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# Annual Report 2017

## Centre for Social Research in Health



**CSRH**

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# About the Centre

The Centre for Social Research in Health (CSRH) is a specialist research centre based in UNSW Arts and Social Sciences. Our mission is to undertake and promote exemplary social and behavioural science research in health that informs and strengthens knowledge, policy and practice.

Our research is guided by our commitment to:

- Integrity and excellence in academic research
- A multidisciplinary approach to research and education
- Actively ensuring our unique and critical perspectives are heard
- Collaboration and engagement with affected communities, and
- Valuing diversity and promoting equity.

Since its establishment in 1990 as the National Centre in HIV Social Research, the scope of our research program has evolved to influence and respond to a broad range of national and international health strategies and priorities, with the ultimate aim of improving the health and wellbeing of affected individuals and communities.

**Our researchers** are leaders in their fields, with a strong reputation in the academic community, lending authority to our work and influence to public debate. We are committed to contributing to effective policy and practice by working in partnership with community, government and research partners.

The Centre fosters the talents of the next generation of social science researchers through support for early career researchers and our **postgraduate research program**.

We receive funding from a range of sources, including the Australian Government Department of Health, state and territory government departments/ministries of health, competitive funding bodies, partner organisations and international sources.

Our work is guided by the **CSRH Strategic Plan 2016-2019**. This responds to the Australian Government's five national strategies for blood-borne viruses and sexually transmissible infections (National BBV & STI Strategies 2014-2017), and supports the UNSW 2025 Strategy and priorities of UNSW Arts & Social Sciences.

# Director's Report



I'm pleased to be writing my second report as Director of the Centre for Social Research in Health, capping off a year of more rapid evolution in the landscape of HIV and viral hepatitis prevention, treatment and care.

Off the back of the introduction of new, universally available direct-acting antiviral (DAA) treatments for hepatitis C in 2016 and a large number of people initiating treatment, 2017 has seen the setting of ambitious 'elimination' targets by government and other agencies. CSRH has contributed in important ways to this current state of affairs by participating in the monitoring and surveillance activities that inform prevention, diagnosis and treatment efforts, and by continuing to critique and question the normative assumptions that sometimes underlie research, policy, and practice around viral hepatitis.

In 2017, the area of HIV and STI prevention, treatment and care has continued to be a dynamic space. Some of the indicators we have relied on from the early days of the epidemic are no longer sufficient to capture and understand changes in practice. We have therefore adapted our surveillance mechanisms to identify and understand the impacts of advances in biomedical technologies such as pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and evolving community practices. This has necessitated additional care in unpacking and interpreting the results of our studies to guide Australian blood-borne virus (BBV) and STI responses.

In February this year we initiated a new community engagement activity, *The*

*Sex Lecture*. The inaugural lecture, *Antiretroviral sex: the transformation of safe sex?*, was given by Associate Professor Martin Holt on 22 February as part of the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras festival. We plan to continue this lecture series annually.

The expertise of our staff was recognised in numerous ways yet again this year. Associate Professor Christy Newman was a joint recipient of the 2017 Australasian Sexual Health Alliance Mid-Career Interdisciplinary Achiever Award. I received the University of Newcastle's Alumni Medal for Professional Excellence. Melinda Walker and Kim Beadman, both involved in the Community Reference Panel, were awarded Spirit Awards at the UNSW Indigenous Awards. After completing her PhD, Dr Kari Lancaster joined CSRH under the prestigious UNSW Scientia Fellowship Scheme. Hard work and excellence was recognised for three of our academics through promotions: Martin Holt to Professor, Limin Mao to Associate Professor and Lise Lafferty to Research Fellow.

As is the life cycle of a centre, we welcomed three new staff members in 2017, Lise Lafferty, Kerry Drysdale and Timothy Broady, and said farewell to three others, Toby Lea, Mandy Schippers and Scientia Professor Peter Aggleton. Peter's notable contribution to the HIV and sexual health sector, including over 250 scientific papers and authoring and editing more than 50 books, will be missed. We wish you well in your retirement Peter, though we know you remain busy and connected in grant work and in mentoring of colleagues.

We were delighted to celebrate the graduation of four higher degree research students; Kamrul Hasan, Lise Lafferty, Kari Lancaster and Kenneth Yates.

In other news, I'm relieved that the result of the marriage equality plebiscite in late 2017 was an emphatic 'yes', and that many of our colleagues, family members, friends and loved ones are now able to officially recognise their unions. I'm disheartened however, that there were unnecessary and vitriolic attack on members of the LGBTQI community.

**Professor Carla Treloar**

# 2017 Highlights

## Publications



95 journal articles  
10 book chapters

15 research reports  
1 book

## Presentations



37 conference presentations

## Committee membership



2 international  
14 state-based  
11 national  
9 UNSW Sydney

## Editorial contributions



7 editorial roles  
5 editorial board memberships

## Funding



\$3.287m in funding

# Our Research

## Projects

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Information on research projects active in 2017 is [available online](#) and is organised into our six research areas:

- [HIV and Sexual Health Risk and Risk Reduction](#)
- [Sexuality, Health and Education](#)
- [Viral Hepatitis, Injecting Drug Use and Harm Reduction](#)
- [Living with, and Treatment of, Serious and Chronic Conditions](#)
- [Health Promotion Development and Evaluation](#)

## Publications

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Information on research publications produced by staff at the Centre in 2017 is [available online](#) and is organised into the following categories:

- [Journal articles](#)
- [Book chapters](#) and [Books](#)
- [Research reports](#)
- [Conference abstracts](#) and [presentations](#)





## Grants

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The following grants awarded to staff at the Centre commenced in 2017:

### **Blood Borne Viruses and Sexually Transmissible Infections Surveillance and Research Program**

Lead Chief Investigator: Carla Treloar (CSRH)

Awarded \$1,909,089 by the Department of Health – Health Surveillance Fund

### **Evaluation of four community-based men's behaviour change program pilots**

Lead Chief Investigator: kylie valentine (SPRC)

CSRH Chief Investigator: Limin Mao

Awarded \$153,518 by NSW Department of Family and Community Services - Community Services – State Government Contract

### **Melbourne Gay Community Periodic Survey 2018-20**

Lead Chief Investigator: Martin Holt



CSRH Chief Investigators: Timothy Broady, Limin Mao

Awarded \$130,947 by the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services – State Government Contract

### **Evaluation of the Ted Noffs Foundation Street University Program**

Lead Chief Investigator: Joanne Bryant

CSRH Chief Investigators: Limin Mao, Carla Treloar

Awarded \$120,545 by the Ted Noffs Foundation/ NSW Health Alcohol and Other Drugs NGO Evaluation Grants – Shared Contract Research

### **Supporting best practice for sexual and gender minority AOD clients: Evaluation of ACON's Substance Support Service**

Lead Chief Investigator: Loren Brener

CSRH Chief Investigators: Martin Holt, Toby Lea, Carla Treloar

Awarded \$105,152 by AIDS Council of NSW (ACON)/NSW Health NGO Evaluation Grant – Shared Contract Research

### **Examining the complex and changing needs of the ageing population living with viral hepatitis/HIV in the ACT**

Lead Chief Investigator: Limin Mao

CSRH Chief Investigators: Martin Holt, Christy Newman, Carla Treloar

Awarded \$89,995 by ACT Health – State Government Contract

### **Impact of stigma and discrimination experienced by priority populations affected by STIs and BBVs in the ACT**

Lead Chief Investigator: Loren Brener

CSRH Chief Investigators: Lise Lafferty, Christy Newman, Carla Treloar

Awarded \$89,973 by ACT Health – State Government Contract

### **An interview-based study of men who have sex with men in Perth who use crystal methamphetamine**

Lead Chief Investigator: Max Hopwood

Awarded \$84,130 by WA Health – State Government Contract

## **Developing and implementing systems to optimise treatment, care and support among people diagnosed with HIV**

Lead Chief Investigator: Garrett Prestage, The Kirby Institute

CSRH Chief Investigators: Levinia Crooks, Limin Mao, Asha Persson

Awarded \$77,479 by the Department of Health (WA) – State Government Contract

## **Perth Gay Community Periodic Survey 2017**

Lead Chief Investigator: Martin Holt

Awarded \$51,196 by the Department of Health (WA) – State Government Contract

## **Participation as a member of the ARC College of Experts**

Lead Chief Investigator: Carla Treloar

Awarded \$16,950 by the Australian Research Council – College of Experts Contract

## **Chemical Practices: Enhancement and Experimentation**

Lead Chief Investigator: Toby Lea

Awarded \$10,500 by the University of Sydney/ARC Discovery Project Shared Grant

# Scholarly achievements

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## **Martin Holt gives inaugural Sex Lecture**

Martin Holt urged the gay community to support each other in the choices they make to safely avoid HIV at a public lecture held as part of the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Festival.

[Related newsroom article](#)

## **Carla Treloar awarded the University of Newcastle Alumni Medal for Professional Excellence**

Carla Treloar was recognised for her work that has informed clinical, policy and community programs to provide hepatitis C patients with better access to care and support to understand treatment options.

[Related newsroom article](#)

## **Kari Lancaster awarded Scientia Fellowship**

Kari Lancaster was appointed a UNSW Scientia Fellow for her outstanding work in drug policy and 'evidence-making' practices in health.

[Related newsroom article](#)

## **Christy Newman recognised as a mid-career interdisciplinary achiever**

Christy Newman was a joint recipient of the 2017 Australasian Sexual Health Alliance Mid-Career Interdisciplinary Achiever Award.

## **Melinda Walker and Kim Beadman win Spirit Awards**

Research associates Melinda Walker and Kim Beadman won Spirit Awards at the UNSW Indigenous Awards held by Nura Gili.

## **Martin Holt promoted to Professor**

[Professor Martin Holt's profile](#)

## **Limin Mao promoted to Associate Professor**

[Associate Professor Limin Mao's profile](#)

## **Lise Lafferty promoted to Research Fellow**

[Dr Lise Lafferty's profile](#)



## Postgraduate research supervision

The following students were enrolled as postgraduate students with the Centre in 2017 and had their supervision carried out by staff at the Centre.

Student	Supervisors	Topic
Isaac Addo	John de Wit Loren Brener	Determinants of Adiposity-Related Behaviour Patterns Associated with Risks of Non-Communicable Chronic Diseases (NCDs): A Study of sub-Saharan African Immigrants in Australia
Hilary Caldwell	John de Wit Kath Albury	Women who buy sex in Australia: From social representations to lived experiences
Angela Cui	Limin Mao Christy Newman	Understanding empowerment of people with severe mental illness in the community: Through the eyes of social work practitioners in Sydney and Hong Kong
Defeng Jin	Carla Treloar Loren Brener	Lived experiences of stigma among Chinese immigrants living with hepatitis B in Australia
Sujith Kumar	Peter Aggleton Joanne Bryant	Sexual citizenship among minority ethnic LGBTQ youth in Australia
Ann Madden	Carla Treloar Alison Ritter Kari Lancaster	"There but not there: the quest for legitimacy" - Power & performativity of drug user representation in high level drug policy settings
Naveed Noor	John de Wit Joanne Bryant	Influence of scripted sexual norms on sexual behaviour, practices and sexual health outcomes among homeless young people in Pakistan
Christopher Tumwine	Peter Aggleton Stephen Bell	Population mobility and its links to HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment: A case study of mobile fisherfolk in Uganda
Nga Vu	John de Wit Martin Holt	Sex, drugs and health of men who have sex with men in Vietnam
Horas Wong	Peter Aggleton Limin Mao	In search of the rainbow's end: the spiritual journeys of Chinese gay men of different HIV generations living in Sydney, Australia

The following staff also supervised postgraduate students enrolled external to the Centre in 2017:

Student	Supervisor	Topic
Robyn Horwitz (University of Queensland)	Loren Brener	Using implicit associations to assess drug use trajectories of young people
Shaun Abbott (UNSW School of Public Health and Community Medicine)	John de Wit	Physical activity interventions in low socioeconomic populations: A focus on mental contrasting with implementation intentions
Charles Picavet (Utrecht University, The Netherlands)	John de Wit	What goes wrong with contraceptive behaviour, who are risk groups, and which socio-cognitive factors may be targeted to improve contraceptive behaviour
Johann Kolstee (The Kirby Institute, UNSW)	Martin Holt	How are changing knowledge, attitudes and beliefs about risk reduction strategies affecting the sexual behaviour of gay and bisexual men in Australia?
Shu Su (Monash University)	Limin Mao	Comprehensive evaluation of national antiretroviral treatment program for the HIV-infected population in China
Jessica Botfield (UNSW School of Social Sciences)	Christy Newman	Engaging young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds with sexual and reproductive health services in Sydney, Australia
Madeline News (Scientia, UNSW)	Christy Newman	Closing the Gap? Critical perspectives on the implementation of Indigenous self-determination in health policy
Catriona Ooi (Sydney Medical School)	Christy Newman	The sexual health and access to care of men who have sex with men (MSM) in western Sydney
Lisa Wojciechowski (University of Queensland)	Christy Newman	Young adults living with HIV in Australia: Understanding their relationship to their health and to HIV health services
Alison Marshall (The Kirby Institute, UNSW)	Carla Treloar	The study of liver disease screening and assessment among persons with a history of injection drug use in New South Wales, Australia: The LiveRLife Campaign

Further information on all current students is [available online](#).



## Teaching

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Martin Holt presented two guest lectures on 'HIV testing' and 'PrEP' for the School of Public Health and Community Medicine course 'The Global HIV Epidemic: Social Aspects and Impacts (PHCM9622).

Kari Lancaster presented two guest lectures. The first was at UNSW, titled Social Policy Research project (School of Social Science - SRAP3002). The second was for the Master of Addictive Behaviours program at Monash University.



# Financial Performance

## Statement of financial performance for the year ended 31 December 2017

		\$'000
<b>Revenue</b>		
	Research Revenue	3,083
	Donations and Bequest	10
	UNSW Contributions	183
	Faculty Contributions	-
	Other Restricted Revenue	37
	Sundry Other Revenue	20
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>3,287</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
	Salaries, Oncosts and Other Staff Costs	2,737
	Scholarship Stipends	1
	Contract and Consulting Services	218
	Consumables	20
	Travel	74
	Equipment Non-Capitalised	12
	Entertainment	1
	Marketing	33
	Miscellaneous Expenses	47
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>3,144</b>
<b>Total Contribution</b>		<b>143</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>Total Contribution (after depreciation)</b>		<b>143</b>

## Statement of financial position as at 31 December 2017

	\$'000
UNSW Australia Internal Cash	1,785
Accounts Receivable	3
Sundry Assets	3
Property Plant and Equipment	0
Creditors and Other Liabilities	11
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>1,781</b>

## Centre Steering Committee

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The Centre Steering Committee oversees the performance and direction of CSRH, ensuring the effective, efficient and sustainable pursuit of objectives, and assisting with strategic development. The Committee also monitors the Centre's operation and finances and safeguards compliance with UNSW policies and procedures.

In 2017, the Centre Steering Committee members were:

- Professor Susan Dodds, Dean, UNSW Arts & Social Sciences (Chair)
- Professor Helen Groth, Associate Dean, UNSW Arts & Social Sciences
- Professor Carla Treloar, Director, Social Policy Research Centre and Centre for Social Research in Health
- David Cami, Associate Director, Social Policy Research Centre and Centre for Social Research in Health
- Associate Professor kylie valentine, Research Director, Social Policy Research Centre and Centre for Social Research in Health
- Melissa Roughley, Faculty General Manager, UNSW Arts & Social Sciences
- Jaimin Bhatt, Faculty Finance Manager, UNSW Arts & Social Sciences
- Warwick Dawson, Director, Research Strategy & Partnerships Office

The Steering Committee met on the following dates:

### **23 March 2017**

Attended by: Susan Dodds (Dean, UNSW Arts & Social Sciences), Helen Groth (Associate Dean Research), Carla Treloar (Director, SPRC), kylie valentine (Deputy Director, SPRC), David Cami (Associate Director, SPRC), Melissa Roughley (Faculty General Manager), Jaimin Bhatt (Faculty Finance Manager), An Thuy Nguyen (Management Accountant [Research]), Warwick Dawson (Director, Research Strategy & Partnerships Office)

## 17 July 2017

Attended by: Susan Dodds (Dean, UNSW Arts & Social Sciences), Helen Groth (Associate Dean Research), Carla Treloar (Director, SPRC), kylie valentine (Deputy Director, SPRC), David Cami (Associate Director, SPRC), Melissa Roughley (Faculty General Manager), Jaimin Bhatt (Faculty Finance Manager), Warwick Dawson (Director, Research Strategy & Partnerships Office), An Thuy Nguyen (Management Accountant [Research]), Anmol Bhaumik (Research Accountant)

## 17 October 2017

Attended by: Susan Dodds (Dean, UNSW Arts & Social Sciences), David Blaazer (Deputy Dean), Helen Groth (Associate Dean Research), Carla Treloar (Director, SPRC), kylie valentine (Deputy Director, SPRC), David Cami (Associate Director, SPRC), Melissa Roughley (Faculty General Manager), Warwick Dawson (Director, Research Strategy & Partnerships Office), Eamon Keher (Business Partner, Finance), Ianina Morgerstern (Team Lead, Research Finance)

# Scientific Advisory Committee

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The Scientific Advisory Committee brings together experts from social science and public health research, government, and non-government organisations. It provides advice and guidance on research strategy that informs the Centre's strategic and work plans and is funded by UNSW and the Australian Government Department of Health. In 2017, The Committee undertook the role of Advisory Committee to the Stigma Indicators Monitoring Project. As part of the new advisory role, in 2017 The Committee met in February and June.

The Scientific Advisory Committee comprises:

- Prof Jake Najman, Professor of Sociology, School of Social Science, University of Queensland (Chair)
- Lisa Bastian, Manager, Sexual Health and Blood-borne Virus Program, WA Government Department of Health
- Judy Byrne, Project Worker, Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug Users League (AIVL)
- Aaron Cogle, Deputy Director, National Association of People Living with HIV Australia



- A/Prof Levinia Crooks, Chief Executive Officer, Australasian Society for HIV, viral hepatitis and sexual health Medicine
- Prof Gary Dowsett, Deputy Director, Australian Research Centre for Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University (ARCSHS)
- Jules Kim, CEO, Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association
- Prof Jayne Lucke, Director, ARCSHS
- Prof Lisa Maher, Head of Viral Hepatitis Epidemiology and Prevention Program, The Kirby Institute
- Dr Jo Mitchell, Director, Centre for Population Health, NSW Ministry of Health
- Darryl O'Donnell, Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO)
- Dr Alun Richards, Director, Blood Borne Viruses and STIs, Queensland Government Department of Health, Queensland
- Helen Tyrrell, Chief Executive Officer, Hepatitis Australia
- Michael West, A/Manager, Sexual Health and Viral Hepatitis program, Victoria Government Department of Health & Human Services

## Centre Management Committee

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The Centre Management Committee oversees the daily operations of CSRH and decisions that impact the Centre's resources, policies, procedures and business processes.

Centre Management Committee members are drawn from within CSRH and include:

- Carla Treloar, Director
- Martin Holt, Associate Professor
- Christy Newman, Associate Professor
- Loren Brener, Senior Research Fellow
- Max Hopwood, Research Fellow
- David Cami, Associate Director



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