**From the Dean**

Hello Everyone

Welcome to new look Dean’s report. I’m Executive Dean, Professor Karen Dodd.

The Faculty continues to push the boundaries in student learning with innovative program delivery, engagement, and curriculum development.

In recognition of the great work our staff have done in this area I have great pleasure to announce the recipients of the 2013, Citations for Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning.

This year’s winners are:

**Felicity Blackstock**

School of Allied Health, Department of Physiotherapy

**Tracy Fortune**

School of Allied Health, Department of Occupational Therapy

**Suzane Vassallo**

School of Allied Health, Department of Orthoptics

**Jodi Oakman,** **Wendy Macdonald, Victoria Weale and Rwth Stuckey**

School of Public Health and Human Biosciences, Department of Ergonomics, Safety & Health

And

**Jodi Sita**

School of Public Health and Human Biosciences, Department of Anatomy and Physiology

In addition to these awards, two of our HDR students have recently been honoured for their achievements.

Carmel Hobbs, a student at The Bouverie Centre, will receive the Australian Health Promotion Association postgraduate student of the year award. Carmel was nominated by the Community Health Department of the School and has won a cash award in addition to a one week internship at VicHealth.

Samuel Muchiloki, a student at ARCSHS, won the 2012 African Studies Association of Australasia and the Pacific Prize for conference presentation “What comes first are the women, then children, cats, dogs, followed by the men: Exploring the narratives of men from the Horn of Africa 35th AFSAAP Conference. This is Samuel’s second award.

One of the most important building openings in Bendigo’s history took place last week, when La Trobe Rural Health School’s new buildings were officially opened by The Hon. Sharon Bird MP, Minister for Higher Education and Skills.

The minister conducted the official opening on Thursday May 10 at the Bendigo campus, for the school’s new Health Sciences building - which gives an additional 750 student places each year, [Hillside](http://www.latrobe.edu.au/infrastructure-projects/projects/all/student-residential-accommodation) Apartments - accommodating 200 students and the Nancy Long Dining Hall.

Over 200 people attended the opening.

Congratulations should go to the university events team in Bundoora and the marketing and events teams in Bendigo, who combined their skills for this memorable event.

The project budget totalled $75.6 million and was funded through the Australian and State Governments.

I encourage all our staff to explore our new facilities.

I also attended the turning of the sod at the Northern Hospital site along with Tanya Plibisek, the Federal Health Minister and Prof Keith Nugent representing the VC.

The building is shared between University of Melbourne, Northern Health and La Trobe University, and is due for completion at the end of 2014

Professor Sandra Leggat (PH&HBS) and Dr Les Fitzgerald from Rural Nursing and Midwifery were successful in a tender with the Australasian College of Health Service Management to provide clinical leadership training to 36 health professionals from across the Victorian Health Care System.

Human Biosciences staff were again successful in receiving a large number of Faculty Research Grants for their work in Cell and Tissue Biology. In the past year they have generated over $100,000 in grants and 35 publications.

Congratulations to Associate Professor Natasha Lannin Associate Professor in Occupational Therapy/ Alfred Clinical School, on receiving the ISCRR funding for ABI research program.

Professor Allan Borowski, Department of Social Work and Social Policy has recently published *Australia's' Children's Courts Today and Tomorrow* edited by himself and Rosemary Sheehan (of Monash). This book is the product of an ARC Discovery grant awarded to Professor Allan Borowski .

The John Richards Initiative AIPCA recently received number one abstract for the 12th National Rural Health Conference, held in Adelaide. This top placement from over 517 abstracts was awarded in recognition of the relevancy and quality of the research outcomes in line with Federal and State direction & initiatives to address the fragmented aged care system.

That’s all for this edition of the Dean’s Report.

I’m Professor Karen Dodd.