



Wednesday June 6, 2007

The Entertainment Centre, Port Road, Hindmarsh

ASMR SA Scientific Meeting

The meeting involves many prestigious awards and presentations including :

Plenary Speaker

Associate Professor David Cameron-Smith

Biology meets lifestyle; Advances in our understanding of how nutrition and exercise impact on ageing

Associate professor Cameron-Smith has a research program investigating the fundamental regulation of skeletal muscle with exercise and diet. He is involved with the nutrition teaching program and is engaged in both undergraduate and postgraduate training.

Leading Lights Showcase for outstanding mid-career scientists

'From bench to bedside'

Three of South Australia's outstanding scientists are working on research which has direct clinical implications for treating patients

Dr Lisa Butler – Investigating new approaches to treat prostate cancer.

Dr Michael Beard – Insights into hepatitis C virus pathogenesis using microarray approach.

Dr Dani-Louise Bryan – From bedside to bench to bedside: an iterative approach to homeostasis to Chronic Heart Failure.

The Ross Wishart Memorial Award for young investigators

Hannah Brown – Investigating ovarian function and the role that immune cells play in ovarian surveillance.

Deirdre Zander – Insights into how stress during early embryo development alters how a baby develops.

Bianca Benassi – Researching the impact of dieting on the risk of developing colorectal cancer.

Cadence Minge – Investigating the role of obesity on female fertility and a potential candidate for reversing ovarian defects.

The conference also includes presentations and posters from over 100 South Australian researchers

For more information or to arrange an interview with any of the speakers please contact:

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Each year a small group of young investigators are selected as finalists for the Ross Wishart Memorial Award. The winner of the award will be selected based on the most outstanding presentation at the South Australian Division's Annual Scientific Meeting during Medical Research Week.

South Australia's Prestigious Ross Wishart Memorial Award Finalists:

Requirements for an egg to become a baby. This work focuses on the support network for the growing egg and the role it plays in providing required nutrients to develop into a healthy baby. This research will help to determine what the egg requires to produce a healthy baby and may provide new opportunities for treatment of infertility. **Hannah Brown** *The Research Centre for Reproductive Health and The University of Adelaide*

Does stress effect baby development? This study focuses on the involvement of mitochondria on an embryo's stress response during pre-implantation development and assesses the impact on embryo viability and subsequent fetal health. This research aims to better understand how the environment that the pre-implantation embryo is exposed to can alter how a baby develops. **Deirdre Zander** *The Research Centre for Reproductive Health and The University of Adelaide*

Is there a link between red meat and cancer? High red meat intake has been weakly associated with an increased risk of colorectal cancer. However, these studies have not been adjusted for other factors such as abdominal obesity, energy intake and other dietary factors. This study determines the effect on colorectal cancer risk of overall dietary and lifestyle patterns. **Bianca Benassi** *CSIRO Human Nutrition and The University of Adelaide*

Female infertility: causes and cures. Egg maturation and early embryonic development are affected by high-fat diet and report blood lipids and insulin sensitivity are powerful indicators of fertility. Pharmacological trials aiming to reverse these defects reveal short-term pre-ovulatory treatment with anti-diabetic Rosiglitazone (Avandia, GlaxoSmithKline) can completely reverse such obesity-associated infertility. **Candence Minge** *The Research Centre for Reproductive Health and The University of Adelaide*

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