

## ~ SPEAKERS ~

NSW Women's Health Summit  
Making Connections: Research, Policy and Practice  
1<sup>st</sup> March 2007- Sydney Town Hall

### **Professor Dorothy Broom**

Professor Dorothy Broom has spent more than 30 years teaching and studying gender and other aspects of the sociology of health and illness. In 1991, she published "Damned If We Do: Contradictions in Women's Health Care", a political history of Australia's feminist community health centres. She also played a pivotal role in the successful defence of a sex discrimination complaint brought against the Commonwealth, the National Women's Health Program and ACT women's health services. The decision on this test-case for Commonwealth and State targeted services stands as a landmark for its recognition of a social view of health. Dorothy is currently Professor at the National Centre for Epidemiology & Population Health at the Australian National University. In addition, Dorothy and Jane Dixon are co-editors (of which she is also co-author of 3 chapters) of a new book from UNSW Press: 'The Seven Deadly Sins of Obesity: How the Modern World is Making Us Fat.'

### **Nicole Watson**

Nicole Watson is a member of the Birri Gubba People of Central Queensland and the Mullenjarli People of Beaudesert, Queensland. Nicole has a bachelor of laws from the University of Queensland, a master of laws from the Queensland University of Technology and is currently enrolled in the PhD program at the School of Law, University of New South Wales. Nicole was admitted as a solicitor in 1999 and has worked in the areas of family law and native title. Nicole is currently employed as a Senior Research Fellow at the Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning, UTS.

### **Dr Toni Schofield**

Dr Toni Schofield is Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Sydney and Co-Editor-in-Chief of *Health Sociology Review*. Her doctoral study examined policy and politics of maternity services in NSW, 1950-1990. Toni has published extensively in gender, health and policy, serving as health policy consultant to the NSW Health Department, SA Health, and the Office of the Status of Women, and as rapporteur for the World Health Organisation.

### **Associate Professor Moira Carmody**

Associate Professor Moira Carmody has been working in the area of sexual assault since 1983. She has been a sexual assault counsellor and co-ordinator and policy advisor to state governments across Australia. She was a foundation member of the NSW Premier's Council for women from 1995-1999 and provided key leadership in the development of the NSW Violence

against Women Strategy. Since 1995 she has been researching, teaching and writing about sexual assault prevention, gender and sexuality. She is currently the coordinator of the Criminology Programme at the University of Western Sydney.

### **Dr Lesley Laing**

Dr Lesley Laing is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Social Work and Policy Studies at the University of Sydney. Prior to this she was founding Director of the Australian Domestic and Family Violence Clearinghouse and Director of the New South Wales Education Centre Against Violence where she established statewide training programs for health workers on adult and child sexual assault, domestic violence, and child protection. Lesley is a social worker who has worked in direct service delivery, policy, training and research in the fields of community health, child and adolescent mental health, child protection and violence against women. She is co-editor, with Jan Breckenridge, of the book *Challenging Silence: Innovative Responses to Sexual and Domestic Violence*. She is currently involved in research on coordinated responses to domestic violence; post-separation violence against women and children; domestic violence and women's mental health; and treatment of adolescent sexual offenders.

### **Gabe Kavanagh**

Gabe Kavanagh has been an integral member of NSW Amnesty International Australia (AIA) since 2004. She has been actively involved in organising AIA's Annual Youth Summit in 2005 and 2006. She was the coordinator of the Inaugural Human Rights Week at the University of Sydney in 2005. She has also been instrumental in building AIA's local web presence as the NSW Branch Web Editor. Over the past two years she has been working with Amnesty groups on campus.

Gabe is also an active member of the Sydney University Women's Collective, helped plan the 2006 Reclaim the Night and is in the process of organizing the 2007 International Women's Day march. She is also orchestrating the Network of Women Students Australia annual conference for 2007.

Gabe is studying International Studies at the University of Sydney. She currently sits on the AIA NSW Branch Committee and is convener of the NSW Campus Group Network for AIA, she also sits on the executive of the University of Sydney Student's Representative Council and the executive of the National Union of Students.

### **Dr Deborah Loxton**

Dr Deborah Loxton is the Project Manager of the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health. In this position Deborah manages the University of Newcastle team. **Women's Health Australia** is a longitudinal study that has been examining the health and wellbeing of Australian women since 1996.

Also known as the **Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health**, the project conducts surveys with over 40,000 Australian women who were aged 18-23, 45-50, and 70-75 when the study began. Deborah's PhD study investigated the health and wellbeing of mid-aged women who had experienced intimate partner violence. Her other research interests include the health and economic wellbeing of sole mothers and the experiences of very young mothers. Deborah has co-authored government reports on intimate partner violence, sole and young motherhood. Her most recent publication investigated the psychological health of sole mothers.

### **Associate Professor Patricia Davidson**

Associate Professor Patricia Davidson RN, BA, MEd, PhD is the Director of the University of Western Sydney / Sydney West Area Health Service Nursing Research Centre and an Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of NSW. Her clinical and research specialty is in chronic cardiovascular disease, focussing on heart failure, women's health, indigenous health and models of care development. Dr Davidson is the President of the International Council on Women's Health Issues and Secretary Elect of the International Network for Doctoral Education in Nursing. Her research and clinical interest focuses on cross-sector collaboration and interdisciplinary models of care. Dr Davidson has been successful in receiving national, competitive funding including the National Health & Medical Research Council, the National Heart Foundation and the Australian Research Council. She is Co-Chair of the NSW Health Clinical Expert Reference Group for Cardiovascular Disease. Her current research activities include: the development and evaluation of guidelines for palliative care of patients with heart failure; indigenous health; novel models of care in heart failure management; perspectives of cultural diversity in heart disease management and women with cardiovascular disease.

### **Associate Professor Sue Green**

Sue Green is Associate Professor of Indigenous Education and Director of the Nura Gili Centre at the University of NSW. Sue has worked extensively in Indigenous Education, supporting tertiary students, teaching and conducting collaborative research. She has also worked with government organisations to provide appropriate services to Aboriginal communities and one of her research projects includes urban Aboriginal peoples' experiences and expectations of human service organisations. Other research projects have included developing the indigenous content within the social work curriculum, building social capital with disadvantaged clients, identification of benchmarks and best practice for Aboriginal housing and an oral history of Mum Shirl. Sue is currently enrolled as a doctoral candidate (Social Work) at the University of NSW and her thesis topic is "The History of Aboriginal Welfare in NSW". In 2005, Sue Green was awarded the Neville Bonner Award for Excellence in University Teaching and Indigenous Education and in 2005-2006 the Vincent Fairfax Fellowship (Ethics and Leadership) from the St James Ethic Centre.

## **Dr Jocelyne A Scutt**

Dr Jocelyne A. Scutt is a barrister, writer, filmmaker and executive producer, practising at the Bar primarily in Sydney and Melbourne. From October 1999 to October 2004, she was first Anti-Discrimination Commissioner for Tasmania, administering the *Anti-Discrimination Act* 1998 (Tasmania). Before taking up that post, Dr Scutt was in private practice at the Melbourne Bar, where she specialised in administrative law, anti-discrimination and equal opportunity, tax, corporate law and banking, criminal law, immigration, property and equity, human rights and the rights of Indigenous people.

Her previous positions include Deputy Chairperson and Commissioner, Victorian Law Reform Commission; Director of Research, Victorian Parliamentary Legal and Constitutional Committee; Associate to High Court Judge the Hon. Justice LK Murphy; Criminologist with the Australian Institute of Criminology; Senior Law Reform Officer with the Australian Law Reform Commission.

She has practiced in Victoria, the Northern Territory, New South Wales, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania, and done opinion work in Queensland and the ACT. A public speaker, lecturer and trainer, author and editor of some 24 books, she has published widely in Australian and overseas law, sociology, political and criminology, etc journals, and has been a supervisor and examiner for a number of Universities in their higher degree programmes, including Deakin University, Macquarie University, Ballarat University, the University of Western Australia amongst others. She is Adjunct Professor with the University of New England.