



Edition #01

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome to our inaugural Turner Institute for Brain and Mental Health newsletter!



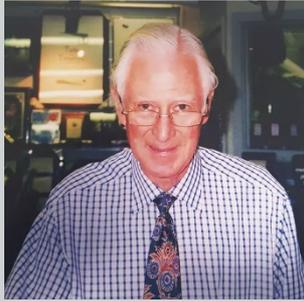
We have officially launched as the Turner Institute for Brain and Mental Health on July 2nd.

Based at Brain Park and hosted by the Vice-Chancellor Professor Margaret Gardiner AO, over 250 people gathered to celebrate the transformational gift that will shape the mental health landscape in Australia and globally. We are very proud to have this opportunity to translate discovery to clinical and community impact. More details on this overwhelmingly successful event are below. In more great news, six of our outstanding researchers have been awarded prestigious NHMRC Investigator Grants – totalling \$7.6M. This reflects the breadth of talent in the Institute and our commitment to bringing discoveries into translation for the benefit of all. Read below profiles of each of the six researchers. Finally, we introduce our strategic initiatives that will define the Turner Institute over the next decade across our clinical, community and industry portfolios.

Professor Kim Cornish BSc (Hons) PhD FASSA
Director, Turner Institute for Brain and Mental Health

I acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands on which I live and work and pay my respect to Elders both past and present

Launching Australia's next generation institute for brain and mental health



On July 2nd, The Turner Institute was launched to over 250 guests that included the trustees of the David Winston Turner Endowment Fund, senior members from the University and Faculty of Medicine, Health Sciences and Nursing, as well as community and clinical leaders and government officials.

The event opened with the Honorable Jenny Mikakos, Minister for Health and Ambulance Services highlighting the need to invest in early interventions to reduce the personal and economic burden of mental health in our community and concluded with the Honorable Jeff Kennett AC, reflecting on the importance of philanthropy in developing new treatments that can be brought to scale and change lives. The launch marks a new era of translational brain and mental health research in Australia that will have a sustained impact across the lifespan.

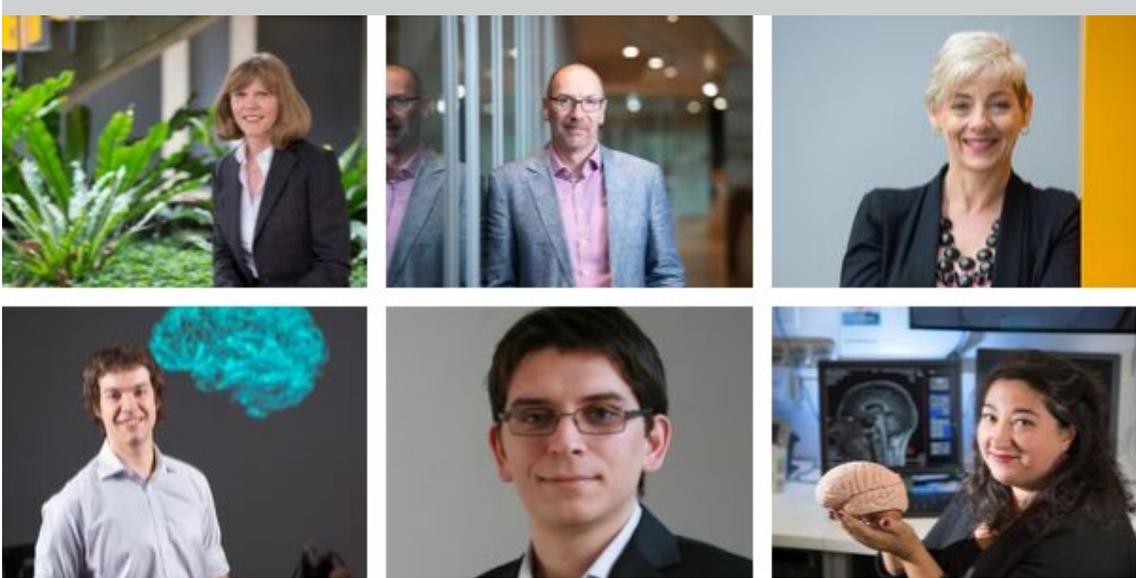


Turner success in NHMRC Investigator Grants

In an extraordinary round of funding achievement, Turner Institute researchers have secured over \$7.6m in NHMRC Investigator Awards announced last week. Six researchers, from junior to senior levels, secured funding with a remarkable success rate of 50%. Projects reflected the Turner core research strengths in brain mapping and modelling, neurodevelopment, ageing and neurodegeneration, brain injury and rehabilitation, and depression and sleep.

Congratulations to Professors Jennie Ponsford, Peter Anderson and Julie Stout, and to Drs Sharna Jamadar, Josh Wiley and Phil Ward.

[Read more...](#)



New Turner Clinics: Shaping treatments for long term impact

As part of the Turner Institute's commitment to providing the community with access to our cutting-edge research discoveries, the Turner clinics provide an integral community interface. Turner clinics range from generalised brain and mental health clinics able to assess a broad range of disorders, to our specialised clinics that develop cutting-edge assessment and intervention methods for specific community needs that align with our research strengths. The clinics facilitate access to high quality, evidence-based services including assessment, prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation to the community.

Overseen by Professor Shantha Rajaratnam, the Turner clinics facilitate innovative research and research translation activities to benefit clinical science and also providing high quality training for the next generation of healthcare professionals, in particular clinical psychologists and clinical neuropsychologists. Specialised clinics are being developed in partnership with our affiliated health services including Epworth and Monash Health.

Aligned to our digital mental health strategy, the Turner clinics provide a platform to implement and test assessment and intervention methods utilising novel technologies and state-of-the-art digital health tools. These tools can be personalised and customised to fit the needs of the individual through a medium that is accessible, innovative and evidence-based.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community at the heart of the new institute portfolio

The Turner Institute is dedicated to making a significant and enduring community impact. Integral to our vision is early and authentic engagement with community partners to ensure we deliver treatments with meaningful impact. Community engagement is also critical if we are to efficiently translate developments in neuroscience research into effective treatments, policies and practice while minimising harms.

Leading this initiative is Associate Professor Adrian Carter, the Turner's inaugural Director of Community Engagement and Neuroethics. Adrian's role will be to bring together experts, across disciplines, to create a world-class hub at Monash in community-centred discovery research and translation. Joining Adrian is Dr Andrew Dawson as senior strategic advisor (government and community relations).

"Our vision is to be a national and international leader in the responsible innovation and governance in neuroscience and digital technologies," explains Adrian.

This new portfolio aims to engage with all sectors of the community, including patients, families, the clinical community, the general public, industry, and other relevant stakeholders, to identify and develop technologies and conduct cutting-edge research that meets the needs of those affected by mental, developmental and neurological disorders.



Associate Professor
Adrian Carter



Dr Andrew Dawson

INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT

Breaking barriers between industry and digital mental health

The Turner Institute seeks to advance industry research partnerships to ensure that the transition from basic discovery to impact is seamless and sustainable. In the newly established Turner Industry Engagement and Translation Council we will continue to build close industry ties and explore opportunities for commercial translation in the ever evolving world of digital mental health.

The Council Board members have been chosen to reflect a broad array of expertise in the healthcare sector both nationally and internationally.

[Read more...](#)



EVENTS



PYJAMA FUN RUN: Supporting Sleep Health - 27th October 2019

Come along and participate in this fun filled event (wearing your PJs!) and support your own sleep health, and the health of our community. All funds raised will support the Monash Health Lung and Sleep department, and help purchase special machines to help people with sleep apnoea. These funds will also support research projects to better understand and promote sleep health.

All colleagues, families, friends are welcome to participate!

Date: Sunday 27th October 2019

Walk/Run Start Time: 10.30am (Registrations Open 8.00am)

Location: Princes Park, Carlton Melbourne

Click [here](https://pyjamafunrun.org) for more information and to register/donate



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BRAIN AND
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