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Our community

The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research

Parkville campus
1G Royal Parade
Parkville Victoria 3052 Australia
Telephone: +61 3 9345 2555

Bundoora campus
4 Research Avenue
La Trobe R&D Park
Bundoora Victoria 3086 Australia
Telephone: +61 3 9345 2200

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Walter and Eliza Hall Institute
ABN 12 004 251 423

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Produced by WEHI’s Communications and Marketing department

Director
Douglas J Hilton AO
BSc Mon BSc(Hons) PhD Melb FAA FTSE FAHMS

Deputy Director, Scientific Strategy
Alan Cowman AC
BSc(Hons) Griffith PhD Melb FAA FRS FASM FASP

Chief Operating Officer
Carolyn MacDonald
BArts (Journalism) RMIT GAICD

Chief Financial Officer
Alistair Brown
BCom Melb CA

Company Secretary
Joh Kirby
BApp Sc LLB (Hons) Monash GAICD FGIA CF

Honorary Governor and Patron
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FRACOG(Hon) FRCPath FRACGP FRSE FTSE FAA FRS FAHMS

WEHI acknowledges the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land on which our campuses are located, the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present and embrace their continued connection to Country and community.
WEHI is where the world’s brightest minds collaborate and innovate to make discoveries that will help us to live healthier for longer.

Our medical researchers have been serving the community for more than 100 years, making transformative discoveries in cancers, infectious and immune diseases, developmental disorders and healthy ageing.

WEHI brings together diverse and creative people with different experience and expertise to solve some of the world’s most complex health problems.

The spirit of collaboration is in our DNA. WEHI was established by a partnership between the University of Melbourne, the Royal Melbourne Hospital and the Walter and Eliza Hall Trust, bringing together the brightest research minds from across the globe, remarkable clinicians focused on the health of the community and the power of philanthropy.

Our passion for improving lives drives us forward, even when breakthroughs are decades in the making. We are brighter because of our collaborations with hospitals, universities, research institutes and industry, and the support of our community, including philanthropists, donors, bequestors, alumni and consumers.

At WEHI, we are brighter together.

Our research

**Cancer** – understanding the basic processes that are disrupted to generate cancer cells and how these can be targeted to treat disease.

**Immune health and infection** – discovering how the body fights infection and how errors in the immune system lead to disease.

**Development and healthy ageing** – studying how the biological foundations laid down during gestation and childhood affect development and how our longer life expectancy presents new challenges for our ageing population.

**New medicines and advanced technologies** – a powerful hub for cutting-edge technologies underpinning biomedical discoveries and for the translation of these discoveries into new medicines and diagnostics.

**Computational biology** – developing and applying new tools to analyse the genomes of disease-causing parasites, as well as better understanding the immune system and genetic drivers of cancer.

Our mission

Mastery of disease through discovery

Our vision

To be an innovative medical research institute that engages and enriches society and improves health outcomes through discovery, translation and education

Our values

- Pursuit of excellence
- Integrity and mutual respect
- Collaboration and teamwork
- Creativity
- Accountability
- Contribution to society
It is again my great privilege as president to present WEHI’s annual report for 2022.

I have been delighted and inspired by the work and achievements of WEHI’s scientific and professional services staff, and by the passion and curiosity of our students, even as the COVID-19 pandemic continued to present significant challenges.

As always, the focus of the WEHI Board and senior leaders has been to position WEHI for ongoing long-term success – culturally, economically and environmentally – and to ensure the safest and most productive environment possible to support our researchers and their mission.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to Peter Collins, who resigned from the board in February 2022 to take up a new role as WEHI’s Head, Research Integrity and Ethics (Specialist). While we’re sorry to lose him from the board, it’s exciting that WEHI continues to benefit from Peter’s experience, perspective and wisdom.

I also extend a warm welcome to Dr Angeli Weller and Geoff Roberts, who joined the WEHI Board in February and September respectively.

Angeli is a passionate advocate for integrity, inclusivity and innovation in business and has broad and deep experience in helping organisations build ethical cultures and improve their social and environmental impacts. Her experience will be of great value as WEHI continues to enhance its research impact and builds on activities that promote sustainability.

Geoff brings a wealth of experience in strategic financial management, leadership and governance, as a chief financial officer and managing director, and as a board member with the not-for-profits Reach Foundation and Vision Australia. He is well placed to help WEHI achieve our goals and to support effective financial oversight.

The board recognises the importance of WEHI’s commitment to environmental sustainability and to advocating for mitigation of climate change and the threats it poses to health globally. This commitment was reflected in WEHI joining the Climate and Health Alliance, Australia’s peak body on health and climate change, in 2022.

It was wonderful for many of our WEHI community to join Sir Gustav Nossal, former director (1965-1996) and honorary governor and patron, for a belated celebration of his 90th birthday at a gala dinner in the Great Hall of the National Gallery of Victoria, and a special afternoon tea in the familiar surrounds of the WEHI Parkville tearoom.

It was also my great pleasure to attend the launch of Art of Science and meet our artist-scientists in person as we celebrated the 25th anniversary of this iconic competition and exhibition, with guest judge Corey Tutt OAM, CEO and Founder of DeadlyScience, joining us online from Biripi country in NSW.

“Brighter together” isn’t only a tagline at WEHI, it’s a core value. Our continued success would not be possible without the contributions of our generous supporters and donors, and the partnership of our many collaborators, both individual and institutional. On behalf of the board, I thank all those who contributed in 2022.

And of course, I extend my deepest thanks and admiration to our research and professional services teams and the entire WEHI community for their continued passion and commitment.

Jane Hemstritch AO
President, WEHI
Director’s report

I’m proud to share this record of another year of achievements in research, discovery and translation at WEHI. Once again, our response to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated not only WEHI’s ability to do great science but also the dedication, resilience and supportiveness of our people.

Adjusting to the “new normal” has involved a huge effort to adapt and improve the way we work. Ethical, social and environmental standards have also evolved across the community, giving us an opportunity to push ourselves further, guided by WEHI’s values. I thank all those who’ve helped make hybrid and flexible work not only possible but, moreover, successful.

We truly are “brighter together” and none of WEHI’s work would be possible without the active support of our wonderful donors, philanthropists and community fundraisers. Our close connections and collaborations with research institutes, universities, hospitals, industry partners and our neighbours across the Melbourne Biomedical Precinct also remain critical to our success.

Highlights of key scientific achievements in 2022 included:

• the first National Conference of The Brain Cancer Centre and the launch of a world-first perioperative brain cancer clinical trial platform
• important discoveries and advances in COVID-19, gene silencing, colon cancer, malaria and diabetes
• significant national awards and honours for deputy director Professor Alan Cowman, Professor Clare Scott and Professor Sant-Rayn Pasricha, among many others.

The visit to WEHI by the Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler and Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Ged Kearney provided a fantastic opportunity to showcase our research talent and facilities and demonstrate the impact of medical research in addressing global health challenges.

I’d like to thank former federal and Victorian ministers Greg Hunt and Jaala Pulford respectively for their support, and welcome Mark Butler as the new federal minister and Mary-Anne Thomas as the new Victorian Minister for Health, Health Infrastructure and Medical Research.

I also acknowledge the leadership and foresight of the CEO of the NHMRC, Professor Anne Kelso. Gender inequity has plagued our sector for generations and the systemic change to our premier grant scheme, which will now support equal numbers of men and women, is a crucial step forward.

It was my privilege to host a Director’s Seminar to mark International Pronouns Day and to be part of the Champions of Change Coalition 2022 Impact Report, highlighting the many ways WEHI is taking action to accelerate gender equality. Our commitment to advancing reconciliation was exemplified by our new partnership with DeadlyScience, to help foster the next generation of First Nations scientists.

Commercial alliances we formalised during 2022 will help steer WEHI into a positive future. WEHI spinout Accrue Therapeutics merged with Boston-based Entact Bio, and Cicada Innovations was appointed to manage our new biotech start-up incubator, a partnership between WEHI, CSL and the University of Melbourne.

Finally, we were delighted to be able to return to holding in-person events during 2022. It was particularly special for me to be able to reconnect personally with WEHI Alumni in Europe and to welcome donors and volunteers to WEHI to acknowledge their support.

I take this opportunity to thank each and every member of the WEHI community for their contributions to a wonderful year.

Professor Doug Hilton AO
Director, WEHI
Exceptional science and people

The year in research

- 484 scientific publications
- 87 grants awarded
- $100.8M grant income

Innovation and translation

- 460+ active patents
- 30+ commercial partnerships translating WEHI research
- 390+ clinical trials based on WEHI discoveries

“Science is one of the keys to Australia’s future.”

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese at WEHI, July 2022

WEHI was honoured to welcome Prime Minister of Australia Anthony Albanese, Minister for Health and Aged Care Mark Butler and Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Ged Kearney in July 2022.
Exceptional science and people

Enzyme imaging first

Researchers captured the first molecular images of an enzyme linked to a rare group of hereditary neurodegenerative diseases. The enzyme RNF216 adds a specific type of ubiquitin chain to proteins, instructing them how to behave. The team identified how mutations in the enzyme can cause a protein to malfunction or stop working altogether. Their research could help explain the mystery cause of rare neurodegenerative disorders, including Gordon Holmes and Huntington’s disease-like syndromes.

Snow Fellowship honour

Dr Stephin Vervoort received a prestigious $8 million Snow Fellowship from the Snow Medical Research Foundation in Australia to investigate new treatments for cancers like leukaemia. The funding supports research exploring how malfunctions in the enzyme RNA polymerase II fuel aggressive cancer growth, with the ultimate goal of developing drugs that can stop this enzyme going rogue. The Snow Fellowships are the largest philanthropic investment in Australia fostering upcoming and talented biomedical researchers.

Molecular ‘culprit’ drives cell death, inflammation

A landmark study identified nitric oxide as a killer molecular “culprit” responsible for causing damaging levels of cell death and inflammation in the body. The findings could lead to improved treatment options for a range of conditions driven by inflammatory cell death, including SARS-CoV-2 (the COVID-19 virus).

Gottschalk Medal for vital cellular research

The Australian Academy of Science’s 2022 Gottschalk Medal for emerging leaders of Australian medical science was awarded to Dr Alisa Glukhova. Her research works to understand how cells function and respond to external and internal signals in order to find improved treatments for a range of conditions including heart disease and cancer.
Blood cancer collaboration

A team of blood cancer experts led by Professor Andrew Roberts AM received the Fiona Stanley Award for the highest ranked NHMRC Synergy Grant. The $5 million grant will advance research into why some blood cancers become resistant to treatment. A major collaboration with the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, the Royal Melbourne Hospital, The Alfred, the University of Melbourne and Monash University, the five-year program aims to improve outcomes for patients with leukaemias, lymphomas and myeloma.

DNA ‘accordion effect’

In a study transforming the fundamentals of what we know about gene silencing, researchers revealed how an “accordion effect” is critical to switching off genes. The finding expands our understanding of how genes are switched on and off to make different cell types during pre-natal development. It also offers a new way to potentially harness gene silencing in future, to treat or reverse the progression of a broad range of diseases including cancer, congenital and infectious diseases.

Identifying babies at risk of brain bleeds

A new way to help identify babies and fetuses at high risk of developing brain bleeds could pave the way for better early intervention. The findings on platelet levels may help determine which babies can safely receive treatment after birth, transforming platelet transfusion practices and avoiding unnecessary and risky procedures.
Sweet discovery

A WEHI-led international team revealed how a key enzyme uses a “sugar tag” to prevent excessive cell death, in research that could lead to better treatment options for inflammatory-driven infections, viruses and cancers. The landmark discovery offers another way to regulate the cell death process for diseases like psoriasis and inflammatory bowel disease – conditions that occur due to excessive cell death in the body – and could also help in future to reduce the severity of viruses like SARS-CoV-2, responsible for COVID-19.

Industry fellowship bridges drug development gap

Malaria researcher Dr Paola Favuzza received an MTPConnect Researcher Exchange and Development within Industry (REDI) fellowship, providing her with vital experience to help bridge the gap between basic research and clinical trials. The fellowship supports a 12-month project with Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV) in Switzerland.

Malaria revolution

Revolutionary 3D images enabled researchers to understand how new anti-malaria compounds kill malaria parasites, paving the way for the next generation anti-malarial treatments. Malaria infections are driven by Plasmodium parasites that enter the bloodstream and destroy red blood cells. WEHI researchers, in collaboration with Merck Sharp & Dohme (MSD), captured the first three-dimensional images that reveal how compounds work to stop the parasites from spreading in the blood.

Game-changing technology

Researchers boosted pioneering technology to show whether potential treatments are worth progressing into human trials, in a game-changing move that could dramatically reduce high failure rates in drug discovery and development. The WEHI-led team used protein degrader technology to test the efficacy and safety of drugs by better mimicking clinical settings, with a collaborative Australian project already using the system to establish promising drug targets for a range of hard-to-treat cancers.
Exceptional science and people

Sparing colon cancer patients from chemotherapy

Our scientists showed for the first time that a blood test can identify colon cancer patients who need chemotherapy after surgery and those who can safely be spared chemo. A clinical trial found the circulating tumour DNA (ctDNA) test, co-developed by WEHI, can accurately predict the risk of cancer recurrence.

Reducing toxic side-effects of immunotherapy

An Australian-Israeli research team developed a way to reduce the toxic side-effects of pioneering cancer treatment, CAR T cell immunotherapy. About half of patients suffer adverse effects from the therapy but the findings could overcome this limitation by tailoring the immune cells used in the treatment.

Mapping immune cell energy sources sparks rethink

Researchers discovered that lung cancer and immune cells rely on the same energy sources to thrive, triggering a fundamental rethink of treatment options for patients. They found a combination of metabolic and immune treatments used in clinical trials for lung adenocarcinoma – a common form of lung cancer – may not be beneficial to patients.

Queen’s Birthday honour

Rare cancer researcher and clinician Professor Clare Scott was recognised in the 2022 Queen’s Birthday Honours List and appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM), one of Australia’s highest civilian honours. The honour recognises over 25 years of dedication and achievement in researching rare cancers and significant service to gynaecological oncology, reflecting decades of teamwork and collaboration with her clinical and scientific colleagues and expert consumers.
Exceptional science and people

July

Kids with cancer at risk of lethal infections

A landmark WEHI-led study identified child cancer patients at the greatest risk of developing life-threatening infections, in a crucial step towards the development of an early diagnostic test. The discovery could prevent thousands of low-risk cancer patients receiving unnecessary antibiotics and potentially disrupting their chemotherapy.

August

Academy recognition

Researcher and haematologist Professor Sant-Rayn Pasricha received an Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences award for his pioneering contributions to preventing and treating anaemia. He received the Jian Zhou Medal for his work leading international trials for iron-deficient children and pregnant women in Bangladesh and Malawi. The WHO has translated his research into health policies in over 50 countries, aiming to halve the global prevalence of anaemia by 2025.

August

Funding boost for home-grown COVID-19 treatment

A multi-disciplinary team’s research on an antiviral therapy for COVID-19 was boosted with almost $1 million in funding from the Medical Research Future Fund. The WEHI-led drug discovery program aims to develop a powerful therapeutic combination targeting two proteins that help the virus replicate, to fight antiviral resistance.

August

Parkinson’s risk factors

Professor Melanie Bahlo’s laboratory was awarded funding from The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson’s Research and partner Shake It Up Australia Foundation for Parkinson’s Research, to identify and measure novel risk factors for the disease. The funding supports a collaborative team from WEHI and the Garvan Institute of Medical Research in developing new and improved methods to estimate mitochondrial dysfunction and genetic risk factors in patients with Parkinson’s disease.
**Ovarian cancer vaccine**

Research working towards the development of vaccines to stop ovarian cancer recurring was bolstered through Victorian Government funding. The grant from the Victorian Medical Research Acceleration Fund will help accelerate the clinical translation of a groundbreaking ovarian cancer trial co-led by WEHI and RMIT University. The trial aims to understand the biology of ovarian cancer “super-responders”, particularly their immune responses, to leam how more women can benefit from treatment.

**Improving biomedical data**

In a major computational biology study, WEHI researchers demonstrated a new technique to remove unwanted variation from biomedical data. The method can remove artifacts that cause errors or missed discoveries, improving scientific reproducibility. It can also combine datasets, helping create big data for AI research. The team showed how the method can help clean data from The Cancer Genome Atlas, a major dataset with information on 10,000 tumours from 33 forms of cancer.

**Landmark tech for mimicking human disease**

A powerful new genome editing technique enabled our researchers to replicate human diseases with unprecedented accuracy, promising to revolutionise the drug discovery process for a range of cancers. The technology can activate any gene, allowing new drug targets and causes of drug resistance to be explored on an unmatched level.

**Precision medicine advance**

An international team of researchers and clinicians, led by WEHI, received over $2.5 million from the Medical Research Future Fund for a genomics project to advance precision medicine and personalised cancer treatment. The project aims to address barriers to the use of genomic data in clinical care, and to gain new insights into blood, breast and ovarian cancers. A focus on rapid clinical translation will help clinicians use information from the latest genomic research to improve patient health.

L-R: Professor Magdalena Plebanski (RMIT), Professor Clare Scott, Dr Cassandra Vandenber
Boost to First Nations health

A new network was established to advance the benefits from genomic medicine for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, after winning support under the Medical Research Future Fund. WEHI researchers are co-leading the Victorian node of the five-year project, worth almost $5 million, which will see researchers, genetic health services, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled health organisations and industry partners unite to empower First Nations leadership in genomic medicine for the future.

Support for collaborative brain cancer research

A collaborative research program to deliver new treatments for glioblastoma, the most common and deadliest type of brain cancer, was supported through $4.6 million from the Medical Research Future Fund. The program brings together clinicians and researchers from WEHI, The Brain Cancer Centre and five other research partners.

Cells play ‘molecular roulette’ to fight disease

A discovery about how cells decide which antibody to make revealed the surprisingly random way that the body’s immune system defends against infection and disease. Researchers created a mathematical formula for predicting the antibody allocation process, to help understand why some people are biologically prone to certain diseases.

Liver disease discovery

A WEHI-led team of researchers revealed that common liver diseases, including non-alcoholic fatty liver disease and hepatitis B, are not driven by inflammatory cell death as previously thought. Their unexpected finding – that liver cells are unable to undergo an inflammatory form of cell death called necroptosis – resolves a long-standing controversy in the gastroenterology field and will help guide the development of new therapeutic interventions.
Exceptional science and people

October

Brain-POP trial platform

A world-first clinical trial platform to transform research into new therapies for brain cancer and deliver more targeted, personalised treatment for patients was launched. The Brain-POP platform is led by The Brain Cancer Centre and partners WEHI, the Royal Melbourne Hospital, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, the Royal Children’s Hospital and the University of Melbourne, with $16 million in support from the Victorian Government. Globally, it’s the first perioperative clinical trial program for brain cancer.

November

Data science fellowship

Bioinformatics and genomics expert Professor Matthew Ritchie was awarded an MTPConnect Researcher Exchange and Development within Industry (REDI) fellowship for a 12-month project within the Data Science team at global biotech leader CSL. The project involves the evaluation of cutting-edge genomic technologies, with a view to fast-tracking the deployment of these technologies in CSL’s pre-clinical research programs to accelerate target validation, biomarker discovery and drug development.

November

L’Oréal-UNESCO honour for cell biology trailblazer

Postdoctoral researcher and cell biologist Dr Georgia Atkin-Smith was honoured with a L’Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science fellowship for her exceptional contributions to the field of cell death. She received funding to support her research examining how cell death and the removal of dying cells contribute to inflammatory disease.

November

Home diabetes screening test prevents serious illness and hospitalisation

A study from a WEHI-Royal Melbourne Hospital research team found a blood test for early diagnosis of type 1 diabetes can prevent serious illness and hospitalisation in children. The team has now adapted the test to be done at home and mailed to a lab to improve access, deliver results sooner and start treatment before children become unwell.
Exceptional science and people

Metcalf Prize awarded to stem cell pioneer

Dr Ashley Ng was named a winner of the 2022 Metcalf Prize for Stem Cell Research in recognition of his pioneering work with stem cells to fight blood cancers. Awarded by the National Stem Cell Foundation of Australia, the Metcalf Prizes honour WEHI luminary, the late Professor Donald Metcalf AC.

CSL Florey Medal

The CSL Florey Medal was awarded to Professor Alan Cowman AC for his instrumental contributions in understanding how malaria infects and causes disease in humans. His research has supported the development of potential vaccines, as well as the discovery of novel antimalarial compounds. Spanning over 30 years, his distinguished career dedicated to malaria research has enabled a greater understanding of the disease, underpinning the diverse needs of programs working towards elimination and eradication.

Venture Grants support brightest cancer researchers

Three innovative projects received funding through Cancer Council Victoria’s Venture Grants initiative, which aims to support the state’s brightest cancer researchers. Researchers will investigate whether COVID-19 affects cancer risk, how to activate immune cells against tumours, and new ways to improve neurosurgery for brain cancer.

Insulin-mimicking molecule a diabetes advance

Researchers visualised how a non-insulin molecule can mimic the role of insulin, in a study that answered a 100-year-old question in diabetes research. Their findings provide important insights for the future development of an oral insulin pill that could replace daily insulin injections for people with type 1 diabetes.
Thank you to our supporters

Your support allows our researchers to advance critical research and translate their discoveries into disease diagnosis, prevention and treatment for the benefit of the whole community.

Below is a list of our generous gifts and grants of $10,000 or more received in 2022. A full list of gifts, grants and bequests of $1000 or more can be found on our website.

Centenary donors
Anonymous (3)
Bodhi Foundation
Brian M Davis Charitable Foundation
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David Winston Turner Endowment Fund
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The Metcalf Family
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Generous gift supports genomics research

In late 2022, WEHI received a generous gift from the Estate of Renate Harding – The Harding-Stern Bequest – in memory of Renate’s husband Kenneth Harding, and parents Charlotte and Walter Stern. Renate spent her life working in public health, and her bequest will enable WEHI to advance our medical discoveries by supporting state-of-the-art microscopy and genomics research.

Dr Rory Bowden,
Head of WEHI’s Advanced Genomics Facility
The Dyson Bequest
The Harry Secomb Foundation
The HMA Foundation
The Isabel and John Gilbertson Charitable Trust
The LMH Trust
The McPhee Charitable Trust
The Roebuck Foundation
The Stafford Fox Medical Research Foundation
The Valda Klaric Foundation
The Veith Foundation
The Yulgilbar Foundation
TMG Family Fund
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International grants
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Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
Breast Cancer Research Foundation
Chan Zuckerberg Initiative
Foundation for Prader Willi Research
FSHD Society
International Lung Cancer Foundation
Leslie and Rainey Norins/Collier Community Foundation
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson’s Research
National Institutes of Health (NIH)
Rivkin Center
Stand Up To Cancer
The International Human Frontier Science Program Organization
United States Department of Defense
Wellcome Trust
Worldwide Cancer Research

Australian Government grants
Australian Academy of Science
Australian Centre of Research Excellence in Malaria Elimination (ACREME)
CSIRO
Department of Health
Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF)
National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)

Victorian Government grants
veski
Victorian Cancer Agency (VCA)
Victorian Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions

Australian grants
Anonymous (2)
Annemarie and Arturo Gandioli-Fumagalli Foundation
Arthritis Australia
Australasian Gastro-Intestinal Cancer Trials Group (AGITG)
Australian Cancer Research Foundation (ACRF)
Australian China Education Foundation
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L.E.W. Carty Charitable Fund
Leukaemia Foundation
Lions Australia Diabetes Foundation
L’Oréal Foundation For Women in Science
Marlene Austin Trust
Michael Keith Halprin Fund
MS Research Australia
National Breast Cancer Foundation

The power of sisterhood
Sisters Lisa Bardas (left) and Ellie Rogers (right) created the Two Sisters Foundation in 2019 after Ellie was diagnosed with breast cancer. Their mission is to help deliver real medical solutions to ensure quality and longevity of life for those impacted directly or indirectly by breast and ovarian cancers. The foundation supports BRCA-related breast cancer research led by WEHI’s Professor Jane Visvader and Professor Geoff Lindeman.
Our supporters

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Ovarian Cancer Research Foundation
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Robert Connor Dawes Foundation
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Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia
The Alfred Felton Bequest
The Barbara Luree Parker Foundation
The CASS Foundation
The Galbraith Family Charitable Trust - The Donaldson Bequest
The Harry Secomb Foundation
The Jack Brockhoff Foundation
The Jakob Frenkel Charitable Trust
The Margaret Walkom Bequest
The Marian and E. H. Flack Trust
The Medical Advances Without Animals Trust (MAWA)
The Norman Beischer Medical Research Foundation
The Scobie & Claire Mackinnon Trust

The Sylvia and Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation
The Terry and Maureen Hopkins Foundation
The Thomas William Francis & Violet Coles Trust
The Walter and Eliza Hall Trust
The William Angliss (Victoria) Charitable Fund
Zoe’s Fight Foundation Inc

Gifts in Wills
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Estate of Ann Lang
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Estate of Desmond Edward Sheean
Estate of Eleanor Margrethe Albiston (The Strang Bequest)
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Estate of Lynette Florence Lewis
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Estate of Sheila Mary Helpman
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Rigg Memorial Trust
The C.H. Boden Memorial Trust
The George Thomas & Lockyer Potter Charitable Trust
The Harding-Stern Bequest
The Hazel and Pip Appel Fund
Thomas, Annie and Doris Burgess Charity Trust

We’ve made every effort to ensure all details in this list are correct. However, if an error has occurred, please contact DonorRelations@wehi.edu.au

Honouring a family legacy

The Stafford Fox Medical Research Foundation strengthened its philanthropic partnership with WEHI in 2022 by generously renewing its support of three programs: asthma research led by Associate Professor Rhys Allan, the Stafford Fox Centre for Cancer Stem Cell Disease Modelling led by Associate Professor Oliver Sieber, and ovarian cancer research led by Professor Clare Scott AM. These renewed commitments are in addition to the foundation’s generous support of the WEHI Stafford Fox Rare Cancer Program.
Entrepreneurship and commercialisation

Accelerating great science for the benefit of our communities takes more than dedication in the laboratory. WEHI actively fosters a culture of entrepreneurship and supports the development of strategic collaborations and partnerships to enable the translation and commercialisation of our research.

Precision proteins
WEHI spinout Accrue Therapeutics – founded in early 2022 with funding from the Medical Research Commercialisation Fund, now Brandon Biocatalyst – merged with Boston-based Entact Bio, in a significant advance for the development of precision medicines that enhance the function of key proteins.

The combined entity, which has raised $120 million in Series A financing from top-tier US and UK investors, aims to provide new options for patients through therapies that boost the function of beneficial proteins, rather than eliminating or blocking proteins that contribute to disease.

Entact Bio will maintain key research activities in Australia, hosted at WEHI with continued scientific leadership and direction from Professor David Komander and Dr Ueli Nachbur.

Cancer therapeutics
WEHI partnered with leading science and technology company Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany on a drug discovery campaign to find new cancer therapeutics for a range of hard-to-treat cancers.

The four-year partnership will support the research to progress through the drug discovery pipeline and into human clinical trials.

Led by cancer biologist Associate Professor Joan Heath, the collaboration will leverage WEHI’s expertise in minor class splicing and the genetic regulation of rapid cell growth and proliferation, aiming to create new drugs for rapidly-growing cancers that currently have few or no effective treatments.

Biotech incubator
WEHI joined CSL and the University of Melbourne in announcing the appointment of Cicada Innovations as the independent operator to oversee and manage a new start-up incubator that will support and grow early-stage biotech companies.

Funded in partnership with the Victorian Government through Breakthrough Victoria, the incubator will be Australia’s first to be co-located with a leading biopharmaceutical company.

The incubator will provide all the wrap-around support that start-ups need to translate medical research into new treatments and therapies.

Leaders from WEHI, the University of Melbourne and CSL toured the future home of the biotech incubator at CSL’s new Global Headquarters, currently under construction in the Melbourne Biomedical Precinct.

Intellectual property
Patents protect unique inventions made by WEHI scientists and facilitate commercial collaborations to progress the development of new medicines and diagnostics – a key step towards clinical translation.

2022
5 new patents granted
4 new provisional patents filed
466 active patents based on discoveries and inventions made by WEHI scientists
Celebrating our graduating students

Students are highly valued members of research groups at WEHI and receive world-class training in medical research and broader skills equipping them for a range of careers. We are proud that many go on to become leaders of our sector.

Congratulations to the following students who successfully completed their studies at WEHI during 2022.

Doctor of Philosophy, University of Melbourne

Dr Li Jin Chan
Development of antibody therapeutics for deadly infectious diseases: malaria and COVID-19
Professor Wai-Hong Tham, Professor Alan Cowman

Dr Michelle Clark
Interfering with host cell signalling and cell death pathways to promote clearance of viral and parasitic infections
Professor Marc Pellegrini, Dr Marcel Doerflinger

Dr James Patrick Cooney
Developing preventative and therapeutic strategies against HTLV-1 using a novel humanised mouse model
Professor Marc Pellegrini, Professor Joseph Torresi

Dr Ruining Dong
Improving structural variant annotation and detection using high-throughput sequencing data
Professor Tony Papenfuss, Dr Ismael Vergara, Dr Justin Bedo

Dr Sarah Garner
Manipulating cell death pathways to promote clearance of HIV-1
Professor Marc Pellegrini, Professor Joseph Torresi, Dr Cody Allison, Associate Professor Kathryn Davidson

Dr Sarah Garnish
Profiling a killer: MLKL-mediated death and its role in human disease
Professor James Murphy, Dr Joanne Hildebrand

Dr Lizeth Gabriela Meza Guzman
Breaking natural killer cell tolerance and homeostasis for cancer immunotherapy
Professor Sandra Nicholson, Dr Nicholas Huntington, Associate Professor James Vince

Dr Luuk Heitink
Mechanisms of tumorigenesis and therapy resistance in breast cancer
Professor Jane Visvader, Professor Geoffrey Lindeman

Dr Jonas Hess
Cell intrinsic and extrinsic control of small cell lung cancer
Associate Professor Kate Sutherland, Dr Sarah Best, Professor Nicholas Huntington

Dr Shuai Huang
Identifying novel regulators of intrinsic apoptosis
Associate Professor Grant Dewson, Professor David Huang, Dr Mark van Deft

Dr Hannah Huckstep
Understanding information flow in signalling pathways using network-based analysis of phosphoproteomic data
Professor Melissa Davis, Associate Professor Andrew Webb, Dr Liam Fearnley

Dr Jelte Krol
Identifying and characterising exported hepatic effector proteins of the human malaria parasite *Plasmodium falciparum*
Associate Professor Justin Boddey, Professor Marco Herold, Professor Alan Cowman

Dr Rune Hertz Larsen
Development of an ultrasensitive phosphoproteomic workflow to enable primary cell phosphoproteomics
Associate Professor Andrew Webb, Professor John Silke, Dr Jarrod Sandow

Dr Elizabeth Lieschke
Elucidating the cellular processes that are critical for p53 mediated tumour suppression
Professor Andreas Strasser, Associate Professor Gemma Kelly

Dr Lin Liu
Characterisation of new regulators in TNFR1-mediated death signalling
Associate Professor Oliver Sieber, Professor Marco Herold, Dr Sheng Liu, Dr Anuratha Sakthianandeswaram

Dr Ronnie Ren Jie Low
Identification of new vulnerabilities in pancreatic cancer
Associate Professor Tracy Putoczki, Professor Sean Grimmond, Professor Frederic Hollandes

Dr Shuai Huang
Identifying novel regulators of intrinsic apoptosis
Associate Professor Grant Dewson, Professor David Huang, Dr Mark van Deft

Dr Antonia Jean Emile Serrano
Deciphering breast cancer heterogeneity and metastatic fate using cellular barcoding
Associate Professor Shalin Naik, Dr Delphine Merino

Dr Kristen Scicluna
Structural and functional investigation of the BCL-2 family member, BCL-rambo
Professor Peter Czabotar, Associate Professor Grant Dewson, Dr Richard Birkinshaw

Dr Amania Anwar Sheikh
Transcriptional and migration regulation of T follicular helper cell differentiation
Associate Professor Joanna Groom, Professor Gabrielle Belz

Dr Jeffrey Smith
The purification, identification, and measurement of RNA-binding proteins
Associate Professor Andrew Webb, Professor Melissa Davis, Associate Professor Aaron Jex

Dr Annemarie Steiner
Investigation of novel pathways causing autoinflammatory disease
Professor Seth Masters, Dr Sophia Davidson

Dr Swapnil Tickhule
Population genetics and evolutionary epidemiology of diarrhoeal pathogen *Cryptosporidium*
Associate Professor Aaron Jex, Professor Melanie Bahlo, Professor Ivo Mueller

Dr Lisa Verzier
Molecular mechanisms of liver infection by the human malaria parasite *Plasmodium falciparum*
Associate Professor Justin Boddey, Professor Marco Herold

Dr Zilu Wang
Therapeutic targeting of mutant TPS3 in human cancers
Professor Andreas Strasser, Associate Professor Gemma Kelly

Dr Shengbo Zhang
Transcriptional regulation of type 1 conventional dendritic cells and their application in tumor immunotherapy
Professor Stephen Nutt, Dr Michael Chopin
Master of Biomedical Science, University of Melbourne

Aisah Resti Amelia
The relationship of autoantibodies and circulating immune complexes with NETosis in COVID-19 severity risk
Dr Anna Coussens, Dr George Ashdown

Min Hoo
How platelets prevent neonatal stroke
Dr Samir Taoudi, Dr Alison Fairley

Niva Jayakrishnan
Using nanobodies against transferrin receptor for drug delivery across the blood brain barrier
Professor Wai-Hong Tham, Dr Gabby Watson

Harry McLeod
Juxtacrine features governing type I homodimeric cytokine receptor triggering
Associate Professor Melissa Call, Associate Professor Matthew Call, Dr Samyuktha Ramesh

Krishneel Prasad
Testing novel CAR T cells for brain cancer
Associate Professor Misty Jenkins, Dr Ryan Cross, Dr Alex Davenport

Muhab Rehman
Towards a novel approach to modulating Kir channel activity
Dr Jacqui Gulbis, Dr Agalya Periasamy

Jasmine Jiwon Rou
Evaluating the effect of oligomerisation on the safety and efficacy of CAR T cell therapies
Associate Professor Melissa Call, Professor Matthew Call, Dr Ashleigh Davey

Erin Roycroft
Targeting CD98 as a novel treatment for rheumatoid arthritis
Dr Kate Martin, Professor Ian Wicks, Dr Cynthia Louis

Robert Tan
How lymphocytes are stopped - a novel mechanism to prevent lymphoma
Dr Susanne Heinzel, Professor Phil Hodgkin

Joshua Tong
Investigating new/novel connections of the mitochondrial TOM complex
Dr Jacqui Gulbis, Dr Agalya Periasamy

Pranavie Vijayakumar
Minimising rheumatic adverse events of checkpoint inhibitor cancer therapy
Professor Ian Wicks, Dr Cynthia Louis

Matthew Wierzbowski
Choosing antibody type: B cells as a model system for cellular calculation and signal induced fate control
Professor Phil Hodgkin, Dr Miles Horton, Dr Susanne Heinzel

Wencong (Kenneth) Wu
Naturally acquired immune response to malaria parasites
Dr Rheia Longley, Professor Ivo Mueller

Master of Philosophy, University of Melbourne

Soroor Hediyeh Zadeh
Statistical and machine learning models for estimation of missing values in label-free mass spectrometry quantification
Professor Melissa Davis, Associate Professor Andrew Webb

Bachelor of Science (Honours) or Bachelor of Biomedicine (Honours), University of Melbourne

Hanadi Hoblos
Doublecortin-like kinases, drug targets in cancer and neurological disorders
Professor Isabelle Lucei, Dr Josh Hardy, Dr Michael Roy

Robert Tan
How lymphocytes are stopped - a novel mechanism to prevent lymphoma
Dr Susanne Heinzel, Professor Phil Hodgkin

Joshua Tong
Investigating new/novel connections of the mitochondrial TOM complex
Dr Jacqui Gulbis, Dr Agalya Periasamy

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Wencong (Kenneth) Wu
Naturally acquired immune response to malaria parasites
Dr Rheia Longley, Professor Ivo Mueller

Master of Biomedical Science student Aisah Resti Amelia presents at the 2022 WEHI Student Symposium.
Operational overview

Guided by our 2019-2023 Strategic Plan and our long-term vision, WEHI maintained its focus on staff and student wellbeing, strengthening connectivity and building on activities that promote sustainability.

Enhancing flexibility and support
Reflecting the evolving dynamics of flexible and hybrid work, in 2022 WEHI:
• launched an online flexibility hub offering practical guidance for managers and teams
• educated staff and students about how to establish team protocols on communication and collaboration
• implemented a new principles-based flexible working policy.

Parents of young children face unique challenges in their careers and WEHI is committed to improving the experiences of parents and families. WEHI New Parents was established in 2022 as a peer support group for parents and carers of preschool aged children.
In December, the first cohort of children enrolled at the Professor Lynn Corcoran Early Learning Centre (ELC) graduated from four-year-old kindergarten. The 100-place ELC, operated by Froebel Australia, was the first on-site childcare centre at an Australian independent medical research institute when it opened in 2018.

Governance, ethics and integrity
Integrity and accountability are fundamental WEHI values. We recognise the importance of good governance, risk management, compliance and ethical practice in supporting research and ensuring sustainability. Three new and updated policies were launched in 2022 – Research Integrity, Conflict of Interest, Private Outside Work – strengthening our commitment to ethical practices and a values-based culture.

In 2022, former Board member Peter Collins was appointed as WEHI’s Head, Research Integrity and Ethics (Specialist), working in partnership with Associate Professor Ian Majewski, Head, Research Integrity and Ethics, and our Governance, Risk and Compliance team to develop, implement and continually improve our research and business practices to achieve the highest possible standards.

Honorary Research Fellow and former WEHI deputy director Professor David Vaux AO was the inaugural recipient of an Australian Academy of Science award for research integrity. The award is named in his honour, acknowledging his commitment over many years to fostering and promoting integrity in science.

Enabling research and innovation
Creative and visionary thinking across WEHI was boosted in 2022 by the launch of the new Co-Lab: Platform Collaboration Grants, funded by a generous bequest to WEHI from the Estates of John Thompson and Mary Helena Thompson. These grants fund innovative and ambitious research collaborations between WEHI’s platform technology and laboratory scientists. The new scheme complements existing internal grant schemes: the Clinical Translation Grant, also funded by the Mary Helena Thompson Bequest, and the Eve Mahlab Awards for Blue Sky Research, supported by a generous gift from the Mahlab family.

WEHI’s Technology Strategy is a 10-year plan that aims to build capacity in new technology, and to develop and support researchers to deliver high-impact, world-class research and translation. In 2022, strategy implementation focused on developing processes for the annual evaluation of technology areas and maximising the benefits of investments in new high-impact technology, with the assistance of funding from donors.
Drug discovery relies on access to ‘libraries’ of chemical compounds. A new, Australian-first Compound Storage Facility installed by WEHI’s talented engineers and logisticians in 2022 now provides researchers with valuable direct on-site access to these compounds, enhancing future drug discovery efforts.

Growth and expansion
To accommodate growth, most of WEHI’s Professional Services teams relocated to a vibrant campus in Elizabeth Street, at the southern end of Melbourne’s expanding biomedical and education precinct.
• Design of the “E-Street” campus facilitates flexible working models, with collaborative working zones and spaces for hybrid meetings.
• Relocation enabled reorganisation and expansion of facilities and experimental laboratories at our Parkville campus.

WEHI’s new “E-Street” campus.
Advancing reconciliation

During National Reconciliation Week, WEHI was thrilled to announce a three-year partnership with leading First Nations not-for-profit, DeadlyScience, to foster the next generation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander scientists.

- WEHI and DeadlyScience are working to co-design and deliver science-based programs and activities for First Nations school students.
- Projects in development aim to embed and expand initiatives at WEHI to build a pipeline for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across different levels and entry points.
- This is the first DeadlyScience partnership with a medical research institute and the first partnership created under its DeadlyPathways program.
- The partnership builds on WEHI’s strategic commitment to increasing participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples at all levels in the organisation, following the launch of its first Indigenous Employment Strategy in 2021.

Gender equality

Taking action to promote an inclusive, safe and respectful workplace where all people can thrive is at the heart of WEHI’s values.

- Australian climate change scientist Distinguished Professor Lesley Hughes delivered WEHI’s 2022 International Women’s Day address, in line with the UN theme ‘Changing climates: Equality today for a sustainable tomorrow’.
- WEHI marked 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence for the eighth consecutive year, with advocacy encouraging all staff and students to actively contribute to fostering a workplace where everyone feels safe, respected and valued.
- WEHI undertook a comprehensive staff and student consultation to inform work to strengthen our workplace behaviour framework, including the development of a new stand-alone sexual harassment policy.
- WEHI was proud to be part of the Champions of Change Coalition 2022 Impact Report, showing the many ways we are taking action to accelerate gender equality. The Impact Report is believed to be the largest voluntary disclosure of gender equality actions and measures globally.
A better place to work and study

In 2022, the Fair Work Commission approved the One WEHI Enterprise Agreement, supported by the overwhelming majority of eligible staff. The agreement came into operation in April and has reduced the complexity of WEHI’s employment conditions.

Staff and students shared their feedback on how to make WEHI a better place to work and study through our 2022 ‘WEHI Voice’ culture survey. The results showed improvement and progress in safety, career paths and capability since the 2021 survey and highlighted areas of focus to help drive our people-related strategies and initiatives.

The launch of a new online learning platform offered our staff and students access to a greater range of professional development courses, with a user-friendly interface and a more dynamic learning experience.

Progress on sustainability

As part of our Environmental Management and Sustainability Strategy (2021-2023), WEHI has committed to achieving carbon neutrality and improving key environmental sustainability outcomes.

In 2022, WEHI joined the Climate and Health Alliance (CAHA), Australia’s national peak body on climate and health. Joining CAHA is part of WEHI’s commitment to demonstrate leadership on climate change, and to contribute to shared advocacy and action to address its health impacts.

A dedicated environmental sustainability coordinator was appointed to lead initiatives agreed by the Environmental Management and Sustainability Committee including:

• completing a WEHI-wide waste audit and gathering data for a greenhouse gas audit to support a data-driven approach to achieving net zero emissions
• driving leadership across the sector, including convening the first meeting of the Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes’ (AAMRI) Environmental Sustainability Network and presenting at the AAMRI Annual Convention on reducing waste in medical research institutes
• boosting staff and student engagement with environmental sustainability activities.

WEHI Voice

Culture survey deepens engagement

5930 comments

869 respondents

8.6/10 for flexibility

8.4/10 for challenging opportunities

8.1/10 for diversity & inclusion

Fostering inclusion

WEHI is committed to fostering a vibrant workplace where everyone is welcome to contribute and encouraged to bring their whole self in a safe, supportive environment.

• On International Pronouns Day, our LGBTQIA+ network WE-Pride invited the WEHI community to a director’s seminar featuring conversations with guest speakers Elysa Carr and Dr Mohammad Tata on what it means to choose pronouns beyond the binary.

• WEHI and the Burnet Institute stood together to affirm support for the transgender and gender diverse community, in a joint statement celebrating diversity and our commitment to LGBTQIA+ inclusion.

Energy reduction

LED upgrade across 3 campuses

70% cut in power consumed by lighting

One of WEHI’s biggest energy reduction projects

WEHI staff, students, friends and alumni joined the 27th annual Midsumma Pride March to show their support for our LGBTQIA+ community.
Reconnecting with alumni

After two years of restrictions on gatherings and travel, 2022 marked the return of in-person events and opportunities to re-establish and strengthen ties with our WEHI alumni.

- At our first in-person alumni event for 2022, WEHI biomedical animator Dr Drew Berry explained what goes into creating accessible, illuminating and enlightening animations of the molecular mechanisms that power living cells.

- Dr Sofonias Tessema of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, who undertook his PhD at WEHI, joined deputy director Professor Alan Cowman AC and Professor Wai-Hong Tham in a webinar to discuss the challenges of building a continent-wide genomic disease surveillance network. Dr Tessema also featured as a “Hero in the Field” in a video posted by technology pioneer and philanthropist Bill Gates on his YouTube channel.

- We launched WEMentor, a program in which alumni are encouraged to mentor current PhD researchers at various stages of their candidature.

Expanding our consumer engagement

WEHI’s Consumer Program – the largest of its kind in Australian medical research – continues to expand, with 93 consumers embedded in labs across the institute. Two new Consumer Program Coordinator roles were created in 2022, to meet the growing demand for consumer involvement in grant applications, focus groups and steering committees. Active consumer participation in research remains a focus for WEHI and a requirement for many funding bodies, supporting the ongoing growth of the program.

25 years of Art of Science

WEHI celebrated the 25th anniversary of our Art of Science competition and exhibition with a focus on inspiring the next generation of budding scientists.

- A selection of 20 captivating still and moving images captured by WEHI researchers gave viewers an intimate glimpse into milestone biomedical discoveries, with winners selected by Guest Judge Corey Tutt OAM, CEO and Founder of DeadlyScience.

- A specially commissioned 15-minute soundscape composed by students in the Interactive Composition program at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, University of Melbourne, played in the virtual Art of Science gallery.

Student Open Days

In-person and online events

Attendance up 35%

Prospective students from 33 countries
WEHI Board

The directors of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research Board
31 December 2022

President
Jane Hemstritch AO
BSc (Hons) London University
FICAEW FICAANZ FAICD
Appointed: October 2013
Appointed President: May 2019

Vice President
Professor Sir John Savill
BA Oxford MBChB Sheffield PhD
London FRCP FRCPE FRCSEd (Hon) FRCPCH(Hon) FASN FRSE
FMedSci FAHMS FRS
Appointed: June 2018
Appointed Vice-President: March 2021

Honorary Treasurer
Robert Wylie
FCA FAICD
Appointed: April 2014
Appointed Honorary Treasurer: April 2014

Board members
Malcolm Broomhead AO
BE (Civil) MBA UQ FIE (Aus)
FAusIMM FAIM MICE (UK) FAICD
Appointed: July 2014

Associate Professor (Practice) Pippa Connolly
MEng Leeds GAICD CPEng FiEAust
Appointed: April 2019

John Dyson
BSc Monash Grad Dip Fin Inv SIA
MBA RMIT
Appointed: May 2016

Professor Jane Gunn
MBBS PhD Melbourne FAHMS
FRACGP DRANZCOG
Appointed: February 2021
Board members not present in group photograph: Malcolm Broomhead AO (top right) and Kee Wong (bottom right).

**Professor Christine Kilpatrick AO**  
MBBS MBA MD DMedSci (Hons)  
Melbourne FRACP FRACMA FAICD FAHMS  
Appointed: May 2017

**Professor James McCluskey AO**  
BMedSc MBBS MD UWA FRACP  
Exec MBA AGSM  
Appointed: April 2011

**Marie McDonald**  
BSc (Hons) LLB (Hons) Melbourne  
Appointed: October 2016

**Geoff Roberts**  
BComm Melbourne FCA FAICD  
Exec MBA AGSM  
Appointed: August 2022

**Carolyn Viney**  
LLB/BA Monash  
Appointed: December 2016

**Dr Angeli Weller**  
BA(Hons) Mount Holyoke MBA  
Cambridge PhD Copenhagen Business School  
Appointed: February 2022

**Kee Wong**  
BE (Hons) Grad Dip Computing MBA  
FAICD  
Appointed: July 2021
Organisational structure 31 December 2022

Board committees
- Advocacy and Support Committee
- Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee
- Commercialisation Committee
- Ethical Practice and Integrity Committee
- Human Research Ethics Committee
- Master Planning Committee
- Investment Committee
- People and Culture Committee

Director
Professor Douglas Hilton AO

Board

Chief Operating Officer
Carolyne MacDonald

Chief Financial Officer
Alistair Brown

Chief People Officer
Elizabeth McMahon

Chief Information Officer
Michael Carolin

Head, Biotechnology and Commercialisation
Dr Anne-Laure Puaux

Head, Communications and Marketing
Megan Auld

Head, Facilities
Steve Droste

Head, Governance, Risk and Compliance
Jon Kirby

Head, Laboratory Operations
Dr Helene Martin

Head, Legal and Licensing
Chella Niall

Head, Philanthropy
Deborah Carr

Head, Research Grants and Development
Dr Sejal Kendal

Theme: Cancer Research and Treatments
Theme Leaders
Professor Warren Alexander
Professor Andrew Roberts AM

Research divisions
ACRF Cancer Biology and Stem Cells
Professor Geoff Lindeman
Professor Jane Visvader

Blood Cells and Blood Cancer
Professor Andreas Strasser

Personalised Oncology
Associate Professor Marie-Liesse Asselin-Labat
Professor Peter Gibbs

Theme: Computational Biology
Theme Leader
Professor Tony Papenfuss

Research division
Bioinformatics
Associate Professor Melissa Davis
Professor Gordon Smyth

Organisational structure

ACRF Cancer Biology and Stem Cells
Dr Yunshun Chen
Associate Professor Naiyang Fu
Professor Geoff Lindeman
Professor Clare Scott
Associate Professor Kate Sutherland
Professor Jane Visvader

ACRF Chemical Biology
Associate Professor Ethan Goddard-Borger
Professor Guillaume Lessene
Associate Professor Isabelle Luot
Dr Brad Stebb

Advanced Technology and Biology
Dr Rory Bowden
Dr Marija Drenicanin
Dr Kym Lowes
Simon Monard
Associate Professor Kelly Rogers
Ellen Tiu
Associate Professor Andrew Webb
Kaye Wycherley

Bioinformatics
Associate Professor Melissa Davis
Professor Tony Papenfuss
Dr Belinda Phipson
Professor Gordon Smyth
Professor Terry Speed

Blood Cells and Blood Cancer
Professor Warren Alexander
Dr Nadia Davidson
Professor Marco Hombre
Professor Douglas Hilton AO
Professor David Huang
Associate Professor Gemma Kelly
Associate Professor Ruth Kluck
Associate Professor Ian Majewski
Professor Andrew Roberts AM
Professor Andreas Strasser
Professor Andrew Wei

Clinical Translation
Professor Clare Scott
Professor Ian Wicks

Epigenetics and Development
Professor Marnie Blewitt
Associate Professor Joan Heath
Dr Hannish King
Professor Matthew Ritchie
Dr Samir Taucul
Associate Professor Tim Thomas
Dr Stephanie Vervoort
Professor Anne Voss
Members of WEHI to 31 December 2022

The Royal Melbourne Hospital
The University of Melbourne
Dr Susan Alberti AC
Professor Emeritus Robin Anders
Professor James Angus AO
Donald Argus AC
Barry Axtens
Lisa Bardas
Paul Barnett
Helen Barry
Ann Bates
Robert Bates
Dr Elsmaree Baxter
Dr Glenn Begley
Professor Claude Bernard
Marc Besen AC
Professor Rufus Black
Ngaree Blow
Malcolm Broomhead AO
Professor Graham Brown AM
Rosalind Brown
Beverley Brownstein
Dr Gerard Brownstein
Sally Bruce
Ian Brumby
John Brumby AO
Dr Margaret Brumby AM
Professor Tony Burgess AC
Professor Christopher Burrell AO
Greg Camm
Terry Campbell AO
Kate Cannon
Saul Cannon
Dr Amanda Caples
Gill Carter
Pat Cashin
Emeritus Professor Colin Chapman
John Chatterton AM
Dr Julian Clark
Lady Susannah Clarke
Peter Collins
Pippa Connolly
Jacqui Cooper
Dr Paul Cooper
Glenn Corke
Ian Coulson
Dr Nicholas Croosie
Joan Curtis
Professor Andrew Cuthbertson AO
John Dahlsen
Stephen Daley
June Danks
Annette Davis
Leon Davis AO
Liz Dawes OAM
Professor Karen Day
Dr Simon de Burgh
Professor David de Kretser AC
Professor John Denton
Mick Dexter
Angelo Di Grazia
Helen Diamond
Melda Donnelly OAM
Professor Ashley Dunn
John Dyson
Roz Edmond
Dr Martin Elhay
Garry Emery
Dr Peter Eng
Professor Sir Marc Feldmann AC
Dr Wendy Fisher
Mike Fitzpatrick AO
Pauline Flanagan
Dr Sue Forrest
Professor Richard Fox AM
Nolene Fraser
Paul Fraser
Professor Ian Frazer AC
Ian Galbraith
Dr Neil Galbraith
Sarah Galbraith
Pamela Galli AO
Kelli Garrison
Dr Andrew Gearing
Louise Gehrig
Barry Gilbert
Janet Gilbertson
Peter Gilbertson
Rose Gilder
Professor James Goding
Charles Goode AC
Dr Gareth Goodier
Andrea Gowers
John Grace AO
Maureen Grant
Tony Gray
Sir Andrew Grimwade CBE
Jean Hadges
Professor Emanuela Handman
Michael Harris
Harry Hearn AM
Jane Hemstritch AO
Deborah Henderson
Professor David Hill AO
Janet Hirst
Jon Isaacs
Murray Jeffs
Jose Jimenez
Terese Johns
Professor Shitij Kapur
Helen Kennan
Rowan Kennedy
Margot Kilcullen
Rob Kilcullen
Professor Christine Kilpatrick AO
Emeritus Professor Frank Larkins AM
Professor Richard Larkins AC
Belinda Lawson
Gary Liddell
Dr Rowena MacKean OAM
Dr Alexander Macphee
Eve Mahlab AO
Robyn Male
Lorrie Mandel
Barrie Marshall
John Marshall AM
Josephine Marshall
Emeritus Professor Jack Martin AO
Erich Mayer AM
Netta McArthur
Professor James McCluskey AO
Marie McDonald
Professor John McKenzie AM
Kate McMahon
Tim McMahon
WEHI remembers those members who passed away in 2022

Col Tom Hall CVO, OBE
Darvell Hutchinson AM
Dr Judith Mitchell
Colin North AM
Lady Lyn Nossal
John Pye
## Statistical summary

<table>
<thead>
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<th>2022</th>
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<td><strong>Operating revenue</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Australian Government</td>
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<td>59,900</td>
<td>64,798</td>
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<td>Victorian Government</td>
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<td>Foreign governments</td>
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<td><strong>Government revenue</strong></td>
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<td>Philanthropic grants and fellowships - Australia</td>
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<td>Philanthropic grants and fellowships - international</td>
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<td>Investment income</td>
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<td>Royalty income</td>
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<tr>
<td>General revenue</td>
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<td>6,842</td>
<td>8,916</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donations and bequests</td>
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<td>28,227</td>
<td>26,522</td>
<td>15,449</td>
<td>14,766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royalty monetisation revenue</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>38,961</td>
<td>35,633</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-government revenue</strong></td>
<td>111,528</td>
<td>122,839</td>
<td>121,933</td>
<td>117,068</td>
<td>86,881</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total revenue</strong></td>
<td>178,437</td>
<td>192,657</td>
<td>197,042</td>
<td>173,949</td>
<td>142,869</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operating expenditure</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff costs</td>
<td>121,581</td>
<td>109,662</td>
<td>102,547</td>
<td>98,340</td>
<td>90,493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific laboratories</td>
<td>26,535</td>
<td>24,561</td>
<td>20,212</td>
<td>23,435</td>
<td>23,390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building operations</td>
<td>6,254</td>
<td>5,585</td>
<td>5,092</td>
<td>5,908</td>
<td>5,601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>13,233</td>
<td>14,716</td>
<td>11,520</td>
<td>8,648</td>
<td>6,715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>911</td>
<td>518</td>
<td>502</td>
<td>620</td>
<td>475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business development</td>
<td>2,355</td>
<td>9,200</td>
<td>2,725</td>
<td>1,219</td>
<td>1,261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allowance for credit loss increase/(decrease)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(32)</td>
<td>(30)</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royalty monetisation costs</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(4,418)</td>
<td>2,239</td>
<td>10,104</td>
<td>4,755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net foreign exchange loss/(gain)</td>
<td>(6,413)</td>
<td>(6,969)</td>
<td>10,282</td>
<td>477</td>
<td>(4,998)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenditure</strong></td>
<td>164,456</td>
<td>155,123</td>
<td>155,089</td>
<td>148,813</td>
<td>128,080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Results from operating activities</strong></td>
<td>13,981</td>
<td>37,534</td>
<td>41,953</td>
<td>25,136</td>
<td>14,789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other income</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Profit/(loss) on sale of long-term assets</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>(135)</td>
<td>297</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair value gain/(loss) on investments</td>
<td>(8,432)</td>
<td>10,549</td>
<td>816</td>
<td>5,261</td>
<td>(589)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share of profits/(loss) of equity accounted investments</td>
<td>2,011</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain on merger</td>
<td>4,068</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations and bequests capitalised to Permanent Funds</td>
<td>1,620</td>
<td>26,659</td>
<td>673</td>
<td>1,359</td>
<td>6,510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total other income</strong></td>
<td>(733)</td>
<td>37,369</td>
<td>1,354</td>
<td>6,917</td>
<td>5,923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other expenses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation and amortisation</td>
<td>(13,746)</td>
<td>(12,959)</td>
<td>(11,871)</td>
<td>(10,941)</td>
<td>(9,368)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impairment of property, plant and equipment</td>
<td>(142)</td>
<td>(4,422)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total other expenses</strong></td>
<td>(13,888)</td>
<td>(17,381)</td>
<td>(11,871)</td>
<td>(10,941)</td>
<td>(9,368)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net operating surplus</strong></td>
<td>(640)</td>
<td>57,522</td>
<td>31,436</td>
<td>21,112</td>
<td>11,344</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Capital funds**        |          |          |          |          |          |
| Permanent invested capital funds | 240,122 | 229,672  | 202,322  | 196,833  | 194,181  |
| General funds            | 408,197  | 419,077  | 394,285  | 371,193  | 377,710  |
| Royalty fund             | 55,822   | 56,389   | 56,135   | 55,039   | 48,054   |
| Leadership fund          | 35,259   | 30,225   | 28,927   | 27,965   | 26,557   |
| Discovery fund           | 6,341    | 5,746    | 5,484    | 5,271    | 4,961    |
| Investment revaluation reserve | 82,526  | 125,876  | 70,311   | 67,200   | 8,211    |
| **Total funds**          | 828,267  | 866,987  | 757,464  | 725,501  | 659,674  |
| **Capital expenditure**  |          |          |          |          |          |
| Property, plant and equipment | 15,266   | 15,710   | 24,195   | 12,252   | 22,029   |
| **Staff numbers: (equivalent full-time)** | 2022   | 2021     | 2020     | 2019     | 2018     |

| Scientific research staff: |          |          |          |          |          |
| - Senior faculty           | 82       | 74       | 85       | 87       | 80       |
| - Postdoctoral scientists  | 276      | 252      | 224      | 213      | 199      |
| - Visiting scientists      | 12       | 8        | 32       | 34       | 36       |
| - Other laboratory research staff | 329   | 313      | 234      | 235      | 241      |

| Supporting staff:          |          |          |          |          |          |
| - Other support services   | 211      | 180      | 204      | 202      | 196      |
| **Total staff and visiting scientists** | 910     | 827      | 779      | 771      | 752      |
| **Students**               | 197      | 194      | 159      | 206      | 192      |
| **Papers published**      | 484      | 477      | 424      | 388      | 417      |
The year at a glance

### Income
- Australian Government: 32%
- Victorian Government: 5%
- Philanthropic grants, fellowships - Australia: 6%
- Philanthropic grants, fellowships - overseas: 3%
- Donations and bequests: 18%
- Other income: 16%
- Investment income: 20%

### Expenditure
- Scientific laboratories: 55%
- Business development: 3%
- Strategic initiatives: 13%
- Fundraising: 2%
- Administration: 16%
- Support laboratories: 11%

### The Year In Brief

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income for operations</td>
<td>$178,437</td>
<td>$192,092</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditure in operations</td>
<td>$185,086</td>
<td>$176,276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net surplus (deficit) from operations</td>
<td>$(6,649)</td>
<td>$15,816</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of staff and visiting scientists</td>
<td>910</td>
<td>778</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of postgraduate students</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total staff and students (FTEs)</td>
<td>1,107</td>
<td>937</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Community and connection

The extended WEHI community came together to celebrate the 90th birthday of former director, and honorary governor and patron, Sir Gustav Nossal AC CBE, in late May. MC for the night, ABC presenter and science journalist Natasha Mitchell, joined current and former WEHI board and committee members and directors, philanthropic supporters, partners from government and industry, WEHI senior staff, Sir Gus’s family and his former colleagues for a memorable dinner at the National Gallery of Victoria.

Photos: Gena Ferguson.

The first WEHI babies to be enrolled at the Professor Lynn Corcoran Early Learning Centre (ELC) graduated from four-year-old kindergarten in December. The ELC opened in 2018 with support from philanthropic donors, government, WEHI board, committee members and staff who helped make the vision a reality. Board member and donor John Dyson has described the childcare centre as one of WEHI’s biggest contributions to medical research.

Pictured: Associate Professor Tracy Putoczki (left) with son Thomas and Dr Kate Jarman (right) with daughter Maddie.
Supporters who choose to leave gifts to WEHI in their Wills are welcomed into the Walter and Eliza Hall Society – a group of like-minded people who enjoy a range of opportunities to engage with our scientists and hear about their research efforts. In July, members gathered for a high tea at the Arts Centre Melbourne and heard presentations from researchers Associate Professor Joanna Groom and Dr Rebecca Feltham.

Pictured: Society members Helen Barry and Noël Sumner with Noël’s daughter, Nicole Sumner, and WEHI director Professor Doug Hilton AO.

The Brain Cancer Centre’s inaugural National Conference brought together the brain cancer community for insightful and inspiring conversations with research partners, collaborators, experts and families.

Speakers included Carrie Bickmore OAM, Founder and Chair, Carrie’s Beanies 4 Brain Cancer Foundation, and Jaala Pulford, then Victorian Minister for Innovation, Medical Research and the Digital Economy.

The WEHI community was saddened by the passing in July of Lady Lyn Nossal, wife of Sir Gustav Nossal (WEHI director 1965–1996). Originally trained as a speech therapist, Lady Nossal later studied fine arts and history and held various roles in the Australian arts community, including as assistant director of the Ian Potter Museum at the University of Melbourne. A member of WEHI, a regular attendee at WEHI events and a passionate WEHI donor, Lady Nossal was also a patron of the arts and a strong supporter of free speech.

Pictured: Lady Lyn Nossal and Sir Gustav Nossal at the opening of the redeveloped WEHI building in 2012.