JBI Matters
The monthly newsletter of The Joanna Briggs Institute

July/August: 2016

JBI relocates to new premises
page 3

Norwich House, the new premises of JBI’s headquarters in Adelaide

www.joannabriggs.org
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We are now at Norwich House!

July was a month of planning, packing and moving as we relocated to our new premises at 55 King William Road, North Adelaide, our second move in less than three years.

The move from the old Royal Adelaide Hospital to Grenfell Street in the city in August 2013 was a significant one. In the last two years, being in the city helped shape our programs, and improve the perception of JBI by visitors, the rest of the University of Adelaide and the general public. It also empowered staff in various ways.

We are confident that this move will further reinforce those gains, and we look forward to showing you our ‘new home’ later this year.

Seamless in more ways than one

The Joanna Briggs Institute has secured a grant from NSW Health to conduct a rapid review on the impact of integrated care on hospital and emergency department utilisation and patient-centred outcomes.

Integrated care combines different services in a seamless and effective manner to address patient healthcare needs and improve health outcomes. A fully integrated healthcare service reduces fragmentation and duplication, which in turn contributes to increased efficiency and manageability. Integrated care may be strengthened through joint governance arrangements, shared financial incentives to encourage collaboration, and IT systems and tools for better communication between providers from different sectors.

Patients with chronic and complex conditions may particularly benefit from an integrated care program, as may the health system in terms of increased provision of services in community settings and reduced emergency department (ED) presentations and hospital admissions/readmissions.

The rapid review will synthesise the best available evidence on the impact of integrated care on hospital and ED utilisation and patient-reported outcomes, such as satisfaction, quality of life, empowerment, self-efficacy and health literacy.

The project team comprises Research Fellows Dr Matthew Stephenson, Dr Cindy Stern and Dr Karolina Lisy, and Director Synthesis Science Associate Professor Edoardo Aromataris.

This is the second integrated care project that JBI is conducting for NSW Health. The first, also a rapid review, on experiences of healthcare providers in providing integrated care, was completed last year.
From tuberculosis to malaria – developing countries clinical fellows take a bold step

A clinical fellowship program held in late June at the JBI headquarters in Adelaide was an important milestone for the Institute. The 11 clinical fellows from eight countries (Myanmar, Tanzania, Nepal, Indonesia, Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya and Iran) were funded by the Joanna Briggs Foundation to attend the first-ever Developing Countries Evidence-based Clinical Fellowship Program which runs over six months.

During their ten-day workshop in Adelaide, they acquired skills and accessed resources to help them design their evidence implementation project and plan for its implementation back in the clinical settings of their home countries over the forthcoming months.

Their selected topics reflect the nature and severity of health care issues and challenges that they face in their countries. Among these were ‘Community based management of drug-resistant tuberculosis’, ‘Artemisinin-based combination therapy for uncomplicated malaria in children under five years of age’, ‘Implementation of basic newborn resuscitation guidelines among health workers’, and others.

Over the weekend, the participants enjoyed a sampling of Australian heritage and culture.

Acting Executive Director’s meeting in London

Associate Professor Craig Lockwood attended a two-day meeting in London in late June. The meeting was by invitation of the Cochrane Central Executive to participate in a discussion and planning session for knowledge translation within the Cochrane Collaboration. Over the two days, Craig along with the Co-Chairs and other invited participants discussed and developed a framework for knowledge translation planning that will be taken forward by the Central Executive.
Training in Rome

Associate Professor Edoardo Aromataris, Director Synthesis Science, conducted a very successful Comprehensive Systematic Review Training Program for 15 participants at the Centre of Excellence for Nursing Scholarship, The National Regulatory Board of Registered Nurses, Health Visitors and Pediatric Nurses (IPASVI), Rome, Italy.

The course was held from 13 to 17 June and Associate Professor Raluca Sfetcu, Deputy Director of the Romanian Centre for Evidence Based Nursing and Midwifery, assisted him in the training.

Alexa’s presentation in Qingdao

In the last week of June, Alexa McArthur, Acting Director Implementation Science, travelled to China to give a presentation at the Qingdao Women and Children’s Medical Coalition conference in Qingdao. The Qingdao Women and Children’s Hospital Evidence-based Nursing Center has just joined the JBC as an Affiliated Group. Their particular interest is implementation work.

She next visited the Fudan University Evidence Based Nursing Center in Shanghai. Professor Hu Yan and her team met with Alexa to discuss their experiences with sending people to undertake the Clinical Fellowship program in Australia. Since 2011, they have had 34 clinical fellows complete implementation projects, seven projects are ongoing, and six will commence in August.

While there, Alexa also visited the Huashan Hospital, Fudan Children’s Hospital, and Zhongshan Hospital, visiting Clinical Fellows and seeing firsthand the wonderful ongoing implementation work.
Dr Peter’s visit to Denmark

Dr Micah Peters, Implementation Science Research Fellow, was recently invited by the Aalborg University JBI Centre in Denmark to present sessions and run interactive workshops on using JBI’s approaches, methodologies and resources for systematic reviews, scoping reviews and implementation studies.

Dr Peters ran three day-long sessions at Aalborg University (campuses in Aalborg and Copenhagen) and Copenhagen University and met with staff, students and clinicians from both Danish and Norwegian hospitals and healthcare centres who are conducting JBI systematic reviews. Around 45 participants attended the sessions.

Extending JBI’s reach into Europe, Dr Peters and the Chair of the JBI Cancer Care Node Expert Reference Group Professor Marion Eckert (now the inaugural professor of Cancer Nursing at the University of South Australia) both attended the recent meeting of the Multinational Association of Supportive Care in Cancer (MASCC) and took the opportunity to meet with two new members from Europe – Associate Professor Paz Fernandez-Ortega from the Catalan Institute of Oncology, Spain, and Dr Corina Van Den Hurk from the Netherlands Comprehensive Cancer Centre.

New JBI videos

Check out the new videos recently uploaded to the JBI YouTube Channel. The first is on Dr Catalin’s (Implementation Science Research Fellow) Graduate Research Seminar on “Statistics and evidence-based healthcare” held in June.

The other recent videos feature an interview with Emeritus Professor Alan Pearson discussing his professional background and how this led to the establishment of the Joanna Briggs Institute. There is a short version of this video and the full interview is also available. It is highly recommended viewing.

Do subscribe to the JBI YouTube Channel and you can view new video uploads in your subscriptions. Please also promote and share these videos via social media.
JBI 20th Anniversary

2016 is a year of recognising and promoting our impressive achievements. One of the ‘events’ we are supporting is the collaboration-wide promotion of papers written by members of the JBI/JBC. JBI/JBC has an extensive social media network and we would like to use this to promote papers you have written about your JBI work, whether they be opinion pieces, editorials, research, or scholarly outputs.

Socialising key papers does not require them to be recent; older papers and original work can be messaged to promote the concepts of EBHC as practised through the collaboration just as readily as recent papers. Systematic review reports or implementation reports will not be included unless they are clearly of a methodological focus.

We will be promoting two papers per month throughout 2016 using social media. If you’re not already following us on Twitter, check out our handle, JBIEBHC and #JBI20 to see the latest papers released. Feel free to retweet the links.

If you would like to have one of your papers promoted, please email the paper to craig.lockwood@adelaide.edu.au. Please also:

1. Provide your twitter ID.
2. Follow the JBI twitter handle (@JBIEBHC), and
3. When you re-tweet, use the #JBI20 to be able to participate!

JBI 20th Anniversary Conference

9-11 November 2016
The National Wine Centre
Adelaide, Australia

Have you visited the conference website? The website has a lot of information about speakers, events, opportunities for sponsorship and more. If you have not checked it out, be sure to visit the website to find out what is happening.

Registrations

Have you registered for the JBI 20th Anniversary yet? To register for the conference, click here. Registration fees and important dates can be viewed at the conference website. Register now.

Gala Dinner

We invite you to join us for an evening of food, wine, entertainment and celebration at the JBI 20th Anniversary Gala Dinner. The dinner, held at the architecturally eye-catching National Wine Centre of Australia, will be an event you will not want to miss.
Gala Dinner tickets are included in the full registration packages and can also be purchased separately.

The guest speaker for the Gala Dinner is Dr Michael Holt, who will be presenting on the topic, ‘Be prepared for the unexpected’.

Dr Michael Holt was a successful and dynamic orthopaedic surgeon in private practice with everything to live for when, within a split second, his terrific life was seemingly irretrievably lost and shattered.

After surviving a near fatal accident, he was left with permanent and apparently debilitating injuries. With him suffering blindness, deafness and other injuries, it was hard to believe that anyone would let him be a surgeon again. He had to drag himself out of the depths of despair and hopelessness to rebuild his previously perfect life.

Dr Holt’s story has been featured on Australian Story and was one of the top rating stories for the ABC, watched by over 1.2 million viewers.

Join us as Dr Holt shares a very personal insight into how his accident changed his life and how his passion for healing others helped him to heal himself.

Clinical fellows spread the word

Two JBI clinical fellows, Veronica Oliver (Princess Alexandra Hospital, Brisbane) and Dana Cotton (Royal Adelaide Hospital), recently presented the results of their best practice implementation projects at the Renal Society of Australasia Conference held on the Gold Coast from 20–22 June.

Veronica (pictured, right) gave an oral presentation on the prevention, assessment and management of post-dialysis fatigue for patients attending in-centre haemodialysis, and Dana (pictured, extreme right) presented a poster on constipation prevention and management in peritoneal dialysis patients. Both these projects achieved impressive improvements in clinical practice and generated significant interest amongst conference attendees. Veronica and Dana were the inaugural recipients of grants provided by Amgen and the Renal Society of Australasia to participate in the JBI Evidence Based Clinical Fellowship Program.

The great work of these Clinical Fellows contributes to the ongoing collaboration between the Renal Society of Australasia and the JBI Renal Care Node to promote awareness and uptake of evidence-based practice in the renal field.
Liverpool Hospital gains ‘JBI Endorsement’

Liverpool Hospital in New South Wales, Australia, was recently awarded a three-year JBI Endorsement, in recognition of their excellent work in implementing evidence in their clinical setting.

An official function was held on 7 July to celebrate this event at Liverpool Hospital. Professor Deborah Parker from the New South Wales Centre for Evidence Based Health Care based at the Western Sydney University represented the Joanna Briggs Collaboration. Kylie Wright, the Quality and Accreditation Manager at Liverpool Hospital has worked with a wonderful team to gain this achievement. Kylie undertook the JBI Evidence Based Clinical Fellowship program in 2014, and they currently have two JBI clinical fellows undertaking implementation projects, and are planning for a medication administration project.

Further information on JBI Endorsement

Accolade for Dr Woods

Dr Ann Dabrow Woods, Chief Nurse, Wolters Kluwer Health, has been inducted into the American Academy of Nursing’s 2016 Class of Academy fellows.

Dr Woods is among 164 highly distinguished nurse leaders representing all 50 states in the US, the District of Columbia, and 28 countries to receive this accolade.

‘I am truly humbled and honoured to be recognized for my work in nursing and to be included in the 2016 Class of Fellows for the American Academy of Nursing. Everything I have done in my nursing career has been to improve nursing and healthcare practices and patient outcomes. My ongoing work will continue to focus on improving health policy, practice and patient outcomes on a global level,’ Dr Woods said.

The JBI approach to KT

‘The JBI approach to KT: integrating EBHC with health service delivery methods’ was the title of a seminar delivered by Associate Professor Craig Lockwood, JBI Acting Executive Director, delivered a seminar at the University of Adelaide on 29 July. The talk was part of the Robin Research Institute’s Research Seminar Series, and was well attended.
Endorsement for the CNCF

It can often be difficult to measure the impact of groups like the Cochrane Nursing Care Field (CNCF) on the international nursing community. However, a recent endorsement received from the International Journal of Nursing Studies (IJNS) acknowledged the effectiveness of the CNCF’s work in the dissemination of best practice evidence in nursing care, and how the Field is becoming a visible Cochrane presence and highly regarded by key stakeholders outside the Cochrane Collaboration.

The IJNS is considered one of the highest ranked nursing journals internationally with an impact rating of 2.32, and the CNCF has just entered into its second publication agreement with this journal that will see the Field’s Cochrane review summaries published in this journal well into 2017.

Professor Ian Norman, Editor-in-Chief of the IJNS (pictured), said in his testimonial: ‘The purpose at the journal is to provide a forum for publication of scholarly papers on research findings, research-based reviews, discussion papers and commentaries which are of interest to an international readership of practitioners, educators, administrators and researchers in all areas of nursing, midwifery and the caring sciences.’

‘Our collaboration with the Cochrane Nursing Care Field has enabled the IJNS to fulfil its remit by delivering summaries of current best evidence to inform professional nursing and midwifery across the globe. Notable summaries which have recently drawn the attention of our international readership include: a review of gloves, gowns and masks for reducing the transmission of methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) in the hospital setting; a review of interventions for preventing delirium in older people in institutional long-term care; and a review of advanced life support training for hospital staff. Having trialled the publication of Cochrane Nursing Care review summaries, we have renewed our publishing agreement and look forward to publishing further summaries of best evidence in the year ahead.’

The CNCF currently develops eight to 12 Cochrane review summaries each month, which are published in the Field’s various collaborating journals.

Primary Health Care Research and Development Journal to continue publishing CNCF summaries into 2017

The Primary Health Care Research and Development Journal (PHCRD) has sought to extend its publication agreement with the CNCF and has negotiated a further five topics to feature as part of their continuing ‘Cochrane Corner’ series.

The PHCRD is the first publication aimed specifically at both researchers and practitioners in primary health care, endeavouring to bridge the gap between the two areas. This journal provides a forum for the publication of international, interdisciplinary research and development in primary health care.
American Journal of Nursing to continue publishing CNCF Cochrane review summaries into 2017

The American Journal of Nursing (AJN) has agreed to extend its current publication arrangement with the CNCF and will enter into a new agreement that will see the Field’s review summaries published in this periodical well into 2017.

With a significant impact factor of 1.30, the AJN is another highly ranked international publication collaborating with the CNCF that provides comprehensive and in-depth information to help nurses stay current in their profession. The journal’s content includes practical, hands-on clinical articles on essential topics, vital information on drugs, trends in nursing, legal advice, continuing education, and more.

First established in 1900, the AJN is the oldest nursing journal still in publication. In 2009 the journal was selected as one of the “100 Most Influential journals in biology and medicine in the last 100 years” by the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division of the Special Libraries Association.

Journal of Perioperative Practice

The Journal of Perioperative Practice (JOPP) has sought a further 11 Cochrane review summaries to be produced by the CNCF to feature as part of their ongoing “Cochrane Corner” series.

The JOPP (incorporating the British Journal of Perioperative Nursing) is the official journal of the Association for Perioperative Practice. It promotes perioperative practice through publishing literature reviews, research based articles, topical discussions, advice on clinical issues, current news items and product information. The journal also encourages a sense of community among perioperative practitioners by providing a forum for debate.
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 2017**

Dates for 2017 are currently under consideration. These will be released shortly.

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

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 2017**

Dates for 2017 are currently under consideration. These will be released shortly.

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

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:**

5–9 September
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)

Program dates for 2016:

5 September
31 October (Enrol by: 30 September 2016)

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

Two days

Program dates for 2016:

6–7 September
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:

8–9 September
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 Synthesis and Implementation

**2016 event dates:**

Evidence Based Clinical Fellowship Program
Week 2: 14–18 November 2016

Comprehensive Systematic Review Training Program (CSRTP)
12–16 September 2016

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

**2016 event dates:**

Evidence Based Clinical Fellowship Program
Week 2: 9–13 January 2017

Comprehensive Systematic Review Training Program (CSRTP)
5–9 September 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 Queen’s Joanna Briggs Collaboration

**2016 CSRTP dates:**

3–7 October 2016

Bureau d’Echanges des Savoirs pour des pratiques exemplaires de soins (BEST): an Affiliate Centre of The Joanna Briggs Institute

**2016, CSRTP course dates**

3–7 October, 2016

If you wish to advertise your event on the JBI website, please email your request to jbieducation@adelaide.edu.au. This will ensure your event is included in the JBI Matters newsletter.
Collaborating entity updates

New Affiliated Groups

The Joanna Briggs Institute and the Joanna Briggs Collaboration welcome five new Affiliated Groups who have partnered with JBI under the new Joanna Briggs Collaboration Framework:

- Memorial University School of Nursing Collaboration for Evidenced-Based Nursing and Primary Health Care: a Joanna Briggs Institute Affiliated Group (led by Group Convenor Dr Sandra Small, Associate Professor of the School of Nursing)
- The Qingdao Women and Children’s Hospital Evidence-based Nursing Centre: a Joanna Briggs Institute Affiliated Group (led by Group Convenor Guiling Yu, Director of Nursing)
- Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science: a Joanna Briggs Institute Affiliated Group (led by Group Convenor Sandra Larson, Associate Provost of Clinical Partnerships)
- The University of Victoria (UVic) Centre for Evidence-Informed Nursing and Healthcare (CEiNHC): a Joanna Briggs Institute Affiliated Group (led by Group Convenor Professor Lynne Young, School of Nursing)
- Aligning Health Needs and Evidence for Transformative Change: a Joanna Briggs Institute Affiliated Group (led by Group Convenor Prof Marilyn Macdonald, Professor and Associate Director Graduate Studies, Faculty of Health Professions, School of Nursing, Dalhousie University)

The National Healthcare Group HSOR Collaborating Centre for Evidence Based Health Services Management

JBI and the JBC farewells The National Healthcare Group HSOR Collaborating Centre for Evidence Based Health Services Management, Singapore, after eight fruitful years of collaboration. HSOR remains focused on providing stakeholders with the best available evidence; however, organizational priorities have evolved in response to new healthcare challenges, with projects increasingly tied to primary research.

JBI thanks Dr Joseph Antonio De Castro Molina for his contribution as Centre Director.

Centre of Excellence Agreements

An urgent reminder that all Centre of Excellence Agreements must be signed by host institutions and returned to the Collaboration Support Unit jbc@adelaide.edu.au strictly by 31 August 2016. Any extensions must be negotiated via email with the Collaboration Support Unit.

56th Committee of Directors Face-to-Face Meeting and JBI 20th Anniversary

Adelaide, 7-11 Nov 2016

Flights

All Directors have now received their quotes for flights to Adelaide in November 2016. For those Directors who have not yet booked their flights to Adelaide, we encourage you to do so as soon as possible as JBI will only reimburse the maximum quoted amount, with any difference being incurred by the centre.
A friendly reminder that claims must be submitted within three months of purchase, as per The University of Adelaide’s new travel reimbursement policy.

Please email your supporting documentation for reimbursement to Adriana Turner adriana.turner@adelaide.edu.au.

Visas
If any centres require visa letters for travel to Australia, please email your request to Adriana Turner adriana.turner@adelaide.edu.au.

Accommodation
JBI has arranged special accommodation rates at Adelaide Inn on O’Connell Street for Directors, core staff and students attending the 56th Committee of Director’s meeting and the JBI 20th Anniversary Conference.

There is limited availability, so we urge attendees to book promptly to secure these rates. For further details on how to access these special rates please visit the JBI 20th Anniversary Conference website.

Social media: socialising 20 years of success

Have you submitted your paper yet?
2016 is a year of recognising and promoting the achievements of JBI and JBC. Submit any papers you have written – opinion pieces, editorials, research or scholarly outputs – and we will promote it in social media as part of the JBI 20th Anniversary celebrations.

See page 7 for full details of what and how to submit.
August Research School

On Wednesday 3 August our continuing higher degree students gathered once again for our JBI-HDRP August Research School 2016.

Despite Research School being scheduled in the first week of JBI’s office move, our staff pulled together an agenda that was thought-provoking and uniquely beneficial. Notwithstanding their pressing schedules, our JBI academic staff were present and available to their students for the duration of the two-day schedule, and as always Associate Professor Craig Lockwood chaired the occasion with the wit and practiced knowledge in evidence based healthcare that our student cohort have come to appreciate and value. This Research School was held for the first time at the Adelaide Inn, North Adelaide, where participants enjoyed a comfortable conference space, refreshments and meals, and convenient accommodation for our interstate attendees.

The event was opened by Associate Professor Lockwood, followed by presentations by a guest presenter from Flinders University and a current JBI PhD student, and exceptional talks by our own JBI academic staff. Stephen Richards’ talk was both insightful and a superb example of the depth of knowledge and expertise that can be accumulated through a PhD study. Stephen illuminated the problems faced by older adults in residential aged care, explored the theoretical underpinnings, and expanded on new ways of conceptualising how residential aged care can be provided.

The day two agenda commenced with student led presentations on their unique perspectives on what it means to be a research student working within their professional disciplines. This was followed by more presentations by JBI academic staff, and a special guest lecture by renowned orthopaedic surgeon Dr Bruce Foster. Students were introduced to the program’s two new Student Representatives, Tanja Klotz and Angela Basso, and the event came to a close with a presentation by a former JBI higher degree student, Kate Davis, who shared her research degree experience.

The reduced two-day format continues to be the preferred format with our students, and the undistracted accessibility to their supervisors.
provided an ideal opportunity for them to discuss and progress their work. At the conclusion of the event, HDR student Delia McCabe (PhD - Feb 2015 intake) said: ‘Research School was especially enjoyable for me (other students also commented on this) due to the communication that occurred naturally and spontaneously between the JBI staff and the students.’

We thank and acknowledge our JBI academic staff for enabling the Institute to maintain such a unique and robust higher degree program that continues to gain appeal across all disciplines in the national and international healthcare community.

Jamie presents at Australian Orthopaedic Association Conference in Uluru

HDR student Jamie Ianunzio (Feb 2016 intake) had his systematic review protocol accepted for podium presentation at the recent Australian Orthopaedic Association Conference held in Uluru, was themed ‘Trauma in the Outback’. The program covered many aspects of orthopaedic trauma care, focusing on the type of fractures seen every day in general practice. The conference body is a subset of the Australian Orthopaedic Association so having one of our higher degree students present was great exposure for JBI and the University of Adelaide at an Australasian level, as well as the profile of our students in the orthopaedic trauma surgery field.

Jamie received a Bachelor of Pharmacy from the University of South Australia in 2009, and subsequently worked in community and hospital practice as a pharmacist. In 2013, he became the managing director of XcelPharm Consulting, which provides home medicine reviews to the community. His passion for medicine and surgery prompted post-graduate studies at Flinders University, where he received the award of Doctor of Medicine with Distinction in 2013. During his time at Flinders University, Jamie’s dedication toward orthopaedic surgery led him to receive the International Musculoskeletal Research Institute (IMRI) Flinders-Xiangya Orthopaedic Scholarship, facilitating his exchange to Xiangya Number 2 Hospital, Changsha, Hunan Province, China, in June 2013, where he was on ward rotation and in the operating theatre.

Jamie performed exceptionally well in his academic assessment panel and his JBI supervisors are very happy with their student’s progress.
New Student Representatives appointed

The HDR team is delighted to announce the appointment of our new HDR Student Representatives, Tanja Klotz (pictured, below, right) and Angela Basso (pictured, right, with Associate Professor Zachary Munn). Both of them are from the February 2016 Intake.

The Student Representative is a vital role within our program as the selected students will have the opportunity to attend Higher Degree Committee Meetings and provide input into the planning of future HDR events within the Institute. The Student Reps gather information from the student group regarding various aspects of our program and communicate this feedback to our HDR Committee. The Reps are also responsible for reporting back to the student group on the main points of discussions that take place at staff-led meetings, and share information about any action decided as result of the discussions. The overall objective of the Student Rep is to improve the learning experience for current as well as for future students of the Institute. We take this opportunity to wish Tanja and Angela well in this role.

Ali Morshed completes with a High Distinction

HDR student Ali Morshed (Feb 2014 intake), has been awarded a High Distinction for his thesis titled, 'Effectiveness of tight glycaemic control on mortality and morbidity in patients undergoing cardiac surgery in hospital'. Ali is ecstatic with this outcome, thanking his principal supervisor, Associate Professor Zachary Munn, for his support and direction throughout candidature.

On his students’ outstanding completion, Associate Professor Zachary Munn writes: ‘Ali commenced his Master’s program at the beginning of 2014, and since the start has been an enthusiastic and keen learner. His research topic is an important contribution to the field of cardiovascular surgery and a great contribution

‘Being a scientist means living on the borderline between your competence and your incompetence. If you always feel competent, you aren’t doing your job.’

~ Carlos Bustamante, Molecular Biologist, University of California, Berkeley
to knowledge. Along the way Ali faced many challenges (not the least being an addition to the family!) but stayed on track and completed in a timely fashion. He received excellent feedback from both examiners who credited him on the robustness of his approach and detailed analyses. He has been a perfect student and is now an emerging scholar in the field of evidence-based healthcare.

Congratulations Ali!

Student profile: Annika Theodoulou

Following a trend of orthopaedic focused students joining our JBI higher degree program, this year our Institute welcomed another promising newcomer into the fold – Annika Theodoulou. Under the vigilant guidance of her principal supervisor, Associate Professor Edoardo Aromataris, Annika has embarked on a research proposal titled: ‘The impact of comorbidities on upper limb arthroplasty outcomes’

Following graduation from a Bachelor of Health Sciences at the University of Adelaide, Annika began work as a Clinical Researcher for the International Musculoskeletal Research Institute (IMRI) a small non-for-profit institute directed by Senior Orthopaedic Consultant, Professor Jegan Krishnan.

Annika writes: ‘In my position at the IMRI, I have been involved in a number of clinical trials, audits and reviews focused on a range of therapeutic topics in orthopaedics. Broadly, these have included research into orthopaedic prostheses, surgical techniques, and approaches to post-operative rehabilitation.’

In March 2016, a research poster of Annika’s systematic review was presented at the Asia Pacific Orthopaedic Congress. The objective of the review was to quantify scoring system utilisation in the knee arthroplasty literature, and assess auxiliary factors that may influence score choice. More recently, the review has been accepted for publication by the Journal of Arthroplasty. Through this process, Annika has developed an interest in systematic reviews, which triggered her interest in this methodology. It was at this time that a colleague told her about JBI’s courses, which she undertook in 2015. On this experience Annika writes: ‘Through the JBI short course I was introduced to the highly supportive, expert team at JBI who provided thorough training on systematic review procedures. I found the JBI software, critical appraisal tools and templates particularly useful, considering I had previously used more manual methods! During this course further systematic review training pathways were discussed and I was introduced to the Master of Clinical Science degree. As I had already decided on postgraduate study, I decided to apply for the 2016 intake.’

On the commencement of the JBI master’s program Annika writes: ‘Through my work I developed an interest in upper limb arthroplasty and subsequently evolved my research proposal within this field. Broadly, my research topic aims to consider the impact of comorbidities on upper limb arthroplasty outcomes. More specifically, I will investigate whether patients with diabetes mellitus or obesity are at greater risk of perioperative complications and/or poorer postoperative outcomes following total shoulder, reverse total shoulder and total elbow arthroplasty.’