

Announcement from the Head of School**INSIGHT Scientific Meeting 2009**

Earlier in the year Prof Allan Spigelman attended The 3rd Biennial Scientific Meeting of INSIGHT, (The International Society for Gastrointestinal Hereditary Tumours) in Düsseldorf, Germany. Recently, he has been appointed the highly regarded role of Deputy Chairman.

This appointment will see the 2013 meeting take place in Australia.

INSIGHT is an international multidisciplinary, scientific organisation. Its mission is to improve the quality of care of patients and their families with any condition resulting in hereditary gastrointestinal tumours.

Student News**ILP Funds available!**

Attention ILP students and supervisors. Remember to keep on mind that ILP funding can be used for all aspects of the ILP project. This includes conference registration, postage costs for mailing documents etc. Students who wish to make use of these funds should speak to Mrs Melinda Gamulin (Clinical School Manager) or their supervisors directly.

Teaching Awards

Voting is now open for the 2009 Teaching Awards. Vote for who you think has made the most contribution to Medical Student teaching at St Vincent's. This year for the first time students can now vote for Academic staff members. If you have more than one tutor you'd like to be acknowledged, feel free to fill out this quick survey more than once. Voting can be made via the Clinical School website/ Bulletin Board

General News**2009 UNSW Faculty of Medicine Post Doctoral Research Grant**

Congratulations to Dr Lucette Cysique on winning a 2009 UNSW Faculty of Medicine Post Doctoral Research Grant for \$10,000.

Dr Cysique PhD is a Research Fellow at St Vincent's Clinical working in the Department of Neurology. Dr Cysique is a principal investigator on the pilot project "Assessing brain amyloid burden with 11-C PIB Positron Emission Tomography (PET) in older HIV+ individuals with cognitive impairment" and will be using this award to assist with funding her research in this field. This award will allow her group to fund an innovative pilot project in NeuroAIDS research. Her role has been to design the pilot project with her senior collaborators (Prof. Rowe, Director of the PET Centre at Austin Health and Prof. Brew, Head of Neurology Department at St. Vincent's Hospital). This pilot project is nested in a larger project which is a longitudinal observational cohort of older individuals with chronic HIV infection which aims at identifying novel neuropsychological, biological, genetic, and MRI markers of cognitive decline. This study was started in June 2009 and will last for 3 years to include two visits. The larger project will allow her group to well characterise the neurocognitive status of chronically HIV-infected individuals. If middle-age HIV-infected individuals develop AD-like pathology in higher proportion than expected for their age range, this is of very important clinical significance for HIV epidemic. It has also important ramifications for better understanding the neuropathology of neurodegenerative disorders. Dr Cysique hopes that the results of her studies will impact on improving the long-term therapeutic management of HIV+ persons and their cognitive health.



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The eNewsletter is distributed on the Friday of each week. If you wish to contribute, please send your suggestions, articles, photos etc to clinicalschool@stvincents.com.au. Please remember to keep it concise and relevant. The deadline for contributions is the Thursday afternoon of each week. Feedback welcome.

It is important to note that while every care is taken to make sure the information contained in this eNewsletter is correct, it is the students own responsibility to ensure they check the bulletin board, notice board, emails and attend their pagers for last minute changes. Information is correct at time of distribution.