

August 2019

Dear friends and colleagues,

## 12th Annual OGHI Conference

The Call for Papers for our 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, which will be held in Wellington on 6 and 7 November this year, is now open. Please see <a href="https://www.otago.ac.nz/global-health/annual-conference/call-for-papers/index.html">https://www.otago.ac.nz/global-health/annual-conference/call-for-papers/index.html</a> for more details.

Registration is also open - please see <a href="https://www.otago.ac.nz/global-health/annual-conference/registrations/index.html">https://www.otago.ac.nz/global-health/annual-conference/registrations/index.html</a> for information.

As part of the conference the McAuley Oration will be delivered by Dr Colin Tukuitonga, Director-General of the Pacific Community, on 6 November. More details are available at <a href="https://www.otago.ac.nz/global-health/annual-conference/index.html">https://www.otago.ac.nz/global-health/annual-conference/index.html</a>

## **Leadership Group**

There have been several changes in the OGHI Leadership Group in the past few months. At the end of July, OGHI Co-Directorship was rotated to <a href="Professor Philip Hill">Professor Philip Hill</a> (Department of Preventive & Social Medicine, Centre for International Health, Division of Health Sciences) and <a href="Doctor Patrick Vakaoti">Doctor Patrick Vakaoti</a> (Department of Sociology, Gender Studies and Criminology, Division of Humanities). This is in line with our commitment to maintain shared leadership of the Research Centre by senior University academics across all Divisions.

In addition, Professor Hallie Buckley left the OGHI Leadership Group in March, and we extend a warm welcome to three new Leadership Group members:



Prof Ruth Fitzgerald - Department of Social Anthropology



Professor Miguel Quiñones-Mateu - Department of Microbiology & Immunology



Associate Professor Tony Walls - Department of Paediatrics

## **OGHI** network survey

Between April and June 2019 we invited the OGHI network to provide feedback via an online Members' Survey. Thanks to everyone who took the time to share their opinions. The results are in....click <a href="here">here</a> (PDF 285KB) to read the report.

The Leadership Group has reviewed the feedback and is working on changes and improvements in light of feedback.

## Student research: Romulo Nieva Jr, RN, MHSS (PhD Student in Sociology)



My PhD focuses on the reproductive wellbeing of women in prisons in the Philippines, viewing their incarceration through a reproductive justice lens. Many women who enter prison usually come from the margin of society. They are predominantly of reproductive age, mothers and sole carers for their children. Thus, they have more unique, complex and specific reproductive wellbeing. The global data have shown

that the path to prison among women is often triggered by socioeconomic inequities and policy reforms. This is important to understand as reproductive justice is rooted in the belief that systemic inequality has shaped people's decision-making around childbearing and parenting. Incarceration infringes on women's constitutionally protected reproductive rights by confining them during their childbearing years, amplified by lack of access to quality reproductive health care, and separating them from their children. However, the current global discussion on the nexus of incarceration and reproductive wellbeing has concentrated on the medical aspects, access to services and perspectives of health professionals. Hence, my PhD research project aims to explore their perceived reproductive wellbeing, intentions and self-care. It is essential to uncover women's perceptions and individual experiences given the deeply personal nature of sexual and reproductive wellbeing. This is true for women in prisons who have limited autonomy over their body or to make decisions around childbearing.

With best wishes,

David Fielding and John Crump Co-Directors, Otago Global Health Institute