2018

GRADUATION CEREMONIES

THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

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of ADELAIDE

CHANCELLOR'S *Welcome*

On behalf of the University of Adelaide may I offer sincere congratulations to you, our new graduates.

You have joined a distinguished community of University of Adelaide alumni that spans the globe.

As a graduate of the University of Adelaide you hold a degree that is recognised and valued around the world. Our graduates have gone on to be pioneers and leaders in many fields – from science, medicine and engineering, to law, the social sciences and the performing arts. They have won Nobel Prizes, distinguished themselves in politics and the arts, and helped to improve the lives and wellbeing of countless communities.

The University of Adelaide is committed to providing an inspiring university experience and producing talented and skilled graduates. I hope that your skills and the friendships that you have made will endure throughout your life.

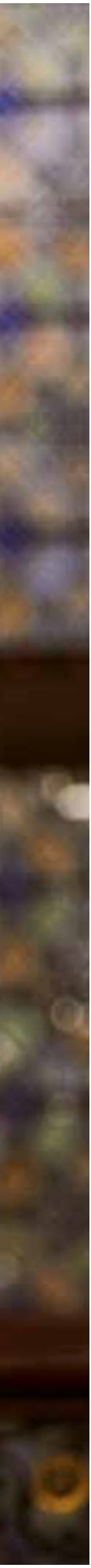
You should be proud today of your achievement in completing your studies, which is the first step on what I trust will be a satisfying and exciting career.

I would also take this opportunity, on behalf of the University, to thank those who have supported you and, in many cases, have made it possible for you to be here today.

You will always remember the University of Adelaide, and I hope you will consider it a significant part of your life, not just the past few years while studying, and not just today but forever. I encourage you to join our network of alumni and enjoy the benefits of a long association with your University.

My congratulations to you all.

Rear Admiral the Honourable Kevin Scarce
AC CSC RAN (Rtd)
Chancellor



Message from the VICE-CHANCELLOR AND PRESIDENT

Congratulations on graduating from one of Australia's leading universities.

This ceremony marks the culmination of years of study that now place you into lifelong membership of the University of Adelaide alumni – a group spread across all corners of the globe.

And you follow in the footsteps of extraordinary individuals, including some who have redefined the world as we know it, and many others who are changing their communities for the better each day. Your University of Adelaide degree will open doors to new, transformational opportunities.

Today is about celebrating your achievements with family, friends, members of staff and fellow graduates. I strongly encourage you to maintain those professional connections you have made here: many of them will stay with you for life.

Use your knowledge wisely, be bold and generous in the way you share ideas with others, and always be open to learning.

Well done: you go forward today with the warmest wishes of the University of Adelaide community.

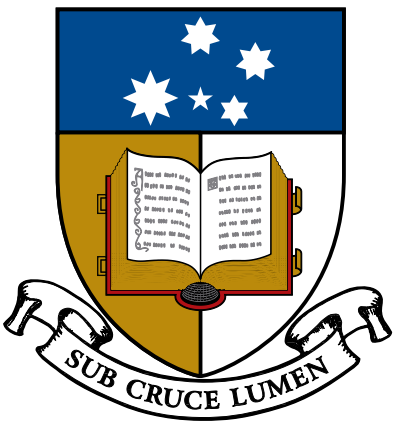
Professor Peter Rathjen
BSc (Hons) (Adel), DPhil (Oxon), Hon DLitt (Tas)
Vice-Chancellor and President

The University of Adelaide GRADUATION TRADITIONS

COAT OF ARMS

The University of Adelaide's coat of arms was granted to the University by the College of Arms, London, in 1925. It is the official symbol of the University and the stamp which ratifies every degree parchment bestowed by the University.

The crest or shield displays an open book and five stars; one of eight, two of seven, one of six and one of five points – representing the Southern Cross. A scroll containing the University's Latin motto sits directly below the shield; Sub Cruce Lumen, meaning 'The light (of learning) under the (Southern) Cross'.



BONYTHON HALL

Bonython Hall is the University of Adelaide's "great hall". It was built in the years of 1933-1936 using a generous donation of over £50,000 from renowned public benefactor Sir John Langdon Bonython.

Planned construction of Bonython Hall was surrounded in controversy. Colonel William Light, Surveyor-General for the City of Adelaide, had an original vision to extend Pulteney Street north towards North Adelaide. The Adelaide City Council was keen to see his plans carried out.

Following much debate, it was City Alderman and lawyer George McEwin who was able to convince the City Council of the University's master plan and evolving architectural beauty. Further, he pointed out that the City Council had no legal prerogative to construct roads on the private property of the University.

Consequently construction of the great hall began. This proved a critical juncture in the University's history - resulting in the University of Adelaide expanding to become one of the most picturesque campuses in the country today.

Today, Bonython Hall is home to all onshore graduation ceremonies and a number of official University events, including the annual Carols on Campus event in December.

ABOUT THE ORGAN

The organ in Bonython Hall was installed in 2002. Made in England to a tonal design by the leading Dutch firm Johannus Orgelbouw, it uses custom-built speakers to reproduce digital recordings of individual organ pipes with the acoustic qualities of a piped instrument. The four manual instrument is the largest of its type in Australia.

UNIVERSITY MACE

Thousands of years ago the Mace, a heavy club weighted at one end, was used as a blunt weapon in battle. In the sixteenth century the Mace came to be used more ceremonially – representing a symbol of protection of the King. Today, the Mace is celebrated as a symbol and warrant of office, particularly of royal or ecclesiastical office, and of institutions deriving authority from the Crown or Church.

The University of Adelaide Mace was designed by Mr I. Milward Grey of the School of Fine Arts, North Adelaide, and was made under his personal supervision by an Adelaide firm of silversmiths.

The Mace is 24 inches in length and is made of silver gilt throughout. Seventy-three ounces, just over 2kg, of metal was used in its manufacture. The Mace head forms an orb, representing the world, and features a book, a symbol of learning, and a design of gum leaves on matted ground. On either side of the orb, the University's Coat of Arms is featured along with the motto: *Sub Cruce Lumen*.

The University Mace was first carried by President of the Students Council, K H Boykett, at a Jubilee procession at St Peter's Cathedral in 1926, marking the 50th anniversary since classes first commenced.

The traditional role of the Mace Bearer in the University of Adelaide graduation ceremony is to protect the Chancellor, meaning the bearer of the Mace always precedes the Chancellor in the academic procession.

ACADEMIC DRESS

Academic dress, including the full-length robe, hood and classical headwear, dates back to the medieval 12th and 13th centuries in Europe when universities, as we know them today, were developing.

The regalia were originally worn daily by university scholars for reasons of warmth and to reflect their status in society. The sense of purpose and propriety evoked by formal academic dress has ensured the traditional has preserved over the centuries.

In contemporary times, academic dress is largely reserved for graduation ceremonies and formal university events.

Gown

University of Adelaide graduates wear black gowns in the Cambridge style, with the exception of:

- Professional Doctorate and PhD candidates whose gowns are black and faced with scarlet
- Higher Doctorate and Doctor of the University candidates who wear scarlet gowns faced respectively with the colour of their discipline or ultramarine blue.

Hood

Professional Certificate and Sub-bachelor graduates do not wear a hood.

Other graduates wear a black hood that displays a colour representative of their discipline area, except that:

- Postgraduate coursework candidates wear a black hood lined in white
- Research masters wear a black hood lined in scarlet
- PhD, Higher Doctorate and Doctor of the University candidates wear a scarlet hood lined in scarlet.

Headwear

Graduates receiving a Professional Certificate, Sub-bachelor Certificate or Diploma, Bachelor, Honours, Graduate Certificate or Diploma or Masters qualification wear a black trencher cap or mortarboard.

Graduates receiving a Professional Doctorate, PhD, Higher Doctorate, Doctor of Medicine or a Doctor of the University wear a bonnet of black velvet.

Creative Arts and Architecture
Cendre Green

Business
Helvetia Blue

Engineering and related technologies
True Purple

Health Sciences
Eosin Pink

Natural and Physical Sciences
Primuline Yellow

Society, Culture and Education
Pale Violet Grey

Information for GUESTS

The following information is provided to ensure the comfort, safety and enjoyment of everyone attending the ceremony. Please take a moment to read before the ceremony commences.

GENERAL

Toilets are located at the entrance to the hall, downstairs from the foyer.

A water cooler for your use can also be found in the foyer.

Please supervise babies and young children at all times. If they are disturbing other guests, please take the opportunity to relocate to the foyer.

Please switch off or silence mobile phones for the duration of the ceremony.

APPLAUSE

Guests are invited to applaud each graduate as they are presented on stage.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Guests are welcome to take photographs during the ceremony. However, you are requested not to disrupt the ceremony by leaving your seat or using flash photography.

Professional photographers will take a photograph of each graduate as they are presented on stage. These photographs will be available immediately after the ceremony from GFP Graduations, who will be temporarily located on the Goodman Lawns.

Alternatively graduates can order their stage photos online after the ceremony.

SAFETY AND EMERGENCY

For safety reasons guests may not enter the galleries upstairs or sit on the steps in the balcony area.

Emergency exits are marked on the plan below. Please note your nearest exit.

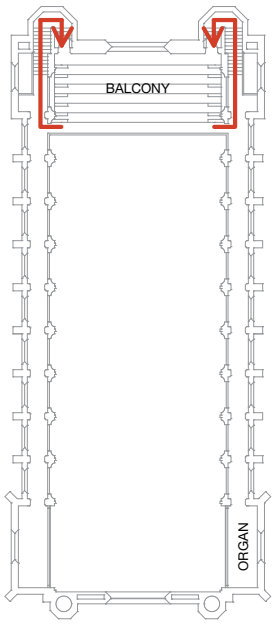
The emergency assembly point is on Goodman Lawns, west of the hall.

If it becomes necessary to evacuate Bonython Hall, an announcement will be made. Follow the directions of the Ushers, exit the hall and move to the assembly point. Guests in wheelchairs should exit the hall via the eastern entrance.

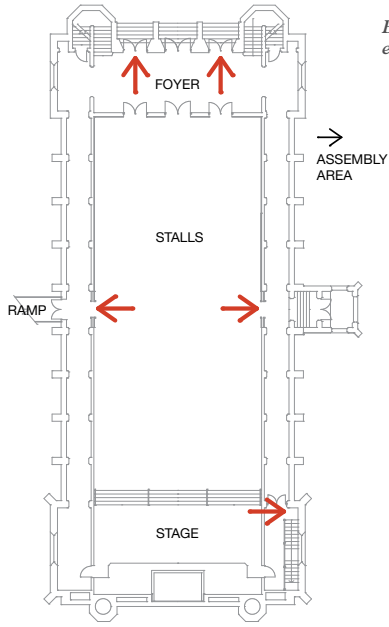
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Student Ushers in white shirts can provide further information and assistance.

The ceremony will last around 70 minutes.



South gallery level



Ground floor

Bonython Hall emergency exits

Order of PROCEEDINGS

Before the ceremony, music will be played on the Bonython Hall Organ by Joshua van Konkelenberg BMus(Hons), PhD (Adel), MMus (RCM), GDScreenComp (AFTRS)

Trio Sonata in G major, BWV 530, JS Bach (1685-1750)

THE ACADEMIC PROCESSION *(please stand)* will enter Bonython Hall.

Bonython 18 by Howard Parkinson, performed by the Elder Conservatorium Brass Ensemble.

- Marshals
- Doctorates in all Faculties/Schools
- Heads of Affiliated Colleges
- Academic and Graduate Staff
- Executive Deans and Heads of Schools
- Senior University Officials
- The Valedictorian
- The Orator
- The Vice-Chancellor
- The Deputy Chancellor
- The Mace Bearer
- The Chancellor

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM to be sung by Charlotte Kelso DipA, BA/BMus(Clas).

Australians all let us rejoice, For we are young and free;
We've golden soil and wealth for toil, Our home is girt by sea;
Our land abounds in nature's gifts Of beauty rich and rare;
In history's page, let every stage Advance Australia Fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing, Advance Australia Fair.

Guests to be seated

WELCOME BY THE CHANCELLOR
Rear Admiral the Honourable Kevin Scarce AC CSC RAN (Rtd)

THE OCCASIONAL ADDRESS to be given by Professor John Findlay AO PhD DSc FSRB FSSR (USA)

THE MACE BEARER THANKS THE ORATOR
Dr Alistair Kenneth Jukes will thank the orator

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT by the Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Rathjen BSc (Hons) (Adel), DPhil (Oxon), Hon DLitt (Tas)

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS by Faculty/School

VALEDICTORY ADDRESS given by Mr Jason Lee Bassani

CLOSING REMARKS given by the Chancellor

THE ACADEMIC RECESSION *(please stand)* The academy will leave Bonython Hall in reverse order to that of entry, followed by the graduates. During the recession, the organist will play *Toccata in F, BWV 540*, JS Bach (1685-1750).

Guests are requested to remain standing while the procession is leaving Bonython Hall.

Presentation of AWARDS

Conferral of the

HONORARY DEGREE

Presented by the Vice-Chancellor and President Professor Peter Rathjen BSc (Hons) (Adel), DPhil (Oxon), Hon DLitt (Tas)

Doctor of the University (honoris causa)

Professor John Findlay
AO PhD DSc FSRB FSSR (USA)

ADELAIDE DENTAL SCHOOL

Presented by the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, Professor Alastair Burt BSc (Hons), MBChB, MD (Hons), FRCPath, FRCP, FRCPA, FRSB, FAcadMEd, FAHMS

Graduate Certificate in Oral Health Science

Ria Phyllis Albertini

Edwina Mary Birdseye

Linda My Trang Bui

Karina Nicole Egel

Jessica Kate Goodall

Connie-Sue Luders

Meghana Nagesh Pai

Penelope Joan Richards

Rachel Ann Robinson

Degree of Doctor of Clinical Dentistry

William Luong

Daniela Cisoto Ribeiro

Prashanthan Sooriakumaran

Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

Dandara Gabriela Haag

thesis: Dimensions of oral conditions and health-related quality of life among adults: A population based study

abstract: The aim of this thesis was to investigate the association between oral health dimensions and health-related quality of life (HRQoL) among adults. A systematic review was conducted and secondary analyses were performed on a population based study conducted with adults from Southern Brazil (n=1,720). Findings indicate that a negative association between oral conditions and HRQoL exists and individuals with general health conditions are more likely to also present oral health problems. In addition, multimorbidity, including oral health conditions, is negatively associated with HRQoL. Finally, our findings support Wilson and Cleary's model for HRQoL as applied to untreated dental caries.

Ninuk Hariyani

thesis: Root caries over the generations

abstract: Improved life expectancy and reduction of tooth loss are significant public and dental health successes. However, it may put the older population at a higher risk of root caries. This study aimed to contribute to the understanding of root caries and its risk factors and to test the 'failure of success' or 'more teeth, more disease' theories in relation to root caries among Australian older adults across generations. The theories were not supported in this study. The findings support the current population-based program of water fluoridation, and the promotion of healthy lifestyle in order to prevent root caries.

Helena Silveira Schuch

thesis: Socioeconomic Position and Periodontal Disease: A Life-course Approach

abstract: This thesis used life-course epidemiology theories, published literature and data from a prospective birth cohort study in Brazil to investigate the influence of socioeconomic position (SEP) during the life-course on periodontitis in adulthood. It found that people on relatively lower socioeconomic conditions earlier in life presented worse periodontitis in adulthood. We identified the influence of income trajectories during the first 30 years of life on the occurrence of moderate-to-severe periodontitis later on, and that early life SEP has a direct effect on periodontitis at age 31 that is not mediated by SEP in adult life, smoking status, or oral hygiene.

Ankur Kumar Singh

thesis: Theoretical Explanations and Empirical Evidence for the Relationship between Income Inequality and Population Oral Health

abstract: Studies have shown that high income inequality negatively impacts oral health. However, there is a lack of clarity on theories underpinning this relationship. There is lack of Australian evidence on the relationship between area-level income inequality and oral health. This thesis addresses these two critical gaps in the literature. The presumed theoretical underpinnings of relationships between income inequality and oral health were not upheld. Individuals in areas with high income inequality were found to have lower inadequate dentition than those in areas with low income inequality. This contradictory finding was likely due to contextual differences between Australia and other countries.

Richard Jonathan Ordóñez Taduran

thesis: The Nature and Extent of Sexual Dimorphism in Dental and Dermatoglyphic Traits of Twins

abstract: The nature and extent of sexual dimorphism in dental and dermatoglyphic traits of Australian twinsSerial dental casts and rolled ink fingerprints of monozygotic and dizygotic twins were analysed. A 2D imaging system was utilised to measure tooth dimensions and molars were scored for expression of Carabelli trait. Ridges and white lines were counted manually and fingerprint pattern was classified by type. Results showed sexual dimorphism in primary and permanent teeth, and some observed in the fingerprints. The development of teeth and fingerprints are both Complex Adaptive Systems and there were some correlations between them.

Faculty of

HEALTH SCIENCES

Presented by the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, Professor Alastair Burt BSc (Hons), MBChB, MD (Hons), FRCPath, FRCP, FRCPA, FRSB, FAcadMEd, FAHMS

Degree of Bachelor of Health Sciences

Jason Lee Bassani .... Physiology and Exercise Science

Hannah Bourne ..... Human Reproductive Health, Anatomical Sciences

Mairen Joyce Briones..... Human Reproductive Health and Neuroscience

Emily Giulia Centofanti.....Nutrition

Lauren Clements ..... Neuroscience and Pathology

Maja Djuric .....Pathology

Steven Ha ..... Physiology

Edward Luong.....Neuroscience

Taylor Rose McKinnon ..... Physiology and Exercise Science

Thomas William Moir .....Nutrition

Jessica Louise Mrazek..... Exercise Science

Grace Hong An Nguyen.....Pathology

Taylor Rose McKinnon .....Genetics and Anatomical Sciences

Penny Georgia Psarras ..... Epidemiology

Jack Hammond Ramsay.....Pathology and Microbiology

Jade Elizabeth Robertson.....Indigenous Health, Health Promotion

Tian Rosenthal .....Pathology

Daniel John Rusby..... Anatomical Sciences and Exercise Science

Sanjna Singh.....Neuroscience

Aimee Louise Thomson..... Exercise Science

Anne-Marie Renee Tyson.....Health Promotion and Epidemiology

Cassie Renae Wallace..... Neuroscience and Pathology

Weerasinghe Mudiyanselage Weerasinghe .....Health Promotion

Jessica Caroline Youil .....Anatomical Sciences and Pathology

Honours Degree of Bachelor of Health and Medical Sciences

Dongqing Chen .....Medicine

Darren Jin Xiang Chow.....Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Kayla Elise Maiolo..... Physiology

Brianna Ruby Morello ..... Paediatrics

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Presented by the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, Professor Alastair Burt BSc (Hons), MBChB, MD (Hons), FRCPath, FRCP, FRCPA, FRSB, FAcadMEd, FAHMS

Graduate Certificate in Public Health

Annmarie Rose Cramond

Graduate Certificate in Counselling and Psychotherapy

Benjamin Robert Constable Burnard

Graduate Diploma in Public Health

Nazmus Sakib

Degree of Master of Public Health

Dion John Cracknell

Luke Doyle

Edmond Muliro Cheshi

Pramudita Putri Dyatmika Mandegani

Degree of Master of Health Economics and Policy

Natthana Wuttiwan

Degree of Master of Biostatistics

Rowena Jennifer Burch

Linda Rosemary Gowing

Degree of Master of Counselling and Psychotherapy

Logan Geoffrey Bold

Sabire Sabine Cavus

Degree of Master of Clinical Science

Nathan David Eardley-Harris

thesis: The Effectiveness of Selective Thoracic Fusion for Treatment of Adolescent Idiopathic Scoliosis: A Systematic Review

abstract: Selective thoracic spinal fusion is where both thoracic and lumbar curves are present, but only the major thoracic curve is fused, leaving the lumbar curve unfused and mobile. The point of contention among surgeons is whether a rigid and straight spine or a mobile and less straight spine provides better outcomes. This thesis reviews selective thoracic fusion as an effective treatment for patients with adolescent idiopathic scoliosis in radiological parameters and clinical outcomes. Regardless of approach, or instrumentation, selective thoracic fusion is an effective surgery for restoring not only the main thoracic curve but also the un-instrumented lumbar curve.

Tom Jan Gieroba

thesis: Fixation methods for acute syndesmotic injury A systematic review and meta-analysis

abstract: The syndesmosis of the ankle is the joint between the distal tibia and fibula, supported by strong ligaments. These ligaments can be injured; in isolation, or more commonly as part of an ankle fracture. Syndesmotic injuries usually require

fixation. Traditionally this was done with metal screws but more recently suture-button devices and bioabsorbable screws have been used. This thesis is a systematic review and meta-analysis of 53 studies including 3,088 patients comparing different syndesmotic fixation methods. The compared treatment strategies have acceptable functional outcomes, pain, range of motion, XR parameters and an acceptable complication profile with little difference between methods.

Nicholas Lewis Hayes

thesis: Effectiveness of surgical versus conservative treatment for distal femoral growth plate fractures: a systematic review

abstract: Injury to the growth pate of the distal femur (thigh bone) in children is typically due to a high-energy trauma such as contact sports or motor vehicle accidents. There is no clear evidence as to whether surgery or application of a plaster or splint is the best option for these injuries in terms of growth arrest and growth deformity. This thesis evaluated whether surgery, in comparison to non-surgical treatment, is a safe and effective intervention for the management of distal femoral growth plate fractures in terms of resultant growth deformity at the distal femur.

Eng Whui Poh

thesis: The effects of pharmacist prescribing on patient outcomes in the hospital setting: A systematic review

abstract: This systematic review quantitatively analysed the safety and effectiveness of pharmacist prescribing on patient outcomes. Studies with controlled experimental designs which compared pharmacist prescribing to doctor prescribing in the hospital setting were included. Primary outcomes included clinical outcomes such as therapeutic failure or benefit, and adverse effects. Secondary outcomes included medication errors and International Normalised Ratio control. There is low to moderate evidence that pharmacists prescribe to the same standards as doctors. Pharmacists are better at adhering to dosing guidelines when prescribing by protocol, and make significantly less prescribing errors when charting patients' usual medications on admission to hospital.

Annika Theodoulou

thesis: Risk of Complications and Poorer Postoperative Outcomes in Obese and Diabetic Patients Following Upper Limb Arthroplasty: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

abstract: With the number of upper limb arthroplasty procedures predicted to rise, risk factors that predispose to greater complication and poorer outcome must be investigated. Findings presented in this thesis suggest that obesity significantly increased operative duration, and also increased the risk of revision, venous thromboembolism, dislocation, fracture and infection. Diabetes mellitus increased the risk of mortality, blood transfusion and pneumonia, however had no influence on the risk of pulmonary embolism. Results were limited by patient and surgical factors, as well as inconsistent descriptions of outcomes across studies. Findings must be considered in light of these confounding factors.

Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

Ashlea Jade Bartram

thesis: Negotiating the Social Consequences of Stopping or Reducing Alcohol Consumption

abstract: In this thesis, I investigated the social experiences of people who stop or significantly reduce their alcohol consumption in Australia. Drawing on interviews with people who changed their drinking and their significant others, as well as campaign materials from temporary alcohol abstinence campaigns, I demonstrated that stopping or reducing drinking could incur social consequences, given alcohol's strong normative associations with many social occasions. These consequences could be managed in the short-term by passing as a drinker or providing excuses. In the longer term, changes in drinking needed to be incorporated into social rituals through negotiation with one's social group.

Paula Anne Dabovich

thesis: Identity and veteran health: considerations of context, culture, and change

abstract: Veterans experience poor health outcomes compared to civilians, especially in terms of chronic disease, psychological distress, and social isolation. This dissertation explored the extent to which identity and agency, which together comprise a person's sense of self, impacted the health of soldiers undergoing rehabilitation and transition to civilian life. Qualitative analysis of interviews conducted with serving wounded, injured, and ill soldiers demonstrate that rehabilitation and transition may be usefully understood as a stage of separation and individuation. This finding provides a theoretical lens to inform military and veteran primary healthcare, policy, and research agendas.

Lucy Claire Farrell

thesis: Enacting Knowledge, Power, and Equity: Understanding the Public Appetite for Preventive Obesity Regulations

abstract: This thesis examined public views about the use of preventive obesity regulations in Australia. A mixed-methods critical research program was undertaken to examine how views are influenced by individuals' social position and the dominant socio-political context. Findings showed that obesity is commonly understood to result from ignorance, with support for regulations often based on beliefs about the capacity of these measures to correct perceived knowledge deficits. Socio-demographic differences in support demonstrate that engagement with target populations may offer insights to optimise the acceptability of regulations and minimise unintended social consequences.

Maryam Navi

thesis: Developing Health-Related Climate Indicators - A Case Study of South Australia

abstract: There are limited tools to track the public health impacts of climate change in order to facilitate timely interventions. This research aimed to propose, and assess the feasibility of, climate health indicators using South Australia as a case study. A parallel mixed methods approach encompassed spatio-temporal analysis and stakeholder perspectives. The relationship between heatwaves and climate-related health outcomes across Adelaide suburbs showed an uneven distribution. Four vulnerability risk factors were identified. Stakeholders were aware of the climate-health impacts, and the need for suitable indicators. The research provides an insight into relevant indicators at the sub-metropolitan level and perspectives on utility.

Stephen John Richards

thesis: The Development of a Theory of Life-Environment Disruption to Account for the Phenomenon of Premature Morbidities and Mortalities Associated with a Radical Change in a Persons Living Environment.

abstract: For older people nursing homes are associated with experienced loss of meaning and increases in depression, morbidities, and mortality; termed shedding life. The thesis investigates shedding life by developing and applying a dynamic structural model of the person based on the work of Martin Heidegger. The thesis concludes that the structure, founded on the body, requires ongoing involvements within a meaningful environment to sustain a person's meaningful existence, with a dislocation with such an environment resulting in shedding life; a structural and not a psychological phenomenon. Further, that nursing home environments are typically iatrogenic, contributing to shedding life.

ADELAIDE MEDICAL SCHOOL

Presented by the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, Professor Alastair Burt BSc (Hons), MBChB, MD (Hons), FRCPath, FRCP, FRCPA, FRSB, FAcadMEd, FAHMS

Degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery

Salil James

Arvind Jothin

Maya Rani Louise Chandra Todd

Degree of Master of Philosophy (Medical Science)

Nitesh Nikilesh Rao

thesis: Favourable cardiac remodeling and functional cardiac benefits assessed with cardiac magnetic resonance imaging following ligation of arteriovenous fistula in stable kidney transplant recipients: a randomised, controlled, open label study

abstract: Cardiovascular mortality remains high in recipients of kidney transplantation. Persistence of a functional arteriovenous fistula (AVF) post-transplant may contribute to maladaptive cardiovascular remodeling.In this RCT, participants were randomly assigned to have their AVF ligated, with all participants undergoing a baseline CMR scan followed by a repeat scan six months following AVF ligation.At the end of 6 months, a decrease of 21.6 gm (95% CI -32.1 to -11.0, $p<0.001$) was observed between the mean LV mass in the AV fistula closure group compared to no significant change in the non-intervention control group.

Degree of Master of Philosophy (Ophthalmology)

Paul Ikgan Sia

thesis: Creatine neuroprotection in the retina

abstract: Creatine has recently been proven in experimental models of neurodegenerative conditions to be neuroprotective. The work described in this thesis investigates the neuroprotective effects of creatine in the retina, with particular emphasis on retinal ganglion cells (RGC). The first part of the thesis characterizes various markers of RGC in a well-known model of RGC injury NMDA-induced retinal excitotoxicity. The second part addresses the effects of creatine in models of retinal injury both in vitro and in vivo. Possible mechanisms of protection from creatine were investigated using assays to determine levels of apoptosis, cellular ATP and oxidative stress.

Degree of Master of Philosophy (Surgery)

Hannah Claire Gostlow

thesis: Simulation in Surgical Education: Lessons learned from a multi-site randomised cohort study

abstract: This thesis evaluates the efficacy and feasibility of a self-scheduled, self-directed basic laparoscopic skills course designed to improve surgical trainees' access to simulation training. Using a mixed-methods approach, the work demonstrates that trainees require dedicated and protected training time, with mandatory sessions supported by their employers, and with educator oversight for training to be both accessible and effective.Secondary research utilised simulated team theatre scenarios designed to challenge participants' non-technical skills. These studies revealed a need for interventions to improve non-technical skills, including the recognition and management of harassment, of all surgeons regardless of their level of professional experience.

Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

Kent Algate

thesis: Epigenetic Regulation of Cells Involved in Periodontal Bone Destruction Through Targeted Histone Deacetylase Inhibition

abstract: Periodontitis is a common inflammatory bone loss pathology affecting the oral tooth-supporting structures. Aside from the psycho-social effects of poor dental health, the chronic inflammatory processes in periodontitis can exacerbate potentially fatal systemic conditions. Histone deacetylases (HDACs) mediate cellular processes by regulating gene and protein expression through epigenetic modifications. The observation of altered physiological HDAC expression in periodontitis identified candidate HDAC isoforms for investigations aiming to regulate bone metabolism and inflammation. Targeting HDAC isoforms 1, 2 and 5 produce anti-resorptive and pro-bone forming outcomes in inflammatory environments in vitro, identifying novel therapeutic targets for periodontitis and related bone loss pathologies.

Kartini Asari

thesis: In vitro Modelling of High-risk ALL Fusions Uncovers Genomic Alterations and Non-canonical Signalling Pathways as a Mode of TKI-Resistance - Implications for Targeted Therapy

abstract: Advancement in genomic technologies have enabled the discovery of cytokine and kinase activating lesions in high-risk acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL), targetable using currently available tyrosine kinase inhibitors (TKIs). Despite proven safety and efficacy, treatment-resistance remains a significant cause of clinical relapse; a challenging issue in cancer therapy.Using in vitro modelling, this thesis investigates the modes of resistance that may arise in Philadelphia-chromosome-like and Philadelphia-chromosome-positive (BCR-ABL1+) ALL, identifying novel and clinically-relevant genetic alterations associated with TKI-resistance.Further discovery of non-canonical signalling mechanisms through next-generation sequencing approaches are potential avenues for development of future therapies and ultimate improvement of patient outcomes.

Wing Hong Chu

thesis: Maternal Folic Acid Supplementation and Its Effects on Metabolic and Epigenetic Regulatory Gene Networks in Offspring

abstract: Maternal folic acid supplementation reduces the incidence of neural tube defects; its effects on long term metabolic health of offspring after birth are unknown. Maternal folic acid supplementation may alter metabolic health of offspring through transciptomic changes to metabolic regulatory genes, microRNAs and DNA methyltransferases. Maternal folic acid supplementation alters hepatic expression of genes involved in lipogenesis and cholesterogenesis, microRNAs and DNA methyltransferases in the prenatal and adult rat offspring in a sex-specific manner. These hepatic transcriptomic changes may perturb lipid and cholesterol homeostasis of offspring and increase their susceptibility to metabolic diseases in later life.

Katrina Joan Copping

thesis: Fetal Programming in Cattle: The Effects of Varying Maternal Protein Intake in Adolescent Beef Heifers on Fetal and Postnatal Growth and Development of the Calf

abstract: Nutritional perturbation during early gestation affects fetal development, postnatal growth pathways and metabolism, as well as reproductive development of the offspring. We examined the effects of dietary protein perturbation during the periconception and first trimester periods upon fetal and postnatal development in bovine progeny. Low maternal dietary protein negatively impacted early fetal development, reproductive development in the pubertal and post-pubertal male offspring along with altered appetite and carcass traits at slaughter at 20 months. This research highlights that further studies are warranted to explore causal relationships between gestational nutrition and consequent post-natal production traits including reproductive development in bovines.

Janet Frances Grant

thesis: Parental Body Shape in Mid-life and its Association with Adult Offspring Obesity, Body Shape and Self-perception of Weight Status

abstract: This thesis used data from a South Australian longitudinal cohort study to examine the effect of excess weight and waist circumference on mortality, and the influence of mid-life parental body shape on offspring body shape and weight self-perception. It found that people with the highest body mass index and waist circumfernce combined, compared to the lowest, had twice the mortality risk. Having obese parents resulted in an increased likelihood of adult offspring also being overweight or obese, and obese men and overweight/obese women who had a heavier mother were more likely to correctly estimate or underestimate their weight.

Stella Ioannou

thesis: Dental Crown Morphology Variations Associated with Congenital Syphilis and their Importance in Paleopathological Diagnosis

abstract: Special dental abnormalities are associated with congenital syphilis that assist with a differential diagnosis of the disease. Mercury is an element that was used to treat congenital syphilis/syphilis for centuries and in toxic amounts. This thesis examines the medical literature to determine whether mercuric treatments used to treat congenital syphilis affects odontogenesis and amelogenesis. These dental abnormalities are then applied to skeletal specimens in various skeletal collections. Mercury produces dental abnormalities distinct from those produced by congenital syphilis alone. Considering the effects of past treatments can facilitate in the diagnosis of congenital syphilis and continue discussions on its origins.

Alistair Kenneth Jukes

thesis: Haemostasis in Endoscopic Skull Base Surgery

abstract: Advances in endoscopic skull base surgery have enabled surgeons to access pathology previously only reached through extensive and potentially destructive open approaches however carry a significant risk for vascular injuries to arterial complexes. This thesis describes novel techniques utilising chitin, fibrin and thrombin patches to control haemorrhage from these regions whilst maintaining brain perfusion in an animal model of endoscopic skull base haemorrhage. Further studies used flow cytometry to determine the mechanism of action of crushed muscle in haemorrhage control and the role of surgical simulation in biological and psychological stress responses in surgeons undergoing training.

Palash Kar

thesis: Hyperglycaemia in the Critically Ill Patient - Ideal Treatment and Impact of the Condition

abstract: Enteral feeding is the standard of care in the intensive care unit (ICU), however complications exist including delayed gastric emptying and hyperglycaemia, which are associated with adverse outcomes. Treating these complications can also cause problems. This thesis focuses on glycaemia in the ICU, its treatment and the impact of this condition and resulted in new and important information in the fields of diabetes management, feeding in the critical care setting, and the implications of stress hyperglycaemia in the critically ill.

Ho Yin Lau

thesis: An Immunological Perspective of the Mucosal Inflammation in Chronic Rhinosinusitis Lymphoid Neo-organogenesis and Humoral Immunity

abstract: Chronic rhinosinusitis (CRS) is defined by the symptomatic inflammation of the nose and paranasal sinuses longer than 12 weeks. CRS can be classified into CRS without nasal polyps (CRSsNP) or CRS with nasal polyps (CRSwNP), based on the presence of nasal polyps.Ectopic accumulations of lymphoid cells are often observed within the nasal polyps of CRSwNP. Whether these aberrant lymphoid cell aggregates play a role in orchestrating the perpetual inflammation in CRS is unknown. This thesis investigates the significance of organized lymphoid neo-organogenesis in CRS pathogenesis and its effect on humoral immunity within both CRSsNP and CRSwNP patients.

Makutiro Ghislain Masavuli

thesis: Novel DNA Vaccine Formulations Against Hepatitis C Virus

abstract: No vaccines are available for hepatitis C virus (HCV) which infects ~71 million people worldwide. HCV envelope glycoproteins E1/E2 are required for virus entry into host cells making them attractive targets to prevent virus infection. In this thesis, the immunogenicity of DNA vaccines encoding E1/E2 heptamers fused to the oligomerisation domain of the C4b-binding protein were assessed in Balb/c mice using prime-boost/intra-dermal DNA immunisations. This DNA-prime/boost approach was then compared against DNA-prime/E1E2-protein boost or DNA-prime/VLP boost approaches. The data shows that the main aim, to elicit HCV NAbs, was achieved with the DNA vaccine approach alone.

Mary Patricia Matthews

thesis: The Role of mTORC1 in Mesenchymal Stem Cell Fate Determination, Osteoblast Differentiation and Skeletal Development

abstract: Diseases of low bone mass primarily occur due to a reduction in presence of multipotential mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs) and/or their reduced differentiation potential toward bone forming osteoblasts in favour of fat storing adipocytes. Metabolic signals converging on the mammalian target of rapamycin complex 1 (mTORC1) have been shown to regulate MSC quiescence, lineage differentiation and the subsequent process of skeletal formation. However, the exact role of mTORC1 has remained ill defined. The work described in this thesis provides novel insights into the role of mTORC1 of in MSC differentiation, osteoblast maturation and skeletal development.

Kelly Marie McAteer

thesis: The Role of Substance P in Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy

abstract: Chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE) is believed to be a neurodegenerative disease associated with contact sports, phosphorylated tau accumulation and exposure to repetitive mild traumatic brain injury (rmTBI). This thesis examined the possible role of the neuropeptide Substance P (SP) in the injury cascade following rmTBI. Significant increases in SP were observed acutely, however this did not appear to influence the accumulation of phosphorylated tau. Blockade of SP release pathways prior to rmTBI did attenuate SP release, however when blocking SP receptor activity this had a negligible effect. Further work is needed to fully ascertain the role of SP following rmTBI.

Krzysztof Marek Mrozik

thesis: N-cadherin: Regulation, Role and Therapeutic Targeting in Multiple Myeloma

abstract: Multiple myeloma (MM) is a largely incurable haematological malignancy typically affecting individuals over 65 years of age. The homophilic cell-cell adhesion molecule, N-cadherin, is aberrantly up-regulated in 50% of newly-diagnosed MM patients and is associated with poor prognosis. This thesis investigates the functional role of N-cadherin in MM pathogenesis and its utility as a therapeutic target. Using pre-clinical models of MM, this research has identified that targeting of N-cadherin could potentially be utilised to prevent the dissemination of MM tumour cells and increase the efficacy of the anti-MM agent bortezomib in the clinical setting, thereby delaying disease progression and relapse.

Dženita Muratović

thesis: Bone Marrow Lesions in Progression of Knee Osteoarthritis

abstract: This study investigated comprehensively the whole osteochondral unit associated with bone marrow lesions (BMLs) in human knee osteoarthritis (OA). Findings highlight that BMLs are valuable MRI biomarkers with large potential to follow the progression of OA disease and changes in the osteochondral unit. Furthermore, BMLs are indicative of an active tissue response to OA disease and could assist in future identification of specific subtypes in human OA. Thus, BMLs could be used as a tool for monitoring the efficiency of new therapies and for development of more individual approaches for treatment at different stages of the progression in OA disease.

Siti Mariam Noor Din

thesis: Effect of C1q Null Mutation on Mammary Gland Development and Breast Cancer Susceptibility

abstract: C1q is a complement protein that promotes rapid macrophage-mediated clearance of dying cells and tolerance to self antigens. The dependence of the mammary gland on macrophage-mediated morphogenesis may potentially divert both macrophages and the immune system from appropriately responding to oncogenic changes in mammary epithelial cells. We have demonstrated that C1q promotes tissue remodelling and clearance of dying cells during mammary gland regression, and increases mammary cancer development and progression. This study also describes the impact of C1q deficiency on macrophage populations and regulation of T cell function, and demonstrates C1q is a key protein in mammary cancer susceptibility.

Helen Palethorpe

thesis: Fibroblasts, Androgen Signalling and Oesophageal Adenocarcinoma

abstract: The roles of fibroblasts and androgens in oesophageal adenocarcinoma (OAC) and prostate cancer were investigated. Decreased androgen receptor (AR) expression in prostate myofibroblasts is associated with reduced survival in prostate cancer. The potential mechanisms involved were determined by studying interactions between myofibroblasts, AR-positive or AR-negative, and prostate cancer cells. The male predominance of OAC suggests a role for androgens. Functional AR expression in OAC tissues was associated with a poorer prognosis and androgens modified the behaviour of AR-expressing OAC cell lines in vitro, consistent with a role for androgens in OAC. Novel biomarkers and treatments are suggested from this research.

Jinxin Pei

thesis: Aquaporin in Cancer Cell Migration: Discovery of New Pharmacological Blockers and a Novel Lithium Sensor

abstract: In addition to its classical role as a water channel, aquaporin 1 (AQP1) also functions as a non-selective cation channel. The dual functions of AQP1 serve an important role in cancer cell migration. In this thesis, novel pharmacological blockers that have selective inhibition against either AQP1 water or ion channel have been reported. All blockers were able to slow down cancer cell migration. A novel lithium sensor has also been reported. AQP1 mediated lithium hot-spots were imaged and the role of AQP1 as a cation channel has been further confirmed.

Stephanie Lauren Plummer

thesis: Investigating Amyloid Precursor Protein Derivatives As Novel Therapeutic Agents Following Traumatic Brain Injury

abstract: Traumatic brain injury (TBI) is a life-threatening injury, and yet despite its serious nature, there are currently no effective therapeutic agents to treat the condition. This research examines the neuroprotective role of the Amyloid Precursor Protein derivative APP96-110 following TBI, with the goal of progressing the pre-clinical development of this peptide as a novel therapeutic agent. This was achieved through the assessment of intravenous delivery as a viable route, determining the optimal time-point of administration, developing novel analogues with enhanced therapeutic action, and assessing of the efficacy of long-term administration on outcome, neuroinflammation and neurodegeneration.

Romany Laura Stansborough

thesis: Intestinal Microvascular Changes and Matrix Metalloproteinases in Radiotherapy-Induced Gastrointestinal Toxicity

abstract: Radiotherapy-induced gastrointestinal toxicity (RIGT) is a debilitating side effect of radiotherapy for cancer, characterized by nausea and vomiting, pain, diarrhea, and rectal bleeding. The pathobiology of RIGT is complex and not yet elucidated, and treatment options are currently limited. This thesis expands on our understanding of the pathobiology of RIGT, particularly highlighting the role of matrix metalloproteinases (MMPs), intestinal microvascular alteration, and vascular mediator upregulation. A primary endothelial cell culture model supported a relationship between irradiation and MMP upregulation in the microvasculature. MMPs now present a novel target for the development of treatments for RIGT.

Jason Arya Varzaly

thesis: The Surgical Management of Atrial Fibrillation

abstract: Atrial fibrillation (AF) is the most common atrial arrhythmia with prevalence increasing identified worldwide. The development of AF predisposes to heart failure and increased stroke risk. While treatment is available for AF through medications there remain a number of patients that are highly symptomatic. This has lead to the development of catheter and surgical ablation therapies. Surgical ablation procedures are widely utilised, the true efficacy of these approaches is not been well understood due to the wide variety of methodologies, concomitant procedures, technologies utilised and follow-up implemented. This thesis evaluates the current state of surgical ablation for AF.

Linda Ernestine Watson

thesis: A Novel Nutritional Approach to the Management of Type 2 Diabetes: Effects of Nutritional Preloads on Postprandial Blood Glucose and Gastric Emptying in Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus

abstract: The rate of gastric emptying plays a major role in determining the early postprandial glycaemic response. Therefore, interventions that slow gastric emptying can reduce postprandial glycaemic excursions in people with type 2 diabetes. Gastric emptying is regulated by inhibitory feedback arising from the interaction of nutrients with the small intestine. Dietary strategies that slow gastric emptying, such as the use of nutrient 'preloads', represent an appealing approach to the management of glycaemia. This thesis focuses on the impact of dietary protein and fibre preloads on postprandial blood glucose and gastric emptying in type 2 diabetes mellitus.

Rebecca Louise Wilson

thesis: The Influence of Micronutrients on Placental Development and Pregnancy Outcome

abstract: Appropriate placental development and function is intricately associated with pregnancy success. The incidence of pregnancy complications that are characterised by placental dysfunction is increasing and the causes are poorly understood. This research demonstrates that micronutrients including zinc, copper, selenium, calcium and vitamin D, are integral to maintaining adequate placental function and are associated with adverse pregnancy outcomes. Furthermore, it highlights the importance of proper nutrition during pregnancy and offers a platform for future endeavours seeking to understand how micronutrients support placental development and pregnancy success.

Joshua Nathan Winderlich

thesis: Molecular and Cellular Investigations Relating to Neuroplasticity in Stroke

abstract: Stroke causes chronic cognitive and sensory-motor disability through neuronal loss. Current stroke management aims to reduce the amount of damage caused by a stroke, to prevent future strokes and to encourage endogenous recovery. Cell-based therapy to treat chronic stroke disability offers the potential to enhance endogenous recovery, although the mechanisms for this have not been fully elucidated. This thesis expands our knowledge about the mechanisms of cell-based therapy and endogenous responses to stroke. Specifically, It explores the ways that adult stem cells interact with the blood-brain barrier and perineuronal nets, the latter being a target for enhancement of post-stroke neuroplasticity.

Wenpeng You

thesis: Ecological Approach to Investigations of Non-Communicable Health Challenges: Cancers, Diabetes Mellitus and Obesity at the World Population Level

abstract: No country has successfully prevented the non-communicable diseases from emerging as the major health challenges. With the advantages of databases created by the international health organisation and in modelling risk factors, considering their cumulative effects quantitatively, ecological study approach was applied to identify significant risk factors for modern diseases, such as cancers, obesity and type 1 diabetes. The 10 investigations presented in this thesis confirm the known relationships between some risk factors and incidence/prevalence of non-communicable diseases and have revealed new, hitherto unknown relationships, that are interpretable in the context of human biology.

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Degree of Doctor of Philosophy/ Master of Psychology (Clinical)

Kathleen Mary Wright

thesis: Mindfulness-Based Cognitive Therapy for Children: Is it feasible, acceptable, and effective, for prevention of internalizing difficulties in Australian primary school children?

abstract: This study explored whether Mindfulness-Based Cognitive Therapy for Children (MBCT-C) could be used to prevent internalizing difficulties, with Australian school children (aged 9-12 years). A pilot study (n=26) established feasibility and acceptability. A randomized controlled trial (n=89) compared MBCT-C to a well-established CBT program, the first RCT of MBCT-C using an active control condition. Overall results suggest that MBCT-C may be used to reduce children's internalizing symptoms. Improvements in mental health strengths and difficulties (including attention) were equivalent for MBCT-C and the CBT program. The findings challenge the theory that attention is a unique component of change for MBCT-C.

Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

Lauren Ashlee Kennedy

thesis: The importance of incorporating researcher beliefs into statistical models

abstract: The researcher's role in data analysis is considered in terms of their assumptions, interpretation and intent. With these motives in mind, four studies are presented that considered the interplay with data analysis techniques. Simulations were used to compare models within the domains of skewed data, contaminated data and data with heterogeneity of response. Within these simulations, new models were proposed and existing models adapted to new applications. An experiment that considers decision making under ambiguity was also presented. Taken together these studies present an argument that the researcher influences statistical procedures, and models can and should reflect this.

Tamara Genevieve Robins

thesis: Burnout and Engagement in Health Profession Students and Early Career Health Professionals: Exploring the Role of Demands and Resources

abstract: There is ongoing concern about the psychological wellbeing of health profession students and early career health professionals. The relationships of burnout and engagement with study demands and resources were explored using a three wave longitudinal data set. There were 260 health student participants at T1. A fourth study evaluated a pilot intervention aimed at reducing burnout and increasing engagement in psychology students. This study found support for demands and resources as important predictors of student burnout and engagement. Initial support was found for the effectiveness of an intervention group based on Dialectical Behavior Therapy for decreasing burnout and increasing engagement.

Charlotte Rachel Scobie

thesis: Considering Forensic Science: Juror Decision Making and Unvalidated Identification Evidence

abstract: If jurors are not informed of the threats to validity associated with identification evidence they are at risk of overestimating the reliability of that evidence. This thesis investigated whether opposing expert testimony or cross-examination can educate jurors about unreliable forensic science, and whether there are individual differences affecting the perception of forensic evidence. The results demonstrate that perception of reliability, even if based on biased or incorrect reasoning, has the largest impact on verdict choice. The findings will be useful to those researching the best ways of educating jurors, as well as those calling for validation studies of forensic sciences.

Wai Keen Vong

thesis: From Simple to Complex Categories: How Structure and Label Information Guides the Acquisition of Category Knowledge

abstract: Categorization is a fundamental ability of cognition, translating streams of information from the all of different senses into discrete categories. How do people acquire all of this category knowledge? In this thesis, I explore how information from category structure and category labels influence how people learn categories, particular for the kinds of computational problems that are relevant to real-world category learning, such as semi-supervised learning, structure learning and category learning with many features. I study each of these problems using behavioral experiments and computational modeling, and look at how structure and label information shapes the acquisition of category knowledge.

Additional AWARDS

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