



**AUSTRALIAN PRIMARY HEALTH CARE RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
ANU COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, BIOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT  
THE AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY**

**CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY  
OHIO CLEVELAND USA & THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE**

**INTERNATIONAL VISITING FELLOWSHIP:  
PROFESSOR KURT STANGE**

**Dr Victoria Jane Palmer  
Professor Kurt Stange**

**21 December 2009**

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The research reported in this paper is a project of the Australian Primary Health Care Research Institute, which is supported by a grant from the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing under the Primary Health Care Research, Evaluation and Development Strategy. The information and opinions contained in it do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.

The host institution wishes to acknowledge the administrative support provided by The Department of General Practice in the organisation and coordination of this international visit. Significant preparation time is required to facilitate international visits, to organise accommodation, prepare meetings and disseminate information for public lectures and workshops. Professor Stange was accompanied by two colleagues, Ms Mary Ruhe and Ms Caroline Carter from Case Western Reserve University who were funded independently of the Australian Primary Health Care Research Institute (APHCRI) International Visiting Fellowship. Mary and Caroline actively participated in discussions regarding our respective research in the Australian Primary Care setting, they shared their knowledge and expertise of US based primary care research and attended our weekly research discussion series. Mary and Caroline offered particular insights into the generalism that has been undertaken in the Department, one of the primary reasons that prompted the proposal to host Professor Stange's visit.

We take this opportunity to thank the study participants in the Arranging Generalism in the 2020 Primary Care Team project funded by APHCRI. The generosity of general practitioners, nurses and other allied health staff, and patients cannot be overlooked in terms of the time they commit to research in addition to busy lives. This visit has provided a unique opportunity to explore team care arrangements in the future and our research participants have generated important considerations to inform policy developments and directions for the primary care agenda in Australia. A final acknowledgement must be made for the ongoing support and enthusiasm of Professor Jane Gunn, Head of Department of General Practice and Chair of Primary Care for the concept of generalism and excellence in Australian primary care research.

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# AUSTRALIAN PRIMARY HEALTH CARE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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## INTRODUCTION

APHCRI funded Professor Stange as an international visiting fellow from 22 September 2009 to 30 September 2009. He was funded to visit the Primary Care Research Unit (PCRU), The Department of General Practice, The University of Melbourne and the Australian National University, Canberra. The visit was also supported by the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) who invited Professor Stange to deliver a key note lecture at the College conference held in Perth, 1 October 2009. Professor Stange travelled with two colleagues from Case Western Reserve University, Ms Mary Ruhe and Ms Caroline Carter who were both funded independently of the APHCRI international visiting fellowship.

Our initial application to host Professor Stange's visit identified a number of potential benefits for PCRU. These revolved around the advancement and strengthening of the PCRU's knowledge base of the US health care system, building capacity within our junior and mid-career researchers through linkage and exchange, and specific workshop activities, and the opportunity to have an international perspective on the development of the Australian Primary Health Care Strategy. Our proposal also included the opportunity for Professor Stange to spend part of his time analysing data generated from Palmer's APHCRI funded research *Arranging Generalism within the 2020 Primary Care Team* (Stream 12). Professor Stange's involvement in the Stream 12 research is highly valued and important. He began his collaborations with PCRU during the first funded study in 2007 led by Professor Gunn to undertake a narrative review and synthesis to identify 'What is the Place of Generalism within the 2020 Primary Care Team'? In his capacity as a member of the World Association for Medical Editors (WAME), Stange had consulted with members of the research team about relevant academic publications on the topic of generalism. He went on to review the final report prepared for APHCRI on the narrative review and synthesis where synergies with his research were identified. In February 2008, Professor Stange visited Gunn and colleagues during a sabbatical to Australia, New Zealand and the UK. His involvement, enthusiasm and feedback led to a multi-authored publication from the narrative review and synthesis led by Professor Gunn and published in the *Medical Journal of Australia (MJA)* in 2008. Professor Stange also participated in linkage and exchange meetings for the travelling fellowship held by Palmer and Gunn in 2008 related to this generalism research. The Stream 12 funded research began in early 2009 to build on these research developments.

Since 2008 PCRU have enjoyed active collaboration with Professor Stange. It was an honour for the Department to host his September visit and the activities delivered as part of this, which included:

- a public lecture and networking event
- a presentation at the Department's weekly research matters session on the Future of Family Medicine Taskforce study
- three half-day data analysis workshops for the Arranging Generalism study and participation in a professional workshop for the Arranging Generalism study
- a workshop for postdoctoral and PhD level researchers on 'writing for publication'
- on 29 September ANU hosted a round table policy discussion with the Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA) and a public lecture.

The following reports on the focus of activities undertaken during Professor Stange's visit with a final comment on the benefits.

**PUBLIC LECTURE AND NETWORKING EVENT  
TOWARD A SCIENCE OF CONNECTEDNESS**

Professor Stange delivered a public lecture on Wednesday evening 23 September (Appendix A shows the flyer disseminated for the workshop). The lecture was attended by 26 people. This comprised members of the Department of General Practice and other University of Melbourne staff, general practitioners, representatives of the Australian Medical Association, Division of General Practice members, and representatives from Mother and Child Health Research.



Left to Right: Prof Kurt Stange, Prof Jane Gunn, Ms Caroline Carter, Dr Lucio Naccarella. Back: Dr Victoria Palmer, Ms Mary Ruhe.

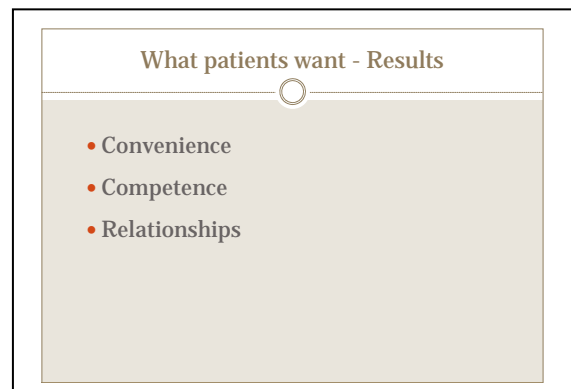
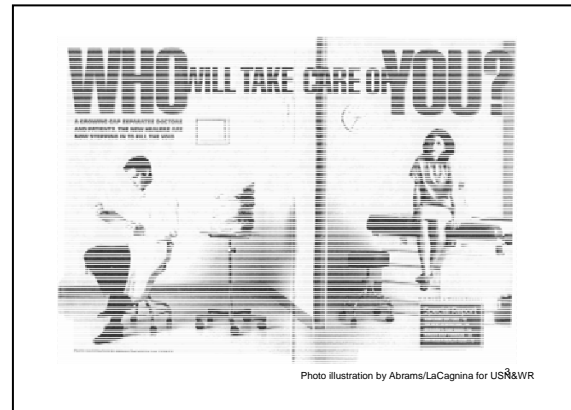


Public Lecture held Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2009. 'A Science of Connectedness'

## RESEARCH MATTERS PRESENTATION

### **FUTURE OF FAMILY MEDICINE TASKFORCE & THE PATIENT CENTRED MEDICAL HOME**

Each week the Department hosts a weekly research meeting attended by all researchers and students. For this session, Professor Stange and colleagues presented on the Future of Family Medicine Taskforce which provided some background information to discuss data analysed by his research team at CWRU on what patients want in their medical home. The FFMT has been a significant driver in attempts to transform and re-invigorate family medicine as a specialty in the United States. The new model of medicine put forward by the taskforce was to have: a personal medical home for patients, a continuous healing relationship and a commitment to a defined basket of services. Professor Stange's colleague's provided an overview of their analysis about what patients want from their personal medical home. Three themes emerged from their analysis: convenience, competence and relationships.



## WRITING FOR PUBLICATION WORKSHOP

There were 16 participants in total for the publication workshop ranging from currently enrolled PhD researchers to postdoctoral researchers. This was an interactive session with questions taken during the presentation. Professor Stange covered a range of topics pertaining to writing for publication that covered: tips for medical writing, a research paper cookbook with detailed discussion of introduction, methods, discussion sections, authorship, the peer review process, the role of peer reviewers. The workshop also included some information and tips on grant writing and getting funding. This was a valuable workshop that assisted to strengthen and build the capacity of junior to mid-career researchers.

## CANBERRA DOHA ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION & CANBERRA PUBLIC LECTURE

Appendix 3 provides a list of people who attended the Canberra roundtable discussion at the Department of Health and Ageing 29 September 2009. Professor Stange completed an interview with Interview with the Australian Broadcasting Commission (ABC 666) morning radio with Alex Sloan about an ANU lecture he would be delivering that evening entitled *Working towards a connected frontline health system*. (See Appendix 4 for the flyer prepared for the ANU lecture).

## GENERALISM MEETINGS & PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOP

There were three half day data analysis workshops for the Arranging Generalism study which were held 23-25 September. These meetings involved in-depth conversation and analysis sessions of nine patient biographies developed for that study. The meetings entailed reading and review for emergent themes within this data set, a data analysis focus for the biographies and a draft abstract for a paper to result from this analysis. Meetings allowed time to prepare and brainstorm ideas for the first professional meeting of the Arranging Generalism project also. Professor Stange participated in the Arranging Generalism professional meeting held on 24 September 2009. The following provides a summary of discussions held for generalism study meetings:

### **Monday 21 September 2009**

Professor Kurt Stange, Professor Jane Gunn, Dr Victoria Palmer, Ms Mary Ruhe and Ms Caroline Carter met for a preliminary meeting about the Arranging Generalism research. This meeting provided an overview of the methodological approach used to collect and develop patient biographies. We explained the two phases of the Arranging Generalism project - phase one being to collect and develop patient biographies. The method for collecting and developing the patient biographies was explained according to our use of semi-structured interviews to cover patient's health conditions, chronicity and experiences.

We explained also that the first interview was followed by a second interview to finalise the patient biography. At the second interview we obtained patient's impressions and reactions to personal stories and asked patients to outline further information regarding what to add or subtract from the profile/biography. Phase one of the Arranging Generalism study also included a third interview that was conducted to gather patient feedback on the conceptual model of the essential dimensions of generalism. This information was not used in the development of biographies and represents a separate set of data to develop a patient perspective on the essential dimensions of generalism.

### **Tuesday 22 September 2009**

Dr Palmer and Professor Stange met for a teleconference with Will Wright and Professor Robert Wells, Director of APHCRI. The purpose of the teleconference was to discuss the presentations and meetings for Professor Stange the following week in Canberra and to have a general discussion about the Australian and US health care systems. Mr Wright and Professor Wells suggested that the Department of Health and Ageing group would be interested in Professor Stange presenting his ideas on the unintended consequences of good actions in relation to health care report. Professor Stange and Dr Palmer discussed general aspects of Departmental research following this meeting.

### **Wednesday 23 September**

Dr Palmer, Professors Gunn and Stange, Ms Ruhe and Ms Carter met for data analysis for the morning prior to Research Matters. During this meeting we discussed the focus of the professional meetings, a patient biography and the future of family medicine taskforce findings. We moved on to analysis of a patient biography following the development of the professional meeting questions.

### **Thursday 24 September 2009**

#### **Update from Ami Thies (Academic Registrar)**

Ami Thies, the Department's Academic Registrar, gave an overview of her research study attached to the project. She introduced her initial analytical findings from the GP transcripts

and what she has identified about the GP perspectives on team work within these. Her preliminary analysis document was circulated to the group and we explored looking again at the GP transcripts for **how** the GPs talk about teams. The rest of this session focussed on data analysis.

## **Monday 28 September 2009**

Professor Stange and Dr Palmer met to finalise the data analysis process and next steps. Some time was spent discussing the North American Primary Care Research Group (NAPCRG) meeting where Dr Palmer is to lead a workshop with Professor Stange and Professor Moira Stewart from Canada about the theoretical and philosophical implications of generalism for family medicine and primary care.

## OUTCOMES OF THE VISIT

Knowledge transfer activities were completed as part of the visit. We attempted a linkage and exchange dinner event for Professor Stange to meet and discuss cancer research with Melbourne University researchers and other researchers external to the University engaged in this research. Due to the time of the visit being scheduled during school holidays it was not possible.

Two important questions emerged for further consideration in our analysis of the generalism research:

- 1) How to reconcile our philosophical basis of our health care system and its exclusion and devaluation of a relationship based model that makes it hard for the things that patient's value to be implemented
- 2) Does the model of generalism (developed from Gunn et al's., narrative review and synthesis) reflect something that can be shared by teams or is it only relevant to the GP/physician. This is a primary question we seek to analyse in our Arranging Generalism study.

The visit resulted in the development of a data analysis approach and method for phase 1 of Arranging Generalism data set that is proceeding currently. An additional multi-authored paper on what patients want in their care is also underway.

Successful linkage and exchange activities were held between Professor Stange, policymakers, researchers, those engaged in service delivery, and consumers of primary health care services. He visited the Department of Health and Ageing where he met with policy advisers in areas such as remote health services, chronic disease management and GP super clinics. The group asked Professor Stange questions ranging from how he applied generalism in his practice and what was common practice in the US, including what worked well and what did not. It also provided attendees with the opportunity to ask him questions related to projects that they were involved in. Professor Stange was also able to provide some insights into Australia's primary health care system and how it compared to his experiences of the US system, as well as give some reflections on activities he had undertaken in Melbourne. He was able to provide comment on the recommendations in the National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission and draft National Primary Health Care Strategy reports, which were released as part of a major health reform process in Australia. Professor Stange was able to successfully engage with a policymaker audience by discussing research findings and policy implications without using jargon and in a way that was easy for the audience to understand.



## AUSTRALIAN PRIMARY HEALTH CARE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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Professor Stange successfully engaged with researchers and consumers in the public lecture he gave at ANU. He prepared a 40 minute presentation with slides and allowed for about 20 minutes question time. People in the audience were from various backgrounds, from researchers, clinicians and policy advisers to members of the public.

Professor Stange was interviewed on ABC 666 morning radio where he spoke about the lecture he would give at ANU. Media such as this provides an excellent opportunity to reach a wide audience, including politicians and policy advisers. Professor Stange was able to talk about his research and experience as a family practitioner that was simple to understand, relevant and appealing for the audience.

APHCRI funds the International Visiting Fellowship program to:

- increase opportunities for primary health care researchers and policy makers to confer with international experts in primary health care;
- have International Visiting Fellows raise awareness of key primary health care issues through available media opportunities;
- allow International Visiting Fellows to visit more than one location;
- enable International Visiting Fellows to engage in training workshops;
- to Increase opportunities for junior and mid-career researchers to establish links with international research groups.

Professor Stange's visit met each of these intended outcomes through the activities that have been reported on.

APPENDIX 1 DEPARTMENT PUBLIC LECTURE



PRIMARY CARE RESEARCH UNIT DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL PRACTICE

**PUBLIC LECTURE**  
**'A Science of Connectedness'**

WEDNESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2009 AT 5.15PM (for 5.30pm start)

VENUE: Lecture Theatre, Ground Floor, The University of  
Melbourne, 200 Berkeley Street, Carlton

*Prof Stange is a practicing family physician, scholar and an award winning clinical researcher with over twenty years of research and practice experience. He holds a clinical research professorship for the American Cancer Society (2007-2012) and has held the Gertrude Donnelly Hess, Professor of Oncology Research position since 2002. He was awarded the cancer hall of fame award in research by the American Cancer Society Cuyahoga County Unit (2006) and in 2005 received the Maurice Saltzman Award for 'work of national or international importance to the health interests of our community'. A Professor at the Centre for Clinical Investigation Division of General Medical Sciences since 2006, he is also the editor of the Annals of Family Medicine since 2002.*



Professor Kurt Stange

This public lecture is based on a series of 7 editorials that have appeared or will appear in the international journal *Annals of Family Medicine* in 2009. This lecture will explore the underpinnings for providing integrated, personalised, prioritised health care. Join Professor Stange as he covers key issues facing primary care particularly in the U.S. context such as: **the problem of fragmentation** underlying the more obvious health care crises; **a generalist solution** to reducing fragmentation and fostering integration; **the paradoxical payoff of primary care** for example better whole person and system outcomes despite apparently poorer quality disease-specific care; **a science of connectedness** how health care can be understood and organised as interacting, nested hierarchies to enable the higher levels that are unintentionally devalued by current approaches; **cycles of renewal & adaption** that identify useful strategies in different positions in the health care cycle; **ways of knowing in health & health care** how understanding development in four complementary domains can inform a science and practice of integrated health care; and, **regaining our moral authority** a call for action based on understanding moral authority as sacrifice, power (as defined by Howard Brody) and a righteous cause (in this case, improving health as function-enabling relationships). The lecture will explore aspects of these interrelated problems with a particular focus on understanding and organising health as a **science of connectedness**.

**SPEAKER: Professor Kurt Stange**

Professor of Family Medicine, Epidemiology & Biostatistics, Oncology, and Sociology, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH

RSVP by Monday 14th September, 2009

PCRUI Mental Health Program Coordinator, Maria Potiriadis: [m.potiriadis@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:m.potiriadis@unimelb.edu.au)

*Prof Stange is funded by an International Travelling Fellowship awarded by The Australian Primary Health Care Research Institute which is supported by a grant from the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing*

APPENDIX 2 DEPARTMENT WORKSHOP



PRIMARY CARE RESEARCH UNIT DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL PRACTICE

INVITATION

Workshop for Postdoctoral and PhD Researchers:  
'Publishing Your Research'

FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2009 AT 11.30AM-1.30PM

VENUE: Seminar Room, Ground Floor, The University of  
Melbourne, 200 Berkeley Street, Carlton

*Light refreshments provided*

*Prof Stange is a practicing family physician, scholar and an award winning clinical researcher with over twenty years of research and practice experience. He holds a clinical research professorship for the American Cancer Society (2007-2012) and has held the Gertrude Donnelly Hess, Professor of Oncology Research position since 2002. He was awarded the cancer hall of fame award in research by the American Cancer Society Cuyahoga County Unit (2006) and in 2005 received the Maurice Saltzman Award for 'work of national or international importance to the health interests of our community'. A Professor at the Centre for Clinical Investigation Division of General Medical Sciences since 2006, he is also the editor of the Annals of Family Medicine since 2002.*



Professor Kurt Stange

Join Professor Kurt Stange, editor of the international journal *Annals of Family Medicine* for a workshop about publishing Australian research for international audiences.

Professor Stange will;

- Share his tips for novice to intermediate researchers wanting to publish
- Highlight some common mistakes and things not to do
- Discuss how to make your research relevant to different audiences

**\*Get in early-- limited to 30 places\***

**WORKSHOP FACILITATOR: Professor Kurt Stange**

Professor of Family Medicine, Epidemiology & Biostatistics, Oncology, and Sociology, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH

RSVP by Friday 18th September 2009, Dr Victoria Palmer [vpalmer@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:vpalmer@unimelb.edu.au) or Ph: 03 8344 4987

*Prof Stange is funded by an International Travelling Fellowship awarded by The Australian Primary Health Care Research Institute which is supported by a grant from the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing. His travel is also supported by the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP).*

## APPENDIX 3 DOHA ROUND TABLE

Acceptance List to Professor Kurt Stange roundtable discussion: 11am-12pm, as at 18 September 2009

<b>Joy Savage (to be confirmed)</b>	AS, Remote Health Services Development Branch, OATSIH
<b>Annie Dullow</b>	Director, Child and Youth Health Section, Population Health Programs Branch, PHD
<b>Karen Freedman</b>	Director, Workforce and Research Section, Population Health Strategic Unit, PHD
<b>Dianne Fraser</b>	Assistant Director, Chronic Disease Programs Section, Chronic Disease Branch, MHCDD
<b>Jane Spittle (to be confirmed)</b>	Assistant Director, Primary Care Programs Section, Practice Support Branch, PACD
<b>Martin Mullane</b>	Senior Advisor, PC Strategic Policy Section, Policy Development Branch, PACD
<b>Tracey Bessell</b>	Director, PC Chronic Disease GP Super Clinics Section, GP Superclinics Branch, PACD
<b>Helen Wynants</b>	Assistant Director, PC Chronic Disease GP Super Clinics Section, GP Superclinics Branch, PACD
<b>Hitendra Gilhotra</b>	A/g Director, Strategic Research Evidence Section, Service Access Programs Branch, PACD
<b>Jennifer Terwiel</b>	Assistant Director, Strategic Research Evidence Section, PACD
<b>Professor Kurt Stange</b>	Presenter / International Visiting Fellow
<b>Rebecca Pallavicini</b>	APHCRI Manager

APPENDIX 4 ANU PUBLIC LECTURE

THE AUSTRALIAN PRIMARY HEALTH CARE RESEARCH  
INSTITUTE PRESENTS:



ANU PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES 2009

ANU Visiting Fellow Series

**WORKING TOWARDS A CONNECTED FRONTLINE  
HEALTH SYSTEM**

**Dr Kurt Stange**  
International Visiting Fellow  
The Australian Primary Health Care Research Institute and  
Professor of Family Medicine, Epidemiology & Biostatistics,  
Oncology & Sociology, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland



**Tuesday 29 September, 5.30-6.30pm**  
The Finkel Lecture Theatre,  
The John Curtin School of Medical Research, Building 131, Garran Rd, ANU

This lecture is free and open to the public. Refreshments will follow the lecture.  
Enquiries T: 6125 2026 or E: [will.wright@anu.edu.au](mailto:will.wright@anu.edu.au)

With an ageing population and the rising prevalence of chronic and multiple illnesses, the Commonwealth Government needs to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Australia's health care system. Primary health care provides the first point of contact for patients and is touted as the cornerstone of a more effective health system, but it is undermined by fragmented services. Frontline clinicians need be able to provide comprehensive, coordinated and personalised care to patients, particularly those with multiple serious illnesses such as cancer, diabetes and depression. Join Dr Stange as he looks at the challenges facing the primary care system in the United States that could inform the Australian health community as it grapples with a major reform process. The lecture is based on a series of editorials that will appear in the international journal *Annals of Family Medicine*, focusing particularly on understanding and organising health as a science of connectedness.

Dr Stange is a family physician, scholar, an award-winning clinical researcher and Professor of Family Medicine, Epidemiology & Biostatistics, Oncology and Sociology at Case Western Reserve University. He holds a clinical research professorship for the American Cancer Society (2007-2012) and has held the Gertrude Donnelly Hess Professor of Oncology Research since 2002. He has also been editor of the *Annals of Family Medicine* since 2002.

Please note there is limited availability of parking at ANU and guests should consider alternative forms of transport or allow sufficient time to find appropriate parking. To join the ANU Public Lectures mailing list or to listen to selected podcasts, visit [www.anu.edu.au/publiclectures](http://www.anu.edu.au/publiclectures)

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