

Women's Wellbeing Academy

Newsletter December 2023

2023 has been an eventful year, and we are pleased to be winding down with a report of recent successful events. We'll keep you posted through 2024 on upcoming initiatives, events and

contributions to the Steering Committee and the Academy. And warm thanks to all of you for your involvement and interest.

We wish all our WWBA colleagues a very happy holiday season, a healthy and safe New Year, and a well-deserved break.

Associate Professor Mehera San Roque

Professor Bill Ledger

Associate Professor David Carter joins the Steering Committee of the WWBA

David J. Carter is a Scientia Associate Professor based in

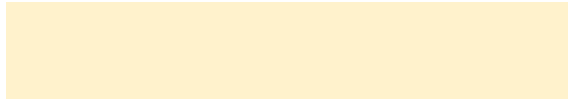
the WWBA and the new National Centre for Sex and Gender Equity in Health and Medicine being launched in 2024. <https://www.unsw.edu.au/staff/david-carter>

UNSW's Division
of Equity
Diversity &
Inclusion through
the Women's
Wellbeing
Academy and
Athena Swan
UNSW hosted the
launch of the
report

Fiona Stapleton, Athen Swan Academic Lead, with Lizzie Muller, 3C Research Lead, Amy Kusuma, Project Lead, and Mehera San Roque, WWBA Co Chair

"Supporting Carers at UNSW Sydney: Findings from Career Coaching for Carers (3C)' on 21 November in the UNSW Chancellery, which recommends building on existing flexible work and funding initiatives by establishing a carer network and acknowledging carer responsibilities in performance metrics.

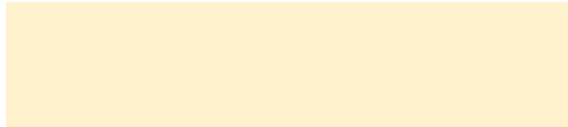
Introduced by UNSW
Provost, Professor Vlado
Perkovic, and with
comments from UNSW
Chief People Officer



Dr Julie Chow
Dr Saoirse Connor Desai
Prof Kristy Martire

This project will examine current beliefs relating to sexual and reproductive health among adult Australians. A survey will assess endorsement of various claims, including common misconceptions in fertility, contraception and menstruation, and the impact these beliefs have on direct (e.g., contraception use) and indirect behaviours (e.g., policy endorsement). It will also assess how people come to form these beliefs, and whether beliefs and behaviours differ by sex and across communities in Australia, providing an intersectional perspective which considers the intricate interplay between sex and culture on sexual health-related beliefs and behaviours.

The internet has become a prominent source of health information, with social media platforms emerging as popular avenues for sharing and accessing sexual and reproductive health (SRH) information. Recent evidence indicates a correlation between SRH trends, such as contraception use, and emerging trends on social media. However, misinformation about SRH is also rampant on these platforms. An analysis of social media content related to birth control practices found a majority contained inaccurate or incomplete information, including citing retracted scientific evidence. The proposed project aims to bridge this gap by investigating belief prevalence and the influence of sociocultural factors on SRH beliefs and behaviours in Australia, a setting with widespread online information access.



Dr Elena Cama
Associate Professor Loren Brener
Dr Timothy Broady
Scientia Professor Carla Treloar

This project aims to examine experiences of stigma and discrimination related to blood borne viruses and sexually transmissible

infections among sex workers identifying as women and of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander background in Australia, and how stigma can impact on health service utilisation, mental health, quality of life, and resilience. The project will support a research partnership and capacity building between the Centre for Social Research in Health (CSRH), Scarlet Alliance, and their Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander reference group to support their engagement in research, by collaborating to analyse, interpret, and disseminate the data appropriately and sensitively.



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Professor Rosalind Dixon

