



## President's report



Dear All,

I am proud to announce that in February we received a grant from the Australian Women's Coalition (AWC) for a pilot project entitled **"Happy Healthy Women, Not Just Survivors"**.

The AWC represents 19 women's groups and 3 million Australian women. They report to government on issues that are relevant to women. We received this grant as part of funding for a broader Advocacy project.

One in three women are victims of sexual trauma. They have long-term physical and psychological health consequences. To date, there has been no co-ordinated response.

This is an opportunity for medical women to lead the way. The project is a first step toward improving the long-term health and wellbeing of women who have suffered sexual trauma as children or as adults. Whilst crisis management is available, most victims don't disclose for at least ten years, so crisis management only deals with the tip of the iceberg. These women develop multiple health problems which they and their health practitioners don't identify as effects of trauma. A key concern is that victims may be retraumatised by professionals who don't understand their specific needs.

We have commissioned a literature review and an audit of materials currently available to practitioners. We will look at best practice models. In May we will host a National Summit that will canvass key stakeholders from Medicine, the Judiciary, the Police and communal bodies to develop a set of recommendations for the AWC to take to government in terms of offering a best practice model of treatment for these women.

Advocacy for others...and meeting our own members needs. In April, Professor Deb Colville and Associate Professor Jan Coles will offer lots of practical advice in a workshop entitled **"CV Writing For Success"**. Tips from the Top!

In May we follow with **"Speed Mentoring"** to give you several quick tastes of the highs and lows of a number of different specialties thanks to an enthusiastic group of Mentors who are donating their time to be with us.

There's lots happening!

Warm regards,

Raie Goodwach

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**VMWS Newsletter Editors**  
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**Claire Steiner**

*Please contact us if you have any  
feedback, articles, photos or  
advertisement that you would like  
to contribute to the newsletter.*

PO Box 202  
East Melbourne VIC 3002  
Email: vic@afmw.org.au



## VMWS Events Calendar 2010



### APRIL

Monday 12th, 7pm

Committee meeting Venue: Lyceum Club, Melbourne. Members welcomed.  
RSVP to [vic@afmw.org.au](mailto:vic@afmw.org.au) by April 5th

Saturday 17th, 2pm

"Writing for success" Applying for a job? This is the workshop for you! A/Prof Deb Colville and A/Prof Jan Coles will share their "behind -the-scenes" view of what you need to do to present at your best.

Venue: Lovell Theatre, Royal Melbourne Hospital

RSVP to [vic@afmw.org.au](mailto:vic@afmw.org.au) by April 2nd

### MAY

Wednesday 26th, 7pm for 7.30pm start

"Speed mentoring" Places available now for the chance for engage with women across all specialties from different specialties, have your questions answered and myths put to rest.

Venue: AMA House

RSVP to [vic@afmw.org.au](mailto:vic@afmw.org.au) by May 12th

### JUNE

Monday 7th, 7pm

Committee meeting Venue: Lyceum Club, Melbourne. Members welcomed  
RSVP to [vic@afmw.org.au](mailto:vic@afmw.org.au) by May 31st.

### JULY

Wednesday 14th

Annual Lyceum Lunch: This year's featured speaker will take us into the world of Medicine and Arts. Venue: Lyceum Club, Melbourne.

### AUGUST

Monday 9th, 7pm

Committee meeting. Venue: Lyceum Club, Melbourne. Members welcomed  
RSVP to [vic@afmw.org.au](mailto:vic@afmw.org.au) by August 2nd

### SEPTEMBER

Wednesday 15th

Advocacy meeting: Doctors and lawyers interested in social justice will examine health and legal issues for traumatised women. This year we are focusing on "Happy Healthy Women, Not Just Survivors" (see President's message).

### OCTOBER

Thursday 28th

Breast Cancer Awareness Dinner

### NOVEMBER

Date to be confirmed  
VMWS Annual General Meeting

### DECEMBER

Date to be confirmed

VMWS Committee End-of-year Celebration: Open to outgoing and incoming committee. A celebration for the achievements of VMWS, to thank the outgoing members on their work in 2010 and congratulate the incoming committee.

Venue TBC.

## MEET THE COMMITTEE...

Change is in the air for the VMWS this year, new president, new committee and a new committee position in our Seniors' Representative – Welcome Ros! Each newsletter for 2010 one senior and one junior committee member will be given the opportunity to say a few words to make ourselves known to the members. So, please allow us to introduce ourselves. The April Newsletter would like to introduce VMWS Vice President Dr Magdalena Simonis and Student Representative Jane Li.



"Hi, my name is Jane Li."

"I'm in the final year of my MBBS at the University of Melbourne, and still enjoying every moment of it."

I grew up in sunny Singapore before moving down under; since then my activities have ranged from involvement in the International Medical Students' Society, volunteering in the University's Orientation Week, to singing in the Apollo Health Music Choir.

I joined the VMWS because I strongly believe that VMWS is taking crucial steps to resolving the myriad issues faced by medical women everywhere, and I want to take an active part in shaping that future.

My interests include creative writing and website design, skills I plan to put to good use in my capacity as shadow IT/web officer. I am looking forward to an exciting year ahead and if you have any suggestions or comments on the website (<http://www.afmw.org.au/vic>) I would love to hear from you!"

Jane Li  
Medical Student, 6<sup>th</sup> Year  
VMWS Website IT/Web Officer and Student Representative



"My name is Magdalena Simonis and I am a city based GP and have been practising in this location for 19 years. I have a Diploma in Obstetrics and Gynaecology as well as an interest in Men's Health issues."

Several years in to General Practice, have given me an enormous range of experience and as a busy GP, interaction with other colleagues is often only virtual or through mail that is exchanged regarding mutual patients.

An interest in meeting other highly driven and committed medical women who are interested in impacting health issues was there, but there seemed little opportunity to engage through the usual medical education meetings and conferences. I then received an invitation to attend the Women's Health Conference in Melbourne late 2008, organised by the Australian Federation of Medical Women. Medical women from Asia Pacific attended. It was a fascinating introduction to the world of medical women.

I was impressed to meet a range of inspiring medical women of all ages and all skill sets working on issues both local and remote. They targeted areas highly important to the improvement of health standards of women and children whilst enjoying team camaraderie.

The Victorian Medical Women's Society also organises a range of interesting programmes for young medical women finding their way through the maze of career options. This is such an interesting and important part of the function of the VMWS. I since have continued to attend the monthly meetings and have put my hand up to participate and offer my skills to enable other medical women to enjoy such positive interaction.

Joining the VMWS has been a professional highlight for me and I am keen to introduce more medical women to this supportive and inspiring medical organisation."

Dr Magdelin Simonis MBBS, FRACGP, Dip. Obs. Gyn.  
VMWS Vice President

XXVIII. MWIA International Congress  
2010 Münster, Germany



**28th International Congress Medical Women's International Association**  
**"Globalisation in Medicine—challenges and opportunities"**  
**July 28th—31st, 2010**  
**Furstenbergau, Munster, Germany**

**MAIN TOPICS: Gender Strategies, Addiction, Epidemic Plagues and Nutrition**  
**For more information visit <http://www.mwia2010.net/index.php?page=index1>**

## A Quick Guide to Become Organised

Dr Mamta Gautam, MD FRCP (C)



Use these tips to save time and achieve calmness

I recently hosted a meeting of the Ottawa branch of the Federation of Medical Women of Canada at my home. Despite the -39° C temperatures, there was a great turnout as we all welcomed the opportunity to enjoy each other's warm company.

The guest speaker was a professional organizer. She spoke about how many professionals feel life is busier than ever, that it seems there are never enough hours in a day, and that time is wasted looking for items. We can all benefit from taking back control and reducing the clutter in our lives. It is not about appearing neat and tidy; rather the goal is to be able to function well within that environment.

### The path to clutter...

It is interesting to consider why we let things become cluttered and disorganized. We thought back to a time when we actually felt in control—surprisingly, for many of us, it was during our first year away from home at university. This is when we had only a few possessions, had a limited space to manage them in and lived alone. Thus, it follows that we become increasingly disorganized as we gain more things, have more space to put them in, and have other people who live there.

The extra work and responsibilities we have gained over the years do not easily offer us the time to become organized. As well, we are responsible people; we could not possibly get rid of something we may need in the future . . . so it accumulates. Growing up with parents who were immigrants or lived through the Depression makes it even harder to throw out something that is still usable.

It is helpful to understand why being organized is not easy, and nice to know we are not alone.

The SPACE methodology (Sort, Purge, Assign, Containerize, Equalize) is a good tool for becoming organized:

- **Sort.** The initial goal is to sort and group similar items in broad categories, so you can first see what and how much you have.

- **Purge.** Decide whether to toss it, give it away, sell it, put elsewhere or keep it. Ask "Do I love it, use it, gain energy when I see it?" If not, it is clutter and can be removed. A great tip was to keep a photo as a reminder of items we keep for purely sentimental reasons.

- **Assign a home.** Decide exactly where the item will be placed, and ensure the location is accessible and safe and easy to return to.

- **Containerize.** Once you know what you are keeping, put it in a container to limit it, and allow easy retrieval and cleanup.

- **Equalize.** Maintain this with regular evaluation and periodic tune-ups.

Here are 10 tips to organization from OrganizeMe101.com:

1. Think before you buy. Do I need the item? Do I love it? Where will I store it? Is it worth storing and maintaining?
2. Store things close to where you will use them.
3. Store things conveniently. If it is too much work to put away, it won't get put away.
4. Use four sorting boxes as you tidy: put away, give away, sell, throw away.
5. Do a "clutter patrol" of your living areas nightly, and put things back in place.
6. Eliminate regularly; don't let clutter build up.
7. Try putting away a few decorative accessories; you may still like the look.
8. Find people or agencies to donate to, and use them often.
9. Have a "maybe some day" bin—put an item here first if you can't throw it out, and date it. If you haven't used it in six months, maybe you can live without it.
10. Limit the number of horizontal surfaces in a room; they are magnets for clutter.

None of us manages this perfectly, but it can be easier than it feels at times. Similar to weight loss, instead of "yo-yo" organizing, being organized requires an internal attitude adjustment and ongoing maintenance. Yet, the reward of calmness that comes with achieving a better level of organization and feeling more in control is worth the effort. "

Helping Hand Column, March 10, 2009. Medical Post.

Mamta Gautam is an Ottawa psychiatrist who specializes in treating physician patients. If you have a question you would like addressed in this column, please contact Dr. Gautam at [mgautam@rogers.com](mailto:mgautam@rogers.com). Please include "Helping Hand" in the subject line. All inquiries will be confidential. Your questions will not be replied to, but may be selected to be answered in this column, which is intended to be educational, not therapeutic. Dr Gautam has given VMWS permission to include excerpts from her work in our newsletter; we share these with thanks and gratitude.



# SPEED MENTORING EVENT

Here's your chance to meet, greet, quiz and question several medical women from different specialties. When the bell rings you move on - ten times! O&G, Surgery, Endocrinology, Psychiatry, Pediatrics, Emergency Medicine and General Practice - and others - will be represented. Cocktails, canapés and time for further conversation will follow after the session.

**Date:** 26th May, 2010

**Time:** 7 for 7.30pm

**Venue:** AMA House

**Cost:** \$45 for non-members/\$30 for student non-members

Or join VMWS on the day and attend this and all upcoming VMWS events for **FREE!** (\$160 for full membership; \$35 for student membership)

RSVP essential, please email: [vic@afmw.org.au](mailto:vic@afmw.org.au) This e-mail address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it or call/text 0421837513



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**Australia's Invisible Women  
Surgeons  
Their World War One Contribution  
Part V  
By Heather Sheard**

At least twenty Australian women doctors served, mostly as surgeons, during the First World War. They served in England, France, Belgium, Serbia, Macedonia, Malta and Egypt. Most paid their own fares to travel to war, Elizabeth Hamilton Brown for example working her passage as Ship's Doctor on the SS Sumic to London. Dr Helen Sexton, established her own military hospital joining several other women in starting a field hospital of twenty-five beds at Auteuil in France. Dr Sexton was given the military rank of *majeur* in the French Army but the dozens and dozens of women doctors who served during the war were never permitted official enlistment status by the Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC). The Scottish Women's Hospital set up military field hospitals throughout the battle fronts during the war with funds they raised themselves. They designed their own uniforms but in the freezing conditions of winter in Serbia, the photo of Dr Agnes Bennett taken outside her tent in Ostrova shows adaptation to be very necessary! Victorian Dr Mary De Garis and Queenslander Dr Lilian Cooper, whose companion Josephine Bedford drove ambulances, also served with the Scottish Women's Hospital.



Although the uniform is long gone, the uniform buttons and shoulder pins of Victorian Dr (Lieutenant) Vera Scantlebury Brown who served for two years with the Endell Street Military Hospital, are still proudly owned by her family.



Photo from *Doctor Agnes Bennett* by C&C Manson, Whitcomb & Tombs, New Zealand

The Commanding Officers of the Endell Street Military hospital in London, Dr Louisa Garrett Anderson and Dr Flora Murray campaigned throughout the war years for official military recognition and the right to wear the badges of their *ex-officio* RAMC rank. Apart from the recognition and authority invested in uniform and rank, they sought the other 'benefits' of male RAMC officers such as free first class travel and income tax reductions, but these were never forthcoming. The photo of Flora Murray and Louisa Garrett Anderson at their CBE investiture at Buckingham Palace in 1917, displays their Women's Hospital Corps uniform, unadorned by badges of rank although both held the *ex-officio* rank of Colonel.



Courtesy Catherine James Bassett, daughter of Dr Vera Scantlebury Brown

Irrespective of their place or lack of it within the military hierarchy, Australian women doctors served with courage and distinction in a daunting array of challenging conditions.

**Heather Sheard** is the author of *All the Little Children: The Story of Victoria's Baby Health Centres* published in 2007 and is currently undertaking a PhD entitled *The Milk of Human Kindness: the Life and Vision of Dr Vera Scantlebury Brown* at the University of Melbourne's Australia Centre. [h.sheard@bigpond.com](mailto:h.sheard@bigpond.com).



The [6th Australian Women's Health Conference](#) will be held in Tasmania, Australia, on 18 – 21 May 2010 at the Hotel Grand Chancellor located in Sullivans Cove - the heart of Hobart's beautiful waterfront precinct.

The program includes:

### ABORIGINAL WOMEN'S TALKING CIRCLE

### ARTS AND CULTURAL PROGRAM

### CONFERENCE SESSIONS

The major focus of the Conference, entitled *Women's Health: The New National Agenda*, will be to continue the work of getting women's health as a priority issue onto the public agenda. It will provide an opportunity for individuals, organisations and services involved and concerned with women's health to contribute to international dialogue, share ideas, knowledge and practice in women's health. In particular, the Conference offers a platform for mobilising capacity for women's health and wellbeing

"develop a new national women's health policy"

"examine the changing social, economic, cultural and political contexts affecting women's health, as well as policy and practice that promote better health outcomes for women"

### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

#### **PAT ANDERSON**

Chairperson of the Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health Board, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia

#### **HELEN KELEHER**

Professor and Head, School of Primary Health Care Department of Health Science, Peninsula Campus, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia

#### **FRAN BAUM**

Professor of Public Health & Director Southgate Institute of Health Society and Equity, Flinders University, Adelaide, South Australia

#### **CECILY KELLEHER**

Women's Health Council Chair, Republic of Ireland, Professor and Head, School of Public Health and Population Sciences, University College of Dublin

#### **LORRAINE GREAVES**

Executive Director, Health System Strategy Division, Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, Province of Ontario, Toronto, Canada and Investigator, British Columbia Centre of Excellence for Women's Health, Vancouver, BC, Canada

#### **MARSHA SAXTON**

Senior Researcher and Policy Analyst, World Institute on Disability, California USA.

#### **JO WILLMOT**

Practice Leader, Indigenous Projects, Relationships Australia, South Australia

#### **CINDY SHANNON**

Professor and Director of the Centre for Indigenous Health University of Queensland, Brisbane, Queensland

#### **DEA DELEANAY-THIELE**

Chief Executive Officer of National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) Canberra, ACT

#### **DONNA STEWART**

Professor in the Faculty of Medicine, Departments of Psychiatry, Obstetrics/ **Gynaecology**, Medicine, Anaesthesia, Family & Community Medicine and Surgery, University of Toronto, and Lillian Love Chair in Women's Health at University Health Network and the University of Toronto, Canada.

#### **MELANIE HEENAN**

Senior Program Advisor, Violence Against Women Program, Vic Health, Melbourne, Australia

Advertisement on behalf of AFMW. For full details please go to <http://www.leishman-associates.com.au/awhn2010/>

# The BACK PAGE

GILBIRCH CLINIC - 254 Gilbert Rd, Preston, VIC 3072

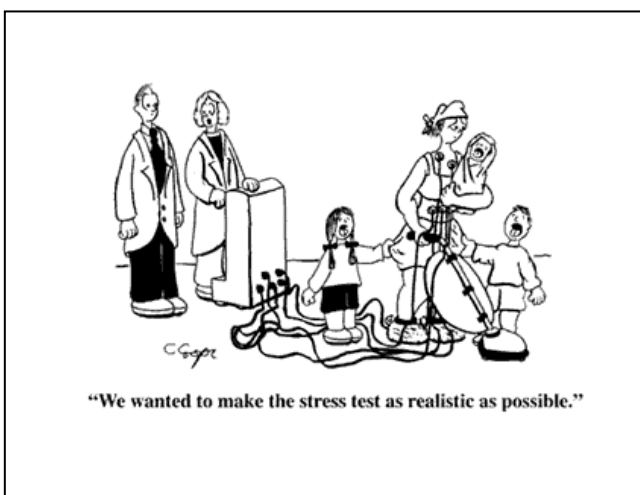
Fully accredited Family General Practice requires a VR to replace existing female GP (non VR GPs also considered). Located in busy Preston area on the inner city fringe. Ideal for female doctors seeking part time flexible hours. Work schedule and remuneration negotiable. To enquire, please phone 03 9416 8122 during business ours or speak to Indu on 0422 357 566.

Job vacancy at your practice? Advertise in our bi-monthly newsletter and access hundreds of Victorian medical women instantly.

Please email our publicity officer Dr Linny Phuong at [vic@afmw.org.au](mailto:vic@afmw.org.au) for details. Don't miss out on your spot in the next Newsletter, submissions due May 7th

## The FUNNIES

### Optimism



A happily married couple had two sons. One optimist, one pessimist. On Christmas Eve they put the pessimist in a room filled to bursting with new toys, computer games and gadgets. The optimist they put in a room with nothing other than a pile of horse manure.

Christmas morning when they opened the door on the room filled with toys they found their son sitting in the corner in a grump, "Don't you like your presents?" they asked. "No, some of these toys need batteries so are useless until then and others will be out of date or break before too long, they're no good to me."

The parents then opened the door on their other son to find him diving and burrowing in the pile manure. "What are you doing my boy?" the asked. He surfaced with a huge grim "Well mum, with all this horse poo there's bound to be a pony in here!"

Jokes thanks to [medicaljokes.com](http://medicaljokes.com)



**A reminder to all members that VMWS is going Green for 2010 and taking on an eco-friendly approach. As such we will be only posting out printed Newsletters to those members who specifically request.**

**If you have not provided VMWS with your email address please do so also to [vic@afmw.org.au](mailto:vic@afmw.org.au) so that you may receive the electronic version.**

**If you would like to continue to receive the hardcopy please write to PO Box 202 East Melbourne VIC 3002 or by email to [vic@afmw.org.au](mailto:vic@afmw.org.au).**



# The Victorian Medical Women's Society

Celebrating our history, advancing our future

## History

The Victorian Medical Women's Society (VMWS) was founded in 1896 with the aim to further the professional development of medical women by education, research and improvement of professional opportunities. It promotes the health and welfare of all Australians, particularly women and children.

## Member Benefits

- \* Free attendance at meetings including networking dinners, mentoring, guest speakers on topics of clinical or medico-social importance, and panel discussions.
- \* Circulation of a bimonthly newsletter with news about events, prizes and gendered socio-political issues.
- \* Regular networking and mentoring opportunities.
- \* Advice and advocacy.
- \* Access to members-only pages on our internet site and details of further net resources.
- \* Training program application assistance & career development advice.
- \* Be part of the Medical Women's International Association and have your say in the United Nations and other global forums.

## Affiliations

*Australian Federation of Medical Women*  
[www.afmw.org.au](http://www.afmw.org.au)

The AFMW represents all the Medical Women's Societies of Australia. AFMW arranges conventions and conferences, and is currently focused on developing leadership skills in medical women. AFMW is linked with the Medical Women's International Association.

*Medical Women's International Association*  
[www.mwia.net](http://www.mwia.net)

MWIA is a United Nations Non-Government Organization. It maintains official working relations with the WHO, the UN Economic and Social Council, and UNICEF. MWIA provides its members with the opportunity to exchange ideas, medically and personally, with colleagues from other nations.

## 2010 Committee

Dr Raie Goodwach President  
Dr Magdalena Simonis Vice President  
Dr Mikhaila Lazanyi Treasurer  
Dr Mariolyn Raj Secretary  
Dr Desiree Yap AFMW Representative  
Dr Linny Kimly Phuong Sponsorship/Publicity Officer  
Dr Rekha Ganeshanlingam Social Secretary  
Dr Natalie Marijanovic AMA Representative  
Dr Shueh Hwuei Lim Newsletter Editor  
Dr Claire Steiner Newsletter Editor  
A/Prof Deb Colville General Committee  
Dr Kate Duncan General Committee  
Dr Jillian Tomlinson General Committee  
Dr Rosalind Terry Senior members' Representative  
Ms Madhura Naidu Student Rep (Monash)  
Ms Annie Kilpatrick Student Rep (Monash)  
Ms Jane Li Student Rep (Melb)  
Ms Katrina Hannan Student Rep (Melb)

## Membership Application

Full Members		Rural Members	
1 year	\$160	(>100km from GPO)	
3 years	\$432	1 year	\$70
5 years	\$595	3 years	\$189
Senior Members		5 years	\$297.50
(>65 years old)		Student Members	
1 year	\$120	1 year	\$35
3 years	\$324	Gift membership	
5 years	\$510	1 year	\$120

Membership fees are not tax deductible as charitable contributions. Membership fees may be deducted as ordinary and necessary business expenses. Please consult your accountant for further advice.

Send with a cheque or money order to:

VMWS Secretariat  
PO Box 202  
East Melbourne VIC 3002  
E-mail: [vic@afmw.org.au](mailto:vic@afmw.org.au)  
Or direct transfer to VMWS:  
BSB: 033 089  
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Students: Year of graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

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- I do not wish other AFMW members to have access to my e-mail address.

\* Student members will receive only electronic correspondence

PRESS RELEASE (abridged)

## Millennium Development Goals must be met, UN Secretary-General says ahead of September Summit Report provides basis for Government negotiations on action plan to 2015 deadline

UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK, 16 March - With only five years left until the 2015 deadline to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon is calling for the adoption of a **global action agenda for accelerating progress** towards the Goals, when world leaders meet at a UN Summit in New York in September.

"We must not fail the billions who look to the **international community to fulfill the promise of the Millennium Declaration** for a better world. Let us meet in September to keep the promise," Mr. Ban says in his report, *Keeping the Promise*, issued today.

### A mixed picture

A number of countries have achieved major successes in combating extreme poverty and hunger, improving school enrolment and child health, expanding access to clean water, strengthening control of malaria, tuberculosis and neglected tropical diseases, and providing increased access to HIV treatment. These successes have taken place in some of the poorest countries, demonstrating that the MDGs are indeed achievable with the right policies, adequate levels of investment, and international support.

Yet progress has been uneven and - without additional efforts - several Goals are likely to be missed in many countries, according to the report. The challenges are most severe in the least developed countries, land-locked developing countries, some small island developing states, those vulnerable to natural hazards, and countries in or emerging from conflict.

### Lessons learnt

Nearly ten years into the global effort to achieve the MDGs, the report identifies a number of key lessons learnt. Among them, the most important is the **national ownership of development strategies**. Successful countries pursued pragmatic policy mixes, with enhanced domestic capacities. International cooperation should more strongly support such national development strategies and domestic capacity-building efforts.

While economic growth is necessary, it is not sufficient for progress. The growth process must be inclusive and equitable to maximize poverty reduction and progress on other MDGs. Hard-earned gains can be reversed due to economic and other shocks. Hence, countries need forward looking macroeconomic policies to support broad-based stable growth, e.g. by sustaining public investment strategies and universal social protection, for achievement of the MDGs. Adequate, consistent and predictable financial support, as well as a coherent and predictable policy environment, both at national and international levels, are crucial for achievement of the MDGs.

### Commitments need to be kept

While financing the MDGs needs to start at home, with developing countries raising and allocating domestic revenues, according to the report, the donor community must deliver on its long-standing promises of greatly expanded official development assistance (ODA). Although ODA reached its highest level ever in 2008, large gaps in meeting commitments remain.

The report notes several promising Government proposals to ensure adequate financing for the MDGs, including new financing to build better health systems and the G8 2009 L'Aquila Food Security Initiative. These opportunities must be acted on quickly to ensure that longstanding commitments are kept by the time of the G8 and G20 Summits in Canada in June 2010. At the same time, innovative financing schemes should be further developed, according to the Secretary-General's report. The MDG Summit in September should also endorse an accountability framework that consolidates global aid commitments, links them to results with timelines, and establishes monitoring and enforcement mechanisms.

*Issued by the UN Department of Public Information*

More information can be found online at [www.un.org/millenniumgoals](http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals)  
Go to <http://www.afmw.org.au/vic/vmws-news/462-millennium-development-goals> for the complete report and press release



RELEASED: 16 FEBRUARY, 2010

63<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL UN DPI/NGO CONFERENCE  
(MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA, 30 AUGUST – 1 SEPTEMBER, 2010)

## INFORMATION SHEET

### *Background of the DPI/NGO Conference*

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The 63<sup>rd</sup> United Nations Annual Department of Public Information (DPI) / Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) Conference will held in Melbourne, Australia, at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (<http://www.mcec.com.au/>) from **Monday 30 August, to Wednesday 1 September, 2010**. The general theme of the conference is “**Global Health.**” This is the third time the conference is held outside UN Headquarters in New York.

The first conference outside New York was held in UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, titled: “Reaffirming Human Rights for All: The Universal Declaration at 60”. Over 1,100 participants representing 65 countries from 461 NGOs affiliated with DPI, ECOSOC, UNESCO and working with OHCHR joined the 2008 Conference to share knowledge, and experience, on how best to promote and contribute to the advancement of human rights around the world.

The second conference “on the road” was held in Mexico City, 9-11 September 2009, titled: “For Peace and Development: Disarm Now!” Some 1,300 participants representing 55 countries from 340 NGOs attended the three-day deliberations. The Conference attracted a wide range of experts in the fields of nuclear disarmament, and conventional arms regulation, who shared their expertise with NGOs in the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, four roundtables, two breakout sessions and 24 NGO-organized Workshops.

### *Objective*

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The objective of the conference “on the road” is to diversify, and increase, the geographical representation of NGOs associated with the United Nations Department of Public Information, as well as focusing on the work of NGOs in that region.

Consequently, the NGOs associated with DPI from Latin America and the Caribbean increased in 2009. Forty-three non-governmental organizations based in Mexico were newly associated in time for the Conference, and more than three-quarters of the attendees at the Conference also hailed from Mexico and the region.

Further, it has proven to be an effective way to reach out to those NGOs and members of the Civil Society, who, otherwise, would not be able to attend the Conference.

### *Partners*

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United Nations Department of Public Information  
NGO/DPI Executive Committee  
Government of Australia

### *General Information*

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- On-line registration will convene Spring 2010.
- Conference Website <http://www.un.org/dpi/ngosection/index.asp>

### *Conference Venue*

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Opening and Closing Sessions, Roundtables and Afternoon Workshops at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

# Applying for INTERNSHIPS? RESIDENCIES? COMMITTEES?



and

*Victorian Medical Women's Society*

presents

## CV WRITING FOR SUCCESS

Give yourself every chance of success in future employment and college applications by attending a workshop by professional medical and academic women for junior doctors and medical students to assist in crafting an academic CV to be noticed

Presented by:

**A/Prof Deb Colville** (Ophthalmologist, Medical Educator, University of Melbourne)

**A/Prof Jan Coles** (Monash University- Department of General Practice)

**Attendance includes the opportunity to email your CV to A/Prof Colville and A/Prof Coles 2 weeks prior to the event for feedback. All CVs emailed will be kept private and confidential.**

**FREE for VMWS members**

\$45 for non-members

\$30 for student non-members

**Membership available on the day:**

Annual fees:

\$160 for full members

\$35 for students

Payments on the day or join online;  
see [www.afmw.org.au/vic](http://www.afmw.org.au/vic) for details

**Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

**2pm-4pm**

Lovell Theatre, Ground Level,  
Royal Melbourne Hospital Clinical School  
Entrance via Grattan St, Parkville

RSVP essential by 12<sup>th</sup> April to [vic@afmw.org.au](mailto:vic@afmw.org.au)

DOOR PRIZES ON THE DAY

**Due to overwhelming response we have been forced to limit the numbers. The first 30 applicants who have paid in full and sent their CV by April 2nd will have their CV reviewed ahead of the workshop. Common themes will be extracted and discussed as part of the workshop.**