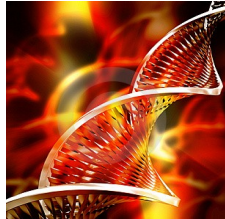


# Healthy Development Adelaide

A Research & Innovation Cluster in South Australia



## Keeping our Genes Healthy

*epigenetics, nutrigenomics and pharmacogenomics*



**Date:** Thursday 17 September 2009

**Time:** 4.30 - 7.00pm

**Venue:** Union House (Level 4, Equinox Room)  
University of Adelaide  
(North Terrace campus)

*Registration 4.15pm for 4.30pm start*

*Food & drink provided after conclusion of talks*

*All Welcome - Free admission*

**RSVP by Monday 14 September**

✉ [anne.jurisevic@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:anne.jurisevic@adelaide.edu.au) (email preferable)

☎ (08) 8303 8222

*This event supported by*



Women's & Children's  
Health Research Institute Inc.  
*Research for the future health of our children*



Government of South Australia  
Department of Education and  
Children's Services



### SPEAKERS

**Professor Lynne Cobiac**

**Can nutrigenomics help us understand how we express ourselves?**

Associate Dean, Flinders Clinical & Molecular Medicine, School of Medicine, Flinders University

**Professor Stefan Hiendleder**

**Epigenetics, development and fetal growth**

Head, Epigenetics and Genetics Group, Discipline of Animal Science, University of Adelaide

**Dr Michael Fenech**

**Genome health nutrigenomics - personalised nutrition for DNA damage prevention**

Research Group Leader: Nutritional & Public Health Genomics, Genome Health Diagnostics Laboratory, CSIRO Food and Nutritional Sciences

**Dr Michael Sorich**

**Clinical pharmacogenomics - promise and price**

Lecturer, School of Pharmacy and Medical Sciences, University of South Australia

### CHAIR

**A/Professor Claire Roberts**

The Robinson Institute, Research Centre for Reproductive Health, University of Adelaide

## Speaker Profiles



**Professor Lynne Cobiac** is Associate Dean, Flinders Clinical and Molecular Medicine in the School of Medicine, Flinders University and is the Foundation Chair of Nutrition and Dietetics at Flinders University (2007 – present). Her current research interests include nutrigenomics and colon cancer risk, dietary intake assessment, elderly and childhood nutrition. Prior to commencing at Flinders, Lynne held a senior position in research, business and business development management in CSIRO. She was the lead investigator responsible for collecting nutrition data in the Australian 2007 National Children's Nutrition and Physical Activity. She is currently also the lead investigator for the Department of Health and Ageing funded National Healthy Schools Canteen Project, and a chief investigator undertaking the development of the new Core Food Groups which will inform the development of the proposed new national food selection guide. She was invited to become a FSAZ fellow for 3 years commencing November 2007 and is a member of the FSAZ Food Composition Advisory Group.



**Professor Stefan Hiendleder** joined the University of Adelaide in 2005 as JS Davies Professorial Fellow and leads the Roseworthy Campus based Epigenetics and Genetics group in Animal Science. He received his PhD in Animal Science from Justus-Liebig-University Giessen/Germany, and after post doctoral work in Saskatoon/Canada, returned to Giessen to complete a habilitation degree in Animal Genetics. He moved to Ludwig-Maximilian University and the Gene Center Munich in 2001 as Associate Professor and obtained a habilitation degree in Functional Genomics and Biotechnology in Veterinary Medicine. He received several awards, including the H. Wilhelm Schauman Foundation prize and the Academy for Animal Health award. The major area of his research interests is non-mendelian genetics with a focus on epigenetics in pre- and postnatal development. His contributions include descriptions of epigenetic perturbations that originate in the early embryo and persist into fetal stages and adulthood. His group is currently involved in the characterisation of imprinted genes in fetal growth regulation and the identification of genetic effects on epigenetic gene regulation.



**Dr Michael Fenech** has more than 20 years of research experience in the field of genetic toxicology and nutrition. His research work is renowned internationally for the development of the cytokinesis-block micronucleus cytome (CBMN-Cyt) assay and its applications in radiation exposure biodosimetry, genetic toxicology and in nutritional genomics research. His current research focus is Genome Health Nutrigenomics and Nutrigenetics i.e. investigation of how genetic and nutritional background determines nutritional requirement for genome maintenance or prevention of genome damage on an individual-by-individual basis. Another active area of research is the association prospectively between CBMN-Cyt biomarkers and risk of degenerative disease. He is co-founder of the HUMN project ([www.humn.org](http://www.humn.org)), an international collaboration aimed at determining the variables that affect micronucleus frequencies in human populations. His current research focus is the practical implementation of the Genome Health Clinic concept and determining the impact of nutrition on the buccal cytome, telomere maintenance and risk of degenerative diseases. In 2007 he was awarded the Flinders University Convocation Medal and in 2008 the prestigious Alexander Holmender medal by the US Environmental Mutagen Society for outstanding contributions to environmental mutagenesis research and protection of human health.



**Dr Michael Sorich** is a pharmacist with diverse research interests including molecular modelling, autism, evidence based medicine, clinical informatics, and pharmacogenomics. He completed a PhD on the molecular modelling of drug metabolising enzymes. Subsequently, he was awarded a NHMRC 'CJ Martin Postdoctoral Research Fellowship' that allowed him to gain experience in bioinformatics and pharmacogenetics at St Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis USA. He returned to Adelaide in 2006, as a lecturer in the School of Pharmacy and Medical Sciences at the University of South Australia. He has received a number of awards for his research including a South Australian Young Tall Poppy Award in 2008, and a Denis Wade Johnson & Johnson New Investigator Award in 2006 from the Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology and Toxicology. In addition to his research and teaching, he is an enthusiastic science communicator. He is particularly passionate about engaging school students with science and educating the general public on contemporary medical issues such as personalised medicine.