



Additions to the Community

Viet-Hai Phung (pictured above) joined the School of Health and Social Care working with Professor Niro Siriwardena as a Research Assistant in September 2011. He is currently undertaking a systematic literature review as part of an NIHR programme for applied research entitled Prehospital Outcomes for Evidence Based Evaluation (PHOEBE) which is developing new ways of measuring the Impact of ambulance service care. He is also involved in the editorial process for the journal Quality in Primary Care.

Viet-hai's background is in politics and research methodology. In addition, he has nine years' experience of working in applied research across a range of public policy areas, including social policy, community safety, higher education and housing.

Research Forum

The next Research Forum will be held on Wednesday 7th March in the Boardroom at Bridge House. Lunch will be provided from 11:30 and the meeting starts at 11:50. The speakers are as follows:

Jennifer Dumbleton, University of Nottingham HEAT: Helicobacter Eradication Aspirin Trial, an exciting new study for primary care.

Zahid Asghar (pictured below) joined the School of Health and Social Care working team in September 2011. His background is in mathematical modeling and medical statistics. Currently he is working on a case control study and a self-controlled case series study to investigate the potential for influenza and/or pneumococcal vaccination to prevent against stroke and transient ischemic attack (IPVASTIA). The study is funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Research for Patient Benefit programme and the study team is led by Prof Niro Siriwardena (Lincoln) and includes Dr Carol Coupland (Nottingham University) and Stella Gwini (Monash University, Australia).



Laura Dexter, NIHR Clinical Lecturer in Virology, University of Sheffield: Improving rates of influenza immunization.

Niro Siriwardena, ASCQI co-lead, University of Lincoln and EMAS

Improving heart attack and stroke care in ambulance services using a quality improvement collaborative approach: Ambulance Services Cardiovascular Quality Initiative. Contact Sue Bowler if you would like to attend at sbowler@lincoln.ac.uk

REST project featured on ITN Tonight documentary on insomnia

The Resources for Effective Sleep Treatment ([REST](#)) project, led by Prof Niro Siriwardena, was featured on “[Tonight](#)” the flagship ITV1 documentary programme. In the programme “Waking up to Insomnia” screened in November Geraint Vincent revealed some results of the Great British Sleep Survey and found out from sufferers how it affected their lives. The programme discussed the problems of insomnia, why sleeping tablets were not a good solution and why Cognitive Behavioural Therapy for insomnia (CBTi) although effective is not widely available in the NHS. The REST project funded by the [Health Foundation](#) aimed to improve primary care for insomnia by developing primary care friendly sleep assessment and CBTi. A follow-on translational project, Improving Primary Care Resources for Effective Sleep Treatment ([IPCREST](#)) funded by East Midlands Health Innovation and Educational Cluster aims to spread the learning through seminars, workshops and an [e-learning programme](#) for healthcare practitioners. Further information is available on the University [website](#) and at the [REST website](#).

[The Vision Works: Lincoln Research Sandpit](#)

Modelled on the Research Council [sandpits](#), this event is designed to enable Lecturers and Senior Lecturers at Lincoln to work together on innovative and multi-disciplinary research proposals in an exciting, supportive and encouraging environment.

Funding of £100K is available to support the outputs of the Vision Works: this ranges from direct project funding to buying out teaching time.

Applications were invited in December and participants who have been selected to take part were notified in January. The event itself will take place in April 2012. Please read the [flier](#) (pictured below) or contact research@lincoln.ac.uk to find out more.



An invitation to join The Vision Works on a research adventure

What is it?
The Vision Works is an ideas sandpit run by the Research Office, where academics can come together to work on and develop innovative and multi-disciplinary research proposals. The Vision Works is open now to the University of Lincoln - and we invite you to be part of the best and brightest ideas, and work with us to develop them.

What's in it for me?
The Vision Works will give you an opportunity to work 'out of the box' in a multi-disciplinary environment to work up potential research outputs and good applications in an exciting, supportive and encouraging environment. A diverse support team will be involved to guide the process.

Who's involved?
The Director of The Vision Works wants to Paul Stewart, Pro Vice-Chancellor Research, who will have the Research Office, senior academics and the Research Office will have to form a diverse team.

What support is available?
The Vice-Chancellor has made available funding of £100k to support the vision works outputs, which can be used to support the outputs of the ideas sandpit. This can range from direct research project funding, to buying out teaching time. Funding allocation will be made by the Director's office.

Who can take part?
The Vision Works is open to all lecturers and senior lecturers from all disciplines across the University. All an idea is an open road, will give us to have multiple primary groups, and ambition to engage with external challenges.

How can I see out...
The Director will be talking about the process during the Research Office seminar which he will be conducting with Prof Andrew Johnston in the near future. We will also be taking major University wide input events. And the Pro Vice-Chancellor's Research Day.

Apply
Applications forms will be available on the soon. They're short, easy to fill in, and come with full instructions about what we're looking for. Closing date is 23rd November 2011.

Selection
The Director's panel will select people from a range of disciplines and backgrounds, with a mix of personal attributes. We're very interested in bringing together people who wouldn't ordinarily network. Selection and outcomes will be completed by 05th January 2012.

Sandpit
An intensive 2 day sandpit will take place in February/March, where participants will develop problem-led topics, and form multi-disciplinary research teams, and outline grant proposals to be submitted up into full proposals after the event. Full proposals will be submitted by 05th April 2012, with final funding decisions at the end of April.

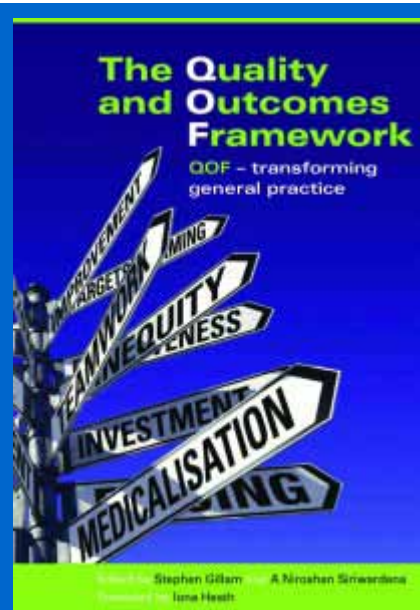
Taking the vision forward...
We're not going to be prescriptive about how the vision works will work, we want you to create and engage us. Some proposals will be engaged to commission to funding bodies, some will start feasibility or 'sandbox' projects. Funding, some will get more substantial support.

We think that whatever the outcome, the participants will all take something positive away.

Review of the Quality and Outcomes framework highly commended in the BMA book awards

A book edited by Dr Stephen Gillam (University of Cambridge) and Prof Niroshan Siriwardena (University of Lincoln) and published by Radcliffe Publishing Ltd entitled “The Quality and Outcomes Framework: QOF – transforming general practice” was highly commended at the BMA Medical Book Awards 2011. Steve Gillam and Niro Siriwardena were present at the awards ceremony in BMA House in London.

Contributors to the book include the architects of the QOF, developers, researchers, practitioners and commentators. Work is currently proceeding on a systematic review of research into the QOF involving the Universities of Cambridge, Lincoln and East Anglia.



Papers and Publications

Fiona Togher is working on the following papers:

Patients' experiences and outcomes of prehospital AMI and stroke care: qualitative study of patients and ambulance clinicians.

Intervention fidelity in primary care complex intervention trials: qualitative study using telephone interviews of patients and practitioners.

Jo Middlemass has recently had a paper accepted by the Annals of Internal Medicine entitled: Effect of adding systematic family history enquiry to cardiovascular disease risk assessment in primary care: matched-pair cluster randomised controlled trial.

Coral Sirdifield has submitted the following papers and is waiting for feedback:

What helps and hinders access to mental health and substance misuse services for offenders on probation? (submitted to the Howard Journal of Criminal Justice with Brooker and Denney)

Probation and mental illness (submitted to the Journal of Forensic Psychiatry and Psychology with Brooker, Blizard, Denney and Pluck)

Coral has had the following paper accepted for publication by the Journal of Mental Health:

The Prevalence of Mental Health Disorders amongst Offenders on Probation: A Literature Review

Viet-hai Phung has recently had a book review published: Phung, V-H. (2011) Review of Street, J. (2011) Mass Media, Politics & Democracy - 2nd Edition, European Journal of Communication, 26(4): 387-390.

In collaboration with Eliza Steinbock from the University of Amsterdam, Zowie Davy has a new chapter in Sexualities: Past Reflections, Future Directions edited by Hines and Taylor for Palgrave Macmillan. Davy & Steinbock's chapter entitled: 'Sexing Up' Bodily Aesthetics: Notes towards Theorizing Trans Sexuality explores the issue of Trans Sexualities.

Markos Klonizakis has had the following paper accepted for publication: "Studying the cutaneous microcirculatory response during upper-limb exercise in healthy, older, sedentary people" (Clin Hemorheol Microcirc 2012 Jan 3)

Conferences and presentations

In November Coral presented at the American Society of Criminology annual conference in Washington DC. She chaired a roundtable discussion on the prevalence of mental health disorder and patterns of health service access in a probation population.

In December Zowie Davy was invited to speak at the Centre of Interdisciplinary Gender Studies Seminar Series at the University of Leeds. Her paper looked at the issues around the sexualisation of trans people.

Fiona Togher is to present at the Trent regional Society for Academic Primary Care (SAPC) conference on Tuesday 13th March. She has submitted an abstract entitled: Using qualitative methods for generating patient reported outcome measures and patient reported experience measures for pre-hospital emergency care of stroke and heart attack.

Niro Siriwardena and Fiona Togher will be presenting at the The International Forum for Quality and Safety in HealthCare in Paris in April on Qualitative methods for generating patient reported outcomes for pre-hospital cardiovascular care.

Markos Klonizakis has been invited to organise a symposium in the 25th World Congress of the International Union of Angiology to take place in Prague in July 2012 on the effects of lifestyle and environment to the skin microcirculation.

Zowie Davy has been invited to speak in Dublin to offer a masterclass on researching transgender issues.

Successful bids

The following studies were successful and will be funded by the College Research Fund:

Coral Sirdifield is currently working with Niro Siriwardena, Susan Chipchase (Psychology) and a team from Belgium on a metasynthesis on clinicians' experiences and perceptions of benzodiazepine and z-drug prescribing in primary care. This study was funded internally by the College Research Fund.

Markos Klonizakis is currently working on a study looking at how to implement the Mediterranean diet in a UK setting working with Dr. Mark Smith, Dr. Ahmad Alkhatib and Mr. Geoff Middleton from the School of Sport, Coaching, and Exercise Science. Also, a study on exercise in post menopausal women, is also being undertaken by Markos in collaboration with colleagues from the School of Sport, Coaching and Exercise Science.

Coral has also had a bid accepted working with Professor Charlie Brooker to do a Health Needs Assessment of Offenders in Police Custody in Northumbria for North East Offender Health, County Durham PCT.

Ros Kane's team have just received £20,000 from the SHA for funding to support research into the exploration of optimal ways of increasing placement capacity and support for nurse education.



Monthly Study Review Meetings a great success!

A new series of educational review meetings began on 11th January 2012. The purpose of the meetings is to review papers or bids under development. Details of the paper or bid are sent out to attendees before the meeting and the writer presents to the group and receives feedback.

Fiona Togher presented her paper to the last meeting and said "I found it really useful to have the opportunity to obtain the opinions of so many people in one session! Sometimes its hard to look at your own paper objectively when you've been so immersed within it and it was really helpful to have fresh pairs of eyes looking at it that could pick up on things that we, as the authors, hadnt noticed".

Zowie Davy has also presented a paper to the review meetings and had the following comments "For me the new Study Review Group was extremely useful. When one is so close to a piece of work, it is sometimes difficult to see aspects your writing that may benefit from being expressed in ways more conducive to your audience. The collegial critiques that came from members of the group, I believe not only improved the paper that was presented, but taught me a little more about the art of constructive critique"

The next study review meeting is on Wednesday 21st March, e-mail sbowler@lincoln.ac.uk for details.