

MEDIA RELEASE

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Strengthening clinical collaborations for better community outcomes

Some of Australia's leading clinicians will gather at the University of Wollongong Innovation Campus on Monday 3 February to discuss the utilisation of 3D bioprinting and additive manufacturing to tackle clinical challenges, led by the [ARC Centre of Excellence for Electromaterials Science](#) (ACES).

The 2020 Clinical Connections Workshop will bring together clinicians, scientists, researchers and engineers from across the country to articulate some of the current medical challenges being faced by clinicians and present strategies to address them.

Experts in their fields including Professor Fiona Wood (burns), Professor Peter Choong (orthopaedics), Professor Mori Adhmesheh (oncology), and Professor Toby Coates (kidney and pancreatic islet cell transplantation) will join with ACES researchers to discuss how advances materials and additive manufacturing techniques, including 3D printing and bioprinting can overcome challenges faced in the operating theatre to improve the care of patients.

ACES Director Professor Gordon Wallace said significant recent advances in biomaterials, stem cell biology, advanced fabrication, contactless characterisation and imaging techniques have converged to enable us to tackle specific medical challenges in unprecedented ways.

"Advancing technology is revolutionising our healthcare system, however the effective delivery of these advances can only be achieved through collaboration," Gordon said.

"At ACES, we are committed to using our fundamental advances in research to create practical technologies that will impact on energy and health, and to strengthen our collaborative network, which is critical for future success.

"Our Clinical Connections Workshop supports this recognised need to work together across both technical and non-technical areas to bring about improved outcomes for the people we work for – our communities."

The 2020 ACES Clinical Connections Workshop will be held on Monday 3 February in the Leon Kane-Maguire Theatre in the AIIM Facility at the University of Wollongong Innovation Campus.

Clinicians attending the workshop include:

- Dr Claudia Di Bella, St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne;
- A/Prof Payal Mukherjee, RPA Hospital;
- Dr Gil Stynes, Wollongong Hospital
- Prof Fiona Wood, Fiona Wood Foundation

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- A/Prof Jason Chuen, University of Melbourne
- Prof Mori Aghmesheh, Illawarra Cancer Care Centre
- A/Prof Chris Baker, St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne
- Prof Peter Choong, St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne
- Dr Pia Winberg, Venus Shell Systems
- Prof Toby Coates, University of Adelaide
- Prof Peter Barlis, University of Melbourne
- Prof Jonathan Clark, RPA

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Media opportunity

Prof Gordon Wallace and the clinicians in attendance are available for interviews on Monday 3 February. Please contact Lauren Hood on 4221 5306 to arrange any interviews.

About the ARC Centre of Excellence for Electromaterials Science (ACES)

Based at the University of Wollongong's Innovation Campus, ACES is a multidisciplinary research group with a focus on developing functional devices for applications including batteries, solar cells and systems that interact with living tissue.

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