

# Public Health and Health Promotion and Health Sciences

## Academic Staff Research Profiles

Melbourne Campus at Burwood			
<p><u>Professor Ann Taket</u></p> <p>Health policy, Services planning and education, Accessibility and equity, Domestic violence</p> <p>Main research interests are in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• domestic abuse and violence – prevention and intervention;</li> <li>• the development of healthy living initiatives, aimed at marginalized or disadvantaged communities and groups ;</li> <li>• role of non-governmental organizations in health promotion and public health;</li> <li>• action research in health settings;</li> <li>• bringing together different theoretical perspectives to better understand the processes by which groups and individuals come to understand, or experience themselves, as marginalized or excluded, and the factors that shape these processes.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Professor Rob Carter</u></p> <p>Health Economics, Assessing Cost Effectiveness, Health Promotion and illness prevention</p> <p>Economic appraisal of health care services and priority setting, particularly in the area of health promotion and illness prevention. Developed and implemented an innovative approach to priority setting that is bridging the gap between academic rigour and applied policy-making in major areas of public health, with a strong focus on knowledge transfer.</p>	<p><u>Associate Professor Mardie Townsend</u></p> <p>Health benefits of contact with nature; housing and homelessness; health impact assessment.</p> <p>Investigating the benefits of contact with nature for human health and wellbeing. investigation of health and wellbeing outcomes of differing levels of access to nature for residents of high-rise housing; a study of mental health benefits of hands-on nature based activities in primary schools; a nature based intervention program for people suffering depression, anxiety and/or social isolation; an assessment of health benefits of a visiting companion animal program in an acute care hospital; and several projects exploring the health and wellbeing outcomes of 'bush adventure therapy' programs in Australia.</p>	<p><u>Associate Professor Bernie Marshall</u></p> <p>Health promotion workforce capacity building; developing health promotion strategic and program planning and evaluation within the primary health care sector; developing evidence-based approaches to health promotion planning and practice.</p>

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<p><u>Dr Jan Garrard</u></p> <p>Understanding the socio-environmental and personal determinants of physical activity (particularly active transport) for women, and evaluation of interventions aimed at promoting physical activity. In particular, she is interested in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Motivations for commencing and maintaining cycling for active transport and recreation</li> <li>• Differences in cyclists' route choices according to gender and cycling experience</li> <li>• The impact of aggressive and unsafe driving on active transport</li> <li>• Evaluating the effectiveness of interventions to promote active transport</li> <li>• Integration of process and impact evaluation measures using an adaptation of realist evaluation.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Dr Melissa Graham</u></p> <p>Research interests are in the area of women's reproductive and sexual health with a focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lesbian and heterosexual women's health in relation to menstrual problems, hysterectomy and access to appropriate services and how women experience these services.</li> <li>- Sexuality and exclusion</li> <li>- Link between hysterectomy and sexual health/functioning/outcomes</li> <li>- Link between hysterectomy, parity and age of menarche</li> <li>- Predictors of hysterectomy</li> <li>- Understanding how hysterectomy is effected by demographic characteristics of women (eg, rural versus metro, SES etc)</li> <li>- Prevalence of menstrual problems</li> <li>- Treatment options for menstrual problems and effectiveness of these treatments</li> <li>- Health information for decision making</li> <li>- Health literacy</li> <li>- Socio-demographic, sexual and reproductive predictors of hysterectomy, and what is the impact of hysterectomy on</li> </ul>	<p><u>Dr Julia Shelley</u></p> <p>Sexual and reproductive health; Pregnancy outcomes; Contraception</p> <p>Research interests include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links between sexual and reproductive health – the impact of reproductive events on sexual health, and of sexual health on reproduction, particularly on contraception, unintended pregnancy, termination of pregnancy.</li> <li>• Contextual and systemic factors in sexual and reproductive health in Australia – the effect of the social and demographic characteristics of areas, social networks, social capital, access to services and legal, regulatory, policy and systems frameworks on sexual and reproductive health outcomes;</li> <li>• Patterns of use of contraception and termination of pregnancy services in Australia</li> <li>• Medical termination of pregnancy, particularly the effectiveness and safety of misoprostol and methotrexate</li> <li>• Pregnancy loss: the occurrence, management and outcomes of care</li> </ul>	<p><u>Dr Maria Pallotta-Chiarolli</u></p> <p>Ethnicity, gender, sexuality and health.</p> <p>Concerned with marginal and vulnerable groups in relation to gender diversity, cultural diversity and sexual diversity, and the links to social, emotional, mental and sexual health. With a specific focus on youth and women, Dr Pallotta-Chiarolli conducts qualitative ethnographic research which is largely a collaboration with participants in order to produce user-friendly resource texts as well as academic and non-academic publications. She is regularly called upon to act as a consultant in educational, workplace, health services and community service settings.</p>
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	<p>subsequent sexual functioning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Influence of determinants of health on decision, making, health literacy, health outcomes, access to services and so forth.</li> </ul>	<p>following first trimester pregnancy loss (miscarriage and early fetal death)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medium to long-term sequelae of reproductive events for women and their infants, especially pregnancy loss, termination of pregnancy and mode of delivery.</li> </ul>	
<p><u>Dr Fiona Andrews</u></p> <p>The influence of environment and parents working arrangement on child health care as well as families interaction with primary health care services.</p>	<p><u>Dr Iain Butterworth</u></p> <p>Health and wellbeing impacts of urban planning and development. Investigating the urban planning requirements of older people living in the greater Geelong region.</p>	<p><u>Dr Monica Kelly</u></p> <p>Public health and health promotion in practice with a particular emphasis on practical strategies to reduce the broader determinants of health.</p>	<p><u>Dr Kay Cook</u></p> <p>Marginalised groups and health, Health and social exclusion</p> <p>Concerned how social policies shape the health of marginalised groups. This research can be broken down into two main areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How social policies influence health</li> <li>• How marginalised groups experience health and social exclusion</li> </ul> <p>Examples of projects Kay is involved with include how welfare stigma is experienced by single-mothers on welfare, how elders in poverty experience social exclusion, how children define social inclusion, and how welfare-to-work reforms influence the health of single-parents and their children.</p>

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<p><u>Dr Melissa Lindeman</u></p> <p>Aged and community care, primary care service systems, indigenous communities and workforce development (including workplace learning)</p>	<p><u>Dr Claire Henderson-Wilson</u></p> <p>Human health benefits of contact with the natural environment; housing and health and quality of life</p>	<p><u>Mr Matthew Ebdon</u></p> <p>Developing, enhancing and promoting ecological health by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewing current models that are associated with health</li> <li>• Developing models that enhance ecological health</li> <li>• Testing models with community stakeholders.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Ms Berni Murphy</u></p> <p>Promoting health through physical activity and sport. Her current PhD study is entitled “Promoting physical activity among young women through sport: A determinants approach”.</p>
<p><u>Ms Jan Moore</u></p> <p>Welfare of professional jockeys and their support networks. Jan’s research is centred on the racing industry and has included investigation of weight management strategies of the professional jockey, the welfare of retired jockeys and the social health and wellbeing of jockeys and their families.</p>	<p><u>Ms Rebecca Patrick</u></p> <p>Social health and welfare research issues including family violence and health, child support and welfare policy.</p>	<p><u>Ms Annemarie Nevill</u></p> <p>Elder abuse prevention, cultural determinants of health, and factors contributing to human rights and social justice.</p>	<p><u>Ms Jenny-Lynn Potter</u></p> <p>Identification and examination of the health outcomes of policy making. Investigating the role of Health Impact Assessment at the community level as a tool for promoting health and reducing inequalities in health, and the development of HIA tools for application within a specific local government region.</p>

**People, Society and Disability Studies  
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<p><u>Ms Janet Owens</u></p> <p>Speech and language; Augmentative communication; Telecommunication and disability.</p> <p>Research is primarily concerned with equity and access for people with disabilities and for Seniors in Australia. Janet has worked with industry partners, the Commonwealth government and with other academics on projects that have focussed on telecommunication and information barriers and solutions. Projects have included the evaluation of an email training program using accessible email software and two separate investigations of telecommunication barriers and solutions for people with disabilities and for Seniors. In one project, the information requirements of people with complex communication needs were investigated and a set of guidelines for making information accessible were devised.</p> <p>Importantly, projects are underpinned by a philosophy of inclusion so collaboration occurs with stakeholders, particularly the consumer group that should ultimately benefit from the research.</p>	<p><u>Dr Kevin Murfitt</u></p> <p>Understanding and identifying solutions to the barriers faced by people who have a disability in gaining employment. Areas of particular interest are: Attitude change in employment of people who have a disability; The impact of experiential interventions such as mentoring in fostering better inclusion of people who have a disability in the workforce; and the role people who have a disability themselves have in reducing those barriers to employment for people who have a disability.</p>	<p><u>Ms Linda Wilson</u></p> <p>Understanding perceptions of service quality in the disability field. This research can be broken down into three different perspectives, those of the service provider, manager and user. Other areas of interest are the Law and intellectual disability; Citizenship and disability; ethical frameworks for decision making.</p>	<p><u>Dr Erin Wilson</u></p> <p>Understanding the practice of community development; issues and experiences of people with a disability; the impact of policy and social structure on disadvantaged groups. I have a particular interest in narrative and anti-oppressive research method. My current research projects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the impact of Early Childhood Intervention Services on children with a disability and their families</li> <li>• measuring outcomes for people with a disability, families and carers, and the communities with whom they engage</li> <li>• the experiences of people with a disability with current government programs for aids and equipment.</li> <li>• outcomes from person centred approaches in the disability sector.</li> <li>• community capacity building and community inclusion strategies in the disability sector.</li> </ul>
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