Supervisor: Associate Professor Lee-Fay Low
Supervisor contact details: lee-fay.low@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available: No (your name and research interest will be made available to students)
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider
- The lived experience of dementia - e.g. impact of the way the diagnosis is given
- Why people with dementia don't get diagnosed
- Stigma about dementia - in the general public, health professionals, and self-stigma
- Restorative/rehabilitative approaches in residential aged care
- Goal setting with older people
Project title:
Is this a project for students starting in 2017?
Research question:
Research topic: The lived experience of dementia - e.g. impact of the way the diagnosis is given
- Why people with dementia don't get diagnosed
- Stigma about dementia - in the general public, health professionals, and self-stigma
- Restorative/rehabilitative approaches in residential aged care
- Goal setting with older people
This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
- Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours)
Research group type: Research Group based
University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/lee-fay.low.php
Primary research interests: dementia
older people
aged care - residential and home based
qualitative and quantitative research
Name (s) of research team:
Aims and background
Proposed method of data collection:
Ethics approval needed? N/A
Ethics applied for?
Type of study:
Resources needed (all available):
Additional information:
Supervisor: Dr Margaret McGrath
Supervisor contact details: margaret.mcgrath@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available: Yes
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider Sexuality Post - Stroke

Validation of the Knowledge Comfort Attitudes and Approach to Sexuality Survey among Stroke Rehabilitation Professionals

Translation and Cross-Cultural Validation of Measures of Attitudes towards sexuality among health and rehabilitation professionals

Ageing and Obesity

Obesity among older people in residential care facilities - incidence; impact on care needs and quality of life

Project title:
Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes
Research question:
Research topic: Sexuality Post - Stroke

Validation of the Knowledge Comfort Attitudes and Approach to Sexuality Survey among Stroke Rehabilitation Professionals

Translation and Cross-Cultural Validation of Measures of Attitudes towards sexuality among health and rehabilitation professionals

Ageing and Obesity

Obesity among older people in residential care facilities - incidence; impact on care needs and quality of life

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
· Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sport Science) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Physiotherapy) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (MRS) Diagnostic Radiography Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise Physiology) Honours, Any discipline

Research group type: Research Group based

Updated 4th November 2016

**Primary research interests:** Ageing - ageing in place; obesity among older people

Sexuality and disability

**Name(s) of research team:**

**Aims and background**

**Proposed method of data collection:**

Ethics approval needed? N/A

Ethics applied for?

**Type of study:**

**Resources needed (all available):**

**Additional information:**
Supervisor: Professor Anne Cusick
Supervisor contact details: anne.cusick@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available: Yes
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider
Project title: Emerging adulthood in Australia and other countries - validating two standardized surveys of perceptions of adulthood for 18-25 years
Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes
Research question: To date most research using the Inventory of the Dimensions of Emerging Adulthood (IDEA) and the Emerging Adulthood Survey has been done in North America and other English speaking countries with Anglo-Celtic traditions. Are these instruments cross-culturally appropriate?

Research topic:
This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
  · Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) Honours, Any discipline
Research group type: Discipline based
University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/anne.cusick.php
Primary research interests: Emerging adults (people aged between 18-25 years)
Function, activity and participation of people living with chronic conditions
Professional socialization of allied health and health sciences
Name (s) of research team: Anne Cusick
(Colleagues from another university will also be involved)
Aims and background
OPTION ONE This study will build on bi-lingual skills of honours student/s to pilot and if possible validate these two instruments in other languages - either in language-based populations living here in Australia or other countries (for example the country of origin of the student).

OPTION TWO This study will build on the cultural context and networks of honours student/s to pilot and if possible validate these two instruments with young people who consider themselves to be observant Muslims - either in populations living here in Australia or other countries (for example the country of origin of the student).

Proposed method of data collection: OPTION ONE The student will identify the second language that is proposed - he/she needs to be fluent in it. Permission will be sought from instrument authors to conduct a cross cultural validation study in that language. The instrument will be translated-back translated using

Updated 4th November 2016
a professional translation company; the student and bi-lingual contacts will verify/test out the translated instrument. Data will be collected from young adults 18-25 who can read that language. Data will be analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics to validate the instruments; relationships in the data will be explored.

OPTION TWO A couple of previous studies have applied these two instruments in Muslim populations. One was conducted by the supervisor and a colleague in Pakistan. We found that some items had to be changed because they were deemed culturally offensive or illegal in Pakistan, but that the amended survey was sensitive and cross culturally appropriate. We also found that indicators of perceived adulthood were different between Pakistan-dwelling young people and data from Western countries such as North America - but only on a couple of items. To date little research has been done using these instruments on Muslim populations living in diverse Western communities. This study will explore item content, will validate the survey in the Western context with Muslim young people, will the goal being to explore whether and how the survey can be sensitively used in a culturally diverse population that may include young Muslims. Data will be analysed using descriptive and inferential statistics to validate the instruments; relationships in the data will be explored.

Ethics approval needed? Yes
Ethics applied for? No
Type of study: Quantitative
Resources needed (all available): OPTION ONE: The student/s must be fluent in reading and writing another language. Ideally this will be a language where previous cross cultural validation of these instruments has not been done before.

OPTION TWO: It is important for the credibility and sensitivity of this study that the honours student identifies as Muslim and has existing networks and contacts that can commence the snowball recruitment method for participation (which will be anonymous)

Additional information: BOTH OPTIONS: This project can be flexibly implemented. Data collection can occur remotely, but if students happen to be traveling they may be able to overlap data collection activities with the visit. Students can also use their bi-lingual or cultural networks here in Australia.

It would be ideal if a range of different young people could be targeted - not just university students - because it will be differences in the sample itself that will make study results more useful This is because we already know that education, class, employment, parenthood etc directly influence the result on these...
surveys. So the greater the diversity of your networks to refer the survey to, the better.

Anne Cusick has done cross cultural projects involving samples from Pakistan, Libya, Greece and she regularly visits family in Malaysia. As soon as Anne knows which student is doing what project and thus what language or community connections you bring, she can develop up the Ethics applications to make sure these are approved long before you need to start collecting data. This project can be flexible to fit in with your timelines. It will be busy and hard work but will be really interesting, will make very good use of your language and/or cultural/ community experience and will be sure to have an impact in global literature when finished.
**Supervisor:** Professor Mark Onslow  
**Supervisor contact details:** mark.onslow@sydney.edu.au  
**Is there a specific project available:** Yes  
**Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider**  
**Project title:** Variation of stuttering severity during a single day  
**Is this a project for students starting in 2017?** Yes  
**Research question:** Does a ten minute speech sample reflect the stuttering of pre-school children during a single day?  
**Research topic:**  
**This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):**  
- Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Honours  
**Research group type:** Research Group based  
**Primary research interests:** Stuttering  
**Name(s) of research team:** Australian Stuttering Research Centre  
**Aims and background**  
Measurement is critical to treatment and research with stuttering pre-schoolers. This project determines how well a ten minute speech sample validly measures a child's stuttering severity during an entire day.  
**Proposed method of data collection:** Recordings of seven pre-school stuttering children are available at present, and a protocol for obtaining such recordings has been developed. The project collects three more recordings and analyses the entire data set of ten recordings.  
**Ethics approval needed?** Yes  
**Ethics applied for?** Yes  
**Type of study:** Quantitative  
**Resources needed (all available):** Additional information:
Variation of stuttering severity during a single day

Faculty of Health Sciences
Australian Stuttering Research Centre
Faculty of Health Sciences
D115,
75 East Street
Lidcombe
NSW 2141 Australia

The University of Sydney
NSW 2006 Australia

Professor Mark Onslow
T 400001611
E mark.onslow@sydney.edu.au
sydney.edu.au

Updated 4th November 2016
Supervisor: Professor Anne Cusick

Supervisor contact details: anne.cusick@sydney.edu.au

Is there a specific project available: Yes

Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider

Project title: Have occupational therapy research student values changed in 20 years?

Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes

Research question: The values of occupational therapy students were surveyed in the 1990s, and the 2000s using a standardized assessment survey. They prioritized helping people and contributing to society as well as material success. Do occupational therapy students in 2017-2018 have similar values? How might this affect their career goals and aspirations

Research topic:

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
- Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) Honours, Any discipline

Research group type: Discipline based

University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/anne.cusick.php

Primary research interests: Emerging adults (18-25 years)

Allied Health

Professional and inter-professional Identity formation

Factors affecting preparation for professional roles

Function, activity and participation for people with complex and chronic conditions.

Name(s) of research team: Anne Cusick

There will be occupational therapy academic collaborators at other participating institutions

The occupational therapy researchers involved in the 1990s and 2000s data collection will be recognized as part of the team

Aims and background

To survey occupational therapy UG and PG students using the Rockeach Values Survey and compare findings with previous survey results from the 2000s and the 1990s to see if there has been cohort change over time.

To ask students in the 2017-2018 cohort what their career goals and aspirations are.

Proposed method of data collection: Two existing data sets of previously collected values and demographic survey data will be collated, 'cleaned' and used. Descriptive statistics from these previous studies will be used and updated.

A new data set will be generated using a demographic and Rockeach Values Survey - this will replicate
what was done in the previous two surveys.
The three cohorts will be compared.
A questionnaire will also ask student career goals and aspirations.

**Ethics approval needed?** Yes
**Ethics applied for?** No
**Type of study:** Quantitative

**Resources needed (all available):** This project will suit someone who is interested in surveys and in learning more about statistics. No interviews are involved. Literature review will be limited to background regarding values of young adults also known as emerging adults (people who are between 18 and 25 years of age) and what is known about the values held by occupational therapy students

**Additional information:** I have worked for many years with honours students. This project can be flexibly implemented so may suit someone who is juggling responsibilities and roles but who is confident with numbers and likes describing and comparing characteristics of samples. It does not matter if you are not an occupational therapist because the Values Survey is used with many different populations - in this study we are just focusing on OTs.
**Supervisor:** Dr. Kieron Rooney  
**Supervisor contact details:** kieron.rooney@sydney.edu.au

**Is there a specific project available:** Yes  
**Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider**

**Project title:** Development of an in-patient fitness assessment for patients seeking treatment for substance use disorder

**Is this a project for students starting in 2017?** Yes

**Research question:** This is a descriptive study that seeks to assess the baseline fitness of patients undergoing treatment for substance use disorder at Concord Hospital

**Research topic:**

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
- Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sport Science) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise Physiology) Honours

**Research group type:** Discipline based


**Primary research interests:** Habitual Diet and Fuel Partitioning  
Regulators of Maximal Fat oxidation during exercise  
Metabolic and Behavioural effects of excess sugar consumption and capacity to recover during sugar withdrawal

**Name(s) of research team:** Dr. Kieron Rooney  
Dr. Jonathan Freeston  
Dr. Bridin Murnion  
Dr. Jonathan Brett  
Ms. Wendy Kerley  
Ms. Kia Roberts  
Ms. Johanna Castle

**Aims and background**

The in-patient addiction treatment wards at Concord Repatriation General Hospital propose to deliver an integrated life skills program comprised of exercise, nutrition, mental health promotion and vocational and recreational activity modules. However, there is currently no data available on the current levels of fitness of treatment seekers upon which to design an exercise program. As such, this project will be the first of its kind at CRGH in aid of testing the acceptability and feasibility of performing exercise testing and program design for this specialist population.
Proposed method of data collection: This project will be almost entirely conducted at Concord Hospital. The student that takes on this project will be primarily based on the addiction treatment wards and will be responsible for the conduct of baseline fitness tests on patients undergoing treatment. This will predominantly take place early after admission. Secondary outcomes may include a re-assessment of fitness following treatment on the award. The data obtained from this study will inform future projects that seek to design exercise based programs that act as adjuncts to current usual care treatments.

Ethics approval needed? Yes
Ethics applied for? No
Type of study: Quantitative

Resources needed (all available):
Additional information:

Faculty of Health Sciences
Mondays and Wednesdays, (Typically Cumberland Campus)
Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays (Typically Camperdown Campus)
The University of Sydney
NSW 2006 Australia

Dr. Kieron Rooney
T
E kieron.rooney@sydney.edu.au
sydney.edu.au

Updated 4th November 2016
Supervisor: Dr. Kieron Rooney
Supervisor contact details: kieron.rooney@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available: Yes
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider: The effect of sweet taste on metabolic and behavioural determinants of health.
Project title: The metabolic response of non-nutritive sweeteners
Is this a project for students starting in 2017: Yes
Research question: Does the consumption of non-nutritive sweeteners impact the fuel partitioning of co-ingested foods?
Research topic: The effect of sweet taste on metabolic and behavioural determinants of health.
This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
- Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sport Science) Honours
Research group type: Discipline based
University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/kieron.rooney.php
Primary research interests: Habitual Diet and Fuel Partitioning
Regulators of Maximal Fat oxidation during exercise
Metabolic and Behavioural effects of excess sugar consumption and capacity to recover during sugar withdrawal
Name(s) of research team: Dr. Kieron Rooney
Prof Bob Boakes
Aims and background
A current cultural shift consists of decreased acceptance of added sugars in foods and drinks. Their replacement with either water or drinks sweetened with low calorie sweeteners such as saccharin, aspartame or stevia is commonly advised. The rationale for such advice is that removal of added sugars should result in a reduction in total energy intake. As a consequence, weight is lost and metabolic state improved.

The scientific basis for such advice – that metabolic health may be improved by the simple removal of sugar drinks or their replacement with low calorie sweeteners – is inconclusive. Worryingly, there is evidence from both human and small animal studies suggesting that consumption of such sweeteners may have the counter-intuitive effect of increasing energy intake and potentially inducing metabolic damage (such as impaired glucose tolerance) (Suez et al. 2014; Fagherazzi et al. 2013). In fact some studies have reported co-ingestion of artificial sweeteners to alter the glucose and insulin response to a standard glucose tolerance test (Pepino 2015).
Proposed method of data collection: The specific approach can be discussed and refined with the team, but in general the plan currently will be to recruit between 10-20 participants to undergo a number of acute meal challenges in a counter-balanced, randomised cross-over design. Prior to consumption of the meal participants will consume either a water control or non-nutritive sweetened primer. During the meal, fingerprick blood samples will be assessed for blood glucose and potentially insulin response, as well as whole body fuel oxidation. Various anthropometric measures will also be assessed as covariates in analysis. This project will most likely be completed on Cumberland Campus with the possibility of some testing taking place on Camperdown Campus.

Ethics approval needed? Yes

Ethics applied for? No

Type of study: Quantitative

Resources needed (all available): Students intending on completing this project will be trained in the skills required to collect all data including metabolic cart analysis of expired gases, finger prick blood collection and basic anthropometry.

Additional information:
**Supervisor:** Dr Zoe McKeough

**Supervisor contact details:** zoe.mckeough@sydney.edu.au

**Is there a specific project available:** No (your name and research interest will be made available to students)

**Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider:** Research on the effects of rehabilitation in chronic lung disease including examination of sedentary behaviour and physical activity in people with COPD. We have various projects including the examination of long-term Tai Chi exercise, behavioural interventions to improve sedentary behaviour and relationships of objective and subjective measures of activity.

**Project title:**

**Is this a project for students starting in 2017?**

**Research question:**

**Research topic:** Research on the effects of rehabilitation in chronic lung disease including examination of sedentary behaviour and physical activity in people with COPD. We have various projects including the examination of long-term Tai Chi exercise, behavioural interventions to improve sedentary behaviour and relationships of objective and subjective measures of activity.

**This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):**

- Bachelor of Applied Science (Physiotherapy) Honours

**Research group type:** Discipline based


**Primary research interests:** Cardiopulmonary physiotherapy

Rehabilitation for people with respiratory disease

**Name(s) of research team:**

**Aims and background**

**Proposed method of data collection:**

**Ethics approval needed?** No

**Ethics applied for?**

**Type of study:**

**Resources needed (all available):**

**Additional information:** If you undertake an honours project with me - you will be introduced to the cardiopulmonary physiotherapy research team and have an opportunity to work closely with other hons students who are working with other cardiopulmonary physiotherapy academics.
Supervisor: Dr Zakia Hossain  
Supervisor contact details: zakia.hossain@sydney.edu.au

Is there a specific project available: Yes

Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider: Research in breast cancer, in particular women from Australian Aboriginal, Non-English speaking background women's health, Diabetes

Project title: Improving breast cancer screening among Australian Aboriginal women

Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes

Research question:
1. What factors affect Australian Aboriginal women's decision in breast cancer screening practices?
2. What are the barriers in utilization of clinical breast examination and breast self examination among the study population?
3. To what extent culture play significant role in the utilization of breast screening practices among these women?

Research topic: Research in breast cancer, in particular women from Australian Aboriginal, Non-English speaking background women's health, Diabetes

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
- Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), Any discipline

Research group type: Research Group based

University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/zakia.hossain.php

Primary research interests: Chronic disease- Breast cancer, Diabetes  
Cross-cultural issues in health
migrant and socially disadvantaged groups
Asia Pacific region

Name (s) of research team: Dr Zakia Hossain  
Professor Patrick Brennan
Dr Martin Mackey

Aims and background
"Whilst survival rates for women diagnosed with breast cancer have improved considerably since the 1980s, research shows that survival is lower in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women diagnosed with breast cancer than in the general population. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women are much less likely to participate in breast screening than women in the general population" (Australian Government, 2016: 1)
The purpose of this study is to document the breast cancer screening both BSE (Breast self examination) and CBE (clinical breast Examination) and Mammography practices of a community sample of Australian Aboriginal women (AAW) living in Sydney Metropolitan area.

**Proposed method of data collection:** Indigenous women aged 35 years or over living is Sydney Metropolitan Area for more than one year will be recruited as eligible participants of the study. A total sample of 100 Australian Aboriginal women (AAW) will be recruited using convenience sample for the purpose of the study. The study will examine AAW’s knowledge and ever practice of breast self-exam (BSE); clinical breast examination including mammography and ultrasound. It will also examine barriers in utilization of BSE and CBE among the participants. Mixed methods will be utilised. Data will collected on participants’ socio-demographic background, access to and utilisation of health care services and health insurance status. a total N=100 will be recruited for the quantitative study and four focus group discussion will be carried out each consisting of 6-8 participants for the qualitative study.

**Ethics approval needed?** No

**Ethics applied for?** No

**Type of study:** Mixed methods

**Resources needed (all available):** Data will be collected from the external location including Aboriginal health Centers;

Space needs: On-campus work including data analysis can be conducted in computer lab (B112).

**Budget:** Funds available for the standard Honours project (app. $500) should suffice.

**Additional information:** A very similar project is been running for last four years on breast cancer screening practices among Non-English speaking women living in Sydney Metropolitan area. I have extensive experience on study women’s health related research. Previously supervised student on Australian Aboriginal health related topic.
Supervisor: Doctor Zakia Hossain  
Supervisor contact details: zakia.hossain@sydney.edu.au  
Is there a specific project available: Yes  
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider Research in breast cancer, teenage reproductive health  
Project title: Ethnic differences in breast cancer knowledge and screening practices among women living in Sydney  
Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes  
Research question: Research Question(s) and/or hypothesis:

1. What factors influence migrant women’s decision to carry out breast screening?  
2. Is there any difference in the use of clinical breast examination among CALD-women?  
3. Is ethnicity an important factor in determining breast screening practices?  
4. What are the barriers in utilization of clinical breast examination, breast self examination and mammogram among the CALD-women?  
5. To what extent religious and cultural values play significant role in the utilization of breast screening services among these women?  
6. What are the barriers of utilisation in use of health care services among these women?  
Research topic: Research in breast cancer, teenage reproductive health  
This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):

- Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sport Science) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Physiotherapy) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (MRS) Diagnostic Radiography Honours  
Research group type: Discipline based  
Primary research interests: Chronic disease and disability, women’s health, ethnicity, cross-cultural issues,  
Name(s) of research team: Dr Ann Poulos, Dr Sarah Lewis  
Aims and background  
Ethnic differences in survival of breast cancer were reported in the USA study (Hunter 2000). Limited evidence suggests that people from NESB have lower than average rates of population in cancer screening in Australia (Weber, Banks, Smith, O’connell and Sitas, 2009). In New South Wales, 31 one per cent populations aged 45 years or older in 2006 were born outside Australia (ABS, 2006). However, little is known about the breast cancer screening practices among women from diverse ethnic groups.
living in Sydney Metropolitan Area.

The aims of this study is to: 1. document the breast cancer screening including BSE (Breast self examination) and CBE (clinical breast Examination) and mammogram among women from culturally and linguistically diverse groups (CALD-women) living in Sydney Metropolitan area; 2. examine the impact of beliefs and cultural values on health care behavior of CALD women living in Sydney metropolitan area, particularly with regard to breast cancer screening;

Proposed method of data collection: A quantitative method will be used for the purpose of the study. CALD women aged 35 years or over living in SMA for more than one year will be recruited as eligible participants of the study. The study will examine CALD women’s knowledge and ever practice of breast self-exam (BSE); clinical breast examination and mammogram, It will also examine barriers in utilization of BSE, CBE and Mammogram among the participants. Survey will cover participants’ socio-demographic background, migration status, access to and utilisation of health care services and health insurance status, breast cancer knowledge, breast screening practices and utilisation of health care services.

Study Design: Cross-sectional study.

Outcome measures: Breast cancer screening practices.

Criteria for inclusion: CALD women aged 35 years or over living in Sydney Metropolitan area.

Source of subjects, method of recruitment, method of model validation: Migrant Resource centers; snowball sampling, and recruitment via flyers etc.

Ethics approval needed? No

Ethics applied for? Yes

Type of study: Quantitative

Resources needed (all available): none

Additional information: Project has got ethics clearance from the University of Sydney Human Research Ethics committee.
Supervisor: Dr Yu-Wei Chen
Supervisor contact details: yu-wei.chen@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available: Yes
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider: Research in children with autism regarding their quality of social life
Project title: Quality of life and social participation of children with autism spectrum disorder: An experience sampling study
Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes
Research question: What is the relationship between everyday social participation and health-related quality of life in children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD)?
Research topic: Research in children with autism regarding their quality of social life
This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
   - Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) Honours
Research group type: Discipline based
University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/yu-wei.chen.php
Primary research interests: Quality of social life in disability
Ecological momentary assessment
Paediatric occupational therapy
Name (s) of research team: Dr Yu-Wei Chen
Prof Anita Bundy
Dr Sarah Wilkes-Gillan
Aims and background
Meaningful social experiences promote mental health. We learned from previous work with adults with ASD that, they enjoy interacting with others; social interactions provoke anxiety and take their toll. Little is known about how similar the experiences of children with ASD are to those of adults. In addition, whether the everyday social participation influences health-related quality of life requires investigation. This project will advance knowledge regarding factors influencing quality of life and develop intervention addressing their needs and challenges in social participation.

Proposed method of data collection: The study is a part of a larger project which investigates everyday social participation and mental health of children with autism spectrum disorder compared with typically developing peers. The student who involves in this study will recruit 10 children with a formal diagnosis of ASD and 10 without disabilities. All the children will be aged between 10 and 12 years. Experience sampling method, an ecological momentary assessment, will be used to collect the data regarding time use in everyday life. The data will be incorporated into the larger project and then analysed to answer the research questions.

Ethics approval needed? Yes

Updated 4th November 2016
Ethics applied for? Yes
Type of study: Quantitative
Resources needed (all available):

Additional information: The larger project which investigates everyday social participation and mental health of children with autism spectrum disorder compared with typically developing peers has started in 2016. The project team includes researcher at the University of Sydney (Dr Chen, Prof Bundy) and Australian Catholic University (Dr Wilkes-Gillan). Dr Chen will be the primary supervisor. All the team members have profound experiences working with children with autism spectrum disorders.
**Supervisor:** Dr Tatjana Seizova-Cajic  
**Supervisor contact details:** tatjana.seizova-cajic@sydney.edu.au  
**Is there a specific project available:** Yes  
**Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider** Although specific projects are available, students are welcome to propose their own ideas concerning human senses (perception).  
**Project title:** Plasticity in somatosensory maps  
**Is this a project for students starting in 2017?** Yes  
**Research question:** Can short-term stimulation change perception of position on the skin of the hand?  
**Research topic:** Although specific projects are available, students are welcome to propose their own ideas concerning human senses (perception).  
**This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):**  
- Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sport Science) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Physiotherapy) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise Physiology) Honours  
**Research group type:** Discipline based  
**Primary research interests:** human senses; touch; proprioception; multisensory integration  
**Name(s) of research team:**  
**Aims and background**  
**BACKGROUND:**  
Plasticity in the nervous system can refer to functional or structural changes triggered by changes in external environment, learning experience or peripheral damage to the nerves. Contrary to assumptions that changes in the cortical network circuits are possible only during crucial periods of development, we now know that a fundamental feature of the brain is its capacity for plasticity, even in adults. One of the brain areas that is highly plastic is the primary somatosensory cortex. Our study investigates plasticity in conscious perception based on the processing in this part of the brain. We use short-term exposure ('learning') to motion patterns across the skin to influence WHERE on the skin we perceive the touch.  
**AIM:** We want to determine whether patterns of motion across the hand in which two patches of skin are always presented 'in reverse' will influence subsequent perception of their position.  
**SIGNIFICANCE:** This is basic research that contributes to the thorough understanding of the sense of touch. Knowledge of sensory systems allows us to treat or substitute sensory impairments, create virtual reality systems and mimic human senses in machines.
**Proposed method of data collection:** This is behavioural research conducted on healthy volunteers in a laboratory setting (sample size: 10-15). The method is experimental and participants' verbal reports indicating what they perceive are used as the outcome measure. This is quantitative research and statistics is used for data analysis. Summaries of qualitative data are also included in research reports.

**Ethics approval needed?** Yes  
**Ethics applied for?** Yes  
**Type of study:** Quantitative  
**Resources needed (all available):** This research is conducted in the Touch, Proprioception and Vision laboratory at the Faculty of Health Sciences.

A stimulating glove to be used in this study is being developed by an Honours student in engineering (2016-17); pilot study can be done with the equipment that is already available.  
**Additional information:** This project would likely best suit students with basic understanding of, and interest in neuroscience.
Supervisor: Dr Tatjana Seizova-Cajic
Supervisor contact details: tatjana.seizova-cajic@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available: Yes
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider Students interested in human senses (conscious perception) and factors that determine why we perceive things the way we do.
Project title: Perception of self-touch
Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes
Research question: Perceived self-touch and its relationship with perceived posture
Research topic: Students interested in human senses (conscious perception) and factors that determine why we perceive things the way we do.
This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s): · Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sport Science) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Physiotherapy) Honours
Research group type: Discipline based
University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/tatjana.seizova-cajic.php
Primary research interests: human senses; touch; proprioception; multisensory integration
Name (s) of research team:
Aims and background
BACKGROUND: One of the most common forms of tactile stimulation we receive every day is self-touch, for example when the fingers on our two hands touch each other. There is no effort in this, but the process resulting in the feeling that we are touching our own body is more complicated than it seems. It depends on the precise timing of different sensory inputs and on our prior experience. Experience of self-touch is related to other seemingly simple experiences, including limb ownership (the feeling that our limbs are really ours, denied by some people with brain injury) and agency (the feeling that our actions are initiated by us and not by some external agent, which may be distorted in some people who therefore feel that 'external force' or 'aliens' move their limbs of apply other kinds of stimulation to their body).

Common experience pf self-touch may create a bias to perceive as self-touch even those stimuli that do NOT represent self-touch -- in other words, to have an illusion of self-touch. Our previous research shows that such a bias exists: a prolonged touch of someone else’s hand may result in an ILLUSORY percept that our own hands are touching each other.

AIM: The objective of the present study is to explore the conditions under which this illusion develops and when it breaks down. Specifically, we want to determine whether symmetry in hand configurations affects the illusion and how far apart hands need to be for the illusion to break down.

Updated 4th November 2016
SIGNIFICANCE: This is basic research that contributes to the thorough understanding of sensory mechanisms. Knowledge of sensory systems allows us to treat or substitute sensory impairments, create virtual reality systems and mimic human senses in machines.

**Proposed method of data collection:** This is behavioural research conducted on healthy volunteers in a laboratory setting (sample size: 10-15). The method is experimental and participants verbal reports indicating what they perceive are used as the outcome measure. This is quantitative research and statistics is used for data analysis. Summaries of qualitative data are also included in research reports.

An interested student would contribute to development of study design, collect data and help with simple aspects of data analysis.

**Ethics approval needed?** Yes

**Ethics applied for?** Yes

**Type of study:** Quantitative

**Resources needed (all available):** This research is conducted in the Touch, Proprioception and Vision laboratory at the Faculty of Health Sciences.

**Additional information:** Students with basic understanding of neuroscience would have an advantage.
Supervisor: Dr Natalie Allen

Supervisor contact details: natalie.allen@sydney.edu.au

Is there a specific project available: No (your name and research interest will be made available to students)

Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider: Research in exercise interventions for people with PD, particularly in the areas of pain management and falls prevention. Open to student suggestions

Project title:

Is this a project for students starting in 2017?

Research question:

Research topic: Research in exercise interventions for people with PD, particularly in the areas of pain management and falls prevention. Open to student suggestions

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):

- Bachelor of Applied Science (Physiotherapy) Honours

Research group type: Discipline based

University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/natalie.allen.php

Primary research interests: Exercise interventions for people with Parkinson's disease - descriptive studies, randomised controlled trials, systematic reviews

Name(s) of research team:

Aims and background

Proposed method of data collection:

Ethics approval needed? N/A

Ethics applied for?

Type of study:

Resources needed (all available):

Additional information:
Supervisor: Dr Meryl Lovarini
Supervisor contact details: meryl.lovarini@sydney.edu.au

Is there a specific project available: Yes
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider? This project will focus on the use of virtual technologies in residential aged care.
Project title: The use of virtual technologies in residential aged care settings for improving health, participation and quality of life.

Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes
Research question: To be discussed with the student.
Research topic: This project will focus on the use of virtual technologies in residential aged care.
This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
- Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) Honours

Research group type: Discipline based
University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/meryl.lovarini.php
Primary research interests: Technology use by occupational therapists and their clients to enhance health outcomes.

Name (s) of research team: Dr Meryl Lovarini
Dr Sanet du Toit

Aims and background
To be discussed with the student.

Proposed method of data collection: Scoping review methodology.
Ethics approval needed? No
Ethics applied for? N/A
Type of study: Mixed methods
Resources needed (all available): Nil specific at this stage.

Additional information: I am happy to meet with interested students to discuss this project opportunity.
Supervisor: Dr Merrolee Penman

Supervisor contact details: merrolee.penman@sydney.edu.au

Is there a specific project available: Yes

Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider Evaluating simulated learning from supervisor/student perspectives

Project title: Using conversational and content analysis to shed light on what happens during group supervision in simulated placements/fieldwork.

Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes

Research question: Our broad research question is:

What are the characteristics of the interactions between SIM facilitators/educators and students in group supervision?

Research topic: Evaluating simulated learning from supervisor/student perspectives

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
- Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Honours

Research group type: Research Group based

University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/merrolee.penman.php

Primary research interests: clinical education
- clinical reasoning
- simulation

Name(s) of research team: Dr Jennie Brentnall
- Dr Merrolee Penman
- Robyn Johnson
- Dr Belinda Kenny

Aims and background

Adoption of simulation as preparation for clinical education/fieldwork placements is increasingly becoming part of allied health student curricula. At the University of Sydney, simulation has been a core component of undergraduate and masters curricula since 2014 for occupational therapy and for speech pathology since 2016. Alongside the implementation, academics across both disciplines have introduced a stream of research aimed at investigating both processes used to enabling quality student learning, and the outcomes achieved.

This study will be part of the stream investigating the processes used to enable quality student learning,
in particular the debriefing that follows client encounters in simulation. Debriefing is known to be an essential part of simulation with current research focusing primarily on the content and impact on student learning. However, there is very little that focuses on the interactions occurring between facilitator/educator and students and how this dynamic might influence student outcomes.

In 2017/18, both occupational therapy and speech pathology disciplines will schedule simulation as part of the curriculum. The team sees an opportunity for both a speech pathology student and occupational therapy student to work in a collaborative team with the researchers to complete a conversational and content analysis of student groups of both disciplines. Equally one or other component (i.e. conversational or content analysis) could be completed by one student according to their discipline.

**Proposed method of data collection:** This study will follow a mixed methodology using videos/voice recordings of debriefs following a simulated learning experience. Each discipline has multiple students groups engaged in multiple simulated client encounters from which the sampling will be determined based on the research design. For example, you might take recordings of 20 minute debriefing sessions at 2 to 3 points across the simulated placement, for 2 - 4 groups of students. Analysis will follow conventions for conversational analysis of the interactions, and thematic analysis of the content.

**Ethics approval needed?** Yes

**Ethics applied for?** No

**Type of study:** Mixed methods

**Resources needed (all available):** no specific requirements

**Additional information:** The team sees an opportunity for both a speech pathology student and occupational therapy student to work in a collaborative team with supervisors from both disciplines. The research team is drawn from WIL Academics who work together across a range of projects on a day to day basis. Interprofessional learning is one of our key values. Team members are experienced in the use of mixed methods, content analysis, conversational analysis and in collaborative supervision.
Supervisor: Dr Kate Thomson
Supervisor contact details: kate.thomson@sydney.edu.au

Is there a specific project available: Yes

Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider: Investigate the use of discussion boards for learning, for example, do they facilitate reflection?
I have broad interests and I'm very open to negotiating a topic with students

Project title: Investigate the use of discussion boards for learning, for example, do they facilitate reflection?
I have broad interests and I'm very open to negotiating a topic with students

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
- Any discipline

Research group type: Research Group based

University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/kate.thomson.php

Primary research interests: Informal learning
Scholarship of teaching and learning
Student feedback and quality improvement
Work integrated learning
Higher education

Name (s) of research team:

Aims and background

Proposed method of data collection:

Ethics approval needed? Yes
Ethics applied for? No
Type of study: Mixed methods

Resources needed (all available):

Additional information:
Supervisor: Dr Kate Edwards
Supervisor contact details: kate.edwards@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available: Yes
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider
Project title: Yoga as a prophylactic for stress: examination of effects for protection from cardiovascular disease
Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes
Research question: Does a single session of Yoga change the responses to stress in a population at-risk for CVD?
Research topic:
This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
   · Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sport Science) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise Physiology) Honours
Research group type: Discipline based
University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/kate.edwards.php
Primary research interests: Exercise immunology, stress physiology
Name(s) of research team: Dr Kate Edwards, Dr Melody Ding,
Aims and background
Yoga is a mind-body practice which is often used to reduce stress in modern life. The way that yoga reduces stress isn’t well understood, and it’s important to unravel the effect so that the best recommendations for use are possible. We recently found that young healthy adults showed a reduced stress response to a maths task if they completed a yoga session immediately beforehand. This project plans to explore if this immediate anti-stress effect of yoga can work in populations who are at risk of cardiovascular disease (e.g. have high blood pressure) or during times of very high stress (e.g. during exams for students).
Proposed method of data collection: Randomised crossover trial in participants (N=24) with elevated blood pressure (SBP130-150mmHg, DBP 80-100mmHg, High-normal and Grade 1 hypertension), without any other CVD risk factor (according to ACSM guidelines). On the first day of testing, participants will be randomly assigned to complete either the control condition (watching TV) or the Yoga session (delivered by CIB). All subjects will be their own control, hence those who have watched TV during the first day of experiment will participate in Yoga on the second day of experiment, and vice-versa. Study trials will be separated by a minimum of 48 hours and all trials will be completed during the afternoon to control for the known diurnal variation in cortisol. During each day of testing, participants will first rest for 15 minutes before undergoing the assigned condition (control or Yoga). After the 30-minute task, participants will undergo a math task to induce stress reactivity and, afterwards, will recover from the task during 30 minutes. Measurements of cardiovascular reactivity will be measured throughout the period (heart rate,
heart rate variability, blood pressure); in addition salivary samples will be taken at intervals to assess the hypothalamic-pituitary adrenal (HPA) response (cortisol) and salivary pH as a marker of sympathetic and parasympathetic balance). In addition to demographic and trait psychological measures, participants will give self-reported mood and state cognitive, somatic anxiety and self-confidence assessments pre and post stress tasks.

**Ethics approval needed?** Yes

**Ethics applied for?** No

**Type of study:** Quantitative

**Resources needed (all available):** Additional information:

**Faculty of Health Sciences**
K207 (Cumberland)
6W87 (CPC, Camperdown)

**Dr Kate Edwards**
T +61290367396
E kate.edwards@sydney.edu.au

**ABN 15 211 513 464**
**CRICOS 00026A**
Supervisor: Dr Belinda Kenny
Supervisor contact details: belinda.kenny@sydney.edu.au

Is there a specific project available: Yes

Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider Our research team is interested in exploring interdisciplinary practice during clinical placements. the Work Integrated Learning team, will subsequently offer student placements to University of Sydney This topic is well suited to interdisciplinary, peer learning opportunities and the scope of the project may be adapted for students from one or more disciplines. Interested students are encouraged to contact the research team for further information.

Project title: Interprofessional Learning Resources: Do they add value to students’ informal learning opportunities?

Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes

Research question: What is the nature of students’ IPL learning experiences when they engage in structured IPL activities during clinical placements?
What positive IPL outcomes are associated with the use of structured IPL resources during clinical placements?

Research topic: Our research team is interested in exploring interdisciplinary practice during clinical placements. the Work Integrated Learning team, will subsequently offer student placements to University of Sydney This topic is well suited to interdisciplinary, peer learning opportunities and the scope of the project may be adapted for students from one or more disciplines. Interested students are encouraged to contact the research team for further information.

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
· Any discipline

Research group type: Research Group based

University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/belinda.kenny.php

Primary research interests: Ethical and clinical reasoning
Clinical education
Interdisciplinary practice
Communication and swallowing disorders in adults

Name(s) of research team: Belinda Kenny
Gillian Nisbet
Robyn Johnson

Aims and background
The University of Sydney
NSW 2006 Australia
Interprofessional learning (IPL) on placement gives students an experiential basis for developing skills for collaborative, client centred care in the professional workplace. Typically, IPL learning occurs informally when students observe or interact with professionals who are managing clients the students are treating. A recent study by Zhao, Nagarayan & Nisbett, 2015 indicated that students perceive such IPL activities lead to improved insights into the roles and responsibilities of team members and more effective communication skills.

This project aims to evaluate an innovative IPL resource package developed to provide students and clinical educators with tools to enhance informal interprofessional learning opportunities that naturally occur in health care workplaces. The Interprofessional Learning Resources for Students and their Supervisors for use in Placement Settings resource provides five structured IPL activities graded from less difficult (observation) to more difficult (communication). The resources were informed by IPL competencies and developed in collaboration with educators and students. During this study, the resources will be applied in clinical education settings to investigate students’ perceived benefits of the resources and suggestions for further development.

Proposed method of data collection: A qualitative descriptive research approach will be used to evaluate the application of IPL resources during clinical placements. Purposive sampling will recruit students who are allocated clinical placements from external sites that are collaborating in Capacity Development Facilitation with Work Integrated Learning, the University of Sydney. IPL resources will be introduced during student tutorials. Following completion of the IPL activities, students who agreed to participate in the study will attend a focus group to explore their learning experiences. Focus group data will be transcribed and thematically analysed to reflect students’ perceptions of the effectiveness of the tools in facilitating learning opportunities, confidence and skills in IPL. Findings will support the continuing development of IPL resources for students.

Ethics approval needed? Yes
Ethics applied for? No
Type of study: Qualitative
Resources needed (all available):
Additional information: We are an interdisciplinary project team with experience supervising Higher Degree Research and honours students and research interests in IPL.
Supervisor: Dr Belinda Kenny
Supervisor contact details: belinda.kenny@sydney.edu.au

Is there a specific project available: Yes

Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider Our research team is interested in exploring the outcomes of interdisciplinary clinical education workshops. In particular, we wish to understand to what extent clinical educators who attend our workshops apply key workshop concepts consistent with quality learning experiences for students. A single project has been proposed but this topic is well suited to peer learning opportunities. Our interdisciplinary team of supervisors could support more than one student working together on related projects exploring different aspects of quality outcomes in clinical education. Interested students are encouraged to contact the research team for further information.

Project title: Educating our Educators: Quality outcomes from interdisciplinary clinical education workshops.

Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes

Research question: What are the outcomes of participation in interdisciplinary clinical education outcomes?

Individual research projects may address one or more of the following questions:

1) What do clinical educators learn when they attend interdisciplinary workshops? For example, what do participants identify as key take-home strategies recorded after completing the workshop, and do they implement these strategies in the following months.

2) What are the enablers and barriers to workshop participants applying what they learned in the workshop to their clinical settings? For example, the implementation of peer learning and/or interdisciplinary learning opportunities for students in different clinical settings.

3) How has workshop participation changed clinical educators’ management of student placements? For example, how does the clinical educator plan, manage and evaluate the quality of student placements at his/her site?

Research topic: Our research team is interested in exploring the outcomes of interdisciplinary clinical education workshops. In particular, we wish to understand to what extent clinical educators who attend our workshops apply key workshop concepts consistent with quality learning experiences for students. A single project has been proposed but this topic is well suited to peer learning opportunities. Our interdisciplinary team of supervisors could support more than one student working together on related projects exploring different aspects of quality outcomes in clinical education. Interested students are encouraged to contact the research team for further information.

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):

- Any discipline

Updated 4th November 2016
Research group type: Research Group based

University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/belinda.kenny.php

Primary research interests: Ethical and clinical reasoning
Clinical education
Communication and swallowing disorders in adults
Interdisciplinary practice

Name (s) of research team: Belinda Kenny
Madelyn Nicole
Jennie Brentnall
Kate Thomson

Aims and background
Through clinical and fieldwork placements students develop the competent skills and attributes necessary for working in diverse health care settings. Students’ learning occurs under the guidance of clinical educators at external sites. Hence, students’ learning is impacted by the nature of experiences provided by clinical educators. To facilitate quality of clinical education experiences, the Work Integrated Learning (WIL) team provide regular interdisciplinary clinical education workshops. These workshops provide participants with knowledge of evidence based approaches to clinical education and opportunities to discuss, practice and reflect upon skills they may apply in future placements. The workshops are well- subscribed and have received high participant post-workshop satisfaction ratings. However, the translation of workshop learning to quality student placement experiences has received limited empirical attention. This project aims to explore the learning clinical educators who attend interdisciplinary clinical education workshops apply in their own workplaces in the following months.

Proposed method of data collection: The project aim and research questions will be addressed using a mixed methods or qualitative descriptive research approach (the team have experience in both and the selection will be guided by the questions of the interested student/s). Interdisciplinary health care professionals will be invited to participate in the study when they register to attend a WIL clinical education workshop. Workshops are conducted at least twice per semester with approx. 40-80 participants enrolled in each workshop. Participants vary in their personal demographics, clinical and clinical education experience, and clinical setting features.

At the completion of the workshop, each participant completes a workshop evaluation including the identification of up to five concepts or strategies that they plan to apply during future clinical education placements. These data can be thematically analysed to provide short term quality outcomes. Follow-up
over a period of 3-6 months can then be designed according to the selected research questions (e.g., qualitative descriptive study with interviews and/or focus groups, action research study, evaluation study). Findings may be related to participant characteristics as relevant to the methodology (e.g., correlations in a mixed-methods study).

**Ethics approval needed?** Yes  
**Ethics applied for?** No  
**Type of study:** Mixed methods  
**Resources needed (all available):**

**Additional information:** We are an interdisciplinary project team with experience supervising Higher Degree Research and honours students and research interests in quality clinical education. We have experience in a range of evaluation and research methodologies.
Supervisor: Dr Andy Smidt
Supervisor contact details: andy.smidt@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available: Yes
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider
Project title: Supporting young adults with sensory stimulatory behaviours to connect with others
Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes
Research question: Can provision of an individual sensory profile increase engagement and decrease challenging behaviour for students with severe intellectual disabilities?
Research topic:
This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
- Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Honours
Research group type: Discipline based
University Profile: https://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/andy.smidt.php
Primary research interests: Adults and children with developmental disabilities
AAC
Challenging behaviour
Staff training
Name(s) of research team: Andy Smidt
Mark Carter (Macquarie University)
Jennifer Stephenson (Macquarie University)
Aims and background
See work by Karen Bunning for a description of ISE. Our intention is to create a personalised sensory profile for students, and train teachers and classroom assistants to use this with students to increase engagement and decrease challenging behaviour
Proposed method of data collection: Single Subject Experimental design
Ethics approval needed? Yes
Ethics applied for? No
Type of study: Mixed methods
Resources needed (all available):
Additional information: This is an exciting new collaboration between Dr Andy Smidt who is a speech pathologist at Sydney university with Dr Mark Carter and Dr Jennifer Stephenson who are part of MUSEC at Macquarie University. Between us we have good relationships with a number of SSP (schools) and our aim is to trial this approach to collect data on what is already a valued intervention approach for young adults with complex needs.
Between us, we have a good deal of expertise and experience and we are excited to be bringing special needs teachers and speech pathologists together for this research. We have some idea about what we want to achieve but we are open to input and discussion with the student who takes on this project. We are able to take one or two students on this project for 2017-18.
Supervisor: Dr Andy Smidt
Supervisor contact details: andy.smidt@sydney.edu.au

Is there a specific project available: Yes

Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider: This project will look at using iPads in classrooms for students with severe intellectual disabilities. It will build on the work of Jennifer Stephenson (2016 paper) and will involve replicating this project with other students using a Single Subject Experimental design. This project will develop from discussions between the student and the supervisory team.

Project title:

Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes

Research question:

Research topic: This project will look at using iPads in classrooms for students with severe intellectual disabilities. It will build on the work of Jennifer Stephenson (2016 paper) and will involve replicating this project with other students using a Single Subject Experimental design. This project will develop from discussions between the student and the supervisory team.

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):

- Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise Physiology) Honours

Research group type: Discipline based

University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/andy.smidt.php

Primary research interests: Adults and children with developmental disabilities

AAC

Challenging behaviour

Staff training

Name(s) of research team: Dr Andy Smidt
Dr Mark Carter (Macquarie Uni)
Dr Jennifer Stephenson (Macquarie Uni)

Aims and background

See 2016 paper by Jennifer Stephenson "Using the Choiceboard CreatorTM app on an iPad© to teach choice making to a student with severe disabilities". The plan is to replicate this study with other students to provide more evidence than this single case study does.

Proposed method of data collection: Mutliple baseline design.

Ethics approval needed? Yes

Ethics applied for? No

Type of study: Quantitative

The University of Sydney
NSW 2006 Australia
E andy.smidt@sydney.edu.au

sydney.edu.au
Resources needed (all available):

Additional information: This is an exciting new collaboration between Dr Andy Smidt who is a speech pathologist at Sydney university with Dr Mark Carter and Dr Jennifer Stephenson who are part of MUSEC at Macquarie University. Between us we have good relationships with a number of SSP (schools) and our aim is to replicate the work of Stephenson.
**Supervisor:** Doctor Zakia Hossain  
**Supervisor contact details:** zakia.hossain@sydney.edu.au  
**Is there a specific project available:** Yes  
**Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider** Breast cancer, Chronic disease and disability  
ethnicity and cross-cultural issues  
**Project title:** Muslim migrant women's breast cancer screening project in Sydney  
**Is this a project for students starting in 2017?** Yes  
**Research question:** What factors influence a Muslim women’s decision to carry out breast screening?  
Do the levels of clinical breast examination use and breast screening participation rates differ based on the level of Islamic practice among Muslim women?  
What are the barriers in utilization of clinical breast examination, mammography and breast self examination among the study population?  
To what extent does religion play the significant role in the use of breast screening practices among these women?  
What ways are screening practices of Muslim women influenced by difficulties in understanding health material?  
**Research topic:** Breast cancer, Chronic disease and disability  
ethnicity and cross-cultural issues  
**This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):**  
- Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sport Science) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (MRS) Diagnostic Radiography Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Honours  
**Research group type:** Research Group based  
**University Profile:** http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/zakia.hossain.php  
**Primary research interests:** Health sociology, women's health, breast cancer, Chronic disease and disability (i.e, diabetes) disadvantaged groups and health (indigenous health) ethnicity and cross-cultural issue in health health service provision and utilisation  
**Name(s) of research team:** Professor Patrick Brennan, Dr Martin Mackey, Dr Sarah Lewis
Aims and background

Aim is to examine breast screening knowledge and participation rates among the Muslim ethnic group living in Sydney Metropolitan Area. Breast screening practices include breast self-exam, clinical breast examination such as mammogram, ultrasound and fine needle biopsy.

Proposed method of data collection: This is a cross-sectional study based on quantitative method. Participants eligible for the study include Muslim – born women of ethnic background in the Sydney Metropolitan area, of age 35–50. Converted Muslims are not included in this study. Women, who ever diagnosed with breast cancer and are undergoing treatment, are not included in this study.

Convenient sampling technique will be used in order to collect data from specific ethnic Muslim groups including Arabic, Middle East, African, Arabic, Bengali and Malaysian communities.

Ethics approval needed? No
Ethics applied for? Yes
Type of study: Quantitative
Resources needed (all available): None

Additional information: The current project is to collect more data and make a comparative analysis between Muslim women from different part of Asia, Middle East regions. This will provide understanding of religious and cultural variations in breast screening practices among the selected women.
Supervisor: Doctor Nicola Hancock
Supervisor contact details: nicola.hancock@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available: Yes
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider: Qualitative exploration of the critical elements of recovery for people living with and recovering from mental illness. Specific project focus will be negotiated with successful student.
Will involve semi-structured interviews with people living with mental illness in the community.
Thematic analysis of interview data.
Project title:
Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes
Research question:
Research topic: Qualitative exploration of the critical elements of recovery for people living with and recovering from mental illness. Specific project focus will be negotiated with successful student.
Will involve semi-structured interviews with people living with mental illness in the community.
Thematic analysis of interview data.
This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
- Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) Honours
Research group type: Discipline based
University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/nicola.hancock.php
Primary research interests: Mental health recovery and recovery-oriented practice; mental health service evaluation; engaging mental health consumers in co-production research, qualitative methods
Name(s) of research team:
Aims and background

Proposed method of data collection:
Ethics approval needed? Yes
Ethics applied for? No Type of study: Qualitative Resources needed (all available):
Additional information: The mental health research team in the Discipline of Occupational Therapy are running a number of related projects. We would rather meet with students and discuss a match between their and our interests.
Supervisor: Doctor Merrolee Penman

Supervisor contact details: merrolee.penman@sydney.edu.au

Is there a specific project available: Yes

Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider: A comparison of how supervising occupational therapists use the electronic SPEF-R (fieldwork evaluation) versus the paper version. Research in this area will contribute to demonstrating the validity of the evaluation tool.

Project title:

Is this a project for students starting in 2017: No

Research question:

Research topic: A comparison of how supervising occupational therapists use the electronic SPEF-R (fieldwork evaluation) versus the paper version. Research in this area will contribute to demonstrating the validity of the evaluation tool.

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):

- Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) Honours

Research group type: Discipline based

University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/merrolee.penman.php

Primary research interests: I am interested in research in work integrated learning, reflective practice, metacognition in allied health, learning styles, self-directed learning

Name (s) of research team:

Aims and background

Proposed method of data collection:

Ethics approval needed?: Yes

Ethics applied for?: No

Type of study: Mixed methods

Resources needed (all available): No specific requirements required. Students will be able to access all files electronically

Additional information: The University of Sydney has used the paper version of the SPEF-R since its development. We plan to move to the eSPEF-R version in 2015 when licensing agreements have been made. Currently the ways in which therapists complete the SPEF-R can vary enormously. The SPEF-R provides an electronic comment bank that can be adjusted by the supervisor. We are interested in evaluating whether with the use of the eSPEF-R whether supervisors continue to provide similar
comments, or whether the quality of comments changes in some way. We are also interested in understanding how having electronic comment banks may aid supervisors in completing the SPEF-R.
Supervisor: Doctor Maree Milross and Doctor Tiffany Dwyer
Supervisor contact details: maree.milross@sydney.edu.au and tiffany.dwyer@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available: Yes
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider investigations into a new quality of life questionnaire in adults with non-cystic fibrosis bronchiectasis - validation, comparison to other questionnaires and clinical correlates, sensitivity to change
Project title: Investigations of the QOL-B (quality of life in bronchiectasis) in adults with non-cystic fibrosis bronchiectasis
Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes
Research question:
Research topic: investigations into a new quality of life questionnaire in adults with non-cystic fibrosis bronchiectasis - validation, comparison to other questionnaires and clinical correlates, sensitivity to change
This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
· Bachelor of Applied Science (Physiotherapy) Honours
Research group type: Research Group based
Primary research interests: respiratory medicine; exercise; airway clearance; cystic fibrosis and bronchiectasis; respiratory failure; non-invasive ventilation; hypertonic saline
Name(s) of research team: Clinical and Rehab Sciences
Aims and background

Proposed method of data collection:
Ethics approval needed? Yes
Ethics applied for? No
Type of study: Mixed methods
Resources needed (all available):
Additional information:
Supervisor: Doctor Kate Edwards
Supervisor contact details: kate.edwards@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available: Yes
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider
Project title: Exercise is medicine in multiple myeloma (MM)
Is this a project for students starting in 2017? No
Research question: Can an exercise intervention can improve prognosis in MM patients?
Research topic:
This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
· Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sport Science) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Physiotherapy) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise Physiology) Honours
Research group type: Research Group based
University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/kate.edwards.php
Primary research interests: Exercise immunology, stress physiology
Name(s) of research team: Michael Marthick, Dr John Campbell, Prof Doug Joshua
Aims and background
A common co-morbidity caused by MM and exacerbated by anti-MM therapy is profound immuno-suppression which gives rise to recurrent serious infections. Administration of influenza, pneumococcal and other vaccines is recommended, however, vaccine efficacy in MM is extremely poor, thus compounding infection risk in this patient group. A number of studies have demonstrated that exercise can be used as an adjuvant to the immune system. Using a human vaccination model, it was found that exercise may augment immune-competence and enhance vaccine responses. Such improvement may lead to a direct reduction in rates of rates of infection-associated hospital visits, infection-related deaths and infection-induced inflammation leading to MM tumour relapse.
Proposed method of data collection: MM (N=20) patients diagnosed at the Sydney Cancer Centre, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (RPAH) will be recruited via referral to Exercise Physiology (Michael Marthick at the Chris O'Brien Lifehouse). Ex group participants will attend the Lifehourse EP unit for initial exercise induction and exercise capacity test, enabling personalised prescription. To ensure suitability and promote adherence, each participant will be given a program based on their cardiopulmonary fitness and exercise capacity for a period of 12 weeks. Patients will receive vaccinations (pneumococcus) after undertaking a supervised aerobic and resistance exercise session. Serum biomarkers of myeloma (IgG, IgA, IgM and serum FLC) will be assessed before during and after exercise intervention, and peak antibody responses will be measured in serum.
Ethics approval needed? Yes
Ethics applied for? No
Type of study: Quantitative

Resources needed (all available):

Additional information:
Supervisor: Doctor Kate Edwards
Supervisor contact details: kate.edwards@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available: Yes
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider: Research in effects of exercise on immune function.
Relationships between stress, behaviour and health.
Project title: Aerobic exercise during chemotherapy infusion
Is this a project for students starting in 2017? No
Research question: Can aerobic exercise be used by patients during chemotherapy infusion prior to surgical removal of tumour?
Research topic: Research in effects of exercise on immune function.
Relationships between stress, behaviour and health.
This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
- Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sport Science) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Physiotherapy) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise Physiology) Honours
Research group type: Research Group based
University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/kate.edwards.php
Primary research interests: Exercise immunology, stress physiology
Name(s) of research team: Michael Marthick, Dr John Campbell, Prof Doug Joshua
Aims and background
Aerobic exercise has historically been used by dialysis patients during infusion and has been found to improve aerobic endurance, muscular strength, quality of life and dialysis efficiency. Recent animal and human data suggest that aerobic exercise during infusion may increase blood flow to a tumour, and therefore increase drug delivery to a tumour. In addition, exercise may attenuate the hypoxic tumour microenvironments that are associated with conventional anticancer treatment failures.
Proposed method of data collection: In this initial feasibility study it is proposed that ten neo-adjuvant chemotherapy patients complete stationary cycling at 40-70% VO2peak for 20-40 minutes (in a graded program) during infusion. Data collection will focus on exercise tolerability for patients during infusion, chemotherapy completion rate, and changes in aerobic fitness and fatigue during therapy. Patients will be referred to Michael Marthick, Exercise Physiologist at the Chris O'Brien Lifehouse.
Ethics approval needed? Yes
Ethics applied for? No Type of study: Quantitative Resources needed (all available):
Additional information:
Supervisor: Doctor Grace Spencer
Supervisor contact details: grace.spencer@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available: No
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider: Research on young people's health, health practices and health promotion
Project title:
Is this a project for students starting in 2017?
Research question:
Research topic: Research on young people's health, health practices and health promotion
This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
  · Any discipline
Research group type: Discipline based
University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/grace.spencer.php
Primary research interests: Health promotion
Children and young people’s health
Health practices and behaviours
Empowerment
Social determinants of health - gender, social position, socio-environment
Qualitative research
Name (s) of research team:
Aims and background

Proposed method of data collection:
Ethics approval needed? N/A
Ethics applied for?
Type of study:
Resources needed (all available):
Additional information:
Supervisor: Doctor Alycia Fong Yan  
Supervisor contact details: alycia.fongyan@sydney.edu.au  
Is there a specific project available: Yes  
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider: Research integrating novel exercise delivery in chronic disease population but open to student suggestions  
Project title: Validation of musculoskeletal assessment tools  
Is this a project for students starting in 2017? No  
Research question: How many musculoskeletal assessment tools are available to assess lower limb function and/ core stability?  
How valid are these assessment tools?  
What are the normative values for different population groups?  
Research topic: Research integrating novel exercise delivery in chronic disease population but open to student suggestions  
This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):  
· Any discipline  
Research group type: Research Group based  
University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/alycia.fongyan.php  
Primary research interests: Dance  
Biomechanics  
Musculoskeletal mechanics and injury prevention  
Name (s) of research team: Evangelos Pappas, Claire Hiller  
Aims and background  
Aim: To assess the validity of various musculoskeletal assessment tools for the lower limb and core stability.  
Specificity and validity of musculoskeletal assessment tools are important aspects to consider when selecting the right tool for a client. New or modified assessments have not been thoroughly investigated for use in different population groups, and clinicians need to reliably implement the assessment tools appropriately. The purpose of this project is to establish normative values across different population groups, investigate the construct validity, specificity, and accuracy of the tests.  
Proposed method of data collection:  
Ethics approval needed? Yes  
Ethics applied for? No  
Type of study: Quantitative  
Resources needed (all available): Additional information:  

Updated 4th November 2016
Supervisor: Doctor Alycia Fong Yan

Supervisor contact details: alycia.fongyan@sydney.edu.au

Is there a specific project available: Yes

Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider

Project title: Investigating mechanics of dance movement

Is this a project for students starting in 2017? No

Research question: What are the unique characteristics of dance movement?
What are the kinematic and kinetic demands on the body during dance movement?
How do the mechanics of dance movement change with varying levels of skill?
What are the mechanical risk factors for injury during dance movement?

Research topic:

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
- Any discipline

Research group type: Research Group based

University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/alycia.fongyan.php

Primary research interests: Dance
Biomechanics

Name(s) of research team: Richard Smith, Claire Hiller

Aims and background

This project aims to better understand the movement patterns and forces that dancers undergo during dance performance to inform injury prevention and teaching practices.

Dancers push their bodies to the physical limits of motion whilst maintaining the aesthetic requirements of the dance genre. The extreme technical requirements can take a toll on the body with many dancers, both professional and recreational, either injured or at risk of injury. Dancers only have a short professional career and the competition for performance roles and jobs is high. The purpose of this study is to investigate the mechanism for injuries, risk factors for injury, and movement variability.

Proposed method of data collection:

Ethics approval needed? No

Ethics applied for? No

Type of study: Quantitative

Resources needed (all available):

Additional information:

Faculty of Health Sciences
H110A, Cumberland Campus
The University of Sydney
NSW 2006 Australia

Doctor Alycia Fong Yan
T 90367404
E alycia.fongyan@sydney.edu.au
sydney.edu.au

Updated 4th November 2016
Supervisor: Associate Professor Evangelos Pappas
Supervisor contact details: evangelos.pappas@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available: Yes
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider ACL injuries
Project title: Recovery after ACL reconstruction; predictors of good outcomes
Is this a project for students starting in 2017? No
Research question: What predicts outcomes after ACL reconstruction?
Research topic: ACL injuries
This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
   - Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sport Science) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Physiotherapy) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (MRS) Diagnostic Radiography Honours
Research group type: Research Group based
University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/evangelos.pappas.php
Primary research interests: athletic knee injuries; sports injury prevention; biomechanics; recovery after knee injury
Name(s) of research team: Corey Scholes
Aims and background
There is wide variability on the extent of recovery after ACL reconstruction. However, there is limited research on predictors of outcomes. The current project aims to identify predictors of recovery after ACL reconstruction.
Proposed method of data collection: Secondary data analysis of predictors (age, sex, activity level, pre and post-operative measures etc) on recovery after ACL reconstruction
Ethics approval needed? Yes
Ethics applied for? Yes
Type of study: Quantitative
Resources needed (all available): 
Additional information:
Supervisor: Associate Professor Martin Mackey

Supervisor contact details: martin.mackey@sydney.edu.au

Is there a specific project available: Yes

Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider: Impacts of activity based working environments on health enhancing physical activity

Project title: Activity Based Working – how is it working of FHS staff and students?

Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes

Research question: What are the health effects and perceptions of staff and students moving from Cumberland Campus to the ABW environment of the Faculty’s new Health Precinct building at the Camperdown Campus.

Research topic: Impacts of activity based working environments on health enhancing physical activity

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
- Bachelor of Applied Science (Physiotherapy) Honours

Research group type: Discipline based

University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/martin.mackey.php

Primary research interests: Physical activity and population health - measurement, interventions
- Ergonomics
- Work Health and Safety

Name(s) of research team: A/Prof Martin Mackey
- Dr Lina Engelen
- Dr Josephine Chau
- Dr Jo Gale
- A/Prof Corinne Caillaud

Aims and background

Activity Based Working (ABW) is potentially a promising avenue for improving physical and mental health in the workplace and can have a positive impact on staff perception of the workplace and the employer. Although ABW is implemented in numerous organisations and is the flavour ‘du jour’ of office design, there is a scarcity of evidence on the outcomes, benefits and downsides of ABW, specifically in a holistic sense. The aim of the project is to holistically evaluate the health effects and perceptions of staff and students moving to an ABW environment at the University.

Proposed method of data collection: Observational study design, measuring outcomes 2 months prior to moving, 2 months after moving and 6 months after moving to assess baseline and the short and longer terms effects respectively. We will use a range of validated measures (self-report, objective, digital) at each time-point to holistically study the impact moving into an ABW environment has on physical and mental health and healthy behaviours, perceptions of the workplace and productivity, and how the ABW environment is used.
Participants: A representative sample of staff and students moving to the ABW environment in the new location will be invited to participate.

Ethics approval needed? Yes
Ethics applied for? Yes
Type of study: Mixed methods
Resources needed (all available):
Additional information: The study will likely run over several enrollment cohorts 2017-18 and 2018-19. The study team is highly experienced including in this field with numerous related grants and publications
Supervisor: Associate Professor Tricia McCabe

Supervisor contact details: tricia.mccabe@sydney.edu.au

Is there a specific project available: Yes

Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider: Severe speech disorders in children - treatment and diagnosis

Project title: Treating more children with CAS more often.

Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes

Research question: Does an online training package for speech pathologists improve treatment for children with childhood apraxia of speech?

Research topic: Severe speech disorders in children - treatment and diagnosis

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
- Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Honours

Research group type: Discipline based

University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/tricia.mccabe.php

Primary research interests: Childhood apraxia of speech

- Neurogenic speech disorders in adults and children
- Dyspraxia
- Dysarthria
- Phonology
- Speech development
- Ultrasound in speech pathology
- Voice disorders in adults and children
- Treatment of speech and voice disorders
- Speech pathology evidence based practice
- Speech pathology service delivery
- Acoustics
- Acoustic perception
- Prosody
- Motor speech disorders in adults and children
- Motor learning in speech pathology

Name (s) of research team:

Aims and background

Childhood apraxia of speech is a severe and persistent speech disorder which starts in early childhood. Our team at the Faculty of Health Sciences has developed an effective treatment for this disorder and
recently received funding to make an online training package so that speech pathology clinicians can learn how to deliver the training, regardless of where they live. The aim of the online training is to improve client access to the training and reduce clinician anxiety about implementing the new treatment. This project will evaluate the effectiveness of the website.

**Proposed method of data collection:** Online survey, analysis of interviews with speech pathologists. Quantitative and qualitative methods will be used.

**Ethics approval needed?** Yes

**Ethics applied for?** Yes

**Type of study:** Mixed methods

**Resources needed (all available):**

**Additional information:**
Supervisor: Associate Professor

Supervisor contact details: tricia.mccabe@sydney.edu.au

Is there a specific project available: Yes

Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider

Project title: The development of speech skills in children who have autism

Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes

Research question: How does connected speech develop in children who have autism over a 12 month period?

Research topic:

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
- Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology)
  Honours

Research group type: Discipline based

University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/tricia.mccabe.php

Primary research interests: Speech Pathology
Communication Disorders
Speech and Language disorders
Phonology and phonetics
Evidence based practice

Name(s) of research team: In addition to Tricia McCabe, the team includes Kate Broome (PhD student) and Dr Kimberley Docking and Dr Maree Doble (both speech pathologists).

Aims and background

Proposed method of data collection: As part of a larger study of speech development in children with autism, this project will examine the connected speech of 23 children who have a diagnosis of autism. The children's speech has been recorded over a 12 month period and in this project it will be transcribed and changes over time will be explored. The study will help speech pathologists and others who work with these kids to understand their speech development.

Ethics approval needed? No

Ethics applied for? N/A Type of study: Quantitative

Resources needed (all available):

Additional information: Students will need to transcribe speech samples and therefore knowledge of phonetic transcription is required. We do not expect you to be very good at it to start with and will provide training but you must have completed CSCD1034 Linguistics and Phonetics (or equivalent)

You will also learn to use transcription and analysis software.

Updated 4th November 2016
Supervisor: Associate Professor Chin-Moi Chow
Supervisor contact details: chin-moi.chow@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available: No (your name and research interest will be made available to students)
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider: Napping (e.g., use of a sleeping pod to be located in the Health Sciences library) and cognitive functions
Project title:
Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes
Research question:
Research topic: Napping (e.g., use of a sleeping pod to be located in the Health Sciences library) and cognitive functions
This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
· Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sport Science) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Physiotherapy) Honours
Research group type: Discipline based
University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/chin-moi.chow.php
Primary research interests: Sleep and lifestyle factors, exercise
Name(s) of research team:
Aims and background

Proposed method of data collection:
Ethics approval needed? Yes
Ethics applied for? No Type of study: Quantitative
Resources needed (all available):
Additional information:
Supervisor: Doctor Anne Honey
Supervisor contact details: anne.honey@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available: No (your name and research interest will be made available to students)
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider Research on family and carer involvement in mental health services
Project title:
Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes
Research question:
Research topic: Research on family and carer involvement in mental health services
This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
· Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) Honours
Research group type: Discipline based
University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/anne.honey.php
Primary research interests: mental health families
Name (s) of research team:
Aims and background

Proposed method of data collection:
Ethics approval needed? Yes
Ethics applied for? No Type of study: Qualitative Resources needed (all available):
Additional information:
Supervisor: Professor Philip Bohle
Supervisor contact details: philip.bohle@sydney.edu.au

Is there a specific project available: Yes

Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider: Data are available from three recent ARC and NHMRC projects concerning the employment, health and wellbeing of Australian workers. One is based on a representative sample of Australian aged between 45 and 64, stratified by whether they are in paid employment or not. A subsequent project collected similar data from Australians aged 18 to 64 who were in paid employment. The final project is examining the health, safety and wellbeing of homecare workers in three sectors: disability services, youth services & aged care services. I am happy for students to be jointly supervised by a staff member in their own discipline and to negotiate the specific topic in conjunction with them.

Project title: ‘You can choose from various work and health projects’ (See additional information)

Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes

Research question:

Research topic: Data are available from three recent ARC and NHMRC projects concerning the employment, health and wellbeing of Australian workers. One is based on a representative sample of Australian aged between 45 and 64, stratified by whether they are in paid employment or not. A subsequent project collected similar data from Australians aged 18 to 64 who were in paid employment. The final project is examining the health, safety and wellbeing of homecare workers in three sectors: disability services, youth services & aged care services. I am happy for students to be jointly supervised by a staff member in their own discipline and to negotiate the specific topic in conjunction with them.

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):

- Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) Honours
- Bachelor of Applied Science (Physiotherapy) Honours

Research group type: Research Group based

University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/philip.bohle.php

Primary research interests: Working hours, work-life conflict and health; Employment and health of older workers; Job quality and health; Effects of precarious (casual, agency, subcontract, etc) work on health and wellbeing.

Name(s) of research team: Prof. Philip Bohle

Aims and background
Proposed method of data collection:

Ethics approval needed? No

Ethics applied for?

Type of study: Quantitative

Resources needed (all available): Completion of a unit of study on statistics, preferable including with some multivariate analysis.

Additional information: Each of the projects is nearing completion. All data have been collected for all but one project and are available for analysis. Collection of survey data from the homecare project will be completed in February 2017. I have supervised 31 students, from Honours to PhD, to completion of their theses, with three more PhD students submitting in the next six months.

From above - Project Title

You will have an opportunity to select a specific project from a range of options. Various datasets are available for analysis (see 9 above). Each contains extensive selections of demographic (e.g. age, gender, socioeconomic status), employment (e.g. precarious or secure work, working hours, work intensity/demands), and self-reported health and wellbeing (e.g. work-life balance, job or life satisfaction) variables. For example, you could do a project on the links between working hours; preference for, or satisfaction with, casual work; work-life conflict and health. Many other topics are possible too.
Supervisor: Doctor Anne Honey
Is there a specific project available? Yes
Is there a broad research topic/s for students to consider:
Project title: Going home: Experience of international students transitioning to practice in non-Western countries
Is this an existing project? Yes
Research question: How do international occupational therapy students transfer the skills they have learned in Australia to the different cultural contexts of their home countries?
This project is appropriate for students in the following degree(s):
- Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) Honours
Research group type: Discipline based
University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/anne.honey.php
Primary research interests: International student experiences of OT
Chief investigator: Anne Honey
Research team:
Aims and background
Studying occupational therapy requires students to think and behave in ways that may come more or less “naturally” to students depending on culture. A previous study found that international OT students from Asian backgrounds were concerned about how what they learned in Australia would translate into practice in their home countries. Little is known about how international students from CALD backgrounds experience the transition to practice in their home countries.
Proposed method of data collection: Method can be negotiated. Participants will be OT Alumni from the University of Sydney who were international students from non-western backgrounds and are now working in non-western countries. Methods could involve a survey of all alumni or skype interviews with a smaller sample.
Ethics approval needed? Yes
Ethics applied for? No
Type of study: Could be qualitative or quantitative.
Supervisor contact details: 93519370 / Anne.honey@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available? Yes
Is there a broad research topic/s for students to consider: Safe mobility and older drivers
Project title: Long term changes in driving habits of older people living in the community: 3 year follow-up to a trial in north and north-western Sydney
Is this an existing project? Yes
Research question: Giving up driving is one of the most difficult decisions an older person can make. While there are concerns about safety of older drivers, driving cessation can dramatically reduce independence and social inclusion. This project will involve field work collecting data from study participants and analysis of this data. The aim of this project is to describe the long term changes to driving practices after a transport planning program.
This project is appropriate for students in the following degree(s):
- Any discipline
Research group type: Research Group based
University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/research/opportunities/supervisors/1192
Primary research interests:
- Safe mobility, ageing, driver safety, community participation, vision loss, falls
Chief investigator: Lisa Keay
Research team: Kristy Coxon
Aims and background
There is evidence that older people with functional limitations are more likely to restrict their driving or give up driving altogether. However, there are other factors which influence the timeliness of this decision. We have recently completed a large trial involving a group of 380 drivers aged 75 years and older who were resident in the suburban outskirts of North and North-Western Sydney. This study evaluated the effectiveness of an education-based safe transport program.
Proposed method of data collection: In this honours project we plan to build on the findings of this 12 month trial by collecting data from this group again 3 years after they joined the study. The student would be involved in assessment of older people participating in the study. This includes a standardised battery of vision and cognitive tests and a structured interview about their health status, socialization, community participation and transport needs. This project will generate evidence about the longer term effectiveness of education and planning for retirement from driving as an approach to promote road safety but preserve mobility in this age group.
Ethics approval needed? Yes
Ethics applied for? Yes
Type of study: Quantitative
Resources needed (all available): Drivers license
Long term changes in driving habits of older people living in the community: 3 year follow-up to a trial in north and north-western Sydney

Additional information: The scope of the project can be changed to meet timelines. There is the opportunity to work with a large project team. The project has been highly productive and it is anticipated the honours student would be able to publish their project results. The project team have extensive experience in student supervision and the student would be well supported. Hot desk office space will be made available as required but the student will be involved in some field work also.

Supervisor contact details: Ikeay@georgeinstitute.org.au
Long term changes in driving habits of older people living in the community: 3 year follow-up to a trial in north and north-western Sydney
Supervisor: Associate Professor Tricia McCabe

Supervisor contact details: tricia.mccabe@sydney.edu.au

Is there a specific project available: Yes

Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider

Project title: The methodological rigour of speech pathology single case design treatment studies.

Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes

Research question: What is the methodological rigour of speech pathology single case design treatment studies.

Research topic:

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):

- Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Honours

Research group type: Discipline based

University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/tricia.mccabe.php

Primary research interests: Speech language pathology

Speech disorders across the lifespan

Evidence based practice

Name (s) of research team: SpeechBITE

Aims and background

The speechBITE database has 5000 speech pathology related treatment studies listed. Group studies are evaluated using the PEDRO -P scale. Until recently there has been no way to evaluate the research rigour of the single case studies (SCED) although there are 2000 SCEDs on the database. This study will examine the research rigour of a subset of studies on the database and report on the quality of the work. We will make recommendations on how researchers should improve their research methods.

Proposed method of data collection: We will select and evaluate papers from the database using the RoBIN-T scale. 20% of papers will be independently re-rated. Descriptive statistics will be used to describe the data. Results will be examined for relationships between variables including date of publication, country of origin, diagnostic category of patients etc.

Ethics approval needed? No

Ethics applied for? N/A

Type of study: Quantitative

Resources needed (all available): None

Additional information: Associate supervisors will be Prof Leanne Togher and Ms Melissa Brunner. SpeechBITE is run members of the Discipline of Speech Pathology as a service to the entire profession.
worldwide. You can find out more about us at speechbite.com.

You will learn to use statistical software, rate papers on the RoBIN-T scale, write a journal article and work with a highly productive team.
**Faculty of Health Sciences**

**Supervisor:** Doctor Justin Sullivan  
**Supervisor contact details:** justin.sullivan@sydney.edu.au

**Is there a specific project available:** No (your name and research interest will be made available to students)

**Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider?**

**Project title:**

**Is this a project for students starting in 2017?**

**Research question:**

**Research topic:**

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):

- Bachelor of Applied Science (Physiotherapy) Honours

**Research group type:** Discipline based

**University Profile:** [http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/justin.sullivan](http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/justin.sullivan)

**Primary research interests:** Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy  
Manual Therapy  
Lower limb biomechanics  
Foot/Lower limb conditions  
Plantar heel pain

**Name(s) of research team:**

**Aims and background**

**Proposed method of data collection:**

**Ethics approval needed?** N/A

**Ethics applied for?**

**Type of study:**

**Resources needed (all available):**

**Additional information:**

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Updated 4th November 2016
Supervisor: Doctor Maree Doble
Supervisor contact details: maree.doble@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available: Yes
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider
Project title: Perceptions of family/client centred practice in speech pathology students and clinical educators
Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes
Research question: What do students and clinical educators in speech pathology understand or perceive family/client centred practice to be?
What do students and clinical educators in speech pathology feel are barriers or facilitators to teaching students implementing family/client centred practice in clinic?
Research topic:
This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
- Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Honours
Research group type: Discipline based
University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/maree.doble.php
Primary research interests: Hearing Impairment (aural education)
Family/Client centred practice
Student Learning
Name(s) of research team: Dr Maree Doble
Associate Professor Steven Cumming
Aims and background
Many professionals across the health care sectors purport client and family centred practice is central to the services they provide. In reality, service provision in many areas is typically driven by the professional. The reason for this may centre around the professionals perceptions of client and family centred practice, in theory and practice.

The curriculum in the undergraduate and masters courses of speech pathology at the University of Sydney has the premise of family and client centred practice woven throughout, however the key to establishing good practice is the practical application of this on clinic placement. As a result there is wide range of practical skills and understanding of client and family centred practice amongst students.

Aims: To investigate speech pathology clinical educator and student perceptions of client and family centred practice, both theoretically and practically.
To identify facilitators and barrier to implementing family/client centred practice in clinic.
**Perceptions of family/client centred practice in speech pathology students and clinical educators**

**Proposed method of data collection:** The first part of this project will be survey based (this will be followed up with focused interviews in a subsequent honours project). If we obtain surveys from 30% of students and educators the sample size will be around 65.

The details of the method including analysis will be formalised before the honours student starts.

**Ethics approval needed?** Yes

**Ethics applied for?** No

**Type of study:** Mixed methods

**Resources needed (all available):**

**Additional information:** This project will be the beginning of a larger research program where we aim to scaffold student learning around family and client centred practice. This research will suit someone who is interested in how we as professionals can work better with clients and their families.
Perceptions of family/client centred practice in speech pathology students and clinical educators

Faculty of Health Sciences
Cumberland Campus; S Block; S161
The University of Sydney
NSW 2006 Australia

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Updated 4th November 2016
**Supervisor:** Doctor Ollie Jay  
**Supervisor contact details:** ollie.jay@sydney.edu.au  
**Is there a specific project available:** Yes  
**Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider**  
**Project title:** Practicing hot yoga during pregnancy  
**Is this a project for students starting in 2017?** Yes  
**Research question:** Is the core body temperature response to hot yoga similar between pregnant and non-pregnant women?  
**Research topic:**  
**This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):**  
- Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sport Science) Honours  
**Research group type:** Research Group based  
**Primary research interests:**  
- Assessing and understanding thermoregulatory impairments in specific populations (e.g. children, MS patients, obese)  
- Cooling/survival interventions for at-risk groups during heat waves  
- Biothermal modeling  
- Heat stroke prevention  
- Pediatric temperature management  
- The development of international standards  
**Name(s) of research team:** Nicholas Ravanelli, Kate Edwards  
**Aims and background**  
Background: Doctors are currently unsure whether pregnant women are at greater risk of overheating during physical activity in the heat. Consequently, they are typically advised to avoid participating in activities in hot environments such as hot yoga. However, no evidence exists to support this contraindication. The findings of this preliminary project will enable the development of safe exercise guidelines for pregnant women wishing to remain active and obtain the benefits of regular exercise.  

**Aim:** To determine whether practicing Hot or Bikram yoga during pregnancy may result in a critical rise of core body temperature.  
**Proposed method of data collection:** 2 groups of pregnant and age matched non-pregnant women will be recruited who regularly practice yoga. On separate occasions, pregnant and non-pregnant controls will engage in an identical yoga class taught by a standardized instructor in either a hot (~36C) or thermoneutral (~21C) environment. Measurements include: core body temperature using telemetry pills,
Practicing hot yoga during pregnancy

skin temperature using wireless sensors, accelerometers to indirectly estimate caloric expenditure, and portable metabolic system to quantify heat production. This field work will be complimented by a laboratory component where pregnant women will exercise on a semi-recumbent cycle ergometer at the same intensity and duration in identical climates as the yoga sessions. The use of a climate chamber at the Cumberland Campus will enable us to accurately replicate the environments. Additional measurements include local sweat rates using ventilated capsules and changes in body mass during the exercise protocol.

Ethics approval needed? Yes
Ethics applied for? No
Type of study: Quantitative

Resources needed (all available): Climatic chamber, indirect calorimetry, ventilated sweat capsule and thermometry data collection apparatus, body mass platform scale, cycle ergometer.

Additional information: You will be joining a vibrant research team in the Thermal Ergonomics Laboratory within the Integrative, Exercise and Environmental Physiology Research Group that consists of numerous research trainees of different levels (BSc, MSc, PhD and Post-doc)
Practicing hot yoga during pregnancy
Supervisor: Dr. Kieron Rooney
Supervisor contact details: kieron.rooney@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available: Yes
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider: The effect of sweet taste on metabolic and behavioural determinants of health.

Project title: The metabolic response of non-nutritive sweeteners

Is this a project for students starting in 2017: Yes

Research question: Does the consumption of non-nutritive sweeteners impact the fuel partitioning of co-ingested foods?

Research topic: The effect of sweet taste on metabolic and behavioural determinants of health.

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
- Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sport Science) Honours

Research group type: Discipline based

University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/kieron.rooney.php

Primary research interests: Habitual Diet and Fuel Partitioning
Regulators of Maximal Fat oxidation during exercise
Metabolic and Behavioural effects of excess sugar consumption and capacity to recover during sugar withdrawal

Name(s) of research team: Dr. Kieron Rooney
Prof Bob Boakes

Aims and background

A current cultural shift consists of decreased acceptance of added sugars in foods and drinks. Their replacement with either water or drinks sweetened with low calorie sweeteners such as saccharin, aspartame or stevia is commonly advised. The rationale for such advice is that removal of added sugars should result in a reduction in total energy intake. As a consequence, weight is lost and metabolic state improved.

The scientific basis for such advice – that metabolic health may be improved by the simple removal of sugar drinks or their replacement with low calorie sweeteners – is inconclusive. Worryingly, there is evidence from both human and small animal studies suggesting that consumption of such sweeteners may have the counter-intuitive effect of increasing energy intake and potentially inducing metabolic damage (such as impaired glucose tolerance) (Suez et al 2014; Fagherazzi et al 2013). In fact some studies have reported co-ingestion of artificial sweeteners to alter the glucose and insulin response to a standard glucose tolerance test (Pepino 2015).
Proposed method of data collection: The specific approach can be discussed and refined with the team, but in general the plan currently will be to recruit between 10-20 participants to undergo a number of acute meal challenges in a counter-balanced, randomised cross-over design. Prior to consumption of the meal participants will consume either a water control or non-nutritive sweetened primer. During the meal, fingerprick blood samples will be assessed for blood glucose and potentially insulin response, as well as whole body fuel oxidation. Various anthropometric measures will also be assessed as covariates in analysis. This project will most likely be completed on Cumberland Campus with the possibility of some testing taking place on Camperdown Campus.

Ethics approval needed? Yes
Ethics applied for? No
Type of study: Quantitative
Resources needed (all available): Students intending on completing this project will be trained in the skills required to collect all data including metabolic cart analysis of expired gases, finger prick blood collection and basic anthropometry.

Additional information:
**Supervisor:** Dr Alison Purcell  
**Supervisor contact details:** alison.purcell@sydney.edu.au  
**Is there a specific project available:** Yes  
**Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider**  
**Project title:** Speech and language development of children with non-syndromic cleft palate (CP): A comparative study at 2, 3 and 5 years  
**Is this a project for students starting in 2017?** Yes  
**Research question:**  
a) How does the speech development of children with CP aged 2, 3 and 5 years compare to that of their typically-developing peers?  
b) Is there a difference in the types of speech errors (phonetic vs. phonological) that children with CP demonstrate at 2, 3 and 5 years of age?  
c) What changes occur in the speech of children with CP from the age of 2 to 5 years?  
d) Are children with CP more vulnerable to producing speech errors in polysyllabic words as compared to monosyllabic words?  

**Research topic:**  
**This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):**  
· Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Honours  
**Research group type:** Discipline based  
**Primary research interests:** Dr Purcell is a certified practicing speech pathologist. She has extensive experience and expertise with research that profiles the speech and language skills of children with disorders including cleft palate, hearing loss, and syndromes with craniofacial involvement.  
**Name(s) of research team:** Alison Purcell, Melissa Parkin and Kate Short.  
**Aims and background**  
Cleft palate with or without cleft lip (CP) is a common congenital defect and the most common congenital defect of the face (Kummer, 2014). In developed countries such as Australia, New Zealand, UK, US and European countries, children born with CP will be connected to a multi-disciplinary cleft palate service from birth (or from initial identification of the cleft palate) and will have their palate surgically repaired within the first few years of their life. The child will then remain under the care of the cleft palate clinic and have regular reviews by the multi-disciplinary team throughout their childhood, adolescence and into early adulthood.  

Despite the early surgery many children with CP show delay and disorder in their speech and language development. Indeed, in 2014 a UK audit of the speech skills of children with CP reported that at age 5 years only 48% of children had speech that would be considered as typically developing. Little is known
Speech and language development of children with non-syndromic cleft palate (CP): A comparative study at 2, 3 and 5 years

about the speech and language outcomes for Australian children with CP. This study will help to fill that gap by documenting the speech and language skills of Australian children with CP at age 2, 3 and 5 years.

Proposed method of data collection: This is a cross-sectional research project. The data is being collected by the speech pathologists at the Sydney Children's Hospital Randwick Cleft Palate Clinic. The student will analyse the speech and language assessment data to answer the 4 research questions.

Ethics approval needed? No
Ethics applied for? Yes
Type of study: Quantitative
Resources needed (all available):

Additional information: This project is part of a larger research project being conducted at the Sydney Children's Hospital Randwick Cleft Palate Clinic. Students will have the opportunity to work with the Cleft Palate Clinic team during throughout the project.
Speech and language development of children with non-syndromic cleft palate (CP): A comparative study at 2, 3 and 5 years
Supervisor: Dr Andy Smidt
Supervisor contact details: andy.smidt@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available: Yes
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider
Project title: Supporting young adults with sensory stimulatory behaviours to connect with others
Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes
Research question: Can provision of an individual sensory profile increase engagement and decrease challenging behaviour for students with severe intellectual disabilities?
Research topic:
This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
  · Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Honours
Research group type: Discipline based
University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/andy.smidt.php
Primary research interests: Adults and children with developmental disabilities
  AAC
  Challenging behaviour
  Staff training
Name(s) of research team: Andy Smidt
Mark Carter (Macquarie University)
Jennifer Stephenson (Macquarie University)
Aims and background
See work by Karen Bunning for a description of ISE. Our intention is to create a personalised sensory profile for students, and train teachers and classroom assistants to use this with students to increase engagement and decrease challenging behaviour
Proposed method of data collection: Single Subject Experimental design
Ethics approval needed? Yes
Ethics applied for? No
Type of study: Mixed methods
Resources needed (all available):
Additional information: This is an exciting new collaboration between Dr Andy Smidt who is a speech pathologist at Sydney university with Dr Mark Carter and Dr Jennifer Stephenson who are part of MUSEC at Macquarie University. Between us we have good relationships with a number of SSP (schools) and our aim is to trial this approach to collect data on what is already a valued intervention approach for young adults with complex needs.
Between us, we have a good deal of expertise and experience and we are excited to be bringing special needs teachers and speech pathologists together for this research. We have some idea about what we want to achieve but we are open to input and discussion with the student who takes on this project. We are able to take one or two students on this project for 2017-18.
Supervisor: Dr Anne Honey
Supervisor contact details: anne.honey@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available: No (your name and research interest will be made available to students)
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider We have 2 possible projects that would be supervised in conjunction with Mental Health Services of Sydney Local Health District.

The first would be a qualitative study of the experiences of consumers with strengths based care coordination.
The second would be looking at the impact of supported accommodation programs on consumers.

Specific methods and foci for these projects are negotiable and would be developed through discussion between Anne, the student and the clinically based supervisor.

Project title:
Is this a project for students starting in 2017?
Research question:
Research topic: We have 2 possible projects that would be supervised in conjunction with Mental Health Services of Sydney Local Health District.

The first would be a qualitative study of the experiences of consumers with strengths based care coordination.
The second would be looking at the impact of supported accommodation programs on consumers.

Specific methods and foci for these projects are negotiable and would be developed through discussion between Anne, the student and the clinically based supervisor.

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
  · Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) Honours
Research group type: Discipline based
University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/anne.honey.php
Primary research interests: Mental health
Name (s) of research team:
Aims and background
Proposed method of data collection:
Ethics approval needed? Yes
Ethics applied for?
Type of study:
Resources needed (all available):
Additional information:
Faculty of Health Sciences

**Supervisor:** Dr Joanna Diong  
**Supervisor contact details:** joanna.diong@sydney.edu.au  
**Is there a specific project available:** Yes  

**Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider**?  
Impaired movement is common in people with neurological conditions such as stroke or spinal cord injury. Research in our laboratory is directed at investigating the physiological mechanisms of impaired human movement by studying movement kinematics, kinetics, and muscle activity (ie. joint angle, torque, EMG) both in able-bodied people and people with clinical conditions. We investigate components of normal and impaired movement such as neural and mechanical contributions to motor control, quantify joint kinematics after stroke, and investigate clinical assessments of joint range in people with stroke and able-bodied people. We also investigate the epidemiology (ie. incidence, prevalence) of impaired movement in cohort studies, and apply epidemiological techniques to examine bias in research. We are passionate about good science and endeavour to apply strategies to enhance reproducibility and transparency in research: these include programming for data processing and analysis, documenting workflow, and version control.

Students who undertake projects in our laboratory will be exposed to a variety of experimental and clinical research techniques. Projects could include experimental research on mechanisms of human movement, epidemiological/clinical research on characteristics of impaired movement or bias in research, or a combination of both.

**Project title:** Motor control during normal and impaired movement  
**Is this a project for students starting in 2017?** Yes  

**Research question:** How are joint force and muscle activity regulated during functional tasks?  

**Research topic:** Impaired movement is common in people with neurological conditions such as stroke or spinal cord injury. Research in our laboratory is directed at investigating the physiological mechanisms of impaired human movement by studying movement kinematics, kinetics, and muscle activity (ie. joint angle, torque, EMG) both in able-bodied people and people with clinical conditions. We investigate components of normal and impaired movement such as neural and mechanical contributions to motor control, quantify joint kinematics after stroke, and investigate clinical assessments of joint range in people with stroke and able-bodied people. We also investigate the epidemiology (ie. incidence, prevalence) of impaired movement in cohort studies, and apply epidemiological techniques to examine bias in research. We are passionate about good science and endeavour to apply strategies to enhance reproducibility and transparency in research: these include programming for data processing and analysis, documenting workflow, and version control. Students who undertake projects in our laboratory will be exposed to a variety of experimental and clinical research techniques. Projects could include experimental research on mechanisms of human movement, epidemiological/clinical research on characteristics of impaired movement or bias in research, or a combination of both.
Motor control during normal and impaired movement

epidemiological/clinical research on characteristics of impaired movement or bias in research, or a combination of both.

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
- Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sport Science) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Physiotherapy) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise Physiology) Honours

Research group type: Discipline based


Primary research interests: Human movement
- Motor control
- Stroke rehabilitation
- Bias in research

Name(s) of research team: Dr Joanna Diong, Dr Martin Heroux, Ms Stephanie Potts

Aims and background

It is thought that the ability to produce stable joint forces and muscle activity improves performance of functional tasks such as grasping and walking. Scientists have studied variability of force production with and without visual feedback of force, but performance of functional tasks in daily living are visually matched to other variables, never force. This project will investigate how well people can control force during a functional task (e.g., preventing an object from slipping) when they receive feedback of force compared to feedback of task parameters itself.

Proposed method of data collection: We will record joint force and muscle activity during functional activities, and analyse variability in force production under different test conditions.

Ethics approval needed? Yes

Ethics applied for? No

Type of study: Quantitative

Resources needed (all available):

Additional information: An interest in technical aspects of data collection and clinical research could be beneficial but is not necessary. You will learn valuable and useful skills as part of this project eg.

Updated 4th November 2016
Motor control during normal and impaired movement

Conducting biomedical research in laboratory and clinical settings, quantitative data acquisition and analysis, reproducible research techniques.
Motor control during normal and impaired movement
Faculty of Health Sciences

Supervisor: Dr Meryl Lovarini
Supervisor contact details: meryl.lovarini@sydney.edu.au

Is there a specific project available: No (your name and research interest will be made available to students)

Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider: Prescribing assistive technologies by occupational therapists.

Project title: TBC

Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes

Research question: TBC

Research topic: Prescribing assistive technologies by occupational therapists.

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
  · Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) Honours

Research group type: Discipline based

University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/meryl.lovarini.php

Primary research interests: Technology and occupational therapy.

Name(s) of research team: Dr Meryl Lovarini

Aims and background

TBC

Proposed method of data collection: TBC

Ethics approval needed? No

Ethics applied for? No

Type of study: Mixed methods

Resources needed (all available): Nil specific

Additional information: The topic is broad at this stage and will be confirmed in discussion with the student.
TBC
Supervisor: Professor Joshua Burns, Marnee McKay, Jennifer Baldwin
Supervisor contact details: joshua.burns@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available: Yes
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider Understanding human variation
Project title: 1000 Norms Project
Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes
Research question: What is normal?
Research topic: 1000 Norms Project
This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
- Bachelor of Applied Science (Physiotherapy) Honours
Research group type: Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Research Group
University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/joshua.burns.php
Primary research interests: Musculoskeletal disorders; Neuromuscular diseases; Gait disorders; Genetic diseases; Orthopaedics; Allied health
Name (s) of research team: Prof Joshua Burns, Marnee McKay, Jennifer Baldwin and the 1000 Norms Project Consortium
Aims and background
The 1000 Norms Project is an observational study investigating physical function and self-reported health of 1000 children and adults aged 3-101 years. Many high impact publications, conference presentations and media stories have been generated from the 1 million data points collected.
Proposed method of data collection: There is an opportunity to research many of the unexplored measures: foot alignment and footwear habits, gait and centre of pressure variability, ethno-geographic variation of physical function, workability and 2D video biomechanical analysis. There is also a research translation opportunity to build the 1000 Norms Project online portal.
Ethics approval needed? Yes
Ethics applied for? Yes
Type of study: Quantitative
Resources needed (all available):
Additional information: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/research/1000-norms.shtml
Supervisor: Associate Professor Tricia McCabe

Is there a specific project available? Yes
Is there a broad research topic/s for students to consider: Severe speech disorders in children - treatment and diagnosis
Project title: Treating more children with CAS more often.
Is this an existing project? Yes
Research question: Does an online training package for speech pathologists improve treatment for children with childhood apraxia of speech?
This project is appropriate for students in the following degree(s):
- Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours)
- Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Honours

Research group type: Discipline based


Primary research interests:
- Childhood apraxia of speech
- Neurogenic speech disorders in adults and children
- Dyspraxia
- Dysarthria
- Phonology
- Speech development
- Ultrasound in speech pathology
- Voice disorders in adults and children
- Treatment of speech and voice disorders
- Speech pathology evidence based practice
- Speech pathology service delivery
- Acoustics
- Acoustic perception
- Prosody
- Motor speech disorders in adults and children
- Motor learning in speech pathology

Chief investigator: Tricia McCabe

Research team:

Aims and background
Childhood apraxia of speech is a severe and persistent speech disorder which starts in early childhood.

Our team at the Faculty of Health Sciences has developed an effective treatment for this disorder and
Treating more children with CAS more often.

recently received funding to make an online training package so that speech pathology clinicians can learn how to deliver the training, regardless of where they live. The aim of the online training is to improve client access to the training and reduce clinician anxiety about implementing the new treatment. This project will evaluate the effectiveness of the website.

**Proposed method of data collection:** Online survey, analysis of interviews with speech pathologists. Quantitative and qualitative methods will be used.

**Ethics approval needed?** Yes

**Ethics applied for?** Yes

**Is this already an existing project?** Yes

**Type of study:** Mixed methods

**Resources needed (all available):**

**Additional information:**

**Supervisor contact details:** tricia.mccabe@sydney.edu.au
Supervisor: Doctor Helen O’Connor

Is there a specific project available? Yes

Is there a broad research topic/s for students to consider: No we have a specific project see below

Project title: Development of tool to assess quality in exercise performance studies

Is this an existing project? No

Research question: What are the critical design and methodological factors that determine study quality in exercise performance studies

This project is appropriate for students in the following degree(s):
   - Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sport Science) Honours
   - Bachelor of Applied Science (Physiotherapy) Honours
   - Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise Physiology) Honours

Research group type: Discipline based


Primary research interests: Sports Nutrition, exercise training studies

Chief investigator: Dr Helen O’Connor

Research team: Dr Jacqui Raymond & Dr Ollie Jay

Aims and background
The primary aim is to develop a robust tool to assess methodological quality and reporting of exercise performance studies. Currently there is no tool or scale available to assess the unique methodological features of these types of studies. Such a tool or scale would be useful to assess study quality as part of a systematic review or meta-analysis.

Proposed method of data collection: We will use a modified Delphi approach to achieve consensus among a panel of international experts on the critical design and methodological factors that determine study quality. The research process will include recruiting research experts in the fields of exercise science and sports nutrition and maintaining close contact these participants throughout the Delphi study.
We anticipate the successful completion of this study will deliver a manuscript for publication.

Ethics approval needed? Yes

Ethics applied for? No

Is this already an existing project? No

Type of study: Quantitative

Resources needed (all available): The student will need a place to work within EXSS. Honours budget will be used to purchase gift vouchers for study participants on completion of the study.

Additional information: This is a new project. The student will be able to work independently with the support of the supervisors. Communication with participants will be electronic. The supervisors have a strong network of international experts for the student to engage with and they also have extensive

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Development of tool to assess quality in exercise performance studies

experience with systematic review checklists and with honours supervision. The project team have worked together before and have a strong, supportive approach to honours supervision.

Supervisor contact details: helen.oconnor@sydney.edu.au
Supervisor: Doctor Hans Bogaardt
Supervisor contact details: hans.bogaardt@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available: Yes
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider
Project title: The role of muscle fatigue in swallowing exercises
Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes
Research question: Is muscle fatigue in muscles involved in swallowing measurable and what would be
an optimal loading for training sub-mental muscles?
Research topic:
This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
  · Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Honours
Research group type: Discipline based
University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/hans.bogaardt.php
Primary research interests: -Swallowing disorders
Name (s) of research team: Hans Bogaardt
Aims and background
When doing the Shaker Exercise, patients are normally instructed to do a number of repetitions. So far,
there seems no evidence for how many repetitions must be done to have optimise the outcomes of this
exercise.
Proposed method of data collection:
Ethics approval needed? Yes
Ethics applied for? No Type of study: Quantitative Resources
needed (all available):
Additional information:
Supervisor: Professor Ross Sanders
Supervisor contact details: ross.sanders@sydney.edu.au

Is there a specific project available: Yes

Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider Skill acquisition or motor control and learning; swimming; talent development; body composition

Project title: Talent Development Project

Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes

Research question:

Research topic: Skill acquisition or motor control and learning; swimming; talent development; body composition

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):

- Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sport Science) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise Physiology) Honours

Research group type: Discipline based


Primary research interests: motor control and learning, biomechanics, anthropometry and body composition

Name (s) of research team: Talent Development Team

Aims and background

Proposed method of data collection:

Ethics approval needed? No

Ethics applied for? No Type of study: Quantitative

Resources needed (all available):

Additional information:
Supervisor: Dr Rhonda Orr
Supervisor contact details: rhonda.orr@sydney.edu.au

Is there a specific project available: Yes

Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider
Concussion in elite junior rugby league
Sport-related injury
Application of GPS technology in sports

Project title: Match Performance, Workload and Injury Profiles in Competitive Women's Football.

Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes

Research question: What are the characteristics and prevalence of injuries in Australian female football players?
Are there differences in injury characteristics between adolescent and senior Australian female football players?
What are the predictors of prevalent injuries in Australian female football players?
What are the movement demands during female football match-play

Research topic: Concussion in elite junior rugby league
Sport-related injury
Application of GPS technology in sports

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
- Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sport Science) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise Physiology) Honours

Research group type: Discipline based


Primary research interests: Injury and concussion in sport
Measurement of match performance and training workloads using GPS
Drugs in sport

Name(s) of research team: Rhonda Orr

Aims and background
Australian female football participation is at a crest, ranking 5th in the world for youth and total registered players. More females registered to play football than netball in 2015. Increasing player numbers have been accompanied by escalating injuries. Anecdotal reports of physiotherapy practices indicate the most serious football injuries (ACL rupture, concussion, ankle fractures) result in prolonged rehabilitation and lost work/school time. Scientific studies report that, compared to males, female football players sustain more knee injuries, have greater risk of concussion, and suffer more severe and prolonged post-concussion symptoms and cognitive deficits. Yet no research on Australian female football injuries exists
**Match Performance, Workload and Injury Profiles in Competitive Women’s Football.**

This project aims to comprehensively investigate the nature of injuries sustained during training and matches by junior and senior women football players in the 2017 Women’s Premier League pre-season and competition phases. Specifically, the aims are to:

- implement an injury surveillance paradigm to establish an injury profile of players describing their injury characteristics;
- assess injury (and concussion) prevalence;
- compare injury characteristics/profile, incidence and severity across age groups and playing positions; and
- investigate potential relationships between player body size (anthropometry), player factors and injuries to examine associated risk factors.

A second student could examine these aims:

- measure match performance and training workload
- measure match performance (activity profile) using GPS
- identify associations between load (training & match) and injury characteristics.
- identify associations between match activity profile and injury characteristics.

**Proposed method of data collection:** Study design: cross sectional study over 12 months

Participants: aged 12 years and over, will be recruited from five women’s teams comprising U13s, U15s, U17s, Reserve Grade and First Grade. The total sample size of the cohort is anticipated to be 85 players.

**Measurements**

1. **Player Baseline Information** will include questions about a) demographics; b) player factors (position, football history, injury history, medical history)
2. **Anthropometry** (height, weight) will be measured during the pre-season
3. **Injury during training and match-play** will be recorded electronically via app or spreadsheet or hard copy form.
4. **Training and match exposure** (minutes duration) will be recorded per player per session and summated for each team for the season.
5. **Match and training performance** using global positioning systems (GPS) to provide a comprehensive analysis of on-field and training movement patterns, physiologic demands and body loads. Outcome measures will include distance covered, running velocity (average & peak), accelerations and decelerations, impacts due to accelerations and decelerations and body loads.

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The University of Sydney

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E rhonda.orr@sydney.edu.au

ABN 15 211 513 464  
CRICOS 00026A
**Match Performance, Workload and Injury Profiles in Competitive Women’s Football.**

Players will wear a GPS device during training sessions and for the entirety of competitive games, including during all break periods such as pre-game, quarter-time, half-time, post full-time and any associated periods on the interchange bench.

6. RPE measurement will to assess match and training workload using session RPE (sRPE)

7. Measurements of functional movement eg: hamstring length, single leg hop for distance

**Ethics approval needed?** Yes

**Ethics applied for?** No

**Type of study:** Quantitative

**Resources needed (all available):** Additional

**Information:** Desirables

1. student lives in or near the Sutherland Shire.

2. student is a player/former football player or has an understanding of football
**Supervisor:** Dr Stephen Cobley

**Supervisor contact details:** stephen.cobley@hotmail.com

**Is there a specific project available:** Yes

**Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider** Research in athlete development
Research in paediatric and adolescent health
Research in mental health

**Project title:** The impact of growth and maturation in athlete development: An analysis in Australian Swimming.

**Is this a project for students starting in 2017?** Yes

**Research question:** How does growth and maturation impact short and long-term outcomes in athlete development?

**Research topic:** Research in athlete development
Research in paediatric and adolescent health
Research in mental health

**This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):**
- Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sport Science) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise Physiology) Honours

**Research group type:** Discipline based

**University Profile:** [http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/stephen.cobley.php](http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/stephen.cobley.php)

**Primary research interests:** Athlete development
Motor Control & Skill Acquisition
Sport & Exercise Psychology
Adolescent Health and Mental Health

**Name(s) of research team:** Stephen Cobley (USyd)

**Aims and background**

**Proposed method of data collection:** Analysis of a large data-set.

**Ethics approval needed?** Yes

**Ethics applied for?** No

**Type of study:** Quantitative

**Resources needed (all available):** N/A
The impact of growth and maturation in athlete development: An analysis in Australian Swimming.

Additional information: N/A
Supervisor: Dr Kate Edwards
Supervisor contact details: kate.edwards@sydney.edu.au

Is there a specific project available: Yes
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider Exercise immunology / behavioural medicine

Project title: Is mindfulness associated with yoga, or running, or rugby?

Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes

Research question:

Research topic: Exercise immunology / behavioural medicine

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
- Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sport Science) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Physiotherapy) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise Physiology) Honours

Research group type: Discipline based

University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/kate.edwards.php

Primary research interests: Behavioural medicine

Name(s) of research team: Kate Edwards, Melody Ding, Lianne Tomfohr

Aims and background

A mounting body of literature points to the positive benefits of mindfulness training in the promotion of physical health (Brown et al., 2007). Mindfulness based interventions have been linked to increased antibody response to influenza vaccination (Davidson et al., 2003), reduced circulating inflammation levels in response to stress (Pace et al., 2010) and blood pressure reductions in individuals with hypertension (Schneider, et al., 2005). Despite the evidence linking mindfulness based interventions to reductions in markers of illness, the underlying mechanisms driving the relationships remain unclear. It has been hypothesized that increasing dispositional, or trait mindfulness is associated with better health, and that the relationship may occur through the promotion of positive cognitive states or “affective balance” and reduction of stress cognitions or “negative affect”. In line with this hypothesis, it is expected that individuals high on trait mindfulness would have lower levels of physiological markers linked to illness. We recently found an association between mindfulness (in particular the ‘observe’ facet) and blood pressure and the cytokine IL-6 (both of which have been found to be predictive of future disease including diabetes and cardiovascular disease) in a young healthy adult population (Tomfohr, 2015). With the exception of our recent study, investigation of relationships between trait mindfulness and objective measures of physiological functioning has been scarce.

The beneficial effects of physical activity for health are well accepted and documented. Given that studies...
Is mindfulness associated with yoga, or running, or rugby?

have found that mindfulness interventions result in increased exercise involvement (Carlson 2004), and the association between mindfulness and physiological variables, it is plausible to suspect that physical activity is a potential mechanism. Indeed, successful exercise maintenance has been associated with higher levels of mindfulness in community exercisers (Ulmer et al., 2010). Interestingly, mindfulness is associated with particular forms of physical activity (i.e., yoga), thus it is of interest to examine if the variation in trait mindfulness is associated with certain physical activity forms and if this variation is reflected in other health indices. Identifying associations between facets of mindfulness that are amenable to change, exercise participation/adherence and physiological variables is the next step in a line of research aimed at disentangling the mindfulness and health connection.

The current study will extend our previous investigation and examine the relevance of physical activity participation as a potential mechanism linking facets of mindfulness and clinically relevant physiological variables. The first aim of the study is to establish if there are associations between facets of mindfulness and (1) type of exercise participation and (2) exercise adherence. The second aim of the study is to replicate previous findings showing associations between facets of mindfulness and clinically relevant physiological markers. The third and final aim of the study is to examine if exercise variables mediate associations between mindfulness and health variables.

Proposed method of data collection: This honours project will attend to the first aspect of this study, examining the association between levels of trait mindfulness and participation in different types of exercise and physical adherence.

Participants will be required to complete a questionnaire pack containing demographic, physical activity, mindfulness and mindfulness associated psychological construct questionnaires. All healthy adults who are free of known chronic disease and acute infection between 18-30 years old will be eligible for participation. Recruitment for this study is open to both genders and we will endeavor to include equal numbers of male and female participants.

Ethics approval needed? No
Ethics applied for? Yes
Type of study: Quantitative
Resources needed (all available): none
Additional information:
Supervisor: Dr Che Fornusek
Supervisor contact details: Che.Fornusek@sydney.edu.au
Is there a specific project available: Yes
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider
Project title: Feasibility of Functional Electrical Stimulation Cycling Exercise in Persons with Moderate Cerebral Palsy: A Pilot Study
Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes
Research question: Is electrical stimulation exercise feasible and beneficial in persons with moderate cerebral palsy?
Research topic:
This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
- Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), Bachelor of Applied Science (Exercise and Sport Science) Honours, Bachelor of Applied Science (Physiotherapy) Honours
Research group type: Research Group based
University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/che.fornusek.php
Primary research interests: Electrical stimulation exercise
Spinal cord injury
Multiple sclerosis
Cerebral palsy
Name(s) of research team:
Aims and background
The primary aim of this project is to evaluate the feasibility of Functional Electrical Stimulation (FES)-cycling for persons with cerebral palsy (CP). The limited literature available on electrical stimulation exercise suggests it may be as effective as activity training in persons with CP with milder mobility limitation (GMFCS I & II) (systematic review; Chiu 2014). Electrical stimulation (especially FES cycling) has many disadvantages, including the cost of equipment, the time invested in setting up the equipment each session and the low intensity of exercise it provides. However, persons with CP with more severe mobility limitation (e.g. GMFCS-III & IV) often have less options for exercise and may therefore gain benefits from electrical stimulation cycling exercise. Prior to this application, we have demonstrated the feasibility of our method of FES cycling for persons with advanced multiple sclerosis (MS) (Fornusek 2014). Clinical findings in CP can be similar to advanced MS with paresis and hypertonia and variable but often preserved sensation.

The feasibility of an ES cycling training program will be measured in persons with CP (GMFCS-III). Specifically, we will measure adherence to the training program and improvements in muscle mass, leg
Feasibility of Functional Electrical Stimulation Cycling Exercise in Persons with Moderate Cerebral Palsy: A Pilot Study

strength, mobility, spasticity and quality of life. This pilot project serves as the first step in our research group focusing on the benefits of electrical stimulation for persons with CP.

Proposed method of data collection: In this project twelve persons with moderate CP (GMFCS III) will perform 8 weeks of ES cycling training at the Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Sydney. The outcome variables will be measured before and after the 8 week intervention. During the whole experiment, four sessions of testing will be required to record the outcome measures; two for pre-intervention testing and two for post-intervention testing. Each test session will take up to 3 hours. Eight weeks after the completion of the training, a QOL questionnaire (CPQoL-Teen) will be sent to the participants to complete. This will measure any carryover benefits from the intervention.

Ethics approval needed? No
Ethics applied for? Yes
Type of study: Mixed methods
Resources needed (all available):
Additional information:
Supervisor: Dr Hans Bogaardt
Supervisor contact details: hans.bogaardt@sydney.edu.au

Is there a specific project available: Yes
Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider

Project title: The effects of a novel muscle strengthening exercise on laryngeal excursion during swallowing

Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes

Research question: Does a novel exercise targeting improvement laryngeal elevation improve laryngeal excursion during swallowing?

Research topic:

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):
  · Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Honours

Research group type: Discipline based


Primary research interests: Swallowing disorders

Name(s) of research team: Hans Bogaardt

Aims and background

Proposed method of data collection:

Ethics approval needed? Yes

Ethics applied for? No

Type of study: Quantitative

Resources needed (all available):

Additional information:
Supervisor: Associate Professor Tricia McCabe
Supervisor contact details: tricia.mccabe@sydney.edu.au

Is there a specific project available: Yes

Do you have a broad research topic for students to consider

Project title: Survey of Australian head and neck speech pathologists of current services for patients pre/post oral cancer surgery

Is this a project for students starting in 2017? Yes

Research question: What are the current Australian speech pathology assessment and therapy services provided to patients with oral cancer?

Research topic:

This project is appropriate for students in the following discipline(s):

- Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), Bachelor of Applied Science (Speech Pathology) Honours

Research group type: Discipline based

University Profile: http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/about/people/profiles/tricia.mccabe.php

Primary research interests: Speech and voice assessment and treatment

Name(s) of research team: Tricia McCabe, Dr Katrina Blyth (RPAH)

Aims and background

The team has demonstrated that direct therapy on speech and swallow of patients

Proposed method of data collection: Online survey using redcap or survey monkey with targeted selection of clinicians in each of the head and neck teams around the country.

Ethics approval needed? Yes

Ethics applied for? No

Type of study: Mixed methods

Resources needed (all available):

Additional information: Associate supervisor will be Dr Katrina Blyth, an experienced head and neck cancer clinician at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital.