The new JBI Fellowship aims to support health professionals working in the Aboriginal health sector so they can ultimately improve health outcomes in and lead others in health improvement in that sector.
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Message from the Executive Director

Welcome to the first issue of JBI Matters for 2016 and my last for the year as I depart on 7 March for maternity leave.

We celebrate 20 years of JBI this year, a significant organisational milestone and one that we should collectively be very proud of. Professor Alan Pearson AM, who founded the Institute in 1996, had a vision of sharing the best available research evidence with health professionals globally to improve health outcomes. This vision remains true today and we now work with more than 80 collaborating entities around the world to achieve this goal.

The achievements of the last two decades have been impressive: from a small research team in Adelaide to a major international contributor to the evidence based healthcare movement. The Institute’s sphere of influence has been both academic and clinical in nature, with the development of new methodologies and methods for the review of different types of evidence to tools and resources designed to support their use at the point of care. In addition to this we have established a strong partnership with global publishing house Wolters Kluwer Health, which has enabled us to further our reach and capacity to affect change.

From March through the end of this year, Associate Professor Craig Lockwood will fill the position of Executive Director as I take on a new little challenge! I have been working at JBI since 2000 and it is hard for me to think about not being here every day for the next few months, especially during such an important year. I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a productive and enjoyable 2016 and I look forward to watching the year progress.

I am both delighted and honoured to work with such engaged and enthusiastic staff here in Adelaide and with other key stakeholder groups, partners and students around the globe. There is much to be excited about in 2016 and much to do. It will all coalesce in November as we come together for a 20th Anniversary conference and celebration, which I hope you will all be able to attend. I for one will certainly not miss it!

Associate Professor Zoe Jordan
New fellowship aimed at the Aboriginal health sector

The Joanna Briggs Foundation is offering a number of scholarships to support health professionals working within the Aboriginal health sector to undertake a new JBI Fellowship. The fellowship is a six-month workplace, evidence-based, implementation program involving two five-day intensive training workshops at JBI. The fellowship also involves conducting a workplace evidence implementation project supported by senior academics in the intervening months.

The JBI Fellowship offers participants an opportunity to learn how to:

- Develop and engage in processes to further develop their leadership skills and strengths
- Discuss and describe the effectiveness of current approaches to the implementation of clinical or service delivery evidence based practice
- Critique current evidence implementation strategies
- Act as an agent of change, conduct audits and develop and implement strategies to implement clinical or service delivery evidence based practice
- Prepare a publication for submission to a peer reviewed journal.

It is hoped that by undertaking this course, participants will have the skills and knowledge to improve health outcomes in their regions and to lead others in this important area of health improvement.

Two of these fellowship programs have been organised for 2016:

- The first program begins with an intensive training block scheduled for 22–26 February, followed by a second intensive training block from 8–12 August.
- The second program begins with an intensive training block scheduled for 16–20 May, followed by a second intensive training block from 17–21 October.

The scholarship will cover travel to and from Adelaide for both the first and second weeks of the fellowship, meals and accommodation in Adelaide, and course fees.

For more information, contact CREATE Program Manager Karen Glover on 08 8128 4262 or karen.glover@sahmri.com
Preparations for JBI’s 20th Anniversary celebrations this year are in full swing, with the recent launch of the JBI 20th Anniversary website. The website will be updated regularly so make sure you bookmark it.

Destination #1: Perth

‘Alan’ departed on his journey around the world late last year and spent the month of January in Perth, Australia with Dr Sally Wilson and the team at the Western Australian Group for Evidence Informed Healthcare Practice (WACEIHP). He had an adventurous Australia Day (Jan 26), including a swimming incident which resulted in some rest and ‘recovery’.

He is now on his way to meet the team at The Centre for Evidence-based Nursing. Follow us on twitter for more updates on his adventure. #whereisJBIalan

The bobblehead figurine of Emeritus Professor Alan Pearson ‘travelling around the globe’ to ten of our collaborating centres (two from each region) and our commercial partners, Wolters Kluwer, is a lead-up to the 20th Anniversary conference in Adelaide in November 2016.

Cancer Care node update

Dr Micah Peters, Implementation Science Research Fellow, met with the JBI Cancer Care node Chair Dr Marion Eckert (SA Cancer Services/Cancer Council SA), the node’s Expert Reference Group member/Consumer Representative Chris Christensen (Cancer Voices SA), and Julie Marker (Chair, Cancer Voices SA/SA Cancer Services) at JBI late last year.

They discussed the Cancer Care node’s upcoming work throughout 2016 and how it can relate and integrate with the strategic objectives and directions of SA Health’s SA Cancer Service and Cancer Voices – South Australia’s peak body representing people affected by cancer.

These relationships will help the Cancer Care ensure broad clinician and consumer engagement and aid the Cancer Care node ERG in strategic decision making about future node work.
Dr Munn presents in San Francisco

Dr Zachary Munn, Director Transfer Science, travelled to San Francisco in early February to visit the UCSF JBI Centre for Synthesis and Implementation and to present at their Clinical InQuERI conference to around 200 attendees.

His presentation, ‘The evolution of evidence-based healthcare’, was very well received.

Dr Munn also presented JBI clinical fellow medallions to the first batch of clinical fellows from their centre.

Aged Care node ERG member on Health Professional Radio

Michael Peachey, ERG member of our Aged Care node, was recently interviewed on Health Professional Radio. Michael talked about the recent changes made in aged care funding and the possible impact that these may have on the services are being provided.

Measuring what matters

‘Our impact – December 2015’, an overview of measures of impact of JBI’s work undertaken in 2015, is now available on the JBI website.

Measuring and reporting impact is becoming increasingly important in evidence-based healthcare. It is integral to monitoring the influence and effect of research evidence on decision-making at the point of care and its ability to improve health outcomes for the community.

The report offers an opportunity to celebrate our success and learn from our experience so that we can continue to enhance our performance and move forward strategically.
Accolades on display

The accolades and accomplishments of the Northeast Institute for Evidence Synthesis and Translation (NEST) are prominently on display at the Rutgers School of Nursing’s largest facility in Newark, New Jersey. Included in the glass encased wooden display are the JBI Center Excellence Recognition award for 2015 and the JBI Colloquium Best Oral Presentation award for 2014, among other works produced in collaboration with other members of the JBC.

Papers published

Two papers co-authored by JBI staff were recently published:

Prevention of falls in acute hospital settings: a multi-site audit and best practice implementation project – Dr Matthew Stephenson, Implementation Science Research Fellow

Provision of meaningful care at diagnosis, birth, and after stillbirth: a qualitative synthesis of parents' experiences – Dr Karolina Lisy and Dr Micah Peters, Implementation Science Research Fellows.
Evidence-Based Clinical Fellowship Program

Learn about clinical leadership and how to implement evidence in practice to improve patient outcomes.

The Evidence-Based Clinical Fellowship Program is a six-month workplace, evidence-based, implementation program involving two five-day intensive training workshops in the Joanna Briggs Institute, and a workplace evidence implementation project in the intervening months.

Program dates for 2016

May intake
Program: Tuesday 17 May
Enrol by: 15 April 2016

June intake
Program: Tuesday 21 June
Enrol by: 6 May 2016

August intake
Program: Tuesday 23 August
Enrol by: 22 July 2016

Clinical Leadership Program

The Clinical Leadership Program is open to all clinical leaders and leaders-to-be in all health care disciplines. Dates for 2016 are now available for this one-day program delivered by Proteus Leadership.

Program dates for 2016

May intake
Program: Tuesday 17 May
Enrol by: 15 April 2016

June intake
Program: Tuesday 21 June
Enrol by: 6 May 2016

August intake
Program: Tuesday 23 August
Enrol by: 22 July 2016

The JBI Developing Countries Clinical Fellowship

The Joanna Briggs Foundation has been established to raise funds that enable health professionals from developing countries to undertake the JBI Clinical Fellowship program. The JBI Evidence-Based Clinical Fellowship Program is a six-month workplace, evidence-based, implementation program involving two ten-day intensive training workshops in the Joanna Briggs Institute in Adelaide, and conducting a workplace evidence implementation project in the intervening months.

Week 1: 20–29 June
Week 2: 9–18 November

For information on these two programs and to enrol contact jbieducation@adelaide.edu.au.

More information
Comprehensive Systematic Review Full Training Program (Modules 1, 2 and 3)

Five days

Learn how to conduct reviews using qualitative and quantitative data.

Program dates for 2016:
4–8 April (Enrol by: 4 March 2016)
2–6 May (Enrol by: 1 April 2016)
18–22 July (Enrol by: 17 June 2016)
5–9 September (Enrol by: 5 August 2016)
31 October – 4 November (Enrol by: 30 September 2016)

For information and to enrol contact jbieducation@adelaide.edu.au

CSR Module 1: Introduction to Evidence-Based Healthcare and the Systematic Review of Evidence

One day (Mandatory pre-requisite for Modules 2 and 3)

CSR Module 2: The Systematic Review of Quantitative Data from Experimental and Non-experimental Studies

Two days

Program dates for 2016:
5–6 April (Enrol by: 4 March 2016)
3–4 May (Enrol by: 1 April 2016)
19–20 July (Enrol by: 17 June 2016)
6–7 September (Enrol by: 5 August 2016)
1–2 November (Enrol by: 30 September 2016)

CSR Module 3: The Systematic Review of Evidence Generated by Qualitative Research, Narrative and Text

Two days

Program dates for 2016:
7–8 April (Enrol by: 19 February 2016)
5–6 May (Enrol by: 18 March 2016)
21–22 July (Enrol by: 3 June 2016)

8–9 September (Enrol by: 22 July 2016)
3–4 November (Enrol by: 30 September 2016)

External events

Further information and registration forms for the following events are located on the external events page of the JBI website:

UCSF Centre for Centre for Synthesis and Implementation

2016 Evidence Based Clinical Fellowship and CSRTP training dates:

Evidence Based Clinical Fellowship Program
Week 1: 13–17 June 2016
Week 2: 14–18 November 2016

Comprehensive Systematic Review Training Program (CSRTP)
22–26 February 2016
14–18 March 2016
25–29 April 2016
12–16 September 2016
University of West London Centre for Evidence-Based Healthcare

2016 CSRTP dates:
15–19 February 2016

Czech Republic (Middle European) Centre for Evidence-Based Healthcare

2016 CSRTP dates:
8–12 February 2016
5–9 September 2016

The Queensland Centre for Evidence-Based Nursing and Midwifery

2016 CSRTP dates:
15–19 February 2016
4–6 July 2016

Portugal Centre for Evidence-Based Practice

2016 CSRTP dates:
30 May–3 June 2016

5th Congress on Nursing Research of Ibero-American and Portuguese-speaking Countries

2016 event dates:
6–8 June 2016

The Queen’s University School of Nursing and the Queen’s Joanna Briggs Collaboration 2016 Conference of the Americas

2016 event dates
29 September – 1 October 2016

The Northeast Institute for Evidence Synthesis and Translation (NEST), Rutgers School of Nursing

2016 CSRTP dates
14–18 March 2016
A great start to 2016

Some exciting news to share this month!

In 2014, Wolters Kluwer invested in creating a series of videos on evidence-based practice (EBP) to create a new way to communicate directly with global healthcare professionals one-on-one about the importance of evidence-based practice and to introduce the JBI model.

Evidence-Based Practice: Improving Practice, Improving Outcomes Part 1, featuring Health LRP Chief Nurse Dr Anne Dabrow Woods, just surpassed 25,000 views. We are estimating an average of 150 new views a day for the last three to four months. The video is now the number 1 video on YouTube when searching Evidence Based Practice, and number 1 on the video tab on Google.

Part 1 covers the origins of EBP, its global impact on healthcare practice, the different types of research including systematic reviews and meta-analyses, the hierarchy of evidence, and when can a healthcare practitioner say he or she is delivering evidence-based care. The video runs just under 19 minutes.

Part 2 builds on the high-level learning in Part 1, including a deep dive into the JBI model and methodology, including a review of JBI tools, and has been viewed over 4700 times.

We think the video has taken off because it offers a compelling but approachable and common-sense approach to a complex topic, delivered by a clinician who is also experienced teaching evidence-based practice to nursing students and healthcare professionals around the world. It also reflects the increasing importance of evidence-based practice in clinical education worldwide.

The popularity of the video has yielded some positive side benefits. Anne was recruited to be a guest speaker on evidence at Memorial Sloan-Kettering’s yearly distinguished speaker panel, held in New York City on Nov 17, 2015 because the Chief Nursing Officer who organised the meeting had seen the video and has been assigning it to all of his nurses.

Anne works closely with CE&E Associate Director of Marketing Janet Feeney, who produced and promoted these videos, to develop the marketing strategy for the Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI) on Ovid and now for NursingCenter.com

Here is how to watch:

1. Watch Evidence-Based Practice: Improving Practice, Improving Outcomes Part 1
2. Then Evidence-Based Practice: Improving Practice, Improving Outcomes Part 2
3. Then explore all of the videos available on the evidence-based practice playlist, featuring thought leaders from the JBI Executive team and the global collaboration.

What’s next? We will be adding more videos featuring Anne soon, as we launch a new YouTube channel for NursingCenter. Her next new long-form video will be on ‘Macro trends in nursing’. We will add these very popular evidence-based practice videos so we can better promote to the NursingCenter audience. Anne is also featured along with the editorial team from NursingCenter in our inaugural series of videos for YouTube – a ‘behind the scenes’ look at what makes NursingCenter a must-visit destination, for nurses, by nurses.
Centre changes

Covenant Health Canada (Edmonton, Canada)

JBI farewells Sandra Vanderzee, who has resigned from Covenant Health and accepted a position with Alberta Health Services. We thank Sandra for her efforts as Centre Director. Deputy Director Sharna Polard will lead the centre’s operations until the appointment of a new director.

Centre for Evidence Based Healthy Ageing (Brisbane, Australia)

Professor Anne Chang has stepped down as the Director of the Centre for Evidence Based Healthy Ageing (CEBHA) and we thank her for all her contributions and efforts with the centre. Mary-Anne Ramis (m.ramis@qut.edu.au) will take the lead as the Acting Deputy Director for CEBHA.

Teesside Centre for Evidence Based Practice (Middlesbrough, United Kingdom)

Centre Director Dr Sharon Hamilton is currently on leave until further notice and acting in her place is Centre Deputy Director Dr Louisa Ells (L.ells@tees.ac.uk).

Chamberlain College of Nursing Evidence Synthesis Group (San Francisco, United States)

JBI farewells Dr Julie Daniels who has resigned from her position with the Chamberlain College of Nursing. We thank Julie for her work with the centre and JBI welcomes Chad O’Lynn, who has been named as the new Group Convener (colynn@chamberlain.edu).

Centre for Evidence Based Initiatives in Health Care (Wollongong, Australia)

Professor Kenneth Walsh has stepped down from his position as Deputy Director for the Centre and commenced a new role with the University of Tasmania as Professor of Translational Research in Nursing and Midwifery. All communication should continue to be directed to Professor Ritin Fernandez (Ritin.Fernandez@sesihs.health.nsw.gov.au).

National University Cancer Institute Singapore (Queenstown, Singapore)

JBI welcomes Ms Lim Lay Cheng (Lay_Cheng_Lim@nuhs.edu.sg) as the new Group Convener of the Nursing Evidence Implementation Group at the National University Cancer Institute Singapore. We thank Chow Ying Leng for her work with the group to date.

The Australian Centre for Evidence Based Community Care (Brisbane, Queensland)

The Australian Centre for Evidence Based Community Care has dissolved its partnership status and will not be continuing as a Collaborating Centre of the Joanna Briggs Institute. JBI has enjoyed a fruitful and meaningful partnership with the centre and we acknowledge the contributions of the centre to the Collaboration.

Danish Centre of Systematic Synthesis in Nursing (Aarhus, Denmark)

Professor Preben Pedersen has stepped down as the Director of the Danish Centre of Systematic Synthesis in Nursing. JBI welcomes Palle Larsen (plo@kliniskerektningslinjer.dk) as the incoming Centre Director and we wish him every success in his new role. We thank Professor Pedersen for his contribution to the centre to date.
2016 Regional Chairs update

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Centre name</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Director</th>
<th>Email address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UCSF JBI Centre for Synthesis and Implementation</td>
<td>Americas</td>
<td>Prof Daphne Stannard</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Daphne.Stannard@ucsfmedctr.org">Daphne.Stannard@ucsfmedctr.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Spanish Centre for Evidence Based Healthcare</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Dr Teresa Moreno Casbas</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rmmoreno@lscll.es">rmmoreno@lscll.es</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Witwatersrand Centre for Evidence Based Practice</td>
<td>Central</td>
<td>Prof Patricia McNerney</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Patricia.McNerney@wits.ac.za">Patricia.McNerney@wits.ac.za</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Centre for Evidence Based Initiatives in Health Care</td>
<td>Australasia</td>
<td>Prof Ritin Fernandez</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Ritin.Fernandez@sesihs.health.nsw.gov.au">Ritin.Fernandez@sesihs.health.nsw.gov.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Centre for Chronic Disease Management</td>
<td>Australasia</td>
<td>Dr Hanan Khalil</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hanan.khalil@monash.edu">hanan.khalil@monash.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Thailand Centre for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery</td>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>Assoc Prof Petroporn Tungpukorn</td>
<td><a href="mailto:petroporn.t@cmu.ac.th">petroporn.t@cmu.ac.th</a></td>
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**Note**

- Professor Ritin Fernandez and Dr Hanan Khalil Co-Chair the Regional Position for Australasia. Please note, Professor Fernandez is the first point of contact; however, Dr Khalil is to be included in all correspondence.
- Dr Teresa (Mayte) Morena Casbas will serve as Europe’s Regional Chair until the end of April 2016, with Pamela Kirkpatrick assuming the role thereafter.

54th Meeting of the Committee of Directors (8–10 March)

All Centre Directors have now received an email request to provide their contact details for the upcoming March teleconference. The times and dates have been issued for each Centre, therefore, if you have not yet confirmed your attendance and contact details, please do so asap by contacting Adriana Turner at adriana.turner@adelaide.edu.au
Direct PhD entry student Robin Pap focuses on prehospital care

On 8 February 2016, JBI will welcome its latest cohort of HDR students. One of those students will be Sydney based. Robin has an international background in paramedicine and is currently a Lecturer and Course Coordinator for Paramedicine at Australian Catholic University in Sydney. Robin is a member of the Australian and New Zealand College of Paramedicine (ANZCP), Paramedics Australasia (PA) and the Emergency Care Society of South Africa (ECSSA).

Before moving to Australia in 2014, Robin worked at the National Ambulance Service of Qatar, initially as Clinical Manager and subsequently as Manager of the Consultant Paramedic Program. Key responsibilities of both these roles included the development of evidence-based clinical practice guidelines and the implementation and monitoring of quality indicators within the service. During this time Robin worked closely with the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) and was selected for a Fellowship with the Institute. Prior to living and working in the Middle East, Robin lectured at a university and worked in both state and private ambulance services in Cape Town, South Africa. For the completion of his Master of Science in Medicine degree at University of the Witwatersrand Robin investigated prehospital airway management for patients entrapped after a motor vehicle collision.

It was through a colleague and existing Higher Degree by Research (HDR) student, Marc Colbeck (Feb 2015 Intake PhD), that Robin became aware of JBI HDR program. His passion to develop the relatively young discipline of paramedicine through research and his interest in the implementation of quality and safety improvement tools led him to apply to study and research towards the PhD at JBI.

The research Robin is conceptualising investigates the evidence base of clinical indicators evaluating prehospital care. Robin writes: “Prehospital care is the care provided to patients before and during transport to a health care facility. This initial phase of the continuum of health care is provided mostly by ambulance services. The aim of this study is to perform a systematic review of international literature on clinical indicators for prehospital care using JBI methodology and to assess feasibility of evidence-based clinical indicators for the Australian prehospital context. Ambulance services are under increased pressure to develop and monitor performance measures, especially on clinical effectiveness, to demonstrate quality of care. Evidence-based ambulance care standards and associated clinical indicators can assist in benchmarking quality as well as reducing variation of care.”

“Believe in yourself! Have faith in your abilities! Without a humble but reasonable confidence in your own powers you cannot be successful or happy.”
~ Norman Vincent Peale
Two nominations for the 2016 Postgraduate Alumni University Medal

The HDR team is pleased to advise that HDR students Rochelle Kurmis (July 2013 Intake) and Omar Breik (February 2013 Intake) have been nominated by their principal supervisors for the 2016 Postgraduate Alumni University Medal.

The Postgraduate Alumni University Medal is awarded each year to a graduating postgraduate on the basis of outstanding academic merit. The medal may be awarded for coursework or thesis or combination of both at the postgraduate level. The award consists of a medal and a cash prize of $500. On 30 November of each year the Executive Deans of the Faculties will be invited to submit to Alumni Relations the names of up to two students who have been or are confirmed to be admitted to a postgraduate degree in that same calendar year, and whose degree will have been conferred at the mid-year Graduation Ceremony, or will be conferred at the April Ceremony in the following year.

The award will be awarded based on academic merit and only one medal may be awarded each year. A Selection Committee will be coordinated by Alumni Relations at the University Engagement Branch and the Medal will be presented at the April Graduation Ceremonies. We wish the Rochelle and Omar the very best of luck.

An exemplary student

Rochelle Kurmis has been nominated for the Alumni Award by her Principal Supervisor, Associate Professor Edoardo Aromataris. On Rochelle’s performance as a HDR student, Associate Professor Aromataris writes: “Rochelle’s research involved the conduct of a systematic review with statistical meta-analyses assessing the effectiveness of trace element supplementation for burns injuries; both her priori review protocol and completed systematic review have been published in international, peer reviewed, journals. During her candidature, she also published three other research papers related to her clinical practice and has contributed to approximately ten publications in the last five years.

“Rochelle had all of the characteristics of an exemplary student. She was extremely well organised, able to understand and complete her research tasks with minimal supervision and present her work in both written and oral format, and proficient in the conduct of her own research and the use of research to guide her own clinical practice.

“Rochelle’s motivation to complete her studies is worth mentioning too; she completed her research degree whilst working three days a week at the Royal Adelaide Hospital, renovating a house, raising a young family and also dealing with the serious illness of a close family member.”

Motivated, grounded, and with exceptional ability

Omar Breik has been nominated for the Alumni Award by his principal supervisor, Dr David Tivey. On Omar’s performance throughout candidature, Dr David Tivey writes: “Omar is a highly motivated individual of exceptional ability. Omar has dedicated his early career to gain the necessary prerequisites to be admitted into the
Fellowship training program to become an Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon (OMS). He has achieved this with distinction. “Entry into the Fellowship program for OMS is a considerable achievement. At the first attempt, Omar passed his Surgical Sciences and Training (SET) Exam (Royal College of Dental Surgeons). He did this while undertaking his research for his Master in Clinical Science. Of note, Omar achieved the highest SET exam score in 2014 and was awarded the Australian and New Zealand Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (ANZAOMS) Medal. “His thesis title, ‘Mandibular distraction osteogenesis in the management of airway obstruction in children with micrognathia: a systematic review’, was well received with both examiners awarding it high distinctions. “Omar has produced three manuscripts from his Master’s research; two have been accepted while the other is still subject to peer review. These articles have been submitted to leading journals in oral and maxillofacial surgery. In addition, Omar has presented his work at conferences including an invitation to present the Evidence-based Medicine lecture at the Australasian Cleft lip and Palate conference in 2014. Omar is a grounded individual, respectful and a valued member of the community and his profession.”

Passionate, focused and disciplined

JBI Research Fellow, Implementation Science, Catalin Tufanaru, has completed his thesis titled, ‘Theoretical foundations of meta-aggregation: insights from Husserlian phenomenology and American pragmatism’ and satisfied all the requirements of the Doctor of Philosophy. On his student, Emeritus Professor Alan Pearson AM writes: “After submitting his PhD thesis for examination within two years of enrolment, I am delighted that Catalin met the requirements for the PhD to be awarded. Catalin exemplifies the importance of being passionate, focused and disciplined when pursuing a doctorate. Despite working full time in a demanding role, Catalin committed to his studies and completed the requirements of the degree well within his candidature. Members of the JBI Implementation Science team must meet monthly targets in terms of ensuring that a certain number of evidence summaries are finalised and published, as well as the usual roles of university teaching, doing research and publishing. This meant Catalin’s PhD work had to be conducted in the evenings, at weekends and during holidays. He was determined to finish his PhD, without any compromises in rigour and quality, within two years – and he has done it! His thesis is an in depth analysis of the claims that the JBI approach to qualitative evidence synthesis is grounded in two specific philosophical/theoretical approaches: the transcendental phenomenology of Edmund Husserl, and American pragmatism as advanced by Charles Sanders Peirce, William James and John Dewey.

“Higher Degree by Research students in JBI know that the JBI meta-aggregative approach to synthesising evidence from
qualitative studies focuses on the findings of qualitative researchers and does not require a re-analysis or re-interpretation of these results by the systematic reviewer. Essentially, the systematic reviewer extracts the findings from each study and then seeks to ‘pool’ the results of all studies to develop pragmatic recommendations for practice. These basic tenets of the methodology were explicit in the initial work of the QARI development group I led in the late 1990s. We loosely advocated for a transcendental rather than a hermeneutic approach to analysis, and for a pragmatic approach that led to practical recommendations for practice – but we were not really very specific about this in the early QARI work and subsequent iterations. Later work, notably by Associate Professor Craig Lockwood, JBI Director of Implementation Science and Post Graduate Coordinator, and Associate Professor Karin Hannes, Social Scientist at the Catholic University of Leuven in Belgium (who spent a year in JBI as a visiting Fellow), sought to relate these two elements of the approach to existing theory. The focus on the meaning of the findings of qualitative researchers was claimed to be essentially Husserlian in nature in Associate Professor Lockwood’s PhD thesis. Associate Professor Lockwood also worked with Associate Professor Hannes to examine the JBI requirement for qualitative reviews to end up with declarative statements or if/then statements and they concluded that this was congruent with the philosophical approach of American pragmatism. Catalin has explored the JBI approach to meta-aggregation and then considered the degree to which it is congruent with Husserl’s Transcendental Phenomenology and Peirce’s, James’s and Dewey’s philosophies of pragmatism. He concludes that, indeed, there are real congruities between meta-aggregation, transcendental phenomenology and American pragmatism. This is, firstly very important for the ongoing development of JBI’s methodology, as well as its credibility in the field of synthesis science. Secondly, it builds beautifully on the PhD work in JBI of both Associate Professor Lockwood and Dr Kylie Porritt, JBI Research Fellow – Implementation Science, as well as the JBI Qualitative Methods Group. Most importantly, it provides a solid theoretical framework for meta-aggregation and present clear recommendations that the Methods Group may wish to pursue.

“I urge HDR students in JBI to read this work – and to take heart from it that it really is possible to produce high level work, while working full time, within the PhD timeline!”
Scholarships

With all the excitement of the holidays behind us and settling into the swing of things for the new year, it is a timely reminder to keep our eyes open for all scholarships. The Australian College of Nursing has a list of scholarships that might be of interest to our Alumni.

Our focus is multidisciplinary, so if you know of any other potential scholarship opportunities that may be of interest, please let us know and we'll share. Scholarships are often cyclical and appear throughout the year, so if you see or hear of any that may be relevant to our Alumni members, please share by emailing Sarah Silver on sarah.silver@adelaide.edu.au.

Colour me well

If you didn’t already know it, adult colouring-in books are a BIG trend at the moment, with two adult colouring books currently in the top 10 of Amazons Top 100 books list.

They are touted as being therapeutic: ‘calming’ and ‘stress relieving’, helping us to unwind from our very busy stressful modern lifestyles by way of colour therapy.

So, this got me wondering, ‘How do we use colour therapy in healthcare?’.... and so I did a little Googling (as one does) and came across this article, ‘Colour therapy - hues that can heal’, which I hope you will find interesting.

Let me know if this inspired you to look around your work place and think of other ways you can use colour therapy, and if you think this benefits your patients in any way... at the very least, did this inspire you to go out and buy an adult colouring book?

‘Colors are the smiles of nature.’ ~ Leigh Hunt