



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**WESTERN  
AUSTRALIA**

# Delegates Information

Poche Network  
Meeting  
20-21 July 2015  
UWA and Fremantle

## Poche Indigenous Health Network

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### **Professor Tom Calma, AO Patron, Poche Indigenous Health Network**



Professor Calma has been involved in Indigenous affairs at a local, community, state, territory, national and international level and worked in the public sector for 38 years.

Respected for his inspirational and inclusive advocacy for human rights and social justice, Professor Calma

has dedicated his life to improving the lives of all Australians and particularly Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. For the past four decades he has championed the importance of empowerment – a passion that runs through his work in education, training, employment, health, justice reinvestment and development.

Professor Calma was formerly the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner and Race Discrimination Commissioner and served as a senior Australian diplomat in India and Vietnam. He works to create opportunities for Indigenous voices to be heard and to build partnerships to improve their health, well-being and economic independence. His landmark 2005 report calling for the life expectancy gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people to be closed within a generation laid the groundwork for the Close the Gap campaign and COAG's Closing the Gap response.

Professor Calma works to advance Australia as an inclusive society including many roles in the community relating to social inclusion, reconciliation, mental health and higher education. He is an Aboriginal elder of the Kungarakan tribal group and Chancellor of the University of Canberra.

### **Mr Reg Richardson Co-Founder, Poche Indigenous Health Network**



Reg Richardson AM has owned and managed businesses in diverse fields, including information storage and management, wholesale pharmaceutical distribution, property development and investment.

A lifelong friend of Greg Poche

AO, Reg is one of Australia's most vocal advocates for philanthropy. He has made significant social contributions through his philanthropic efforts, raising considerable funds towards Indigenous healthcare, melanoma research and the visual arts. He is a lifelong supporter of the South Sydney Rabbitohs football team.

Reg Richardson AM is co-founder of the Poche Indigenous Health Network

### **Professor Jill Milroy** **Dean, School of Indigenous Studies** **UWA Poche Executive Director**



Professor Jill Milroy is a Palyku woman whose country is in the Pilbara region of Western Australia. She is Dean of the School of Indigenous Studies at the University of Western Australia and has more than 30 years experience in Indigenous higher education, which has included serving on a number of national advisory bodies including three terms of appointments on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Higher Education Advisory Council. In 2011 she was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in recognition of her services to Indigenous education.

### **Professor Pat Dudgeon** **Poche Research Fellow,** **School of Indigenous Studies**



Professor Pat Dudgeon is from the Bardi people of the Kimberley area in Western Australia. She is a psychologist and research fellow at the School of Indigenous Studies at the University of Western Australia. Her area of research includes social and emotional wellbeing and suicide

prevention. Pat is a Commissioner of the Australian National Mental Health Commission, on the executive board of the Australian Indigenous Psychologists Association, and co-chair of the commonwealth Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Advisory Group. Pat is currently the project leader of the National Empowerment Project: a Indigenous suicide prevention project working with eleven Aboriginal communities. She has many publications in Indigenous mental health, in particular the Working Together Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health and Wellbeing Principals and Practice. She is actively involved with the Aboriginal community and has a commitment to social justice for Indigenous people.

### **Professor Dawn Bessarab** **Director, Centre for Aboriginal Medical and** **Dental Health (CAMDH)**



Professor Dawn Bessarab is an Aboriginal woman of Bard (West Kimberley) and Yjindjarbandi (Pilbara) descent who is the Director of the Centre for Aboriginal Medical and Dental Health at the University of Western Australia.

Dawn is engaged in research looking at interventions and collaborative approaches to addressing health issues affecting Aboriginal people. She is a highly regarded and experienced senior social worker and researcher who graduated with her PhD in 2007. Dawn is particularly interested in the application of Indigenous research methodologies, participatory action research and the translation of research into policy and practice. Dawn is a chief investigator on several NHMRC health grants and a Centre for Research Excellence in Aboriginal Health and Wellbeing at the Telethon Kids Institute. She is also a member of the National Indigenous Research and Knowledges Network (NIRAKN) and has published and presented both individually and collaboratively on her work.

### **Professor David Atkinson** **Head of the Rural Clinical School WA**



Professor David Atkinson is based in Broome. He was appointed as head of the Rural Clinical School of WA, a combined program of the University of WA and the University of Notre Dame (Fremantle), in January 2015. He was the founding Director of the Centre for Aboriginal Medical and

Dental Health at the University of Western Australia from 1996 to 2002 before moving to the Kimberley. David has worked extensively with the Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Sector over the past 30 years including 12 years with the Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services and RCSWA where he developed a very successful regional training program to improve the number and skills of doctors working in remote Aboriginal health. David is involved in a wide range of Aboriginal health research in maternal and child health, chronic disease and aged care, emphasising practical outcomes to improve the effectiveness of health services for Aboriginal people in the short to medium term.

**Professor Karen Edmonds**  
**School of Paediatrics and Child Health (SPACH)**



Professor Karen Edmond from the School of Paediatrics and Child Health, leads the Centre of Research Excellence in Improving Health Services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children. A consultant paediatrician and public health physician, her research has

included child health in Australia as well as in rural Ghana, Ethiopia and Mongolia. She leads the Improving Health, Disability and Developmental Outcomes for Aboriginal Children area of UWA's Poche Centre.

**Professor Sandra Thompson**  
**Director, Western Australia Centre of Rural Health (WACRH)**



Professor Sandra Thompson, Director of the Western Australian Centre for Rural Health (WACRH), has been engaged in many Aboriginal health issues including the growing problem of prevention and management of chronic diseases. Sandra believes this includes the need to recognise and address

community trauma and depression as part of chronic disease care and to ensure high quality care is delivered to Aboriginal people at all health services.

Sandra leads the Health Service Interventions for Better Prevention and Management of Chronic Disease for Aboriginal People area of UWA's Poche Centre.

**Dr Sandy Hamilton**  
**Western Australia Centre of Rural Health (WACRH)**



Dr Sandy Hamilton is the WACRH Poche Research Fellow of the UWA Poche Centre with a focus on health service interventions for better prevention and management of chronic disease for Aboriginal people. Sandy is an experienced registered nurse who undertook

her nursing training in New Zealand where there was a high focus on cultural safety in the delivery of health care. She has many years of experience working as a research nurse and completed her PhD through the University of Western Australia. She has extensive experience in cardiology, cardiovascular prevention and cardiovascular and diabetes research. Since 2011 Sandy has worked as an academic and researcher at the West Australian Centre for Rural Health (WACRH) in Geraldton.

Sandy has a strong commitment to the prevention and management of chronic disease, including self-management, health promotion, health service research and effective knowledge exchange (research translation) for Aboriginal people. Her research interests have been focused on primary and secondary cardiovascular prevention including cardiac rehabilitation, family health history, and research translation. She is working in collaboration with the Heart Foundation undertaking a scoping consultation with a view to improving access to cardiac rehabilitation services for Aboriginal people in the Pilbara

**Carolyn Moylan**  
**School of Paediatrics and Child Health (SPACH)**



Carolyn Moylan is a Nyungar woman from the Wajuk (Perth) area and her family connections are the Southwest Minang area and the Wheatbelt Balardung area. Carolyn was employed at Curtin in the Centre for Aboriginal Studies (CAS) for 15 years as the manager of the

Indigenous Pre-tertiary Courses and concurrently from 2000-2003 she also managed the Associate Degree in Aboriginal Art and the Associate Degree in Science and Technology. Carolyn has participated in and facilitated cultural awareness workshops for Kallip over a number of years. Carolyn's research background began in 2006 when she began her Doctorates of Creative Arts studies and her interest in writing a book. During this time Carolyn worked as a State Research Assistant on the AustLit website, developing the 'BlackWords' subset which is a section dedicated to Indigenous writers and storytellers. She returned to her PhD studies part-time in 2012-13 and in the past year Carolyn has been employed as an Aboriginal Researcher by the Telethon Institute in Child Health Research on the WANDAS Project and at Edith Cowan University on the MIRIPS Australia: Pilot Study. She was also employed as an Aboriginal Consultant on the Social and Emotional Wellbeing Project in the School of Indigenous Studies at the University of Western Australia.

**Chontarle Bellottie**  
**Western Australia Centre of Rural Health (WACRH)**



Chontarle Bellottie is a Wardandi woman from the South West of Western Australia. Chontarle has lived in the Midwest region for the last 7 years and has grown to love Yamtaji country. Her husband, a Mulgana man from Shark Bay and their three children are

saltwater people and spend much of their time in or on the ocean. Chontarle has extensive experience in community consultation working for various government agencies, training and education providers and as a private consultant in Aboriginal cultural heritage and interpretation. Over the past 15 years she has worked in the fields of tourism, sport & recreation, conservation and land management. Chontarle is currently completing her degree in Health Sciences externally through Deakin University. She has a keen interest in improving the health outcomes for Aboriginal people in rural and remote communities. Chontarle's professional interests include health promotion and preventative health, public health research, dietetics, nutrition and traditional holistic health and wellbeing.

**Sabrina Swift**  
**Poche Executive Assistant, School of Indigenous Studies**



Sabrina Swift is from the Bardi people of the Kimberley who was born and raised in Darwin. Sabrina has spent the last 14 years living and working in Perth and is currently working with the School of Indigenous Studies at The University of Western Australia, as the Senior Administrative Officer,

Personal Assistant to the Dean and Executive Assistant for the Poche Centre for Indigenous Health at UWA. During Sabrina's time working with the School of Indigenous Studies she has also worked as the Senior Project Officer for the National Empowerment Project.

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**University of Sydney**

**Kylie Gwynne**  
**Director, Sydney Poche Centre for Indigenous Health**  
**Sydney School of Public Health**



Kylie has extensive experience in community engagement, and in the design and delivery of health and human services. Kylie's research interests are in the application of community development models to improve health outcomes.

Prior to joining the Poche Centre, Kylie held executive positions in government and non-government sectors, managed and participated in numerous national and state-based government advisory committees, and led the development of programs of research.

### **Professor Jakelin Troy** **Directors, Aboriginal and Torres Strait** **Islander Research**



Professor Jakelin Troy is a Ngarigu woman of southern NSW - has extensive and varied experiences in the field of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander linguistics and anthropology. Currently Professor Troy holds the position of Director, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

Research at the University of Sydney. Previously, she held the positions of Assistant Professor, Faculty of Education, University of Canberra and Director of Research - Indigenous Social and Cultural Wellbeing at the Australian Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS). Professor Troy has a PhD in linguistics from the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, and a Graduate Diploma in Secondary Education, as well as experience in curriculum development. She designed and developed the Aboriginal Languages K-10 syllabus for the Board of Studies NSW. She was also the foundation Director of the NSW Aboriginal Languages Research and Resource Centre for the NSW State Government. She is the author of many scholarly publications on Aboriginal languages.

### **Dr Steven Naoum** **Senior Clinical Advisor in Oral Health**



He has been a practicing dentist since 2002, after qualifying with a Bachelor of Dental Science (Dentistry) from UWA and has worked in private practice, government dental clinics and Aboriginal Health Services throughout Australia. In 2007, Steven moved from Perth to Sydney to complete a Graduate Diploma in Divinity at the Australian

College of Theology. From 2008 to 2014 Steven was a full time academic staff member in the Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Sydney in the Department of Restorative Dentistry. During this time Steven completed his PhD, investigating the efficacy of fluoride releasing composites and has had several papers published in the field of dental materials. At present, Steven is completing specialist training in orthodontics at UWA, finishing in October 2016

### **Ms Kim Szerdahelyi** **Project Manager – Oral Health**



Kim has a Bachelor degree in Tourism Management and worked in the travel industry for 6 ½ years. Deciding on a career change, she began working for one of the largest NGOs in Australia which provided services for children in out-of-home care, people with disability, refugees

and asylum seekers, youth justice and people with mental health issue. After organizing and leading events for children, asylum seekers, and people with disability, Kim realized her new passion working in the community sector. Understanding more about the disparities in health care between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the non-indigenous population, Kim started work at the Poche Centre 2 ½ years ago and had been managing the Central Tablelands Oral Health Service for much of that time.

### **Mr Graham White** **A/Team Leader and Project Manager –** **Scholarships**



Graham was born and raised in Rockhampton, Queensland. He has worked in Aboriginal Affairs for 20 years. He has worked in small business, electrical, legal, child protection, community engagement, sporting, community development, organisation development, government, non-government organisations and the education sectors. He is committed to making a difference in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

### **Professor Shaun Ewen** **Director, Melbourne Poche Centre** **for Indigenous Health** **Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences**



Professor Ewen is the Foundation Director of the Melbourne Poche Centre for Indigenous Health in the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences. Professor Ewen has held the position of Associate Dean (Indigenous Development) since its inception in 2010. In this role he

was charged with working across the faculty to oversee the implementation of the Reconciliation Action Plan.

Professor Ewen has a clinical background in physiotherapy, and holds postgraduate qualifications in international relations and education. His area of research expertise relates to Indigenous health and health professional education. Currently he co-leads an Office of Teaching and Learning project investigating how to assess Indigenous health curricula at AQF level 9, and he provides the academic and Indigenous leadership for the Leaders in Indigenous Medical Education (LIME) project, a bi-national project of Medical Deans Australia and New Zealand.

### **Professor Glenn Bowes** **Deputy Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and** **Health Sciences and Professor, Department of** **Paediatrics Melbourne Medical School**



Glenn Bowes is currently Deputy Dean and a Professor in the Department of Paediatrics in the Faculty of Medicine Dentistry and Health Sciences at the University of Melbourne. He is responsible for academic leadership and oversight of major advancement and engagement programs in the Faculty.

Glenn completed his medical degree and PhD at Monash University and his postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Toronto. He was Director of Respiratory Services at the Alfred Hospital in Melbourne in the 1980s. Glenn was recruited to Australia's premiere children's hospital, the Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne, in the early 1991 to establish the nation's first clinical, academic program in youth health, the Centre for Adolescent Health, and become the inaugural Professor of Adolescent Health at the University of Melbourne. During 16 years at the Royal Children's Hospital campus Glenn held a range of executive leadership roles including Chief Medical Officer, Executive Director and between 2002 & 2007 was Stevenson Professor of Paediatrics and Head of Department of Paediatrics.

## Warwick Padgham Poche Senior Project Officer



Warwick Padgham is the Senior Project Officer at the Melbourne Poche Centre for Indigenous Health in the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences. Warwick's role will focus on one of the main goals for the Melbourne Poche Centre, achieving 20 new Indigenous PhD

enrolments at the University in health by 2020.

Prior to joining the Melbourne Poche Centre for Indigenous Health, Warwick worked with the Leaders in Indigenous Medical Education (LIME) Network project, primarily organising the LIME Connection conference and other Network events. In addition to this work, Warwick managed the development of a smartphone application for Billibellary's Walk at the University, and has also worked at the Melbourne Convention + Visitors Bureau, Aboriginal Affairs Victoria and Monash University.

Warwick's education includes a Bachelor of Business from La Trobe University, a Post-Graduate Certificate in Professional Ethics from the University of Melbourne, and he is currently undertaking a Master of Public Health. Through his grandmother, Warwick is a descendant of the Taungurong people of central Victoria.

## University of Queensland

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### Professor Cindy Shannon Pro-Vice-Chancellor Indigenous Education Poche Director



Cindy Shannon is a descendent of the Ngugi people from Moreton Island. Professor Shannon leads the UQ Poche Centre for Indigenous Health. In 2011, Professor Shannon was appointed as the inaugural Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Education) at The University of Queensland. She

was previously the Director of the Centre for Indigenous Health at The University of Queensland and guided the development and implementation of Australia's first degree level program that specifically targeted Aboriginal health workers. Professor Shannon's expertise is in policy research and knowledge transfer, having extensive experience in Indigenous health workforce policy, development and education strategies. Professor Shannon has held a number of key appointments, including many at ministerial advisory level. Cindy was a member of the National Health and Medical Research Council, and chaired its Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Advisory Committee from 2005-2012. She also chaired the National Indigenous Australians' Sexual Health Committee for the period 2001-2008. In 2008 Cindy was appointed chair of the Queensland Ministerial Advisory Committee on AIDS, Sexual Health and Hepatitis. She also participated in the 2020 Summit as a member of the group advising on a long term national health strategy. Professor Shannon has recently been awarded a Fellowship with the Queensland Academy of Arts and Science and was recognised as one of NHMRC's "High Achievers in Health and Medical Research" in 2013.



### **Professor Nicholas Fisk Executive Dean, Faculty of Medicine + Biomedical Sciences at The University of Queensland**



- Professor Nicholas Fisk is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences, and a former President of the International Fetal Medicine and Surgery Society. He was the inaugural Director of University of Queensland's \$70M Centre for Clinical Research (UQCCR)

on the Herston campus, before becoming Executive Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences in 2010 and the restructured Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences in 2014. He practices as a maternal-fetal medicine specialist at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, has a research group in UQCCR, and sits on the Board of Queensland's largest Hospital and Health Service.

### **Assistant Professor Jon Willis Research Director**



Jon Willis is a medical anthropologist with extensive experience in the evaluation of Indigenous health programs at local and national levels, with methodological expertise in both quantitative and qualitative approaches to evaluation. Jon's expertise has been used in the

evaluation and review of national policies in the area of Indigenous sexual health, and in conducting Indigenous stakeholder consultations in most states and territories of Australia for the 2005 review of National Indigenous Sexual Health and Blood Borne Virus Strategy.

### **Ms Rachael Bastin Poche Centre Manager**



Rachel Bastin has extensive experience in University operations, strategy and administration, and was appointed as the Centre Manager for the UQ Poche Centre for Indigenous Health in 2015, its inaugural year.

Rachel's prior experience includes five years as an Executive Officer at

UQ across three portfolio areas (in the Offices of the Executive Director Operations, the Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor and the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Education)) and over a decade working as a practicing solicitor in the government, corporate and higher education sectors.

## Flinders University (Adelaide)

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### **Associate Professor Wendy Edmondson Acting Poche Director**



A/Professor Wendy Edmondson, who is a descendant of the Badimia and people of Western Australia, is the Deputy Director of the Poche Centre for Indigenous Health and Wellbeing. She has worked in the Indigenous arena for a total of 35 years, in the areas of education, the arts, and for

the last 15 years, in Indigenous medical education and the Aboriginal community controlled health sector. She is the former CEO of the Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia, and Wirraka Maya Aboriginal Medical Service, in the Pilbara, W.A. She has been involved in many national, state and local committees, including Aboriginal community-controlled organisations, including as Chair of the Pilbara Aboriginal Health Forum. In 2010, she was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to investigate why other colonised countries were achieving greater success in reducing Indigenous life expectancy. Her main interests are social and emotional wellbeing, chronic conditions management, social determinants of Indigenous health, and workforce development. She has also been a Program Leader in the first two Co-operative Research Centres for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health from 1998 – 2009, in the areas of Education and Training, and Social and Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB).

### **Professor Michael Kidd Executive Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences**



Michael Kidd is Executive Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences at Flinders University. Michael is a general practitioner and President of the World Organization of Family Doctors (WONCA). He has research and education interests in primary

health care and family medicine, e-health, health policy, medical education, safety and quality in primary care, and the primary care management of HIV, hepatitis C and sexually transmissible infections.

In the Queen's Birthday Honours List in 2009 Michael was made a Member of the Order of Australia for service to medicine and education in the areas of general practice and primary health care and through a range of professional organisations.

### **Dr Tamara Mackean Research Fellow**



Dr Tamara Mackean is a descendent of the Waljen Peoples of the Goldfields region of Western Australia (WA). Dr Mackean's Great Grandmother was registered with the Protector of Aborigines in WA, as were her children, and her children's children. The reverberations from

these actions traverse family trees and spiritual songlines and have helped build strength and tenacity through trauma and conflict across generations.

Within this context, Dr Mackean has endeavoured to create positive change and promote wellbeing within her work and life efforts to date. She is currently the Acting Deputy Director for the Poche Centre for Indigenous Health and Wellbeing at the Flinders University of South Australia (FUSA) and leads the development of the Centre's Indigenous health research agenda. Dr Mackean is a Chief Investigator on the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Centre for Research Excellence in Social Determinants and Health Equity which is a collaborative undertaking between the FUSA and the Australian National University (ANU). Her research activities span public health, mental health, health systems and pedagogical disciplines and include the development and implementation of patient journey methodology, examining racism in health services and looking at the role of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Hospital Liaison Officers in the provision of quality health care.

Dr Mackean is also an Advanced Trainee of the Australian Faculty of Public Health Medicine (AFPHEM), within the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP). She is the Chairperson for the RACP's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Committee, which aims to strengthen the college's capacity to improve the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Her contributions to the College in this regard have been recognised with Dr Mackean receiving the RACP Trainee of the Year Award for 2015.

## Flinders University (Northern Territory)

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### **Kerry Taylor** **Poche Deputy Director**



Kerry is an Associate Professor with the Poche Centre for Indigenous Health & Wellbeing. She has previously worked in remote health education and undergraduate nursing education. Kerry has extensive experience working in Central Australian

remote communities with a range of organisations, including Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education and NT Department of Health. Kerry's PhD thesis was a study of intercultural communications in health care in Indigenous language settings. Her main teaching and research interests include cultural safety, Indigenous health, health literacy and health workforce preparation.

### **Mr John Reid** **Indigenous Research Fellow**



John Reid is Kookatha man from the Port Augusta region. John has worked in Central Australia over two decade. He is a research fellow with Poche and currently involved in a MSc program with Flinders University which also requires him to translate research outcomes from projects

and programs within the scope of the study he is managing, back to the Aboriginal communities in a language, style and format that is easily understood. Therefore community engagement is a key area of responsibility that will be the focus of much of his MSc program, with a strong emphasis on the incorporation of Other worldviews (Indigenous Minds) into the research process, at every step.

### **Ms Colleen Haynes** **Cultural Educator**



Colleen Haynes is a custodian of country north of Alice Springs with extensive experience in health and education settings. She is the cultural educator for the Poche Centre and Flinders NT medical program. Colleen is currently

involved in research to evaluate the roll out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme in the NT as well as having a strong focus on community engagement and supporting Indigenous students to pursue health education study.



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