

Centre for Social Research in Health

Strategic Plan 2016-2019



The work of the Centre for Social Research in Health (CSRH) contributes to the UNSW 2025 strategy and responds to the Australian national strategies for HIV, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections. CSRH is committed to social engagement in all its activities, including its contribution to the Australian partnership response, collaborating closely with affected communities, and conducting multidisciplinary scholarly research that informs policy and practice.

From 2016-2019, we will further strengthen our profile and leadership in behavioural and social research, teaching, training and capacity building, and seek to extend the geographical coverage of our research to achieve local and global impacts. We will also further develop our expertise in related areas of health and wellbeing that are of particular relevance to the communities that our research benefits, including research into stigma and discrimination, mental health and wellbeing, drug use, sex, sexuality, sexual health and sex education, and research contributing to improving the health of Aboriginal people.

OUR MISSION

To undertake and promote exemplary social and behavioural science research in health that informs, engages and strengthens knowledge, policy and practice.

OUR VALUES

Our work is guided by our commitment to:

- integrity and excellence in academic research
- a multidisciplinary approach to research and education
- actively ensure our unique and critical perspectives are heard
- collaborate and engage with affected communities
- value diversity and promote equity.

OUR VISION

To influence and respond to national and international health strategies and priorities, particularly those related to HIV, viral hepatitis, sexually transmissible infections and the health of indigenous peoples, in order to improve the health and well-being of affected individuals and communities.

Never Stand Still

Arts & Social Sciences



UNSW
AUSTRALIA

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Consolidate existing areas of research in HIV, viral hepatitis and STIs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and strengthen our research programs in existing program areas
Expand into new areas of research in HIV, viral hepatitis and STIs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand our geographical reach, nationally and internationally
Broaden our existing expertise into new areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work on a wider range of health and wellbeing issues • Work with additional population groups
Continue to develop a strong and sustainable learning and teaching program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attract the best national and international postgraduate students • Pursue research training models that better integrate higher degree research with main program of research activities, such as thesis by publication and scholarships embedded in research budgets • Strengthen and prioritise teaching/education and training activities that offer academic and organisational benefits
Maintain a sustainable and dynamic funding environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversify research funding by engaging with other issues, communities and stakeholders • Build strengths in learning, teaching and capacity building as an additional source of income • Develop a risk management plan with emphasis on funding • Ensure sufficient funding for high quality academic, professional and technical support

SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Maintain and strengthen engagement with affected communities and other stakeholders to ensure our research continues to address evolving needs and priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Articulate + communicate our commitment to, and achievements in, community engagement to communities with which we work • Diversify the communities and stakeholders with which we work in line with evolving priorities and wider geographical contexts • Develop the CSRH Scientific Advisory Committee meetings to provide a two-way forum for building a shared understanding of research priorities
Expand our involvement in research capacity building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen research capacity-building and knowledge transfer to research consumers, support educators in health promotion and strengthen stakeholder research literacy internationally and domestically
Maintain a supportive, safe, equitable and culturally appropriate workplace, and an inspired and diverse workplace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support career development for all staff • Establish shared understandings of expectations and responsibilities • Ensure health and safety by minimising potential hazards • Contribute to, and promote, UNSW equity and diversity policies and procedures • Expand our commitment to supporting our understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

IMPACT AND INFLUENCE

Maintain and further develop a strong profile to support future activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a marketing communications plan to consolidate our identity and promote our research + capacity building achievements • Strategic representation on decision-making and advisory bodies with government, affected communities and scholarly groups
Increase the impact of our research on policy and practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop ways of measuring and improving research impact • Communicate our research findings to decision-makers in government and community-based organisations
Maintain cost effective and efficient governance, administrative and financial systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuously improve governance, administrative and financial processes
Contribute to environment sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain processes of environmental sustainability