MEDIA RELEASE





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Leading respiratory scientist recognised for research excellence

The Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ) has bestowed one of their most prestigious awards to Professor Phil Hansbro, Deputy Director and Faculty at the Centenary Institute for outstanding contributions to the advancement of knowledge in respiratory medicine and science.

Professor Hansbro accepted The Research Medal at the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand and Australian and New Zealand Society of Respiratory Science Annual Scientific Meeting (TSANZSRA) on the Gold Coast.

"It is a huge honour to receive this award. It means so much to me coming from this society. We have amongst us the best respiratory researchers in Australia and indeed the world. I attend the major respiratory conferences around the world and the quality and importance of the work that Australian researchers do is as good as anywhere and we certainly punch way way above our weight in Australia," said Professor Hansbro on accepting the award at the Meeting's Gala Dinner tonight.

The Research Medal is awarded annually and recognises an individual who has demonstrated sustained excellence in their field of research. Professor Hansbro, who has recently been appointed as the Director of the Centenary UTS Centre for Inflammation, is an internationally recognised research leader in the study of respiratory diseases, such as asthma, chronic obstructive airway disease (COPD, aka emphysema) and infections and is developing interests in lung cancer. His work is substantially contributing to understanding the pathogenesis and developing new therapies for these diseases. Professor Hansbro's work has made internationally important contributions and led to the identification of novel avenues for therapy that are under further study.

To arrange an interview with Professor Phil Hansbro, please contact Karen McBrien, Marketing Manager, Centenary Institute on 0408 601 836.

For more information about Centenary Institute, visit www.centenary.org.au.

About the Centenary Institute

The Centenary Institute is a world-leading independent medical research institute, closely affiliated to the University of Sydney and the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. Our research focuses on three key areas: cancer, inflammation and cardiovascular disease. Our strength lays in uncovering disease mechanisms and applying this knowledge to improve diagnostics and treatments for patients.

About the University of Technology Sydney

The University of Technology Sydney (UTS), located in central Sydney, is one of Australia's leading universities of technology. It is known for fusing innovation, creativity and technology in its teaching and research and for being an industry-focused university. UTS has a total enrolment of over 40,000 students and is rated No.1 'young' university in Australia in both the QS and Times Higher Education rankings.

About The Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand

The Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ) is the only health peak body representing a range of professions (medical specialists, scientists, researchers, academics, nurses, physiotherapists, students and others) across various disciplines within the respiratory/sleep medicine field in Australia and New Zealand. TSANZ is committed to serving the professional needs of its members by improving knowledge and understanding of lung disease, with the ultimate goals being to prevent respiratory illness through research and health promotion and to improve health care for people with respiratory illness.