

PULSE

Newsletter 15 | February 2022

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Welcome from the National Head



It is with great pleasure that I write this welcome message for the first time as the National Head of School of Nursing, Midwifery, Health Sciences and Physiotherapy. It is hard to believe a year has gone by and what a busy and rewarding year it has been.

As we commence 2022, I would like to start by reflecting on 2021. I want to thank all the wonderful, dedicated and committed staff in the Fremantle, Broome and Sydney campuses who has shown immense resilience and agility in what was another year of challenges and uncertainty especially for our colleagues in NSW. Despite this, we achieved two successful semester of teaching and research throughout the year. For the disciplines of Health Sciences, Physiotherapy and Nursing and Midwifery in Fremantle, we were also able to acknowledge our students for outstanding achievement in service and academic excellence in end of year award ceremonies. Congratulations to all our deserving students and well done on your achievement.

I want to also take this opportunity to acknowledge the following long standing staff who left the School over the past 12 months: Dr Judith Wilson, Anita Zele, A/Prof Kylie Russell, Dr Tracey Coventry, Chelsea Smart, Paul Rycroft, A/Prof Fiona Farrington, Helen McCabe, Mark Rosenthal. These staff members has been part of the growth of the School over the many years and I thank them for their enormous contribution to the School.

In this new National multidisciplinary newsletter, we highlight and showcase some of the wonderful work of our staff in the School. We hope you enjoy reading the stories.

Once again, on behalf of the School, we give thanks to our wonderful students and staff for a challenging but rewarding year in 2021 and look forward to another successful year in 2022.

Professor Karen Clark-Burg

National Head, School of Nursing, Midwifery, Health Sciences and Physiotherapy



Meet the Senior Leaders of the School of Nursing, Midwifery, Health Sciences and Physiotherapy



Deputy Head of School – Health Sciences and Physiotherapy
Associate Professor William Gibson

William is a Physiotherapist who has experience working in both hospital and private practice settings. He gained his PhD in 2007 and has taught across multiple courses in the Physiotherapy program and is the Head of discipline for Physiotherapy. Main research areas follow from his PhD in 'Pain': Interested in basic pain mechanisms (using experimental techniques) and mechanisms involved in musculoskeletal pain presentations. Currently supervising/co-supervising multiple PhD and honours students.



Deputy Head of School – Nursing
Associate Professor Anna Williams

Associate Professor Anna Williams is the National Deputy Head of School and Postgraduate Program Coordinator (Sydney). Anna holds a PhD in Public Health and Community Medicine. Anna's research interests include the implementation of complex interventions in primary health care, healthy ageing; and management of lifestyle risk factors and chronic illnesses.



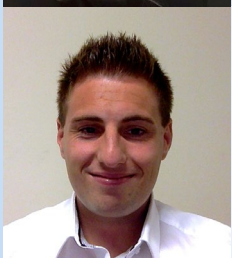
Professor Caroline Bulsara – Research Coordinator

Caroline Bulsara is the postgraduate research coordinator. Her areas of research expertise and interest include cognitive decline, patient empowerment and healthy ageing. In her role she chairs the school research committee, provides support and research expertise to staff and students and continues to build her own research profile.



Associate Professor Sadie Geraghty – Head of Discipline (Midwifery)

Sadie is an Associate Professor, and Head of Discipline (Midwifery) in the SoNMHSP. Sadie has an extensive academic and research background in midwifery, she has won a number of grants and awards including a Vice Chancellor Award for Excellence in Teaching, Metropolitan Midwife of the year in 2010, and was awarded Nurse/Midwife of the year in Western Australia in 2010-2011. Sadie also devised and established the first antenatal clinic in a women's prison in Western Australia in 2009, when she was a consultant midwife managing the Women and Newborn Drug and Alcohol Service at King Edward Memorial Hospital. Sadie brings a wealth of experience in accreditation, curriculum development, industry collaborations and track record of over 90 publications.



Associate Professor Ryan Anderton – Head of Discipline (Biomedical Science)

Ryan is an Associate Professor and Head of Discipline of Biomedical Science, and has been at UNDA since 2012. During this time, he has taken on several roles and currently coordinates the Health Science Honours Program, and represents the School in Research and on Academic Council. Ryan promotes any attempts to enhance or innovate in the delivery of basic and clinical sciences across the faculty. He also leads a successful and multi-disciplinary research laboratory group that investigates neurodegenerative diseases and neurobiological link between the gut and brain. In this role Ryan is very open to collaboration and has received \$1.2M and published over 60 peer-reviewed manuscripts and book chapters in the past 5 years.



Dr Benjamin Piggott – Head of Discipline (Health and Physical Education)

Ben has been a staff member at Notre Dame since 2009. Prior to academia, Ben worked as a secondary school teacher and also in the sports science field. He is currently Head of Discipline, Health & Physical Education. Ben was awarded the Vice Chancellor's Promoting Excellence in Learning and Teaching Award and the 2021 Australian Award for University Teaching.



Dr Chris Joyce – Head of Discipline (Exercise and Sports Science)

Chris' teaching and research areas include sports biomechanics, team sport, and clinical exercise physiology, producing over 50 research outputs and 18 HDR completions. With 13 years of tertiary teaching experience in WA and Singapore, Chris has attained excellent TPEs due to updating teaching materials to include current theory and methods which enables students with the required skills for current industry standards.

Faculty Learning and Teaching

Associate Professor Ainslie Robinson

SFHEA; BA (Hons); Dip.Ed.; LLB; M.Educ. (Lead & Management); Ph.D.
Associate Dean (Learning and Teaching), Faculty of Medicine, Nursing,
Midwifery and Health Sciences

In the earlier half of 2021, Notre Dame began partnering with Open Universities Australia (OUA) to offer a range of postgraduate programs and courses to a wider cohort of prospective students. According to the OUA website, their objective is to provide “a platform that helps students explore hundreds of degrees from leading Australian universities online”, www.open.edu.au/about-us. As such, OUA markets opportunities offered by its university partners, recruits students, and matches them to suitable university programs (delivered fully online) that meet their learning needs. Notre Dame saw this as an opportunity to broaden its demographic by delivering fully-online postgraduate courses via its Blackboard Learn LMS.

The School of Nursing & Midwifery, Health Sciences and Physiotherapy was among the first Schools to respond to this new opportunity. In April 2021, an Innovation and Design team was established by the School to digitally uplift programs carefully selected from the suite of existing and burgeoning postgraduate offerings. Nursing was the flagship for this enterprise with initially two programs (6 courses) being developed for fully-online delivery including via OUA. These programs/courses were rolled out to OUA in semester two, 2021.

By 2022, the suite of offerings catalogued by OUA from our postgraduate Nursing area will expand to include 5 programs (15 courses) delivered fully online. Students entering these programs from either OUA or via the Notre Dame Admissions process are enrolled together, and experience the same learning and teaching excellence for which the School is renowned, with the added advantage of national availability and flexibility to access and complete the programs in a fully facilitated and supported learning environment. The online design used to deliver these programs provides a high-quality, consistent, student-centred experience based on sound pedagogical underpinnings intended to advance both student experience and learning outcomes. Content in the courses is designed and delivered by subject-matter experts, and reviewed regularly for improvement and enhancement based on industry and student feedback.

Postgraduate Nursing has been leading the way in this area for the School, and in short order expects to deliver expanding offerings across the national School's range of discipline areas.



Graduate Certificate in Mental Health Nursing and Allied Health

UND-MHA-GCE | Postgraduate



Developed after extensive consultation with the mental health profession

Designed to meet the needs of mental health nurses, this course is a rigorous introduction to psychiatric theories and contemporary treatment. Study contemporary mental health, then graduate and grow your career, or continue your psychiatry studies.

Graduate Certificate in Health Sciences

UND-HSC-GCE | Postgraduate



Explore how the world affects human health

For students seeking the basics of health and the Australian healthcare system. If your role calls for health science communication, or you're seeking a pathway to medicine, this postgrad course imparts health knowledge in a professional context.

Master of Health Professional Education

UND-HPE-MAS | Postgraduate



Innovate and lead purposeful change in health education

Hone your skills, including facilitation and research, and aim for best practice in contemporary health education. Extend your educational expertise. Explore the process of writing a research proposal. Prepare for a senior role or consider PhD studies.

Research Update

The disciplines of nursing and midwifery, health sciences and physiotherapy have received a boost to our research capacity with two new research active staff members joining the team! We would like to welcome all new staff members to the National School here at Notre Dame.



Associate Professor Sadie Geraghty is a Registered Midwife and joins Notre Dame as the Head of Discipline, Midwifery. Her background is in clinical midwifery, specialising in substance use in antenatal, intrapartum, and postnatal care. Her research interests and expertise are in the areas of indigenous cultures and birth and midwifery workforce issues. She is also an Editorial Board Member for several journals.



We would also like to congratulate Professor Annmarie Hosie for her wonderful and exciting achievement in being awarded an \$503,477 NHMRC ideas grant titled: Driving quality in delirium care through a patient-centred monitoring system in palliative care, CIs: Hosie, A., Agar, M., Hawkins, F., Johnson, C., Walpole, G., Moffat, P., Casey, P., Cook, A., Chye, R., Oehme, J., Als: Senatore, M., Virdun, C., Pearson, M., Featherstone, I., Lawlor, P.G., Bush, S.H.

Exercise and Sports Science

Dr Chris Joyce

Senior lecturer, School of Nursing, Midwifery, Health Sciences & Physiotherapy

Exercise & Sports Science at UNDA enters 2022 with a vision of providing students with more a more structured degree for more focused pathways to develop their careers as well as exciting brand new lab and teaching facilities in ND46. With a drive to encourage postgraduate study and improve student employability, our postgraduate diploma in Sport Coaching and Leadership will be 100% online from mid-2022. This degree offers sports coaches from grass roots to competitive league competition the chance to learn the latest developments in technology, leadership styles, athlete management, and much more. We are also developing international study collaborations with a number of universities in the United Kingdom and the USA to allow students to complete electives in one semester windows to allow students to learn principles of exercise science in other countries and broaden their cultural horizons. Finally, and most importantly, the re-development of the ND46 lab space presents students with an exciting new learning space in the areas of strength & conditioning, biomechanics, and motor control. The new facilities will also support new course development in strength & conditioning and strengthen our practicum programs and overall quality of learning experience.



UNDA Phy-Ith Cup Winners 2021

Physiotherapy & Health Sciences (Phy-Ith) Cup

In December 2021, UNDA Health Sciences & Physiotherapy staff took part in the annual Physiotherapy & Health Sciences (Phy-Ith) Cup at Seaview Golf Club in Cottesloe. The event is a chance for those staff across WA universities to catch up and enjoy a social round of golf, which started in 2011.

The 'ambrose' format was used, where you choose the best shot of all four players, which makes it enjoyable for those who don't play much golf and can enjoy the social side of the event a lot more.

Seaview can be a difficult course in the afternoon when the sea breeze comes in, but UNDA were able to shoot a respectable 3 under par in tough conditions. With the 2021 event having the largest number of players to date, it is encouraged that more teams (including female teams) will continue to see the event grow for 2022 and beyond.

The trophy can be seen at Blink Coffee on High Street, Fremantle, where Serge (Blink Coffee owner) was included as a 'captain's pick' for the day.





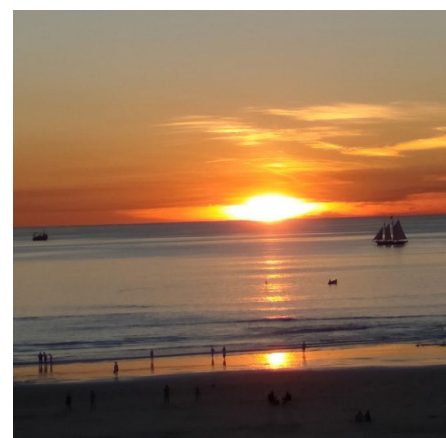
Wounds Practice – Stage 1 Skills Block, Broome Campus



Diploma of Nursing Students engaging with the community whilst on placement in Derby

Diploma of Nursing in the Kimberley

2021 has seen another busy year for the Diploma of Nursing Program with four student intakes. We have continued to deliver a quality blended learning experience for our students. This consisted of online Orientation Programs, interactive and engaging Collaborate Ultra sessions and facilitating seven lots of two weeks of skills blocks on Broome Campus across the various student cohorts. Clinical placement experiences have been far and wide with our students completing successful placements in Broome, Derby, Fitzroy Crossing and Manjimup.



Celebrating Success

In August 2021 we celebrated with three student cohorts who graduated with their Diploma of Nursing qualification. It is always an honour and privilege to be a part of the learning journey and reap the rewards of students entering the nursing profession. Many of the students you see in this photo from 2019 intakes have gained employment as enrolled nurses across a variety of industry settings. These include Broome Hospital and primary health care settings such as COVID clinics in The Kimberley.



Diploma of Nursing Graduates

Time for Reflection

Reflecting on the time the Nurse Trainers have with their students in The Kimberley is golden. The experiences on country and connecting with the land and people hold a special meaning for the Nurse Trainer Team – peace, warmth and serenity.



Complimentary Words from our Students

“WOW! What a fortnight it has been so far... and it's not over yet. I would like to thank each of you for your incredible hard work, organisation and patience during these block weeks. I know many other students feel the same. You have all kept your cool and demonstrated that you care for all students, despite the long days and the 'on the spot' plan changes. It has certainly been challenging at times getting everyone through the demonstrations and assessments. Thanks again, we all really appreciate it.”

“Michelle Watts was with us from start to finish. Loved listening to her voice during collaborate sessions. Sensible approach to nursing has a calming effect to help me learn.”

“Deanka Preston has been a very knowledgeable lecturer and I am grateful for her leadership throughout this process. She is an asset to the University of Notre Dame.”

HESTA Hacks

Advice, tips and tricks for a super career in health

More than half the people working in Australia's health sector entrust their super to HESTA. And when they tell us what they need now, as well as when they retire, we listen.

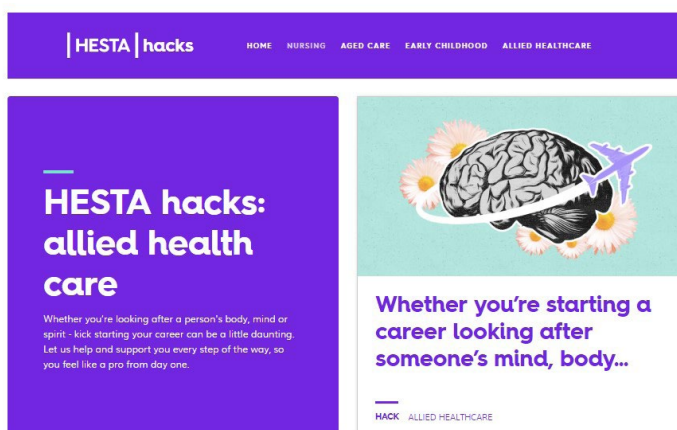
Our members told us healthcare students need help to move smoothly into their first full time job – and get up to speed quickly. So we built a solution together.

What makes a great physio? What do you wish someone had told you on day one? How do you take care of yourself, so you can keep providing great care?

The answers aren't in a textbook. So we spoke to experts in your sector, to hear what they'd tell their student selves.

Packed with real-life insights, HESTA Hacks aims to help future health professionals feel like a pro from day one.

hesta.com.au/hestahacks



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Interprofessional Education Event 2021

The Interprofessional education events returned to the Drill Hall this year following some modifications to accommodate COVID restrictions. Second year students from the Schools of Physio, Nursing and Medicine attended a shortened one hour event, run twice by the generous staff from these Schools. The event featured patient Dorothy Robinson and her clinical deterioration scenario. Minor adaptations implemented this year encouraged greater student engagement and participation, with a short script provided for each student's profession to generate discussion. Facilitators were able to guide conversation and challenge the students to think deeply about the role each profession plays in recognizing and responding to deterioration. Informal feedback provided by students and staff facilitators indicates this continues to be a valuable and rich learning experience across the nursing, physio and medicine programs.

For further information

Clinical Deterioration Videos: <https://vimeo.com/139183068>

Staff Contacts: heidi.waldron@nd.edu.au, katharine.gardiner@nd.edu.au, janelle.gill@nd.edu.au, chris.adams@nd.edu.au

Bachelor of Nursing Program

Graduating Students of 2021



As a farewell to our students and to give them a final tutorial to remember, the course coordinators for Transition to Practice – Leadership and Management Darren Bailey / Leesa Kerr asked students to dress in an Hawaiian themed attire for the session, and to raise money for Beyond Blue. Students rose to the challenge and the final tutorial was fun, lively and entertaining with a total of over \$200 raised for the charity – well done to everyone involved.

We wish all graduating students all the best for their future careers, and ask them to keep in touch with us all here at Notre Dame, but also it's timely to remind staff how much their hard work and dedication to their roles and students are valued and appreciated by everyone.

Midwifery

Dr Sadie Geraghty

Associate Professor, Head of Discipline (Midwifery), School of Nursing, Midwifery, Health Sciences and Physiotherapy



The first-year midwifery students had the honour of being led through an Aboriginal art workshop by the University of Notre Dame Aboriginal resident artist Neta Knapp. Neta shared Aboriginal birthing traditions as she taught the students the mindful art of dot painting, story lines and cultural safety. The final masterpiece was a joint work created by Neta and the students and tells a story of the midwifery students meeting in a place of learning.

The Midwifery Team have a new Dr in the Team – Dr Sheena McChlery has successfully been awarded her PhD with a study entitled 'Women's experiences of perimenopause' – Congratulations Dr McChlery!

We also welcomed a new midwifery lecturer – Henrietta Reynolds has joined the Notre Dame Midwifery Team and brings 30 years of clinical and academic experience with her. We held a morning tea to welcome her on her first working day at Notre Dame.

The Physiotherapy Student Society (PSS)

The Physiotherapy Student Society (PSS) is a social club at Notre Dame that is all about fundraising and of course having fun. The PSS brings cohorts and students together across years 1-4, making physio one of the most tightly knit courses on campus. Over the past few years, we the PSS have made it a major goal to become more of a holistic club. As part of this focus the PSS fundraises for various charities, hosts events for students to mingle and let their hair down after the busy semester, run friendly AFL football games against other schools and more recently trying harder than ever to help give back to the community through the newly created lifeblood donation team.

This year the PSS event schedule has been jam packed with events such as the Kai Eardley quiz night, annual river cruise, AFL football game vs Medicine, Liptember sausage sizzle being highlights of the year. As a committee we are proud to have raised approximately \$2000 dollars to support both Women's mental health and suicide prevention.

With the 2021 university year close to coming to an end we have 3 massive events still lined up with Movember fundraiser throughout November, Annual Cocktail party and a AFL football game vs Law.

Our club tries to create a balance between fun and fundraising to ensure that we can make a difference to the people around us and to the wider community before we head into the workforce.

Damian Pisano (PSS President)





Health Science Graduation Dinner

Health Sciences

One of the great highlights and traditions in Health Sciences is our annual Graduation Dinner where staff organise and host a dinner for the graduating students. At this dinner we join together and celebrate the graduating students time at Notre Dame and highlight some of their achievements. It was held at the East Fremantle Yacht Club and began with our Award Ceremony where our highest achieving students were recognised. Zac Povey (Biomedical Science) was the awarded the highest performing student across the School whilst Mitch Hardman (Health & Physical Education) and Lauren Treanor (Health Promotion) received the “Young Professionals of the Future” award. Dr Duncan Picknoll (Outdoor Recreation), Dr Monika Tschochner (Biomedical Science) and Mikayla Lyons (PhD candidate) were awarded Teaching Excellence Awards which were voted on by students. Thanks to Mark Clayden who took on the organisation of the event!



Health & Physical Education Graduating Class on 2021

NEWS



SMARTcare NDNS Representatives

Interdisciplinary Staff and Student initiative

SMARTcare 5 Aspire. Connect.

In August of 2021, the Notre Dame Nursing Society had the pleasure of co-hosting SMARTcare 5 – Aspire. Connect. Together with the School of Nursing and Midwifery. SMARTcare stands for Social Media for Research and Teaching, in the context of healthcare. SMARTcare 5 was an initiative to recognise the value and importance of the multidisciplinary team within the healthcare environment, and how a greater understanding of each professional in that team leads to better patient outcomes. Furthermore, the event focused on how technologies assist greater collaboration between health professionals in the multidisciplinary team. This event was so exciting as it provided healthcare students and professionals with the opportunity to be exposed to exciting developments in the industry and provided the chance for attendees to network with high profile leaders in the healthcare industry.

SMARTcare 5 was run in two distinctive phases: the first phase of the night consisted of concurrent oral presentations on topics including the COVID response in WA, technology and innovation, rural health opportunities, and life after graduation. These presentations were fantastic, and really allowed attendees to widen their understanding and perspective of the broad variety of exciting opportunities that exist in the healthcare industry. The second phase of the night involved a mass networking exhibition for attendees, advanced lifesaving workshops, suturing workshops, and food trucks galore! This part of the night was sensational, as attendees were able to engage and network with professionals in their desired field and were able to create some exciting new professional relationships. In addition, attendees valued the opportunity to engage with the exciting and informative workshops and learn new skills that further bolstered their professional portfolio.

SMARTcare 5 was a huge success, and I am so excited for the future of what this event could achieve. The central ethos of this event was that of celebrating the crucial role that healthcare professionals, within the multidisciplinary team, play in ensuring that our community remains as healthy and safe as possible. Furthermore, this event facilitated interprofessional networking and collaboration, and called for further association and teamwork at the undergraduate level. I am so proud of what this event achieved, and I am looking forward to attending SMARTcare in the future as a registered nurse.



SJOGHC Luncheon

St John of God Health Care Luncheon

On the 6th of September, the discipline of Nursing celebrated its first luncheon with select students and esteemed guests from St John of God Health Care SJOGHC. It was an inviting and enjoyable networking opportunity for both executive staff members from SJOGHC sites, Murdoch, Midland, Mt Lawley Subiaco and the staff and students from the university where students were able to speak with potential employers and begin building their industry connections.

A past student and alumni from the School of Nursing, Jack, attended the event and spoke with current students about his experience completing his graduate program with SJOGHC Midland Hospital. Jack spoke about the challenges of first

starting his graduate program and the benefit of commencing his postgraduate certificate in clinical nursing. He spoke about how critical thinking has served him well on the wards and how caring for others has been the most challenging and rewarding experience.

Overall, the luncheon was a great opportunity for both students and guests from SJOGHC as it allowed students to connect with the organisation that lives and breathes its catholic values of Hospitality, Compassion, Respect, Justice and Excellence.



Michelle Katavatis

Innovation & Design Lead selected as Board member for global Blackboard Community Leadership Circle

Michelle Katavatis, Innovation & Design Lead has been selected as one of three Australians to join the global Blackboard Community Leadership Circle board.

The Community Leadership Circle (CLC) is a governance board positioned to lead and influence community initiatives. The board hosts a small number of members globally who will contribute to the mission in a variety of ways.

After working with Blackboard for over 10 years as a student, educator, trainer and administrator Michelle is looking forward to advancing her knowledge to improve and enhance the work her team is currently doing. More widely Michelle's involvement on the board is a good opportunity to give back to the global education community establishing a highly visible international presence for the University of Notre Dame Australia.

Hello from the I&D team

It gives me great pleasure in introducing the I&D team within the School of Nursing, Midwifery Health Sciences & Physiotherapy. As the Innovation & Design Lead our team has grown significantly since its establishment in June 2021 with two team members to more recently a team of eight after increased collaborative support and funding by the Vice Chancellor, Executive Dean for our Faculty & Chief Information Officer. Our team offers a managed service model that enables our Learning Designers to promptly create with subject matter experts exemplar courses that promote a premium online learning experience for our students here at Notre Dame. With a focus on Postgraduate courses the team is hoping to continue its work in other areas of teaching and learning building excitement, gathering champions for the future and showcasing the possibilities and benefits of digital enrichment. Meet our team in the visual provided.

Michelle Katavatis, Innovation & Design Lead

Michelle Katavatis

Michelle is the Innovation & Design Lead working closely with the School of Nursing, Midwifery, Health Sciences & Physiotherapy. She is dedicated to leading a team of future thinkers in the world of digital learning & teaching, uplift and transformation. Michelle's background spans from Law & Criminology to Health to Pathways to Learning & Teaching. With over 12 years of experience in tertiary online learning & teaching and new technologies she is invested in implementing systems and processes where Learning Designers, Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) and Online Facilitators work collaboratively to produce a premium online learning experience for our students at The University of Notre Dame Australia.



Lisa Griffith

Lisa is a Teacher & Learning Designer, working for UNDA for the past 5 years teaching, tutoring and developing learning content, with many more years of experience doing the same in a variety of educational settings in WA and interstate. A strong believer in the importance of engaging online content, Lisa works with SMEs, their content, exciting new technologies and the Innovation & Design team to help transform the UNDA's online learning space.



Mitch Low

Mitch Low is a Learning Designer with over 12 years of experience in the tertiary education sector. Mitch holds a PhD in Anthropology and Sociology and has conducted teaching and/or research within the fields of Anthropology and Sociology, Social Research Methods, Geography and Engineering. He has published on the topics of flipped, online and blended learning and on the learning impacts of study abroad education. Mitch has also worked as a learning advisor, supporting students to develop their study skills.



Deanka Preston

Deanka is a Registered Nurse & Learning Designer who has worked in educational and mentoring areas across the university and health sector. Deanka joined the UNDA 5 years ago working across the Bachelor of Nursing and Diploma of Nursing Programs in a variety of teaching, facilitation and course development roles. With a passion for quality online learning she dedicates her time as a Learning Designer to the robust design and development of online content. Deanka also works in the clinical environment for St John of God Health Care.



Michelle Watts

Michelle is a Registered Nurse & Learning Designer who has a passion for serving others in the clinical setting, caring for people and enhancing patient care through education. Michelle has been working as a nurse educator designing, developing and delivering in face-to-face, blended and online environments for the past 10 years. She is enthusiastic about making a difference in health care through innovative practices, contributing to society and learning new skills. Michelle also works in the clinical environment for St John of God Health Care.



Frances Gartrell

Frances is a Learning Designer and brings a wealth of experience spanning more than a decade in various aspects of training & education including face-to-face delivery, instructional design, digital content development, video creation, assessment, auditing and much more. Frances has earned herself several qualifications including a Post Graduate Diploma in Science Communications, a Graduate Certificate in Business and a Bachelor degree in Mass Communications.



Aisling Smyth

Aisling Smyth is an accomplished academic with over a decades experience working in tertiary education. Aisling is a Registered Nurse with a Masters and PhD in Biomedical Sciences. As a Learning Designer within the team she is passionate about developing and delivering innovative and engaging online curriculum. She has won a number of teaching awards acknowledging her creative means of online delivery. Aisling brings these skills to UNDA, with the Innovation and Design team, to uplift and transform the online experience.



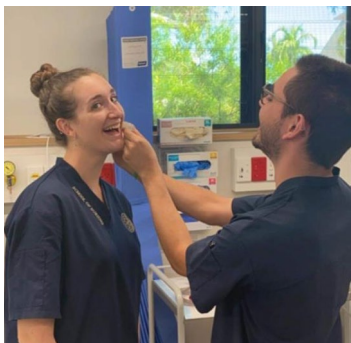
Michelle Morrison

Michelle is the Project Officer for the Innovation and Design team. Michelle has extensive experience working in administration and business and project management roles across a range of different industries. Michelle began working with the UNDA as the Post Graduate Administrator for the School of Nursing, Midwifery, Health Sciences and Physiotherapy and is now excited to be using her skills to support the world of online design, development and delivery.



A Student Perspective Rural and Remote Health Immersion Program

by Tim Corry, Student RN 2021



For those interested in learning more about rural health, there is no better place to do this than from a remote area, where you can see and experience the challenges of the rural lifestyle and rural health for yourself.

The main advantage is having rural health professionals right at your finger tip, meaning we've had access to countless guest speakers living in Broome, including the Aboriginal interpreter service, a GP nurse, a previous refugee nurse, Broome Regional Prison nurse, RFDS primary health nurse, population health worker and many more, giving us a broader understanding of health care in the Kimberley. This was summarised perfectly when we attended the 'Closing the Gap' community conference, where we were able to see all the local health-related organisations come together. This was a moment where all of us finally connected all the pieces of the puzzle making up Broome

and rural health care. The program has also provided an opportunity to get involved with local organisations, and immerse ourselves in the local community. We have all been involved with Feed the Little Children (FTLC), helping with food delivery rounds on Friday nights to deliver cooked, nutritious meals to local children faced with the challenge of food insecurity in rural areas. Some students have even had the opportunity to assist FTLC with food preparation for delivery rounds. Having a program centred on rural health, we have been able to develop some rural specific nursing skills, especially focused on some of the health problems uniquely facing rural areas and the Kimberley, such as trachoma and skin infections. It has been a privilege to utilise the Broome campus labs, which are state of the art. We have been able to apply our learning in multiple settings, including attending the Broome Hospital wound clinic, and joining an RFDS primary health nurse on a visit to a remote Aboriginal community.

Another major benefit of studying Broome is exactly that, being in Broome. After a long day of study, there is no better way than to unwind with a stroll along Cable Beach at Sunset, which always delivers a uniquely special experience. It has been especially interesting to learn about the tides and weather patterns in Broome, including experiencing the tail-end of the wet season, and on a low-tide, walking through the rock pools and looking for sea life. By week 5, we could no longer resist the temptation to swim in the ocean. We figured that if the locals were swimming, then that's a sign that the danger of the Irukandji must have passed. And it certainly did deliver, with beautifully warm, relaxing water swims.



It has been particularly interesting to become acquainted with a new, and a very fascinating town. This came in the form of a cultural tour by Bart Pigram in the first week, where we learnt about the traditional owners of Broome country, the Yawuru people, and then had the privilege to be shown around their country by Bart. He took us to Kennedy hill, where we tried some bush tucker, and then he told the Dreaming story of how the Dampier river and the nearby springs came to be, highlighting the cultural significance of the site. We obtained permission to later return to Kennedy hill to watch the sun rise of Roebuck bay. We also visited the local Stolen Generation Centre to yarn with elders with personal stories about the stolen generation, and we all saw a glimpse of the multi-generational effect this has had on the Kimberley people. The Sisters of St John of God Heritage Centre was yet another place to learn about the complex history of this place.

But the best experience of the whole immersion is the people we have met. We have learnt a lot from many people we have met in Broome, but it has especially been a privilege to get to know 9 other amazing, passionate nursing students. We didn't just study together for 8 weeks, but we lived together for 8 weeks, away from home and away from a place where we feel safe and secure. So we had to create a new place where we felt safe and secure, and we built that place together. This experience would not be the same without those who I experienced it with, and we all learnt from each other along the way.





For the latest information visit
notredame.edu.au/about/our-national-schools

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