



MENZIES RESEARCH
INSTITUTE TASMANIA
Annual Report 2010

*To conduct
innovative,
world-class
medical research
to improve
human health
and wellbeing*

*Our ultimate
goal is to cure
or prevent disease
and save lives*



Contents

Chairman's and Director's Report	2
Board and Senior Management Team	5
Research Highlights	6
Building Developments	14
Education and Training	16
ACRF Tasmanian Inherited Cancer Centre	18
Wicking Dementia Research and Education Centre	20
Key Financial Results	22

Chairman's and Director's Report



Dr Dan Norton, Chairman

In 2010, Menzies Research Institute Tasmania continued to build upon its research excellence, contributing to improvements in both local and global health.

In January, the final stage of the move into the new building, Medical Science 1 (MS1) was completed, bringing staff and students

together under the one roof. The move into the new building has enabled greater levels of collaboration between research groups and a first-class training facility for students.

It was also a year of distinguished visitors to Menzies. In March, we welcomed the Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, and Parliamentary Secretary for Health, Mark Butler, who toured MS1 and viewed the plans for Stage Two, Medical Science 2 (MS2). The Federal Government awarded the University of Tasmania \$44.7 million from the Health and Hospitals Fund (HHF) health infrastructure package for the development of MS2.

Growth and Development

In 2010, Menzies entered another exciting phase of growth and development.

Financial performance was sound given the challenging environment in 2010. Total revenue for the year was \$22.8 million, an increase of nearly 12 per cent from \$20.4 million in 2009.

Grant income increased nearly 16 per cent to \$13.4 million reflecting the quality and competitiveness of Menzies' research grant applications.

We continued to expand our team, with staff and student levels increasing from 325 in 2009, to 361 in 2010. In December, we welcomed Professor Heinrich Korner, the final new research fellow to be appointed under the UTAS "New Stars" strategy. Professor Korner's area of research expertise is cellular immunology. He will provide an important interface between many immunology projects looking at either autoimmune disease or infectious agents.

With our increased size and diverse expertise, we are now in a position to tackle very significant issues in conditions such as cancer, cardiovascular disease, dementia, multiple sclerosis, and many other common diseases affecting our community.

Research Highlights

Over the past year, Menzies produced a number of significant research findings, contributing to advancements in both local and global health.

During 2010 we announced a world-first discovery that revealed specific nerve cells in undamaged parts of the brain can remodel themselves in response to acquired brain injury.

We released findings from two major publications relating to multiple sclerosis (MS) that showed further insight into the disease by identifying that higher vitamin D levels are associated with lower relapse risk in MS; and confirming the presence of a strong latitudinal gradient of MS prevalence in New Zealand.

In 2010, Menzies achieved advancements in research into cancer and heart disease. Dr Elizabeth Tegg from our cancer genetics team provided further evidence of a common genetic basis in high-risk families with multiple blood cancer subtypes. PhD student, Kylie Smith published research findings that highlighted skipping breakfast over a long period of time may increase the risk of heart disease and diabetes.



Chairman's and Director's Report



Professor Simon Foote,
Director

Other significant research findings for the year were made into dementia, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, devil facial tumour disease, meconium aspiration syndrome and the identification of risk factors associated with jockey falls by licensed jockeys participating in flat races. The findings from these research studies – outlined

in greater detail in this Report – have the potential to transform the lives of thousands for the better.

ACRF Tasmanian Inherited Cancer Centre Official Opening

A major highlight for the year was the official opening of the Australian Cancer Research Foundation (ACRF) Tasmanian Inherited Cancer Centre at Menzies. Our researchers now have access to some of the world's leading cancer technology. The Centre's research will focus on cancer in which family history is a high risk factor, including prostate cancer and blood cancers.

Stage Two Building Works

A further highlight for 2010 was the commencement of Stage Two building works. This \$90 million project will ensure Tasmania's strong position in health and medical research into the future.

Stage 2 incorporates Medical Science 2 (MS2), an extension to Medical Science 1 (MS1), a 250-seat lecture theatre and a basement carpark. The project will transform the site into a comprehensive medical research precinct. The expansion will intensify the pace of translating new scientific discoveries into more effective diagnostics, treatments and preventative strategies.

Key Partners

We wish to acknowledge a number of major organisations that support our work including: the University of Tasmania, The Atlantic Philanthropies, the Menzies Foundation, the Federal Government, the State Government, The Royal Hobart Hospital, Australian Cancer Research Foundation and The Wicking Trust (JO & JR Wicking Trust). A full list of all our major supporters can be found on our website www.menzies.utas.edu.au

The commitment of our Board members, staff and students to achieving the Institute's vision must not go unnoticed. We thank them for their extraordinary commitment, hard work and belief that the work we do is making a real difference to the lives of people.

Our last word must be one of thanks and deep gratitude to our generous supporters and volunteers. Much of our growth is underpinned by the support we receive from our donors and this year more than ever, we have seen an enormous increase in this support.

We look forward to sharing with you the challenges and opportunities ahead of us in 2011.

Dr Dan Norton
Chair

Professor Simon Foote
Director

Board and Senior Management Team

Board Directors as at 31 December 2010

Dr Dan Norton (Chairman)

Dr David Boadle

Professor Simon Foote

The Hon Sir Guy Green AC KBE CVO

Professor Jonathan West

Professor Judith Whitworth AC

Professor Bob Williamson AO

Senior Management Team as at 31 December 2010

Professor Simon Foote (Chair)

Ms Kate Brown

Dr Adele Holloway

Associate Professor Stephen Rattigan

Professor David Small

Dr Ingrid van der Mei

Professor Alison Venn

Professor Adrian West

Associate Professor Richard Wood-Baker

Profiles available at www.menzies.utas.edu.au



Research Highlights

Neuroscience *Brain Injury*

Menzies' researchers discovered that specific nerve cells in undamaged parts of the brain can remodel themselves in response to acquired brain injury. The study led by Menzies' Member and Senior Research Fellow Dr Tracey Dickson and her PhD student Catherine Blizzard was published in the internationally renowned neuroscience journal *Cerebral Cortex*. This study was the first to describe how natural brain remodelling and healing in undamaged parts of the brain may improve an outcome after acquired forms of brain injury. The research team is now trying to identify ways in which this healing response can be encouraged, which could form the basis of new therapies for acquired brain injury.

Multiple Sclerosis (MS)

Menzies' MS researchers have shown for the first time that higher levels of vitamin D are associated with a lower relapse risk in multiple MS sufferers.

The Southern Tasmanian Multiple Sclerosis Longitudinal Study was a population-based cohort study involving 145 participants with relapsing-remitting MS from 2002 to 2005. By observing people with MS over a two and a half year period, they found that people had a lower likelihood

of a relapse if they had higher levels of vitamin D. Results indicated that clinically raising higher 25-hydroxyvitamin D levels by 50nmol/l could halve the relapse risk in MS. The study was published in the international renowned journal *Annals of Neurology*.

Cancer *Devil Facial Tumour Disease*

Menzies' Associate Professor Greg Woods in collaboration with researchers from the Australian National University and the Walter & Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, discovered that the cells that protect nerves, Schwann cells, are the likely origin of the deadly Devil Facial Tumour Disease (DFTD) found in Tasmanian Devils. The discovery is significant as there are currently no specific diagnostic tests, treatments or vaccines available for the disease. The Schwann cell research was conducted as part of the Save the Tasmanian Devil Program's efforts to further explore DFTD. The results were published in the international journal, *Science*.

Blood Cancer

Through the Tasmanian Familial Haematological Malignancies Study our cancer genetics team identified certain Tasmanian families where an increase in incidence of blood cancers

was evident. Further evidence for a common genetic predisposition in these high-risk families was obtained through analysis of the degree of relatedness observed amongst individuals diagnosed with different sub-types of blood cancers. A further finding from the study was that for some families, diagnosis with a blood cancer appears to be occurring at a younger age for each successive generation.



Multiple Sclerosis research team

Research Highlights

Cardiovascular Hypertension

Menzies' Professor Mark Nelson and Dr James Sharman participated in a national collaborative study which discovered new information relating to the diagnosis and management of hypertension using blood pressure measured at regular intervals over 24 hours (ambulatory). The study published in the *British Medical Journal* provided valuable data that assisted in the development of new Australian ambulatory blood pressure monitoring guidelines.

Heart Disease and Skipping Breakfast

A world-first study, conducted by Menzies' PhD student Kylie Smith, found skipping breakfast over a long period of time may increase the risk of heart disease and diabetes. Previous studies have already shown eating breakfast is good for weight management, but this study shows that eating breakfast is also good for reducing other risk factors for heart disease and diabetes such as blood insulin and cholesterol levels, independently of weight.

The investigation was part of the national Childhood Determinants of Adult Health (CDAH) study. Over 2,000 participants nationwide were involved with the

breakfast skipping study, with a 20 year follow-up from childhood to early adulthood.

Population Health and Epidemiology Risk Factors Associated with Jockey Falls

Menzies' PhD student Peta Hitchens investigated factors associated with falls by licensed thoroughbred racing jockeys participating in flat races conducted in Australia between August 2002 and July 2006. Ms Hitchens' research demonstrated that jockey and horse experience are important factors in assessing risk of falls and injuries, as are factors that may be indicators of competitive racing. Factors found to be associated with falls included sex of the jockey, being an apprentice jockey, being an amateur jockey, the number of previous rides by the jockey that day, younger horse age, drier track rating, shorter race distance, smaller field size, lower race grade and lower prize money on offer. These findings, if confirmed, could form the basis for formulating strategies to improve occupational health and safety standards in the thoroughbred racing industry.

The paper was published in the international journal *Occupational & Environmental Medicine*.



Peta Hitchens' research demonstrated that jockey and horse experience are important factors in assessing risk of falls and injuries

Research Highlights

Respiratory

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

Research conducted by Menzies has shown that changes to the way paramedics use oxygen when treating patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) could reduce the death rate in these patients by up to 78 per cent. Researchers found that the risk of death in patients with COPD was significantly reduced by using controlled oxygen therapy instead of the standard approach of high concentration levels of oxygen. The findings provide the first high quality evidence from a randomised controlled trial for the development of new universal guidelines on oxygen therapy for patients with chronic lung disease. This study was published in the prestigious *British Medical Journal*.

Meconium Aspiration Syndrome

An international study co-ordinated by Menzies has shown that babies with meconium aspiration syndrome (MAS) who received therapeutic lung cleansing had a lower mortality rate than those who received only standard care. The study led by Menzies' Honorary Fellow, Associate Professor Peter Dargaville, showed groups of babies with MAS who received lavage had a lower mortality rate of 10 per cent compared with 23 per cent in the group who received only standard care. In particular, the survival rate without needing heart lung bypass (ECMO) was better amongst babies treated with lavage than in those receiving standard care. This study

has potential implications in all centres worldwide looking after infants with MAS, especially centres that can offer high level supportive treatment, but not ECMO. The findings of the trial were published in the international journal, *The Journal of Paediatrics*.

Publications

The number of original peer-reviewed research articles published in 2010 by Menzies increased by 35 per cent. This includes a continued increase in the number of publications in journals with an impact factor greater than 10. This is particularly gratifying, as nationally and internationally more emphasis is now placed on the quality of research publications, as reflected in the Federal Government's current policies for funding allocation.

Grant and Fellowship Successes

Menzies continued its success in attracting competitive research grants in the past 12 months. Competitive grant income grew by 17 per cent from \$9.8 million in 2009 to \$11.5 million in 2010.

Menzies received \$3.7 million in Project grants and \$1 million in Research Fellowships through the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for research commencing in 2011. This outcome reflects the quality of research performed by the Institute. Menzies won these grants in a highly competitive environment and the exceptional level of success takes the State's medical research reputation to a new height.

The new funding will enable our researchers to further their work into Alzheimer's disease, motor neuron disease, insulin resistance and type 2 diabetes, autoimmune disease, long term maintenance of bone density in young women, the cause and prevention of chronic disease in Australia, promoting positive staff-family relationships in residential aged care, and the efficacy of text messages to aid smoking cessation.

One of the Project Grants awarded was to Dr Michelle Keske (\$395,518) over three-years, for her research into Green tea and insulin sensitivity. Dr Keske hopes to determine whether the bioactive compound in green tea (called EGCG) can reduce insulin resistance by enhancing the ability of insulin to open very small blood vessels (capillaries) in muscle. Opening more capillaries will help glucose to be stored in muscle, thus alleviating insulin resistance. Findings from this study may have important impacts on the management of insulin resistance and type 2 diabetes.



Dr Michelle Keske working in the laboratory

Research Highlights

NHMRC Project Grants Awarded in 2010

The Healthy Brain Project: A prospective cohort study to examine how later-life university education may affect the trajectory of ageing-related cognitive decline

Professor James Vickers, Senior Member and Professorial Research Fellow, \$1,031,000

Efficacy of education and advice delivered by text message to aid smoking cessation

Dr Stuart Ferguson, Honorary Senior Research Fellow (joint project with School of Pharmacy), \$518,000

CCR6 on lymphocytes

Professor Heinrich Korner, Senior Member and New Star Professor in Medical Research, \$506,000

Green tea and insulin sensitivity

Dr Michelle Keske, Member and Senior Research Fellow, \$396,000

Investigations of strategies to address long term maintenance of bone density in younger women: Fracture risk feedback and vitamin D

Dr Tania Winzenberg, Member and Senior Research Fellow, \$214,806

Role of excitotoxicity and distal axon degeneration in Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)

Dr Tracey Dickson, Member and Senior Research Fellow, \$379,000

Myelin loss in Alzheimer's disease

Professor James Vickers, Senior Member and Professorial Research Fellow, \$323,000

NHMRC Fellowships Awarded in 2010

NHMRC Research Fellowship: Epidemiological approaches to understanding the causes and prevention of chronic disease

Professor Alison Venn, Senior Member and Professorial Fellow, \$560,640

NHMRC Research Fellowship: Biochemistry and molecular biology of amyloidosis

Professor David Small, Senior Member and Professorial Fellow, \$630,505

NHMRC Translating Research Into Practice (TRIP) Fellowship: Promoting positive staff-family relationships in residential aged care

Ms Sharon Andrews, Research Associate, \$124,000

Australian Research Council (ARC) Future Fellowship Award

Menzies' Dr Ingrid van der Mei was one of six researchers at the University of Tasmania to be awarded an ARC Future Fellowship in 2010. Dr van der Mei was awarded \$570,000 over four years for research on multiple sclerosis, focusing on its causes and the lifestyle factors that affect the disease. Vitamin D supplementation will be trialled as a treatment as part of the project.

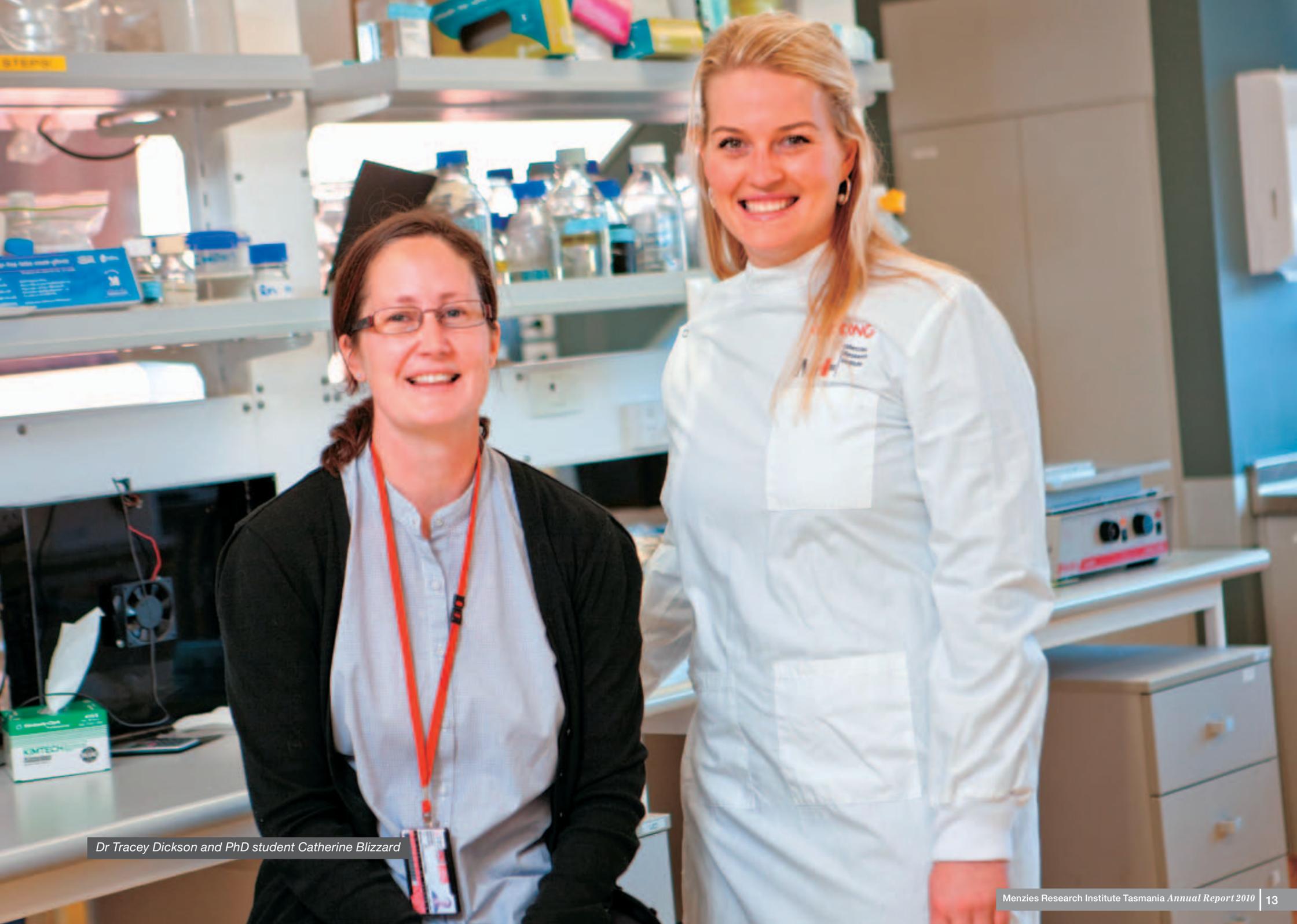
Other Research Highlights and Awards

Menzies continues to play a significant role in the development of health policy in Vietnam. Menzies is working in collaboration with the Vietnamese Ministry of Health to develop a national sustainable non-communicable disease (NCD) surveillance system for Vietnam.

Professor Simon Foote was awarded the title of Distinguished Professor, in recognition of his outstanding and sustained contribution in his field and to the University of Tasmania.

Associate Professor Greg Woods was awarded a Founding Fellowship from the Faculty of Science, Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia.

Alzheimer's Australia and Masonic Foundation Medical Research Foundation Fellow, Dr Jerome Staal, was a recipient of a Tasmanian Young Tall Poppy Award for his work into Alzheimer's disease.



Dr Tracey Dickson and PhD student Catherine Blizzard

Building Developments

The highly anticipated move into the new home of Menzies, Medical Science 1 (MS1), was completed early in 2010. The new modern environment nurtures and inspires the brilliant multidisciplinary teams tackling some of the most devastating human diseases.

MS1 Wins People's Choice Award

In 2010, MS1 received the People's Choice Award at the Tasmanian Chapter of the Australian Institute of Architects Awards. The building, designed by Lyons Architects, was recognised for its internal functionality to enable research, unique design elements, and a façade that reflects the surrounding mountains and Derwent River.

Stage Two Building Project

Menzies is now looking forward to the completion of the Stage Two Building Project in 2013. The \$90 million project has once again brought together builders, John Holland Fairbrother Joint Venture, and designers, Lyons Architects, who were responsible for the development of MS1.

Menzies received \$44.7 million from the Federal Government's Health and Hospitals Fund for the construction of MS2, with additional funding from the University of Tasmania, the Tasmanian Government and the Atlantic Philanthropies.

The Stage 2 works incorporate Medical Science 2 (MS2), an extension to Medical Science 1 (MS1), a 250 seat lecture theatre and a basement carpark. MS2 will be a six story tower with a basement level and will be an extension of MS1. The height of MS2 is proposed to be similar to MS1 to create further connectivity.

The project will transform the site into a comprehensive medical research precinct with a world-class biomedical and clinical research facility.

A focal connection point for the precinct will be the north facing landscape podium. This area is proposed as a spill-out space for students and will provide a strong link between all key buildings on the precinct.

The project will provide additional space for clinical research and facilities for students and staff.

This innovative expansion project will keep Menzies at the forefront internationally in biomedical research and clinical translation. The precinct will significantly increase the profile of medical research in Tasmania, making it a destination to attract leading professionals and their research to Tasmania.

Design of Medical Science 2

The building exterior design/façade was developed through a complex mapping process.

Eight prominent mountains in a 360 degree arc to the site were identified for the eight faces of the building. Next, the topographic line markings of these eight geographical features were wrapped on each face of the building.

The effect is literally like looking at a 'hiking map', with each of the curved lines mirroring the next around the contour and even stretches of water, including the Derwent River, expressed as flat blue sections in this pattern on the building.

As well as creating a striking decorative effect, the facade design is a critical functional feature, as it provides window sun-shading for the building. Fabricated from anodised aluminium, the topographical contour features angle across the windows providing adequate shading, and allowing light to penetrate, mimicking the dappled effect of overhead trees.



Artistic impression of the new Medical Science 2 building

Education and Training

As Menzies has grown to its iconic status within the Tasmanian community, so has our commitment to providing first-class training and education for Tasmania's future research scientists, clinicians and allied professionals. Menzies is the key institute in Tasmania for training future medical research scientists. As Menzies continues its growth and expansion, it will enable future career paths in Tasmania that would otherwise not exist. This opportunity will greatly encourage more students to seriously look at medical research as a career option in Tasmania.

Postdoctoral Appointments

Menzies has undertaken substantial growth in the number of postdoctoral appointments in recent years. Individual fellowships undertaken by Menzies postdoctoral fellows rose to 27 in 2010, compared to nine in 2006.

Undergraduate Research Training

Three University of Tasmania undergraduate students, Jayden Clark, Greta Goldsmith and Carly Sands, were awarded an Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP) Scholarship. The program provides undergraduate students with the opportunity to participate in research at Menzies during their final year at university.

Honours Students

Notable performances by Menzies' Honours students included Nicholas Blackburn, who was awarded the UTAS Vice Chancellor's Leadership Award. Nicholas is an Honours student who will commence his PhD in 2011 at Menzies.

Honours student, Gabby Brown attended the Australian Health and Medical Research Congress in Melbourne, where she was co-recipient of the Kumar Award, a prize awarded by the Molecular and Experimental Pathology Society of Australasia for the best undergraduate oral presentation.

Five Menzies' students volunteered for the Young Tassie Scientists for National Science Week. Each student presented a talk on their Honours research project to both primary and secondary schools around Tasmania.

Honours Scholarships

In 2010, 11 outstanding Menzies' Honours students received sponsored Honours Scholarships from a number of organisations and individuals.

Cancer Council Tasmania Scholarship

Jessica Collins, Cancer

Corporate Express Scholarship

Laura Wieczorski, Malaria

Menzies Research Institute Tasmania Scholarship

Sonia Nikolic, Cardiovascular

Helene Matterson Medical Research Scholarship

Nicholas Blackburn, Neuroscience

Helene Matterson Medical Research Scholarship

Elinor Hortle, Malaria

Jim Bacon Foundation Scholarship

Katherine Bowditch, Cancer

Mansfield Builders' Scholarship

Rosalind Herbert, Neuroscience

Diabetes Tasmania Scholarship

Hamish Scott, Diabetes

Heart Foundation Tasmania Scholarship in Cardiovascular Research

Laura Keith, Cardiovascular Disease

Morris Family Scholarship

Madeline Black, Cardiovascular Disease

Veolia Environmental Health Services Scholarship

Jody Cicolini, Skin Cancer

Postgraduate Students

Menzies had 53 PhD students as at the end of 2010. During 2010, seven PhD students and one Menzies Medical Doctorate student graduated; and six submitted their PhD theses for examination. Menzies also had two students enrolled in a Master of Medical Science.

Menzies students gave more than 15 presentations nationally and internationally, including:

Clare Smith presented a talk on antimalarial treatments at the International Congress of Parasitology, the premier international meeting for parasitologists held once every four years. This was a great honour for Menzies, as Clare's talk was selected from nearly 2,000 abstracts. Clare received a travel grant from the Australian Society of Parasitology to attend this meeting.

Julie Harris was the recipient of Graduate Research funding to travel to the UK where she was invited to London's University College, to present her talk on Olfactory Ensheathing Cells and Innate Immunity to the Institute of Neurology. Julie also presented posters at the European Macrophage and Dendritic Society conference at Edinburgh University and the Asia-Pacific Society for Neurochemistry conference in Thailand.

Peta Hitchens presented her research into Jockey Falls at the World Safety 2010 Conference in London and also travelled to the International Conference for the Health, Safety & Welfare of Jockeys in Dubai. At this conference, she gave two oral presentations and has been presented with the opportunity to collaborate with international researchers at Exeter University, Dublin City University and the Japan Racing Association.



PhD student Clare Smith

ACRF Tasmanian Inherited Cancer Centre

In September, Minister for Health Michelle O'Byrne officially opened the Australian Cancer Research Foundation (ACRF) Tasmanian Inherited Cancer Centre at Menzies. Made possible via a grant of \$1.1 million from the ACRF, the Centre will focus on identifying genes that give people a predisposition to a range of cancers.

The new ACRF Tasmanian Inherited Cancer Centre represents a significant step forward in the fight against cancer, particularly those from a family with a known history of cancer.

Research will focus on the discovery of the inherited factors contributing to leukaemia and lymphoma, and prostate cancer in addition to other cancers.

The advanced cancer research facility is world-class, providing our research teams with cutting edge equipment and technology, to assist them in

their research. The new centre houses a customised robot that rapidly screens for genetic markers important to identifying the onset and progression of disease. Other new state of the art equipment includes a laser microscope that can select individual cells and chromosomes.

The ACRF Centre also provides our researchers with advanced IT infrastructure for our genealogical database and genetic analyses, enabling us to take advantage of the latest advances in gene analysis technology.

The opening of the ACRF Tasmanian Inherited Cancer Centre will enable our researchers to fast-track their crucial research into preventing or finding better treatments for inherited cancers.

Tasmanian In
Supported b
Austra
Cancer
Found



Inherited Cancer Centre
by the

lian
r Research
ation



The ACRF Tasmanian Inherited Cancer Centre

Wicking Dementia Research and Education Centre

With Tasmania having the oldest population in Australia per capita, the research conducted by the Menzies' Wicking Dementia Research and Education Centre is central to Menzies' commitment to dedicate areas of our research to diseases faced by Tasmanians.

During 2010, the Wicking Dementia Centre achieved great success in its research advances into the disease and its translational research into patient management for carers of dementia sufferers continued to be the focus of Co-Director and Menzies Honorary Research Member, Professor Andrew Robinson and his team.

Highlights and Awards

Wicking Research Fellow, Dr Sharon Andrews, was awarded the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Translating Research into Practice Fellowship for two years for her research into promoting positive staff-family relationships in residential aged care.

Wicking researchers identified a key marker for early onset of Alzheimer's disease, which may greatly contribute to the future of diagnosing the condition.

The Wicking Dementia Centre launched the Carers' Care DVD, a world-first DVD resource designed for carers of dementia patients.

The Tasmanian Healthy Brain Project, a world-first cohort study aimed at investigating how later-life university education may reduce rates of age-related cognitive decline, commenced.

Co-Director of the Wicking Dementia Centre, Professor James Vickers, was appointed to the NHMRC Academy in 2010. Professor Vickers and his colleagues were also successful in securing three NHMRC grants in 2010 totalling \$1.7 million for the Centre.





The Wicking Dementia Centre team

Income Statement *for the period 1 January to 31 December 2010*

	31-Dec-10	31-Dec-09	31-Dec-08
	\$	\$	\$
Revenue			
University of Tasmania funding	4,917,198	4,379,667	4,113,684
Menzies Foundation	150,000	150,000	150,000
Commonwealth Government Grants	9,419,067	7,685,576	6,904,950
Tasmanian Government Grants	1,523,506	1,495,965	1,067,182
Other Contracts and Agreements	3,289,682	3,517,410	3,969,033
Donations	435,318	222,152	226,306
Bequests	1,593,932	1,731,558	653,971
Interest from Bequest Investments	255,437	284,756	–
Interest from Research Grants	97,851	35,787	72,842
Interest from Contingency Reserve	17,519	15,115	28,298
Sales	71,089	31,342	25,085
Miscellaneous Income	350,356	785,776	281,341
Reimbursement of Expenses	107,131	105,766	86,205
Transfer of Assets from Major Projects	603,073	–	–
TOTAL REVENUE	22,831,159	20,440,870	17,578,897
Expenses			
Salaries and On-Costs	12,044,954	10,338,163	8,942,474
Specific Activities			
General Consultancy Services	2,488,494	2,770,433	2,392,154
Prizes and Scholarships	452,193	625,594	419,109
Travel and Staff Development	710,381	684,180	559,804
Public Relations and Marketing	21,537	138,038	119,554
Patent Related Costs	37,847	8,649	6,338
Audit Fees	5,135	2,550	–
Running and Administration	1,894,370	1,902,917	1,789,147
Infrastructure			
Asset Purchases	546,695	301,197	138,625
Hire of Equipment	7,775	8,957	11,381
Hire of Facilities	1,236	9,242	8,801
Repairs and Maintenance	29,135	61,502	56,099
Depreciation	395,927	286,270	240,418
TOTAL EXPENSES	18,635,679	17,137,692	14,683,904
OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	4,195,480	3,303,178	2,894,993

Balance Sheet *as at 31 December 2010*

	31-Dec-10 \$	31-Dec-09 \$	31-Dec-08 \$
Current Assets			
Funds Held by University of Tasmania	13,752,345	10,420,216	8,070,160
Receivables	–	82,167	–
Total Current Assets	13,752,345	10,502,383	8,070,160
Non-Current Assets			
Plant & Equipment	4,212,297	2,843,932	2,099,951
Less Accumulated Depreciation	-1,350,174	-954,248	-682,268
Total Non-Current Assets	2,862,123	1,889,684	1,417,683
Total Assets	16,614,467	12,392,067	9,487,843
Current Liabilities			
Creditors & Accruals	–	133,481	484,352
Income Received in Advance	–	–	86,216
Provision for Annual Leave	355,074	174,674	136,541
Total Current Liabilities	335,074	308,155	707,109
Total Liabilities	335,074	308,155	707,109
Net Assets	16,279,393	12,083,912	8,780,734
Equity			
Opening Retained Surplus	12,083,912	8,780,734	5,885,741
Profit/(Loss) for the Period	4,195,481	3,303,178	2,894,993
Total Equity	16,279,393	12,083,912	8,780,734

Financial Statement Notes

Summary of Significant Policies

The University of Tasmania prepares general purpose financial statements which are audited by the Tasmanian Auditor-General. A copy of the latest audited statements is available, upon request, from Financial Services.

These financial statements represent those transactions and balances specifically pertaining to the Menzies Research Institute Tasmania. The statements do not include all disclosures required by Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards.

Relevant accounting policies which have been adopted in the preparation of the attached Income Statement and Balance Sheet of the Menzies Research Institute Tasmania are:

a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting using the historic cost convention unless otherwise stated.

b) Trust Funds

The University of Tasmania Foundation Inc. holds a number of trust fund accounts on behalf of the Menzies Research Institute Tasmania. Investment earnings in respect of these trust fund accounts are distributed to the Menzies Research Institute Tasmania. These trust fund account balances, totalling \$726,350 at 31 December 2010, are not reflected in the Institute's Balance Sheet. Included in this balance is \$5,438 of interest and capital investment earnings which have been accrued and recognised as interest revenue to the Menzies Research Institute Tasmania. In addition, the Menzies Research Institute Tasmania holds a number of trust accounts. The balance of the accounts, totalling \$5,543,217 at 31 December 2010, is reflected in the Balance Sheet.

c) Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment is brought to account, and carried at cost, where the value is greater than ten thousand dollars.

Plant and equipment is depreciated on a straight line basis over its useful life commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Depreciation rates for plant and equipment applicable during 2010 are 10%–33%, and this is consistent with the prior year.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with carrying amount. These are included in the income statement.

During finalisation of accounting for the construction of MS1 assets totalling \$603,073 were transferred from the UTAS Major Projects Unit to Menzies.

d) Creditors and Accruals

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Menzies Research Institute Tasmania prior to the end of the year which are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are normally settled within 30 days.

No allowance was made for accruals as at 31 December 2010.

e) Revenue Recognition

Commonwealth Government operating grants received under the Higher Education Funding Act 1988, and revenues received from other Government sources, are recognised as revenue at the time of receipt.

A liability is recognised where unspent monies are required to be refunded to the funding body.

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

Dividend revenue is recognised when the right to receive a dividend has been established.

Donations and bequests are recognised when the right to receive the funds has been established.

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised upon the delivery of goods to customers.

Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customers.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

f) Employee Entitlements

Wages and Salaries

Liabilities for wages and salaries are recognised as payables in respect of employees' services up to the reporting date.

Sick Leave

Sick leave entitlements provided to the employees of the University are non-vesting and are based on a cumulative sick leave system. Liabilities for non-accumulating sick leave are recognised when the leave is taken.

Annual Leave

Liabilities for annual leave are recognised and measured as the amount unpaid at the reporting date at current pay rates in respect of employees' service up to that date. Related on-costs are included in the provision.

With the commencement of the National Employment Standards (contained in the Fair Work Act 2009) from 1 January 2010, annual leave for academic staff could no longer be deemed to be taken in the year in which it was accrued, hence there is now a provision being made in respect of these employees.

Long Service Leave

The University charges a levy on the salaries of certain staff and has assumed the liability for long service leave.

Statement of Certification

We certify that the financial statements reflect an accurate record of income and expenditure recorded through the University of Tasmania's financial system, together with assets and liabilities specific to the Menzies Research Institute Tasmania.

Kate Brown

General Manager
Menzies Research Institute Tasmania

Garry Hennessy

Director of Financial Services
University of Tasmania

The Menzies Research Institute Tasmania is proudly supported by:



THE MENZIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE TASMANIA

The Menzies Research Institute Tasmania, formerly known as the Menzies Centre for Population Research, was founded in 1988 by the Sir Robert Menzies Memorial Foundation, with support from the Tasmanian Government and the University of Tasmania.

Menzies quickly gained a reputation for innovative work into the link between babies' sleeping position and sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).

From this work our research expanded and epidemiological research programs were developed. In 2006, we expanded our focus on both clinical and basic science, to ensure that the depth and quality of our research was enhanced and strengthened.

Menzies is designated as a "Tasmanian Icon" by the Tasmanian Government in recognition of our scientific achievements, status and place in the Tasmanian community.

Director

Professor Simon Foote

General Manager

Ms Kate Brown

Medical Science 1
17 Liverpool Street
(Private Bag 23)
HOBART TAS 7000

T + 61 (0)3 6226 7700
F + 61 (0)3 6226 7704

E info@menzies.utas.edu.au

www.menzies.utas.edu.au

ABN 30 764 374 782 – University of Tasmania



research|thanks to you

If you would like more information about research conducted at Menzies Research Institute Tasmania please contact us.

Phone: +61 (0)3 6226 7700

Email: info@menzies.utas.edu.au

www.menzies.utas.edu.au



An Institute of
the University
of Tasmania