

**Palmerston North Medical Research Foundation
President's Report
year ended 31 March 2018**

The Foundation has had a good year. Grant allocations totalled \$100,620 and when coupled with allocations previously approved but not uplifted, the total spend on biomedical research by the Foundation in the Palmerston North area, was \$110,619. This represents an increase of almost 4.5%.

Successful recipients were:

General Grants:

1. Dr Daryl Cochrane - **"The acute effect of vibration for people with peripheral arterial disease"** - \$10,000.00
2. Dr Lynette Hodges - **"Well ME"** - \$10,000.00
3. Prof Marlena Kruger - **"The association between dietary patterns, the gut micro biome and bone health in postmenopausal women living in the Manawatu"** - \$10,000.00
4. Dr Shahista Nisa - **"A novel strain of Leptospira: Taxonomy, Serology & Epidemiology"** - \$9,696.00
5. Dr Anja Schiemann - **"Functional characterization of RYR1 variants using immortalised myoblasts"** - \$9,943.00

AM & GL Wilson Grants:

1. Dr Elena Harjes - **Using nucleic acid-based inhibitors of APOBEC3 enzymes to reduce mutational load in cancers** - \$20,000.00
2. Dr Joanna Roberts - **"Essential cell division protein Ki67 - measuring its enduring qualities for better diagnostic testing"** - \$19,980.00

Summer Scholarships:

Mr Harry Cookson - **"Multi drug resistant Enterobacteriaceae"** - \$6,000.00

Duncan Fellow:

Ms Remail Parker - **"Calcium Dysregulation in skeletal muscle - consumables"** - \$5,000

The **Visiting Professorship**, approved in 2016, saw Prof John Hesketh from Robert Gordon University, UK visit Palmerston North in March this year. He spoke at Massey University and Palmerston North Hospital on **Selenium, selenoproteins, and cancer risk**. The Foundation is grateful to Dr Mark McCann for organising this successful Visiting Professorship.

The Foundation extends its congratulations to Dr Remai Parker on her successful completion of the **Duncan Fellowship** in Neuromuscular Research and her admission to the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Unfortunately, The Duncan Trust has decided that it is not going to continue this Fellowship. The Foundation expresses its delight in the success of its relationship with the Trust and would be open to future such joint initiatives.

It is said that the ideal financial result for a non profit organisation is a small profit!
The Foundation is proud to report a surplus on its activities for the year end 2018 of \$78.00.
The net worth of the Foundation at the end of the 2018 financial year was \$2,272,850.00

The Foundation is most satisfied with the services Perpetual Guardian in achieving this result. The Foundation records its appreciation for the administrative services provided by Naylor Lawrence & Associates, in particular Suzanne Best and Michael Lawrence, who so ably fills the role of Honorary Secretary.

A most successful Colloquium was held at Massey University, 14 August 2018. 62 people attended. The Foundation extends its gratitude to Dr Nicole Roy for her ongoing enthusiasm in the successful continuation of the tradition of Colloquia.

The Foundation continues in its efforts to improve networking amongst NZ Medical Research Foundations.

The Foundation relies on its Trustees for governance and is in debt to them for their pro bono contributions. The Foundation looks forward to broadening the diversity of its representation at Board level.



John Chrisp
Palmerston North
26 September 2018