

HUMAN RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE

(HREC) MEMBERS

Dr Heather Wellington
HREC Chairperson



Heather is a strong supporter of high-quality health and medical research after training and working as a medical practitioner and medical administrator. This included a role as Director of Medical Services at The Geelong Hospital, before completing a law degree at Deakin University and working as a health sector lawyer with national law firms. She has directed a health consulting business with a focus on healthcare safety and quality and held various director and chair roles, including chairman of the board of directors at Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre for eight years. She is also a past member of the Infertility Treatment Authority and the board of Bio21 Australia.

She has lived in the Geelong region for more than 30 years and currently lives in Barrabool with her partner Ian and is an elected councillor with the Surf Coast Shire.

A/Prof Debra Kerr
HREC Member - Research Experience Category



Debra is a registered nurse with more than 30 years nursing experience across public health services in Melbourne and 8 years employed in the academic setting. She holds a PhD degree, and has post graduate qualifications in 'Tertiary Education' and 'Research Methods' (Graduate Certificate) and 'Business Leadership' (Masters). She has held several senior leadership appointments (e.g., Head of Discipline – Nursing and Honours Coordinator (Victoria University) and chaired several university committees (e.g., HREC, Research and Research Training – VU).

A growing research track record is evident with over 68 peer-reviewed publications and over 60 conference presentations, and strengthening academic supervision and grant success (\$540,770). Maintaining strong links with industry partners, particularly at Western Health, has facilitated collaborative research opportunities. In the past 6 years she has been the recipient of several competitive grants (NSW Health, Nurses Board of Victoria Legacy Limited Grant, National Stroke Foundation).

Her research focuses on knowledge translation (the process of research use) and conducting applied nursing research on strategies that aim to enhance healthcare services. Areas of interest include the process of communication between nurses and patients in clinical contexts, such as bedside nursing handover. Debra has led many evaluations of new processes and/or interventions such as intranasal medication delivery, management of patients with low risk chest pain and weight estimation for paediatrics, aligned with clinical specialities of acute cardiac and emergency nursing. Methodological approaches have predominantly focused on quantitative methods including randomised controlled trials, feasibility studies, audits and surveys.

Dr Olivia King

HREC Member – Research Experience Category



Olivia King is an Allied Health Research and Translation Co-Lead at Barwon Health and South West Healthcare (with Dr Rosalie Boyce). She also holds an Adjunct Research Associate position with the Monash Centre for Scholarship in Health Education (MCSHE). She is a qualified podiatrist and credentialed diabetes educator. She completed her PhD in 2018, which explored the role boundaries and scopes of practice in diabetes education, a post-professional area of clinical practice. She is passionate about developing research capacity in the health sector. She has primarily undertaken qualitative research and her research interests include, interprofessional role boundaries, sociology of the professions and health professions education.

Mr Darryl Towers

HREC Member – Lay Category



Mr Darryl Towers has corporate business experience including over 26 years with Alcoa in Australia. He has broad based international & domestic knowledge developed within metals/materials sales & marketing, transport, supply chain, purchasing & manufacturing environments.

Darryl has been a member of the HREC since mid-2012. He is a Barwon Health Volunteer and Consumer Representative on current governance committees plus a number of other committees, focus groups and WISE.

His qualifications include a Bachelor of Applied Science in Secondary Metallurgy.

Mr Phil Emery

HREC Member – Layperson Category



During a long and varied professional career, Phil has been appointed to a wide range of challenging leadership positions in both science education and business including senior management as General Manager and CEO for a diverse range of local and overseas companies.

Phil has been involved in several important community groups including:

- 2014 to present - Chairman of Barwon Coast Committee of Management
- 2015 to present - Inaugural President of the new Shell Road Pavilion Board of Management - a multipurpose community facility servicing the needs of 5 sporting clubs and the wider community
- 1985 to present – Founder of Ocean Grove Harriers – a local running group that meets every Saturday and which participates in many community events as a group. Known humorously as ‘The Grand Master’

Dr Cameron Osborne

HREC Member – Professional Care Category



Dr Cameron Osborne's first association with University Hospital, Geelong was in the 'last century' as a medical student. He has now been a consultant anaesthetist at Barwon Health since 2008.

Cameron has been the Site Investigator for several large multi-centre anaesthetic trials (ENIGMA 2, POISE 2, and the current RELIEF trial). He has studied biostatistics to certificate level and is now studying echocardiography. Cameron is interested in research because it answers questions to which we simply do not know the answer, and this will hopefully lead to better care. His outside interests include being a Dad and learning piano.

Dr Greg Weeks

HREC Member – Professional Care Category



Dr Greg Weeks is the Director of Pharmacy at Barwon Health and St John of God Hospital. He has current membership of various State and professional committees including the Victorian Therapeutics Advisory Group, and Health Purchasing Victoria Pharmaceuticals Expert Reference Group.

Greg is a researcher with Monash University in the Faculty of Pharmacy, Centre for Medication Use and Safety, and holds a Master of Pharmacy in Clinical Pharmacy, Master of Health Administration, PhD and Fellowship of the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia.

Greg has a special interest in advanced practice roles for hospital pharmacists and is pursuing this interest through research grants involving partnered pharmacist charting and advanced pharmacy practice in community palliative care. Greg has published widely within the pharmacy literature.

Mr Lynsey Blakston

HREC Member – Pastoral Care Category



Mr Lynsey Blakston has ongoing pastoral responsibilities through church leadership he is involved in. This includes a particular project of outreach into the northern suburbs of Geelong through Vines Road Community Centre.

He is also part of the Board of Covenant College in Bell Post Hill where he has grandchildren attending.

Dr Megan Tuner
HREC Member – Professional Care Category



Megan has been a clinical psychologist for 20 years, with a focus on family-inclusive practice and evidence-based treatment for mental health disorders. She is interested in clinician-led research and the translation of research outcomes into clinical practice. Megan works primarily in a clinical education role, supporting the development of postgraduate psychology trainees in their clinical placements and teaching.

Ms Lauren Mahoney
HREC Member – Lay Category



Lauren has worked in the Water Industry for over 14 years undertaking a range of environmental planning, recycled water planning and project management roles. Lauren is currently working as a Senior Project Manager to deliver water, sewerage and recycled water related infrastructure in the Geelong and surrounding region.

Lauren enjoys travel, hiking and spending time with family and friends.

Qualifications – BE (Hons) Environmental Engineering, Graduate Certificate in Social Ecology.

Ms Alison Mitchell
HREC Member – Lawyer Category



Alison is the Practice Manager and a Lawyer at Whyte Just & Moore, practising in the area of wills and estates. Alison studied at Deakin University in Geelong, graduating in 1998 with an honours degree in law and a bachelor degree in commerce.

Alison's areas of legal practice initially included litigation, wills and estates and criminal law, before practising exclusively in family law for several years. During that time, Alison was appointed by Victoria Legal Aid to act as an independent Children's Lawyer, representing children in contentious family law disputes. After spending some time at home with her young family, Alison returned to legal practice and now enjoys the challenges and the ability to assist people with their succession and estate planning.

For more than a decade Alison was a regular volunteer at the Barwon Legal Service, an active member of the Geelong Law Association and the Treasurer of the Association for a number of years.

Alison's interests outside of work include spending time with family and friends, walking, reading and the beach.

Ms Louise Scerri***HREC Member – Layperson Category***



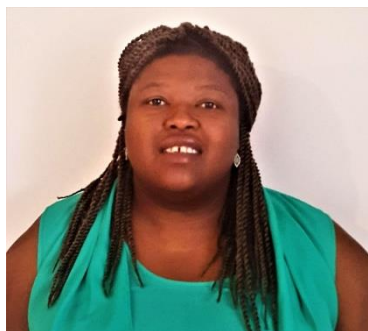
Louise has extensive experience in research management and administration, including grants management, research support and ethics administration (both human and animal). Having initially graduated from RMIT with a Bachelor of Science (Environmental Science), Louise's early career took a different path within the health sector. She now has over 15 years' experience within a health and medical research environment, having held a variety of roles in both the not-for-profit and higher education sectors. Louise has seen first-hand the importance of medical research and the positive impact it can have on peoples' lives, including those close to her, and has developed a passion for supporting this important work. With an enthusiasm to contribute to the responsible conduct of research to advance human health and welfare, ensuring participants' are protected, respected and supported, Louise has recently joined Barwon Health HREC. She is also a lay member of Monash University's HREC, and in her spare time she likes to travel, if not relaxing at home with friends and family.

Dr Ian McKenzie***HREC Member – Professional Category***



Ian McKenzie graduated in Medicine (1961 MBBS) from Melbourne University and trained in Internal Medicine at the Royal Melbourne Hospital at the time when renal transplantation was being established. An MD & MRACP/FRACP followed and a PhD on "Antibodies in Transplantation". Ian then worked at the Mass General Hospital in Boston, and at the Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine USA, where his interest in Lymphocyte Surface antigens developed when working with Dr George Snell (Nobel Prize 1980). On return to Australia in 1974, he worked at the Austin Hospital, established a "Centre of Excellence" in the Department of Pathology at the University of Melbourne and was then, in 1990, appointed as Founding Director of the Austin Research Institute (ARI). His research at the ARI resulted in the formation of Prima Biomed Limited where Ian was a founding Board Member. He was a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of Revivacor (USA) and is an honorary member of the Australian Society for Immunology, Transplant Society of Australia and New Zealand, & International Xenotransplantation Association. Ian's major contributions are described in many papers, covering allo- and xeno-transplantation, cell surface antigens and studies in the diagnosis and therapy of cancer. His laboratory pioneered the application of monoclonal antibody technology in Australia in the 1970's, where hundreds of antibodies were made, especially those detecting more than 40 different cell surface molecules and 15 new genes described in the mouse and humans, including the cloning of many. Several antibodies were used in the clinic, either alone or as immunoconjugates, or were used to develop serum based ELISA tests for breast or ovarian cancer and were successfully licensed. More recently, Ian has been consulting for several biotech companies, particularly those involved in cancer.

Dr Stella May Gwini***HREC Member – Research Experience Category***



Dr StellaMay Gwini is a research methodologist and biostatistician at Barwon Health, based at University Hospital Geelong. Prior to joining Barwon Health three years ago, StellaMay held a Research Fellow position in the Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine at Monash University, based at the Alfred Hospital and the Monash Medical Centre. She has extensive experience in research design and data analysis in both small and large research projects. Her major interests are in appropriate and efficient use of research methods, data analysis tools as well as use of administrative data to improve health services. For over 15 years she has worked in many areas of medicine including paediatrics, surgery, psychiatry/psychology, dietetics, public health, epidemiology, emergency department services and cardiology, to only mention a few.

Ms Jessica Snir***HREC Member – Researcher Category***



Jessica is a current medical student at Deakin University, Waurn Ponds. She holds a Bachelor of Biomedicine (Pharmacology), a Masters of Public Health and a Graduate Certificate in Visual Arts.

Jessica has held various research positions including Clinical Trial Project Officer at the School of Public Health and Preventative Medicine (Monash University), medical research intern at the Dead Sea and Arava Science Centre (Israel) and research assistant at both the Gynaecology Research Centre (Royal Women's hospital) and the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health (University of Melbourne). She has also undertaken an internship position at The Children's Bioethics Centre (The Royal Children's Hospital).

Jessica is also actively involved in science education having worked as a science educator at PrimeSCI! (Swinburne University of Technology), the Gene Technology Access Centre (GTAC) and the Science Gallery Melbourne (The University of Melbourne). In addition, she has written for Cosmos Magazine and is the current host of the Melbourne Medical School's Alumni podcast Chiron.

Ms Katherine Snowden***HREC Member – Professional Care Category***

Katherine is the Oncology Pharmacy Manager at Barwon Health. She graduated from the University of Tasmania with a Bachelor of Science majoring in Psychology and then completed her Bachelor of Pharmacy at Charles Sturt University. Katherine also holds a Master of Health Service Management from the University of Tasmania. Before joining Barwon Health she worked at the Chris O'Brien Lifehouse in Sydney as the Director of Pharmacy.

Ms Jackie Hutchinson***HREC Member – Layperson Category***

Jackie has worked in the Hospitality and Entertainment sector for more than 20 years and has significant experience in the highly regulated gaming industry. Jackie is skilled in robust decision making, has a high regard for all stakeholders and applies good judgement to delivering positive outcomes. Jackie has studied business and leadership at tertiary level and has completed an ethics course in the USA. On a personal note Jackie enjoys time with family and friends, walking/hiking, travel and live entertainment.

Dr Tracey Caulfield***HREC Member – Layperson Category***

Dr Tracey Caulfield is a research librarian who has also served as a lay woman on the Alfred Hospital Human Research Ethics Committee and Sub-Committee. She has an interest in community issues and volunteers with the St Vincent de Paul Society at one of their charity shops which directly supports the welfare services provided to the Geelong community. She also has an interest in medical issues and research developments. Tracey also has a Masters of Archaeological Science to accompany her PhD in English literature.