Contents

CHAIR’S FOREWORD .......................................................................................................................... 04
DIRECTOR’S FOREWORD .................................................................................................................. 05
IRMRC STAFF .................................................................................................................................. 06
OBJECTIVES AND MISSION OF CENTRE ......................................................................................... 08
BACKGROUND .................................................................................................................................. 09
IRMRC ORGANISATIONAL CHART ................................................................................................. 10
BOARD OF MANAGEMENT ............................................................................................................. 11
OTHER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES .............................................................................................. 14
BUILDING RESEARCH CAPACITY .................................................................................................. 16
HIGHLIGHTS OF 2007 ....................................................................................................................... 18
RESEARCH ACTIVITIES ...................................................................................................................... 20
   EPIDEMIOLOGY AND INJURY SURVEILLANCE ............................................................................. 22
   FALLS ............................................................................................................................................... 24
   ROAD SAFETY ............................................................................................................................... 26
   SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL INJURY ......................................................................................... 32
   WORK-RELATED INJURY .................................................................................................................. 34
TRANSLATING RESEARCH INTO POLICY AND PRACTICE ......................................................... 36
   GOVERNMENT AND POLICY FORUMS ATTENDED ..................................................................... 37
   STAFF MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES, PANELS AND WORKING PARTIES ......................... 38
   INVITED PRESENTATIONS AT POLICY FORUMS ....................................................................... 39
LIST OF MAJOR COLLABORATORS ............................................................................................... 40
PUBLICATIONS .................................................................................................................................. 43
CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS ............................................................................................ 45
   INVITED PRESENTATIONS ............................................................................................................... 45
   PROFFERED PAPERS ...................................................................................................................... 47
OTHER EVENT ATTENDANCES ....................................................................................................... 48
MEDIA ................................................................................................................................................. 50
On behalf of the Board of Management of the NSW Injury Risk Management Research Centre (IRMRC), I have great pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of work done by the Centre in 2007.

This has been my second year as Chair of the Board of Management of the IRMRC, an active and productive research centre, that is highly regarded and respected in the scientific and broader community.

Injury is the primary reason for deaths of people in the one to 45 years age group and most of these deaths are almost always preventable. The IRMRC plays a key role in helping the community to reduce the considerable financial and human costs (in terms of pain and suffering) that are incurred from avoidable injury and poor risk management.

Improving injury risk management and injury prevention depends on good research being translated into effective policy and practice. During the past twelve months in particular, the IRMRC has worked hard towards its strategic goal of bringing research, policy and practice closer together.

Encouraging the research done by the IRMRC around the management of injury risk to be more accessible to policy makers and practitioners will continue to bring great benefits to the community. This year’s Seminar Series, which has included Injury Data, Sports Injury and Pedestrian Safety has been a valuable component of this targeted approach.

Other notable achievements include the SafeClub project, which evaluated the SafeClub training intervention to improve community sports safety. This project was supported by the funding from the NSW Sporting Injuries Committee (SIC) and Northern Sydney Central Coast Health. Managed by YouthSafe, the project won a Silver award in the NSW SIC Outstanding Achievement in Applied Research by a Research Team.

The IRMRC continues to publish its research findings in peer-reviewed publications and reports and is very successful in obtaining research funding. In addition the Centre commenced a NSW health funded project on an evaluation of the falls policy as well as the launch of its Sports Injury Reports.

Thanks go to Acting Director Ann Williamson and for her commitment to maintaining the high standard of the Centre while the search has been underway for a new IRMRC Director. Her contribution has enabled the Centre to build on its reputation for research on issues relevant to NSW in a range of areas including road, children and young people, the elderly, sports and workplace safety and for injury data analysis and surveillance.

On behalf of the Board I would like to acknowledge the hard work, talent and dedication of all the Centre’s staff and students who continue to make the Centre’s achievements possible.
Looking back over 2007, I see another successful and productive year for the Injury Risk Management Research Centre. It has been a year in which our research on road safety has been strengthened by the addition of the Professor of Road Safety to our senior ranks. This position has been funded primarily by the Roads and Traffic Authority. We have been extremely fortunate that Dr Raphael Grzebieta has taken up this position, bringing with him a wealth of knowledge and experience in the area of road safety engineering.

Our work on the problem of falls involving older people has also been broadened by the recruitment of Dr Wendy Watson to the NSW Health-funded position of Senior Research Fellow. This is an exciting addition to the Centre’s work as it involves the evaluation of NSW Health’s Falls Policy.

Good injury prevention research really depends on strong biostatistical input so we were delighted to have two new additions to our staff in this area. This year has seen the recruitment of Dr Jake Olivier from the University of Mississippi to the position of Senior Research Fellow in Biostatistics, replacing Dr Andrew Hayen, and Dr Shanley Chong to the position of Research Fellow in Data Management, replacing Dr Soufiane Boufous.

Importantly, our search for a replacement Director for Professor Caroline Finch is almost over with an offer being made to a most highly qualified international injury researcher at the end of the year. We look forward to a new phase in the Centre’s activities in the years to come.

Other notable highlights of the Centre’s activities in 2007 have been our three highly successful continuing education seminars throughout the year. The first seminar was on injury data (‘Injury data as information: Extracting meaning from injury datasets’), the second was on sports injury (‘Sports injury prevention in the field: Fostering teamwork between researchers and sporting practices’) and the third was on pedestrian safety (‘Safe Walking: A colloquium on pedestrian safety’). Each of these seminars involved an array of highly qualified speakers from the Centre and elsewhere, attracted very good audiences and was highly appreciated in evaluations. We intend to ensure that these seminars are a continuing fixture on the Centre’s calendar.

Finally, this will be my last contribution to the Centre’s Annual Reports as I am moving on to take up a new and exciting position of Professor of Aviation Safety in UNSW’s Department of Aviation. Looking back over the eight years of the Centre’s existence is extremely pleasing. I have seen the Centre grow from just two staff to over 20. A number of moves to increasingly better premises and most importantly a vibrant and exciting research centre doing the sort of work for which it was established: excellent research, training of post graduate students and making a significant contribution to injury prevention activities in New South Wales.
IRMRC Staff in 2007

Back row:
Raphael Grzebieta, David Zhang, Rebecca Mitchell, Ann Williamson, Shauna Sherker, Susie Li, Naomi Dunn, Helena Hong, Shanley Chong, Wei Du, Lara Harvey, Wendy Watson.

Front row:
Mary Potter Forbes, Jia Wu, Julie Hatfield, Henny Oentojo, Rena Friswell.
IRMRC Staff

**Acting Director and NHMRC Senior Research Fellow**
Prof Ann Williamson PhD, BSc

**Professor of Road Safety**
Prof Raphael Grzebieta PhD, M.EngSci, BE (from September 2007)

**Research Manager and Research Fellow**
Ms Mary Potter Forbes  MCom, BHA, RN

**NHMRC RESEARCH FELLOWS**

**NHMRC Capacity Building Grant Research Fellow**
Dr Julie Hatfield PhD, BA

**NHMRC Public Health (Australia) Fellowship**
Dr Shauna Sherker  PhD, MSc

**SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOWS**
Dr Jake Olivier PhD, MSc (from Dec 2007)

Dr Wendy Watson PhD, MA, DipEd, BSc (from Sept 2007)

**RESEARCH FELLOWS**
Dr Soufiane Boufous PhD, MPH (Hons), BH (until March 2007 then NHMRC Postdoctoral Research Fellow)

Dr Shanley Chong PhD, MAppStat, BA (from October 2007)

Rena Friswell  BA

Dr Andrew Hayen PhD, MBiostat, BA (until May 2007)

**VISITING PROFESSORS**
Prof Peter Abelson PhD, MBA, BA

Prof Caroline Finch PhD, MSc, BSc

**VISITING RESEARCH FELLOW**
Dr Rebecca Dennis PhD, MSci, B HLthSci

**RESEARCH ASSISTANTS**
Naomi Dunn BSc

Wei Du MBBS, MSc & Tech, MPH

Ralston Fernandes BSc

Lara Harvey MPH, BAppSci

Helena Hong B.Psyc

Rebecca Mitchell MA(Psych), MOHS

Maria Romiti MSci, BSpSc (until August 2007)

Marcia Schmertmann MPH, BSc

**PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER**
Melissa Irwin MPH, BAppSci

**BIOSTATISTICAL TRAINEES**
Frances Garden MBiostat, BAppSci, BBus

Bruce Tabor PhD, MBiostat, BE

**CASUAL RESEARCH ASSISTANTS**
Melissa Hulme

Amanda Sharpley

Laura Small

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

**Finance Officer**
Jia Wu MCom, BBus

**Executive Assistant to the Director**
Henny Oentojo  MBA, B.Bus

**Administrative Assistant**
Susie Li
Objectives and Mission of Centre

The Centre’s mission is to contribute to a “whole of government” approach to examining injury risk in the community and to provide research services to the core funding and other agencies concerned with injury risk management. The Centre’s core research projects reflect the focus of the core funding agencies, NSW Health, MAA and RTA, whilst its broader research program supplements these areas.

The IRMRC plays a leading role in research on injury risk, prevention and intervention through the:

- Provision of innovative research leadership.
- Data mining and analysis of the data sets. Centre researchers have access to a range of dataset including: the Inpatient Statistical Collection of NSW Health, the NSW Traffic Accident Database System, the MAA Claims Register and Statistical Database.
- Co-ordination of relevant expertise, nationally and internationally, to develop solutions to injury risk management problems identified by the Centre’s own research, its funding partners or other external agencies.
- Nurturing and development of partnerships with government agencies and other stakeholders.
- Building of risk management research capacity and the mentoring of early career researchers and other trainees.
- Dissemination of the results of sound research in peer reviewed publications as well as other avenues of communication, ranging from conference presentations and workshops to editorial pieces for the mainstream media.
- Translation of research findings into policy and practice through involvement in policy forums and working parties, as well as the communication of this activity through various media.
Background

The New South Wales (NSW) Injury Risk Management Research Centre (IRMRC, The Centre) is an independent research centre of the University of New South Wales (UNSW) and has strong collaborative and administrative links with the Faculties of Science, Medicine and Engineering. It was established in 1999/2000 in a partnership between UNSW, NSW Health, the NSW Motor Accidents Authority (MAA) and the Roads and Traffic Authority of NSW (RTA).

The IRMRC receives core funding from NSW Health, MAA and RTA. Other research activities are supported by Australian Research Council (ARC) grants, National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) grants and other government and industry sources. Some staff support is also provided by fellowships and scholarships from the NHMRC or UNSW. In 2007, the IRMRC continued to be the lead agency in a partnership that was awarded a $2.5 million NHMRC Capacity Building Grant for the period 2005-2009.

The core funding partners have significant investments in injury prevention in NSW:

✦ The division of Population Health (previously the Injury Prevention and Policy Branch) of NSW Health is responsible for developing policy and program initiatives which reduce the burden of death and serious injury in NSW.

✦ The MAA is a statutory corporation that regulates the NSW Motor Accidents Scheme, the Compulsory Third Party Personal Injury scheme for motor vehicles registered in New South Wales.

✦ The RTA is the NSW State Government agency responsible for providing road planning, construction and maintenance solutions for the NSW community, with an emphasis on meeting community, environmental, regulatory and economic needs and in so doing, for improving road safety through better road user behaviour, vehicles and roads.
Board of Management

The Board of Management oversees the Centre’s strategic directions and financial management. During 2007, the Board of Management comprised the following members:

**CHAIR OF THE BOARD**

**MS GILLIAN CALVERT**
Commissioner, NSW Commission for Children and Young People
Gillian Calvert was appointed to the Board in 2006. Gillian is the NSW Commissioner for Children and Young People, an independent body reporting directly to NSW Parliament, which aims to make NSW a better place for children and young people. Gillian is also Convenor of the NSW Child Death Review Team.

**VOTING MEMBERS**

**MS PAM ALBANY** (until July 2007)
Manager, Injury Prevention and Policy Branch, NSW Health
Pam was the Manager of the Injury Prevention and Policy Branch in NSW Health. She had previously managed the Injury Prevention Branch in WA Health and worked for a short time for the National Injury Surveillance Unit (AIHW). Pam was a WHO Travelling Fellow in 1988 and has worked as an injury consultant for WHO in Mongolia, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam. After Ms Albany stepped down from the Board, Ms Liz Develin, Director of Centre for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Advancement, NSW Health, took up the NSW Health position on the Board.

**MR DAVID BOWEN**
General Manager, Motor Accidents Authority
David is the General Manager of the Motor Accidents Authority and CEO of the Lifetime Care and Support Authority. He is a member of the Board and Advisory Council to the MAA and the Lifetime Care and Support Authority. He is also a member of the Advisory Committee to the Rehabilitation Studies Unit at the University of Sydney, and a member of the HIH Creditor’s Committee.

**DR SOAMES JOB**
General Manager, Road Safety Strategy, Roads and Traffic Authority
Dr Soames Job (PhD in Psychology) took up his current position of General Manager, Road Safety Strategy in the Roads and Traffic Authority of NSW in 2003. In 1982 he was a key player in the introduction and refinement of Random Breath Testing (NSW). He continued to conduct research and provide policy advice in road safety while Director of the Health and Safety Psychology Research Unit at the University of Sydney until 2003. He has published two books, over 260 research papers and delivered over 250 conference addresses. He is listed in the Who’s Who in the World for his contribution to research.
PROFESSOR MIKE ARCHER  
*Dean, Faculty of Science, UNSW*  
Professor Mike Archer is the Dean of the Faculty of Science and Deputy Chair of the IRMRC. He is a renowned researcher in the biological sciences and became a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science in 2002. He has held senior executive appointments in research institutions and was Director of the Australian Museum in Sydney from 1999-2004.

PROFESSOR DIANNE WILEY  
*Acting Dean, Faculty of Engineering, UNSW*  
Professor Dianne Wiley was Acting Dean of the Faculty of Engineering at the University of New South Wales and Professor of Chemical Engineering and a project leader for the CO2CRC in relation to the technical and economic assessment of technologies for carbon capture and storage. She is a recognised expert in the modelling of fluid dynamics in membrane modules and the design and optimisation of reverse osmosis and ultrafiltration systems including characterisation and computational fluid dynamics modelling of spacers for membrane modules.

PROFESSOR TERENCE CAMPBELL  
*Representative of the Dean, Faculty of Medicine, UNSW*  
Professor Campbell is the Faculty Medicine representative to the Board. He is Professor of Medicine at St Vincent’s Hospital and Senior Associate Dean in the Faculty of Medicine. Professor Campbell holds doctorates in medicine and philosophy and he was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for his contribution to medicine.

PROFESSOR JOHN WILSON  
*Head, School of Risk and Safety Sciences, UNSW*  
John Wilson is a Professor of Human Factors and Risk in the School of Risk and Safety Sciences, University of New South Wales, and in a joint appointment is Professor of Human Factors in the School of Engineering at the University of Nottingham in the UK. Since 2001 John has been Human Factors Strategic Coordinator to Network Rail and a member of their Ergonomics Team. He is a Chartered Psychologist and a Chartered Engineer and Fellow of the Ergonomics Society, and Editor-in-Chief of Applied Ergonomics.
Board of Management

NON - VOTING MEMBERS

**MR PETER WHITECROSS** (until September 2007)
*Assistant Director Health Promotion, Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Services*
Peter Whitecross is currently the Assistant Director for Health Promotion at Northern Sydney Central Coast Health. He has been involved with Safe Communities since 1992, in Northern Sydney. He was the chairperson of the intersectoral committee which conducted the first NSW Youth Sports Injury Survey. Other projects have addressed suicide prevention and domestic violence. Current projects include falls prevention and the influence of alcohol in causing injury.

**MS LYNDAL O’LEARY** (from September 2007)
*Area Manager Health Promotion, Greater Western Area Health Services*
Ms O’Leary is the Area Manager Health Promotion for the Greater Western Area Health Service. This involves planning and implementation of the Health Promotion priority areas of tobacco control, healthy weight and falls injury prevention. She is a member of Australian College of Health Service Executives. Prior to taking up the position of Manager of Health Promotion, Ms O’Leary has worked for many years in health management and in the area of gerontology. She has lectured nursing students at Charles Sturt University at Dubbo on aged related issues. Her particular areas of interest are healthy weight and physical activity programs.

**PROFESSOR ANN WILLIAMSON**
*Acting Director, IRMRC*
Professor Ann Williamson is an NHMRC Senior Research Fellow and Acting Director of the Centre. Ann has an established reputation and a substantial body of research in the area of human factors and safety, especially focusing on fatigue and performance. In particular, she is known for her work on analysis of the role of human factors in workplace incidents. Ann was instrumental in the establishment of the Centre and was its inaugural Director stepping down in 2003 to concentrate more fully on her program of research.

**MS MARY POTTER FORBES**
*Research Manager and Research Fellow, IRMRC*
Mary Potter Forbes provides support to the Director and has responsibility for routine operation, research administration and strategic planning and development. Mary is responsible for ensuring that financial performance and financial planning are tied with strategic objectives. She is also involved in health service research and evaluation projects at the Centre. Mary is an Associate Fellow of the ACHSE and is on the finance sub-committee of the Australasian Association for Quality in Health Care (AAQHC).

**MS HENNY OENTOJO**
*Executive Assistant to the Director, IRMRC*
The activities of the IRMRC are guided by two other management committees: The Quarterly Review Committee and the Research Advisory Committee.

QUARTERLY REVIEW COMMITTEE
The Quarterly Review Committee sets policy and guidelines for the management of, and access to, the Centre’s data resources. During 2007, the Committee comprised the following members:

DR ANDREW HAYEN, Chair, Biostatistician, IRMRC (until May 2007)
PROFESSOR ANN WILLIAMSON, Acting Director, IRMRC
DR SOUFIANE BOFOUS, Data Manager, IRMRC (until March 2007)
MR ANDREW GRAHAM, Manager Trend Analysis, Road Safety Strategy, Roads and Traffic Authority
MS PAM ALBANY, Manager, Injury Prevention and Policy Branch, NSW Health (until July 2007)
MS SUSAN SUHOOD, Manager, Scheme Monitoring, Motor Accidents Authority (until April 2007)
MR KWAME ATSU, Principal Officer, Statistics-Insurance Division, Motor Accidents Authority (April 2007 onwards)
MS MARY POTTER FORBES, Research Fellow & Manager, IRMRC
Other Management Committees

RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Research Advisory Committee provides advice to the Board about the research directions of the Centre. In 2007, the Committee comprised the following members:

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR STEPHEN LORD Chair, Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute, UNSW
PROFESSOR RICHARD BRYANT School of Psychology, UNSW
PROFESSOR JEAN CROSS School of Safety Science, UNSW
PROFESSOR WILLIAM DUNSMUIR School of Mathematics, UNSW
PROFESSOR CAROLINE FINCH School of Human Movement and Sports Sciences, University of Ballarat
DR SOAMES JOB General Manager, Road Safety Strategy, Roads and Traffic Authority
DR BERMAN KAYIS School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, UNSW
PROFESSOR JOHN LANGLEY Injury Prevention Research Unit, University of Otago, New Zealand
PROFESSOR ANN WILLIAMSON Acting Director, IRMRC
DR KAREN ZWI School of Women’s and Children’s Health, Faculty of Medicine, UNSW
IRMRC is committed to furthering capacity in injury risk management research. The Centre supervised and mentored 16 postgraduate research students in 2007. All UNSW-based IRMRC students are formally enrolled in other UNSW schools for administrative purposes but are supervised or co-supervised by full-time academics of the IRMRC. In 2007, IRMRC students were enrolled in the UNSW Faculties of Science (Schools of Psychology and Safety Science), Medicine (School of Public Health and Community Medicine), and the Australian School of Business (School of Economics).

The IRMRC students

The IRMRC students listed below are classified by their School of Enrolment

**School of Public Health and Community Medicine**

**Wei Du**  
Degree enrolled: PhD  
Main supervisor: Prof Caroline Finch  
Co-supervisor: Dr Julie Hatfield  
Project/Thesis title: Population based evaluation of the role of child restraints in preventing child road trauma

**Rena Friswell**  
Degree enrolled: PhD  
Main supervisor: Prof Ann Williamson  
Co-supervisor: A/Prof Deborah Black (School of Public Health and Community Medicine)  
Project/thesis title: Driver fatigue in light transport drivers

**Lara Harvey**  
Degree enrolled: PhD  
Main supervisor: Prof Caroline Finch  
Co-supervisor: Dr Shauna Sherker  
Project/thesis title: The epidemiology and prevention of burns and scalds in NSW

**Mary Potter Forbes**  
Degree enrolled: PhD  
Main supervisor: Prof Ann Williamson  
Co-supervisor: Prof Johanna Westbrook (University of Sydney)  
Project/thesis title: The risk management of falls in NSW public hospitals

**Rebecca Mitchell**  
Degree enrolled: PhD  
Main supervisor: Prof Caroline Finch / Prof Ann Williamson  
Co-supervisor: Dr Andrew Hayen, Prof Rod McClure (Griffith University), Dr Tim Driscoll (University of Sydney)  
Project/thesis title: Injury surveillance in NSW: systematic review and future opportunities

**Marcia Schmertmann**  
Degree enrolled: PhD  
Main supervisor: Prof Ann Williamson  
Co-supervisor: Prof Deborah Black (School of Public Health and Community Medicine, UNSW)  
Project/thesis title: Predictive value of identified environmental, socio-demographic and behavioural factors for unintentional poisonings in young children
Building Research Capacity

School of Psychology

**Ralston Fernandes**
Degree enrolled: PhD
Main supervisor: Dr Julie Hatfield
Co-supervisor: Dr Soames Job (RTA)
Project/thesis title: Risk taking attitudes of young NSW drivers

**Helena Hong**
Degree enrolled: PhD
Main supervisor: Prof Ann Williamson
Co-supervisor: Prof Jim Kehoe (School of Psychology)
Helena was awarded an NHMRC Postgraduate Scholarship in 2007.

School of Economics

**Tao Yang**
Degree enrolled: PhD
Main supervisor: Prof Denzil Fiebig (School of Economics)
Centre Collaborator: Ms Mary Putter Forbes
Project/thesis title: Value of safety using the discrete choice modelling methodology

School of Safety Science

**Naomi Dunn**
Degree enrolled: PhD
Main supervisor: Prof Ann Williamson
Co-supervisor: Dr Andrew McIntosh (School of Safety Science, UNSW)
Project/thesis title: Monotony, underload and vigilance: Implications for the rail industry

The centre also provides training placements for Public Health Officers and Biostatistical Trainees from NSW Health. There were two placements at the Centre in 2007: Melissa Irwin and Bruce Tabor

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND TRAINEE FELLOWSHIP ON CORONIAL AND EMERGENCY DATA**

**CENTRE INVESTIGATORS**
Caroline Finch, Andrew Hayen

**FUNDING**
2005-2007, NSW Health

**SUMMARY**
Melissa Irwin extended a six month placement as a Public Health Officer at the IRMRC. She evaluated the usefulness of the National Coroners Information System for injury surveillance after negotiating access to NCIS on behalf of the Centre.

**BIOSTATISTICAL APPROACHES FOR INJURY DATA**

**CENTRE INVESTIGATORS**
Caroline Finch, Andrew Hayen, Ann Williamson

**COLLABORATORS**
William Dunsmuir (School of Mathematics, UNSW)

**FUNDING**
2004-2007, NSW Health

**SUMMARY**
Bruce Tabor worked at the centre on the linkage of RTA Traffic Accident Database System (TADS) and the Inpatient Statistical Collection.
Highlights of 2007


One day Seminar Series – “SAFE WALKING: A COLLOQUIUM ON PEDESTRIAN SAFETY”, 26th November 2007, The Grace Hotel
Highlights of 2007

VISITORS TO THE CENTRE

Dr Gordon Smith  Liberty Mutual Research Institute for Safety, Hopkinton, Massachusetts, USA
Dr Fadhli Yussoff  WHO Fellow, Malaysia

AWARDS

NSW Sporting Injuries Committee Award, November 2007

The NSW Injury Risk Management Research Centre, Northern Sydney Central Coast Health and Youthsafe have collaborated to win the silver award for their research into the SafeClub program. The research was titled “Can risk management training improve the safety activities of community soccer clubs?”

As reported on the Sporting Injuries Committee Awards web site, SafeClub was developed by Youthsafe and Northern Sydney Central Coast Health to help community sports clubs develop and implement their own user friendly risk management framework. The objective of this research was to evaluate whether participation in the SafeClub risk management program improved the safety activities of the community sports clubs involved in the controlled trial. At baseline there was no significant difference in the safety scores of intervention and control clubs. At post-season, intervention clubs achieved significantly higher safety scores than control clubs. The improvement in the safety scores was even greater at the 12 month follow-up.

These results suggest that SafeClub effectively assists clubs to improve their sports safety activities particularly the foundations and processes for good risk management practice in a sustainable way.
Research Activities
During 2007, Centre staff were involved in a range of projects across the following area:

**Data Systems and Statistical Analysis**
The Centre has custodianship of and/or access to a number of NSW population databases, including the NSW Inpatient Statistical Collection, NSW Traffic Accident Database System, MAA Claims Register and Statistical Database and claims data from WorkCover NSW. The Centre undertakes data mining and statistical analysis of these secure data for the core funding partners, the Centre’s own research program and as a service for approved agencies on approved matters.

**Epidemiology and Injury Surveillance**
The Centre undertakes injury epidemiological studies which are guided or informed by the data mining of the analytical research stream. We have developed capacity to link datasets to identify patterns of risk and risk behaviour, to gain insight into injury risk management strategies and to undertake spatial analysis of patterns of injury risk.

**Falls**
The Centre is heavily involved in falls prevention and the implementation and evaluation of the NSW Falls Policy. It has strong links with ageing and falls researchers at the Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute (POWMRI), the Clinical Excellence Commission and the NSW Falls Network.

**Road Safety**
Road safety is studied intensively at the Centre with experts in driver behaviour and human factors carrying out surveys, simulations and data analytical work to gain new insights and understandings into the causes and prevention of traffic crashes and occupant and pedestrian injury.

**Sports and Active Recreation Injury**
Australia is a sport obsessed nation and researchers at the Centre work to identify the nature of the risk associated with these activities as well as participants’ perception and awareness of risks. With expertise in biomechanics, sports science, human behaviour and data analysis, researchers seek to devise solutions to minimise any potentially negative outcomes of sport and active recreation.

**Work Related Injury**
Work related injury remains a significant cause of morbidity and mortality in New South Wales. Researchers at the Centre study the human factors that place individuals at risk of injury – such as shift work, fatigue, payment systems – and value the cost of these injuries to employers, the individual and society.

In the next section we provide a brief summary of each project, including the research collaborators and funding received during 2007.
Epidemiology and Injury Surveillance
Research Activities

Epidemiology and Injury Surveillance

INVESTIGATION OF CORONIAL DATA

CENTRE INVESTIGATORS
Melissa Irwin (NSW Public Health Officer Training Program), Andrew Hayen, Caroline Finch

FUNDING
2005-2007, NSW Health (Project extended. Funding received in 2007: $37,000)

SUMMARY
Coronial data have the potential to provide a rich source of information about fatal injury. The aim of this project was to evaluate the National Coroners Information System (NCIS) as a tool for injury surveillance in NSW. More specifically, it examined how reliably the NCIS captured fatal injuries and the timeliness with which cases referred to a coroner are closed, and therefore available for injury prevention research. This project also examined some of the methodological issues in using routinely collected electronic mortality data. A report of the data analysis was produced in 2006. The findings were presented at the Public Health Association of Australia conference and the Australian Injury Prevention Network conference in September 2006. In 2007, the NCIS was examined to describe the reasons why fatal injuries are coded as ‘accidental exposure to unspecified factors’ and to identify the types of injuries included in this code.

UNINTENTIONAL CHILDHOOD INJURY OF 10-14 YEAR OLDS, AUSTRALIA

CENTRE INVESTIGATORS
Rebecca Mitchell

COLLABORATORS
Maureen Owen (YouthSafe), Kristy Abbott (KidSafe NSW), Julie Depczynski (Australian Centre for Agricultural Health and Safety). This project is being led by YouthSafe.

FUNDING
Funded by Commonwealth Department of Health (Total budget $7,000. Funding received in 2007: $3,500)

SUMMARY
This project aims to develop a descriptive profile of injuries that occur to children aged 10-14 years, review the literature surrounding the prevention of injuries to this age group and conduct focus groups with children aged 10-14 years throughout NSW to assist with the development of information sheets that would describe injury prevention approaches for priority areas for 10-14 years olds.
Falls
Falls

Falls injury research team
From left to right: Mary Potter Forbes, Ann Williamson, Shauna Sherker, Wendy Watson

RESEARCH FELLOW TO EVALUATE THE IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING OF THE NSW FALLS POLICY

CENTRE INVESTIGATORS
Ann Williamson, Wendy Watson

FUNDING
2006-2009, NSW Health (Total budget: $542,862. Funding received in 2007: $171,843)

SUMMARY
The objective of this study is to develop a framework and carry out the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the NSW Falls Policy, as required by the Policy. Dr Wendy Watson was appointed to the position of Senior Research Fellow (Evaluation) in August 2007 and will work closely with the NSW Falls Leader in the Clinical Excellence Commission and Falls Coordinators in the Area Health Services to develop an evaluation framework. A Falls Evaluation Advisory Committee, with members drawn from key stakeholder groups including the Area Health Services, has been constituted and work has commenced on a retrospective process analysis and the development of a CATI survey to measure the impact of the policy in the community. Annual reports will be provided to NSW Health for the State and each Area Health Service.

PhD SCHOLARSHIP IN INJURY PREVENTION (WITH EMPHASIS ON FALLS)

CENTRE INVESTIGATORS
Mary Potter Forbes, Tao Yang

COLLABORATORS
Peter Abelson (Applied Economics), Denzil Fiebig (School of Economics, UNSW)

FUNDING
2006, NSW Health (Total budget: $75,000. No funding received in 2007)

SUMMARY
A PhD scholarship was provided to support collaborative projects with the RTA and to build capacity at the Centre. The scholarship will not be needed by the recruited scholar until 2008. The scholar has worked on the discrete choice experiment into willingness to pay to avoid injury, funded by the RTA, and will work on the economic evaluations for NSW Health with Mary Potter Forbes and Peter Abelson.
Road Safety
Research Activities

Road Safety

FATIGUE IN THE LIGHT TRUCKING SECTOR

CENTRE INVESTIGATORS
Ann Williamson, Rena Friswell

FUNDING

SUMMARY
This project gathered exploratory data about fatigue and other occupational health and safety issues for light transport drivers. In 2007, industry, government and union bodies were briefed on the results and some targeted follow-up work was conducted to assess the representativeness of the findings.
TIME OF DAY, TIME AWAKE AND ALCOHOL: THE EFFECTS ON FATIGUE AND PERFORMANCE

CENTRE INVESTIGATORS
Ann Williamson

FUNDING
2005-2006, ARC Discovery Grant (Total budget: $117,415. No funding received in 2007)

SUMMARY
Previous studies have shown that around 18 hours without sleep produces performance deficits equivalent to a blood alcohol at the legal limit for driving (0.05% blood alcohol content). The current study was conducted to assess the separate effects of time of day and time awake on this finding. Analysis of experimental data was conducted in 2007.

EFFECTIVENESS AND APPROPRIATENESS OF CHILD RESTRAINTS

CENTRE INVESTIGATORS
Wei Du, Julie Hatfield, Caroline Finch

COLLABORATORS
Lynne Bilston (Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute)

FUNDING
2005-2008, ARC, Motor Accidents Authority and Roads and Traffic Authority (Total budget: $73,950. Funding received in 2007: $25,118)

SUMMARY
Significant numbers of children in Australia are killed and injured each year as occupants of motor vehicles. There is a need to define the effectiveness of different forms of Australian restraint for children considering the impact of non-use and misuse. The aims of this project are to develop a population-level profile of road trauma in child occupants in NSW; characterise the types of restraints currently used in NSW; characterise and quantify restraint misuse; determine the size/weight deficiencies of existing dedicated child restraint and adult belt systems for Australian children; assess the influence of deficiencies identified in crash protection; estimate the costs of injuries in children and the cost-benefit associated with correct restraint use. Development of the population-based profile of child trauma is well underway, with analysis of the hospital separations, coronial, and road crash database completed. Analysis of the US fatal road crash database (FARS) has commenced. A telephone survey of restraint usage for children aged under 16 is complete, and several manuscripts are complete or under preparation. An in-depth field study of child restraint misuse is near completion. The IRMRC researchers are chiefly responsible for an APA(I) student who is developing a population-based profile of child trauma. From this work, two manuscripts have been published in high-end journals (Medical Journal of Australia, Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health), and two further manuscripts have been submitted. In 2007, the research has also been presented at four conferences.

The third study, which involves an in-depth study of child restraint misuse, is in its final stage. Modelling of the efficacy of child restraints in a crash, and of the potential prevention of injury with 100% appropriate use, is underway. Two papers have been submitted, four conference presentations have been given, and a further two conference abstracts accepted (not including publications from our co-investigators at POWMRI). Three further papers are in preparation.
DESIGN FOR A STUDY OF REACTION TO ENGINE BRAKE NOISE

CENTRE INVESTIGATORS
Julie Hatfield

FUNDING
2005-2006, Australian Transport Safety Bureau (Total budget: $4,418. No funding received in 2007)

SUMMARY
The Roads and Traffic Authority of NSW (RTA) has been working with the National Transport Commission (NTC) in the development of a regulatory approach to manage engine brake (EB) noise. The RTA aims to use the NTC’s acoustical definition of annoyance, in conjunction with information about human annoyance responses to noise, in order to develop an EB noise standard. The aim of the current project is to design an acoustic survey using recorded EB events (held by the RTA), to provide information to be used in the development of an EB noise standard. In 2006, a report was provided to the RTA providing advice regarding 1) experimental design (e.g. stimuli selection, methods for obtaining ratings, and inclusion of important modifiers), and 2) sampling issues. Purpose-designed measures of annoyance, noise sensitivity and attitudes to the noise source, were developed and provided to the RTA. A seminar was also given to brief stakeholders on the background, study design, and materials, and a pilot survey was successfully conducted.

THE ROLE OF RISK PROSPENSITY IN THE RISKY DRIVING OF OLDER AND YOUNGER DRIVERS

CENTRE INVESTIGATORS
Julie Hatfield, Ralston Fernandes

FUNDING

SUMMARY
Risky driving is a major contributor to road trauma, particularly for young drivers, who are over-represented in crash statistics. Investigation of limited experience and risk-perception skills as crash contributors has lacked appropriate consideration of risk-propensity (willingness/desire to take risk). The aims of this project are to investigate interrelationships between aspects of risk-propensity (measured using recently-developed questionnaires), age, experience, risk-perception, and risky driving, in order to inform improved road safety countermeasures. Data collection was completed in 2007, and the draft report was submitted to the Australian Transport Safety Bureau in June 2007. A paper regarding this research was accepted for presentation at the 9th World Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion, Mexico, March 2008.

IMPLICIT ATTITUDES AND SIMULATED DRIVING BEHAVIOUR

CENTRE INVESTIGATORS
Julie Hatfield, Ralston Fernandes

COLLABORATORS
Gavin Faonce (University of Sydney), Soames Job (Roads and Traffic Authority)

FUNDING
SUMMARY
Speeding is a substantial contributor toward road trauma, and yet research regarding attitudes which influence speeding relies on self-report measures that may be subject to social desirability bias. The aims of Study 1 were to assess implicit attitudes towards speeding (employing the computer-based Implicit Association Test), and their relationship to self-reported attitudes, self-reported behaviour and simulated driving behaviour. The aims of Study 2 were to develop an intervention to improve speeding-related attitudes (both implicit and explicit), and simulated behaviour. In 2005, we developed the IAT, intervention materials, and collected all data. In 2006 data collection was completed and a report of the research written. The final report was accepted by the ATSB in March 2007. An article based on this research has been accepted by the journal of Accident Analysis and Prevention. The research was also the topic of a poster at the Road Safety & Simulation, Rome, November 2007; and was accepted for presentation at the 9th World Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion, Mexico, March 2008.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND HUMAN FACTORS IN VEHICLE CONTROL: DRIVING SIMULATOR DEVELOPMENT

CENTRE INVESTIGATORS
Ann Williamson, Julie Hatfield, Rena Friswell

COLLABORATORS
Andrew McIntosh (School of Safety Science, UNSW)

FUNDING
2006-2007, UNSW Research Infrastructure Block Grant (Total budget: $19,585. No funding received in 2007)

SUMMARY
The objective of this project is to establish a driving simulator at the IRMRC. Funding was obtained to purchase a desktop driving simulator. Driving simulation is widely regarded as a valid and valuable research methodology that provides objective lab-based measurement of driver behaviour and performance. It supplements or replaces self-report measures of driving (which are subject to errors of recall or report) and field observations (which are expensive, time-consuming, and often poorly controlled). The validity of driving simulation has been established for a wide range of driver behaviour and performance issues. The driving simulator will be used to examine a wide-range of road safety issues including young driver performance and the effects of driver fatigue.

BUILDING CAPACITY IN THE ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF INJURY PREVENTION I

CENTRE INVESTIGATORS
Mary Potter Forbes, Tao Yang, Ann Williamson, Ros Poulos

COLLABORATORS
Denzil Fiebig (School of Economics, UNSW), Peter Abelson (Applied Economics)

FUNDING
2006, Roads and Traffic Authority (Total budget: $130,000. No funding received in 2007)

SUMMARY
The aim of this research is to estimate what individuals are willing to pay for safety, specifically for reductions in the risk of injuries due to motor vehicle crashes. The project is a collaboration between the RTA and NSW Health aimed at building capacity in economic evaluation at the Centre. An economic PhD scholar has been recruited and a discrete choice experiment (DCE) designed under the supervision of Professor Fiebig.
Research Activities

In this methodology subjects compare different scenarios consisting of bundles of outcome attributes along a number of dimensions. The most frequently occurring types of injury attributed to motor vehicle injuries were identified as were the associated functional impairments. The EuroQol-5D is being used to describe outcomes. The instrument has been designed and pilot testing is underway using UNSW students. The project was delayed for six months after the RTA opened a separate tender for a much larger project.

BUILDING ECONOMIC CAPACITY IN THE ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF INJURY PREVENTION II

CENTRE INVESTIGATORS
Mary Potter Forbes, Tao Yang

COLLABORATORS
Peter Abelson (Applied Economics), Denzil Fiebig (School of Economics, UNSW)

FUNDING
2006, Roads and Traffic Authority (Total budget: $130,000. No funding received in 2007)

SUMMARY
This project is part of a collaboration with the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) to build capacity in economic evaluation at the Centre. It will build on the twelve month funding provided by the RTA to estimate the value of a statistical life using discrete choice methodology and use the estimate in cost-benefit analysis of identified injury prevention programs. Preliminary meetings defined the scope of the proposed evaluations and a Scoping Paper is in preparation. It is envisaged that data will be collected at the same time for both that direct cost and outcome, and the willingness to pay study for the RTA.

MOTORCYCLE CORNERING CAMPAIGN EVALUATION

CENTRE INVESTIGATORS
Ann Williamson, Rena Friswell

FUNDING

SUMMARY
The impact of a public road safety campaign is critically dependent on its coverage and the way it is received and used by the target audience. Direct mail has the potential to provide excellent coverage of particular road user groups but its effectiveness as a method for communicating road safety messages to motorcyclists has not been assessed. This study examined motorcycle riders’ self-reported attitudes to and knowledge of safe cornering practices before and after a direct mail-out of safe cornering campaign materials to registered motorcycle owners.

PROJECT APPROVED FOR FUNDING IN 2007 BUT FOR WHICH RESEARCH WORK WILL NOT COMMENCE UNTIL 2008

IRMRC staff are listed in bold in the following list
Grzebieta R, Williamson A, Friswell R, Caponecchia C. Road safety research capacity building stage 1: Instrumented Vehicle. 2008 ($182,139)
Sports and Recreational Injury
Sports and Recreational Injury

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL PROFILE OF SEVERE AND CATASTROPHIC SPORTS INJURIES IN NSW

CENTRE INVESTIGATORS
Rebecca Mitchell

COLLABORATORS
Soufiane Boufous (The George Institute for International Health), Caroline Finch (University of Ballarat)

FUNDING
2005-2007, NSW Sporting Injuries Committee (Total budget: $59,125. No funding received in 2007)

SUMMARY
Participation in sport and physical activity provides a range of health-related benefits. However, increased participation increases exposure to the risk factors associated with injury, with sport/leisure injury being recognised as a significant public health issue in Australia. In 2006, this project led to the publication of the first detailed epidemiological profile of severe sport/leisure injury in NSW; detailed epidemiological profile of severe sport/leisure injury in NSW; a rate of 190.3 hospitalised sport/leisure injuries per 100,000 population was reported for 2003-2004. In August 2007, a second report provided a more detailed analysis of injury hospitalisation episodes associated with commonly represented categories of sport/leisure. In addition, social determinants of sport/leisure injury hospitalisation risk, as a measure of health inequalities across all age groups, was presented for NSW for the first time. This included maps of sports injury rates across the State. The report also assessed the quality and completeness of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) activity and place of injury coding systems for identifying sports injuries. Taken together, the information in the published report is important for the further identification of priority population groups and the targeting of sports injury prevention and sports medicine services.

SCIENCE OF THE SURF (SOS): THE DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION OF A NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO REDUCE THE RISK OF COASTAL DROWNING

CENTRE INVESTIGATORS
Ann Williamson, Julie Hatfield, Andrew Hayen, Shauna Sherker

FUNDING

SUMMARY
On average, 58 people drown at Australian beaches each year, and for each drowning death an estimated 4-10 people are hospitalised due to near drowning. A major factor in this preventable incident is a lack of knowledge about common beach hazards, with rip currents in particular implicated in about 80% of surf lifesaving rescues. The 3-stage project aims to examine situational, psychological and demographic factors associated with failing to swim between flags and other beach risk-behaviour (Stage 1 survey and observations), in order to inform the content, target audience, and format of the beach safety intervention to be designed and implemented in Stage 2 of the project. The intervention will be evaluated in terms of process, and improvement in knowledge, attitudes, and behaviour (relative to the Stage 1 baseline) at the time of its implementation (Stage 2) and 1 year later (Stage 3). Stage 1 and planning for Stage 2 were undertaken in 2007.
Work Related Injury
ANALYSIS OF SAFETY PERFORMANCE MEASURES OF THE NEW SOUTH WALES MINING INDUSTRY

CENTRE INVESTIGATORS
Ann Williamson, Naomi Dunn

FUNDING
2001-2007, the NSW Department of Mineral Resources (Total budget: $34,878. Funding received in 2007: $10,103)

SUMMARY
The aim of this project is to provide an annual report on the reportable incidents collected by the Department of Primary Industry - Mineral Division. This report is based on all Notifiable Incidents required to be reported to the regulatory agency under a range of mine safety acts and regulations. The current report describes the nature of incidents and circumstances in which they occur. This year was the fifth yearly report and covered the period 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2005. A presentation on the results of the report was made to the Mine Safety Advisory Committee.

THE EFFECTS OF PRECARIOUS WORK ON OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

CENTRE INVESTIGATORS
Ann Williamson

COLLABORATORS
Phillip Bohle and Michael Quinlan (School of Organisation and Management, UNSW). This project is led by the School of Organisation and Management, UNSW.

FUNDING
2001-2005, Australian Research Council Discovery Grant (No funding received in 2007)

SUMMARY
The aim of this study is to examine the effects of precarious work on health and safety of workers in the hospitality, call centre and road transport industry. Temporary, part-time or casual work, often known as precarious or contingent work, is increasing in the Australian workforce. The aim of this study was to determine whether there are adverse effects on the health and safety of workers employed under precarious working conditions. This year the work on this project focused primarily on data analysis and the production of a paper on the short haul trucking industry; an occupational group that has been the focus of little research in the past.

RAIL SAFETY AND RELIABILITY: A HUMAN FACTORS AND ERGONOMICS APPROACH

CENTRE INVESTIGATORS
Ann Williamson, Naomi Dunn

COLLABORATORS
Andrew McIntosh (School of Safety Science, UNSW). This project is led by School of Safety Science, UNSW.

FUNDING
2006-2008, Australian Research Council Grant (No funding received in 2007)

SUMMARY
The overall objective of this project is to determine the main human factors issues relevant to the Australian rail system and develop countermeasures for these issues. This project is funded by an ARC Linkage grant with external partners RailCorp, the NSW Independent Safety Transport and Reliability Regulator (ITSRR) and the Victorian Department of Infrastructure (DOI). The first stage of the project was to identify the main human factors to be investigated in this project through discussions with the funding partners, a review of Australian incident/accident reports and Signals Passed At Danger data and a review of literature on rail human factors research. Subsequent experimental work is examining the impact of monotony and cognitive underload on vigilance and performance.
Translating Research Into Policy and Practice
Translating Research into Policy and Practice

Government and Policy Forums Attended

ANN WILLIAMSON
◆ Local Government Road Safety Conference, Sydney, 1st February 2007
◆ Australian Injury Prevention Network Meeting on 5th February, 12th March, 2nd April, 14th May, 12th June, 9th July, 20th August 2007
◆ Sixth National OHS Regulatory Research Colloquium, Canberra, 6th-8th February 2007
◆ NSW Health – National Falls Indicator Workshop, Sydney, 9th March 2007
◆ Global Road Safety Seminar, Darlington Centre, University of Sydney, 2nd April 2007
◆ Workshop on Child and Youth Unintended Injury Prevention conducted by NSW Commission for Children and Young People, 31st May 2007
◆ Infants, Children & Young People and Road Safety Conference, Sydney, 2nd August 2007
◆ Meeting of the National Maritime Safety Committee’s Incident Analysis Review Panel, 13th August 2007
◆ Annual General Meeting and Executive Committee Meeting for Australian Injury Prevention Network, 19th November 2007

RENA FRISWELL
◆ Sixth National OHS Regulatory Research Colloquium, Canberra, 6-8th February 2007

JULIE HATFIELD
◆ Global Road Safety Seminar, Darlington Centre, University of Sydney, 2nd April 2007
◆ Infants, Children & Young People and Road Safety Conference, Sydney, 2nd August 2007
◆ Joint Scientific Meeting of the Australasian Epidemiological Association and the International Epidemiological Association, Hobart, 27-29th August 2007

REBECCA MITCHELL
◆ National Coronial Information System Advisory Committee on 11th January 2007, 6th June 2007
◆ Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Committee meeting on 17th January, 7th March 2007, 4th July 2007
◆ The 45 and up study 4th Annual Collaborators meeting, UNSW, 20th September 2007
◆ NSW Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Committee meeting on 3rd October 2007

MARY POTTER FORBES
◆ Falls Network meeting, Scientia, UNSW, 4th June 2007
◆ Australian College of Health Service Executives, Annual General Meeting and Keynote, 7th June 2007
◆ Australian College of Health Service Executives symposium: Understanding important influences on hospital design, Sydney, 14th September 2007
◆ MAA Cost of Road Trauma Roundtable, PriceWaterhouseCoopers, Darling Harbour, 19th November 2007

WENDY WATSON
◆ The 45 and up study 4th Annual Collaborators meeting, UNSW, 20th September 2007
◆ SESIAHS Southern Hospital Network Falls Forum, Wollongong, 29th October 2007
◆ MAA Cost of Road Trauma Roundtable, PriceWaterhouseCoopers, Darling Harbour, 19th November 2007
◆ HNEAHS Falls Forum, Tamworth 20th November 2007
◆ Fair Trading Week 2007 Reception, NSW Minister for Fair Trading, 23rd November 2007
◆ NSW Product Safety Committee, Office of Fair Trading, 29th November 2007
Translating Research into Policy and Practice

Staff Membership of Committees, Panels and Working Parties

ANN WILLIAMSON
- President of Australian Injury Prevention Network
- Member, National Rail Industry Reference Group on Fatigue
- Member, Fatigue Expert Group for National Rail Industry
- Member, Performance Measures Taskgroup for NSW Mine Safety Advisory Committee
- Member, Farm Machinery Safety Reference group
- Member, Editorial Committee for Journal of Safety Research
- Member, Incident Analysis Review Panel for National Maritime Safety Committee
- Member, REGNET Consortium

RAPHAEL GRZEBIETA
- President of Australasian College of Road Safety
- Member of the Australian Transport Safety Bureau National Road Safety Strategy Panel
- Corresponding Member Institution of Engineers National Committee on Transport
- Member Australian/NZ Standards Committee CE/33 (AS/NZ 3845) Road Safety Barrier Systems
- Member Australian Standards Committee CS/75 Automotive Occupant Restraints
- Member Australian Standards Committee CE/85 Automotive Child Restraints
- Member Australian Standards Committee ME/83 Motor Vehicle Frontal Protection Systems
- Member Australian Standards Committee ME/83-01, ISO Australian Reviewing Committee ISO/TC22/SC10 Impact Test Procedures
- Member USA AFB 20 (2) International Research Committee for Road Safety Barriers (NCHRP 350)

RENA FRISWELL
- Member, REGNET Consortium

JULIE HATFIELD
- Member, NSW Road Safety Tasks Force

REBECCA MITCHELL
- Member, Human Factors and Ergonomics Society of Australia NSW Branch Committee
- Member, National Coronial Information System Advisory Committee

MARY POTTER FORBES
- Member, Finance Sub-Committee, Australasian Association for Quality in Health Care (AAQHC)

SHAUNA SHERKER
- Member, Sports Medicine Australia
- Member, International Society for Child and Adolescent Injury Prevention

WENDY WATSON
- Member, NSW Product Safety Committee
- Expert Group Core Member in the Injuries Expert Group, Global Burden of Diseases, Injuries, and Risk Factors Study 2008-2010 (International Revision of the GBD)
- Member, Division of GPs Falls Prevention Project Steering Committee
- Member, Australian Injury Prevention Network
Invited Presentations at Policy Forums

**Dunn N.** Monotony and task related fatigue. NSW Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Australia (HFESA), Sydney, 3rd October 2007.


**Friswell R.** OHS and fatigue issues in light and short haul transport. NSW WorkCover Transport and Storage Industry Reference Meeting, Sydney, 14th July 2007.

**Hatfield J.** Increased hospitalised abdominal and spinal cord injury risk by age for child motor vehicle passengers in NSW. Infants, Children & Young People and Road Safety Conference, Sydney, 2-3rd August 2007.


**Potter Forbes M.** The risk management of falls in hospital: An incident information management system. Showa University Hospital, Tokyo, Japan, 12th July 2007.


**Watson W.** The draft evaluation plan for NSW State Falls Policy. Area Falls Co-ordinators, Coogee, 3rd December 2007. (Workshop)


**Williamson A.** Older road users and urban design. Local Government Road Safety Conference, Sydney, 31st January-1st February 2007. (Chair of plenary session)


**Williamson A.** Driver fatigue. Heavy vehicle driver trainer workshop conducted by Australian Driver Trainer Association, Penrith, 13th July 2007.


During 2007, the Centre had major research collaborations with a number of people across UNSW and external to it:

Ms Kristy Abbott Youthsafe
Dr Peter Abelson Applied Economics
Ms Pam Albany Motor Accidents Authority
Mr Greg Allsop Roads and Traffic Authority
A/Prof Mario Attard School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, UNSW
Mr Andrew Baker Kings Transport
Dr Michael Bambach Department of Civil Engineering, Monash University
Dr Paul Barach Utrecht University Medical Centre, The Netherlands
Dr David Baxter Motor Accidents Authority
Dr Melissa Baysari School of Safety Science, UNSW
Dr Lynne Bilston Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute
A/Prof Deborah Black School of Public Health and Community Medicine, UNSW
Mr Les Blake WorkCover NSW
Mr Ian Blume WorkCover NSW
Prof Phil Bohle School of Organisation and Management, UNSW
Dr Soufiane Boufous The George Institute for International Health
Prof Jeffrey Braithwaite Centre for Clinical Governance research
Dr Rob Brander School of biological, earth and environmental sciences, UNSW
Ms Vanessa Brooks Quality and Safety branch, NSW Health
Ms Julie Brown Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute
Ms Gillian Browne Motor Accidents Authority
A/Prof Ian Cameron Rehabilitation Studies Unit, University of Sydney
Dr Carlo Caponecchia School of Safety Science, UNSW
Prof Danny Cass The Children Hospital Westmead
Ms Erin Cassell Monash University Accidents Research Centre
Dr Jacqueline Close Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute
Mr Phillip Crook TOLL Group
Dr Rakhi Dandona The George Institute for International Health
Dr Leslie Day Monash University Accidents Research Centre
Dr Rebecca Dennis University of Ballarat
Ms Liz Develin NSW Health
Mr Alex Donaldson University of Ballarat
Ms Mavis Duncanson NSW Commission for Children and Young People
Prof William Dunsmuir School of Mathematics, UNSW
Dr David Eager University of Technology Sydney
Ms Julie Edwards Motor Accidents Authority
Prof Bruce Elliott University of Western Australia
Ms Maureen Elliott Roads and Traffic Authority
Prof Denzil Fiebig School of Economics, UNSW
Prof Caroline Finch University of Ballarat
Dr Jason Gallate Centre for the Mind, University of Sydney
List of Major Collaborators

Mr Arem Gavin  Roads and Traffic Authority
Mr Michael Gordon  Kings Transport
A/Prof James Harrison  National Injury Surveillance Unit, Flinders University
Dr Andrew Hayen  University of Sydney
Mr Max Hely  Safety Science Associates
Ms Marde Hoy  Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine
Dr Phillip Hoyle  NSCC Area Health Service
Mr Russell Humble  Roads and Transport Authority
Dr Robert Hutchinson  Blufield Consulting
Mr Ikue Ichikawa  Showa University Hospital, Tokyo
Ms Josephine Istvandity  Commission for Children and Young people and Child Guardian
Dr Rebecca Ivers  The George Institute for International Health
Mr Michael Kaine  Transport Workers Union
Ms Debra Kanak  Department of Sports, Recreation and Tourism
Dr David Kennedy  School of Organisation and Management, UNSW
Mr Peter Kennedy  Clinical Excellence Commission
Ms Naomi Kitazawa  Showa University Hospital, Tokyo
Mr Paul Klarenaar  Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health
Mr Mladen Kovac  WorkCover NSW
Dr David Lloyd  University of Western Australia
A/Prof Stephen Lord  Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute
Ms Lorraine Lovitt  Clinical Excellence Commission
Prof Rod Mcclure  Monash University Accidents Research Centre
Dr Andrew McIntosh  School of Safety Science, UNSW
Dr Kristen Mckenzie  National Centre for Classification on Health
Prof Jason Middleton  Department of Aviation, UNSW
Mr Malcolm Miller  TNT Express
Dr Brett Molesworth  Department of Aviation, UNSW
Ms Claire Monger  NSW Health
Ms Helen Moore  NSW Health
Mr Rod Morrison  Department of Primary Industry
Mr Chris Mylka  National Maritime Safety Committee
Prof Robyn Norton  The George Institute for International Health
Prof Joan Oianne-Smith  Monash University Accidents Research Centre
Dr Rod O’connor  School of Public Health and Community Medicine, UNSW
Ms Emma Parker  RailCorp/Caravel
Mr Greg Perry  Sydney West Area Health Service
Dr Julia Poole  Royal North Shore Hospital
Mr Matthew Porter  State Transit Authority
Dr Roslyn Poulos  School of Public Health and Community Medicine, UNSW
Prof Michael Quinlan  School of Organisation and Management, UNSW
Ms Deborah Radvan  NSW Health
Dr Michael Regan  Monash University Accidents Research Centre
List of Major Collaborators

Dr Jan Ritchie School of Public Health and Community Medicine, UNSW
Mr Harry Rosenthal Risk Management Unit, UNSW
Dr Rosemary Rouse Roads and Traffic Authority
Mr David Rushton RailCorp/Caravel
Dr Basema Saddik School of Health Informatics, University of Sydney
Mr Todd Sharlow RailCorp
Mr Carl Smith Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health
Mr Greg Stead Kidsafe
Ms Bev Steer Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care
Prof Mark Stevenson The George Institute for International Health
Dr Daina Sturnieks Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute
Mr Basuki Suratno Roads and Traffic Authority
Dr Kathy Tannous Social Policy Research Centre, UNSW
Ms Vicki Telfer WorkCover NSW
Dr Anne Tiedemman Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute
Mr Chris Tsar Lifestyle Clinic, UNSW
Dr Irene Van Kamp RIVM, Netherlands
Prof Johanna Westbrook University of Sydney
Ms Jen Westling Sydney West Area Health Service
Mr Ben Whibley Surf Live Saving Australia
Prof John Wilson School of Safety Science
Mr Len Woodman Sydney City Council
Dr Kevin Wooller School of Safety Science
Mr Eric Yeung State Transit Authority, Sydney Buses
Mr Francis Young Department of Primary Industry
Prof Anthony Zwi School of Public Health and Community Medicine, UNSW
All IRMRC authors are listed in bold in the following lists

**Peer-Review Journal Papers**


**Hatfield J, Murphy S.** The effects of mobile phone use on pedestrian crossing behaviour at signalised and unsignalised intersections. Accidents Analysis and Prevention. 3007; 39(1): 197-205


**Williamson A.** Self-report measures, can they be trusted? Neurotoxicology. 2007; 28(2): 227-234

**Publications**


**Conference Abstracts**


**Harvey L.** Exploring the impact of legislation to limit the temperature of hot tap water delivery in NSW. SPHCM Postgraduate Research Student Conference abstract book. 2007, p.45.

**Letters/Editorials/Other Articles**

**Mitchell R.** Shiftwork-minimising the side effects. OHS Alert. 2006; 2: 9-10.
Conferences and Presentations

Invited Presentations

CAROLINE FINCH


ANN WILLIAMSON

- Driver fatigue. Heavy vehicle driver trainer workshop conducted by Australian Driver Trainer Association, Penrith, 13th July 2007. (Invited talk)

- Pedestrian crashes: What the literature tells us. IRMRC Seminar - Safe Walking: A colloquium on pedestrian safety, Sydney, 26th November 2007. (Invited talk)

RAPHAEL GRZEBIETA
- Improving vehicle and road infrastructure crashworthiness: Can it reduce road trauma?. The 3rd International Road Safety Conference, Perth, 29-30th November 2007. (Keynote presentation)

- Pedestrian impact crashes, survivability and crash reconstruction. IRMRC Seminar – Safe Walking: A colloquium on pedestrian safety, Sydney, 26th November 2007. (Invited talk)

SOUFIANE BOUFOUS

SHANLEY CHONG
- What is the picture for Sydney local area. IRMRC Seminar - Safe Walking: A colloquium on pedestrian safety, Sydney, 26th November 2007. (Invited talk)

REBECCA DENNIS
- Evidence-based injury prevention for repetitive microtrauma injuries: The Cricket example. IRMRC Seminar–Sports injury prevention in the field: Fostering teamwork between researchers and sporting practices, Sydney, 3rd August 2007 (Invited talk)

WEI DU
- The efficacy of restraints in preventing child motor vehicle occupant fatalities. School of Public Health and Community Medicine Postgraduate Research Student Conference, Sydney, 26th October 2007 (Invited talk)

NAOMI DUNN
- Monotony and task-related fatigue. NSW Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Australia (HFESA), UNSW, 3rd October 2007. (Invited talk)
Conferences and Presentations

RENA FRISWELL

LARA HARVEY
- Exploring the impact of legislation to limit the temperature of hot tap water delivery in NSW. School of Public Health and Community Medicine Postgraduate Research Student Conference, Sydney, 26th October 2007. (Invited talk)

JULIE HATFIELD
- Increased hospitalised abdominal and spinal cord injury risk by age for child motor vehicle passenger in NSW. Infants, Children and Young People and Road Safety Conference, Sydney, 2-3rd August 2007. (Invited talk)
- Right of way rules at various pedestrian crossing type. IRMRC Seminar - Safe Walking: A colloquium on pedestrian safety, Sydney, 26th November 2007. (Invited talk)

ANDREW HAYEN
- Coding of injury related deaths. IRMRC Seminar–Injury data as information: Extracting meaning from injury datasets, Sydney, 30th March 2007. (Invited talk)

DIANNE HINDMARSH

MELISSA IRWIN
Conferences and Presentations

HELEN MOORE

- Improving the surveillance of iatrogenic injury in NSW using linked hospital and deaths data. IRMRC Seminar–Injury data as information: Extracting meaning from injury datasets, Sydney, 30th March 2007. (Invited talk)

MARY POTTER FORBES

- The risk management of falls in hospital: An incident information management system. Showa University Hospital, Tokyo, Japan, 12th July 2007. (Invited talk)

ROBIN TURNER

- Spatial temporal modelling in NSW of fall related hip fractures in the elderly. IRMRC Seminar–Injury data as information: Extracting meaning from injury datasets, Sydney, 30th March 2007. (Invited talk)

Proffered papers

JULIE HATFIELD

- A survey of beliefs, attitudes and behaviours relevant to the impact of audio-tactile lane-marking on road trauma. International Conference of Road Safety & Simulation, Rome, 7-9th November 2007. (Poster)


Mary Potter Forbes at Showa University Hospital, Tokyo, Japan, July 2007
Other Event Attendances

ANN WILLIAMSON
- Research Quality Framework Seminar, UNSW, 28th March 2007
- School of Public Health and Community Medicine Seminar with Prof Mary-Lou McClaws, 28th March 2007
- Review panel meeting for UNSW Gifted Educational Research Resources and Information Centre, 26th April 2007
- Briefing and discussion session on Fatigue and OHS issues in the light/short haul transport industry at the IRMRC, 30th April and 2nd May 2007
- Meeting of the National Maritime Safety Committee’s Incident Analysis Review Panel, 21st May 2007
- ITR workshop on laboratory approaches to understanding injury risk on 8th June 2007
- Chaired IRMRC seminar on Sports Injury Prevention in the Field, Sydney Olympic Park, 3rd August 2007
- SPHCM Postgraduate Research Students Conference, 26th October 2007
- Safe Skies Conference, Canberra, 1-2 November 2007
- Meeting with Trish McDougal from NSW Institute of Trauma and Injury Management, 13th November 2007
- IRMRC Seminar on Safe Walking: A Colloquium on Pedestrian Safety, Sydney, 26th November 2007

RENA FRISWELL
- Research Quality Framework Seminar, UNSW, 28th March 2007
- Organised and presented industry briefing and discussion sessions on Fatigue and OHS issues in the light/short haul transport industry at the IRMRC, 30th April and 2nd May 2007
- Seminar on Getting Started with ARC Linkage, UNSW, 29th August 2007
- IRMRC Seminar on Safe Walking: A Colloquium on Pedestrian Safety, Sydney, 26th November 2007

JULIE HATFIELD
- Seminar regarding public health and residential environment hosted by Stephen Leeder and others at School of Public Health and Community Medicine, University of Sydney, 8th March 2007
- Research Quality Framework Seminar, UNSW, 28th March 2007
- Joint Scientific Meeting of the Australasian Epidemiological Association and the International Epidemiological Association, Hobart, 27-29th August 2007
- Organised structured session and attended 19th International Congress on Acoustics, Madrid, 2-7th September 2007
- International Conference on Road Safety and Simulation, Rome, 7-9th November 2007
- IRMRC Seminar on Safe Walking: A Colloquium on Pedestrian Safety, Sydney, 26th November 2007
**Other Event Attendances**

**REBECCA MITCHELL**
- SPCHM Postgraduate Research Student Conference, Sydney, 26th October 2007
- Sports Forum, Homebush, 14th November 2007

**MARY POTTER FORBES**
- Research Quality Framework Seminar, UNSW, 28th March 2007
- Sessions at the 5th World Congress of the International Academy for Design and Health Conference, Glasgow, 27th-30th June 2007
- HSRANZ presentation by Dr Dan Fox, Emeritus Professor, Milbank Memorial Fund: HSR and Adjacent Disciplines, Sydney, 15th October 2007
- SPHCM Postgraduate Research Student Conference, Sydney, 26th October 2007
- IRMRC Seminar on Safe Walking: A Colloquium on Pedestrian Safety, Sydney, 26th November 2007

**SHAUNA SHERKER**
- Designing Play Equipment and Playground for Compliance, University of Technology, Sydney, 10-11th December 2007

**WENDY WATSON**
- Organised and attended Falls Policy Evaluation Advisory Committee meeting on 7th December 2007
- Division of GPs Falls Prevention Project Steering Committee, ANSWD, Sydney, 18th December 2007
ANN WILLIAMSON
- Interviewed with Radio National Australia on people’s perception of risk and the threshold of risk on 12th March 2007
- Interviewed with Daily Telegraph newspaper on Sports Injury Report II on 17th August 2007

RAPHAEL GRZEBIETA
- Interviewed with ABC Radio National on road safety topic on 19th December 2007

WEI DU

JULIE HATFIELD
- Research regarding misunderstanding of right-of-way rules when pedestrian cross the road reported via The Sydney Morning Herald, Radio 2UE, National Radio News, Radio 97AM
- Interviewed with Robyn Williams from ABC Radio National about future media releases
- Interviewed with Karin Krueger from car insurer provider Budget Direct about future media releases and possible funding
- Wrote opinion piece on young drivers and fatigue at the Sydney Morning Herald on 19th December 2007