



# 2012 Conference 17 - 18 September



Monday 17 September 2012		
9.00 – 9.10 am	Welcome	<b>Professor Louis Schofield</b> , QTHA Director
9.10 – 9.25am	Opening address	<b>Mr Dale Shuttleworth MP</b> , Member for Ferny Grove
9.30 – 1.00pm	<b>The State of Tropical Health Research</b>	<b>Chair: Professor Louis Schofield</b>
9.30 – 10.10am	Venture capital	<b>Carl Feldbaum</b> , Chair of the Board of BIO Ventures for <i>Global Health</i>
10.10 - 10.50am	Demographic trends and implications for (tropical) health and research	<b>Professor Graeme Hugo</b> , Director Australian Population and Migration Research Centre, University of Adelaide
10.50 – 11.20am	Morning Tea	
11.20 – 12.00am	Lessons learnt and future plans in trying to identify the investment gap for MDGs 4 & 5	<b>Dr Eliana Jimenez-Soto</b> , Senior Research Fellow, School of Population Health, University of Queensland
12.00 – 12.30pm	Health and Tourism – Travel numbers and future risk	<b>Daniel Gschwind</b> , CEO, Queensland Tourism Industry Council
12.30 – 1.00pm	One Health – research perspective	<b>Professor Marshall Lightowlers</b> , Professor of Veterinary Science, University of Melbourne
1.00 – 2.00pm	Lunch	

2.00 – 3.30pm	<b>Making Research Relevant</b>	<b>Chair: Professor Nick Smith</b>
2.00- 2.30pm	Emerging themes for Queensland Health and the interplay between OHMR and research sector	<b>Professor Robin Mortimer, AO</b> , Executive Director, Office of Health and Medical Research, Queensland Health
2.30 – 3.00pm	Life Sciences Queensland Ltd.	<b>Mario Pennisi</b> , CEO, Life Sciences Queensland Ltd.
3.00 – 3.30pm	Population Health – Role of applied health services research in intensified malaria control and elimination agenda	<b>Professor Maxine Whittaker</b> , Professor of International and Tropical Health Director of the Australian Centre for International and Tropical Health
3.30 – 4.00pm	Afternoon Tea	
4.00 – 5.30pm	<b>Making Research Relevant</b>	<b>Chair: Professor Denise Doolan</b>
4.00 – 4.30pm	PPP achieving positive health results in North Fly District Western Province - an analysis of the North Fly Health program that commenced in 2009.	<b>Geoff Scahill</b> , JTA International
4.30 – 5.00pm	Rheumatic Fever: lessons learned in moving to the point of a Phase I vaccine trial.	<b>Professor Michael Good, AO</b> , Institute for Glycomics, Griffith University
5.00 – 5.30pm	Dengue – Risk and solutions	<b>Professor Brian Kay, AM</b> , QIMR
5.30 – 7.00pm	Cocktails and canapés	Free networking event

Tuesday 18 September 2012		
7.00 – 9.30am	Industry Breakfast "Politics Today in the USA- Where it Leads"	<b>Carl Feldbaum, Chair of the Board of BIO Ventures for Global Health</b> (speaking 7.00 – 7.30 am)
9.30 – 1.00pm	<b>Connecting Research and Industry</b>	<b>Chair: Dr Cherrell Hirst AO</b>
9.30 – 10.00am	Exploring natural products as potential drugs – with AstraZeneca	<b>Professor Ron Quinn, AM</b> , Director, Eskitis Institute, Griffith University
10.00 – 10.30am	Product/vaccine development and the opportunities and pitfalls	<b>Dr. Maria E. Bottazzi</b> , Associate Dean and Professor of Pediatrics, Baylor College of Medicine; Vice Chair of Administration, Sabin Vaccine Institute
10.30 – 11.00am	Gardasil-from research to industry	<b>Professor Ian Frazer, AC</b> , CEO and Director of Research, Translational Research Institute, Brisbane, Australia
11.00 – 11.30am	Morning Tea	
11.30am – 12.00pm	Commercial Biotech translation in Australia: hurdles and successes	<b>Professor Andreas Suhrbier</b> , QIMR
12.00 – 12.30pm	Mining – tropical health solutions to support mining	<b>Dr Gary Krieger</b> , Principal, Newfields
12.30 – 1.00pm		<b>Professor Peter Gray, FTSE</b> , Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering
1.00 – 2.00 pm	Lunch	
2.00 – 3.00pm	<b>Connecting Research and Industry</b>	<b>Chair: Professor Brian Kay AM</b>
2.00 – 2.20pm	Views from venture capital	<b>Dr Chris Nave</b> , Principal Executive, Medical Research Commercialisation Fund

2.20 – 3.00 pm	Panel Discussion: “Discoveries and Partnerships in the Tropics, Implications of Changing Market Needs for Pharma”  Convened by Dr Chris Nave	<b>Dr Phil Kearney</b> , Director, Licensing & External Research, Merck Sharp & Dohme  <b>Dr Dan Grant</b> Head of Strategic Alliances for Pfizer in Australia, New Zealand, Singapore and Malaysia.  <b>Professor Mark Kendall</b> , Group Leader, Delivery of Drugs and Genes Group (D2G2) Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology (AIBN)
3.00 – 3.30pm	Afternoon Tea	
3.30 – 5.15pm	<b>Facilitating Connections between Research and Industry</b>	<b>Chair: Dr Graham Mitchell AO</b>
3.30 – 4.00pm	Enabling the discoveries of academic researchers	<b>Dr Edie Dullaghan</b> , Head, Target Validation, Centre for Drug Research and Development (CDRD), Vancouver, Canada
4.00 – 4.30pm	Australian Institute of Tropical Health and Medicine – JCU	<b>Professor Ian Wronski</b> , Pro Vice Chancellor, Faculty of Medicine, Health & Molecular Sciences, JCU
4.30 – 5.00pm	Developing broader collaborations to accelerate medical research, building, new directions	<b>Professor Frank Gannon</b> , Director, QIMR
5.00 – 5.15pm	Closing	<b>Professor Louis Schofield</b>

**QIMR Public Event - 18 September 2012**

6.00 – 8.00pm	“Diseases you catch in a changing world” QIMR Public Lecture - free event	<b>Dr Graham Mitchell, AO</b> convener with <b>Dr Tim Hurst (QIMR)</b> , <b>Professor Andreas Suhrbier (QIMR)</b> , <b>Professor Peter O’Donoghue (UQ)</b> presenting.
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## Speaker Profiles

### **Professor Louis Schofield**, Director Queensland Tropical Health Alliance

Professor Louis Schofield is an International Research Scholar of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and co-founder of Ancora Pharmaceuticals Inc. He shares the Directorship of QTHA with his ongoing research work at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute. A recognised authority in the immunology and pathogenesis of infectious diseases, he has research programs covering basic molecular sciences, product development and commercialisation, epidemiology and public health. His approach to malaria has resulted in promising vaccine development programs and he is involved in clinical trials in Papua New Guinea and Africa. He has published several key articles, including in Nature and Science, and has received ~ 5,000 citations to date.

### **Mr Dale Shuttleworth MP**, Member for Ferny Grove

### **Carl Feldbaum**, Chair of the Board of BIO Ventures for *Global Health*

Carl B. Feldbaum is the former president of the Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO) in Washington, D.C. Mr. Feldbaum came to Washington D.C. in 1973 as an assistant special prosecutor for the Watergate special prosecution force to work with Archibald Cox to investigate and prosecute the Watergate scandal. Prior to his appointment as president of BIO, Mr. Feldbaum was chief of staff to Senator Arlen Specter (D-PA) of Pennsylvania. He was also president and founder of the Palomar Corporation, a national security "think tank" in Washington, D.C. Before founding Palomar Corporation, Mr. Feldbaum was assistant to the Secretary of Energy, and served as the Inspector General for Defence intelligence in the U.S. Department of Defence.

In 1979, Mr. Feldbaum was awarded the Distinguished Civilian Service Medal from Defence Secretary Harold Brown. He received the Christopher Medal for his book "Looking the Tiger in the Eye: Confronting the Nuclear Threat", which was also designated by the New York Times as a notable book of the year for 1988. Additional awards include, "Best of Biotech 1995": Special Recognition for an Individual awarded by 140 biotechnology CEOs "for leadership of the Biotechnology Industry Organization which has emerged as a truly effective platform for the industry" and Member "Biotechnology Hall of Fame": 2001 Election by biotech CEOs. Mr. Feldbaum received a bachelor's degree in Biology from Princeton University and his law degree from the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

### **Professor Graeme Hugo**, Director Australian Population and Migration Research Centre, University of Adelaide

#### **Graeme Hugo**, Demographer

- Urban and population geography and demography, social geography, demographic trends (especially population mobility) and development in Southeast Asia. The impact of development on economic and social well-being in Southeast Asia.
- Population trends and their implications in Australia
- International migration, its changing patterns, causes and implications for social and economic change.
- Ageing, its changing patterns and implications for social and economic change.
- Internal Migration and Urbanization in Australia and Asia.

**Dr Eliana Jimenez-Soto**, University of Queensland

Dr Eliana Jimenez-Soto is Senior Research Fellow at the School of Population Health and Principal Investigator for the AusAID and Bill & Melinda Gates funded 'Investment Case for Closing the Gap: Financing Equitable Progress Towards MDGs 4 & 5'.

**Daniel Gschwind**, Chief Executive, Queensland Tourism Industry Council

Daniel Gschwind is the CEO for the Queensland Tourism Industry Council (QTIC). QTIC is Queensland's peak tourism industry body with more than 3,500 regional members.

Daniel is the Deputy Chair of the National Tourism Alliance (NTA), a Director the Reef and Rainforest Research Centre (RRRC) and a member of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA). He represents QTIC on various committees, including the Tourism Forecasting Committee and the Queensland Government's Skills and Training Taskforce. He is an Adjunct Professor to the School of Tourism at the University of Queensland. He is the Honorary Consul of Switzerland for Queensland.

Daniel holds an Honours degree in economics from the University of Queensland and has worked as a senior economist with Queensland Treasury. He is a Vice Patron of Surf Life Saving Queensland and an Ambassador for the Queensland Museum Foundation.

**Professor Marshall Lightowlers**, University of Melbourne

Melbourne Laureate Professor Marshall Lightowlers' career has focused on the immunology and molecular biology of taeniid cestode parasites. Professor Lightowlers leads a research group at the University of Melbourne which has been successful in developing effective vaccines against cestode parasites. These parasites have their greatest health impacts on people living in developing countries. The vaccines are beginning to be applied in field situations and are proving to be remarkably effective. Professor Lightowlers and his team aim to make a substantial contribution to reducing the global health burden of neurocysticercosis and echinococcosis, diseases caused by infection with cestode parasites. Professor Lightowlers has served as President of the Australian Society for Parasitology and was awarded the society's Bancroft-Mackerras Medal in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the Science of Parasitology. This year he received the President's Award from the Australian Veterinary Association, and his work has been recognised by the NHMRC as being amongst "10 of the Best Research Projects, 2012".

**Professor Nick Smith**, James Cook University

Professor Nick Smith is a Tropical Research Leader at James Cook University. His research is devoted to studying how parasites and their hosts interact, with particular emphasis on immune responses to parasites and developing vaccines to fight parasitic disease. He has been funded by the ARC, the Swiss National Fund, World Health Organisation and the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation. He is National Convenor of the ASP's Network for Parasitology.

**Professor Robin Mortimer, AO**, Executive Director, Office of Health and Medical Research, Queensland Health

Robin Mortimer is Executive Director of the Office of Health and Medical Research within Queensland Health. Previously, he was Director of the Department of Endocrinology and Head of the Conjoint Endocrine Laboratory at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital. He is a professor of the University of Queensland in the Disciplines of Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynaecology. He has had a long research

interest in thyroid disorders and pregnancy and his laboratory has made significant contributions to the understanding of mechanisms of materno-foetal transfer of iodine and thyroid hormones. Professor Mortimer is a past President of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians and is Deputy President of the Australian Medical Council. He became an Officer in the Order of Australia in 2006.

**Mario Pennisi** is the inaugural CEO of Life Sciences Queensland.

Prior to moving into this role he has been the CEO of QCTN since its establishment in 2005, and has over 30 years experience in the life sciences industry. Mario has extensive experience in managing and growing commercial operations in the life science industry. In the mid 1990s, in affiliation with US and German-based organisations, he established the first Queensland-based 'central laboratory', servicing international trials in the Asia-Pacific region. He was also a founding member of Queensland's first contract research organisation. He moved to a national health services company - where he was responsible for national business development and played a role in the efforts to provide an integrated offering across the various divisions in the company. Mario is also an active contributor on a number of committees and advisory groups.

In his prior role - Mario has overseen QCTN's growth to 100+ members, to become Australia's peak industry group for therapeutic product service providers. Since taking on a role involved in establishing LSQ, Mario and the team have been working to recruit a strong membership base as well as broaden and maintain relationships with strategic partners across the Asia Pacific Region and in Europe and North America, and LSQ has now become a key industry voice for the life sciences sector both in Queensland and wider afield.

**Professor Maxine Whittaker**, Director, International and Tropical Health, University of Queensland

Maxine A. Whittaker, MBBS, MPH, PhD, FAFPHM is the Professor of International and Tropical Health and Director of the Australian Centre for International and Tropical Health at the University of Queensland. At University of Queensland she is also the Executive Director of the Pacific Malaria Initiative Support Centre and Director of the Health Information Systems Knowledge Hub, and co-coordinator of the Asia Pacific Malaria Elimination Network Secretariat. She has extensive experience in project and programme design in health and development, and for a variety of international development partner and NGO organizations.

Maxine Whittaker is involved in operational and health services research and medical anthropology,. She has a special interest in the issue of scaling-up pilot programmes into policy and practice, and as a founding member of Expandnet has contributed to a body of work recently published by WHO on this topic.

**Professor Denise Doolan**, Queensland Institute of Medical Research

Professor Denise Doolan is a molecular immunologist who heads the Molecular Vaccinology Laboratory at the Queensland Institute of Medical Research. She is also the Coordinator of the QIMR Biology Department, President of the Australian Society for Parasitology, and Adjunct Professor at the University of Queensland (School of Medicine). She is an NHMRC Principal Research Fellow and was previously a Pfizer Australia Senior Research Fellow. Prof. Doolan graduated from the University of Queensland with B.Sc (Hons), completing a M.Phil at Griffith University and a PhD at QIMR and the University of Queensland before undertaking a National Academy of Sciences postdoctoral fellowship in the USA. She spent approximately 12 years in the USA before returning to QIMR in mid 2007. Her research investigates the molecular basis of immunity, with a focus on malaria and rational vaccine development. She has published over 100 research articles, is an inventor on a number of patents, and has been a consultant for a number of US-based biotechnology companies.

**Mr Geoff Scahill, AFCHSE, General Manager, PNG, JTA International**

Geoff has built the JTA extractive industry portfolio since 2005 and has worked extensively in PNG during this time. JTA works with mining sector clients implementing health programs within a PPP framework. Geoff is a highly experienced Health Administrator with particular strengths in financial management, health information systems and general health service management. He has held executive positions in Australia's public sector and has also worked in the private sector where he was responsible for driving efficiencies within operations and identifying business opportunities in a highly competitive market.

**Professor Michael Good, AO, Institute for Glycomics, Griffith University**

Professor Michael Good is an Australia Fellow and in August 2009 Michael won the Eureka Prize for Leadership in Science. He was Director of the Queensland Institute of Medical Research from 2000-2010. In 2008 he was a Steering Committee member and Co-Chair of the "long-term national health strategy" of the 2020 Summit. Also in 2008 Michael was awarded an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for service to medical research, particularly in the fields of infectious disease immunology and vaccine technology, through leadership roles at the Queensland Institute of Medical Research and contributions to education. He is the past President of the Lancefield International Symposium on Streptococci and Streptococcal Diseases, a past President of the Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes, and a past Director of the Cooperative Research Centre for Vaccine Technology. Michael was made an Honorary Member of the American Society for Tropical Medicine and Hygiene in 2006. Michael has also recently stepped down from his position as Chair of the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia (NHMRC).

Michael graduated MD PhD DSc from the University of Queensland and the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research in Melbourne. He undertook postdoctoral training as a Visiting Scientist at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. Michael's interests are in the field of immunity and immunopathogenesis to malaria and group A streptococcus/ rheumatic fever, with particular relevance to the development of vaccines. He is an editor on several scientific journals and is an author on over 250 peer-reviewed publications.

**Professor Brian Kay, AM, Queensland Institute of Medical Research**

As well as holding the Deputy Directorship of QTHA, Professor Brian Kay was previously a Director and Deputy Director of the Australian Centre for International and Tropical Health, the Head of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Environmental Management for Vector Control, and President of the Mosquito and Arbovirus Research Committee Inc. He has published over 270 peer reviewed scientific papers mainly on mosquito-borne virus diseases and their vectors, their surveillance, risk management and control. Besides Australia, he has worked in French Polynesia, Fiji, Tonga, Samoa, Brazil, Indonesia, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam and acted as short-term consultant or advisor to government, the United Nations and industry. Key interest areas include mosquito-borne arboviruses, surveillance and control, tropical health, and Dengue and Ross River viruses. Professor Kay is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science.

**Dr Cherrell Hirst, AO, Chair of the Board of Queensland Tropical Health Alliance**

Dr Cherrell Hirst AO commenced her career as a medical doctor where she gained a national reputation in the field of breast cancer screening and diagnosis as Director of the Wesley Breast Clinic (1984-2001). However her commitment to the value of education took her to the Council of QUT where she served as Chancellor (1994-2004) and to the Brisbane Girls Grammar School Board of Trustees where she was Chair from 1996-2006 – both out-of-hours honorary roles. Through her combined interests in cancer, science and research, Dr Hirst became increasingly involved in the Biotech industry. She has been a director of a number of companies and has served on government grants committees during the last decade, and is now a part-time CEO of a venture fund in Biotech (Queensland BioCapital Fund). For this work over the



longer term, she was elected to the Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering. In addition she continues to serve on a number of corporate boards and not-for-profit entities.

In recognition of her work in the fields of breast cancer and education, Dr Hirst has been awarded three honorary doctorates, a Centenary Medal in 2003 and the title of Officer of the Order of Australia in 1998. She was named Queenslander of the Year in 1995.

**Professor Ron Quinn, AM**, Director, Eskitis Institute, Griffith University

Professor Ron Quinn is Director, Eskitis Institute, Griffith University. Professor Ron Quinn's research interests include:

- biodiscovery involving high throughput screening against molecular targets, isolation and structure elucidation of bioactive natural products
- design and synthesis of receptor ligands and enzyme inhibitors
- understanding of natural product recognition for biosynthetic enzymes and correlation with therapeutic targets as a rational approach to drug discovery.

He was elected Fellow of the Australia Academy of Technological Sciences & Engineering (2003) and received the RACI Adrien Albert Award (2004). Professor Quinn initiated collaboration with AstraZeneca (1993) to explore natural products as potential drugs. This collaboration is one of the largest industry/university collaborations in Australia (\$100 million in industry investment). Professor Quinn was appointed Director of the Eskitis Institute in 2003.

**Dr Maria E. Bottazzi**, Associate Dean and Professor of Paediatrics, Baylor College of Medicine; Vice Chair of Administration, Sabin Vaccine Institute

Maria Elena Bottazzi is the associate dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine and a professor of paediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine. She also directs research and administrative activities of BCM's new Section of Pediatric Tropical Medicine and she leads product development for the Sabin vaccine development program at Texas Children's Hospital and BCM. Dr Bottazzi previously was associate professor and vice-chair for administration in the Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Tropical Medicine at George Washington University.

Dr Bottazzi is an internationally-recognized scientist with more than 10 year's experience in translational research and vaccine development for neglected tropical diseases. In addition, her major interest is the role of vaccines as control tools in international public health programs and initiatives. She is a native of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, where she obtained her degree in microbiology and clinical chemistry in 1989, followed by her Ph.D. in molecular immunology and experimental pathology at the University of Florida in Gainesville in 1995. Her post-doctoral training in cellular biology was completed 1995-2001 at the University of Miami and the University of Pennsylvania. She became an assistant professor in 2001 after moving to the George Washington University.

Dr Bottazzi is an associate for the Public Library of Science (PLOS) *Neglected Tropical Disease Journal* and is the author or co-author of more than 60 scientific and technical papers in molecular, cellular biology, immunoparasitology, and vaccine development. She is the recipient of multiple awards and was recently appointed as a member of the International Advisory Committee of the Carlos Slim Health Institute in Mexico.

**Professor Ian Frazer, AC**, CEO and Director of Research of the Translational Research Institute in Brisbane, Australia

Professor Ian Frazer was trained as a renal physician and clinical immunologist in Edinburgh Scotland. Dr Frazer's research group studies the immunology of papillomavirus associated cancers. In 1991, along with Chinese colleague, Dr Jian Zhou, he developed the virus-like particle technology which has become the basis of vaccines to prevent cervical cancer. Dr Frazer is CEO and Director of Research of the newly created

Translational Research Institute in Brisbane, Australia. He is the current chair of the Scientific Advisory Council of the International Agency for Research on Cancer, a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Sciences, and a former Australian of the Year.

**Professor Andreas Suhrbier, Queensland Institute of Medical Research**

Professor Andreas Suhrbier is Group Leader of the Immunovirology Lab. at the Queensland Institute of Medical Research, a Principle Research Fellow with the National Health and Medical Research Council, Professor at Griffith University, and Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Queensland. He has over 120 publications in the fields of virology, immunology and cancer. He is an inventor on 17 patents, 13 have been commercialised, 8 cover products in human clinical trials, 5 were part of the US \$ 287m Peplin sale to Leo Pharma. He is, and has been, a consultant for a number of local and international biotechnology companies. Currently funded research projects include chikungunya virus (related to Ross River virus) arthritis, role of SerpinB2 in inflammation, chaperonin 10 as a drug against autoimmune disease, mechanism of action of ingenol mebutate topical anti-cancer chemotherapy.

**Dr Gary Krieger, Principal, Newfields**

Dr Krieger has participated in multiple public health evaluations, health impact assessments and risk assessments in the U.S and overseas. He has co-authored, edited and published two editions of a large textbook on medical toxicology of hazardous materials. For the National Safety Council, he edited the environmental practice book and co-edited the text on occupational health--in addition to co-editing three occupational safety and health books. He was guest editor for the Medical Clinics of North America and lead author for the International Finance Corporation's "Health Impact Assessment" Toolkit and Good Practice Notes related to "Community Health Performance Standards (No.4)." Dr Krieger is certified in Toxicology, Occupational Medicine, Internal Medicine and has a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (DTM&H) from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He is certified in toxicology, occupational medicine and internal medicine.

**Professor Peter Gray, FTSE, Director, Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology**

Professor Peter Gray was appointed the inaugural director of the Australian Institute of Bioengineering and Nanotechnology (AIBN) at the University of Queensland in 2003.

Previously he was Professor of Biotechnology and Director of the Bioengineering Centre at UNSW, and a Senior Principal Research Fellow at the Garvan Institute of Medical Research in Sydney.

Professor Gray has had commercial experience in the USA working for Eli Lilly and Co and for the Cetus Corporation as well as previously holding academic positions at University College London, and at the University of California, Berkeley.

His research interests are focussed on engineering mammalian cells to produce the complex proteins called biologics which are gaining rapid acceptance as human therapeutics, and on developing human stem cells bioprocesses suitable for clinical application.

Professor Gray was one of the founders and is a past President of the Australian Biotechnology Association, AusBiotech. He is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE) and of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, and has been named as one of Australia's 100 Most Influential Engineers.

He is a Vice-President of ATSE, and serves on the Boards of Biopharmaceuticals Australia Pty Ltd, ACYTE Biotechnology Pty Ltd, Stem Cells Ltd, ECI Inc, New York, and a number of State and Federal Government Councils and Committees.

**Dr Chris Nave, Principal Executive, Medical Research Commercialisation Fund**

Chris Nave is a founding partner of Brandon Capital Partners and Principal Executive of the Medical Research Commercialization Fund which he conceived. Chris previously was Director of Commercialization at the Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute, Melbourne, Australia, where he was responsible for the commercialization of technologies developed at the Baker and the Alfred Hospital, including the management of local and international spinout companies. Prior to this, Chris was the Manager of the Biotechnology Team at Melbourne Ventures, the commercialization company of the University of Melbourne. Concurrently during this period, he was an investment manager for, and on the investment committee of, Uniseed Pty Ltd, a \$60 million pre-seed fund. Chris has international experience with Leiras Pharmaceuticals in Finland, a wholly owned subsidiary of Schering AG, working for their Business Development group. He successfully moved companies to the US, securing investment from US investors for these companies. Past directorships have seen Chris involved directly in the management, fundraising, and successful spinouts of various companies in the life sciences industry. He is currently a Director of Osprey Medical Inc., Spinifex Pharmaceuticals, Fibrotech Therapeutics, Fluorotrop Pty Ltd and BACE Therapeutics. Chris has a first-class Honours degree in Science and a Ph.D. in Endocrinology and Physiology from the University of Melbourne. Chris is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He is a member of AusBiotech and the BioMelbourne Network.

**Dr Phil Kearney, Director, Licensing & External Research, Merck Sharp & Dohme**

Dr Phil Kearney joined Merck Sharp & Dohme Australia in 2007 as key scout for innovative research and development in Australia, New Zealand and parts of South-East Asia.

The Sydney-born scientist has the challenge of uncovering and commercialising discoveries by local researchers that have strong potential to benefit the health of people around the globe. Prior to joining Merck, Dr Kearney held project and executive management positions in Active Biotech Research (Sweden) and Santaris Pharma (Denmark). Before leaving Australia he was head of the Research Laboratory at St Vincent's Hospital Sydney for over 10 years. As an adjunct position Dr Kearney also ran the Molecular Medicine Diagnostic Laboratory for the hospital pathology service, SydPath.

Dr Kearney holds a Ph.D. from Monash University and completed post-doctoral training at the Murdoch Institute in Melbourne and University College London. He also holds an MBA from the University of Sydney.

**Dr Dan Grant, Head of Strategic Alliances for Pfizer in Australia, New Zealand, Singapore and Malaysia**

Dr. Grant is a member of Pfizer's R&D Business Development group and is the Head of Strategic Alliances for Pfizer in Australia, New Zealand, Singapore and Malaysia. Working with his colleagues in the R&D Business Development team, he is responsible for identifying, negotiating and managing collaborative opportunities that arise from Australia, New Zealand, Singapore and Malaysia's research landscape that align with Pfizer's strategic direction.

Prior to joining Pfizer, Dr Grant was a senior business development manager at Melbourne Ventures Pty Ltd, the commercialisation arm of the University of Melbourne, and the University of Melbourne's representative on the Investment Committee of Uniseed Pty Ltd, a pre-seed investment company for the Universities of Queensland, NSW and Melbourne. Dr Grant has sat on the boards of a number of biotechnology spin-out companies and is currently a Director of Research Australia, a national not-for-profit alliance of organisations and companies that are committed to making health research a higher national priority.

Dr Grant has M.Sc. in Respiratory Physiology, a Ph.D. in Cardiovascular Physiology and an M.B.A. He has more than 15 years experience in applied biomedical research in Canada and Australia, including 10 years spent at Monash University in Melbourne Australia where he was a Senior Research Fellow

**Professor Mark Kendall**, Group Leader, Delivery of Drugs and Genes Group (D2G2), Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology (AIBN), The University of Queensland

Professor Mark Kendall is a biomedical engineer with interests and experience in drug delivery, vaccination and the development of technologies into real products following the commercialisation pathway. He is an ARC Future Fellow and Group Leader at the Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology. His AIBN research group is exploring fundamental science and applications of key technologies, including the needle-free vaccine delivery device the Nanopatch, to meet the goal of dramatically improving the cost and efficiency of vaccination and treatment of major diseases such as malaria and influenza.

**Dr Graham Mitchell, AO**, Principal of Foursight

Graham Mitchell is a veterinary graduate and University gold medallist of the University of Sydney. At The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research (WEHI) he made discoveries in immunology and obtained a PhD in 1969. After post-doctoral experience in California (Stanford), England (National Institute for Medical Research, Mill Hill) and Switzerland (Basel Institute for Immunology) he returned to Australia in 1973 and established a new program on the immunology of parasitism at WEHI. This program became a major component of the global effort to develop new tools for the control of parasitic diseases, and of the 'biotechnology revolution'. Mitchell was instrumental in establishing a long term program on the disease schistosomiasis in the Philippines.

In 1990 Mitchell was appointed Director of the prestigious Royal Melbourne Zoological Gardens where he introduced a number of new initiatives in local and regional conservation.

In 1993 he returned to biomedical research as Director of Research in the R&D Division of CSL Limited, Australia's largest developer, manufacturer and marketer of ethical human biologicals and veterinary products. He was responsible for identifying and assessing new opportunities for CSL, nurturing external research collaborations, and the research component of new product development including vaccines. Mitchell is recognised as one of Australia's leading biological scientists. His expertise extends over a wide range of science and technology. He has detailed knowledge of the academia-industry interface, has worked in many overseas countries and been involved with tropical disease programs of the World Health Organisation for many years. He is an author of more than 350 publications, has received numerous awards for scientific achievements and, in 1993, was appointed an Officer in the Order of Australia for services to science.

Mitchell is an advisor on innovation to the Victorian, Commonwealth, Tasmanian and Northern Territory Governments. In another government role the Principals of Foursight, including Mitchell, jointly act as Chief Scientist for the Victorian Departments of Primary Industries (DPI) and Sustainability and Environment (DSE). He is a non-executive director of Antisense Therapeutics Limited, Compumedics Limited, Avipep Pty Ltd, AgVic Services Pty Ltd, Adelaide Research and Innovation Pty Ltd, and The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research (WEHI). With Nossal, Penington and Stocker he has been a Principal of Foursight, an advisory service in science, technology, innovation and commercialisation, since 1996.

**Dr Edie Dullaghan**, Head, Target Validation, Centre for Drug Research and Development (CDRD), Vancouver, Canada

Dr. Dullaghan obtained her PhD in the U.K. at the National Institute for Medical Research, studying the molecular genetics of the SOS response in Mycobacterium tuberculosis, the causative agent of TB. As former Project Leader at Inimex Pharmaceuticals for the Pathogenomics of Mucosal Immunity (FPMI) project, Dr. Dullaghan was responsible for development of numerous animal models to understand the role of innate immunity in host responses to pathogenic bacteria. She also developed animal models of human infections to be treated with host defense peptides, as part of the Grand Challenges in Global Health (GCGH) project, led by Brett Finlay and Bob Hancock. This GCGH team published a landmark paper in Nature Biotechnology (2007) describing the role of host defense peptides in innate immunity and showing their efficacy in these infection models. In her current position at CDRD, she is responsible for

many projects taking lead therapeutic candidates, including host defense peptides, through an extensive preclinical development and review.

**Professor Ian Wronski**, Pro Vice Chancellor, Faculty of Medicine, Health & Molecular Sciences, James Cook University

Professor Wronski is Pro-Vice Chancellor of the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Molecular Sciences, James Cook University.

For over thirty years, Ian's career focus has been on improving health in rural, remote, Indigenous and tropical communities and developing health workforce, health infrastructure, and health research infrastructure in northern Australia. In 1987, Ian became the Foundation Health Services Director of the Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services' Council, in remote north-west Australia, and was a practicing clinician in the Kimberley region until 1992, after which he was appointed the first Head of Public Health and Tropical Medicine at James Cook University (JCU) in Townsville. At JCU, Ian initiated and led the development of a tropical health, medical education and research hub, which incorporates the first new medical school to be established in Australia in 25 years and a suite of undergraduate and postgraduate courses in public health, nursing, dentistry and allied health. Ian's vision for the Faculty is to be a global powerhouse in tropical health education and research, focussed on medical, human and animal health sciences, and underpinned by a formidable research base. To progress this vision, Ian has led the recent establishment of the Australian Institute of Tropical Health and Medicine at JCU.

Ian has been Chair of the Australian Council of Pro-Vice-Chancellors and Deans of Health Sciences since 2005, and he currently also chairs the newly-established Queensland Clinical Education Training Council. Ian is a Board Member of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) – Life Sciences Innovation Forum, a Board Member of the Townsville Hospital and Health Board and a member of the Health Workforce Australia Standing Advisory Committee for Higher Education and Training. Ian is a past Chair of the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine where he remains a Life Fellow.

**Professor Frank Gannon**, Director, Queensland Institute of Medical Research

Professor Frank Gannon was appointed as Director of QIMR in 2011. Prior to this, he was the Director General of Science Foundation Ireland. From 1994-2007, he was the Executive Director of the European Molecular Biology Organisation (EMBO), Secretary General of the European Molecular Biology Council, and Senior Scientist at the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) in Heidelberg, Germany. His major research interest is the Estrogen Receptor as a Transcription Factor and he has published over 200 research articles. He serves on a number of scientific advisory boards at institutes throughout the world.



2012 Conference  
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