



University of
South Australia

EARLY CAREER RESEARCHER

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM



2016 Cohort Members



Dr Maria Alba-Martin

Future Industries Institute: Biomaterials, Engineering & Nanomedicine

Dr Maria Alba-Martin is a material scientist who develops painless microneedle platforms for skin therapy and diagnosis: in particular, these microneedle arrays are able to harvest body fluids for the early detection of diseases; they can be also used to administer pharmaceuticals for a more efficient topical drug delivery.



Dr John Arnold

Alliance for Research in Exercise, Nutrition & Activity, & School of Health Sciences

Dr John Arnold's research expertise is in biomechanics with applications to the fields of orthopaedics, rheumatology and sports medicine. John uses experimental and computational techniques to investigate the role of mechanics in (1) the maintenance of healthy joints, (2) the development of disorders of the musculoskeletal system and (3) the success of treatments and recovery from surgery.



Dr Amy Baker

Mental Health & Substance Use Research Group, Sansom Institute for Health Research

With a background in occupational therapy, Dr Amy Baker's research focuses on mental health, mental illness and suicide prevention across cultures and how physical and social environmental factors influence health and wellbeing, in particular, Amy is interested in how engagement in meaningful activities intersects with the physical and social environments, such as therapeutic gardening programs, to support the flourishing of individuals and communities.



Dr Reza Bradrania

UniSA Business School (Commerce)

Dr Reza Bradrania's research expertise is in empirical asset pricing and liquidity. This includes examining the dynamics of liquidity, liquidity risk and their impacts on asset values. Recently Reza's research interest has tilted towards the intersection of equity pricing and other major areas in Finance such as behavioural finance and risk management.



Dr Gianluca Brunetti
Future Industries Institute

Dr Gianluca Brunetti is an environmental scientist specialising mainly in soil and water chemistry and hydrology. Gianluca's previous research focused largely on the fate and effects of contaminants during wastewater treatment and reuse. Currently, Gianluca is working on a project to examine the survival of resistant bacteria during wastewater treatment and the potential for them to be transferred to agricultural land as a result of recycled water use.



Dr Elizabeth Buckley
Cancer Epidemiology & Population Health Group, Centre for Population Health Research, & School of Health Sciences

Dr Elizabeth Buckley is a cancer epidemiologist and health services researcher with a background in health technology assessment. Elizabeth's research focusses on improving cancer prevention, detection and treatment in disadvantaged groups. Currently, her research examines breast cancer screening in Aboriginal women with the aim to translate this research into policies and practices that will reduce cancer inequalities in this population.



Dr Monika Ferguson
Mental Health & Substance Use Research Group, & School of Nursing & Midwifery

Dr Monika Ferguson is a mental health researcher, with a background in psychology and suicidology. Monika's current research focuses on educational interventions that equip health and human service professionals with the skills to support people in crisis, and ultimately reduce the impacts of suicide. Monika's research is collaborative and applied in nature, and she enjoys working closely with industry partners to address issues that are relevant in practice.



Dr Julie Fleet
Healthy Mothers, Babies & Families Research Group, & School of Nursing & Midwifery

Dr Julie Fleet is a midwife interested in reducing birth interventions to increase women's autonomy and improve health outcomes.



Dr Aurelien Forget
Future Industries Institute: Blencowe Group

Dr Aurelien Forget is a material scientist, specialised in materials for biomedical applications. Aurelien is investigating the interface between cells and materials to develop novel solutions for current healthcare challenges.



Dr Marianne Gillam
Quality Use of Medicines & Pharmacy Research Centre, Medicine & Device Surveillance, & School of Pharmacy & Medical Sciences

The focus of Dr Marianne Gillam's research is on investigating the prevalence and trends of medical device procedures in the population and examining health data for patterns and problems relating to medical devices.



Dr Deborah Green

CRed: Wellbeing Research Group, CRed: Social Justice Research Group, CRed: Learning, Teaching & Leadership Research Group, & School of Education

Dr Deborah Green is a research-active teaching academic who investigates within and across a range of fields including: bullying, cyberbullying, belonging, well-being, resilience, inclusive education, educational psychology, and Humanities and Social Science education.



Dr Bin Guan

Future Industries Institute

Dr Bin Guan is a chemist who investigates the application of porous silicon based materials in detecting various bio-targets or biomarkers in cell therapy and diagnosis. Bin's current research focuses on developing porous silicon biosensors for bacteria detection.



Dr James Herbert

Australian Centre for Child Protection

Dr James Herbert is a social researcher and evaluator focused on the development, implementation, and delivery of effective social programs. In particular his research focuses on the interaction of criminal justice, child protection, and mental health systems in responding to children affected by abuse.



Dr Natasha Howard

Centre for Population Health Research, & School of Health Sciences

Dr Natasha Howard is a health geographer who investigates social, cultural and environmental determinants of health and wellbeing. Natasha has interests in access to health services and health prevention within marginalised populations including refugee, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, elderly and low socioeconomic populations.



Dr Elisabeth Huynh

Institute for Choice

Dr Elisabeth Huynh is a choice modeler and health economist who is interested in how individuals and decision makers in the health sector make choices and what motivates their choices: in particular, understanding choices in complex interventions and systems, such as end-of-life decision making, ageing, health and development, and participation decisions of patient and health service providers.



Dr Zahied Johan

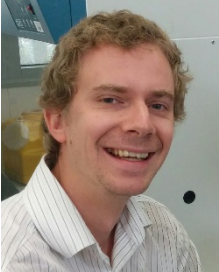
Centre for Cancer Biology

Dr Zahied Johan is a medical researcher with interests in cell immunology and cancer biology. Zahied's current project involves studying a cell surface molecule as a new potential treatment for multiple myeloma.



Dr Rajibul Karim
School of Natural & Built Environments

Dr Rajibul Karim is a Geotechnical Engineer and has worked in the areas of Soft Soil Engineering, Ground improvement, atmosphere-soil and soil structure interaction problems. Dr Karim has expertise in both numerical and constitutive modelling of soils behaviour.



Dr Giles Kirby
Future Industries Institute

Dr Giles Kirby is a tissue engineer with a special interest in wound healing. Giles' previous focus was bone regeneration and now he is interested in chronic skin wounds. Giles' considers himself a free-thinker and problems solver with a passion for both the technical and the human sides of medicine.



Dr David Kroll
Zero Waste Centre, & School of Art, Architecture & Design

Dr David Kroll qualified as an architect in the UK and has a background in practice, academic teaching and research. David's research focuses on housing related topics, exploring historical and theoretical perspectives, as well as contemporary issues and technologies.



Dr Steve Leib
School of Engineering

Dr Steve Leib is an aviation social science researcher who uses communication theory to investigate the relationship between global standardization and cultural environment. Specifically Steve looks at how global aviation regulations are constrained by different cultural environments and the implications to our assessment of their compliance.



Dr Danica Liu
Centre for Workplace Excellence, & UniSA Business School (Management)

Dr Danica Liu is a psychologist who investigates gender diversity in the workplace. Danica's current projects are addressing the effect of gender in employment negotiations, and the impact of regulatory and policy changes on organisational gender diversity. Particular focus is on individual and group perceptions and/or attitudes to gender diversity in the workplace.



Dr Braam Lowies
Aged Care & Housing Research Group, & UniSA Business School (Commerce)

Dr Braam Lowies is a property and finance academic who investigates human behaviour, its aspects and its influences on investment decisions made by different investor types: in particular the ageing population and their housing needs, young adults and their financial behaviour and, property owners and investors and their heuristic-driven biases.



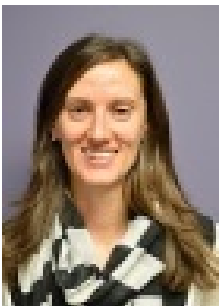
Dr Joe McIntyre
UniSA Business School (Law)

Dr Joe McIntyre is a judicial theorist who examines the role of the judiciary in society, and explores how these vital institutions may be strengthened and reformed to enable them to better perform this role. Joe draws on this theoretical foundation to provide conceptual clarity in respect of the examination of concrete issues such as judicial appointments, dissent, accountability and performance evaluations, as well as broader issue such as civil procedure reform.



Dr Naomi Merritt
School of Art, Architecture & Design

Dr Naomi Merritt is an art historian and cultural theorist who investigates the ideologies that inform visual culture and art. Naomi is interested in the ways that visual culture and art shape the way we perceive the world, other people, and our own identity, and how artists critique these processes. Naomi has a particular interest in photography and cinema.



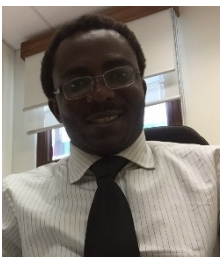
Dr Lisa O'Keeffe
STeM Education Research Group, & School of Education

Dr Lisa O'Keeffe is a mathematics educator and researcher investigating resources and mathematics textbook use in Upper Primary and Secondary schooling. Lisa's research interests lie in Mathematics text analysis, the language of mathematics, problem solving and mathematical thinking; with a special interest in the notion of Numeracy and Numeracy Assessment in the 21st century.



Dr Fiona O'Neill
Research Centre for Languages & Cultures, & School of Communication, International Studies & Languages

Dr Fiona O'Neill is an applied linguist who investigates the role of languages, cultures, communication and intercultural capabilities in contexts of linguistic and cultural diversity, in learning, social and professional contexts (in particular education and healthcare). Fiona has prior professional experience in both healthcare (as a registered nurse/midwife) and education (as an EAL/English as an additional language teacher), both of which have provided her with understandings, knowledge and expertise that has enhanced her research capabilities.



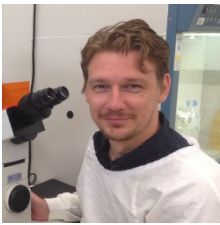
Dr Olasupo Owoeye
UniSA Business School (Law)

Dr Olasupo Owoeye is a law academic with research interest in international intellectual property law and international trade law and how these international frameworks affect the development interests of developing countries especially in Africa. Olasupo's research seeks to explore how to balance IP rights and trade obligations with the right to development.



Dr Mia Rahim
UniSA Business School (Law)

Dr Mia Rahim is a legal researcher who investigates the approaches in legal regulations and their impacts over the self-regulation strategies (mostly related to the social responsibility performance) of the corporations.



Dr Nick Rogers

Future Industries Institute: Whittle Laboratories

Dr Nick Rogers is a biochemist with a focus on stem cell biology. Nick spent the initial years of his post-doctoral career using surface modifications to increase stem cell production for the cell therapy manufacturing cooperative research centre. Nick is keenly interested in the application of current material science techniques to improve therapeutic viability of stem cell cultures.



Dr Rebecca Sharp

Cancer Care Research Group, & School of Nursing & Midwifery

Vascular access devices are an integral part of contemporary healthcare, used to deliver intravenous treatment for many patient groups. The use of these devices is increasing worldwide to facilitate both hospital and community treatment. However, the device itself may increase the risk of morbidity and mortality for these patients. Dr Rebecca Sharp is interested in reducing adverse events associated with these devices to improve patient outcomes.



Dr Ben Stubbs

Journalism Research Group, & School of Communication, International Studies & Languages

Dr Ben Stubbs is a travel writer and travel writing scholar who investigates the plurality of the form: in particular Ben's focus is on modern ethical considerations, extending the "learned judgements" in the field to explore how it can advance understanding of culture and place and to examine its growing importance within journalism. To explore this area Ben combines traditional academic output (with three book chapters and a journal article published or accepted for 2015/2016) with non-traditional output (Ben has had three research and immersion essays produced for Australian writing journals in 2015). Ben is also writing a book on nocturnal travel writing which will be published by Signal Books (UK, Spain and USA) in 2016 and this will combine his interest in plurality of travel writing and its intersections with ethnography, cultural difference and transformation.



Dr Ryan Tang

UniSA Business School (Commerce)

As a researcher in international business domain, Dr Ryan Tang investigates firms' decisions on internationalisation and the effects of experiential learning on these decisions. In doing so, Ryan employs a variety of quantitative methods to examine data collected through experiments as well as from large secondary databases.



Dr Paul Unsworth

STEM Education, Centre for Research in Education, & School of Education

Dr Paul Unsworth is an educator/ECR who has a background in Indigenous education and STEM. Paul's current focus is Mathematics Education with regard to Early Childhood Education and Primary Education. Investigating the interface between preschool and primary Mathematics Education (Curriculum & Pedagogy) and locating this research around, but not limited to, Pre-Service Teacher Education will become a research focus. Another area of research interest includes investigation and analysis of student's uptake and engagement in STEM in the Primary and Middle Years of schooling, particularly in schools with high populations of Indigenous students (rural & remote).



Dr Gisela Van Kessel

Alliance for Research in Exercise, Nutrition & Activity, & International Centre for Allied Health Evidence, & School of Health Sciences

Dr Gisela Van Kessel works in the area of health promotion and investigates the development of environments that support health behaviour change; in particular, environments that support choice and control of individual decision making processes.



Dr Akshay Vij

Institute for Choice

Dr Akshay Vij is an econometrician who develops statistical models of individual behaviour that can be used to understand and predict the current and future demand for different goods and services. In the past Akshay's research has looked specifically at transportation and land use behaviour, but he is currently pursuing applications in other behavioural domains as well, such as water consumption, energy use, technology adoption, etc.



Dr Tom Wycherley

Public Health Research Group, & School of Health Sciences

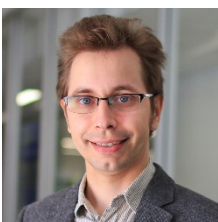
Dr Tom Wycherley is a NHMRC Early Career Fellow with a background in nutrition and exercise science. Tom's research focus is on evaluating nutrition intervention strategies for improving cardio-metabolic health outcomes. Tom has a particular focus on improving nutrition in remote Indigenous Australian communities.



Dr Ang Zhou

Centre for Population Health, & School of Health Sciences

Dr Ang Zhou is a medical researcher, who uses genetic epidemiological approaches, including Mendelian randomisation and gene-environment interactions to inform on dietary and lifestyle strategies for optimal health of individuals.



Dr Kamil Zuber

Future Industries Institute

Dr Kamil Zuber is a material scientist investigating and developing thin film coating for optical applications, such as decorative reflective, and colour changing coatings. Kamil focuses on translational research bringing academic knowledge into the real world applications to assist the growth of local and international advanced manufacturing industries.