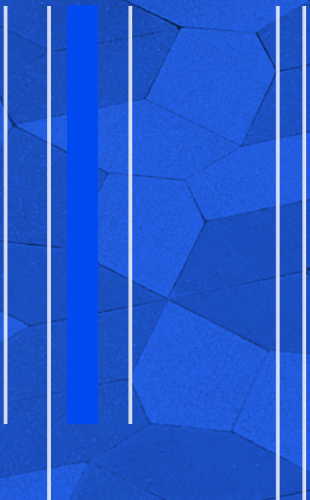


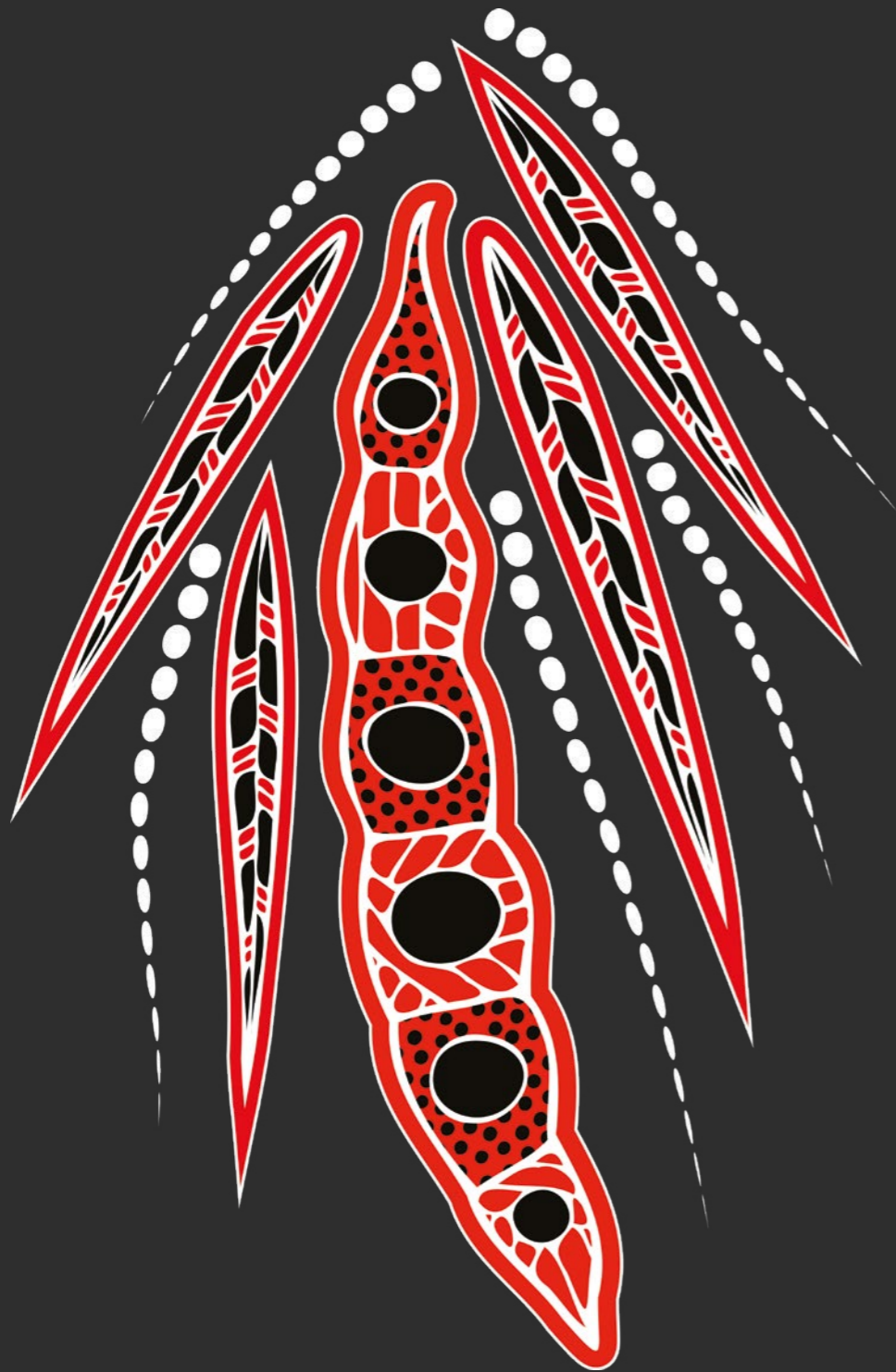
Faculty of Health



School of Public Health

Annual Report 2023





Acknowledgement of Country

UTS acknowledges the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation, the Boorooberongal people of the Dharug Nation, the Bidiagal people and the Gamaygal people upon whose ancestral lands our university stands. We would also like to pay respect to the Elders both past and present, acknowledging them as the traditional custodians of knowledge for these lands.

The Girra Maa wattleseed artwork was produced by Wiradjuri artist Nathan Peckham.



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Our Commitment to Public Health

From the Head of School



Welcome to the Annual Report of the School of Public Health for 2023. It is with great pleasure and pride that we present a synopsis of our endeavours, achievements, and contributions to the academic community and society at large over the past year.

In the pursuit of excellence in teaching, research, and service, our School's members have displayed remarkable dedication, innovation, and resilience. Despite the challenges faced, our collective commitment to academic excellence and advancement has remained firm.

Throughout this report, you will see evidence of the impactful research, ground-breaking discoveries, and transformative educational initiatives spearheaded by our esteemed academics. From fostering collaborative partnerships to engaging in interdisciplinary activities, our academics have continuously strived to push the boundaries of knowledge and make meaningful contributions to addressing societal challenges.

There were some wonderful individual recognitions and accomplishments, such as Professor Faye McMillan (AM FPS) who was awarded a prestigious Commonwealth Fund Harkness Fellowship as well as being re-appointed as Deputy National

Rural Health Commissioner (Allied Health and First Nations Health), Dr Shannon Lin who was awarded the Australian and NSW Diabetes Educator of the Year and Professor Scott Avery who was appointed an Ambassador for International Day of People with Disability.

We recognise the important role our School plays in preparing the next generation of public health leaders through the delivery of innovative education. Guiding our students are our outstanding academics, including Dr Shannon Lin and the Diabetes Education team who won the UTS Academic Support Award 2023 for their work supporting Indigenous diabetes students to promote Indigenous health outcomes. Leading our academics and students towards excellence is Associate Professor Deborah Debono, our new Deputy Head of School (Teaching & Learning). Deborah is an award-winning educator, who is passionate about delivering innovative and practical teaching and learning, integrated with evidence-based research.

Our research efforts reached a historical high this year in terms of grant funding success, with school researchers securing numerous major grants in excess of \$16 million that will allow them to undertake innovative research that addresses issues of social justice and improved health and well-being for people in our community and beyond. We were also highly productive in disseminating our research, exceeding 200 peer-reviewed journal publications for the first time. In addition, our researchers supervised 70 doctoral students, with 14 of the doctoral students being conferred.

Partnerships with industry, the professions and other non-academic partners help us make a difference in our communities. Our academic researchers and students have been collaborating with 200 different partners on initiatives to bring about

improvements in areas such as Aboriginal health, drug and alcohol rehabilitation, HIV and sexual health, disability, diabetes, stroke, cancer, women and children's health, aged care, and quality and safety in healthcare.

We were excited to welcome many new academic and professional staff members in 2023. Professor Scott Avery, Ms Jacintha Manton, and Ms Jasmine Williams joined our Girra Maa Indigenous Health discipline. Professor Emily Callander, Dr Sarah Wise, Ms Yanan Hu, and Ms Hannah Jackson joined our Health Services Management discipline. Dr Karina Arias-Calluari, Dr Hope Foley, Auntie Grace Ward, Ms Evie Heap, and Ms Josephine Tilgals all joined our Public Health discipline. We were also delighted that the following academic staff were successful in their application for promotions: Associate Professor Amie Steel (to Level D) and Dr Shannon Lin (to Level C).

As we reflect on the past year's accomplishments and look forward to the opportunities that await us, we express our sincere gratitude to our staff, students, alumni, and supporters who have played a pivotal role in our success. Together, we remain steadfast in our commitment to nurturing talent, fostering intellectual curiosity, and making a positive difference in the world. We invite you to explore this Annual Report with enthusiasm and pride, celebrating the collective achievements of our vibrant academic community.

Professor David Sibbritt
Head of School and
Professor of Epidemiology



“I am passionate about public health and data analysis. Meaningful data can help make informed decisions, improve the lives of people and make the world a better place. Digitisation is the future of healthcare because the momentum for uptake is unstoppable. Therefore, I hope to be part of the future transformation.”

William Lam,
Bachelor of Public Health

SoPH staff participating in a Green Campus Tour with UTS Sustainability, July 2023



The School of Public Health: Who We Are

Our Staff 2023

Leadership Group

Professor David Sibbritt	Professor of Epidemiology, Head of School
Distinguished Professor Jon Adams	Distinguished Professor of Public Health, Deputy Head of School (Research)
Professor Andrew Hayen	Professor of Biostatistics, Deputy Head of School (Teaching and Learning)
Associate Professor Deborah Debono	Associate Professor, Deputy Head of School (Teaching and Learning)
Professor Emily Callander	Professor of Health Economics, Head of Discipline (Health Services Management)
Professor Megan Williams	Professor of Indigenous Health, Head of Discipline (Indigenous Health)
Professor Faye McMillan AM FPS	Professor of Indigenous Health, Head of Discipline (Indigenous Health)
Dr Daniel Demant	Senior Lecturer, Course Director (B Public Health)
Jo Dwyer	School Manager

SoPH Staff and Advisory Board members, 2023



Academic and Professional Staff

Salma Ahmed	Research Assistant	Dr Abela Mahimbo	Lecturer
Dr Karina Arias-Calluari	Postdoctoral Research Fellow	Danielle Manton	Senior Lecturer
Professor Scott Avery	Professor of Indigenous Disability, Health, and Wellbeing	Jacintha Manton	Associate Lecturer
Teagan Bortolotti	Research Assistant	Dr Demelza Marlin	Lecturer
Clementine Bowles	Research Assistant	Katy Mackinnon	Research Assistant
Tristan Carter	Research Assistant	Dr Heidi Merrington	Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Dr Sungwon Chang	Senior Lecturer	Patricia Morris	Aboriginal Project Assistant
Hayley Clapham	Research Assistant	Ashley Ng	Research Assistant
Janelle Craig	Lecturer, Course Director (Health Services Management)	Dr Wenbo Peng	Senior Research Fellow
Dr Leonie Cranney	Research Fellow	Associate Professor Nikki Percival	Associate Professor
Professor Angela Dawson	Professor	Nina Pirola	Research Assistant
Ye Duan	Research Assistant	Dr Jennifer Plumb	Research Officer
Dr Sally Fitzpatrick	Senior Lecturer	Sancheeta Pugalia	Research Assistant
Dr Hope Foley	Postdoctoral Research Fellow	Ruby Reyes	Research Assistant
Associate Professor Jane Frawley	Associate Professor, Course Director (MPH)	Dr Claire Rogers	Postdoctoral Research Fellows
Jessie Fung	ARCCIM Centre Coordinator	Associate Professor Kris Rogers	Associate Professor
Dr Klaus Gebel	Senior Lecturer	Chris Rossiter	Project Officer
Dr Kim Graham	Postdoctoral Research Associate	Bernard Saliba	Lecturer
Dr Rachel Grove	Chancellor's Postdoctoral Research Fellow	Shiffa Samad	Research Assistant
Associate Professor Anne Grunseit	Associate Professor	Faris Saman	Research Assistant
Jess Harris	Research Assistant	Kate Saw	Research Assistant
Evie Heap	Administration Assistant/Project Coordinator	Dr Albie Sharpe	Lecturer, Course Director (B Public Health)
Dr Suyin Hor	Senior Lecturer, HDR Program Coordinator	Alexandria Siegers	Research Assistant
Yanan Hu	Research Associate	Dr Shanelle Sorbello	Research Assistant
Dr Bo-Huei Huang	Research Fellow	Michelle St Lambert	Senior Administrative Officer
Hannah Jackson	Research Associate	Associate Professor Amie Steel	Associate Professor, HDR Program Coordinator
Courtney Krahe	Project Manager	Josephine Tilgals	ARCCIM Centre Coordinator
Wai Ling Wendy Law	Research Assistant	Birhanu Gutu Turi	Research Assistant
Dr Shannon Lin	Senior Lecturer, Course Director (Diabetes)	Auntie Grace Ward	Lecturer
		Dr Kerry Warner	Postdoctoral Research Fellow
		Jasmine Williams	Aboriginal Research Assistant
		Dr Sarah Wise	Senior Lecturer

Our Honorary Staff 2023

Evelyn Adjei-Menash	Visiting Scholar	Alexander Lee	Industry Fellow
Tasnima Akter	Visiting Scholar	Mingzi Li	Adjunct Professor
Ana Paula Antunes Ferreira	Visiting Fellow	Virginia MacDonald	Adjunct Fellow
Julie Ayre	Visiting Fellow	Carrie Marr	Adjunct Professor
Amanda Bartlett	Visiting Scholar	Thomas McClean	Adjunct Associate Professor
Deborah Bateson	Adjunct Professor	Gopi Anne McLeod	Visiting Fellow
Steven Bernadi	Adjunct Associate Professor	Akex Molasiotis	Adjunct Professor
Jen Bichel-Findlay	Adjunct Fellow	Michael Moore	Visiting Professor
Firew Tekle Bobo	Visiting Scholar	Dominic Morgan	Adjunct Professor
Patricia Bradd	Adjunct Associate Professor	Chantal Morin	Visiting Fellow
Ann Brassil	Adjunct Professor	Lee Muddle	Visiting Fellow
Gwendoline Burton	Adjunct Fellow	Carly Louise Mundine	Adjunct Fellow
Angela Chen	Visiting Scholar	Giuliana Murfet	Visiting Fellow
Yan Cheng	Visiting Scholar	Donna Murray	Adjunct Associate Professor
Gabriel Cheung	Industry Fellow	Danielle Muscat	Visiting Fellow
Kieran Cooley	Visiting Fellow	Sally Nathan	Adjunct Associate Professor
Marcelo Demarzo	Visiting Fellow	Carolyn Njue	Visiting Fellow
Herbert Down	Adjunct Fellow	Ashley Ng	Adjunct Fellow
Jerry Draper-Rodi	Visiting Fellow	Rachel Nicholls	Adjunct Fellow
Robyn Drysdale	Adjunct Associate Professor	Elenor Oyston	Visiting Fellow
Harish Dureja	Visiting Fellow	Mark Ragg	Adjunct Fellow
Shamona Eaves	Visiting Fellow	Tuly Rosenfeld	Adjunct Professor
Austen El-Osta	Visiting Fellow	Carla Saunders	Adjunct Fellow
Michael Fleischmann	Visiting Fellow	Kathrin Schmieder	Visiting Fellow
Joshua Goldenberg	Visiting Fellow	Robert Shaw	Visiting Fellow
Monica Gulati	Visiting Professor	Niklas Sinderholm Sposato	Visiting Fellow
Josephine Gwynne	Adjunct Fellow	Sachin Singh	Visiting Professor
Ben Harris-Roxas	Adjunct Associate Professor	Deborah Stockton	Visiting Fellow
Robyn Henao Urrego	Adjunct Fellow	Elizabeth Sullivan	Adjunct Professor
Anita Heywood	Adjunct Associate Professor	Denis Tamplin	Industry Fellow
Eloise Howse	Adjunct Fellow	Stephanie Taplin	Adjunct Associate Professor
David Irving	Adjunct Professor	Natalie Taylor	Adjunct Associate Professor
Ponndara Ith	Adjunct Professor	Rebecca Tinning	Adjunct Associate Professor
Sacha Kendall Jamieson	Visiting Fellow	Suresh Tiwari	Adjunct Associate Professor
Dennis Kaip	Industry Fellow	Nguyen Toan Tran	Adjunct Professor
Melissa Kang	Adjunct Associate Professor	Loic Treffel	Visiting Fellow
Mark Kearin	Industry Fellow	Troy Trgetaric	Adjunct Associate Professor
Kesava Kovanur Sampath	Visiting Fellow	Brett Vaughan	Visiting Fellow
Linda Kurti	Adjunct Fellow	Alex Wang	Adjunct Associate Professor
Mary Lam	Adjunct Fellow	Mirkuzie Woldie Keire	Adjunct Professor
Kelly Lambert	Adjunct Associate Professor	Theodros Zemedu	Visiting Fellow



The School of Public Health: Initiatives and Highlights 2023

Our vision

To improve population health by training health professionals and researchers through world-leading education in public health and health services management.

Our strategic priorities



People and Culture

School of Public Health Objective:

To create a happier, healthier, more harmonious workplace in which staff can flourish and ensure that every staff member of the School is recognised as playing a central role in achieving our vision. Key initiatives included: building upon our existing excellent workplace culture; enhancing leadership capabilities; and planning for the future.

In 2023, we:

- Provided a range of strategies to ensure all staff and students had access to good pastoral and cultural care and academic support. This included a post-Referendum debrief event for our Indigenous staff and students, the introduction of Course Director meetings, program Subject Coordinator meetings, and support for staff facilitating the intensive accreditation process
- Ensured that the workplace is supportive with a collaborative, ethical and safe culture and climate. The Girra Maa 'Press Play' cultural capability training and professional development in 'Developing Culturally Safe Indigenous Teaching and Learning Practices' were well attended across the year. Other school events such as retreats, celebrations, seminar series, social events, school meetings, and program planning days ensured school-wide and team collaboration and cohesion
- Created a School of Public Health Social Committee who coordinated a range of social events across the year
- Developed the leadership capabilities of leaders within the school through targeted formal and informal leadership training
- Mapped all staff to identify key talent and build the leadership skills of this group. Mentoring, shadowing and training programs for new leaders was introduced
- Conducted strategic workforce planning and identification, including key roles and pipelines, talent gaps, and risk areas. This led informed strategic recruitment decisions across the year.



Excellence in Teaching and Learning

School of Public Health Objective:

To prepare the next generation of public health leaders through the delivery of innovative education. Key initiatives included: enhancing course quality and the student experience; growing the School's portfolio of courses to meet emerging learning needs; increasing international student enrolments; advancing Indigenous education; and developing a teaching workforce for the future.

In 2023, we:

- Enhanced course quality and the student experience across the school. We engaged with the SoPH Advisory Board, industry partners and collaborators to ensure the relevance and sustainability of programs and the employability of our graduates, and commissioned market research and canvassed stakeholders for input into courses
- Completed peer-reviewing of subjects across the BPH, and reviewed assessments of all SoPH courses for the resilience of subjects to AI use. Conducted annual quality reviews of the school's OPM programs in health services management and public health
- Engaged with stakeholders regarding new inter-disciplinary and cross-faculty teaching and learning opportunities, including options for HDR co-supervision. Three new electives for the MHSM were introduced, and new courses focusing on sustainability and climate change, epidemiology, and safety and quality have all progressed awaiting approval
- Renamed the Bachelor of Health Science degree to the Bachelor of Public Health to meet market demand
- Embedded Indigenous knowledges throughout all curricula, assessments and research after an extensive consultative process. Cultural capabilities of non-Indigenous staff were developed to meet the Indigenous Graduate Attributes, including attendance at the 'Developing Culturally Safe Indigenous Teaching' professional development program
- Employed Indigenous teaching staff to enhance the cultural appropriateness and safety of courses
- Engaged with Indigenous academics, communities and key stakeholders to increase Indigenous student recruitment, participation and retention rates. Collaboration by the Girra Maa team with the Student Success and Engagement Officers from the Jumbunna Institute for Indigenous Education and Research was a key engagement priority across the year
- Provided teaching-specific professional development opportunities for teaching staff, including conducting half-day internal retreats, in conjunction with attendance at UTS IML and LXLab workshops. Training for HDR supervision was also conducted across the year.



Engagement and Partnerships

School of Public Health Objective:

To make a difference in our communities through strong collaboration with our key stakeholders. Key initiatives included: growing our engagement activities and partnerships; and developing a strategy for philanthropy.

In 2023, we:

- Built upon our existing adjunct positions to prestigious public health and health services alumni and industry partners resulting in 82 honorary staff within the school, an increase of almost 20% compared with 2022
- Leveraged the School's Advisory Board for advice with engagement and partnership expansion
- Hosted symposia, seminars and workshops on transdisciplinary public health issues, including a successful seminar series across the year and a workshop on 'Lean Thinking'
- Explored philanthropic opportunities for HDR scholarships and research, which included three Indigenous postgraduate student scholarships being awarded.



World Class Research

School of Public Health Objective:

To lead rigorous and action orientated research that transforms health policy and practice to meet the future health needs of populations. Key initiatives included: enhancing Indigenous health research activities; engaging with key industry, professional organisations and community stakeholders to increase research impact; nurturing ECRs and MCRs to ensure the growth and sustainability of the School's research; and attracting high-quality HDR students and ensuring high retention and completion rates and publication output.

In 2023, we:

- Developed and improved relationships with key Indigenous leaders and communities to ensure two-way learning and exchange. This included collaborating with Deadly Connections, Mibbinbah, Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Residential Rehabilitation Network, Lowitja Institute and The Glen amongst others - all organisations with long histories of community engagement, funded projects, student placements and research needs. Emerging relationships with Yerin Aboriginal Medical Service and Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Health Services also progressed across the year
- Provided mentorship, leadership and capacity building for the development of the next generation of Indigenous researchers. Mentoring via Girra Maa through ongoing NHMRC and MRFF project work and collaborations with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community partners continued throughout the year. The appointment of a Level E academic/researcher during the year added to the mentoring, capacity building and partnership developments in this space
- Leveraged existing and developed new partnerships to grow our transdisciplinary research activities and programs. This included fostering strong existing industry networks, and strengthening relationships including a Category 1 grant application in partnership with the Northern Sydney Local Health District, a Digital Health CRC project with industry partner Stryker, and Australian Dept of Health and Vively in collaboration with our FEIT colleagues to name a few
- Worked with key stakeholders to develop our priority future public health and health services research agenda for agreed populations experiencing health inequities. A number of staff across the school developed partnerships with CALD community groups including Australian Asian Cultural Association (AACA); NSW Multicultural Health Community Service (MHCS) at South-Eastern Sydney Local Health District (SESLHD); Stroke Foundation and Stroke Recovery Association NSW; Diabetes Australia; and numerous links with Arabic cultural agencies and the Department of Health
- Co-designed and co-produced research with Indigenous communities and other populations experiencing health inequities, including the Girra Maa team working with several Indigenous communities on large-scale co-designed research projects
- Provided mentorship and professional development opportunities to develop research skills, including several ECR and MCR writing retreats, an annual research retreat, and support to grant application submissions.
- Provided opportunities to increase research networks and external collaborations including the introduction of a highly successful monthly PhD seminar series
- Enhanced the HDR pipeline by strengthening the BPH Honours program through information sessions, workshops, monthly mentoring sessions, Open Access publication opportunities, industry embedded HDR opportunities, and dedicated research pages on the school website for both prospective and current HDR students.



Strengthening our Indigenous Profile

School of Public Health Objective:

To increase awareness at UTS and beyond about Girra Maa Indigenous Health Discipline teaching, research and community engagement. Key initiatives included: enhancing Indigenous cultural competency; and increasing engagement with key Indigenous stakeholders.

In 2023, we:

- Hosted a successful Indigenous Health Research showcase event, attended by professional organisations, community representatives and Indigenous stakeholders in attendance
- Continued work on the redesign of the Girra Maa Indigenous Health Discipline website to further promote Indigenous research, teaching and learning successes
- Provided resources via the website for School staff to communicate confidently about Indigenous health and Girra Maa at UTS
- Provided staff with opportunities to undertake Indigenous cultural competency training, via the Press Play sessions and the Griffith University Cultural Competency training.

Recipients of Australian Diabetes Educators of Australia (ADEA) scholarships Tanikka Moore and Tamarla Smith with ADEA President Amanda Bartlett and Sanofi's Head of Medical James Scott at the awards ceremony, June 2023



The Year in Review

Staff were recognised through various awards and fellowships, with highlights including the **2023/24 Commonwealth Fund Harkness Fellow, African Australian Academic Excellence Award, Fellow of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, Australian and NSW Diabetes Educator of the Year, Alumni Awards for Professional Excellence and Research Field Leader in Alternative and Traditional Medicine 2023** (Winner for the third year in a row)

We celebrated the **conferral of 14 Doctor of Philosophy** higher degree research students in the school, an **increase from 6 in 2022**

The undergraduate course was **rebranded from the Bachelor of Health Science to the Bachelor of Public Health** to meet demand

We enhanced course quality and the student experience across the school via **market research and engagement with the SoPH Advisory Board, industry partners and collaborators** to ensure the relevance and sustainability of programs and the employability of our graduates

We increased our existing adjunct positions to prestigious public health and health services alumni and industry partners to **82 honorary staff within the school, an increase of almost 20%** compared with 2022

29

school events were held across the year including Girra Maa Research showcase, writing retreats, research retreats, strategic planning day, annual school retreat, lunchtime seminar series, morning-teas, and staff social events

2 staff were awarded **academic promotions**

7 staff were appointed for the first time to **leadership roles** within the school

3 staff were awarded **best keynote or presentation** at industry conferences

We explored **philanthropic opportunities for HDR scholarships and research**, which included **three Indigenous postgraduate student scholarships** being awarded

Staff gave **keynote addresses and were invited panelists locally, nationally and globally** with the **World Health Organisation, South by Southwest (SXSW), NSW Ministry of Health, World Naturopathic Federation, Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand, Cancer Institute of NSW, Australasia Diabetes Congress** to name a few

2 SoPH staff within Girra Maa held key government appointments as **Ambassador International Day of People with Disability 2023** and **Deputy National Rural Health Commissioner (Allied Health and First Nations Health)**

A UTS Indigenous Scholarship recipient in the school was recognised as the **first Indigenous Credentialed Diabetes Educator in Australia**

\$16 mil

in external funding was attracted by our researchers, an **increase from our previous highest amount of \$4.9 million in 2022**

The Bachelor of Public Health program achieved **accreditation with the International Union for Health Promotion and Education**, resulting in all graduates from this program holding the title **Registered Health Promotion Practitioner**

200 +

peer reviewed publications were authored during the year, an increase of 30% compared with 2022

3

additional electives were introduced in the **Master of Health Services Management** in 2023

297

students graduated in 2023, over **10% more compared with 2022**

We celebrated the achievement of one of our Lecturers for achieving the **top downloaded article in the Medical Journal of Australia** during the first 12 months of publication

27 leadership roles on national and international industry Boards and Committees were held by staff

14 awards within academia and/or industry were presented to staff during the year

2 Fellowships and 1 Life Membership were awarded to staff

We worked with key stakeholders to develop our **priority future public health and health services research agenda** for agreed populations experiencing health inequities

“My passion is giving back to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. With everything I have learnt, I hope to give back and provide education and assistance to Mob around Australia. There is still a gap in health and health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This drives me to want to find ways through resources, programs and primary health care models to do my best to be a part of the solution.”

Trent Lyon,
Graduate Certificate in Diabetes
Education and Management



Research Achievements in 2023

It is with pride and pleasure that we showcase the impressive research initiatives, activities and successes of the School of Public Health in 2023.

We are excited to report that the research metrics, outputs and achievements of SoPH academics in 2023 continue to impress and represent a remarkable achievement for our relatively new School.

The outputs and achievements detailed in this annual report are in large part testament to the hard work, dedication, skill and collegiality of all academic and non-academic staff across the School. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each SoPH staff member for helping to maintain and in many cases grow our research program throughout 2023.

Distinguished Professor Jon Adams, Deputy Head of School (Research)



The last 12 months of activity and success well-position our School, Faculty and UTS as leaders in evidence-informed health research that is rigorous, impactful and meaningful to many across and beyond the academy.

Our expert and dedicated multidisciplinary researchers and the foundation of our research efforts to date both provide a solid platform on which to build an ambitious future in leading and helping advance health research of local, regional, national and global impact.

A highlight worth noting is the Stanford University published list of the top 2% most widely cited scientists in various disciplines, which is considered to be the most prestigious ranking in the world. We are proud to have four of our researchers named in the list: Distinguished Professor Jon Adams, Professor Andrew Hayen, Professor David Sibbritt, and Associate Professor Amie Steel.

SoPH Research Capacity

The School comprised 41 academic staff in 2023. All SoPH academic staff are research active as aligned and relative with their specific workload mix and level of appointment. The School is privileged and fortunate to also house the Girra Maa Indigenous Health Discipline which continues its significant and broad contributions across research, impact, community partnerships and governance.

A core focus for SoPH is to do everything possible to support and develop academic talent across public health and health services management.

Publications Overview

In 2023, SoPH academics authored 200+ peer-reviewed publications, a 30% increase from last year. Throughout the year, SoPH academics co-authored with numerous colleagues from across UTS (with co-authorship both across other Schools in the Faculty of Health including Sport and Exercise Science, Graduate School of Health, and Nursing and Midwifery and across other Faculties including FEIT, Science, ISF and DAB).

Moreover, many of the peer-reviewed publications also involved co-authorship and collaboration with a range of academics from across and beyond Australia (including co-authors from Canada, the US, Hong Kong, Germany, the UK, Italy, New Zealand, Sweden, Thailand, Brazil, and Denmark amongst many others). Our extensive publication output also illustrates excellent co-authorship success across our HDR student-HDR supervisor teams – an achievement supported by our 2023 HDR research funding initiative to encourage submission to open-access, Q1 publications.

Research Grants and External Research Income

In 2023, SoPH academics attracted in excess of \$6.65 million in external research income across all research categories of funding (1-4) including major NHMRC and ARC awards to UTS. Overall, SoPH staff were named on over \$16 million of external research income. School researchers also attracted more than \$300K of philanthropic and industry support in 2023 (including gifts from Osteopathy Australia, Swedish Osteopathic Association, Osteopathy Foundation, Massage and Myotherapy Australia and Vital.ly amongst others).

Please refer to the External Grants Highlight section of this report for some of our noteworthy achievements.

Distinguished Professor Jon Adams
Deputy Head of School (Research)
School of Public Health

Associate Professor Kris Rogers and Dr Abela Mahimbo at the annual SoPH Research Retreat, July 2023



External Grant Highlights 2023

Project title	Chief Investigator	Funder	\$
Optimising human milk nutrition to improve the long-term health of preterm infants	Professor Emily Callander	National Health and Medical Research Council (Centres for Research Excellence)	3M
Optimising prenatal folic acid supplementation to reduce gestational diabetes, a major risk factor for high birthweight and preterm birth	Professor Emily Callander	Women and Children's Hospital Foundation	1.96M
MH-SPACE: Delivering and evaluating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health First Aid and cultural safety training for the community pharmacy workforce	Professor Faye McMillan AM FPS	Medical Research Future Fund	1.9M
Timely post-discharge medication reviews to Improve Continuity – the Transitions Of Care stewardship (TIC TOC) study in rural and regional Australia	Professor Faye McMillan AM FPS	Medical Research Future Fund	1.5M
The role of caregivers in recognition and response to serious childhood illness: a mixed-methods study	Professor Emily Callander	National Health and Medical Research Council (2023 Clinical Researchers)	1.46M
Using LLM to Understand Medication-Related Trends in Social Media	Distinguished Professor Jon Adams Associate Professor Deborah Debono	Digital Health CRC Limited	1.36M
Melatonin supplementation to reduce the induction of labour rates in first time mothers: The MyTIME Trial	Professor Emily Callander	National Health and Medical Research Council (Clinical Researchers)	1.04M
Project IMP@CT: Individual Mandibular Plate @Point of Care Technology	Distinguished Professor Jon Adams Associate Professor Deborah Debono	Digital Health CRC Limited	720K
A digital health intervention to provide individualised feedback on pathology requesting practices of Emergency Department clinicians	Professor Emily Callander	Department of Health (Quality Use of Pathology Program)	299K
Understanding Reception of Care Technology for Healthy Ageing at Home	Associate Professor Deborah Debono	SPHERE Seed Funding Grant Scheme 2023	167K



Professor Emily Callander, Head of Discipline Health Services Management, presenting at the SoPH Research Retreat in July 2023

Our Research Students

Doctor of Philosophy

HDR Completions 2023	Supervisors	Thesis topic
Bright Ahinkorah	Melissa Kang (Principal) Fiona Brooks (Co) Linda Perry (Co)	Impact of Policies and Programmes for Addressing Teenage Pregnancies in Ghana
Animut Ayalew	Daniel Demant (Principal) David Sibbritt (Co)	Effects of Undernutrition on Treatment Outcomes among Adults Living with HIV in Northwest Ethiopia: A Longitudinal Study
Jessica Bayes	David Sibbritt (Principal) Janet Schloss (Co)	The Effects of a Mediterranean Diet on Symptoms of Depression In Young Men
Firew Bobo	Andrew Hayen (Principal) Angela Dawson (Co)	Equity in Access to Quality Maternal and Child Health Services in sub-Saharan Africa
Aster Ferede Gebremedhin	Andrew Hayen (Principal) Angela Dawson (Co)	Coverage of Maternal and Child Healthcare Services in Ethiopia: Measuring Progress Towards Universal Health Coverage Using the Demographic Health Surveys
Kim Graham	Amie Steel (Principal) Jonathan Wardle (Co)	The Use of Complexity Science to Explore Clinical Reasoning in Primary Health Care: A Mixed Methods Sequential Explanatory Design Using Naturopathy as a Case Study
Jane Hutchens	Jane Frawley (Principal) Elizabeth Sullivan (Co)	Defining the Experiences and Needs of Australian Women with Cardiac Disease in Pregnancy and the First Year Postpartum: A Mixed Methods Study
Getiye Kibret	Andrew Hayen (Principal) Daniel Demant (Co)	Maternal and Newborn Health Services Accessibility, Utilisation and Neonatal Mortality in Ethiopia
Tebikew Yeneabat Mengist	Angela Dawson (Principal) Andrew Hayen (Co)	Antenatal Care Counselling, Health Literacy and Place of Birth: an Analysis of Ethiopia Service Provision Assessment Plus Survey 2014
Melissa Morns	Amie Steel (Principal) Erica McIntyre (Co) Elaine Burns (Co)	The Experience of Women Who Self-identify As Perceiving Feelings of Aversion While Breastfeeding
Melese Girmaye Negero	Angela Dawson (Principal) David Sibbritt (Co)	Women's Use of Quality Maternal Health Care Services Across the Continuum in Low and Lower-Middle-Income Countries, With a Focus on Ethiopia
Krishna Poudel	Andrew Hayen (Principal) Jin Young Park (Co) Daniel Demant (Co)	Predictors of the Survival of Gastric Cancer Patients Diagnosed at Bhaktapur Cancer Hospital, Nepal – A Retrospective Cohort Study

HDR Completions 2023	Supervisors	Thesis topic
Md Morshadur Rahman	Andrew Hayen (Principal) Surendra Karki (Co)	Addressing the Healthy Donor Effect While Studying the Impact of Blood Donation on Donors' Long-Term Health Outcomes
Asres Bedaso Tilahun	David Sibbritt (Principal) Wenbo Peng (Co) Jon Adams (Co)	An Examination of Low Social Support During Pregnancy and Its Association with Mental Health and Quality of Life of Pregnant Women in Australia

SoPH Doctor of Philosophy Graduation Ceremony, May 2023 - Dr Animut Ayalew, Professor David Sibbritt (Head of School and PhD Supervisor), Dr Melese Girmaye Negero and Dr Asres Bedaso Tilahun



Doctor of Philosophy

HDR Students 2023	Supervisors	Thesis topic
Salma Ahmed	Angela Dawson (Principal) Abela Mahimbo (Co)	The Quality of Midwifery Care in Khartoum State, Sudan
Joshua Akuu	Nicole Percival (Principal) Deborah Debono (Co)	Understanding the Implementation of Community-Based Programs to Address Childhood Malnutrition in Ghana
Adel Alabdaly	Su-yin Hor (Principal) Reece Hinchcliff (Co) Deborah Debono (Co)	The Impact of TQM on Hospital Performance, including Nurses, Patient Satisfaction and Patient Outcomes. A Qualitative and Quantitative Study in Five Government-Run, Saudi Arabian Hospitals that have Transitioned to TQM
Sultan Alsahli	Mary Lam (Principal) Su-yin Hor (Co)	The Adoption of Mobile Health Applications by Physicians in Saudi Arabia
Ali Ahmed A Alzahrani	Klaus Gebel (Principal) John Evans (Co)	Cultural, Social and Environmental Barriers to Physical Activity in the Southern Region of Saudi Arabia
Melise Ammit	Angela Dawson (Principal) Mark Goodhew (Co)	Women-focused Treatment for Alcohol Use Disorders
Fantu Mamo Aragaw	Andrew Hayen (Principal) Angela Dawson (Co)	Hospital-based Healthcare, Medication Use, Morbidity and Mortality Outcomes Among Cancer Patients in the Refugee Population in Australia
Kirsten Baker	Amie Steel (Principal) Jon Adams (Co)	Experiences of Integrated Care in Meeting Health Complexity Amongst Marginalised Populations: Insights from a Community Health Service
Mohammed Banany	David Sibbritt (Principal) Klaus Gebel (Co)	Evaluation of Rashaka, A School-Based Multi-Components Initiative to Reduce Obesity Rates Among School Going Students Between (13-15) in Makkah City, Saudi Arabia
Binyam Birhane	Andrew Hayen (Principal) Angela Dawson (Co)	Effect of Prenatal Life, Early Life, and Adult Life Exposure on Lifelong Health: Creating Better Health and Wellbeing At All Ages
Sarita Bista	Andrew Hayen (Principal) Sally Nathan (Co)	Long-term Outcomes of a Residential Treatment Program for Adolescents with Problematic Drug and Alcohol Use: Evidence from Longitudinal Modelling Approach Using Linked Data
Ryan Bradley	Jon Adams (Principal) David Sibbritt (Co)	Evaluation of Gamma-glutamyltransferase (GGT) as a Biomarker of Cardiometabolic Risk
Belinda Brucki	Andrew Hayen (Principal) Albie Sharpe (Co)	The Ethicality of Australia's COVID19 Pandemic Policies Evaluated Using a Mental Health Lens
Jennifer Care	Jonathan Wardle (Principal) Amie Steel (Co) Anne-Louise Carlton (External)	Australian Stakeholder Attitudes and Perceptions Towards Unregulated Health Professions Pursuing Occupational Regulation
Tristan Carter	Amie Steel (Principal) Jon Adams (Co) Danielle Schoenaker (Co)	Paternal Preconception Health and Care in Australia: A Mixed Methods Study
David Casteleijn	Jonathan Wardle (Principal) Amie Steel (Co)	A Naturalistic Observational Study of Western Herbal Medicine Practice in Self-Reported Anxiety in Depression

HDR Students 2023	Supervisors	Thesis topic
Cherie Caut	Amie Steel (Principal) Erica McIntyre (Co) Danielle Schoenaker (External)	The Preconception Health Literacy, and Beliefs and Attitudes Towards Preconception Care, of Health Professionals in Australia: An Exploratory Sequential Mixed Methods Study
Jillian Dunn	Jonathan Wardle (Principal) Amie Steel (Co)	Mapping the Naturopathic Landscape: An Examination of Regulatory Education and Policy Infrastructures and Policy Frameworks in a Global Emerging Profession
Layla Edwards	Elizabeth Sullivan (Principal) Sungwon Chang (Co) Sacha Jamieson (Co) Reem Zeki (External) Julia Bowman (External)	Looking Beyond Recidivism: a Comprehensive Exploration of the Social Determinants of Reimprisonment of Women with Histories of Substance-use to Inform Gender-Responsive Service Provision
Bonnie Eklom	Emily Callander (Principal) Jennifer Fenwick (Co)	Evaluating the Efficiency and Productivity of Public Maternity Services in Australia
Temesgen Muche Ewunie	Angela Dawson (Principal) Andrew Hayen (Co)	The Individual Health-promoting and Protective Factors of Refugees in Australia: Opportunities to Develop Resilient, Flourishing Communities
Sultana Farhana	Jane Frawley (Principal) Elizabeth Sullivan (Co) Antoinette Anazodo (External) Nadom Safi (External)	A National Evaluation of Cancer and Pregnancy Outcomes
Glenys Frank	Deborah Fox (Principal) Nicky Leap (Co)	NEST: Not Even a Safe Territory. The Maternity Experiences of Women Seeking Asylum, in Australia
Erika Frey	Jane Frawley (Principal) Catriona Bonfiglioli (Co)	Social Media and Health Decisions
Gabrielle Hall	Rachel Grove (Principal) Angela Dawson (Co) Elizabeth Pellicano (External)	Understanding Neurodiversity-affirming Approaches: Perspectives of Autistic People and Health Professionals
Jocelyn Hickson	Andrew Hayen (Principal) Patricia Bradd (Co)	Health System Redesign for Isolated Populations
Yoey Gwan Venise Hon	Andrew Hayen (Principal) Daniel Demant (Co)	Quantifying the Size of Surgical Site Infections in Elective Orthopaedic Surgeries in Victorian Hospitals: a Patient's Perspective
Hannah Ireland	Angela Dawson (Principal) Robyn Drysdale (Co) Nguyen Toan Tran (Co)	The Role of Social Capital in Women's Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Humanitarian Settings
Robert Jackson	Megan Williams (Principal) Kathleen Baird (Co) Deborah Debono (Co)	Lateral Violence in Indigenous Communities
Hannah Jackson	Emily Callander (Principal) Sarah Wise (Co) Joanne Enticott (External) Luke Grzeskowiak (External)	The Pharmacoeconomics of Medication Use in Pregnancy: An Exploration of Costs and Equity

Doctor of Philosophy

HDR Students 2023	Supervisors	Thesis topic
Linda Justin	Deborah Debono (Principal) Hamish Robertson (Co)	Who Do You Say I Am? Language, Culture and Their Intersection with Quality and Safety in Aged Care
Shae Karger	Emily Callander (Principal) Jane Frawley (Co)	Improving Poor Birth Outcomes for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Women in Australia
Kiddus Kehali	Andrew Hayen (Principal) Abela Mahimbo (Co) Mirkuzie Woldie (External)	Effectiveness and Cost-effectiveness of Measles Vaccination Strategies for Children in Low Income Setting
Suzy Ladanyi	David Sibbritt (Principal) Jon Adams (Co)	The Prevalence and Characteristics of Consultation with a Massage Therapist among Young and Middle-Aged Women in Australia
Carolyn Ledowsky	Amie Steel (Principal) Vanessa Scarf (Co)	Comparative Effectiveness of 5-methyltetrahydrofolate and Folic Acid Intake in Women with MTHFR Polymorphisms and Recurrent Pregnancy Loss
Cheru Tesema Leshargie	Jane Frawley (Principal) Daniel Demant (Co) Sahai Burrowes (External)	Treatment Outcomes from Antiretroviral Therapy and Its Predictors among Adolescents Living with HIV Infection in Amhara Region, Ethiopia: A Multi Methods Study
Tewachew Liyeh	Andrew Hayen (Principal) Angela Dawson (Co) Abela Mahimbo (Co)	Quality of Family Planning Service in Ethiopia
Danielle Manton	Andrew Hayen (Principal) Megan Williams (Co)	Bunya Project: Development and Evaluation of GSH Indigenous Curriculum
Chanelle Mastronardo	Amie Steel (Principal) Jon Adams (Co)	Complementary Medicine Practitioner-shared Public Health Information and Consumer Engagement
Kylie McWhirter	Amie Steel (Principal) Jon Adams (Co)	The Association Between Primitive Reflexes, Motor Skills and Executive Function in Preschool Children
Alan Morrison	Deborah Debono (Principal) Daniel Demant (Co)	Health Practitioner Motivational Postures: The Application of Motivational Posture Theory to Health Practitioner Regulation
Jose Orlando Guzman	Nicole Percival (Principal) Andrew Hayen (Co)	Feasibility of Developing Indicators to Assess the Impact of Community-centered Activities on the Health, Wellbeing, and Social Determinants of Health of the Latino Australian Community in NSW. A Multiple-case Study
Elizabeth Paton	Deborah Debono (Principal) Tim Luckett (Co)	From Good Idea to Improving Outcomes. Refining the Function of Clinical Research Networks to Optimise Skin Cancer Research Outcomes.
Karen Patterson	Benjamin Harris-Roxas (Principal) Deborah Debono (Co)	Ordinary and Extraordinary Acts of Integration: People's Perceptions of Integrated Health Care within their Everyday Lives
Tani Paxton	Emily Callander (Principal) Jennifer Fenwick (Co)	The Sustainability of Homebirth in Australia
Md Sazedur Rahman	David Sibbritt (Principal) Wenbo Peng (Co) Jon Adams (Co)	Uses of Self-management for Stroke Rehabilitation

HDR Students 2023	Supervisors	Thesis topic
Rebecca Redmond	Amie Steel (Principal) Jonathan Wardle (Co) Jon Adams (Co)	The Naturopathic Approach to Managing Endometriosis: Clinical Insights into Naturopathic Practice
Daniel Shaw	Deborah Debono (Principal) Patricia Bradd (Co)	Exploration of the Australian Nurses' and Midwives' Perspective of Healthcare Innovation
Jemal Ebrahim Shifa	Daniel Demant (Principal) Jon Adams (Co)	Describing and Evaluating the Determinants of Alcohol Abuse and Common Mental Disorders Among Youths in Ethiopia
Tina Taylor	Amie Steel (Principal) Hope Foley (Co) Deborah Debono (Co) Felicity Bishop (External)	Patient-focused Public Health Information Shared by Complementary Medicine Practitioners in Clinical Encounters and Patient Engagement
Carrie Thomson-Casey	Jon Adams (Principal) Deborah Debono (Co)	An Exploration of the Integration of Complementary Therapies In Psychology Practice
Elna Tulus	Su-yin Hor (Principal) Hamish Robertson (Co)	Political Economy of Global Public Health, Using the Case Study on Australian Wheat and Indonesian Instant Noodles
Birhanu Gutu Turi	Daniel Demant (Principal) Nicole Percival (Co) Abela Mahimbo (Co)	Parent-adolescent Co-enrollment in Sexuality Education and its Effect on Sexual and Reproductive Health Outcomes: Empowering Adolescents in SRH

Master of Health Services (Research)

HDR Students 2023	Supervisors	Thesis topic
Lakshy Ganesh	Su-yin Hor (Principal) Albie Sharpe (Co) Beata Bajorek (External)	Development of Single Gateway Monitoring Health Channel for Excellent Services on Community Pharmacy Practice
Emmanuel Ndayisaba	Emily Callander (Principal) Sarah Wise (Co)	Staffing of Rural Maternity Services

Master of Indigenous Health (Research)

HDR Students 2023	Supervisors	Thesis topic
Nathaniel Tamwoy	Rachel Grove (Principal) Josephine Gwynne (Co)	Finding the Heartbeat: First Nations Led Solutions to Redefining Allied Health Practices

“I am interested in achieving health equity for all by addressing social determinants of health.”

Aruni Ratnayake,
Graduate Certificate in Diabetes
Education and Management



Teaching and Learning Achievements in 2023

We are delighted to present the annual report highlighting the noteworthy achievements and advancements in teaching and learning within the UTS School of Public Health. Throughout the year, the School's dedication to providing high-quality education persisted, underscoring our mission to nurture graduates capable of contributing to the enhancement of public health and health services.

We are grateful to our colleagues in the School of Public Health for their support and high quality teaching. We work in collaboration with an amazing team of staff across the Faculty and UTS who support us to deliver high quality, innovative education and to improve the student experience.

Our commitment to embedding the Indigenous Graduate Attribute across our

courses continues. We aim to develop the professional competencies of our graduates in working with Indigenous people and communities, fostering an inclusive and culturally sensitive learning environment.

In 2023, we offered 71 different subjects within the 16 courses across the school. 844 students were enrolled in 2023, and we had a 10% increase in the number of students from our programs graduating in the Autumn and Spring ceremonies.

In 2023, we conducted a comprehensive review of assessments to meet the benefits and challenges of advances in generative artificial intelligence, ensuring that our students are supported in understanding appropriate and ethical use of this rapidly emerging technology.

As we reflect on the achievements of the past year, we extend our gratitude to the entire School community—students, staff, and industry partners—for their dedication and contributions to the success of the UTS School of Public Health. We look forward to another year of growth, innovation, and continued excellence in education.

Finally, working with the students who study in the School of Public Health is a privilege that we do not take for granted.

Associate Professor Deborah Debono and Professor Andrew Hayen
Deputy Heads of School
(Teaching and Learning)
School of Public Health

Deputy Heads of School (Teaching and Learning) 2023, Professor Andrew Hayen and Associate Professor Deborah Debono



Teaching and Learning Course Reports

Bachelor of Public Health

In 2023, the undergraduate program underwent a significant transformation, changing its name from the “Bachelor of Health Science” to “Bachelor of Public Health.” This better reflects the evolving focus of the degree and provides a stronger umbrella for our course content. Notably, our undergraduate dual degree program experienced a substantial growth in interest and enrolments, with one-third of the new intake in 2024 opting for these interdisciplinary courses. This growth underscores the appeal of the diverse educational opportunities across the UTS campus and supports the intersectoral goals of the public health profession.

Another major accomplishment was our successful application for IUHPE accreditation for students in the Health Promotion Major. This recognises the BPH’s commitment to meeting international standards in health promotion education and will allow students majoring in Health Promotion to become accredited health promotion practitioners upon completion of their degrees. We have also continued our efforts toward improving teaching and administration of the degree through continued engagement in peer-review of teaching processes and have developed strategies to support the implementation of the UTS Student Experience Framework.

Highlighting the School’s global engagement at the undergraduate level, in 2023, study abroad programs were successfully reinstated following the COVID-19 hiatus. In July, students from the School of Nursing and Midwifery and the School of Public Health undertook a two-week placement in Indonesia under the New Colombo Plan. Another group, led by Dr. Daniel Demant, travelled to Thailand in December, and were based at Chiang Mai University in Northern Thailand. These programs contributed to our goals of internationalisation, fostering cross-cultural understanding for students and both teaching and research relationships for the accompanying faculty members. We look forward to expanding these opportunities for our students and staff this year, with planned trips to Malaysia and Fiji, and prospects for additional destinations in 2025.

I assumed the role of Course Coordinator for the Bachelor of Public Health in September 2023, following on from Dr Daniel Demant. The program expresses gratitude for his dedicated service and innovation over the past four years. As his successor, I hope to continue to support and build on the culture of inclusivity and success for both students and faculty.

Dr Albie Sharpe
Course Director,
Bachelor of Public Health

Graduate Certificate in Diabetes Education

In 2023, the Graduate Certificate in Diabetes Education continued its strong growth with the aims of providing students with the best evidence-based knowledge and skills to become diabetes educators. We continued to offer fully online teaching with face-to-face clinical placement across Australia with additional face-to-face workshops to suit the diverse needs of students.

We taught four subjects with over 300 students. The course was successfully reaccredited by the University for another five years with outstanding feedback from committees who stated this was an outstanding course. In particular, Associate Professor Annette Gainsford, the Associate Dean Indigenous Teaching and Learning, said the course had an outstanding plan with comprehensive educational scaffolding supporting Indigenous curriculum content and should be used as an exemplar for other health courses.

Furthermore, the course continued to play a vital role in strengthening the diabetes workforce capacity in Australia especially for rural and remote regions. We had six Indigenous students from various disciplines this year including an Aboriginal Health Practitioner, a Registered Nurse and a Podiatrist. A particular highlight was the first Indigenous podiatrist diabetes educator graduating from the Course this year.

In addition, the course successfully retained three Indigenous students as well as attracting philanthropic support for those Indigenous students. This is an important achievement, as it reflects the school’s strategic goals to commit to inclusive teaching and Indigenous health.

The course continued its high industry involvement, with over 40 industry representatives involved in the program across the year. Our industry Course Advisory Committee has expanded to 14 members with consumer representatives who live with different types of diabetes. Additionally, the teaching team further enhanced its industry recognition and professional competence, with the Course Director being elected as a Board Director of the Australian Diabetes Educators. In 2023 she received the highest ever number of nominations for the national Educator of the Year award. This highlights the commitment the course has for preparing our graduates to be work ready while continuing to increase its impact and collaboration with the industry.

Dr Shannon Lin
Course Director,
Graduate Certificate in Diabetes Education

Master of Public Health

The Master of Public Health (MPH) program has experienced another year of growth, marked by robust enrollment figures and student retention. The partnership with Keypath has enhanced its visibility and accessibility, attracting students from beyond Sydney. This shift continues to broaden our student base to include individuals from various States and Territories across Australia, encompassing both rural and urban regions. The diversity of our student population, in terms of their academic and professional experiences, enriches the learning environment of the course.

Students enrolled in the MPH program, as well as those pursuing the Graduate Certificate in Public Health, and the Graduate Certificate in Public Health and Communicable Disease, have provided outstanding feedback about the quality of the course and teaching. The School of Public Health, in collaboration with UTS Online and the Postgraduate Learning Futures team, is committed to developing new subjects and courses for 2024 and are investigating several new subjects and offerings. Additionally, we are engaged in an ongoing process of enhancing our current subjects, aiming to achieve excellence through innovative and research-driven teaching methods.

Associate Professor Jane Frawley
Course Director,
Master of Public Health

Teaching and Learning

Course Reports

Health Services Management

2023 was a year of continued change and renewal for the Health Services Management team and its courses.

The team welcomed 69 new enrolments in 2023 and graduated 27 students from its Masters and Graduate Certificate courses. During 2023, the HSM team provided supervision to 24 PhD students, with one graduating during the year. Based on feedback from industry specialists and stakeholder groups, the team, in conjunction with our online service provider, started work on the development of a Graduate Certificate in Quality and Safety in Health and Social Care which is anticipated to commence in 2025. 2023 saw considerable preparation undertaken for reaccreditation of HSM courses in 2024, as well as continued work towards embedding Indigenous ways of knowing, being and doing into core HSM subjects.

Changes to the composition of the HSM team came via appointment of Professor Emily Callander as Head of Discipline and Dr Sarah Wise as Senior Lecturer. Emily joined UTS in February 2023 from Monash University, where she led the Women's Economics and Value Based Care Unit within the Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation. Emily is a health economist and value-based care researcher specialising in maternal and women's health. In January 2023, Sarah joined us from CHERE UTS where she was Senior Research Fellow in Health Policy. Sarah is a mixed methods health services researcher specialising in workforce, teamwork and value-based funding reform. Further changes involved welcoming Diabetes Education courses and their coordinator Dr Shannon Lin into the HSM discipline. Senior Lecturer Dr Hamish Robertson left UTS in January 2023 to take up a new appointment at the Australian Centre for Health Law Research at the Queensland University of Technology.

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the death of our former colleague and friend Professor Jo Travaglia in May 2023. Jo joined UTS in 2015 as Associate Professor of Health Services Management and later became Professor of Health Services Management. Jo served as Discipline Lead of Health Services Management and Course Director of the Health Services Management until she left to become Head of School of Public Health and Social Work at the Queensland University of Technology in December 2022. Jo was a passionate researcher and teacher in health services management, with a particular focus on aged care and disability and the social determinants of patient safety. Jo led the development of the online Master of Health Services Management course, as well as being an outstanding mentor and PhD supervisor. We continue to value Jo's warmth, care and integrity and the ongoing legacy she leaves to the HSM discipline.

Janelle Craig
Course Director,
Health Services Management

SoPH lecturers Bernard Saliba (Academic Liaison Officer) and Dr Albie Sharpe (Course Director BPH) with graduating Bachelor of Public Health students, Isabel Toohey and Katrina Astalosh at the Autumn 2023 graduation ceremony



“I want to make an impact in our society and contribute to creating equity among vulnerable groups. I have a desire to use translational research for intervention development among at-risk youth and adolescents, who are subject to substance abuse and complex mental health issues.”

Alexandra Bartholomew,
Master of Public Health



Girra Maa Indigenous Health Discipline

2023 was a year of progress, challenge, and resilience for the Girra Maa Indigenous Health Discipline. A huge acknowledgement of the work of Professor Megan Williams who through her thoughtful and strategic guidance led the Indigenous Health Discipline until August 2023. Under the new direction of the current Indigenous Health Discipline Lead, Professor Faye McMillan AM FPS, we continued to strive for better health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples through dedicated education, research, and community engagement. While the year concluded with the heartbreaking defeat of the Referendum and the Voice to Parliament, our commitment to advocating for Indigenous health justice remains unwavering. This report highlights our achievements, acknowledges the ongoing and sustained impact of the outcome of the referendum, and outlines our renewed focus in the face of ongoing challenges.

During the year the Girra Maa team faced a number of staffing changes, that saw people take up new roles within the SoPH, more broadly within UTS as well as outside of UTS. New team members were also added to the Girra Maa team; these inclusions are welcome additions to the team, and the movements of others acutely felt.

The Girra Maa team would like to acknowledge the knowledge and lived experience of new colleagues who joined the team during 2023, Ms Jacintha Manton, Ms Jasmine Williams, Ms Evie Heap, Professor Scott Avery and Dr Sally Fitzpatrick.

The Girra Maa team would like to acknowledge and thank the following colleagues that have moved on but remain part of the Girra Maa family and/or hold honorary (Hon) roles with the university: Professor Megan Williams (Hon), Dr Demelza Marlin, Dr Mark Ragg (Hon), Ms Donna Murray (Hon) and Mr Alexander Lee (Hon).

The Girra Maa team would like to acknowledge other Indigenous colleagues within the Faculty of Health and across UTS who have supported the Girra Maa team: Associate Professor Anne-Marie Eades, Professor Tim Croft, Ms Danielle Manton, the team at Jumbunna, Professor Jason De

Santolo, Distinguished Professor Larissa Behrendt AO, Professor Michael McDaniel AO and Professor Robynne Quiggin.

Professor Megan Williams, who led Girra Maa, Indigenous Health Discipline for much of the 2023 year continued her work in advancing the interests of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities through research, advocacy, and curriculum development. Girra Maa co-founder, Ms Danielle Manton continues to push the boundaries in her work to strengthen the Indigenous Graduate Attribute while also progressing her PhD.

Education

- Professor Megan Williams led not only the Girra Maa Indigenous Discipline for much of 2023, but as the ADI Professor Williams linked the faculty, SoPH and the Girra Maa Discipline. Further to this Professor Williams offered culturally informed education for student cohorts committed to serving Indigenous communities.
- Professor Faye McMillan AM FPS expanded the existing Master of Public Health - Indigenous Health stream, with increasing student numbers reflecting the growing demand for culturally competent public health practitioners.
- Megan Williams, Jacintha Manton, Sally Fitzpatrick and Danielle Manton delivered innovative workshops and resources to undergraduate students, and embedding Indigenous perspectives within the SoPH curriculum, including a new subject 95745.

In 2023, Girra Maa continued to promote tasks for all staff identified in the Faculty Indigenous Education, Research and Employment Strategy and contributed to SoPH and other UTS colleagues' understanding of industry accreditation needs about Indigenous health, including AHPRA's cultural safety legislation. Girra Maa staff and honorees continued to provide information to colleagues about implications for curriculum and staff training, including hosting 'Press Play' cultural capability community of practice events.

Girra Maa continued to support colleagues across UTS in planning, reviewing, and implementing curriculum and assessments to meet the Indigenous Graduate Attribute, and assisted with various Course Intended Learning Outcomes updates. Girra Maa made direct contributions to subject development (95739 Sustainability in Public Health) and contributed to the rewriting of the School of Nursing and Midwifery's Indigenous Health and Wellbeing subject. Danielle Manton (Award) and Sally Fitzpatrick (Citation) were part of teams recognised in 2023 UTS Teaching and Learning Awards.

In addition to assisting others in teaching and learning, Girra Maa successfully delivered one postgraduate (90017) and three undergraduate subjects (95735; 95741; 95745) as part of the Major of Indigenous Health in the Bachelor of Public Health.

Research

In 2023, members of the Girra Maa team were named in 6 successful research applications. Girra Maa staff also worked on other research funded by the MRFF, NHMRC, ARC, industry and governments. With a sustained focus on building on the success of the 2022 year, these projects aim to pursue Indigenous peoples' solutions to rectify major social issues including Aboriginal women as carers, mental health, sexual health, workforce development, issues related to systemic racism within society.

The Girra Maa team continued to represent the SoPH and the University in several key conferences that shared knowledge, wisdom and expertise in the field of Indigenous Health across multiple fora including:

- First Nations Disability research
- Rural and Remote Health
- Indigenous curriculum design and implementation
- Public Health
- Indigenous Health

Community Engagement

- Girra Maa academics regularly consulted with communities on research projects, ensuring Indigenous voices and priorities guided our work.
- The annual Girra Maa Symposium brought together academics, community leaders, and health colleagues for dialogue and action on critical Indigenous health issues.
- Girra Maa staff held roles on national and state committees including Croakey Health Media, and the 2023 International Day of People with Disability.
- Girra Maa worked with Faculty colleagues to maintain and share a calendar of events significant to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, a guide to NAIDOC, and resources to support student and staff learning, such as Girra Maa's Top 10 Tips for Terminology. These resources including Girra Maa's Wattleseed artwork, and an ethical research planning kit that can be accessed on the FoH Central Repository.

The Voice Referendum

The rejection of the Voice to Parliament referendum in 2023 dealt a profound blow to our collective hopes for progress towards Indigenous constitutional recognition. This outcome underscores the persistent challenges we face in achieving systemic change for Indigenous health equity. However, amidst disappointment, we acknowledge the vital role Girra Maa played in informing public debate and advocating for the Voice. The referendum loss necessitates a renewed commitment to:

- Strengthening community partnerships and working directly with Indigenous communities to address their specific health needs and aspirations.
- Continuing our advocacy for systemic change through research, education, and community mobilisation, promoting policy reforms that address the social determinants of Indigenous health inequities.
- Supporting the ongoing evolution of the Voice concept through community-led processes, ensuring genuine Indigenous self-determination is at the heart of future efforts.
- Fostering cultural competency within the broader health system through education and training programs for health professionals, promoting culturally safe and effective care for Indigenous Australians.

This work requires resilience, unwavering commitment, and continued collaboration. Girra Maa remains steadfast in its mission to improve Indigenous health outcomes, and we will continue to work tirelessly until we achieve a just and equitable health system for all Australians.

This report highlights the dedication and tireless efforts of Professor Megan Williams, Professor Faye McMillan AM FPS, Professor Scott Avery, Ms Jacintha Manton, and Dr Sally Fitzpatrick and all Girra Maa members and collaborators. Congratulations to Girra Maa colleague Dr Sally Fitzpatrick on the awarding of a Doctor of Public Health (UNSW) for a thesis focused on student change learning about Aboriginal health. We extend our gratitude to the Indigenous communities, students, and partners who make our work possible. Together, we remain committed to achieving a future where Indigenous Australians experience optimal health and wellbeing.

Professor Megan Williams and Professor Faye McMillan AM FPS
Heads of Discipline,
Girra Maa Indigenous Health



Professor Megan Williams, Head of Discipline Indigenous Health, delivering the keynote address at the Autumn graduation, May 2023

Our Partners and Collaborators

Our Advisory Board

Professor David Sibbritt (Chair)

Head of School
UTS School of Public Health

Distinguished Professor Jon Adams

Deputy Head of School (Research)
UTS School of Public Health

Dr Trish Bradd

Director Patient Safety
Clinical Excellence Commission

Professor Andrew Hayen

Deputy Head of School
(Teaching and Learning)
UTS School of Public Health

Professor David Irving

Director, Research and Development
Australian Red Cross Lifeblood

Associate Professor Jo Mitchell

Senior Adviser
Sax Institute

Associate Professor Sarah Thackway

Executive Director, Centre for Epidemiology
and Evidence
NSW Ministry of Health

Mr Ken Zulumovski

Managing Director
Gamarada Universal Indigenous Resources
(GUIR) Pty Ltd

Dr Klaus Gebel and Dr Wenbo Peng at the annual SoPH Strategic Planning Day, February 2023



Our Partnerships with Industry, the Professions and Community

- Abbott's Nutrition, Australia and New Zealand
- Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Residential Rehabilitation Network (ADARRN)
- Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council
- AIDS Council of NSW
- Al al-Bayt University, Jordan
- Anglicare
- ASHM Health
- Aston University, United Kingdom
- Australasian College of Health Service Management
- Australasian Epidemiological Association
- Australasian Society for Autism Research
- Australian and New Zealand Academy of Management (ANZAM)
- Australian Asian Cultural Association (AACA)
- Australian Centre for Engagement, Evidence and Values, University of Wollongong
- Australian Clinical Psychology Association
- Australian Diabetes Educators Association (ADEA)
- Australian Diabetes Society
- Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
- Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
- Australian Physiotherapy Council
- Australian Red Cross Lifeblood
- Australian Register of Naturopaths and Herbalists
- Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University
- Baker Department of Cardiometabolic Health, University of Melbourne
- Bangamalanha Centre Dubbo
- Bastyr University Research Institute, USA
- Bicycle NSW
- Bimbadeen College
- Blacktown & Mount Druitt Hospitals
- Bobby Goldsmith Foundation
- Brazilian Ministry of Health, Brazil
- British Columbia Ministry of Health, Canada
- Burnet Institute
- Cancer Australia
- Canterbury Hospital
- Central and South East Sydney Primary Health Network
- Centre for Alcohol and Other Drug Training and Workforce Development, Queensland Health
- Centre for Healthcare Research, Coventry University, United Kingdom
- Chiang Mai University, Thailand
- China National Research Institute of Food and Fermentation Industries, China
- Chiropractic Knowledge Hub, University of Southern Denmark (SDU), Denmark
- Clinical Excellence Commission
- Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Gay Men Action Group (NSW Health & ACON)
- Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Sexual Health Action Group
- Deadly Connections
- Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands
- Department of Health and Aged Care
- Department of Health, Victoria
- Department of Urban Planning of the City of Cologne, Germany
- Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation Masiphumelele Research Offices, South Africa
- Diabetes Australia
- Diabetes Australia Medical Education and Scientific Advisory Council (MESAC)
- *Diabetes Friend*, the largest consumer magazine in diabetes, China
- Emmerson Health
- Far Western NSW Primary Health Network
- Federal University of Sao Paulo, Brazil (UNIFESP)
- Fiji Ministry of Health and Medical Services
- Fiji National University
- First Peoples Disability Network Australia (FPDN)
- Free University Berlin, Germany
- French Osteopathy Association, France
- Gamarada Universal Indigenous Resources
- GenesisCare
- Global Chinese Diabetes Association, China
- Gold Coast Health
- Griffith University
- Hammondcare Health
- Health Education and Training Institute (NSW)
- Health Literacy Hub, The University of Sydney
- HealthDirect
- Helfgott Research Institute, National University of Natural Medicine, USA
- Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong
- Illawarra Aboriginal Medical Service
- Imperial College London, United Kingdom
- Indiana University, USA
- Indigenous Futures
- Indigenous Mental Health Intervention Program (IMHIP) Youth
- Institute for Urban Indigenous Health
- International Association of Video-Reflexive Ethnographers (VREIA)
- International Society for Autism Research
- Invictus

Our Partners and Collaborators

Our Partnerships with Industry, the Professions and Community

- King Edward Memorial Hospital
- King's College London, United Kingdom
- Kliniken Essen-Mitte, Germany
- La Trobe University
- LiveBetter Community Services
- Liverpool Hospital
- Lowitja Institute
- LUISS Guido Carli University, Italy
- Mahidol University, Thailand
- Massage and Myotherapy Association Australia
- Maternity Consumers Australia
- Meals on Wheels NSW
- Mibbinbah
- Monash Health
- Monash University
- Movember Foundation
- Murdoch Children's Research Institute
- National Centre of Immunisation Research and Surveillance (NCIRS)
- National Diabetes Service Scheme (NDSS)
- National Institute of Complementary Medicine (NICM) Health Research Institute
- National Taiwan University, Taiwan
- Network of Alcohol and Drug Agencies
- Northern Sydney Local Health District
- Northwestern University, USA
- NSW Ambulance
- NSW Biocontainment Centre, Westmead Hospital
- NSW Bureau of Health Information
- NSW Health STI Programs Unit
- NSW Ministry of Health
- NSW Multicultural Health Community Service
- NSW Play Safe Programs Consortium for International Students (NSW Health)
- NSW Refugee Health Service
- Nurse Diabetes, official online professional education platform for Nursing Association of China
- Nurse Friend, online professional education platform
- Nursing Association of China, China
- Office of the Chief Executive eHealth
- Oncology Massage Global
- Onemda Inc
- Osteopaths New Zealand
- Osteopathy Australia
- Osteopathy Institute/Foundation, United Kingdom
- Our Lady of China Aged Care Group, NSW
- Oxford Policy Management, Nepal
- parkrun
- Peking University, China
- Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia
- Public Health Association of Australia
- Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Health Services
- Queensland Health
- Queensland Normal Birth Strategy
- Queensland University of Technology
- RACGP Antenatal Special Interest Network
- Redfern Aboriginal Medical Service
- Roche
- Royal Women's Hospital, Sydney
- Ruijing Diabetes Hospital Alliance, China
- Rural Doctors Network
- S-VYASA Yoga University, India
- Safer Care Victoria
- Sax Institute
- South Eastern Sydney Local Health District
- South Western Sydney Local Health District
- St Vincent's Health Australia
- St Vincent's Hospital Sydney
- State Health Department of Espirito Santo, Brazil
- Statewide Initiative for Diabetes Management Working Group, NSW Health and the NSW Primary Health Networks (PHNs)
- Stroke Foundation
- Stroke Recovery Association NSW
- Stryker
- Swedish Osteopathy Association, Sweden
- Sydney Health Ethics Network, The University of Sydney
- Sydney Infectious Diseases Institute, The University of Sydney
- Tasmanian Health Service
- The Albion Centre
- The Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine, Canada
- The Glen and The Glen For Women
- The Integrative Care Science Centre Research Foundation, Sweden
- The Pacific Community (SPC)
- The Royal Women's Hospital
- The University of Melbourne
- The University of Queensland
- The University of Sydney
- Tonga Ministry of Health
- Tresillian Regional Family Care Centres
- UNICEF
- Uniting
- UnityHealth
- Universidade de Sao Paulo, Brazil
- Université de Lausanne, Switzerland
- University of Alberta, Canada
- University of Arizona, USA
- University of Cape Town, South Africa
- University of Colombo, Sri Lanka
- University of Dundee, New Zealand
- University of Health Sciences, Cambodia
- University of Hertfordshire, United Kingdom
- University of Indonesia, Indonesia
- University of Kent, United Kingdom
- University of Lethbridge, Canada
- University of New South Wales
- University of Southampton, United Kingdom
- University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka
- University of St Andrews, United Kingdom
- University of Tasmania
- University of Utah, USA
- University of Warwick, United Kingdom
- Vital.ly
- Wagga Wagga Base Hospital
- Western Sydney Diabetes
- Western Sydney LHD HIV and Related Programs Unit
- Western Sydney University
- Women's Healthcare Australasia
- World Health Organization's (WHO) Global Clinical Practice Network (GCPN)
- World Health Organization's (WHO) Inter-Agency Working Group on Reproductive Health
- World Naturopathic Federation, Canada
- World Naturopathic Federation, Western Pacific Regional Group
- Worldwide Universities Network (WUN)
- Yale School of Medicine, USA
- Yerin Aboriginal Medical Service

“I wanted a course to help me be a strong leader, because I want to be able to shape the health services of tomorrow. That wasn’t going to be achieved by a course that focuses on the past or current way of doing things. UTS’s Master of Health Services Management was the only course I looked at that made me think it would generate future-ready leaders.”

Serena Ayers,
Master of Health Services
Management



Awards 2023



Professor Faye McMillan AM FPS



Dr Abela Mahimbo



Dr Daniel Demant

Staff Awards

2023/24 Commonwealth Fund Harkness Fellow

Harkness Fellowships are aimed at researchers and practitioners from Australia, Canada, France, Germany, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, and the United Kingdom, who share the Fund's commitment to advancing health care policy and practice with a focus on eliminating unequal treatment, experience, and outcomes, for society's most vulnerable populations.

Professor Faye McMillan AM FPS

Reappointment as the Deputy National Rural Health Commissioner (Allied Health and First Nations Health) until June 2024

Professor Faye McMillan AM FPS

2023 Jan Baldwin National Credentialed Diabetes Educator (CDE) of the Year

In recognition of the extraordinary contribution to the well-being of people living with diabetes and diabetes education.

Dr Shannon Lin

New South Wales Credentialed Diabetes Educator (CDE) of the Year

Dr Shannon Lin

Fellow of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia

For significant contribution to pharmacy, exemplifying their passion for the profession

Professor Faye McMillan AM FPS

University of Wollongong 2023 UOW Alumni Award for Professional Excellence

Professor Faye McMillan AM FPS

Faculty of Health Alumni Award 2023 Winner

In recognition of her work in improving health inequalities in Australia, focusing on culturally and linguistically diverse programs and helping vulnerable groups

Dr Shannon Lin

People's Choice Award - Council of Academic Public Health Institutions Australasia (CAPHA)

For a presentation on Generative AI use among students at the annual Teaching and Learning Conference

Dr Daniel Demant

People's Choice Award - Australian Diabetes Educators Association (ADEA)

For a case study demonstration on how to use diabetes technology to improve the diabetes management of an Indigenous patient with type 1 diabetes and living with many sociocultural determinants

Dr Shannon Lin

Head of School Staff Awards 2023

Casual Staff Award - Chris Rossiter

Staff Team Player Award - Dr Daniel Demant

Teaching Innovation Prize - Bernard Saliba

The Jo Travaglia Award - Jo Dwyer

Australian Register of Naturopaths and Herbalists Life Membership

Associate Professor Amie Steel

Notable Contributions to Naturopathy and Western Herbal Medicine 2023 Winner - Naturopaths and Herbalists Association of Australia (NHAA)

Associate Professor Amie Steel

Research Field Leader in Alternative and Traditional Medicine 2023 Winner - The Australian (also winner for 2021 and 2022)

Associate Professor Amie Steel



Associate Professor Amie Steel



Trent Lyon

African Australian Academic Excellence Award - Celebrate African Australians in NSW

Dr Abela Mahimbo

Health Dean's Academic Excellence Award for Innovation in Learning and Teaching

Dr Daniel Demant

Health Dean's Academic Excellence Award for Research Excellence - Early Career Researcher category

Dr Abela Mahimbo

Health Dean's Academic Excellence Award for Social Justice and Equity

Graduate Certificate in Diabetes Education and Management teaching team: Dr Shannon Lin, Auntie Grace Ward, Danielle Manton, Susan Davidson, Professor David Sibbritt, Professor Andrew Hayen, Chris Rossiter, Dr Wenbo Peng

Health Dean's Academic Excellence Award - Casual Academic of the Year

Erika Frey - Health Services Management

Australia-Germany Joint Research Cooperation Scheme Award

Dr Daniel Demant

FoH Vice Chancellor's 2023 Academic Support Award

For supporting Indigenous diabetes students to promote Indigenous health outcomes

Professor David Sibbritt, Dr Shannon Lin, Auntie Grace Ward, Danielle Manton, Susan Davidson, Dr Marlene Payk, Amy Zheng, Dr Giuliana Murfet, Dr Ashley Ng, Chris Rossiter

FoH Vice Chancellor's 2023 Citation

For Development, Implementation and Evaluation of the WRAP Toolkit in Health Education

Dr Cherie Lucas, Dr Tamara Power, Dr Sally Fitzpatrick (SoPH), Professor Megan Williams (SoPH)

Student and Alumni Awards

First Indigenous Credentialed Diabetes Educator in Australia

Trent Lyon - SoPH Indigenous scholarship recipient

Head of School Student Awards 2023 for Bachelor of Public Health

1st Year Student: Vanessa Fung
2nd Year Student: Emma Brady
3rd Year Student: Georgiana Wheeler

FoH HDR Student Presentation Awards

SoPH winner: Hannah Ireland
SoPH runner-up: Carolyn Ledowsky

“I was looking for supervisors from a university that had established credibility in the field of complementary medicine research, in particular naturopathy, with a public health focus. The Australian Research Consortium in Complementary and Integrative Medicine (ARCCIM) has an established research program that is relevant to practitioners and patients with a focus on policy and regulation.”

Jillian Dunn,
PhD Candidate SoPH

Achievements 2023



Professor Scott Avery



Associate Professor Anne Grunseit



Dr Suyin Hor

Promotion to Associate Professor

Amie Steel

Promotion to Senior Lecturer

Shannon Lin

Appointment to Leadership Roles

Professor David Sibbritt (reappointment) – Head of School

Distinguished Professor Jon Adams (reappointment) – Deputy Head of School (Research)

Associate Professor Deborah Debono – Deputy Head of School (Teaching and Learning)

Professor Emily Callander – Head of Discipline Health Services Management

Professor Faye McMillan AM FPS – Head of Discipline Indigenous Health

Dr Albie Sharpe – Course Director (BPH)

Janelle Craig – Course Director (HSM)

Dr Suyin Hor – HDR Program Coordinator

Bernard Saliba – Academic Liaison Officer

Deputy National Rural Health Commissioner (Allied Health and First Nations Health) – reappointment until June 2024

Professor Faye McMillan AM FPS

Special Advisor – National Women’s Health Advisory Council

Professor Angela Dawson

INSIGHT, UTS Research Institute for Innovative Solutions for Wellbeing and Health collaborative and hub convener appointments

Professor Angela Dawson – Women and Children’s Health Collaborative Co-convener

Professor Andrew Hayen – Biostatistics and Epidemiology Data Hub Convener

Vice President of the Board of Women’s Healthcare Australasia (WHA)

Professor Emily Callander

Statewide Initiative for Diabetes Management of the Ministry of Health clinician representative on the George Institute’s Produce Prescription RCT Translational Advisory Group

Dr Shannon Lin

UTS Future Pathways Program selection – Centre for Social Justice and Inclusion

Michelle St Lambert

Australasia Diabetes Congress three symposia speakers 2023

Dr Shannon Lin

Top downloaded article in the Medical Journal of Australia (during first 12 months of publication)

Dr Abela Mahimbo

Doctor of Public Health conferral of SoPH staff member

Exploring the change in students who complete coursework in Aboriginal health and wellbeing

Dr Sally Fitzpatrick

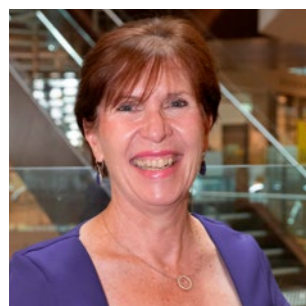
Accreditation of the Health Promotion major in the Bachelor of Public Health program – International Union for Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE)

All graduates from this program will hold the title ‘Registered Health Promotion Practitioner’

Ambassador for International Day of People with Disability 2023 (Australian Govt appointment)

Professor Scott Avery

Achievements 2023



Janelle Craig

World Naturopathic Federation (WNF) Research Committee - Co-chair

Associate Professor Amie Steel

Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Interest Group Convenor, Dietitians Australia

Dr Shannon Lin

South by Southwest (SXSW) panel member

Discussing the challenges, opportunities, and pathways to creating an aged care system that provides older people with quality, safe, dignified care

Associate Professor Deborah Debono

World Naturopathic Federation (WNF) General Assembly – keynote speaker and workshop lead – Geneva

Strengthening the global impact of Traditional, Complementary and Integrative Medicine (TCIM) focussed public health research being conducted at UTS through ARCCIM

Associate Professor Amie Steel

Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand (PSANZ) Best of the Best Keynote Presentation

Cost effectiveness of midwifery continuity of care from COSMOS trial

Professor Emily Callander

Q&A Panel member – Virtual screening of the Conquering Cervical Cancer film (for NSW Multicultural workers) – Cancer Institute NSW

Dr Abela Mahimbo

Board Member, Council of Academic Public Health Institutions Australasia

Dr Daniel Demant

Traditional, Complementary and Integrative Medicine (TCIM) department of the World Health Organization – meeting – Geneva

Presentation of Traditional Evidence appraisal instrument developed by ARCCIM (UTS) in collaboration with NCM (SCU), and the potential impact of Associate Professor Steel's current ARC Future Fellowship grant exploring the role of TCIM primary care professions in preventive health.

Associate Professor Amie Steel

Australian Diabetes Educators Association Credentialed Diabetes Educator (CDE) Board Director

Dr Shannon Lin

Release of 2nd Annual National Women's Health and Wellbeing Scorecard

Identifies Australia's progress in closing gender inequality gaps in health and economic wellbeing

Professor Emily Callander

International Expert and Consultant, Diabetes Education branch, Nursing Association of China

Dr Shannon Lin

Board Member, Global Chinese Diabetes Association

Dr Shannon Lin

Federal Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee Economics Subcommittee (reappointment)

Professor Emily Callander

NAIDOC presentation – Illawarra Aboriginal Medical Service

Presentation activity about the sugar content in different drinks and foods to empower the community to make healthier choices

Dr Shannon Lin and Dr Wenbo Peng

Invited appointment to Journal of Physical Activity and Health on Statistics & Methodologies Advisory Board

Associate Professor Anne Grunseit

FoH representative – UTS LEAD (Leadership Excellence, Accelerated Development) program

Dr Abela Mahimbo

Workshops (n=3) on Public Health Program Evaluation for NSW Ministry of Health staff

Associate Professor Anne Grunseit

Consultant – Developing evidence-based set of strategic priorities for the NSW Environmental Health Network

Dr Abela Mahimbo

Diabetes Australia Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Expert Reference Group

Dr Shannon Lin

Statewide Initiative for Diabetes Management Working Group, NSW Health and NSW Primary Health Networks – elected external member

Dr Shannon Lin

Public Health Association of Australia Women's Health Special Interest Group – Co-convenors

Dr Abela Mahimbo and Associate Professor Amie Steel

Australian Diabetes Educators Association NSW Branch Chair and Executive

Dr Shannon Lin

Council of Academic Public Health Institutions Australia (CAPHIA) presentation of research findings

Presentation of thesis research findings Exploring the change in students who complete coursework in Aboriginal health and wellbeing

Dr Sally Fitzpatrick

Australasian Diabetes Congress – Program Organisation Committee

Dr Shannon Lin

Public Health Association of Australia Queensland Branch – President

Associate Professor Amie Steel

International Nutrition Project Lead, International Society of Paediatrics and Adolescents Diabetes and Life for a Child

Dr Shannon Lin

Osteopathy Australia Research Committee – Member

Associate Professor Amie Steel

Chair, UTS Health and Medical Research Ethics Committee

Dr Daniel Demant

Expert Working Group of the Joint Type 2 Diabetes and Nutrition Specific Formula Consensus Statement, Lead, Diabetes Australia, Australian Diabetes Society, Australian Diabetes Educators Association, RACGP, Dietitians Australia

Dr Shannon Lin

In the Media 2023



Professor Emily Callander



Hannah Jackson



Dr Bo-Huei Huang

January	Professor Emily Callander	12.01.23 ABC Radio National Increasing costs of maternity care
March	Dr Daniel Demant	01.03.23 TPOne (Netherlands), Faktograf (Hungary), US News and World Report Excess deaths in Australia are not linked to vaccines
	Professor Scott Avery	12.03.23 Sunrise Weekend (Channel 7) International Day of People with Disability
April	Professor Emily Callander	13.04.23 newsGP (RACGP) Alarm grows over out-of-pocket impact on health equity
	Professor Emily Callander	13.04.23 MJA Insight Plus Out-of-pocket medical costs hurt the most vulnerable
	Professor Emily Callander	18.04.23 The Australian Patient costs soar as the Medicare debate heats up
	Professor Emily Callander	18.04.23 ABC Radio Queensland Private health insurance
	Dr Bo-Huei Huang	23.04.23 health.com The amount of sleep and exercise needed varies between individuals
May	Professor Scott Avery	12.05.23 ABC Radio National NDIS Inquiry
	Professor Emily Callander	21.05.23 Herald Sun Aussies over 55 skip GP visits
	Professor Emily Callander	21.05.23 Daily Telegraph Aussies over 55 skip GP visits
	Professor Emily Callander	21.05.23 Courier Mail Soaring costs denying oldies proper health care
November	Professor Scott Avery	27.11.23 ABC Nightlife with Phillip Clark Issues affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People with Disability
	Hannah Jackson	29.11.23 The Conversation Thalidomide survivors are receiving an apology for the pharmaceutical disaster that changed pregnancy medicine



“The focus which UTS holds on delivering a progressive, positive contribution to the world in which we live creates an atmosphere of encouragement and motivation for research students and instills a desire to contribute to the highest standard.”

Alaia Harvie,
PhD Candidate SoPH

Our Staff Publications

2023

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- Grunseit A; Waugh M; Mathieu E; Merom D, The psychometric properties of a novel task-based dance self-efficacy measure for older adult dance program participants. *Arts & health.* 2023;15(1);33-52
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- Rahman MS; Peng W; Adams J; Sibbritt D, The use of self-management strategies for stroke rehabilitation: a scoping review. *Top Stroke Rehabil.* 2023;30(6);552-567
- Bayes J; Peng W; Adams J; Sibbritt D, The effect of the Mediterranean diet on health outcomes in post-stroke adults: a systematic literature review of intervention trials. *Eur J Clin Nutr.* 2023;77(5);551-560
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