

QUEENSLAND EYE INSTITUTE FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT

2016





QUEENSLAND EYE INSTITUTE
FOUNDATION

OUR PURPOSE

TO SAVE SIGHT

To provide innovation and excellence in research, education and clinical care to reduce eye disease, improve eye health, and ultimately eliminate preventable blindness in the community.



1965

The Australian Foundation for the Prevention of Blindness (Queensland Division) was incorporated with the same goal as today – to prevent blindness and preserve sight. Dr John Ohlrich was the driving force in establishing the Foundation and provided strong leadership and guidance for many years.

1986

The University of Queensland Chair of Ophthalmology was established at the Princess Alexandra Hospital with the support and generous financial assistance of Charles Viertel OBE, Optical Prescription Spectacle Makers, and the Royal Australian College of Ophthalmologists, Lions International and Perpetual Trustees. Prof Lawrence Hirst was appointed Chairman and Executive Director.

1991

The name of the Australian Foundation for the Prevention of Blindness was changed to the Prevent Blindness Foundation (PBF).

2005

On 30 June, after many years of hard work and determined effort, The Queensland Eye Institute (QEI) was officially opened at the Mater Hospital with Prof Lawrence Hirst as its first CEO. This was the realisation of a dream shared by many people.

2010

Prof Lawrence Hirst relinquished his role as CEO to concentrate on his clinical work. Dr Mark Radford was appointed as the new CEO of PBF and QEI.

CHAIRMAN AND CEO REPORT

Welcome to the 2016 Queensland Eye Institute Foundation (QEIF) Annual Report.

Our purpose is to Save Sight. To do that, we provide innovation and excellence in research, education and clinical care to reduce eye disease, improve eye health, and ultimately to eliminate preventable blindness in the community.

2016 was another busy year for the Foundation, as we continued to work hard to achieve our purpose and deliver impact and outcomes. One of the strengths of QEIF is our integration of research, education and clinical care. These three pillars feed into each other to ensure both relevance and a cutting edge focus on what we do, and in particular that we fulfil our purpose of saving sight.

Medical Research

Funding for medical research, especially in the field of eye disease, remained a challenge for all of us engaged in the field. Our researchers and clinicians, led by our chief scientist Professor Traian Chirila, were active across our three research areas of clinical research, clinical trials and investigative research (Ophthalmic Bioengineering and Biomaterials, Ophthalmic Cell Therapies, Ophthalmic Immunotherapies and Retinal Therapies).

In 2016 we introduced the Director's Research Seminar series. Each quarter, both our researchers and external researchers present their studies to an audience of interested clinicians, researchers and students.

We particularly acknowledge the work of Professor Traian Chirila, Associate Professor Nigel Barnett, Dr Brendan Cronin, Professor Damien Harkin, Associate Professor Tony Kwan, Dr Allison Sutherland, and Professor Ravi Thomas, their teams, and their international collaborators.

During the year, we again were well represented at local, national and international research meetings, and our publication output strengthened with 20 publications and four presentations in 2016.

Education

Our Director of Education, Dr Brendan Cronin, guides our education activities. We host teaching programmes for medical students from The University of Queensland, optometry students from the Queensland University of Technology, and registrars in the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists training programme. Our Grand Rounds programme continues to be well attended by students and ophthalmologists alike.

We hosted, in conjunction with RANZCO (QLD), Professor Graham Holder from Moorfields Eye Hospital in London, who ran a workshop and a series of lectures on electro-diagnosis in ophthalmology. This reinforced the opportunities available to ophthalmologists through QEI's Electro-Diagnostic and Imaging Centre.

2013

The Sylvia & Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation awarded PBF a special grant to redevelop 140 Melbourne Street, South Brisbane to be the future home for the PBF, together with the establishment of a day hospital. PBF changed its name to the Queensland Eye Institute Foundation (QEIF).

2014

The QEI Clinic opens in South Brisbane and QEIF acquires Dr Denis Stark's Visual Electro-Diagnostic and Imaging Centre.

2015

QEIF celebrates its 50th Anniversary whilst QEI celebrates its 10th anniversary.

TODAY

QEIF is Queensland's only independent academic research institute devoted to eye related health and diseases and works every day to save sight and prevent blindness. With state of the art facilities in South Brisbane, including the QEI Clinic, South Bank Day Hospital, Queensland Electro-Diagnostic and Imaging Centre, laboratories, medical library, microsurgical teaching laboratory and auditorium, it is also the home of the QEIF. All of this is the result of the efforts of many people who had the strategic vision and in particular, the Sylvia & Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation.

Clinical Care

The QEI Clinic provides expert tertiary and quality clinical care in the field of eye disease. In 2016, Dr Abhishek Sharma (medical and surgical retina) joined our clinic, bringing the total number of clinicians in the Institute to seven, most of whom are also active in research and teaching activities.

The Board

QEIF is run by a Board consisting of respected leaders in their fields, who give much of their time and expertise to ensure the success of the Foundation and its activities. In 2016, we welcomed Jemma Elder to the Board. Jemma is General Manager of Personalised Plates Queensland, and brings extensive business, sales and marketing experience to the Foundation. During the year Kylie Blucher resigned from the Board due to her increased commitments as General Manager at Channel Nine Queensland. We thank her for her service over the years both as a director and supporter of the Foundation. We would also like to thank our fellow directors Anthony Rafter and Jemma Elder, for their hard work during the year.

The Team

As we look back over 2016, we would like to acknowledge the hard work of all our staff - past and present. We have a hard working team, as every one of them strives to improve the eye health of Queenslanders, Australians and the rest of the world. In particular we would like to acknowledge, Kelly Langdon (Chief Operating Officer), Anna Blake (Clinical Services Manager), Leith Macmillan (Hospital Manager), Jane Dodds (Community Liaison Coordinator) and Carmel Johnston (Executive Assistant) for their dedication, commitment and uncompromising hard work.

Finally

QEIF relies on the generosity and support of our donor base to continue our life changing work. Without our donors, our staff, volunteers, sponsors and other partners, we could not be successful in chasing our goal of preventing blindness. In particular, we acknowledge the Sylvia and Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation, its Chairman, George Curphey and his fellow trustees for their long-term support.

We sincerely thank all our donors, our staff, ambassadors, volunteers, and sponsors for their outstanding support of our work. Together, we will Save Sight!

Mark Sheridan
Chairman

Mark Radford
Executive Director and CEO

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Mark Sheridan | Chairman

Mark is Managing Partner with leading Chartered Accountants Hanrick Curran in Brisbane. He has a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) and is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia. He is also a Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the Australian Institute of Management. Mark was appointed a Director of the Queensland Eye Institute Foundation in 2003, and Chairman in 2011.

Prof. Mark Radford | Executive Director & CEO

Mark has been CEO of the Queensland Eye Institute Foundation since 2010. He has a Doctor of Medicine from Nagasaki University, Japan and a PhD from Flinders University of South Australia. Mark is a Fellow of both the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the Australian Institute of Management.



Jemma Elder | Director

Jemma is Managing Director of Personalised Plates Queensland, a partnership between the Queensland Government and the world's largest advertising agency, Publicis Groupe. Jemma is also Managing Director of KiwiPlates, a partnership between Publicis and the New Zealand Transport Agency. She brings an extensive business, sales and marketing experience, having previously worked in senior management positions with ASX listed companies including Ardent Leisure, Goodlife Health Clubs and Dreamworld. Jemma holds a Bachelor of Business and is presently undertaking studies in Applied Finance. Jemma is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and Australian Institute of Management.

Judge Anthony Rafter | Director

Anthony is currently a District Court Judge in Queensland. He was admitted as a Barrister of the Supreme Court of Queensland in 1985, and then Senior Counsel in 2003. Prior to joining the Queensland Eye Institute Foundation Board in 2012, Anthony was Chairperson for the Nursing Tribunal and a Board member of Legal Aid Queensland.



Kelly Langdon | Company Secretary

Kelly has been associated with the Queensland Eye Institute since 2004 in a general management capacity. Her qualifications include a Bachelor of Human Resource Management and Economics. Kelly was appointed to the Board of the Foundation in 2015 and enjoys the variety and scope of work together with the opportunity to bring her strong commercial acumen to the not for profit sector.



2016 NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

NATIONAL



Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation, Queensland University of Technology (Brisbane)



Queensland University of Technology (Brisbane)



The University of Western Australia (Perth)



Lions Eye Institute (Perth)



The University of Queensland

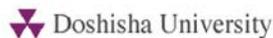


Centre for Eye Research Australia (Melbourne)



Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology, University of Queensland (Brisbane)

INTERNATIONAL



Doshisha University (Kyoto, Japan)



Gunze KK (Kyoto, Japan)



Polytech Marseille/Aix Marseille Université (Marseille, France)



University of Würzburg, Department of Functional Materials in Medicine and Dentistry (Würzburg, Germany)



GSI Helmholtz Centre for Heavy Ion Research (Darmstadt, Germany)



University of Twente, MIRA Institute, Enschede, (The Netherlands)



University of Rochester Medical Center (New York, USA)

EDUCATION

Dr Brendan Cronin

2016 has been a consolidation year for QEI from an education perspective. We have now cemented many of the processes that we have put in place for the large number of students we now have through the clinic.

We are experiencing a very high demand for places for Queensland University of Technology (QUT) students undertaking their elective placements. QEI is now one of the largest providers of QUT Optometry student placements in Queensland.

Medical student rotations remain a very high priority for our teaching efforts. We now regularly have three medical students attending. We are often praised for our curriculum that incorporates social media and online teaching methods.

QEI's Optometry Nights continue to be extremely popular with all events significantly oversubscribed. These have become the largest free CPD events in Brisbane for Optometrists.

Grand Rounds continue to be very popular. The consolidation of some of the topics has led to significant increase in attendance for these more esoteric topics. People continue to dial in from throughout Queensland for this fantastic educational resource.

7 Grand Rounds attended by over **300** specialists and registrars, together with live video streaming for rural and remote doctors

4 Optometry Evenings with over **350** attendees

Numerous Microsurgical Teaching Laboratory programs (Wetlabs)

RESEARCH

Professor Traian Chirila

In QEI's laboratories our scientists have continued and extended their activity within four major research programmes.

Work has been carried out for enhancing the quality of silk-based scaffolds in order to enable the tissue engineering of biomaterial/cell constructs. The cells-silk constructs are essential for the cellular therapies developed at QEI as strategies to treat ocular surface disorders, for corneal endothelial regeneration, and for retinal cell transplantation.

Combinations of silk proteins and other biopolymers, such as tropoelastin, have been investigated as substrates for growing retinal pigment epithelial cells with a view to developing a therapeutic strategy for AMD, in a project supported by the National Health & Medical Research Council (NH&MRC) of Australia. Our scientists in the cellular therapies group developed an animal model for limbal stem cell deficiency that may assure a superior performance when compared to the reported standard techniques, and work is ongoing, under Professor Damien Harkin's supervision, on the potential of mesenchymal stromal cells for the restoration of the cornea.

Under Associate Professor Nigel Barnett's supervision, research has also continued on investigating the processes leading to disease of the light-sensitive retina and the optic nerve, with attention focused effective treatments based on novel antioxidative strategies, which include the use of a novel antioxidant and the use of a sericin, a silk protein that has been extensively studied by our biomaterials group.

The topic of ophthalmic immunotherapies, which started the previous year, has continued successfully, with a focus on stem-cells based therapeutic strategies for Sjögren's syndrome.

Our scientists have participated extensively in grant seeking activities. We were successful with the project "Cultivated corneal endothelial cell implants for restoring vision", supported by NHRMC and a collaboration involving QUT, QEI, CERA and the University of Melbourne, that commenced in 2016 and will assure for the next three years a full salary for one team member.

Collaborative research on various projects continued with other organizations including: the University of Würzburg, Germany; GSI Helmholtz Centre for Heavy Ion Research, Darmstadt, Germany; the University of Marseille, France; Doshisha University, Kyoto, Japan; Gunze Co., Kyoto, Japan; National Agriculture & Food Research Organization (NARO), Tsukuba, Japan; Twente University, Enschede, The Netherlands; Queensland University of Technology, The University of Queensland, University of Western Australia, and Western Sydney University.

During the year, our scientists published 20 articles or book chapters in scientific publications, and participated at many national and international conferences. We had two overseas internship students, from France and The Netherlands, who carried out their activity under Dr Shuko Suzuki's supervision.

PUBLICATIONS 2016

- (1) Li F.J., Nili E., Lau C., Richardson N.A., Walshe J., Barnett N.L., Cronin B.G., Hirst L.W., Schwab I.R., Chirila T.V. and Harkin D.G.: Evaluation of the AlgerBrush II rotating burr as a tool for inducing ocular surface failure in the New Zealand White rabbit. *Exp. Eye Res.*, 147: 1-11, 2016.
- (2) Chirila T.V. and Harkin D.G.: An introduction to ophthalmic biomaterials and their role in tissue engineering and regenerative medicine. Chapter 1 in *Biomaterials and Regenerative Medicine in Ophthalmology*, 2nd edition, pp. 1-14, T.V. Chirila and D.G. Harkin, editors. Elsevier, Amsterdam, 2016. [ISBN: 978-0-08-100147-9].
- (3) Chirila T.V., Suzuki S., Hirst L.W. and Harkin D.G.: Reconstruction of the ocular surface using biomaterial templates. Chapter in *Biomaterials and Regenerative Medicine in Ophthalmology*, 2nd edition, pp. 179-218, T.V. Chirila and D.G. Harkin, editors. Elsevier, Amsterdam, 2016. [ISBN: 978-0-08-100147-9].
- (4) Shadforth A.M.A., Chirila T.V., Harkin D.G., Kwan A.S.L. and Chen F.K.: Biomaterial templates for the culture and transplantation of retinal pigment epithelial cells: a critical review. Chapter in *Biomaterials and Regenerative Medicine in Ophthalmology*, 2nd edition, pp. 263-289, T.V. Chirila and D.G. Harkin, editors. Elsevier, Amsterdam, 2016. [ISBN: 978-0-08-100147-9].
- (5) Chirila T.V., Suzuki S. and McKirdy N.C.: Further development of silk sericin as a biomaterial: comparative investigation of the procedures for its isolation from *Bombyx mori* silk cocoons. *Prog. Biomater.*, 5: 135-145, 2016.
- (6) Chirila T.V. and Suzuki S.: The intraocular lens. Chapter B7 (pp. 103-113) in *Handbook of Biomaterial Properties*, 2nd edition, W. Murphy, J. Black and G. Hastings, editors. Springer-Verlag, New York, 2016. [ISBN: 978-1-4939-3303-7].
- (7) Chirila T.V. and Hong Y.: The vitreous humor. Chapter C2 (pp. 125-134) in *Handbook of Biomaterial Properties*, 2nd edition, W. Murphy, J. Black and G. Hastings, editors. Springer-Verlag, New York, 2016. [ISBN: 978-1-4939-3303-7].
- (8) Chirila T.V. and Suzuki S.: The cornea. Chapter C3 (pp. 135-148) in *Handbook of Biomaterial Properties*, 2nd edition, W. Murphy, J. Black and G. Hastings, editors. Springer-Verlag, New York, 2016. [ISBN: 978-1-4939-3303-7].
- (9) Suzuki S., Chirila T.V. and Edwards G.A.: Characterization of *Bombyx mori* and *Antheraea pernyi* silk fibroins and their blends as potential biomaterials. *Prog. Biomater.*, 5: 193-198, 2016.
- (10) Hogerheyde T.A., Suzuki S., Walshe J., Bray L.J., Stephenson S.A., Harkin D.G. and Richardson N.A.: Optimization of corneal epithelial progenitor cell growth on *Bombyx mori* silk fibroin membranes. *Stem Cells Int.*, 2016: 8310127 [11 pages].
- (11) Harkin D.G., Sutherland A.J., Bray L.J., Foyn L., Li F.J. and Cronin B.G.: The use of mesenchymal stromal cells in the treatment of diseases of the cornea. In *The Biology and Therapeutic Application of Mesenchymal Cells*, K. Atkinson, editor; Wiley-Blackwell, 2016, Ch. 36, pp. 524-543.
- (12) Natoli R., Jiao H., Barnett N.L., Fernando N., Valter K., Provis J.M. and Rutar M.: A model of progressive photo-oxidative degeneration and inflammation in the pigmented C57BL/6J mouse retina. *Exp. Eye Res.*, 147: 114-127, 2016.
- (13) Rayner C.L., Bottle S.E., Gole G.A., Ward M.S. and Barnett N.L.: Real-time quantification of oxidative stress and the protective effect of nitroxide antioxidants. *Neurochem. Int.*, 92: 1-12, 2016.
- (14) Lee A., Stevens M.G., Anderson A.R., Kwan A., Balcar V.J. and Pow D.: A novel splice variant of the Excitatory Amino Acid Transporter 5: cloning, immunolocalization and functional characterization of hEAAT5v in human retina. *Neurochem. Int.*, 101: 76-82, 2016.
- (15) Zhang Y., Li S.-J., Li L., He M., Thomas R. and Wang N.: Dynamic iris changes as a risk factor in primary angle closure disease. *Invest. Ophthalmol. Vis. Sci.*, 57: 218-226, 2016.
- (16) Adhikari P., Zele A.J., Thomas R. and Feigl B.: Quadrant field pupillometry detects melanopsin dysfunction in glaucoma suspects and early glaucoma. *Sci. Rep.*, 6: 33373, 2016.
- (17) Thomas R., Walland M., Thomas A. and Mengersen K.: Lowering of intraocular pressure following phacoemulsification in primary open angle closure glaucoma: a Bayesian analysis. *Asia Pacific J. Ophthalmol.*, 5: 79-84, 2016.
- (18) Thomas R., Thomas A., Walland M. and Mengersen K.: The association between location of laser iridotomy and frequency of visual symptoms: a Bayesian learning analysis. *Clin. Exp. Ophthalmol.*, 44: 215-217, 2016.
- (19) Walland M. and Thomas R.: Has the iridotomy worked? What does the anterior segment OCT tell us? *Clin. Exp. Ophthalmol.*, 44: 157-158, 2016.
- (20) Wood J.M., Black A.A., Mallon K., Thomas R. and Owsley C.: Glaucoma and driving: on-road driving characteristics. *Plos ONE*, 11(7): e0158318, 2016.

QEI'S INVESTIGATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAMMES ARE:

- Ophthalmic bioengineering and biomaterials
- Ophthalmic cell therapies
- Ophthalmic immunotherapies
- Retinal therapies

20 Research papers published
7 Clinical Trials

CLINICAL CARE

Anna Blake

I am delighted to report that 2016 has been full of many accomplishments for the Queensland Eye Institute Clinic.

Our focus this year has continued to be on providing excellence in clinical care, education and research.

We have been very fortunate to welcome a new retinal specialist, Dr Abhishek Sharma who specialises in both medical and surgical retina. We have been able to purchase two new Optos retinal scanning machines which enable ultra-wide field retinal imaging to support diagnosis, analysis and monitoring of ocular pathology. This technology also helps in the early detection of disease that may otherwise have gone undetected.

The QEI Clinic assisted with facilitating the launch of Cordelia Dermatology which is based at our Melbourne Street headquarters. Cordelia Dermatology provides many of our patients the unique facility to have MOHS surgery for malignant skin tumors with Dermatologist, Dr Karyn Lun followed by surgical closure with our Oculoplastic specialist, Dr Tai Smith.

The QEI Clinic continued to receive referrals from Surgery Connect for outsourcing of public patients to be assessed and treated in the private sector. We were commended by Queensland Health for our ability to assess and provide the required surgery within their timeframes. The QEI Clinic's commitment to education and teaching also continued with the hosting of many placements including Optometrists, Orthoptists and medical students. We also provided specialised training for many Assistant Surgeons that included the fellowship partnership with the Mater Hospital.

The QEI Clinic supported World Glaucoma Day in collaboration with Allergan to help raise awareness of the disease. We provided information to patients in the Clinic; with staff wearing badges helping to raise awareness and a Morning Tea was also held.

In line with our vision, we continue with our excellent working relationship with the QEI Foundation Research Team. As the QEI doctors work collaboratively with the researchers, more and more ideas for projects are being identified through the needs of patients seen in the Clinic. This partnership also extended to running tours of the Research Laboratories and Clinic for staff to help increase awareness of the significant achievements of each team whilst providing an understanding of the patient experience.



Support from our community

Queenslanders ran for eye health in a new Fun Run for Brisbane organised by the Queensland Chinese United Council (QCUC). The six km route saw more than 300 people run in and around Brisbane raising both funds, and awareness for eye diseases and the Queensland Eye Institute Foundation.



CEO of the Queensland Eye Institute Foundation, Professor Mark Radford said: "It's fantastic to see QCUC come together for the Fun Run with participants, volunteers and supporters – all raising funds for vital research. It was a beautiful Brisbane day and we welcome every opportunity for QEI to promote eye health by wearing a hat and sunglasses when outside, maintaining a healthy diet and exercise and getting regular eye tests which are all great ways to ensure your vision is healthy and stays healthy."

Lucia gives back – Clinical Trial patient, Lucia wanted to give back to QEIF after helping her with her eye condition. In her own time, she painstakingly approached local businesses, organised donations and sold tickets as part of QEIF's Father's Day Raffle to raise nearly \$1500 for macular degeneration research.



Opera for Your Eyes! Guests and supporters filled the QEIF auditorium for an evening of opera and art to support glaucoma research. Arriving to cocktails and canapés, guests were entertained by QEI's very own virtuoso Tessa Hayward whilst being able to view the art of internationally renowned artist, Andrew Grech who kindly donated a couple of his original pieces to raise funds.



RAISING OVER \$10,000



SOUTH BANK DAY HOSPITAL

The South Bank Day Hospital is a wholly owned entity of the Queensland Eye Institute Foundation.

During 2016, we had 20 surgeons using the hospital facilities across a number of different specialities – ophthalmic, maxillo-facial, MOHS and plastics. Over 3600 patients passed through the hospital. All profits generated by the hospital are invested back into the work of the Queensland Eye Institute Foundation.

Patient Story

Jane Dodds

It was October, 2016 when the very first signs began to surface for Jane Dodds, QEIF's - Community Relations Officer. Working at her computer she was finding it hard to focus on the screen and her reading glasses didn't seem to help. Thinking she was tired and may just need a break, she changed tasks. For Jane, the changes to her vision were happening very quickly. Little did she realise, the worst was yet to come.

Visiting our donors and maintaining warm and lasting relationships, is something Jane relishes in her role at the QEIF. Very often this means driving to rural or more remote areas outside of Brisbane.

Driving back from Warwick, Jane decided to pull over as her view suddenly seemed strangely blurred and she was frustrated with her difficulty seeing the road in front of her. She reached for her reading glasses and realised as she covered one eye that her sight on her right side had severely deteriorated. Blinking to try to focus, she realised that her vision appeared to improve only when she completely covered one eye.

Something was terribly wrong. Sitting alone in her car by the side of the road, she thought back to the blurriness she had experienced the week before and felt enormous trepidation.

"Despite many years talking to patients and families about vision loss in my work role, I had no idea what was happening and I felt absolute fear," said Jane.

Early the following morning Jane was seen by one of QEI's optometrists and thorough tests were performed to investigate the cause of her blurred vision.

To her optometrist it was clear Jane showed evidence of a condition called Pigment Dispersion Syndrome – a major cause of glaucoma. In addition to this, Jane was told she had an enormous cataract on her right eye and a smaller one on her left eye.

Jane was referred to QEI Ophthalmologist, Dr Brendan Cronin for further review, who immediately confirmed her diagnosis.

Pigment Dispersion Syndrome is a major cause of glaucoma and can be potentially blinding. Although fairly rare, the condition can happen at any age. Dangerously, it is very often asymptomatic and can be slowly blinding without appropriate intervention.

The condition occurs when pigment cells come away from the back of the iris and float around the aqueous humour. Over time the 'loose' pigment cells can build up and clog the trabecular meshwork, causing problems with drainage in the eye and increasing pressure within the eye itself. This increased pressure can then cause damage to the optic nerve resulting in what is known as Pigmentary Glaucoma.

If damage had occurred to Jane's optic nerve fibres, the vision loss would have been painless but irreversible. Because the large cataract was on the back of the lens and was a rapid growing type, Jane required surgery quickly. Tests were repeated as she waited for her surgery date - alarmingly the size of the cataract continued to increase dramatically.

"I was terrified of losing my independence so suddenly – just the everyday things I took for granted were so difficult and my confidence was completely lost. I constantly needed to watch where I put my feet – I felt as if I was going from 54 to 94 years of age in a matter of days".

Jane truly understood first hand what it meant to be a patient facing such awful fears. In two separate operations at the South Bank Day Hospital, Dr Cronin operated on both of her eyes, completely replacing the lens in each.

Fortunately Jane's Pigment Dispersion Syndrome was diagnosed early. No scarring had occurred and it is unlikely she will develop glaucoma.

"I realised how lucky I was that the team at QEI were able to diagnose my condition reasonably early so that my vision could be monitored. Suddenly I was the patient and I honestly found the specialist day surgery facilities and treatment at South Bank Day Hospital second to none," said Jane.



OUR TEAM

Board of Directors

Mark Sheridan
Chairman

Professor Mark Radford
Executive Director & CEO

Kylie Blucher
Director
(Resigned 23 May 2016)

Anthony Rafter
Director

Jemma Elder
Director

Kelly Langdon
Company Secretary

Clinical Faculty

Dr. Anthony Pane
Neuro-Ophthalmology

Associate Professor Tony Kwan
Retinal Diseases

Dr. Brendan Cronin
Cornea

Professor Ravi Thomas
Glaucoma and Clinical Epidemiology

Dr. Tai Smith
Oculoplastic, Lacimal & Orbit Surgery

Dr. Mark Chiang
Glaucoma, Cataract & Diseases of the Retina

Dr. Abhishek Sharma
Retinal Surgery

Honorary Clinical Faculty

Professor Ivan Schwab
University of California at Davis,
Sacramento Medical Centre

Research Faculty

Professor Traian Chirila
BEng, PhD, FRACI, CChem
Senior Scientist

Professor Lawrence Hirst
Research Scientist

Dr. Allison Sutherland
BSc (Hons), PhD, MBiomed Eng
Manager of Clinical Research Services

Dr. Nigel Barnett
BSc (Hons), MSc, DPhil
Senior Scientist

Associate Professor
Damien Harkin
BSc, PhD
Visiting Senior Scientist

Dr. Shuko Suzuki
BAppSc, MAppSc, PhD
Research Scientist

Dr. Jinchun (Fiona) Li
MMedSci
Research Officer

Dr. Jennifer Young
BSc, MSc, PhD
Research Officer

Dr. Audra Shadforth
BSc
Research Officer

Honorary Research Faculty

Professor Andrew Whittaker
PhD, FRACI
University of Queensland

Professor Murray Baker
University of Western Australia

Dr. Beatrix Feigl
MD PhD
Institute of Health & Biomedical Innovation
(IHBI)

Professor Paul Dalton
PhD
University of Wurzburg, Germany

Associate Professor
Idriss Blakey
University of Queensland

Professor Eugen B Petcu
MD
Griffith University

Dr. Tim Dargaville
Queensland University of Technology

Management Team

Kelly Langdon
Chief Operating Officer

Anna Blake
Clinical Services Manager

Carmel Johnston
EA to the Executive Director & CEO

Jane Dodds
Community Relations Officer

Renee Ferenc
Marketing Manager

OPERATIONS

125 staff
8 students
Numerous microsurgical trainees

South Bank Day Hospital saw 3,589 patients in 2016;
that's 16,472 patients since it opened in 2014

With state of the art facilities including:

QEI Clinic | Queensland
Electro-Diagnostic and Imaging Centre
Laboratories | Medical Library | Microsurgical
Teaching Laboratories (Wetlabs) | Auditorium
QEI HF

THANK YOU!

The work of the Queensland Eye Institute Foundation is due to the support of so many people; our generous donors, supporters, partners, volunteers, our staff and our Board.

As always we are grateful for the moral and financial support of the Sylvia & Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation, and especially its Board of Trustees and Chairman, George Curphey.

Our success would not be possible without the unstinting support of our donors and we would like to sincerely extend our thanks. And to the many organisations that provide their assistance in numerous different ways, thank you again for your support in 2016.

And last but by no means least, thank you to our many volunteers who give up their time and expertise so generously to assist us to continue with our sight saving work.

Dr Ross Forgan-Smith
The Franquin Trust
Hanrick Curran
Mrs Jenkins-Green & Mr Green
Nine Network
Mr & Mrs Alec Peden
Queensland Government Department of Education & Training
The Retired Police Association of Queensland
The Sheedy Foundation
Vera Thiess Foundation
Sylvia & Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation



FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

The following information is extracted from the Audited Financial Statements for January 1 to December 31, 2016.

The 2016 accounts have been prepared by Hanrick Curran and audited by BDO Queensland and we thank them for their help and support. The following is a summary of the 2016 financial results.



Balance Sheet Comparatives

ASSETS	2016 \$	2015 \$
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	5,378,874	3,628,351
Trade and other receivables	1,668,949	412,071
Other assets	141,028	42,983
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	7,188,851	4,083,405
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Trade and other receivables	2,157,152	2,410,822
Financial Assets	899,096	579,763
Property, plant and equipment	9,321,484	10,141,180
Intangible assets	54,503	86,435
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	12,432,235	13,218,200
TOTAL ASSETS	19,621,086	17,301,605
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	518,009	185,902
Employee benefits	402,930	370,363
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	920,939	556,265
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Deferred occupancy liabilities	5,122,098	4,487,130
Other financial liabilities	123,049	171,983
Employee benefits	106,768	124,929
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	5,351,915	4,784,042
TOTAL LIABILITIES	6,272,854	5,340,307
NET ASSETS	13,348,232	11,961,298

Income Statement Comparatives

	2016 \$	2015 \$
REVENUE		
Sylvia & Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation	2,680,000	4,069,755
Bequests and other donations	3,680,785	1,259,543
Clinical cost recoveries	2,182,986	2,090,949
Other income	310,134	302,853
TOTAL INCOME	8,853,905	7,723,100
EXPENSES		
Employee salaries and costs	3,606,246	3,833,110
Depreciation and amortisation expense	974,415	1,051,110
Research consumables	111,426	173,419
Occupancy costs	1,906,049	1,909,999
Administrative and general costs	554,137	563,551
Fundraising direct costs	35,342	69,494
Clinic direct costs	256,814	223,409
Finance costs	22,542	22,843
TOTAL EXPENSES	7,466,971	7,846,935
NET COMPREHENSIVE INCOME/(LOSS)	1,386,934	(123,835)

Notes:

- 1 Research consumables & equipment;
- 2 Includes lease for laboratory & clinics;
- 3 Research, teaching, clinical, administration & support

OUR FOUNDATION IS ABOUT **PEOPLE**

The People Who **Support Us.**
The People Who **Represent Us.**
The People Whose **Sight We Save.**