



Examples of new *Linkage Projects* in 2010

South Australia

The University of South Australia (Contact: 08 8302 0966)

Effects of omega-3 fatty acids and micronutrients on learning and behaviour of Indigenous Australian children from a remote community school (LP100100863)

Summary: Indigenous Australian children have disproportionate health problems that are largely related to malnutrition, which affects physical health and may also impact on their emotional health, learning and behaviour. Indigenous Australian children in remote rural communities are performing well below national benchmarks, and the government has earmarked improved education in this population as a top national priority. To date research has not addressed the impact of nutrition on learning in this population. Improving the nutritional status of these children could assist them to derive greater benefit from educational opportunities.

Chief Investigator: Dr Natalie Sinn

ARC funding: \$200,395 over 2 years

The Flinders University of South Australia (Contact: 08 8201 2965)

Archaeology in the Long Grass: Understanding contact through the analysis of urban Aboriginal fringe camps (LP100100876)

Summary: This research will contribute to the priority goal of Strengthening Australia's Social and Economic Fabric through: 1) conceptual and methodological advances in archaeology; 2) making a substantive contribution to Native Title debates; 3) contributing to closing the gap of Indigenous disadvantage; 4) developing Indigenous research capacity; and 5) increasing public understandings of Aboriginal culture. The Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation will benefit from new data to inform policy decisions and recommendations, interpretive materials for planned tourism ventures and enhanced research capacity through the quality training of Aboriginal research associates.

Chief Investigator: Associate Professor Claire Smith

ARC funding: \$80,007 over 3 years

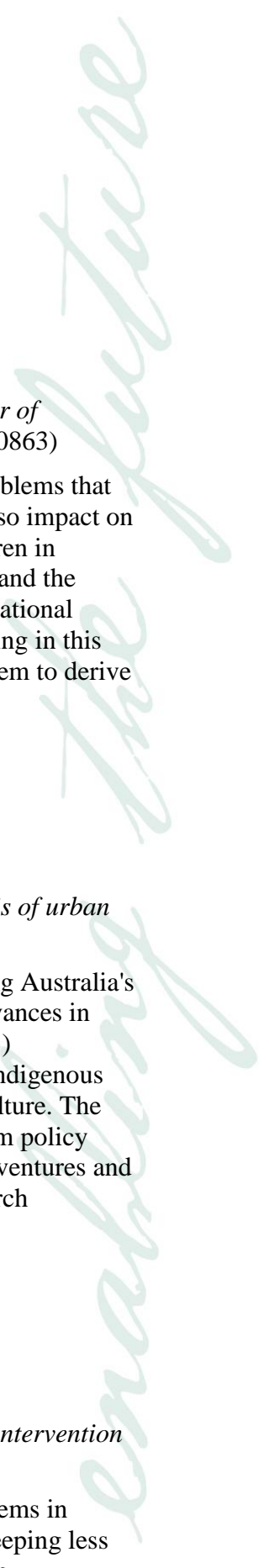
The University of South Australia (Contact: 08 8302 0966)

A randomised controlled trial assessing the effects of a school-based sleep intervention in Year 6 and 7 students (LP100100321)

Summary: Inadequate sleep is associated with a wide range of health problems in children, including obesity and poor performance at school. Children are sleeping less than ever before, and there is an increasing pattern of 'yo yo sleeping' (sleep deprivation on school days followed by catch up sleeps on weekends). This study will trial a school-based program designed to improve the sleeping habits of children. Better sleep is expected to result in improved alertness, better life satisfaction, and improved weight status.

Chief Investigator: Dr Sarah Blunden

ARC funding: \$126,669 over 3 years





The University of Adelaide (Contact: 08 8303 4829)

Development of innovative technologies for oil production based on the advanced theory of suspension flows in porous media (LP100100613)

Summary: The project will significantly improve the commercial and technological competitiveness of the Australian oil industry and will result in immediate financial benefits for the largest Australian oil company Santos. The outcomes will find their application in a number of developing environmental and chemical engineering technologies, which fall into Australian Research Priorities such as clean water production, emission reduction and storage of green house gas, and industrial waste management. The new theory and models to be developed in this project will provide quantitative tools for comprehensive assessment of large-scale geological and industrial projects. The project will also train high quality research and engineering personnel.

Chief Investigator: Professor Pavel Bedrikovetski

ARC funding: \$448,000 over 3 years

The University of Adelaide (Contact: 08 8303 4829)

Adaptive capabilities in the elderly during extreme heat events in South Australia (LP100100704)

Summary: This study, using first hand accounts of experiences and perceptions of the extreme heat event of 2009 in South Australia, will provide a valuable insight into the heat adaptive capability of the ageing population, factors affecting susceptibility, and ways to curb the predicted increase in often life-threatening heat exacerbated illnesses, many of which require extended hospital stays. It is envisaged that findings will help inform health policy and contribute to the formulation of a National Heatwave Response plan. Study findings will be disseminated widely at government (state and federal), non-government, and community levels and will help to raise the awareness of heat exacerbated illness in general.

Chief Investigator: Associate Professor Peng Bi

ARC funding: \$160,000 over 2 years

The University of Adelaide (Contact: 08 8303 4829)

Establishing baseline ecological conditions for the Lower Lakes, South Australia: the applications of palaeoecology to sustainable resource management (LP100100215)

Summary: The Lower Lakes of the Murray River are in a critical ecological state due to record low water levels. Management of these lakes needs to integrate water security demands with maintaining healthy ecosystem functions. Proposed management options such as allowing seawater incursion and the construction of a weir to impede freshwater flows are based on assumptions about what the Lakes were like naturally (pre-European settlement). This study will reconstruct environmental variability within the Lower Lakes over the past 7000 years, concentrating on salinity to document the extent of marine incursion, and pH to examine the impacts of acid sulphate release from exposed sediments during low flow events.

Chief Investigator: Dr Jennie Fluin

ARC funding: \$145,000 over 2 years

