The 2016 PCRN Concept Development Workshop was held on the 26th August 2016 and was a highly productive and interactive afternoon. The workshop provided participants with the opportunity to develop their palliative care-related research ideas into research proposals. A series of speed lectures were presented and included ‘Writing successful grant proposals’ (A/Prof Jennifer Philip), ‘Obtaining ethics approvals and writing a research protocol’ (Dr Sibilah Breen) and ‘Building a budget and identifying funding opportunities’ (Ms Soula Ganiatsas). Participants were also given the opportunity to present and discuss their ideas and participate in small group discussions. Input and guidance from mentors and other senior palliative care researchers on the day of the workshop enabled participants to develop their research concept, assess feasibility, discuss different research methods, identify potential ethical issues, and network with other researchers interested in palliative care research.

The four workshop participants were: Ms Karen Conte (Consortium Manager, Eastern Metropolitan Region Palliative Care Consortium, VIC), Dr Susan Fletcher (Bereavement Family Support Worker, Eastern Palliative Care, VIC), Ms Jennifer Lowe (PhD student, Monash University, VIC), and Ms Elizabeth Jarman (Registered Nurse, Austin Health, VIC). Mentors included: Prof Peter Hudson, A/Prof Jennifer Philip, A/Prof Clare O’Callaghan, Dr Rosalind Lau and Dr Sibilah Breen.

Highlights from recent PCRN Events

PCRN Forum – Wednesday 20th July 2016

A PCRN Forum entitled “So what have we learned?” Research updates from our two PCRNVP PhD scholarship awardees was held on 20th July 2016. Two early career researchers and PCRNV PhD scholarship recipients – Ms Lucy Forrest (Senior Clinician Music Therapist, Monash Health) and Dr Natasha Smallwood (Consultant Respiratory Physician, Royal Melbourne Hospital) – presented the results from their respective PhD research projects to date and reflected upon both the triumphs and challenges that they had encountered along the way.

A video recording of the Forum presentation is now available for viewing. Please click on the image below to listen to Natasha’s presentation. Please note that we are unable to share Lucy’s presentation at this time as it contains data that are yet to be published.

Left: Ms Lucy Forrest
Right: Dr Natasha Smallwood
Upcoming PCRN Event

PCRN Workshop – Thursday 27th October 2016

‘ANALYSE THIS!’

Have you ever been confounded by how you should collect, organise and analyse your qualitative or quantitative data?

The PCRN is hosting a Workshop entitled ‘Analyse This!’ at the 4th Australian Palliative Care Research Colloquium. This session will provide insights from experienced researchers on the best strategies for collecting, organising and analysing both quantitative and qualitative datasets. Three early career researchers will also present their research queries to a panel of experts for advice. There will also be an opportunity for audience participation. Please join us in order to ‘Analyse This!’

Details:

Date: Thursday, 27th October 2016

Time: 9:00am – 10:45am

Venue: Rendezvous Hotel, 328 Flinders Street, Melbourne

Inclusions: Morning tea, presentations and discussion. All welcome.

Cost: $20.00 including GST

Program: View the full program online or download a PDF copy of the PCRN Workshop program here.

Registration: Registration is online and will close on Friday 7th October 2016. Places are limited so please register early to avoid disappointment.

Website: Please visit the 4th Australian Palliative Care Research Colloquium website.

For additional information, please contact the event coordinator, Vanessa Donoghue on +61 (3) 9416 0000 or by email Vanessa.Donoghue@svha.org.au
Call for Expression of Interest to join the PCRN Research Advisory Group in 2017

The Palliative Care Research Network (PCRN) is calling for expressions of interest to join the PCRN Research Advisory Group (RAG). The primary function of the RAG is to assist the Network in its research endeavours, and may include, although not necessarily be limited to, involvement with the following activities:

- providing the Network with research advice and/or consultation as required;
- reviewing applications for scholarships, travel grants and small project grants;
- providing mentorship to early career researchers;
- involvement in PCRN Workshops and Forums;
- providing advice on key PCRN decisions and strategic direction;
- collaborating on grants with other PCRN members.

The Group is envisaged to comprise between 12-20 individuals from various disciplines, with varying skill sets and research experience. Being a member of the PCRN RAG would allow you to expand your research network and collaborative ties. Your involvement with the RAG would be called upon only when required based on your expertise. Members of the RAG will convene annually over networking drinks and will be provided with an official letter of membership for their CV. This call for expressions of interest is currently only open to PCRN members in the first instance (after which it will be made open to the wider community).

If you are interested in being considered as a future member of the PCRN RAG, please submit a brief CV, and a brief cover letter outlining how your skillset would benefit PCRN activities, to pcrnv@svha.org.au by 9 January 2017.

Useful Resources in Palliative Care Research

Please find below a sample list of useful resources which you can subscribe to in order to keep up with the latest palliative care news and publications on evidence-based palliative care research.

- **Media Watch**, created and distributed by Barry R. Ashpole – to subscribe email: barryashpole@bell.net
- **E-Hospice** – to subscribe to e-newsletter go to the website.
- **Briefings in Palliative, Hospice, and Pain Medicine & Management** – to subscribe to table of contents go to the website.
Congratulations to recipients of the 2016 PCRN Travel Grants

The PCRN awarded four Travel Grants in 2016. The award recipients and their respective funded conference travels and presentations are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2016 Travel Grant Recipients</th>
<th>Conference Travels &amp; Presentations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms Anna Collins</td>
<td>The 21st International Congress on Palliative Care, Montreal, Canada</td>
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<tr>
<td>(PhD Candidate, Department of Medicine, The University of Melbourne; Research Fellow, Centre for Palliative Care, St Vincent’s Hospital Melbourne)</td>
<td><em>Oral presentations:</em>&lt;br&gt;- Perceptions of Palliative Care in Advanced Cancer: Do They Influence Receipt of Quality End-of-Life Care?&lt;br&gt;- Language and Its Implications: How Do We Introduce Palliative Care to Patients with Advanced Cancer?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Fiona McLeod</td>
<td>11th Conference of the Australian College of Nurse Practitioners, Alice Springs, Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Nurse Practitioner, Hospital Admissions Risk Program, Eastern Health)</td>
<td><em>Oral Presentation:</em>&lt;br&gt;- Promoting advanced nursing practice to optimize the management of complex, chronic disease patients.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Sophie Anne Robinson</td>
<td>European Association of Psychosomatic Medicine Conference 2016, Lulea, Sweden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(HDR Student, Department of Psychological Sciences and Psychiatry, Monash University)</td>
<td><em>Poster Presentation:</em>&lt;br&gt;- Refinement and Revalidation of the Demoralization Scale: The DS-II.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Aaron Wong</td>
<td>Royal Australasian College of Physicians Congress 2016, Adelaide, Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Advanced Trainee, Department of Palliative Care, Melbourne Health)</td>
<td><em>Poster Presentations:</em>&lt;br&gt;- The extended care unit – a feasible economic solution for longer term palliative inpatients.&lt;br&gt;- Referral patterns to palliative care? an inpatient snapshot study.&lt;br&gt;- Addressing resource allocation for advance care planning discussion in hospital.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Upcoming Funding Opportunities 2016

PCRN Small Project Grant 2016
Further details to follow – please keep a lookout on the PCRN website

Coopers Brewery Foundation
For more information visit the website
Closing Date: quarterly applications accepted – contact funder for details

Ian Potter Foundation
(various grant opportunities)
For more information visit the website
Closing Date: 7 November 2016

James N Kirby Foundation
(various grant opportunities)
For more information visit the website
Closing Date: November 2016 – date TBC

Nurses Board of Victoria Legacy Limited
(various grant opportunities)
For more information visit the website
Closing Date: 18 September 2016

Pierce Armstrong Foundation
For more information visit the website
Closing Date: 15 October 2016

Western & Central Melbourne Integrated Cancer Service (WCMICS) Funding Program
For more information visit the website
Closing Date: 28 September 2016

Recent Publications Relevant to PCRN Members
In each edition we will feature some recently published articles relevant to PCRN members. If you have published in a peer reviewed journal recently and the subject matter is relevant to the PCRN community, or if you come across key publications that foster evidence based palliative care, please email pcrv@svha.org.au with the subject ‘PCRN Newsletter’ and we will feature the publications in an upcoming edition.


continued...
Recent Publications Relevant to PCRN Members

continued...


## Upcoming Conferences

### International

1. **1st National Symposium on Academic Palliative Care Education & Research**  
   **Dates:** September 30 - October 1, 2016  
   **Location:** California, USA  
   [Website](#)

2. **18th International Psycho-Oncology Society (IPOS) World Congress of Psycho-Oncology**  
   **Dates:** October 17-21, 2016  
   **Location:** Dublin, Ireland  
   [Website](#)

3. **21st International Congress on Palliative Care**  
   **Dates:** October 18-21, 2016  
   **Location:** Montreal, Canada  
   [Website](#)

4. **2016 Marie Curie Annual Palliative Care Research Conference**  
   **Date:** October 19, 2016  
   **Location:** London, UK  
   [Website](#)

5. **The International Society for Quality of Life Research (ISOQOL) 23rd Annual Conference**  
   **Date:** October 19-22, 2016  
   **Location:** Copenhagen, Denmark  
   [Website](#)

6. **6th International Seminar of the European Palliative Care Research Centre (PRC) and European Palliative Care Research Network (EAPC RN)**  
   **Date:** December 1-3, 2016  
   **Location:** Banff, Canada  
   [Website](#)

### National

1. **4th Australian Palliative Care Research Colloquium**  
   **Dates:** October 27-28, 2016  
   **Location:** Melbourne, VIC  
   [Website](#)

2. **43rd Clinical Oncology Society of Australia (COSA) Annual Scientific Meeting**  
   **Dates:** November 15-17, 2016  
   **Location:** Gold Coast, QLD  
   [Website](#)

### State (VIC)

1. **4th Victorian Psycho-Oncology Research Conference**  
   **Dates:** October 14, 2016  
   **Location:** Melbourne, VIC  
   [Website](#)
The PCRN now has 229 registered members from around Australia and other countries such as Hong Kong, India, Malawi, Norway, the UK and USA. Individuals with a genuine interest in palliative care research may become individual members of the PCRN. Membership is free and some of the *key benefits* of membership include:

- An opportunity to network and collaborate with other palliative care researchers through PCRN seminars and forums;
- Apply for a range of PCRN funding including: PhD scholarship, project and travel grants;
- Assistance in developing your research idea into a grant proposal via attendance at PCRN Concept Development Workshops;
- Opportunities to provide mentorship to junior researchers.

*Please note that even though membership is open to everyone, some resources and funding may be restricted to Victorian residents only.*

To formalise your membership, please complete the online form on the PCRN website.

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Forward e-news to a friend!
Please forward this newsletter to friends or colleagues interested in palliative care research. They can also sign up for free membership.

Contribute to the PCRN e-News
If your work is relevant to the PCRN community, please email pcrnv@svha.org.au with the subject ‘PCRN e-News Submission’ and we will feature your article or publication in an upcoming edition.

Unsubscribe
If you are no longer interested in receiving correspondence from us, please unsubscribe by emailing: pcrnv@svha.org.au

pcrnv.com.au