



Rural Health



Photo courtesy of Darren Grattidge

GRADUATE RESEARCH NEWS

August 2012

1

Issue 2

Welcome

Wittgenstein, a well-known German Philosopher, is widely quoted for his profound thought embedded in a simple expression: *"The limit of my words is the limit of my world."* This statement means a great deal in the context of the Tasmania Rural Health Graduate Research where our world is fundamentally formed and transformed through communicative interaction among our members as well as with the outside world. Therefore, The Rural Health Graduate Research Newsletter arrives in the middle of winter with its special inspirations: to warm you up with stories to share about our research journeys and to celebrate our achievements, particularly those of our fellow students.

Our new candidates and supervisors

The Rural Health Graduate Research Program has been enriched by the arrival of new students. Warmest welcome goes to our new PhD students: Deborah Zwolsman and Thao Phuong Doan. Deborah will be supervised by A/Professors Erica Bell and Tony Barnett. Thao will be guided by A/Professor Tony Barnett and Dr Quynh Lê. We would like to welcome, Dr Leonard Crocombe, a new supervisor, who has recently joined the Rural Health Graduate Research community.

Congratulations to Thao Phuong Doan who was awarded the Elite Research Scholarship in 2012. Thao's research will investigate the significance of health literacy in health and wellbeing of older people in rural areas.

Good news from students

We are so proud and delighted to share the following wonderful achievements of our students:

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RURAL HEALTH

August 2012

2

Issue 2

- **Sharon Hetherington** and **Melinda Minstrell** (PhD candidates) have passed their thesis examinations. Sharon is supervised by **Dr Peter Orpin**, **Dr Cecilia Shing** and **Dr James Fell** (Human Life Sciences). Melinda Minstrell is supervised by **Dr Clarissa Hughes** (UDRH) and **Dr Christine Stirling** (Nursing and Midwifery). Congratulations to Sharon and Melinda and their supervisors.
- **Chona Hannah**, recipient of the Rural Health Write Up Scholarships in 2011 has had her manuscript entitled *"Factors affecting access to health care services by intermarried Filipino women in rural Tasmania: A qualitative study"* accepted for publication in Rural and Remote Health journal.
- **Ha Hoang**, recipient of the Rural Health Write Up Scholarships in 2012, has had her article entitled *"Women's access needs in maternity care in rural Tasmania, Australia: A mixed methods study"* accepted for publication in Women and Birth journal.
- **Alexandra King** has an abstract entitled *"Food insecurity for older people in rural and regional Tasmania"*, jointly with her supervising team, accepted for presentation at the Ageing: Challenging the boundaries", 45th Australian Association of Gerontology National Conference in Brisbane, 20 - 23 November 2012.
- **Annette Loudon** has a paper entitled *"Using Yoga in breast cancer-related lymphoedema"* jointly with her supervising team, published in the Journal of Lymphoedema, Vol 7, Issue 1.
- **Christine Matera**, **Alexandra King** and **Thuy Thanh Le** have had their candidature confirmed. Thuy has been transferred from Masters by Research to PhD study. Well done Christine, Alexandra and Thuy.
- **Daniel Terry** has an article entitled *"Migrants' perceptions of health promotion messages in rural Tasmania"* accepted for publication in the Health, Risk and Society Journal. This article was based on his Masters study and the PHCRED Experience in 2010.
- **Joanne Yeoh** and **Peter Mulholland** have submitted their Research Plans.

Greetings from new students

Thao Doan

Coming from an Asian country, Vietnam, where English is a foreign language, she chose this lingua franca as major for her Bachelors degree. In 2011, Thao started her Masters degree in TESOL in the University of Tasmania and finished in the same year. This year, she also found her beautiful love. This love

resulted into a happy marriage at the end of 2011. During the time living in Australia, her inspiration for further studies has grown gradually; thus, she decided to enrol in the course Master of Education - with Honours course as an important step to reach the entrance of PhD degree. Thao has been successful in winning an Elite Scholarship and will be focusing full time on her PhD study. The Elite Scholarship has given her a chance to explore her interest in rural health. The topic of Thao's PhD will be about health literacy of older people in Tasmania. At this early stage the topic is being fine-tuned. In spite of her young age, she has a strong interest in research. Overcoming various early challenges due to a different cultural and educational background, she now finds living and studying Tasmania very enjoyable. She loves the peaceful environment as well as friendly people in this beautiful island.



Thao Doan - PhD candidate



Jessica Kawa
Masters candidate

Jessica Kawa

Jessica was born in Hobart, Tasmania, and is currently undertaking her final year of Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery at the Launceston Clinical School, University of Tasmania. Her research interest was sparked in 2010 when she completed an honours year at the Launceston Clinical School helping to establish a Tasmanian Branch of the National Genetic Heart Disease Registry. Since that time, Jessica has still been actively involved with the Registry, and has continued to be actively involved with numerous research projects through the Registry and Launceston Clinical School.

Her experiences with the Registry and recruiting participants have led her to develop her current part-time Masters study 'Knowledge and Perceptions of Genetic Cardiac Diseases in Tasmania', which is being co-supervised by Dr Jessica Woodroffe at the UDRH and Dr Kathryn Ogden from the Launceston Clinical School. The project is based around what people with genetic heart conditions know about their condition, how they communicate this to their family, and what role health professionals play in establishing this knowledge. She hopes will help benefit patients with genetic heart diseases by gaining an understanding of the supports and services these patients need when they are diagnosed with and possibly as a result establishing an appropriate model of care for these patients within the state.

Whilst completing her Masters, Jessica hopes to gain an internship position next year in Adelaide as her fiancé lives there and be actively involved in not only other research interests but also the teaching of undergraduate medical students.

Julie Porter

Hi, from **Julie Porter**. I am a Statewide Clinical Nurse

Educator with the Department of Health and Human Services in Tasmania. Originally from Upper Hutt, NZ, I trained as a Registered Nurse at Christchurch Polytechnic and then completed degrees in Management, Mental Health, Tropical Medicine, Adult Education and Training and I am now working towards a PhD combining my interests of mental health, education, and rural health.



Julie Porter
PhD candidate

I relocated from rural North Queensland with 3 cats and dog to Tasmania in 2010 and love the Tasmanian lifestyle: especially waking up to see the River Derwent, driving to work with the ever changing moods of the river, with reflections of boats and trees, the chance to act as a volunteer crew member on Hobart's Tall Ships and good coffee at Salamanca.

My current research is to investigate education outcomes and look at how education has an impact on clients, predominantly mental health consumers. I am fortunate to have the supervision of **A/Professor Erica Bell** and **A/Professor Tony Barnett** and find their guidance both stimulating and thought provoking. The intent of the research is to develop, implement and promote an integrated model, relating to Return on Investment for training. The new research and contribution to knowledge is primarily utilising application of principles of adult learning within training for mental health key stakeholders particularly in rural areas. The key concepts of the study include an eclectic range: Mental Health Outcomes, Continuous Improvement, Return on Investment, Clinical Skills, Rural Health, and Neuro-Linguistic Programming (NLP). I am looking forward to my new research journey with the University Department of Rural Health.

I'd love to hear from anyone with similar interests and thoughts about the research, I thank the UDRH for their warm welcome and am looking forward to the PhD journey with UTas.

Deb Zwolsman

Hello from **Deb Zwolsman**. I developed a career in the public service in NSW, working predominantly in policy and programs from 1993 to 2002. I have worked on several contentious policies that have affected NSW legislation, such as changes to the Coroners Act regarding the treatment of the deceased after autopsy; Mental Health Act; the withdrawal of artificial nutrition and hydration; Advanced Health Care Directives; the implications of introducing sex-change operations into the NSW Health system; and the treatment of people with intersex issues.

I have maintained my registration as a psychologist and have worked throughout my clinical career in regional, rural and remote areas across Queensland and New South Wales in the areas of mental health, drug and alcohol, and forensic services.

I am in a unique position as I have developed expertise in clinical, policy and research work in each of my positions, which has now led me to incorporate all three in my PhD

study at the University Department of Rural Health

I am currently enrolled in the part-time program in my PhD study, and continue to work full-time. I am researching health reform in primary health care in Australia. The topic of my thesis is "*What models of governance work? The policy case of Medicare Locals*". I will be looking at the different governance models used in primary health care reforms across the world and the translation of current Australian health policy into practice – that is, the establishment of Medicare Locals in primary health care. At this stage of the research, I am finalising my literature review and undertaking an analysis of policy documentation. I am looking forward to my research journey with the UDRH.

A time to study and a time to celebrate

Someone mentions that this year there are more sunrises in Tasmania. Many of us are not sure about this natural phenomenon as there have been many pages to read and many words to write for our research and it is hard to find time to look at wandering the sky! However, definitely there are more sunrises in our graduate research garden as this year we have astonishingly six PhD candidates to graduate in August 2012.

We would like to extend our congratulatory handshakes to Doctors Chona Hannah, Ha Hoang, Sharon Hetherington, Melinda Minstrell, Winifred vanDeploeg and Yun Yue

To celebrate the outstanding achievements of these students, a celebration lunch will be held at the Mercure Hotel, Launceston on 18th August 2012 from 12.30 – 2pm, immediately after graduation ceremony. Supervisors and graduands' family members are warmly invited. Please contact Kim at Email: Kim.Izard@utas.edu.au or ph: **6324 4051** to indicate your attendance.

Innovative development in the rural health research discourse

The University of Tasmania Department of Rural Health (UDRH) team will be engaged in, and lead research projects in the areas of "successful ageing and oral health" and "rural oral health."

The Australian Primary Health Care Research Institute (APHCRI) – Centre of Research Excellence in Primary Oral Health Care (CRE) is a collaboration of eminent researchers from four universities

RURAL HEALTH

August 2012

4

Issue 2

(Adelaide, Tasmania, Western Australia, and Monash), eight research institutions (Australian Research Centre for Population Oral Health, Tasmanian University Department of Rural Health, Western Australian School of Dentistry, Menzies Research Institute Tasmania, Telethon Institute for Child Health Research, the School of Dentistry, the Department of Public Health of the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Adelaide and Centre for Health Economics at Monash University) and a Government Department (South Australian Dental Service).

The CRE will be funded with \$2,500,000 over four years. We would like to congratulate our three team leaders, **Dr Len Crocombe**, **A/Professor Erica Bell** and **A/Professor Tony Barnett** for their great contribution in obtaining The APHCRI Centre of Research Excellence in Primary Oral Health Care (CRE). This new development will provide new horizon and opportunities for potential graduate research students to conduct research in primary oral health care at the UDRH.

We also take this opportunity to warmly welcome Dr Len Crocombe, Senior Research Fellow at UDRH, to our Graduate Research “family”.



UDRH Supervisors (from left to right): Dr Len Crocombe, A/Prof Erica Bell and A/Prof Tony Barnett.

Chona Hannah – If I can turn back time!

Last May 14-18, 2012, I attended an international conference in Phuket. Before going there, I had three goals to achieve: First, to present my thesis findings; second, to expand my network to professionals with diverse background; and third, to create wonderful memories. All these goals were achieved. In fact, more than what I had expected. The conference in Phuket was definitely a conference to remember. It was not just an ordinary conference where researchers and other professionals meet to present and share their studies outcome but it was a conference full of real life, academically, socially and interpersonally. Academically, I have learned how to chair a conference session and be able to share analytical views straight after every oral presentation and share it with the audience. Socially and interpersonally, I am overwhelmed by the number of friends I have made. I was able to overcome my uncertainties of approaching the so-called “high

rank academe”. The best experience that I will treasure from this whole conference was the fact everyone is an equal social being, without wearing status masks. I should never feel hesitant to approach the high rank academe because they are just normal human beings like all of us. I have to remind myself as well that these people never distance themselves to any one whether you are a student, supervisor, lecturer, etc. They are also willing and able to share their expertise to the aspiring and new generation researchers.

The conference theme was, “*Innovative Research in a Changing and Challenging World*”. By the theme itself, it connotes diversity of topic, research being required to be included in the conference poster and oral presentation. The conference was indeed attended by professionals of different diverse and multicultural backgrounds. The keynote speakers and the organising committee themselves were coming from diverse cultural backgrounds which made the conference unique and outstanding among other “conferences” around the globe. Since the organiser of the conference is from our very own University (University of Tasmania), I was privileged to be part of the committee. Being part of the committee, I saw how everyone worked cooperatively and equally. From the organisation of all the conference package (bag, programs, map, booklets, pen, etc.) chairing the sessions, and opening registration I saw all the committee work with a smile and without a single complaint. How lucky I was to be part of the committee.

The Phuket international conference, indeed a conference to remember because of the big opportunity it gave to all aspiring researchers and postgraduate research students on how to organise a credible international conference. According to most delegates, they have never been to any conference like “ours”. A conference that does not only show casing knowledge inputs but most of all social interaction which gave them the opportunity to get to know every delegate, keynote speaker and organising committee through all the different social activities like, early morning walk or jogging; 1 hour and 20 minutes lunch break (which has given them enough time to mingle and interact with each other); the conference dinner with a multicultural



Snap shots of the Innovative Research in a Changing and Challenging World conference in Phuket 16 - 18 May 2012

theme, that highlights every delegate's culture and lastly the closing program which has made every delegate feel important and part of the "family" through singing the goodbye song "Auld Lang Syne". As our famous, and vibrant mentor Dr Thao Le and Dr Quynh Le stated, "We are a family and together we can make a difference". Big thanks to our dear mentors!

Christine Matera – An update from southern PhD candidate



Christine Matera
PhD candidate

In June 2012, I attended a post-graduate workshop in Melbourne hosted by the CSIRO and National Climate Change Adaptation Research Flagship (NCCARF). The workshop was attended by 60 post-graduate students working in all aspects of climate change adaptation (human health, emergency management, marine biodiversity and resources primary industries, settlements

and infrastructure, social economic and institutional dimensions, terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity and water resources). This provided an opportunity to share my research, exchange ideas, learn about other post graduate research from around Australia and the Pacific and most importantly begin to develop a collegial and supportive network of fellow students working in the diverse areas of climate change.

The post graduate workshop was followed by an expert panel discussion with international and national health experts including experts Kris Ebi a Consulting Professor in the Department of Medicine at Stanford University and the Executive Director of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Working Group II Technical Support Unit; Alistair Woodward, Head of the School of Population Health at the University of Auckland; Tony McMichael medical graduate and epidemiologist, and leader of the climate change and health research program at the National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, Australian National University. The discussion focussed on the human health implications of climate change and the direction that we need to be moving in to protect human health from climate change.

The National Adaptation Conference hosted by CSIRO and NCCARF was held in Melbourne over three days in June. The conference was attended by over 600 people. There were three poster presentation sessions at which I presented my research entitled Connectedness to nature: how does it shape psychological well-being in the face of climate change? I had some tremendous feedback on my work from Professor Joseph Reser, from the School of Applied Psychology and Research Fellow at Griffith University's Climate Change Response Program and Professor Dr Iqbal Kabir, Epidemiologist and Coordinator of the Climate Change and Health Promotion Unit with the Ministry of health and Family Welfare in Bangladesh.

The Conference was intense with over 200 presentations across 7 parallel sessions, concurrent panel sessions and plenaries A/Professor Erica Bell gave two excellent presentations; one on human responding to the health effects of climate change and another on health adaptation

policy. Both presentations were well attended and followed by lively questions and discussion.

Ha Hoang – The last train journey on PhD study

I am always excited when invited to write the news for the Rural Health Graduate Research Newsletter. I am very happy to share with you some news in the past three months!

Firstly, I have recently received the formal letter from the Dean of the Graduate Research to approve my thesis corrections. I am so excited that I will be attending the Graduation Ceremony in August this year in Launceston. This is going to be one of the most memorable days in my life!

Secondly, I was very fortunate to have an opportunity to attend and present my paper at the Wonca Jeju 2012 Asia Pacific Regional Conference from 24-27 May, 2012, in Jeju Island, South Korea. Presenting my paper entitled "*Complete and detailed picture of maternal needs of women in rural areas of Tasmania, Australia*" to the international audience at the conference before I graduate, gave me a great sense of accomplishment. Apart from that, I have met, exchanged ideas with and learnt from many inspiring researchers and experts around the world. I am sure that the experiences that I have had from the conference will greatly benefit my research career.

Thirdly, I have completed my write-up scholarship provided by the Department of Rural Health in June. I have written and submitted the three manuscripts. At the time of writing, I have just learned that my manuscript submitted to Women and Birth Journal is accepted with some revision. I will keep you updated with the other two manuscripts in the next newsletter.

Finally, I would like to say thank you for the great support from the Department of Rural Health and my supervision team **Dr Quynh Le, Professor Sue Kilpatrick** and **Dr Rosa McManamey**. The achievements that I have had so far are the success of the team work and due to the generous support from the Department.



Drs Ha Hoang and Quynh Le at the 6th WONCA conference in South Korea, 24 - 27 May 2012

Daniel Terry – A tale of two conference cities

Well another six months have passed, where has the time gone? My view from the window has changed completely. The graduate student's office has again moved. Graduate researchers are now located in the AMC, Connell building at the Newham campus in Launceston. My view is of my cubical and nothing else, which is metaphorical for 'stop day dreaming and get to work'. So although the view will be missed it is a welcome change as it is now time to get to work.

The past six months has been full of data collection, transcribing and analysis and amongst all this excitement. I have been fortunate to present papers at The International conference: Innovative research in changing and challenging world, Phuket, Thailand 16-18 May, 2012 and also at the Fifth International Asian & Ethnic Minority Health and Wellbeing Conference, Auckland, New Zealand 27-28 June, 2012.

The conference in Phuket was informative, wonderful and magnificent. I was fortunate to present my current doctoral studies early in the conference and was privileged to hear and experience some of the wonderful work which is being conducted internationally. Each of the keynote addresses were inspirational and deeply stimulating, with a few respected champions of research being met throughout the conference. Lastly, new international relationships and connections were made at the conference which will contribute future collaboration and research.

As I flew into New Zealand I was met with rain and snow coming up from the south island, however at the conference there was a sense of warmth and an eagerness to share. The conference was opened with a traditional Maori welcome by the local leaders followed by keynote addresses and presentations. I was particularly impressed to see and hear from the secretary for the minister of health and how New Zealand was focussed on migrant health and wellbeing, particularly that of Asian migrants. I was also pleased to hear the work of Professor Elias Mpofu from University of Sydney. Again I presented early which allowed me time to sit and be inspired and immersed by the international research being shared.

As I left each of these wonderful countries I reflected on the feeling of fullness I had felt from each of the conferences and also from the people I met in both countries. Each experience has left me inspired and wanting more.



Daniel Terry at the Fifth International Asian & Ethnic Minority Health and Wellbeing Conference, Auckland, New Zealand 27-28 June, 2012.

Joanne Yeoh – A journey outward is a journey inward

Time flies. It has been 4 months I become one part of UDRH member. Although it was difficult to get the target of research at the beginning, however, within these months, I am gradually moving on the right track of the PhD research journey. I have found out research is interesting and challenging stuff to face. It needs a lot of effort and, of course, guidance and support from supervisors, UDRH staffs and fellow friends. What I would like to share here is one of the most exciting things that I have experienced in these four months. International conference!! It is the first time I have attended an international conference "Innovative Research in a Changing and Challenging World" at Phuket, Thailand. It was really informative and I learnt a lot from the conference. As a novice researcher, it was a good chance for me to socialize and share experiences with others researchers and professionals from all around the world. Besides, I had the chance to present my master dissertation paper at the conference. The climax of the conference was the conference dinner which was multicultural, and each of us needed to wear our traditional costumes. The dinner was full of fun, enjoyable and loaded with events that never made us bored. Of course, the food was delicious. Overall, the conference was awesome. The experience



Joanne Yeoh (second from the left) and conference delegates at the Innovative Research in a Changing and Challenging World conference in Phuket 16 - 18 May 2012

that I gained from the conference was a valuable gift that cannot be gotten from any books.

RURAL HEALTH

GR Conference 2012 – Sharing Excellence in Research (SEiR)

The Graduate Research Conference, Sharing Excellence in Research (SEiR), which will be held on 6 – 7 September 2012 in University Centre, Sandy Bay campus, Hobart, is an annual event convened by the Tasmania University Union Postgraduate Council and the Graduate Research Office. This select meeting aims to bring graduate research candidates from all UTAS campuses and disciplines together for two days to showcase their work - ideas, progress and findings - and the excellence and diversity of graduate research at UTAS.

Participants must register to attend the Conference by **Friday 3 August** at: <http://www.utas.edu.au/research/graduate-research/current/gr-conference/gr-conference-registration-form-2012>

For those defending and presenting a poster, an abstract must also be submitted to postgrad.conference@utas.edu.au on the Abstract Submission Form by **17 August 2012**.

The accommodation and travel assistance bursary will be offered to registrants who are presenting and defending a poster, or competing in the 3MT competition. The bursary must have been requested on the online registration form to be eligible for payment.

2012 Rural Health Symposium

We are pleased to let you know that the Rural Health Graduate Research Symposium this year will be organised at Tramsheds, Launceston on Monday, 12 November 2012.

The Symposium is co-organised by University Department of Rural Health, Rural Clinical School, and the Launceston Clinical School to provide opportunities for research in progress sharing, professional and interpersonal networking, and a chance to reflect individually and collectively on our research journey. The Symposium is an indication of a dynamic research and collaborative spirit will definitely enhance the quality of research interaction and social networking.

Please register your attendance at: https://secure001.utas.edu.au/ruralhealth/seminar_registration/graduate-research-activities.php

Saying goodbye to the Anne O'Byrne Building in Launceston

As most of you are aware, early June saw the relocation of the UDRH from the Anne O'Byrne Building (AOB) to 4 temporary locations on Newnham campus. Thank you to all UDRH staff for your patience throughout the transition.

Once all the packing and unpacking had been done, it was time to reflect on the many happy years spent in the AOB building. Staff attended a "Farewell to AOB" function and

reflected on their experiences over the 15 years. We were fortunate to have such a large amount of space and even a staff room, we now have items scattered throughout many storage locations. We were also within walking distance to our colleagues at the Launceston Clinical School and also many great cafes.

The Graduate Research staff are all located in the one area. Quynh, Tony, Kim together with Lindie, Jess and Jade are in the TUU building, Z block, on the 1st floor (which is directly opposite Kerslake Hall). Please call and see us next time you are on Campus. We will have to move again and are all looking forward to our wonderful new refurbished space which will be completed early in 2013.

Leaving and saying goodbye is always hard to do, particularly when our emotion is deeply attached to the old home (Anne O'Byrne Centre) and becomes an important part of our existence as an organisation. Interestingly, moving to a new working environment on the Launceston Campus is also an exciting transformative journey for us, collectively and individually. There are always fascinating windows for exploration and growth, socially and academically.

Conference funding grant for honorary research supervisors

The Rural Health Graduate Research program is offering one Rural Health conference funding grant in 2012 for honorary research supervisor. The grant will cover conference registration, travel and accommodation up to \$2000 per award. This grant is designed to allow research-active honorary research supervisors to attend a national/international conference to enhance their research progress and networking.

To be eligible for this conference funding grant, the applicant must be an honorary research supervisor currently supervising students who are enrolled with the University Department of Rural Health. Closing date for applications is Monday, **29 October 2012**. The date of the conference must be within the year of application. Application form is available at: <http://www.utas.edu.au/rural-health/graduate-research/scholarships>

Collaborative graduate research student support program

The program has been running this year by videoconference to several locations and I am very pleased to report that the sessions have been well attended by RHDs and staff. We have been able to

RURAL HEALTH

August 2012

8

Issue 2

add the School of Nursing's Sydney Campuses to the sessions this year and the feedback from students there has been terrific. It is great that we are able to reach so many and that students and staff are able to benefit from the wealth of knowledge to be gathered.

We would like to thank the Graduate Research supervisors, guest speakers and staff who have given of their time to pass on their knowledge and their passion to our students. The updated Collaborative Research Program for the rest of the year can be found at: <http://www.utas.edu.au/rural-health/graduate-research/support-program>

Event calendar in 2012

- **Using theory as a framework for research**, Wednesday 18 July, 12 noon – 2pm, videoconferencing, Presenter: Professor Sue Kilpatrick.
- **Childhood Determinants of Adult Health** (tentative), Thursday, 26 July, 12.30-1.30pm, videoconferencing, Prof. Alison Venn
- **Southern Postgraduate Forum**, Wednesday 1 August, 1.00 – 2.30pm, CML Videoconferencing room, HBT.
- **Oral communication /presentation skills**, Wednesday 8 August, 12 noon – 2pm, videoconferencing, Presenter: A/Prof Dominic Geraghty.
- **Systematic Review Part II**, Wednesday 22 August, 12 – 2pm, videoconferencing, Presenter: Prof Timothy Skinner.
- **Southern Postgraduate Forum**, Thursday 13 September, 1.00 – 2.30pm, CML Videoconferencing room, HBT.
- **Statistical Analysis of Information from Questionnaires**, Wednesday, 19 September, 12.00-3.00pm, videoconferencing, Presenter: Dr Thomas Hartley.
- **Coding your interview data samples**, Wednesday 20 September, 10.30 – 3.30pm, Venue: Launceston Presenter: Dr Peter Orpin.
- **NVivo 10 workshop**, Thu 27 – Fri 28 September, 2012, Venue: Launceston Presenter: Sue Bullen (QSR International).
- **Statistical Analysis of Measurements**, Wednesday 10 October, 12.00-2.00pm, videoconferencing, Dr Thomas Hartley.
- **Southern Postgraduate Forum**, Friday 26 October, 1.00 – 2.30pm, CML Videoconferencing room, HBT.
- **Using SPSS for Understanding and Analysing Data Part I**, Wednesday 31 October, 12.00-3.00pm, videoconferencing, Daniel Terry and Dr Quynh Le.
- **Using SPSS for Understanding and Analysing Data Part II**, Wednesday 21 November, 12.00-3.00pm, videoconferencing, Daniel Terry and Dr Quynh Le.
- **Rural Health Graduate Research Symposium**, Tramsheds Launceston, Monday 12 November 2012.
- **Southern Postgraduate Forum**, Monday, 10 December, 1.00 – 2.30pm, CML Videoconferencing room, HBT.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue of The Rural Health Graduate Research News. Somehow, we feel that it has brought us a bit closer socially and emotionally by reading the shared stories of our graduate research journeys. In this regard, we feel the implication of Wittgenstein's statement mentioned at the beginning: *"The limit of my words is the limit of my world."* Yes, we hope that the news could be a collective bridge both bringing news from different research horizons and also connecting us together in our rural health graduate research family.

Quynh Lê and Kim Izard



Photo courtesy of Darren Grattidge