

Summary of Linkage Projects Proposals for Funding to Commence in 2009

New South Wales

University of Western Sydney

LP0989906 Dr T Covic; Dr A Sharpe; A/Prof J Pallant; A/Prof N Manolios; Mrs D Aspinall

Approved Project Title **Motherhood choices: a decision aid for women with rheumatoid arthritis**

2009 : \$ 35,000

2010 : \$ 40,000

Primary RFCD 3801 PSYCHOLOGY

Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)

Arthritis NSW

Administering Organisation University of Western Sydney

Project Summary

Decisions about pregnancy in the context of debilitating rheumatoid arthritis impact directly on both the mother and the child as well as their family and wider social unit. Providing evidence-based information to support women in making informed decisions about motherhood is critical in maximizing the well-being of the mother and ensuring a healthy start to life for a baby. The project will contribute to the national research priority area of promoting and maintaining good health, addressing the goal of supporting a healthy start to life.

LP0989219 Dr JA Fitzgerald; Prof SJ Simoff; Dr TR Sloan; Dr P Samaranayake; Mr M Johnston; Ms A Larkin

Approved Project Title **Visual optimisation of patient flow in Hospital Emergency Departments**

2009 : \$ 45,000

2010 : \$ 30,000

Primary RFCD 3502 BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)

Campbelltown Hospital

Administering Organisation University of Western Sydney

Project Summary

Recent policy announcements by the State and Federal Governments have centred on the need to explore the use of process management principles, normally applied to manufacturing industry, to health services management. This multidisciplinary project addresses one of the most pressing needs in health services - provision of methods to reduce patient queues and waiting times in emergency departments through interactive computing simulation to visualise and plan work process improvements. This smart use of information will benefit hospital managers, patients and their carers, is transferable to other health contexts, and by optimising resource usage has the potential to help build Australian (health) business.

LP0989383 Dr EJ Halcomb; Prof R Griffiths; Dr S Sloggett

Approved Project Title **A Model of Integrated Care for Dependant Older People Living in the Community**

2009 : \$ 26,140

2010 : \$ 27,000

2011 : \$ 27,000

Primary RFCD 3212 PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH SERVICES

APA(I) Award(s): 1

Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)

Carrington Centennial Care

Tunstall Australasia Pty Ltd

Schwarz Family Practice

Administering Organisation University of Western Sydney

Project Summary

This research offers significant economic, health and social benefits. Promoting and maintaining good health and ageing well, ageing productively are national priority areas. Case management and telemedicine are both recognised strategies to support chronic disease self-management. Early intervention can offer significant benefits in morbidity and mortality. Enhanced service delivery using an integrated model encompassing general practitioners, practice nurses and community carers, could improve chronic and complex disease management and reduce health costs.

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LP0989290 Prof DE Jackson; Ms L Luck; Prof LM Wilkes; Mrs M Clarke

Approved Project Title **Violence in the hospital setting: Testing the predictive validity of a violence assessment tool for nurses**

2009 : \$ 26,140
2010 : \$ 26,140
2011 : \$ 26,140

Primary RFCD 3211 NURSING

APA(I) Award(s): 1

Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)
Sydney West Area Health Service

Administering Organisation University of Western Sydney

Project Summary

Violence against nurses persists as an ongoing problem in the Australian health care settings. This form of violence negatively impacts on nurses' job satisfaction, performance and productivity, morale, retention and recruitment and may cause physical and/or psychological injury. By developing a violence assessment tool, this project will enable nurses to routinely assess individuals for potential violence and address the issue before violence occurs. In addition, this project will provide evidence for policy makers and health care professionals to encourage a more pro-active approach to support vulnerable nursing staff against potential violence in the emergency and general ward area.

LP0989534 Dr CJ Leo; Prof BN Indraratna; Dr JJ Zou; Dr C Rujikiatkamjorn; Mr R Golaszewski; Mr TD McWilliam; Dr H Wong; Prof DT Bergado

Approved Project Title **Geotechnical characterisation of compacted ground based on passive ambient noise techniques**

2009 : \$ 77,000
2010 : \$ 69,000
2011 : \$ 65,000

Primary RFCD 2908 CIVIL ENGINEERING

APA(I) Award(s): 2

Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)
Penrith Lakes Development Corporation
Coffey Geotechnics

Administering Organisation University of Western Sydney

Project Summary

The proposed research will provide our local construction and mining industries with a much needed fast and low cost technology for geotechnical investigation of very large sites which is currently not available. The project will help steer Australia to the forefront of ambient noise research for geotechnical site investigation, in the characterisation of unsaturated compacted soil and in the determination of dynamic site characteristics which are required for seismic risk assessment. Two postgraduate students will benefit from this research by receiving research training at the highest level and it will also pave the way for exporting the technology developed overseas, particularly to our near neighbours in Asia and the Pacific.

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LP0989479 Prof MH Vickers; Dr K Barker; A/Prof RW Perry; Prof SB Dockett; Mr M Hyam

Approved Project Title **Staying on at school: strategies for increasing high school completion rates in low-retention regions of NSW**

2009 : \$ 141,000

2010 : \$ 127,000

2011 : \$ 133,000

Primary RFCD 3301 EDUCATION STUDIES

Collaborating/Partner Organisation(s)

NSW Department of Education and Training

Administering Organisation University of Western Sydney

Project Summary

Leaving school early has been shown to have detrimental effects on the life chances, well being and health of young people and their communities. Despite this, a significant portion of today's youth chooses to leave school early. Unfortunately, little is understood about the processes and factors involved in the decision to leave school, and hence schools and systems are uncertain about how to decrease dropping out. Understanding the processes and factors involved in the decision to leave school early, and identifying the basis for between-school differences, will assist in the development of programs and curricula that will be more successful in increasing retention rates, hence enhancing the skill base of Australia's youth.