marian Pitts

National Gay Men’s Syphilis Action Plan Technical Working Group, member, Garrett Prestage

National Hepatitis B Reference Committee, member, Jacqui Richmond

National Hepatitis B Testing Policy Committee, co-writer of policy, Jacqui Richmond

National LGBTI Health Alliance, Ageing Working Group, member, Catherine Barrett

National Strategies STI HIV BBV project working groups, member, Garrett Prestage

NHMRC Certifiers Assessor Panel (HoMER), panel member, Philomena Horsley

Roche Hepatology Nursing Masterclass Committee, member, Jacqui Richmond

Safe Schools Coalition Australia National Advisory Committee, member, Roz Ward

Safe Schools Coalition Australia Steering Committee, Chair, Anne Mitchell

State/Territory

ACON Sexual Health Advisory Committee, member, Garrett Prestage

AIDS Council of New South Wales Board, member, Garrett Prestage

AIDS Council of New South Wales Ethics Review Committee, Chair, Garrett Prestage

AIDS Council of New South Wales HIV and Sexually Transmissible Infections Working Group, member, Garrett Prestage

AIDS Council of New South Wales Research and Policy Advisory Committee, member, Garrett Prestage

Department of Health, Home and Community Care Diversity Working Group, GLBTI representative, Pauline Crameri

Department of Human Services, Home and Community Care Diversity Working Group, GLBTI representative, Catherine Barrett

Family Planning Victoria Human Research Ethics Committee, Acting Chair, Philomena Horsley

General Practice Victoria, Clinical Advisory Group, member, Jacqui Richmond

Growing & Developing Healthy Relationships (GDHR), WA teacher support website Review Committee, member, Jenny Walsh

GLBTI Ministerial Advisory Committee, member, William Leonard

GLBTI Ministerial Advisory Committee, working group on inclusive practice, ageing and aged care, integrated responses to young people, member, Catherine Barrett

Hepatitis Victoria, Board of Directors - Vice President, Jen Johnson

HIV+ Health Promotion Interagency, member, Garrett Prestage
PROFESSIONAL PARTICIPATION

Living Positive Victoria HIV/HCV co-infection reference group, member, Jen Johnson

NSW HIV Point of Care Testing Working Group, member, Garrett Prestage

NSW Ministerial Advisory Committee on Hepatitis (MACH), member, Garrett Prestage

NSW Point of Care Working Group, member, Garrett Prestage

Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Consumer Advisory Committee, member, Anne Mitchell

Positive Ageing Project, Alfred Infectious Diseases Unit, member, Catherine Barrett

Positive Life (NSW) Board Advisory Group, member, Garrett Prestage

Queerspace, Expert Advisory Group, member, Anthony Lyons

Scope Victoria Human Research Ethics Committee, member, Philomena Horsley

VACCHO Sexual and Reproductive Health Steering committee, member, Jenny Walsh

VACCHO Yarn soon, Yarn often Project Advisory Group, member, Jenny Walsh

Victorian Aboriginal Sexual Health Advisory Committee, member, Jen Johnson

Victorian AIDS Council Research and Ethics Committee, member, Anne Mitchell

Victorian AIDS Council/Gay Men’s Health Centre Sexually Adventurous Men Project Committee, member, Garrett Prestage

Victorian AIDS Council/Gay Men’s Health Centre Sexually Adventurous Men Reference Group, member, Garrett Prestage

Victorian Community Based Rapid HIV Testing Planning Committee, member, Graham Brown

Victorian Government Suicide Prevention Reference Group, informing development of Victorian Government Suicide Prevention Policy, member, William Leonard

Victorian Hepatitis B Alliance, member, Jack Wallace

Victorian Hepatitis B Alliance, member, Jacqui Richmond

Victorian Hepatitis B Alliance, member, Jen Johnson

Victorian Hepatitis B Alliance, member, Naomi Ngo

Victorian Ministerial Advisory Committee STI Sub-Committee, member, Anne Mitchell

Victoria Police GLBTI Advisory Committee, member, William Leonard

Women’s Mental Health Network Victoria, GLBTI advisory role for development of gender sensitivity training in Victorian Government mental and community health services, member, William Leonard

La Trobe University

Executive Building Healthy Communities Research Focus Area, member, Jeffrey Grierson

Faculty of Health Sciences Equity and Diversity Committee, member, Anne Mitchell

Faculty of Health Sciences Human Ethics Committee, member, Gillian Fletcher

MEMBERSHIP OF EDITORIAL BOARDS, JOURNAL REVIEWING

Hepatitis Monthly, Associate Editor, Behzad Hajarizadeh

Book series on Sexuality, Culture and Health (Routledge), Co-editor, Gary Dowsett

Culture, Health and Sexuality, Senior Reviews Editor, Gillian Fletcher

Culture, Health and Sexuality, Member, Editorial Advisory Board, Gary Dowsett

H-Histsex, Book Reviews Editor, Timothy W Jones

Sexual Health, Joint Editor, Gary Dowsett

AIDS and Behavior, Member, Editorial Board, Garrett Prestage

Sexualities, Member, Editorial Board, Gary Dowsett

Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health, Member, Editorial Board, Gary Dowsett

Psychology & Sexuality, Member, Editorial Board, Marian Pitts

Sex Education: Sexuality, Society and Learning, Member, Editorial Board, Gary Dowsett

Sexu*res: e-journal for sexualities, cultures, and politics, Member, Advisory Board, Gary Dowsett

Sexual Health, Member, Editorial Board, Garrett Prestage

Sexual Health, Member, Editorial Board, Marian Pitts

Sexualities, Evolution and Gender, Member, Editorial Board, Marian Pitts

Sexuality Research and Social Policy, Member, International Editorial Board, Gary Dowsett

AIDS and Behavior, Reviewer, Jeffrey Grierson, Anthony Lyons

AIDS Care, Reviewer, Karalyn McDonald, Rachel Thorpe

Antiviral Therapy, Reviewer, Jack Wallace

Asia-Pacific Journal of Public Health, Reviewer, Anthony Lyons

Australasian Journal on Ageing, Reviewer, Catherine Barrett

Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health, Reviewer, Catherine Barrett

Australian Journal of Primary Health, Reviewer, Jeffrey Grierson, William Leonard

Australian Journal of Social Issues, Reviewer, Alissar El-murr

BMC Public Health, Reviewer, Jeffrey Grierson

Development in Practice, Reviewer, Gillian Fletcher

Gender and History, Reviewer, Timothy W Jones

Health & Social Care in the Community, Reviewer, Jack Wallace

Health Promotion International, Reviewer, Jeffrey Grierson
Health Promotion Journal of Australia, Reviewer, Graham Brown
History Compass, Reviewer, Steven Angelides
International Journal for Women’s Health, Reviewer, Karalyn McDonald
International Journal of General Medicine, Reviewer, Jack Wallace
Journal for the International AIDS Society, Reviewer, Karalyn McDonald
Journal of British Studies, Reviewer, Timothy W Jones
Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Reviewer, Behzad Hajarizadeh
Journal of Homosexuality, Reviewer, Steven Angelides
Journal of Sex Research and Social Policy, Reviewer, Catherine Barrett, Timothy W Jones
Sexually Transmitted Infections, Reviewer, Anthony Lyons
Sociological Perspectives, Reviewer, Emerich Daroya
Sociology of Education, Reviewer, Steven Angelides
Twentieth Century British History, Reviewer, Timothy W Jones
Writing From Below, Reviewer, J.R. Latham
Youth Studies Australia, Reviewer, Jack Wallace

INVITATION TO REVIEW GRANT APPLICATIONS
National Institute for Health Research (UK), Sue Dyson
Research Foundation – Flanders, Anthony Lyons
Australian Research Council (ARC), Gary Dowsett, Timothy W Jones, Anthony Lyons
National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), Centres of Research Excellence Scheme, Anne Mitchell

OTHER ROLES AND ACTIVITIES
Abstract reviewer for 2nd Association for the Social Sciences and Humanities in HIV Conference, Anthony Lyons
Attendance at ‘Understanding the sexual health and well-being needs of refugee young people’, The Centre for Culture Ethnicity and Health, Melbourne, Jenny Walsh
City of Darebin, Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Advisory Committee, member, Jo Grzelinska
Co-facilitator of The Big Push Forward workshop on The Politics of Evidence in international development, Brighton, Gillian Fletcher
Co-facilitator of ‘The Politics of Evidence’ event, organised as part of The Big Push Forward international development initiative, Melbourne, Gillian Fletcher
Examination of PhD thesis - Monash University, Jeffrey Grierson
External panel member, PhD confirmation, University of Melbourne, Stephen McNally
Faculty of Health Sciences OH&S Committee for City Campus and Bouverie Centre, Kent Patrick
Interview by Aging Horizons Bulletin (Canada), Anthony Lyons
Interview by Men’s Health Magazine, Anthony Lyons
Invitation to comment on Draft Australian Curriculum for Health and Physical Education, Jenny Walsh
Invited to review development of University module, Sexual Education Matters, for Deakin University, Jenny Walsh
Representing ARCSHS at launch of the Multicultural Sexual Health Network and forum, Jenny Walsh
Review of resources provided to gay and bisexual men diagnosed with prostate cancer for The Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia, Cancer Council Victoria and beyondblue, Duane Duncan
Review panel for creation of video resource, ‘Voices of Sexuality Education’, Deakin University, Jenny Walsh
External examiner for MA, ‘Exploring the Potential Role of Tattooists in Delivering Harm Reduction Information to At-Risk Clients’, UNSW, Stephen McNally
Visiting Fellow, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK, Gillian Fletcher
Publications and Outputs

BOOKS

BOOK SECTIONs

Dowsett, G. W. (2013). A personal reflection on Dennis Altman’s Homosexual. In C. D’Cruz & M. Pendleton (Eds.), After Homosexual. (pp. 84-88). Crawley, Western Australia: The University of Western Australia.


ARTICLES IN REFERRED JOURNALS


PUBLICATIONS AND OUTPUTS


Walker, L., Tran, S., Wassersug, R. J., Thomas, B., & Robinson, J. (2013). Patients and partners lack knowledge of androgen deprivation therapy side effects. Urologic Oncology. 31(7), 1098-1105.


ARTICLES IN REFEREED JOURNALS - ADVANCED ONLINE PUBLICATION/EPUB AHEAD OF PRINT


SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

**ARTICLES IN NON-REFEREED JOURNALS**

- Dyson, S., Smith, E., & Fletcher, G. (2013). Thinking outside the square (a little bit) Y respect gender evaluation - Interim findings. Melbourne: Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University.

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES**


Meenagh, J. (2013). ‘The best way to get over someone is to get under someone else’: Hooking up as a post breakup care of the self strategy. IX Biennial Conference of the International Association for Sexuality, Culture and Society. Buenos Aires, Argentina, 30 August.


PUBLICATIONS AND OUTPUTS


NATIONAL CONFERENCES


Walsh, J., Hood, T., & Whybrow, R. (2013). This is a book about lovin’: Our story of our collaborative approach to the creation of a parent and carer resource. Refereed conference paper at SExRurality: Sexual health and relationships in our rural communities conference, co-presented with the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation and the Bendigo and District Aboriginal Cooperative. Centre for Excellence in Rural Sexual Health, University of Melbourne. Shepparton, 19-20 August.


PRESENTATIONS AT MEETINGS


PUBLICATIONS AND OUTPUTS

Daroya, E. (2013). HIV fetishism: Exploring barebacking practices. Symposium presentation to Faculty of Health Sciences Post Graduate Research Festival, La Trobe University. Melbourne, 10 December.


Mitchell, A. (2013). Just because you can’t see them...a personal history. Invited keynote address to HEY Day, Youth Affairs Council of Victoria, 6 March.


Pate, S. (2013). The other side of the rainbow: Same sex attraction within culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities. Invited keynote panel presentation to Multicultural Sexual Health Network (MSHN) forum, Centre for Ethnicity and Health. Melbourne, 15 October.


Thorpe, R. (2013). Australian women’s accounts of sexuality and embodiment in older age. Symposium presentation to Faculty of Health Sciences Post Graduate Research Festival, La Trobe University. Melbourne, 10 December.


NEWSPAPER ARTICLES


MAGAZINE ARTICLES


ELECTRONIC ARTICLES


ARCSHS STUDENT OR STAFF MEMBER QUOTED IN MEDIA ITEM


ARCSHS STUDENT OR STAFF MEMBER SUBJECT OF MEDIA ITEM


MEDIA APPEARANCES


Smith, E. (2013). 10 minute interview about the effects of referring to a victim of crime as a ‘prostitute’ in the media. Radio interview on 4zzz. 3 August.

NEWSLETTER


ELECTRONIC BOOK CHAPTER


CONTRIBUTION TO POLICY


