

Occupational Therapy Australia Research Academy 2019 Fellows

Associate Professor Sally Bennett

Sally Bennett is Associate Professor in Occupational Therapy at The University of Queensland with 32 years' experience as a clinician, researcher and academic. She has extensive teaching and research experience in evidence-based practice and knowledge translation. She co-designed and managed the OT seeker evidence database for 13 years to become an internationally acclaimed resource used across 150 countries. OT seeker received over 3 million visits from people across 150 countries with enduring impact.



During her career she has received over \$3.2 million in research funding, including as lead investigator on a \$1.06 million National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) grant, Boosting Dementia, where she led a team of distinguished researchers to implement an evidence based occupational therapy intervention for people with dementia and their families. She has 92 publications, which includes three books, 25 book chapters 64 peer reviewed research articles. She has had numerous invited conference presentations, and she has supervised 17 higher degree research students.

Sally has contributed to the occupational therapy profession and research in a number of roles including as Associate Editor of the Australian Journal of Occupational Therapy, a member of the Occupational Therapy Australia Research Foundation committee member; and was invited to join the Editorial Board for the Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy. She has received awards for research translation and was the 2017 recipient of the Mary Rankine Wilson Memorial Award for Professional Excellence. From 2004 – 2008 she was the chair of the International Advisory group on Evidence Based Practice to the World Federation of Occupational Therapy (WFOT) during this time she led the development of a set of competencies in collaboration with colleagues from Canada and the United Kingdom.

Associate Professor Helen Bourke-Taylor

Helen Bourke-Taylor is an Associate Professor at Monash University. Helen completed a PhD in 2010 at La Trobe University, and prior to that an MSc in 2000 at the University of Indianapolis, USA. Helen qualified as an occupational therapist in 1990 from La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia. Helen's academic career includes teaching in undergraduate, graduate entry and postgraduate programs, curriculum development and research. Helen's career has taken her to international locations, and she has built both a national following in Australia and international following for her research interests in participation and education issues for children and young people with disabilities, support for families, maternal health and wellbeing, and psychometrics related to scale and outcome tool development.



Helen is co-author and co-presenter of the evidence-informed Healthy Mothers Healthy Families workshop, which aims to empower women who have additional family care responsibilities, towards better health and wellbeing. Helen's assessment tools include the Health Promoting Activities Scale, the Child's Challenging Behaviour Scale, and the Assistance to Participate Scale. Helen's work is widely published in peer reviewed journals with more than 65 publications to her name, and Helen regularly disseminates her work via conferences, workshops and a range of media channels.

Helen has served as Associate Editor, Australian Occupational Therapy Journal; Editorial Board Member of Physical and Occupational Therapy in Paediatrics; in a Research Consultancy role with the Cerebral Palsy Education Centre, and the Association for Children with a Disability Victoria and Tasmania to upscale delivery of the Healthy Mothers program. Helen has advised and contributed to numerous projects at a Federal level including new criteria for carer payment carer allowance; education modules for the Carer Gateway; young carer bursary payment and currently school education resources for students with type one diabetes. Helen's contribution to both the occupational therapy professions, and to the health and wellbeing of children, young people and families is to be commended, and her personal warmth and enthusiasm for her topic is inspiring.

Associate Professor Jodie Copley

Jodie has held an academic position since 1997 which has allowed her to maintain concurrent roles as a researcher, teacher, clinician and clinical educator. Maintaining these multiple roles has led her to research which has a direct impact on clinical practice and the way we educate our future generations of occupational therapists.

While she has a broad range of research areas including upper limb, occupational therapy practice with Indigenous Australians and clinical education, much of her research has centred on occupational therapy clinical reasoning and clinical training, with relevance to a wide range of occupational therapy practitioners. Clinical reasoning research is vital to assist knowledge integration in occupational therapy.



She has played a leadership role in mentoring junior researchers in Australia having supervised 17 research higher degree students since 2004, nine of whom have completed their PhDs. Jodie is an Associate Editor on two journals, Occupational Therapy International and Focus on Health Professional Education. Jodie has produced 75 peer reviewed publications, including 6 book chapters, and authored 2 books. She has gained a steady stream of research funding, attracting grants totalling more than \$1.5 million. She is often invited to present her research internationally, widening the reach and reputation of Australian occupational therapy research. Also contributing to this is a range of international research collaborations.

Professor Louise Gustafsson

Dr Louise Gustafsson has had a distinguished career with time spent in research, leadership, curriculum development, teaching and clinical practice. After graduation from the University of Queensland (UQ) in 1991 with a Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours), Dr Gustafsson worked in numerous hospital settings around Queensland and the United Kingdom. During this time, she became recognised as a clinical expert in the area of stroke rehabilitation, commencing her part-time PhD studies in 1999. Dr Gustafsson commenced as a fulltime teaching and research academic at UQ in 2002 and graduated with her PhD in 2006. She was Undergraduate Program Director from 2010 - 2018 and combined this role with Head of Occupational Therapy from 2013 – June 2017. She commenced at Griffith University in July 2018 as Professor in Occupational Therapy.



Dr Gustafsson taught occupational therapy undergraduate and graduate entry masters students from 1999. She received a teaching award and has been involved in three teaching and learning grants targeted at enhancing interprofessional practices and the use of interactive technologies within the classroom. She has supervised 62 honours students to first class honours and supervised six higher degree research students to completion.

Dr Gustafsson has consistently conducted research that has contributed to the development of clinical practices. She has two main research areas: stroke rehabilitation and recovery and; promoting community mobility and participation. Dr Gustafsson is a recognised expert in stroke recovery and rehabilitation and is a member of national and international collaborations in this area of practice. She has established research collaborations within Queensland, nationally, and internationally with colleagues in Sweden, the Netherlands, and United Kingdom. Dr Gustafsson has a career total of over 90 publications and has received grants up to the value of \$3 million. She has also delivered numerous presentations at both national and international forums.

In addition to this, Dr Gustafsson is Associate Editor of the Australian Occupational Therapy Journal and is a regular expert reviewer for international occupational therapy and rehabilitation journals. In recognition of her expertise, she has been invited to review for health grant schemes within the United Kingdom and was an invited Chair of a strategic review committee for the World Federation of Occupational Therapy Congress in 2014. Dr Gustafsson has held leadership roles within Occupational Therapy Australia and the National Stroke Foundation.

Professor Christine Imms

Professor of Occupational Therapy; Inaugural National Head of School of Allied Health (2011-2018), Australian Catholic University; Co-founding Director of the Centre for Disability and Development Research (CeDDR) Australian Catholic University; Associate Member of CanChild Centre for Childhood Disability Research in Canada; Honorary Researcher at the Murdoch Childrens Research Institute in Melbourne; President of the Australasian Academy of Cerebral Palsy & Developmental Medicine.



Summary of Research Activity Professor Christine Imms has made a notable contribution to the profession through her exemplary 34-year career as a clinician, academic and researcher. She has been driven by her desire to enhance the participation of children and youth with cerebral palsy, and other childhood-onset disabilities. Her sustained research contribution has led to significant advances in the field of childhood-onset disability through investigations of longitudinal outcomes, the effectiveness of occupational therapy interventions and development of measures. The core focus of her work is to enable children, whose lives are complicated by impairment, and their families, to meet the challenges of healthy growth and development, and to provide opportunities that will help ensure they reach their full potential across the whole lifespan. Professor Christine Imms has received numerous awards for her research and generated over \$11 million (AUD) in competitive research grants. To date, has published 92 peer reviewed journal articles, 12 book chapters and co-edited two books. She has also supervised and mentored 34 research students and 4 post graduate research fellows.

Associate Professor Karen Liu

Since graduating Karen has had a keen interest in research and has supported many students and studies both in Australia and internationally namely Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia and Sri Lanka. Karen's area of practice is neurological rehabilitation with a research focus using metacognitive strategies such as mental imagery and self-regulation.



She has also participated or lead research in a number of teaching and learning domains demonstrating a commitment to equitable opportunities for all. Karen is the director of higher degree by research and associate professor in the school of science and health at Western Sydney University and has held Honorary Adjunct Associate Professor positions in:

- The School of Public Health, University of Hong Kong
- The Institute of Human Performance, University of Hong Kong
- The School of Public Health, Tropical Medicine and Rehabilitation Sciences, James Cook University, Australia

Karen has received over \$500K in research funding and has published over 60 peer reviewed articles ensuring her work is available for clinicians to access and implement in practice. Karen has supervised over 80 students, 9 of whom have completed or are working towards their PhD. Karen is committed to developing the research capacity of the profession working with clinicians to upskill their research knowledge and capacity to implement knowledge translation activities in clinical environments.



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