

# Annual Report 2008

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## 1. Rehabilitation and Disability Research Theme

### 2. Theme Personnel

#### Active Management Group

Director Professor David Baxter, School of Physiotherapy  
Members: Dr Stephan Milosavljevic, School of Physiotherapy  
Dr Sarah Dean, Rehabilitation Teaching and Research Unit  
Dr Sarah Derrett, Injury Prevention Research Unit  
Dr Leigh Hale, School of Physiotherapy  
Dr Sally Keeling, Care of the Elderly  
Dr Brigit Mirfin-Veitch, Donald Beasley Institute  
Anne Sinnott, Rehabilitation Teaching and Research Unit  
Dr Gareth Treharne, Department of Psychology  
Julian Verkaaik, Burwood Academy for Independent Living  
Dr Debra Waters, Preventive and Social Medicine  
Dr Lisa Whitehead, Centre for Postgraduate Nursing  
Dr Linda Wilson, Occupational Therapy, Otago Polytechnic

#### Theme Members (kept informed, but don't attend meetings)

Members: Professor John Langley, Injury Prevention Research Unit  
Professor John Campbell, Geriatric Medicine, Dunedin Medical and Surgical Sciences  
Dr Michele Coleman, Research and Development Manager  
Lynda McCutcheon, Otago District Health Board  
Dr Linda Robertson, Occupational Therapy, Otago Polytechnic

## 3. Research Centre or Research Theme objectives, including 2008 objectives

- Forming a stakeholder group  
A stakeholder group has yet to be instituted for the Theme as was planned for 2008. However wider invitation to all three colloquia has proven successful and has seen people from advocacy groups, government departments and CRIs, etc attending. Members of the management group with experience in this area will be setting up the stakeholder group before mid-2009.
- New members and associations  
The Management Group had some additions this year: Anne Sinnott, Sally Keeling, Gareth Treharne, Debra Waters and recently Motohide Miyahara. Brigit Mirfin-Veitch has also joined the Theme after the sad passing of Anne Bray in mid-2008. It was felt that further additions could also be made in 2009, including Michael MacAskill (from the Van der Veer Institute) and a member from Industrial Research Limited.
- Further development of research meetings  
The meetings held in 2008 proved useful and welcomed new members and the wider community to showcase work being done by the Theme. These activities were felt to be key to further promoting the Theme and directing research in a focused manner. The meeting days in Wellington and Christchurch were planned on a large scale and the colloquium in Dunedin will again aim to increase its audience and attract a greater number of distinguished external speakers

4. Research Centre or Research Theme personnel

Research Administrator: Emma Tumilty, School of Physiotherapy

5. Summarise evidence to show that the Centre of Theme has been meeting its objectives over the last three years

The Theme is currently in its second year – it's objectives this year have mostly been met with the expansion of the management group and further additions currently being made; the colloquia in Christchurch and Wellington were organised on a slightly larger scale (30+ in Wellington) with members from the ACC and CRIs attending and attendees found them useful and productive; the stakeholder group is the only objective yet to be completed and plans are under way to have this accomplished in early 2009 by management group members with experience in this area.

6. Research Centre or Research Theme activities during 2008

- *Research Accomplishments*
  - *successful bid for ACC NIDMAR tender (2007 submission)*
  - *successful applications to the HRC (2007 submission)*
  - *combined submission for ACC tender*
  - *collaborative submissions to HRC*
  - *collaborative submission to Lottery Health*
- *Postgraduate activities*
  - *student presentations have been included at each colloquium*
  - *collaborative supervisory teams have increased this year (4+)*
  - *Disability Placement Programme Scholarships were received by two students with team applications and collaborative supervisory teams from the management group.*
- *Links and collaborations –including communication with other groups*
  - *Van der Veer Institute*
  - *Industrial Research Ltd*
  - *International links, e.g. University of Sydney, Spinalis, University of Waterloo, University of Alberta, University of Umeå, Griffith University*
- *Visitors and seminars*
  - Prof. Roger Stancliffe, University of Sydney*
  - Anna-Carin Langström, Spinalis*
- *Public lectures*
  - Appendix 1 – Colloquia List of Speakers
- *Research Centre or Research Theme meetings*
  - The Theme held three colloquia (last occurring on 4/5<sup>th</sup> December) and the management group met on six occasions.
- *Research Awards*
  - Trudi Conway
    - “Exploration of the experiences and perceptions of spinal cord injured people who attend outdoor recreational programmes”*
  - Blair Cross
    - “Beliefs about movement: a survey for occupational therapists working with people with low back pain”*
  - Paul Hendrick

*“Associations between physical activity and functional recovery in low back pain”*

- Dr Craig Wassinger

*“Reliability and Precision of Assessing Shoulder Proprioception using an Isokinetic Device”*

7. Activity related expenditure during 2008:

Items	Expenditure	Actual
<b>1 Research Administrator</b>	<b>5000</b>	<b>5000</b>
<b>2 Grant Preparation</b>	<b>8000</b>	<b>6475.40</b>
<b>3 Networking Meetings</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>1967.99</b>
<b>4 Research Conference</b>	<b>10000</b>	
- Dunedin Colloquium	(7000)	Scheduled 4-5/12/08
- Wellington Meeting Day	(1500)	2058
- Christchurch Meeting Day	(1500)	638
<b>Total</b>	<b>25000</b>	

This budget is not final as the last colloquium for the year is currently being arranged and so some travel money and colloquium costs have not yet been invoiced.

## Management Plan and Budget 2009 (format)

1. Rehabilitation and Disability Research Theme
2. Research Centre or Research Theme mission



Mission Statement

3. Objectives (planned activities) for 2009
  - In line with the plans for 2012 of making the annual colloquium a self-sufficient conference-sized meeting, the Theme will aim to hold the next annual colloquium for 150+ people and again attract international speakers, trade displays, etc.
  - Development of generic project proposals (e.g. literature reviews or evaluation projects) in order to provide faster, higher quality responses to quick turn-around tenders within the field. This will be aided by up to two management group meetings held in 2009 purely for the purpose of writing rather than general business.
  - Support structure development to enable research activity, such as a mini-directory, stakeholder group, etc.

4. Management Structure including name of Director and Steering Group members etc

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Dr Leigh Hale, School of Physiotherapy  
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Lynda McCutcheon, Otago District Health Board  
Dr Linda Robertson, Occupational Therapy, Otago Polytechnic

Proposed additions Motohide Miyahara (already in place), Michael MacAskill (Van der Veer Institute, Christchurch), Member of IRL.

5. Proposed budget for 2009 (list each item and budgeted expenditure to a maximum of \$25,000)

Items	Expenditure
<b>1 Research Administrator</b>	<b>5000</b>
<b>2 Grant Preparation</b>	<b>8000</b>
<b>3 Networking Meetings</b>	<b>2000</b>
<b>4 Research Conference</b>	<b>10000</b>
- <b>Dunedin Colloquium</b>	<b>(7000)</b>
- <b>Wellington Meeting Day</b>	<b>(1500)</b>
- <b>Christchurch Meeting Day</b>	<b>(1500)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>25000</b>

#### 6. Justification

We have not altered our budget from 2008, as the money was felt to be well allocated and utilised in 2008. We will continue the small awards for pilot work and still require the administrative support. The funds allocated to the colloquia are vital to their sustained growth and attracting varied speakers, etc. The funds allocated to network meetings will be critical this year. Where as in the past these funds have gone to some people attending, some of the meetings at various times so that meetings were a mix of teleconferencing and actual attendance, in 2009, we plan to have up to two “writing” meetings where all members are in attendance, in order to work on collaborative publications and/or grant applications, with all other management meetings over the year conducted via teleconference.

# APPENDIX 1

(# = student presentation)

## Wellington Colloquium Presentations

Dr Mark Weatherall, Rehabilitation Teaching and Research Unit

*“The relationship between impairment in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease and respiratory quality of life, using the St George’s Respiratory Questionnaire”*

William Levack, Rehabilitation Teaching and Research Unit

*“Connecting researchers with the community: the New Zealand Rehabilitation Association website”*

Dr Stephan Milosavljevic, School of Physiotherapy

*“Can we reduce back pain in the rural sector?”*

# Cheryl Hefford

*“The Patient Specific Functional Scale – responsiveness and validity”*

Dr Michael MacAskill, Chief Scientist, Van der Veer Institute for Parkinson's & Brain Research

*“Parkinson's disease rehabilitation: virtual reality check”*

Dr Will Taylor, Rehabilitation Teaching and Research Unit

*“Operationalising the participation concept of the International Classification of Functioning: an example from Psoriatic Arthritis”*

Sheena Hudson, Rehabilitation Teaching and Research Unit

*“Housing accessibility for people with lower limb amputation”*

## Christchurch Colloquium Presentations

Dr Leigh Hale, School of Physiotherapy and Assoc. Prof Debra Waters, Preventive and Social Medicine

*“Community-based falls research”*

Dr Lisa Whitehead, Centre for Postgraduate Nursing

*“Impact of depression on perceived self-efficacy, self-management and expectations for recovery in low back pain”*

# Deborah Snell

*“Facilitating outcome after mild traumatic brain injury-how important are illness/injury beliefs?”*

# Jennifer Dunn

*“Exploring decision making for upper limb surgery in tetraplegia”*

Marcus King –Industrial Research Ltd

*“Measurement and modeling of force and motion during rehabilitation by Industrial Research Ltd.”*

## Dunedin Colloquium Presentations

Anna-Carin Lagerström, Spinalis

*“Health Promotion in Spinal Cord Rehabilitation”*

Dr Holger Regenbrecht, Information Science

*“Video-mediated Reflection Technology in Rehabilitation and Pain Management: Some first Steps”*

Dr Motohide Miyahara, Movement Development Clinic

*“Family Focused Tele-Intervention for Children with Developmental Coordination Disorder: Development and Lessons Learned”*

#Cheryl Hefford

*“The Patient Specific Functional Scale: Responsiveness and Validity in Upper or Lower Limb Muscle Disorders”*

#Sarah Colhoun

*“The Realities of Running a Prospective Study”*

#Laura Wilkinson-Meyers

*“Identifying the needs of disabled people living in the community: Theoretical and Acceptability Issues”*

#Paul Hendrick

*“The Role of Physical Activity in Functional Recovery in a LowBack Pain Cohort: A Longitudinal Analysis”*

#Meredith Perry

*“Low Back Pain – the Graduated Return to Activity”*

#James Black

*“Outcome following injury – A systematic literature search of studies using the EQ-5D”*

Assoc Prof. Roger Stancliffe, University of Sydney

*“Active Support and Participation by Adults with Intellectual Disability”*

Dr Motohide Miyahara, Movement Development Clinic

*“Parental Survey on Intervention for Children with Delayed Movement Development: Preliminary Findings”*

Dr Leigh Hale, School of Physiotherapy

*“Measuring Free-Living Physical Activity with the RT3 Accelerometer”*

Dr Mary Butler, Injury Prevention Research Unit

*“The Ethics of Care Practice”*