University of South Australia

EARLY CAREER RESEARCHER
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

2021 Cohort Members

Dr Nagham Ailabouni
UniSA Clinical and Health Sciences, Quality Use of Medicines and Pharmacy Research Centre
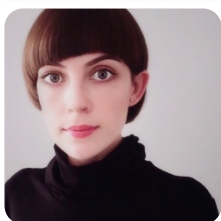
Dr Nagham Ailabouni's overarching research goal is to increase the knowledge translation of deprescribing (reducing or discontinuing harmful medications) in people living with dementia into practice and policy. This is pertinent given the low uptake of deprescribing recommendations in this vulnerable population to date. I am particularly interested in leveraging implementation science concepts to improve translation of deprescribing in practice.

Dr Stephanie Byrne
UniSA Allied Health and Human Performance, Australian Centre for Precision Health

Dr Stephanie Byrne is a Nutritional Epidemiologist who investigates relationships between modifiable lifestyle factors and chronic diseases, including various types of Cancer, Asthma, and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease.

Dr Sharayah Carter
UniSA Allied Health & Human Performance, Alliance for Research in Exercise, Nutrition and Activity

Dr Sharayah Carter is a researcher with a background in dietetics. Sharayah has broad nutrition-based research interests, but her focus is on weight management. Sharayah is currently investigating the effects of almonds on appetite control during weight loss and weight loss maintenance. Sharayah is interested in how the components of the diet might modulate appetite control and how we might use this understanding to improve weight management in clinical practice.

Dr Jane Chalmers
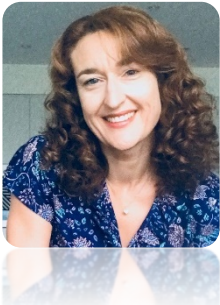*UniSA Allied Health and Human Performance, IIMPACT in Health Research*

Dr Jane Chalmers is a physiotherapist with a particular interest in pelvic pain in women. Jane's research focuses on improving outcomes for women with pelvic pain through understanding their experiences, investigating various treatments, and developing new outcome measures. Jane is currently coordinating a large project investigating whether pain education helps to improve patient outcomes in women with endometriosis undergoing laparoscopic surgery.

Dr Anson Chau
UniSA Allied Health and Human Performance, Medical Radiation Science

Dr Anson Chau is a radiographer who has specific and extensive knowledge and skill sets in applying MRI in clinical research. This has wide-ranging application as MRI is a safe, widely used and popular diagnostic tool which can be applied for a wide range of patient population.

Dr Veronica Coram
UniSA Business, The Australian Alliance for Social Enterprise

Dr Veronica Coram is a political scientist with a background in public policy. Veronica's research focuses on social policy and human service delivery, particularly housing and homelessness, programs for children and young people, and redistributive policy.

Dr Jack Darby
UniSA Clinical & Health Sciences, Health and Biomedical Innovation

Dr Jack Darby is a medical scientist who brings systems physiology and advanced imaging techniques together. Jack's research focuses on understanding the molecular mechanisms by which suboptimal in utero conditions such as fetal hypoxaemia and hypoglycaemia influence cardiac development and programme adult onset cardiovascular disease. More recently Jack has been focused on combining clinically translatable MRI measures with molecular techniques to test the effectiveness of intervention strategies, with the ultimate goal of allowing all babies, no matter how small, to have a healthy heart future.

Dr Courtney Davis
UniSA Clinical and Health Sciences, Alliance for Research in Exercise, Nutrition and Activity

Dr Courtney Davis is a dietitian and health researcher focused on preventing chronic disease onset, through lifestyle modification (diet and activity). Courtney has a keen interest in the psychological barriers to change and using motivational interviewing to empower individuals to make long term behaviour change. Courtney has an interest in physical activity, including tracking physical activity as well as the effects on health.

Dr Jaye Early
UniSA Creative, Creative People, Products and Places (CP3)

Dr Jaye Early is a visual artist and academic. Jaye works with video and video-based performance, and also painting. Jaye's research examines how the boundaries between private and public space and spheres have become increasingly problematised not only within our confessional online society (e.g. Facebook and Instagram), but also how such spaces are now utilised and defined as a result of the recent impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dr Michael Evans
UniSA STEM, Future Industries Institute

Dr Michael Evans is a mechanical and aerospace engineer whose research targets more effective energy usage to ultimately improve efficiency and reduce pollutant emissions in next-generation energy systems. Michael's research focusses on the fundamental understanding of fluid flows, turbulence, heat transfer, reacting flows and combustion using sophisticated computer modelling and experimental approaches, including laser diagnostics. These areas of research not only serve to improve technologies in sustainable or unconventional energy systems, but also inform the design of low-emissions aircraft engines and better understand the spread of airborne diseases.

Dr Todd Gillam
UniSA Clinical and Health Sciences

Dr Todd Gillam is a chemist who works to provide the tools necessary for investigating or solving biological and pharmaceutical challenges. Todd works best at the intersection of synthetic chemistry and molecular biology as a member of multidisciplinary teams.

Dr Kristin Graham
UniSA Allied Health & Human Performance

Dr Kristin Graham has studied podiatry and psychology and is currently working toward my endorsement for scheduled medicines (prescribing). Kristin's interests are very broad and include the physical and mental health impacts of trauma, decision making in health, and the patient-doctor relationship.
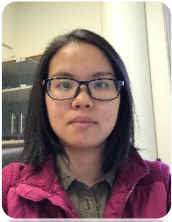
Dr Habibullah Habibullah
UniSA STEM

Dr Habibullah Habibullah investigates:
- Agricultural Robotics and intelligent control,
- Control theory and applications,
- Dynamic system modeling and identification,
- Low-frequency vibration isolation for gravitational wave detection, and
- Nanotechnology and nano-applications.

Dr Leslie Huang
UniSA STEM, Scarce Resources and Circular Economy (ScaRCE)

Dr Leslie Huang is an Environmental Chemist with a research focus on developing and applying passive sampling techniques (DGT – diffusive gradient in thin films) to monitor nutrients in multiple environments (water, sediment and soil). Leslie aims to develop a 2-dimensional measurement for nutrients in sediment by combining passive sampling techniques and other advanced techniques such as planar optrode.

Dr Donna Hughes-Barton
UniSA Allied Health and Human Performance, Department of Rural Health

Dr Donna Hughes-Barton is psychologist who is interested in understanding the unique challenges to accessing health and wellbeing services and messages that are faced by Australians who live in rural areas, and Australians who are immigrants with CALD backgrounds. Donna is also interested to help develop interventions that are informed by behaviour change theory that could improve health and mental health outcomes within these communities. Donna is interested in co-design research methods and working with key stakeholders and consumers in order to develop interventions that are acceptable, relatable and therefore more likely to be maintained into the future.

Dr Michele Jarldorn
UniSA Justice & Society, Safe relationships and communities

Dr Michele Jarldorn is a social work academic who uses an intersectional lens to investigate the structural influences of social problems such as criminalisation, addiction, intimate partner violence and poverty. She is particularly interested in using research methods which privilege the voice and perspectives of research participants.

Dr Paul Joyce
UniSA Clinical and Health Sciences, Nanostructure and Drug Delivery, Cancer Research Institute

Dr Paul Joyce is a pharmaceutical engineer who focuses on developing new drug formulations that overcome common challenges associated with delivering therapeutics to the body. In particular, Paul attributes specific focus to understanding how natural digestive enzymes present within the gut operate and how digestive processes can be manipulated to increase the efficacy of medications.

Dr Debabrata Karmokar
UniSA STEM, Statistical Signal Processing team

Dr Debabrata Karmokar works in the area of antennas and propagation with a particular focus on planar low cost, low profile and energy-efficient beam steering antennas for advanced wireless systems. Debabrata would like to broaden his research focus and explore areas like microwave circuits, processing of microwave signals, millimetre wave and terahertz wireless systems.

Dr Gizat Kassie
UniSA Clinical & Health Sciences, Quality Use of Medicines and Pharmacy Research Centre

Dr Gizat Kassie is a researcher pharmacist who specialises in quality use of medicines research in older people. Gizat is particularly interested in identifying and characterising medication use related problems, designing methods and interventions promoting appropriate medication use at individual patient and population levels.

Dr Farzana Kastury
UniSA STEM, Future Industries Institute

Dr Farzana Kastury is an environmental scientist investigating the adverse impacts of anthropogenic pollution to the health of humans and the environment. Farzana's research goals include developing research methodologies, assessing exposure to contaminants of concern and to investigate sustainable remediation techniques to mitigate exposure.

Dr Amin Khodabandeh
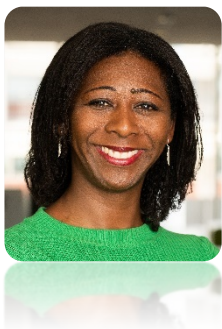*UniSA STEM, Future Industries Institute*

Dr Amin Khodabandeh is a Polymer Chemist (Please find me on Twitter: @PolyAmin). Amin's research focus is developing hierarchically porous polymer monoliths via control polymerization technology for application in separation science. Amin is also involved in understanding the separation performance of materials prepared via templated polymerization.

Dr Zoe Kopsaftis
UniSA Allied Health and Human Performance, Translational Medicine and Technology Group; ACPreH

Dr Zoe Kopsaftis is a clinical researcher interested in using novel technology and proven behaviour change techniques to design solutions to problems and inefficiencies in the management of chronic diseases (specifically in the field of respiratory); focussing on translating these outcomes and outputs into policy and/or practice wherever possible.

Dr Edilene Lopes McInnes
UniSA Business, Centre for Workplace Excellence

Dr Edilene Lopes McInnes is a public health researcher who investigates innovative ways to engage diverse groups in institutional decisions related to projects, policies, and other types of initiatives. Edilene is interested in the research and practical implementation of the design and evaluation of engagement strategies that incorporate the values and perspectives of all stakeholders to improve decision-making processes.

Dr Gosia Ludwichowska-Alluigi
UniSA Online, Ehrenberg-Bass Institute for Marketing Science

Dr Gosia Ludwichowska-Alluigi is an ECR, who believes in evidence-based Marketing grounded on research insights that are generalisable. Gosia would like to contribute to the ground-breaking work of the Ehrenberg-Bass Institute, and other researchers-empiricists who have built strong foundation for our discipline. Gosia's research focus is on providing marketers and brand managers with clear, actionable insights from brand metrics that are accurate and transparent and assist them in making better brand growth decisions.

Dr Stewart McDougall
UniSA Justice and Society, Australian Centre for Child Protection

Dr Stewart McDougall is a social science research with a background in psychology who undertakes applied research focused on improving the lives of vulnerable children and families.

Dr Ronald Mulinde
UniSA STEM, Computer Networking and Cybersecurity

Dr Ronald Mulinde is a researcher and lecturer in the communications systems and networks area with specific interest in statistical signal processing, communication systems, communication networks and cybersecurity. Ronald is passionate about transforming research ideas into tangible outcomes.

Dr Khoi Nguyen
UniSA STEM, Civil Engineering

Dr Khoi Nguyen's research focuses on the critical state behaviour of soils, which has been investigated in discrete element method (DEM). Khoi found that the internal structure of soil (soil fabric) showed some correlations with the observed undrained behaviour of soil. Khoi then discovered that the soil fabric or micro-mechanical behaviour mainly controlled that macro-mechanical behaviour.

Dr Hayley Schultz
UniSA Clinical & Health Sciences, Quality Use of Medicines and Pharmacy Research Centre

Dr Hayley Schultz is a pharmaceutical scientist with a comprehensive skill set, ranging from drug formulation to pharmacokinetic analysis of clinical data. Her current research focuses on using pharmacological principles to inform the optimal use of medications. Most notably, she is involved in the development of novel lipid-based formulations to improve the oral absorption of chemotherapeutics, that stemmed from her PhD.

Dr Fatin Shabbar
UniSA Justice & Society, Safe relationships and communities

Dr Fatin Shabbar is a social work academic in the UniSA Justice & Society. Her research spans the areas of gender, family, religion & culture, migration, and violence & resilience. Fatin has a special interest in studying the intersectionality of religion, culture, and politics in the life of Muslim and Arab women and families. Her research builds on postcolonial and transnational feminist approaches with a particular interest in storytelling and narrative research methodologies.

Dr Janet Sluggett
UniSA Allied Health and Human Performance, SAHMRI

Dr Janet Sluggett's research focuses on improving the way that medicines are used by people who live in aged care homes. Janet analyses Big Data to understand what medicines are prescribed to people in aged care homes and the benefits and side effects that can occur. Janet also works with health professionals, aged care organisations and older people to implement new tools to help them recognise problems with medicines and make improvements.

Dr Sarah Wallwork
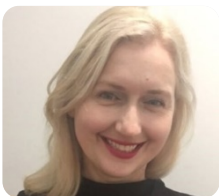*UniSA Allied Health and Human Performance, IIMPACT in Health Research*

Dr Sarah Wallwork is a physiotherapist with a research interest in clinical pain neuroscience. Sarah's work investigates the clinical course and prognosis of low back pain, as well as parental/carer responses to children's everyday pain and injury.

Dr Sam Whiting
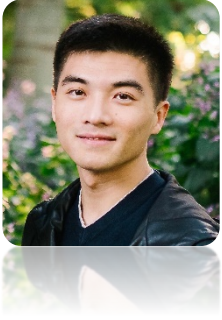*UniSA Creative, Creative People, Products and Places (CP3)*

Dr Sam Whiting is a popular music scholar, whose work is primarily focused on investigating music scenes and the music industries from the perspective of both sociology and cultural studies. Previous peer-reviewed publications of Sam's have explored the music industry, music scenes and related creative industries, along with issues of gender, heritage, and identity as they relate to popular music.

Dr Amy Zadow
UniSA Justice & Society, Centre for Workplace Excellence

Dr Amy Zadow is an organisational psychologist who investigates work stress: in particular multilevel approaches to predict and manage work stress, meta-analytic investigations of variables which predict work stress and the efficacy of interventions, and interrelationships between work stress, creativity and performance.

Dr Chen Zhan
UniSA STEM, Centre for Change & Complexity in Learning (C3L)

Dr Chen Zhan is a data scientist who investigates mining educational data in digital learning environments with the goal of understanding and improving student learning. In particular, Chen is interested in privacy-preserving learning analytics which merge learning analytics algorithm and privacy-preserving solution