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From the President



Assoc Prof Liisa Laakso
 President, MMSA

Dear Menzies Scholars,

I'm currently reading Simon Sinek's book entitled: *Start with Why - How Great Leaders Inspire Everyone to Take Action*. The question of *why* it is that people do things and further, *how* and *why* we are inspired by others is intriguing. Menzies Scholars are embodiments of the notion that sustainable action and continuing success comes from knowing *why*. Sinek posits that the *how* and the *what* of group and organisational capacities and outcomes is best supported only when individuals understand *why* the group or organisation exists or does what it does. The stories about Menzies Scholars in this edition of The Brief have again prompted me to reflect on the great diversity and richness of our membership but also on *why* the individuals in our membership continue to do what they do, and to do it so well.

Why does the Menzies Foundation exist? It exists to "create, maintain and administer - in perpetuity - forms of non-political memorials to Sir Robert Menzies" with the highly sought after Menzies postgraduate scholarships being part of *how* this is being achieved (see page 6). Menzies Scholars are the personification of the outcome (the *what*) of Foundation activities. The continuing success and achievements of Menzies Scholars closes the circle

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From the Secretary

The Menzies Brief serves a couple of important purposes for the MMSA community.

First, the Menzies Brief showcases the amazing achievements of Menzies Scholars. In this edition, we learn about the role played by the Menzies Scholarship in changing the lives of Mark Darian-Smith (Menzies Scholar in Law 1984) and Adrian Jones (Menzies Scholar to Harvard 1982-83). We also hear about the continuing achievements of some more recent scholars - Maria McCarthy and Josephine Barbaro. Reports from these Scholars demonstrate how "the Foundation's original aims have come to fruition", to use the words of Sandra Mackenzie who, later in the Brief, explains how the Menzies Scholarships began.

Secondly, the Menzies Brief alerts us to the opportunities that we all have to benefit from the discoveries and learnings of other Menzies Scholars. We are very privileged to have the opportunity to hear from Julian Savulescu (Menzies Scholar in Medicine 1994) about "The ethics of diagnosis and treatment" at a special lecture to be held at the Menzies Foundation in September 2012.

Professor David de Kretser's address at the Foundation's AGM in May illustrated that, while a topic may not appear to be directly relevant to our day-to-day lives, we have a lot to learn from the way in which individuals pursue their quest for

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2012 DIARY DATES:
 MMSA Annual Meeting and Dinner
 Thursday, 29 November 2012

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on *why* the Foundation continues to exist and *why* its activities remain relevant and important in contemporary society.

This year's AGM and annual dinner will be significant due to the retirement in 2012 of Foundation General Manager and stalwart, Sandra Mackenzie. I urge you to renew your Association membership (and Dimboola prize donation) and to vigorously consider your availability and attendance at the meeting and dinner to be held on November 29. I look forward to seeing you there.

My best wishes to you and yours.

Liisa Laakso

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understanding and knowledge and the impact that such efforts may have on the broader community. Among other things, opportunities to hear people like Julian Savulescu and Professor de Kretser encourage and inspire us in our own journeys.

Finally, the Menzies Brief keeps members of the MMSA connected. We hope that, in the future, each one of you will have the chance to contribute to the Brief in some way and, in so doing, help to inspire the next generation of Menzies Scholars.

Dariel De Sousa
Secretary/Treasurer, MMSA



Special Lecture and Discussion on

The ethics of diagnosis and treatment

with Prof Julian Savulescu

WHEN: 4.00-5.30 pm
Monday 24 September 2012

RSVP: menzies@vicnet.net.au

WHERE: Menzies Foundation
210 Clarendon Street
East Melbourne

Julian Savulescu (Menzies Scholar in Medicine 1994) is Professor of Practical Ethics at Oxford University, and a distinguished visiting professor at Monash University.

Julian and his colleagues have tackled many of the difficult ethical questions arising in medical practice. In this presentation, he will explore the difficulties that arise in a world where there are professional and/or societal reasons for attaching a diagnosis and providing treatment to persons with behaviours

or conditions that in earlier times could have been accepted as falling within the range of normal. He will discuss the concerns about overdiagnosis and/or overtreatment of conditions as diverse as ADHD, premenstrual syndromes, and "poor impulse control" in toddlers.

Julian's presentation will be followed by questions and discussion.

If you would like to be a discussion leader, please call John Mathews at the Foundation on 03 9419 5699.

Grants awarded in Allied Health Sciences

Congratulations to Dr Josephine Barbaro and Dr Maria McCarthy who have been awarded Menzies Foundation early career grants. The competitive grants of \$25,000 are offered to Menzies scholars in the Allied Health Sciences who are within 5 years of completing their PhD.

Early phenotype of Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs), and how early behavioural markers of ASDs can be used for the identification and diagnosis of infants and toddlers on the spectrum is the focus of Dr Josephine Barbaro's research.

Her PhD, the *Social Attention and Communication Study (SACS)*, focused on the utility of developmental surveillance (rather than screening) for the identification of young children 'at risk' of ASDs in a community-based setting. It was the first large-scale community-based study in the world to demonstrate that identification of ASDs in 12-month to 24-month-olds using developmental surveillance is not only possible, but sensitive and accurate.

Josie will now be looking to extend this work using the Menzies AHS "Start-Up" Grant by conducting a pilot study evaluating the efficacy of a revised version of the SACS in identifying infants, toddlers, and preschoolers in community-based settings. She aims to further improve the SACS' accuracy and sensitivity for identifying "at risk" children, with every single child monitored followed-up to preschool age to confirm their diagnosis.

"Receipt of this grant," Josie said, "will be of tremendous benefit to my research into the early identification of ASDs and my career in general, as it will allow me to continue working on the successful implementation of evidence-based research to improve the lives of those affected by ASDs."



Dr Maria McCarthy was a recipient of a Menzies Allied Health Sciences Scholarship in 2008-9 and was awarded her PhD in 2010. Maria's research work is focused in the area of paediatric psycho-oncology and her thesis examined post traumatic stress symptoms in parents of children diagnosed with cancer. Since completing her PhD, Maria has continued to lead a clinical and research Psycho-oncology Program at the Children's Cancer Centre at the Royal Children's Hospital and Murdoch Childrens Research Institute in Melbourne.



Maria will utilize the Menzies Allied Health grant to continue her research work examining family-level psychosocial impacts associated with childhood cancer. Specifically, Maria will undertake a new research project in the area of paediatric bone marrow transplant and will examine the psychological impacts of sibling donors who donate bone marrow to a sibling undergoing hematopoietic cell transplantation (HCT), a life saving treatment for childhood malignancies and blood disorders.

The needs of sibling donors (and non-donors) in HCT have recently received increased attention at an international level. However, care practices and psychological impacts with respect to related HCT donors who are minors have generally not been well described. It is anticipated that the results of this study will inform improved clinical care of sibling donors and will lead to further longitudinal research in this area.

International Society for Autism Research - Clinical Dissertation Award

Dr Josephine Barbaro was awarded the International Society for Autism Research Clinical Dissertation Award, which she accepted in May this year at the International Meeting for Autism Research (IMFAR) in Toronto.

Two Dissertation Awards are granted each year, one for the best basic science-biological dissertation and one for the best clinical-behavioural dissertation in Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs). This is the most significant recognition of Josephine's PhD research by the pre-eminent research society for ASDs in the world.

This award has been followed-up by receipt of the Nancy Millis PhD excellence prize for the most outstanding PhD in the Faculty of Science, Technology, and Engineering at La Trobe University in 2011.



Menzies Allied Health scholar Dr Josephine Barbaro (right) with Helen Tager-Flusberg, President of the International Society for Autism Research, at the international meeting in Toronto, Canada

Menzies Foundation AGM



Professor David de Kretser, AC, delivered his invited address "Male health: The need for a whole of life approach" at the Foundation's AGM at Clarendon Terrace on 11 May.

In his address, Prof de Kretser drew on his experiences as a researcher, and as an advocate for men's health through Andrology Australia. He spoke about the importance of lifestyle for health, with a particular emphasis on health issues for men in later life.

Prof Simon Maddocks, a director of the Foundation and previous Menzies Scholarship recipient, proposed the formal vote of thanks and reminded Prof de Kretser that he had supervised Simon's PhD some years before.

Spotlight on Adrian Jones OAM



**Menzies Scholar to Harvard
1982-83**

What is your job?

Associate Professor of Russian and Ottoman History at La Trobe University

What is the most fulfilling aspect of your work?

Teaching and Research. I'm always learning.

What is your favourite book?

Tolstoy's War and Peace

Where in the world would you like to visit?

Now: it's Istanbul, but making a journey from there around the whole perimeter of the Black Sea.
Next: it's northern European Russia and the great Orthodox monastic settlements.

Who has inspired you?

My students, whose curiosity I love to empower.

Who would you most like to meet?

Peter the Great.

How has the Menzies Scholarship helped you?

It opened a door to a Harvard PhD, broadening immeasurably my graduate training, and opening research and teaching pathways I am still exploring now. If I had done an Anglo-Australian or even a European PhD I would have become a much narrower and much more boring kind of academic.

Spotlight on Mark Darian-Smith

Menzies Scholar in Law 1984

What is your job?

I am a partner at King & Wood Mallesons based in the Perth office. I specialise in complex litigation and international arbitration matters for companies in the energy, resources and major projects area. I have been a partner since 1991 and in the time since then have practised in each of the Melbourne, Brisbane, Sydney and Perth offices.

What is the most fulfilling aspect of your work?

Working with a team of bright, energetic and motivated people in solving difficult strategic commercial disputes for major corporates. The disputes often have a cross border element and/or involve a regulator—both of which can add to the interest. I have had the privilege of training and mentoring many fine lawyers who have gone on to achieve good things. I have worked with young lawyers over the years who have become law firm partners, senior counsel and even a couple of judges—a source of great professional satisfaction.

What is your favourite book/film?

Two very different books are special favourites of mine—Dostoyevsky's "Crime and Punishment" and E.M Forster's "A Passage to India" are books I have come back to many times as there is so much in each of them.

If I have to pick a favourite film it would be "Apocalypse Now"—an amazing rendition of Joseph Conrad's book "Heart of Darkness" in a Vietnam War setting.

Where in the world would you like to visit?

Of the places I have not yet been to, Istanbul is at the very top of the list. Truly at the cross roads of the Eastern and Western hemispheres with an extraordinary history to match. My trip to Turkey would not be complete without exploring the Dardanelles and spending time at Anzac Cove.

Who has inspired you?

In terms of my career, the lawyers who have most inspired me are Ian Hardingham (who taught me company law as an undergraduate at Melbourne University with such clarity that I remember his lectures vividly today); of my Oxford teachers Harvey McGregor (then Master of New College, who tutored me in Restitution as part of my BCL) and Alan Archibald QC who I consider to be the barrister

who has inspired me the most as a practising lawyer.

More generally I have been inspired by some of my favourite figures in history—Captain James Cook as the quintessential explorer, Abraham Lincoln and Thomas Jefferson as great thinkers and political figures and Lord Horatio Nelson as a great commander of men. Every time I have craned my neck to attempt to take in Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel it has amazed me to think that one man could achieve all that.

To that list I should add the names of two architects whose buildings have inspired me every time I have seen them—Christopher Wren (an alumnus of my Oxford college, Wadham) for his wonderful London churches including St Paul's Cathedral and Jorn Utzon whose Opera House is surely the world's most wonderful modern building—inspiring me every time I have passed it in the ferry on my way to work in Sydney.

Who would you most like to meet?

I would love to meet Barack Obama, a man I greatly admire and the finest, most natural public speaker I have seen.

How has the Menzies Scholarship helped you?

First by enabling me to study at Oxford, cementing my love of the law which has stayed with me for the whole of my life. It exposed me to some great teachers and fellow students—some already great achievers when I met them and others who have gone on to achieve great things. I have always loved English history and to be able to go to the finest of British universities on a scholarship carrying the name of an Australian prime minister who epitomised the ties which bind Australia and Britain has been a big part of who I have grown to be. Being one of the early Menzies Law scholars (1984) has been fantastic because I have been able to see the diverse list of talented recipients grow over the years and I have taken great pride in seeing the alumni group increase in number and contribute so significantly to the law in Australia and internationally.



How did the Menzies Scholarships begin?

After Sir Robert Menzies' death in 1978, a national appeal raised \$6.2 million (\$24 million in today's terms) and at that time the most ever raised by a public appeal in Australia. With the income from that fund, the Menzies Foundation's responsibility was to create, maintain and administer - in perpetuity - forms of non-political memorials to Sir Robert Menzies.

One of the early initiatives was the creation of the Menzies postgraduate scholarship program. The Menzies Trust in London also raised money for this specific purpose and the Menzies Foundation in Australia accepted responsibility for the selection process. It was agreed that postgraduate scholarships would be offered in law and in medicine. They would be at the highest level and equal in value to the Rhodes.

The Menzies Scholarship in Law to the United Kingdom has been awarded every year since 1982 but the Menzies Scholarship in Medicine was discontinued in 1994 due to a lack of funds. In its place, the Menzies Foundation in Australia agreed to contribute \$70,000 p.a. to the NHMRC/RG Menzies Fellowship. Applicants are chosen from those who apply for the Biomedical (CJ Martin), Clinical (Neil Hamilton Fairley) or Public Health (Sidney Sax) Fellowships.

The Menzies Scholarship in Engineering to the United Kingdom was first awarded between 1993

and discontinued in 1996. Funding for the scholarship commenced again in 2007.

The RG Menzies Scholarship to Harvard was inaugurated by the Harvard Club of Australia and the

Australian National University (ANU) in 1967 after the retirement of Sir Robert as Prime Minister of Australia. In 1981 the Harvard Club approached the Menzies Foundation seeking a contribution to the scholarship and this funding (currently \$30,000 p.a.) and a nominee on the selection panel have been provided by the Foundation since that time.

The scholarships outlined above were designed to give outstanding young Australians the opportunity to study overseas. Their success prompted the Foundation to consider a further enhancement of its charter by introducing a scholarship which would encourage and support research in Australia in the allied health sciences. The Sir Robert Menzies Research Scholarship in the Allied Health Sciences has been awarded since 1988. It is open to graduates in any of the health sciences who have enrolled for a PhD in an Australian University and who have completed the first stage of their doctoral program. Awards have been made in the disciplines of behavioural science, family therapy, nutrition, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, podiatry, psychology, social work and speech pathology.

In 1980, Sir William Vines, the Chairman of the Menzies Foundation in Australia, wrote that: "The purpose (of the scholarship program) is to establish a memorial which will be worthy of the stature of Sir Robert." Since that time, over 170 Menzies scholarships have been awarded to recipients from every State and Territory in Australia; 54% have been awarded to women.

The continuing outstanding achievements of the Menzies alumni in their various fields of endeavour have ensured that the Foundation's original aims and purpose have come to fruition.

Sandra Mackenzie



Thank you!

... to everyone who has forwarded the annual donation for the Menzies Memorial Scholars Association and Menzies Centenary Prize, and to the Foundation. Remember to keep the receipt for your tax deduction.

We are very grateful to the alumni who help support the MMSA and the Foundation in its funding of the next generation of scholars.

Donations can be made online at any time to:
Menzies Foundation
Westpac BSB 033 002 Account No. 37 6459
Internet ref: MMSA and your NAME