

Billboard

ECR PROFILES WANTED!

Are you interested in promoting your current work to fellow ECRs? Ever thought about publishing your profile in the ECRTimes?

Profiling yourself allows others to hear about your work and achievements and may even lead to new collaborations and friendships.

Email us at
ecr.AMREP@monash.edu

COMMENTS/ FEEDBACK?

Want to advertise an event in the precinct? Won an award or have published a paper?

Email us at
ecr.AMREP@monash.edu

ABOUT ECRTIMES

ECRTIMES is the quarterly e-newsletter of the early career researchers of Central Clinical School, Monash University.

ECRTIMES 05 is prepared by Megan Crane and Lachlan Gray



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2nd Annual ECR Retreat

The ECR Committee are pleased to invite you to the 2nd annual ECR retreat. This is a fully funded two-day retreat set in Kalorama, part of the tranquil Dandenong ranges.

This year's retreat program promises an informative two days beginning with keynote lectures from invited speakers on "Postdoctoral experiences: Does working overseas boost your career?". The keynote session will be followed by a series of Lab focused presentations over the next two days and will highlight expertise and technical know-how to enhance networking amongst ECRs.

On the second day there will be an externally facilitated workshop on "Defeating self sabotage".

Additionally there will be opportunities to get to know your fellow ECRs in a fun and relaxing atmosphere while you undertake fun and exciting group activities. These will take the form of a 'Mini-Olympics', and a 'Murder Mystery Dinner'.

The retreat workshop promises to be a highlight. 'Defeating self-sabotage' will be run by Hugh Kearns from Thinkwell (ithinkwell.com.au) and is designed as a Masterclass.

This program provides practical strategies to deal with common problems such as:

- procrastination and perfectionism

- writer's block or putting off writing
- obsessing over the quality of writing
- experimenting or reading (for years even) as a way of avoiding writing
- getting distracted and overcommitting rather than working on your research
- thinking your research has to be the best ever
- not getting help even when stuck or obviously needing it

Following on from a successful Murder Mystery Dinner last year, Darren McCubbin from The Murder Company will be hosting a similar event this year. This year's theme is 'Dressed to Kill'. Leading fashion designer "JR Brewing" has been murdered at the release of the "New Black" collection sending the cat-walks into a frenzy. Perhaps he finally pushed somebody too far? A comic mystery of big shoulder pads, big hair and big characters set in the outrageous eighties. Featuring a fashion parade, plenty of eighties music and a Teenage Ninja Turtle, find out who killed "JR".

So make sure you register today if you haven't already and if you need a registration form just email us: ecr.AMREP@monash.edu.

Our ECR in Fresh Science

Your representative's contact details

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Lachlan Gray was selected as a finalist in the Fresh Science initiative for 2011. The program allows early career researchers who've made a discovery, the opportunity to receive some media training and produce a media release of their work. The Fresh Science 2011 week ran from Mon 6th – Thu 9th June and included a full program of exciting activities. The media training was conducted on the first day with the 16 Fresh Science finalists from around Australia, better known as 'Freshies', meeting with journalists from TV, newspaper and radio. Freshies were given a better understanding of how each arm of the media is different and the ways that

they operate. On Monday night, Freshies gathered at the Duke of Kent in the Melbourne CBD for Science @ the Pub. Other activities during the week included trips to regional Victoria (Ballarat, Bendigo or Geelong) to give short presentations to year 8, 9, and 10 students, with additional presentations at the Melbourne Museum to Melbourne-based school students. There was a sit down dinner on Tuesday night at the Museum with various professionals from the scientific community and finally some talks with government and industry representatives on the final day. Overall, Lachlan found it to be a great experience, providing him with lots of information to aid him in dealing with the media in the future. More



importantly it also provided some inspiration for secondary students interested in pursuing science at the tertiary level. For more info check out, <http://freshscience.org.au>

NHMRC Budget saved!

Thanks to everyone who took part in the public rallies that were organised to voice our concerns over the proposed cuts to the NHMRC budget. All your hard work making posters, placards, and other signs and more importantly your attendance at the rally had the outcome we were all hoping for. The Gillard government thought better than to cut the NHMRC Budget, instead it retained the current funding level with a slight adjustment for indexation. Thanks also to those of you who took the time to write to your local and federal members of parliament to make them aware of the predicament we were facing if the rumoured cuts eventuated.

The Discoveries Need Dollars campaign and website was instrumental in organising and promoting the united scientific voice against NHMRC budget cuts.



ECR Spotlight

Fellowships

Congratulations to **Megan Crane** and **Suha Saleh** who were both awarded with fellowships from the American Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR). The fellowships will provide them with funding for two years for their current projects.

PhD Thesis

Congratulations to **Evelyn Tsantikos** from the Leukocyte Signalling Lab (Margaret Hibbs) who recently had her PhD Thesis passed. The title of her thesis is 'Dissecting autoimmune disease susceptibility in Lyn-deficient mice'.

Awards

Congratulations to **Tara Bull** (3rd Year PhD) who was recently awarded the 'Bristol-Myers Squibb Young Investigator Award' from the Transplant Society of Australia and New Zealand.

Congratulations to **Perdita Cheshire** who was recently awarded the prize for best early career researcher presentation at the Neurobiology of Dementia, Wicking Dementia Research School, The Menzies Research Institute, Tasmania.

Congratulations to **Megan Crane** who was recently awarded a CCS Travel Grant to attend the Asia Pacific Association for the Study of the Liver (APASL) Single topic conference (HBV), Beijing, China and the International meeting of the Molecular Biology of HBV, Florida, USA.

Congratulations to **Michael Roche**, **Anna Maisa** and **Suha Saleh** who were all awarded with prizes for their presentations at the recent Australian Centre for HIV & Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH₂) Workshop.

Congratulations to **Lachlan Gray** who was recently awarded an International AIDS Society Scholarship and a Monash SOBS Travel Grant to attend the 6th IAS Conference in Rome, Italy, July 2011.

Upcoming CCS ECR Seminars

Want to develop your writing skills? Need help with your CV?

The CCS ECR committee is pleased to present an interactive writing skills workshop on Thu 4th August 2011 from 1-3pm in the Level 5 Alfred Centre Lecture Theatre.

Speakers:

Lynda Rohan, Careers Education Consultant with Monash, Clayton will be presenting a 1-hour workshop on CV writing techniques (1-2pm)

Dr Tomas Zahora, Learning Skills Advisor, Monash University will be presenting a 1-hour workshop on paper writing skills (2-3pm)

For other upcoming seminars please see:

<http://www.med.monash.edu.au/ccs/headlines/events-calendar.html>)

NEWS AND EVENTS

ECR SEMINAR PROGRAM

This year we have a dedicated timeslot for the ECR Seminar Series. The seminars run fortnightly and are held on a Thursday lunchtime, 1-2pm (with lunch supplied at 12:30pm). Join us in the Level 5 Alfred Centre Lecture theatre for a range of talks covering research from ECRs, seminars on career planning, media training, to information sessions from the Monash Research Office.

AWARDS, PRIZES, PHD THESIS & PAPERS

Have you recently won any awards or prizes for your work, had a PhD Thesis passed or had a paper published? If so we'd love to hear from you. Drop us an email with the details and we'll include it in an upcoming newsletter.

Email us at
ecr.AMREP@monash.edu

MRO e-RESOURCES

INFORMATIVE ECR PORTAL:

<http://intranet.monash.edu.au/research/ecr/>

ECR-TARGETED SCHEMES:

<http://www.monash.edu.au/research/hoffice/fod/ecr-schemes.php>

PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS & PRIZES:

<http://www.monash.edu.au/research/hoffice/prestige/awards.html>

RESEARCHERS' ONLINE PROJECTS

ENQUIRY SYSTEM (ROPES):

<http://www.monash.edu/researchoffice/ropes>