

Presenters



Mr Nigel Collin, as founder and CEO of 'Thinkativity' Nigel has spent most of his working life helping organisations find ideas that drive growth, outpace competition and ultimately make money. Having spent two decades on the 'ideas' front line in the events industry, he understands the important role ideas play and more importantly, how to find ideas that make money. For 9 years Nigel owned and ran a Creative Entertainment design company and has worked on a multitude of corporate and public events including the 2000 Sydney Olympics and Paralympics, was Show Director for Australia's largest-ever corporate event, and sat on the roundtable for the Queensland Government's 'Year of Creativity'.



Professor Susan Clark is currently Acting Director, Cancer Division, The Kinghorn Cancer Centre and also heads the Cancer Epigenetics Program at the Garvan Institute of Medical Research. Her studies over the last twenty years have focused on the importance of epigenetics in early development and in disease, especially in cancer. She has made ground-breaking discoveries relating to DNA methylation patterns in normal and cancer genomes, that have led to the commercialization of new methylation-based tests for early cancer detection. The techniques she pioneered in the early 1990s have revolutionised and now underpin a new era in epigenetic research, the study of the complete set of epigenetic modifications on the genetic material of a cell.



Professor Paul de Souza is Professor of Medical Oncology at the University of Western Sydney and has an appointment at Liverpool Hospital. He developed his clinical and research interests in cancer drug development and urological cancers at the University of Virginia. In 1997 Professor de Souza founded the Clinical Trials Unit in the Cancer Care Centre, as well as a research laboratory dedicated to developing new drugs and approaches for the treatment of urological and other cancers at St George Hospital. He continues to teach, expand his research on urological cancers and currently leads many studies in to prostate cancer. Professor de Souza also continues his private practice at St George Private Hospital.



Professor Robert Newton is Professor of Exercise and Sports Science at Edith Cowan University. He leads a research team investigating the impact of exercise, nutrition and psychological interventions on symptom experience, fatigue, body fat, muscle mass, bone density, physical performance, quality of life and psychological wellness of prostate cancer patients. Professor Newton is an accredited exercise physiologist and directs the "Cancer Survivors Program" at the Institute which provides lifestyle support to people with cancer.

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Professor Ian Oliver is a medical oncologist and researcher who has been CEO Cancer Council Australia for 7 years and a clinical Professor in the Sydney Medical School, University of Sydney. He formerly served at Royal Adelaide Hospital for 15 years where he was Clinical Director of RAH Cancer Centre. He has published 220 papers in medical literature and written several books. He currently chairs the Australian Health Ethics Committee of NHMRC and serves on NHMRC Council and on the Advisory Council of Cancer Australia. In 2008 he was awarded the Cancer Achievement Award by the Medical Oncology Group of Australia. He was awarded Membership of the Order of Australia (AM) in 2011 for service to medical oncology.



Professor Afaf Girgis is a Behavioural Scientist in cancer control and psycho-oncology and an internationally regarded authority in this field. She is currently Executive Director of the Translational Cancer Research Unit, Ingham Institute for Applied Medical Research, South Western Sydney Clinical School, University of New South Wales. Professor Girgis has extensively researched and published in areas including the prevention and early detection of cancer; development and psychometric testing of measures to assess cancer patients', caregivers' and health care professionals' unmet needs and communication skills training for the oncology workforce. She has also developed and evaluated strategies for improving psychosocial outcomes in clinical practice using rigorous research designs. Professor Girgis' work has increasingly focused on health service research, translation of evidence into policy and practice and improving needs based palliative care.



Professor Kate White has over 20 years of experience in clinical practice, education and research in cancer care. As Chair of Cancer Nursing and Director of the Cancer Nursing Research Unit (CNRU) at the University of Sydney, she mentors cancer nurse clinicians in clinical research, translation of evidence into practice, and develops and evaluates models of health care delivery with a focus on nurse-led roles. Professor White's research interests are in improving supportive care for patients with cancer, with an emphasis on improving psychosocial outcomes, and reducing the impact on sexual function. In 2011, Professor White was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to examine approaches to addressing sexual dysfunction in cancer patients. She is currently working on adapting this model for the Australian context.