Looking back on 2020, a strange and challenging year, MUARC staff and students have my sincere respect and commendation; not just for surviving, but for continuing to achieve the things we do so well. In this year of the pandemic, the Centre has delivered research evidence and advice to governments and industry, mentored a new cohort of PhD graduates and continued to deliver positive safety benefits for our community. Reflecting on just some of the highlights and notable events across the year:

**2020 HIGHLIGHTS**

- **SYSTEMS SAFETY**
  - Secured large-scale grants from Australian Automobile Association, ACT Road Safety Trust and Australian-French Association for Research and Innovation
  - Working with industry and government stakeholders to optimise workplace road safety
  - Designed two research projects with WonSaFe Victoria on systems thinking approaches to reduce workplace violence and work-related driving crashes in light vehicles
  - Secured funding to extend Patient Handling Injuries: Review of Systems (PHIRES) project through an app-based Systems Thinking Incident Review (STIR) toolkit

- **REGULATION AND IN-DEPTH CRASH INVESTIGATION**
  - Held media event for results of Advanced Safe Truck Concept. Papers submitted to multiple journals and conferences
  - Completed report on crash reduction benefits of the fitment of Acoustic Vehicle Warning Systems, commissioned by Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development
  - Three reports completed on illicit drugs and driving
  - Undertook commissioned analysis of the safety of Transurban's road assets in Australia

- **STUDENTS**
  - Twelve students successfully completed milestones
  - Eleven contributed to publications, including nine as first author
  - Four PhD candidates were confirmed
  - Launched the Injury Prevention Graduate Research Industry Partnership (IP-GRIP)

- **MONASH UNIVERSITY DISASTER RESILIENCE INITIATIVE**
  - Taught graduate unit Guiding Principles for Professionals Engaged in Disasters and Humanitarian Crises
  - Led successful community grant to develop an ecological approach to ascertain priorities and management of fuel with Beaconsfield Upper community and Department of Environment Land & Water

- **TRAFFIC ENGINEERING AND VEHICLE SAFETY**
  - Finalised benefit modelling for Victorian Road Strategy (2021 to 2025)
  - Webinar conducted during 64th AAAM Conference on road safety challenges in low- and middle-income countries over the upcoming decade
  - Evaluation of Raised Safety Platform project (in collaboration with ARRB Transport) completed, successful webinar held with more than 85 attendees

- **MONASH UNIVERSITY TRAFFIC SAFETY INSTITUTE**
  - Completed world-first evaluation of the impacts of roadside dux and alcohol testing of vehicle controllers on drug and alcohol presence in crash-involved controllers
  - Published first broad real-world crash-based evaluation of the effectiveness of whispalash-reducing head restraint systems across a wide range of applications in vehicle fleet
  - Completed comprehensive study for the Country Fire Authority identifying key risk factors associated with the risk and severity of non-residential fires in Victoria

Final stage of MICIMS motorcycle in-depth study examined road environment-related crash risk factors for motorcyclists

During a year when the university was seriously challenged on multiple fronts, I acknowledge the achievements of MUARC staff and students who generously accommodated work and study into their homes. My personal thanks to all staff and students for your exceptional efforts during 2020; to our Advisory Council for their expert advice; and Professor Rebekeh Brown, for her steadfast support to the Centre, in her role as Senior Vice Provost (Research).

Professor Judith Charlton, Director, Monash University Accident Research Centre
**EXCELLENT**

Launched MUARC-led Injury Prevention Graduate Research Industry Partnership with seven industry partners and Faculty links

Adjunct Professor Peter Vulcan AM honoured by Institute of Transportation Engineers for “Contribution to the Transport Profession”

**$8m Enhanced Crash Investigation Study** released first report

15 Major grants and tenders each valued at more than $100,000

OVER 50 Major research reports, projects, publications

**ENTERPRISING**

Submissions to Government Inquiries: Victorian and National bushfires; NSW trauma on local roads; and contributed to National Strategy development: National Preventive Health Strategy; National, Victorian, and NSW Road Safety Strategies

Engaged with colleagues across Monash through the Melbourne Experiment, coursework contributions in the Faculty of Arts, Monash Heart Institute, Provost’s Research Strategy Group, and Vice Chancellor’s Leadership Summit

New host of the National Road Safety Partnership Program (NRSPP) with over 130 new industry partners

**INTERNATIONAL**

Refreshed links with IFSTTAR/Universte Gustave Eiffel with new H2020 project called City Lab and contributed to other H2020 transport projects IDREAMS, Drive2Future and VIRTUAL

WHO Collaborating Centre for Injury and Violence Prevention achieved global status

Represented at Global Ministerial Road Safety Summit in Sweden

**INCLUSIVE**

Continuing provision of a supportive and stimulating academic and work environment for research and professional staff and Graduate Research students

Upgrade of Graduate Research students’ offices and meeting room and staff/student IT conferencing facilities

Establishment of Staff Consultative Forum and improved social connectedness and flexibility to accommodate pandemic working from home conditions

Early Career Research offered a purpose-developed workshop program, career mentoring, and manuscript, grant writing and seeding grant support

**FURTHER INFORMATION**

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