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CENTRE DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE

It is with great pleasure that I present the 2014 Annual Report for the Centre for Midwifery, Child and Family Health (CMCFH). The CMCFH is part of the Faculty of Health at the University of Technology Sydney (UTS).

The intent of the CMCFH is to improve the health of families through leadership in midwifery, child and family health research, education, practice development and consultancy, nationally and internationally. Our focus is on childbearing women*, families with children and young people.

As part of the Faculty, the CMCFH is committed to meeting the Faculty’s Strategic Plan 2013-2015 which is to be “to be a world-leading Faculty of Health”. The CMCFH aims to address the Faculty’s Strategic Focus which is to:

- ensure globally relevant research-inspired teaching and learning
- lead interdisciplinary approaches to health development and collaboration
- produce world class research with global impact
- develop graduates who are leaders in their profession
- maximise state of the art technology-rich learning environments

The CMCFH conducts research that improves the quality of practice and services provided by practitioners, particularly midwives and nurses. We also undertake research to improve the systems responsible for the delivery of that care. Our activities inform education, practice and policy development, service delivery, technical advice and consultancy.

The CMCFH brings together a wonderful team of energetic and enthusiastic academics and professional staff. I am very pleased to be able to lead such an impressive team of leaders in teaching, learning and research in midwifery, child and family health, paediatrics and children’s nursing. Our higher degree research students are an important part of the CMCFH and as you can see in the report there are many important studies taking place as a result of their activity. All of the endeavours that you will read about are made possible by the able support of our professional staff.

I hope you enjoy our 2014 Annual Report.

Caroline Homer

Director of the Centre for Midwifery, Child and Family Health

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*Childbearing women also includes their unborn and newly born infant(s) and their partners and support people.
CENTRE NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS

Professor Homer is elected President of the Australian College of Midwives (ACM).
In October 2014, Professor Caroline Homer was elected to the post of President of the Australian College of Midwives (ACM), an extremely important and highly prestigious leadership role for midwifery in Australia and internationally.

Dean’s Academic Excellence Award 2014
Associate Professor Joanne Gray, (Associate Dean, Teaching & Learning) was awarded the Dean’s Academic Excellence Award for Leadership.

Professor Cathrine Fowler releases new book for parents
The CMCFH is very proud of Professor Cathrine Fowler’s new book called ‘Hello Baby: Parenting with Confidence: A Tresillian Guide’ released by the Tresillian Family Care Centres, Sydney. This is an important book for new parents and is widely available for the community.

Celebrating International Day of the Midwife (5 May) and International Nurses Day (12 May)
This year, the Faculty of Health, UTS celebrated the International day of the Midwife and International Nurses Day and the invaluable contribution that nurses and midwives makes to the health of society. The Dean of the Faculty, John Daly, and a panel of judges awarded the UTS Midwife of the Year to Alison Cummins.

Professor Jane Sandall received Honorary Doctorate from UTS
The CMCFH was delighted when our friend and colleague Professor Jane Sandall from King’s College London was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Health Sciences from UTS. The award was conferred at the graduation ceremony in October.

UTS Human Rights Awards
The CMCFH was well represented at the UTS Human Rights Awards. Professor Homer was highly commended and Sabera Turkmani was awarded the Jo Wilton Memorial Award for Women.

Success in Learning 2014 Festival Grants
The following team members from the CMCFH were also awarded Learning 2014 Festival Grants:

- **Rosemarie Hogan**, Fiona Orr and **Allison Cummins**: To develop the FLAG project from 2013, ‘Building students’ skills and resilience in challenging clinical situations
- **Rachel Smith and Joanne Gray**: Development of learning and teaching resources for Bachelor of Primary Health Care
- **Rosemarie Hogan**: Learning from the experts: developing a series of videoed interviews with experts on a number of topics which are closely related to clinical practice and course learning outcomes
- **Rachel Smith**: Improving the off-campus learning experience - Bachelor of Primary Health Care
- Tamara Power, Claudia Virdun, Anna Doab, Lisa Townsend, Joanne Gray: ‘Think like a Nurse‘: Developing an immersive first year ‘boot camp’ to support the development of a professional disposition
- Elizabeth Denney-Wilson and Angela Dawson: To support the development of new resources to be used in the postgraduate subject ‘Primary Health Care’

UTS Alumni Award for Excellence 2014 - Faculty of Health

Leona McGrath, Bachelor of Midwifery 2009, Acting Manager, Aboriginal Nursing and Midwifery Strategy, NSW Ministry of Health won the UTS Alumni Award for Excellence. Starting out as a midwife in the Malabar Community Midwifery Practice, a service specifically for Aboriginal women, she became a natural mentor for other Indigenous midwives and students. After just four years of practice, she was actively recruited by NSW Health to lead the ministry’s strategy to address the critical shortfall in numbers of Aboriginal nurses and midwives. Her work is placing Australian midwives on the world stage, a fact recognised by the Australian College of Midwives in selecting Leona to carry the Australian flag – and for the first time at this forum, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags – at the opening of the International Conference of Midwives Congress that was held this year.

Marking 25 years since the Shearman Report

In January 1989, the ‘Shearman Report” was released and the CMCFH held a seminar titled ‘Remembering the past and creating the future for maternity care’ to celebrating 25 years since the Report. This was the first Australian report about maternity services and as such has influenced service provision across the country. The Report recommended a raft of changes in maternity care, many of which have since been implemented. Some of these changes included continuity of midwifery care, community-based care with postnatal early discharge and home visiting from midwives, and greater attention to the social and emotional needs of women and mental health assessments. NSW has led the way nationally with the Towards Normal Birth policy, much of which can be traced back to the recommendations from Shearman and other changes over the past 25 years. The seminar celebrated this milestone and paid tribute to the immense work that has occurred in the past 25 years to improve services for women, babies and their families.

The Lancet - Research shows midwifery's "vital potential" to save lives

Professor Caroline Homer was the only Australian author in The Lancet Series on Midwifery published in June 2014. She led a study estimating the number of deaths that could be averted in 78 countries if midwifery services were scaled up. The Lancet said that this and other papers in the series showed the scale of the positive impact that can be achieved when effective, high-quality midwifery is available to all women and their babies. Apart from saving lives, it also improves their continuing health and wellbeing and has other long-lasting benefits.

UTS plays a part in the State of the World’s Midwifery Report 2014

The second State of the World’s Midwifery Report (SoWMy) was launched at the Congress of the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) in Prague in June. For the first time, UTS was a partner in the development of the report, with Professor Homer being a member of the Core Group responsible for writing the report and a member of the Secretariat which was led by ICS Integrare. The report,
produced by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM), the World Health Organization (WHO) and several other partners, shows the progress and trends that have taken place since the inaugural 2011 edition, and also identifies the barriers and challenges to future progress.

Supporting the rebirth of midwifery in Papua New Guinea

Since starting in 2012, the PNG Maternal and Child Health Initiative in PNG has improved learning and collaboration opportunities for midwifery educators, as well as established a better clinical education experience for students. More midwives have graduated in the past two years than in the previous decade. We have undertaken this project through the UTS World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Nursing, Midwifery and Health development. This year, 10 clinical midwifery facilitators and two obstetricians were employed by the initiative and supported by the team at UTS to work with course coordinators and educators in the four national midwifery schools, with a fifth school nearing completion in East New Britain.
OUR CENTRE TEAM IN 2014 (in alphabetical order)

The CMCFH staff includes the professoriate, lecturers, research staff and professional support staff.

Milena Andreevska is the Centre’s Administrative Assistant and provides high level project administration, coordination and management for the CMCFH.

Pat Brodie AM is an Adjunct Professor with the Faculty. She has been involved in a wide range of midwifery practice, teaching, research and management roles that span over 25 years in Australia. In 2013 she was the Midwifery Advisor and Mentor with the CMCFH and the UTS WHO Collaborating Centre at UTS, in particular, playing a significant role with the PNG Maternal and Child Health Initiative (MCHI).

Jennifer Bell is the Project Manager for the BUMP Project – Birth Utilising Midwifery Practice. This is a randomised controlled trial of midwifery continuity of care for women who have had a previous caesarean section (funded by NHMRC).

Nikki Brown is a Nursing Lecturer and coordinator of the Graduate Certificate in Child and Family Health with special expertise in children, family health and paediatrics. Nikki recently completed a Master of Nursing (Honours) by Research, investigating parental self-efficacy in the management of children’s asthma. She has is undertaking a PhD investigating family based interventions to support smoking cessation.

Christine Catling is a Midwifery Lecturer. She has past roles in hospital policy development and antenatal education. She graduated from her PhD in 2013 and is the coordinator of the National Publicly-Funded Homebirth Consortium.

Allison Cummins is a Midwifery Lecturer and coordinator of the Graduate Diploma in Midwifery Degree. She has been a practising midwife with over 20 years’ experience and has the notation of eligible midwife. She is currently undertaking a PhD about new graduate midwives working in midwifery continuity of care.

Angela Dawson is a Lecturer in the Faculty of Health. She is a Social Scientist with over 20 years’ experience in the areas of health services research, Indigenous and international primary health care workforce development, health promotion and health communication.

Maralyn Foureur is a Professor of Midwifery. Maralyn is leading research into place of birth and the next birth after a previous caesarean section (NHMRC funded) and she leads the Birth Unit Design project (ARC Discovery funded). She is currently engaged in the provision of expert technical advice to the architectural and design team responsible for the design of a new maternity unit for the Royal North Shore Hospital in Sydney, based on the findings of the Birth Unit Design study.

Cathrine Fowler is the Professor for the Tresillian Chair in Child and Family Health. Cathrine’s research and clinical practice interests focus on parental learning and developing interventions with families who experience complex and high risk lives. Cathrine is currently leading research into the parenting education and support needs of incarcerated mothers and fathers within the NSW Correctional System.
Joanne Gray is the Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning in the Faculty. Joanne has played a key role in the development and implementation of midwifery curricula over many years, In 2013-14, Joanne was the Chair of the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council’s Expert Advisory Committee to develop the new national midwifery education standards. In late 2014, Joanne was elected to the important position of Chair of the UTS Academic Board.

Karen Gomez is the Project Administrator providing high level project administration, coordination and management for the CMCFH.

Athena Hammond is a research assistant on the BUD Project- Birth Unit Design. This work extends her interest in the field of birth unit design and the impact of the birth environment on the practices of midwives, which is also the subject of her PhD research.

Rosemarie Hogan is a Midwifery Lecturer and the coordinator of the Bachelor of Midwifery course. Rosemarie has worked in a broad range of clinical practice areas as a nurse and midwife in Ireland, London and Sydney. Rosemarie is currently leading teaching and learning grants in the Faculty and established a midwifery student mentoring program for undergraduate midwifery students.

Caroline Homer is Professor and Director of the Centre for Midwifery, Child and Family Health. She has led research into the development and implementation of models of midwifery care and the development of midwifery practice and education. She is currently leading a number of studies funded by NHMRC and the ARC as well as being the Director of the WHO Maternal and Child Health Initiative in PNG.

Nicky Leap is an Adjunct Professor with the Faculty and works closely with the CMCFH leading and supporting ongoing projects and research students. She is currently working as a Researcher and Consultant on the Birth Unit Design Project and co-supervisors higher degree research students in the CMCFH.

Lin Lock is an Associate Professor in the Faculty and involved in teaching and learning activities in relation to midwifery education across all levels in the Faculty as well as consultancy work with the UTS WHO CC.

Vanessa Scarf is the Project Manager for the Birthplace in Australia Study which is funded by the NHMRC. Vanessa has more than 20 years experience as a clinical midwife most recently at the Royal North Shore Hospital.

Athena Sheehan is Associate Professor of Midwifery and the Director of Midwifery Studies at UTS. Athena teaches across the Bachelor of Midwifery and Graduate Diploma of Midwifery courses and supervises HDR students. Athena’s research work focuses on infant feeding. Her current work focuses on breast milk expression. Athena is also leading the consortium of NSW midwifery academics which provides leadership, coordination and advice on midwifery education issues.

Rachel Smith worked with the CMCFH and the UTS WHO Collaborating Centre in 2014 on a number of projects and contributed to the midwifery teaching. She was the Project Manager Development for the Building Strong Foundations for Aboriginal Children, Families and Communities (BSF) Program Service Standards for NSW Kids and Families (NSW Ministry of Health).
Maree Stenglin is a Social Semiotician and Research Associate of the Faculty and involved in writing publications with Maralyn Foureur on the theory of Binding and Bonding, a theory applied to the study of Birth Unit Design.

Nicki Watts was the Research Midwife on the Breeching in the System Project. The aim of the study was to explore the experiences of women who chose a vaginal breech birth and the midwives and doctors who cared for them. Nicki also assisted with midwifery teaching through the year.

Val Wilson is the Professor of Nursing Research and Practice Development at UTS and The Sydney Children’s Hospitals Network (at Westmead). Her focus is on working with clinicians to develop person-centred approaches to care, that are both evidenced based and take into account the needs of patients and families. Her research focus is in practice development, facilitation, evaluation, and knowledge translation using action orientated approaches.

Farewells

At the end of 2014, the CMCFH farewelled Associate Processor Athena Sheehan from the Faculty. Athena was the Director of Midwifery Studies for the past two and a half years and had made a significant contribution to midwifery education at UTS.

We also farewelled Jenny Bell, the BUMP study project manager. Jenny left to UTS to return to clinical practice at Blacktown Hospital.
OBJECTIVES

Each of our Objectives relate to our discipline areas of midwifery, child and family health and paediatric nursing and the health care of young people:

1. Provide leadership in midwifery, child and family health research and education including continuing professional development, practice development and consultancy;
2. Conduct high quality research to increase our understanding of the physiology of midwifery, child and family health of childbirth and to improve the quality of practice, services and systems;
3. Develop and evaluate practice development initiatives that are based on evidence and best practice;
4. Collaborate with, inform and influence, policy makers;
5. Investigate system-level reform of health care provision;
6. Contribute to, and participate in, the educational and professional development of midwives, nurses and other relevant health care workers;
7. Build capacity and enable research students and early career researchers;
8. Foster collaborative relationships and interdisciplinary research that lead to interdisciplinary research and practice development and knowledge translation;
9. Provide technical, evidence-based, consultancy services.

The CMCFH has four main streams of work:
- Stream 1 - Strengthening and supporting women, children and families
- Stream 2 - Changing policy and systems for women, children, young people and families
- Stream 3 - Developing workforce capacity and practice in nurses and midwives
- Stream 4 - Improving Aboriginal maternal, child and family health

FUNCTION

The CMCFH is based in the Faculty of Health and aims to:
- Provide a focus for and promoting an existing or emerging key strategic UTS academic identity and expertise;
- Operate as a hub for interdisciplinary, collaborative approaches to UTS academic activity;
- Actively engage with professional practice;
- Support significant UTS external engagement with the professions, business, industry, government and the community.

Activities of the CMCFH in meeting the above focuses primarily on the following areas:
- Research and HDR supervision
- Ongoing consulting and technical advice to health services nationally and internationally
- Professional leadership including evaluations and reviews
- Seminar series and workshops including topical seminars identifying current issues with national and international speakers.
OUR RESEARCH PROGRAM

We have a vibrant research program designed to address our objectives. Some of these projects are detailed in this section. Many of the projects are across more than one stream but for the ease of presentation that are placed in one stream in this report.

STREAM 1 – STRENGTHENING AND SUPPORTING WOMEN, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Birth Unit Design Project

The Birth Unit Design (BUD) Project is an ongoing program of work designed to examine the design of maternity units. We have video recorded women during their labour and immediately after the birth of their baby, as well as interviewed the women, their supporters and maternity unit staff. Data analysis continued in 2014 as two PhD students are using parts of the data for their own studies around aspects of Birth Unit Design. The project is led by Professor Maralyn Foureur in collaboration with the Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building and the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (UTS).

**Funding:** Initially funded by a UTS Challenge Grant (2010) and from 2011-2013 funded through an ARC Discovery Grant.

**UTS staff involved:** Maralyn Foureur, Caroline Homer, Nicky Leap, Athena Hammond, Calida Bowden, J.Davis Harte (FoH), Ian Forbes (DAB), Rick Iedema (FASS), Berto Pandolfo (DAB). Other research partners in the project are now located at Griffith University Queensland, University of Canberra ACT and Kwantlen Polytechnic in Vancouver, Canada.

Australian Maternity Outcomes Surveillance Study (AMOSS) – the Vasa Previa Study

The Australasian Maternity Outcomes Surveillance System (AMOSS) is led by Professor Elizabeth Sullivan. The project initially collected data on severe obstetric conditions and interventions, including eclampsia, embolisms, morbid obesity, severe haemorrhage and emergency hysterectomy. The most recent study that includes the CMCFH is a study of Vasa Previa.

**Funding:** International Vasa Previa Foundation

**UTS staff involved:** Caroline Homer

Birth Utilising Midwifery Practice (BUMP): A randomised controlled trial

This trial is designed to determine whether midwifery continuity of care for women with a previous caesarean section increases the proportion of women who attempt vaginal birth in their current pregnancy. The trial is being undertaken at Gosford Hospital (NSW) with a second site commenced in late 2014 (Gold Coast Hospital, Queensland).

The study is led by Caroline Homer at UTS with other chief investigators including Prof Maralyn Foureur (UTS); Prof Deborah Davis (UoC); Prof Jon Adams (UTS), Dr Alison Porteous (Gosford Hospital).

**Funding:** NHMRC Project Grant (2012-2015)

**UTS staff and students involved:** Caroline Homer, Maralyn Foureur, Jon Adams, Jenny Bell
Breeching in the system: Expectations and experiences surrounding a planned vaginal breech birth

This is a qualitative study being undertaken in collaboration with the Royal Hospital for Women, NSW. The first aim is to explore experiences of women who have a breech presentation late in pregnancy and decide to have a vaginal breech birth especially in relation to their: decision-making processes regarding the mode of birth and their labour and birth regardless of whether it was vaginal breech or caesarean section. The second aim is to explore the experience of clinicians who have counselled and attended women who plan a vaginal breech birth.

Funding: Australian College of Midwives (NSW Branch) Research Scholarship.

UTS staff and students involved: Caroline Homer, Andrew Bisits, Nicole Watts, Karol Petrovska, Chauncey Sjostedt.

Breaking-the-Cycle for Incarcerated Parents: Towards Pro-Social Parenting

This study aims to develop new knowledge about NSW incarcerated parents’ learning and support needs to enable a shift towards pro-social parenting practices. The expected BTC study outcomes include: 1) generation of new knowledge about incarcerated parents and their parenting including current knowledge, skills requirements, support needs and appropriate delivery points for parenting interventions; 2) an increased evidence base to inform CSNSW policies and inform the design and implementation of effective parenting support and education interventions for incarcerated parents; 3) enhanced understanding of the effectiveness of two parenting programs for parents in custody (and those run under CSNSW supervision in the community).

Funding: UTS Partnership Grant, and additional funding from Corrective Services NSW and Keep Them Safe funding (2013-2015)

UTS staff involved: Cathrine Fowler, Angela Dawson, Tamara Power, Michael Roche, Debra Jackson and Chris Rossiter

The Tresillian Experience: Parent and Infant Journey

This project is using data collected as part of a pre-existing quality activity designed by the NSW Ministry of Health - client experience project. A nurse has interviewed clients asking questions about their experience at Tresillian. It is anticipated this study will provide information to assist in Tresillian’s service development.

Funding: Tresillian Family Care Centres (2013-2014)

UTS Staff Involved: Cathrine Fowler
STREAM 2 – CHANGING POLICY AND SYSTEMS FOR WOMEN, CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

Universal health services for pregnant women, children and families in Australia

This program of work is led by Associate Professor Virginia Schmied at UWS. The study is complete and final publications are now being completed.

**Funding**: ARC Linkage Grant (2010-2013)

**UTS staff involved**: Cathrine Fowler, Caroline Homer

**Birthplace in Australia**

This study aims to guide national maternity policy by providing evidence on place of birth. The aim is to examine the neonatal mortality and morbidity associated with births that at the onset of labour are planned to be at (1) home, in birth centres or in stand-alone midwifery units with (2) those planned to be in standard labour wards for women at ‘low risk’ of complications. It is a replication of the Birthplace in England study. The study is led by Caroline Homer at UTS with other chief investigators including Prof David Ellwood (ANU); Prof Jeremy Oats (University of Melbourne); Prof Maralyn Foureur (UTS); Prof David Sibbritt (UTS); A/Prof Helen McLachlan Prof Della Foster (La Trobe); (La Trobe); Prof Hannah Dahlen (UWS)

**Funding**: NHMRC Project Grant (2012-2015)

**UTS staff and students involved**: Caroline Homer, Maralyn Foureur, David Sibbritt, Vanessa Scarf, Rebecca Coddington, Deborah Fox

**National Publicly-funded Homebirth Consortium**

In 2010, the CMCFH established the first National Publicly-funded Homebirth Consortium in Australia. Two papers have been published on publicly-funded homebirth on behalf of the Consortium:

The current aims of the Consortium are to:

- Be an effective network of the publicly-funded homebirth models of care in Australia
- Act as a resource for new models being developed around the country

**UTS staff and students involved**: Christine Catling, Caroline Homer, Maralyn Foureur, Rebecca Coddington, Deborah Fox.

STREAM 3 – DEVELOPING WORKFORCE CAPACITY AND PRACTICE

**Midwifery Transitions, Retention, Experiences and Choices – the MidTREC Study**

This is a longitudinal study of midwifery students graduating from 2008-2012. The aim is to analyse and track workforce participation trends in Australian midwifery graduates over a 5 year period and identify personal and organisational factors that influence the workforce participation of these graduates.

**Funding**: Chancellor’s Doctoral Scholarship (2012-2015)

**UTS staff involved**: Caroline Homer, Joanne Gray, Annabel Sheehy

**The Teamwork-Learning-Change (TLC) model – NSW**
The study evaluated the implementation and ongoing effectiveness of the TLC model in nine paediatric clinical units in NSW. The work builds on a funded research study Enhancing ‘Family Centred Care’ to improve the health and psychosocial outcomes of hospitalised children (Wilson, V. Kelly M. & Aston J.). The study involved a process of culture mapping in the nine clinical units to enable staff to identify things that are working really well in their workplaces, establish areas that could be improved upon and to priorities and take action aimed at improving outcomes for children, families and staff.

**UTS staff involved:** Val Wilson

**Improving the Evidence to inform the Health System’s response to Female Genital Mutilation and Cutting**

This project is being undertaken in collaboration with Dr Nesrin Varol and Dr Kirsten Black at the University of Sydney and Dr Greg Jenkins and Susie Nanayakkara from Auburn Hospital. Dr Angela Dawson as part of the CMCFH is the UTS-lead. The project is working with the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists to develop an online educational resource for maternity care providers. The project is also studying the outcomes for women in NSW who have experienced FGM.

**Funding:** Department of Health and Aging (DoHA)

**UTS staff involved:** Angela Dawson, Sabera Turkmani, Caroline Homer
CONSULTING AND TECHNICAL ADVICE

The CMCFH continues to provide consultancy and industry support to health services internationally as well here in NSW and throughout Australia. Some examples are presented in this section.

National Antenatal Guidelines

Professor Caroline Homer and Professor Jeremy Oats have been co-chairing the Expert Advisory Group for the National Antenatal Guidelines for the Department of Health and Ageing since 2008. We were thrilled that 2013 saw the release of Module 1 of the guidelines. Module 2 was released in the latter half of 2014.

Development of the Building Strong Foundations for Aboriginal Children, Families and Communities (BSF) Program Service Standards

This project was undertaken for NSW Kids and Families, NSW Ministry of Health. The Building Strong Foundations (BSF) Service Standards are designed to assist health services, clinical stream directors, managers and BSF staff to ensure BSF programs are delivered with fidelity to support Aboriginal families, children and communities so that Aboriginal children have the best start to life, are healthy and ready for school. The project included Professor Caroline Homer, Dr Angela Dawson, Professor Cathrine Fowler, Professor Juanita Sherwood, Professor David Sibbritt and Rachel Smith.
INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

The CMCFH works closely with the UTS WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Workforce (UTS WHO CC) on a number of projects. The largest of these is the Maternal and Child Health Initiative in Papua New Guinea.

Maternal and Child Health Initiative (PNG)

In late 2011, the Maternal Child Health Initiative (MCHI) in Papua New Guinea (PNG) was funded by AusAID. The long-term goal of the MCHI is to build midwifery capacity in PNG to ultimately reduce maternal and child deaths. The MCHI is led by the National Department of Health in PNG and the University of Technology, Sydney (UTS WHO CC through accessUTS) is sub-contracted to provide a range of services. UTS have employed 10 clinical midwifery facilitators (CMF) and two obstetricians. The CMFs are placed in the five midwifery schools and the obstetricians are working in two regional hospitals.

Three education and capacity building workshops per year have been implemented for national midwifery educators, course coordinators and obstetricians, clinicians and CMFs. Fortnightly teleconferences with the CMs provide a mentoring role and ensure capacity building can occur effectively.


CMCFH staff involved: Caroline Homer, Pat Brodie, Angela Dawson and Amanda Neill and Michele Rumsey (UTS WHO CC)

Integrare - Higher Burden Countries Initiative

Professor Homer provided technical services to update the High Burden Countries Initiative Operational Guidance and Assessment Framework (OGAF) and convert it to an operational handbook on “How to Conduct a Midwifery Workforce Assessment” to be jointly published by UNFPA, other agencies and other UN Agencies in 2015.

Integrare - The State of the World’s Midwifery 2014

Professor Homer’s s was engaged to assist ICS Integrare in providing technical inputs for the development of the State of the World’s Midwifery 2014’ report. The report will provide a detailed analysis of the present progress and future challenges to deliver effective coverage of midwifery services, aligning with the 75 countries that collectively represent more than 95% of the global burden of maternal, neonatal and child deaths.

Evaluation of the Reproductive Health Training Unit (PNG)

Professor Caroline Homer is part of the team in the UTS WHO Collaborating Centre contracted to undertake the monitoring and evaluation of the PNG Reproductive Health Training Unit (RHTU). The PNG Reproductive Health Training Unit is a novel public-private health education partnership intended to assist interested provinces to improve reproductive health service delivery and indicators. It is being established in phases at the request of the National Department of Health to develop and deliver PNG-contextualized Reproductive Health in-service training for their health workers, as well as RH educators (pre-service, post-graduate and in-service educators).
Funding: Australian Government and Oil Search Health Foundation (2013-2016).

CMCFH staff involved: Jodi Thiessen (UTS WHO CC), Michele Rumsey (UTS WHO CC), Caroline Homer

Recognise and Respond to Child Abuse and Neglect Presentations at Children’s Hospital Ho Chi Minh City

Professor Cathrine Fowler is a member Advisory Committee Health Services Development in Việt Nam to Recognise and Respond to Child Abuse and Neglect Presentations at Children’s Hospital Ho Chi Minh City – Sydney University School of Nursing.

CMCFH staff involved: Cathrine Fowler
PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

• Members of the Centre were involved in providing professional leadership during 2013. Some examples include:
  o President of the Australian College of Midwives – Caroline Homer
  o Co-Chair, National Antenatal Guidelines Expert Advisory Committee – Caroline Homer
  o President, NSW Branch of the Australian College of Midwives – Joanne Gray
  o Chair, Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council (ANMAC) Midwifery Expert Advisory Group to review Midwifery Education Standards - Joanne Gray
  o Deputy Chair, Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council (ANMAC) Midwifery Accreditation Committee, Joanne Gray
  o President of the Council of Children’s Nurses – Nicola Brown
  o NSW Kids and families, NSW Ministry of Health, Maternal and Perinatal Health Advisory Group – Caroline Homer
  o International Practice Development Collaborative – Val Wilson
  o Academic Lead state-wide evaluation of the Essential of Care program – Val Wilson
  o Essentials of Care, State Advisory Group – Val Wilson and Deborah Davis
  o Child Advocate Mothers and Children’s Program Corrective Services NSW – Cathrine Fowler
  o NSW Health Advisory Group Sustained Health Home Visiting – Cathrine Fowler
  o Children and Families Research Centre, Macquarie University Advisory Group – Cathrine Fowler
  o Perinatal and Infant Mental Health Committee, Institute of Psychiatry – Cathrine Fowler
  o Member of the Corrective Services NSW Research Group – Cathrine Fowler
  o Advisory Panel International Association of Infant Massage Australia – Cathrine Fowler
  o Advisory Panel ARACY Sustained Nurse Home Visiting Project – Cathrine Fowler
  o Member Postgraduate & Health Studies Advisory Group Whitireia Polytechnic New Zealand – Cathrine Fowler
  o Member Family Partnership Australasian Board – Cathrine Fowler

Other activities

• Editorial Boards
  o Midwifery – Associate Editor – Caroline Homer
  o Nursing and Health Science - Editorial Board – Caroline Homer
  o NSW Child and Family Health Nurse Association Journal – Chief Editor – Cathrine Fowler
  o Australian Journal of Child And Family Health Nursing – Cathrine Fowler
  o Women and Birth - Editorial Board - Maralyn Foureur
  o Journal of Child Health Care - Nicola Brown
  o International Practice Development Journal - Val Wilson

• Editorial Review Boards
  o New Zealand College of Midwives Journal – Maralyn Foureur
o Journal of Advanced Nursing - Val Wilson
o Issues in Comprehensive Pediatric Nursing - Val Wilson

- Accreditation as an Instructor
  o Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics – Maralyn Foureur and Caroline Homer
  o NCAST Parent Child Interaction Assessment Scale Instructor University of Washington Seattle - Cathrine Fowler
  o Circle of Security Parenting facilitator - Cathrine Fowler
  o Promoting First Relationships facilitator University of Washington Seattle USA - Cathrine Fowler
PUBLICATIONS FOR 2014

Journal Articles


34. Lam, W., Dawson, A. & Fowler, C. 2014, 'Health promotion interventions to prevent early childhood human influenza at the household level: A realist review to identify implications for programmes in Hong Kong', *Journal of Clinical Nursing*. (accepted and in press).


41. Patterson, J., Skinner, J. & Foureur, M. 2014, 'Midwives' decision making about transfers for 'slow' labour in rural New Zealand', Midwifery.


Books


Book Chapters

COMPLETED STUDENT RESEARCH PROJECTS

**Lynn Sinclair, Doctor of Philosophy**  
This thesis highlights the challenges of knowledge production and utilisation in relation to incubator humidification for preterm infants; and, explores neuroscience mechanisms at play within complex and uncertain health care contexts.  
Supervisors: Jackie Crisp and Maralyn Foureur

**Louise Everitt, Master of Midwifery (Research)**  
Experiences of midwives in the removal of newborns for child protection concerns at birth were explored using a qualitative descriptive approach describing their involvement in processes and emotional impact.  
Supervisors: Caroline Homer and Jennifer Fenwick

**Janet Wheeler, Doctor of Midwifery**  
An ethnography exploring midwifery practice to minimise perineal trauma for Asian women during normal birth, identified compelling evidence for change in the Australian maternity system.  
Supervisors: Deborah Davis, Caroline Homer and Margaret Fry

**Agus Setiawan, Doctor of Nursing**  
The implementation of community case management of childhood illness in Indonesia taken from the perspectives of families and primary health care workers: A qualitative study.  
Supervisors: Cheryl Waters, Angela Dawson and Denise Dignam

**Bernadette Lack, B Mid (Hons)**  
Supervisor: Caroline Homer

**Calida Bowden, BMid (Hons)**  
Supervisors: Athena Sheehan & Maralyn Foureur
**STUDENTS IN THE HIGHER DEGREE PROGRAM DURING 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Given Name</th>
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<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Principal Supervisor</th>
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CONFERENCE, WORKSHOPS AND SEMINAR EVENTS

The CMCFH has attended and presented at a number of state, national and international conferences in 2014. Some of these are highlighted below.

**Foureur M**, “The Future of Midwifery”. Invited Keynote Address for the 300-Year Anniversary of Midwifery Registration in Denmark, Danish Midwives Association, Copenhagen, December 2014.

**Foureur M**, “Birth Unit Design: Lessons from research translated into practice”. University of Southern Denmark, Odense, Denmark, December 2014.


**Hammond, A., Homer, C., Foureur, M.** “30th International Confederation of Midwives Congress, Prague, Czech Republic June 1-5 2014

**Harte D., Sheehan A., Foureur M.,** “The Influence of Australian Hospital Birth Unit Design on Women’s Birth Supporters. 30th International Confederation of Midwives Congress”, Prague, Czech Republic June 1-5 2014


**Homer C., Foureur M, Bell J.** Vaginal Birth After Caesarean (VBAC) Symposium. (2014) 30th International Confederation of Midwives Congress, Prague, Czech Republic June 1-5 2014

**Fowler C** Universitas Indonesia School of Nursing keynote lecture at inaugural Evidence Based Practice Conference and Workshop, June 2014

**Scarf V,** Birthplace in New South Wales- does destination matter? A pilot study to inform the development of the Birthplace in Australia study” at the NSW Australian College of Midwives Annual Conference, Sydney 24th and 25th October 2014

**Turkmani S,** Birthplace in New South Wales- does destination matter? A pilot study to inform the development of the Birthplace in Australia study” at the NSW Australian College of Midwives Annual Conference, Sydney 24th and 25th October 2014


**Wilson V,** Engaging patients and their families in practice change and innovation through the PINS study (Authors: Professor Val Wilson, Professor Tanya McCance, Kelly Kornman)

**Wilson V,** The National Nursing Forum Staying Ahead of the game Adelaide Convention Centre, November 3rd 2014

**Wilson V,** Reducing risk for vulnerable children by engaging families in the medication safety agenda (Authors: Wilson V, Bajorek B, Hoang D, Davidson P, Solman A, Worthington R & Alomari A.)
Wilson V, Reducing risk for vulnerable children by engaging families in the medication safety agenda, MS McLeod Research Seminar Series, Woman & Children's Hospital, SA, 29th October 2014

Wilson V, ‘Always be a little kinder than necessary* the art of caring with compassion’, NALHN Practice Development Symposium, Lyell McEwin Hospital, South Australia, 30th October 2014
SEMINAR AND MASTER CLASS EVENTS

The CMCFH is known for conducting interesting and innovative seminars each year. This year the Centre held two seminars for midwives, nurses, doctors and educators.

Remembering the Past and Creating the Future for Maternity Care – 25 Years Since the Shearman Report

The CMCFH in collaboration with NSW Kids and Families held this seminar ‘Remembering the past and creating the future for maternity care – 25 years since the Shearman Report’ with a number of speakers including Elizabeth Best, Leona McGrath, Liz Murphy, Cathy Adams, Andrew Bisits, Lynn Kemp, Lis Murphy Helen Cooke and Deb Matha, Sally Tracy and many more. This event was very well attended and received with excellent and positive feedback.

Educators Matter: Fostering Clinical Education in the 21st Century

This aim of this seminar was to provide existing and aspiring clinical educators with perspectives from professional organisations such as the NSW Ministry of Health’s Nursing and Midwifery Office, Australian Nursing & Midwifery Accreditation Council, Universities around the state, and hospitals and health services. Participants were able to hear presentations about innovations at the state, university and health service levels that enhance professional development and clinical skills. Speakers who were experts in this field were able to provide a rich diversity of information and experience for this very well received seminar.

Workshops through the Sydney Children’s Hospital’s Network

Putting your best foot forward: The importance of the mind, body and style for success.

Facilitators: Wilson V & Solman A

This aim of this workshop is to explore with participants how they can maximise their chances of success in their workplace, highlighting the importance of understanding:

- how you speak (tone)
- effective use of gestures (mind)
- the way you position yourself (body)
- dressing for success (style)

Becoming skilled in practice development facilitation

Facilitators: Kelly M, Wilson V & McCance T.V.

The aim of this to present initial findings from a research study that aims to investigate what PD facilitators understand by transformational facilitation and how they become skilled facilitators. Facilitation is said to be key to engaging people in transformational change and facilitators need to have a high level of skills. There is, however, relatively little known about what skilled facilitation is and how people develop.
The study is an in-depth exploration involving self-reflection and interview, to gain participants’ understanding of transformational facilitation and their practice as a facilitator, their own development as a facilitator and contribution to development of other facilitators.
Approvals & Overall Comments – Centre Annual Report 2014

Name: Professor Caroline Homer

Organisation: Centre for Midwifery, Child and Family Health, NMH

Title: Professor of Midwifery

Director, Centre for Midwifery, Child and Family Health

Associate Dean (International & Development)

Phone: +61 2 9514 4886

Email: caroline.homer@uts.edu.au

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to present this report.

Thank you to the Dean and the Faculty and UTS for ongoing support of the Centre.

Signature:

Date: 5 May 2015