

# Inaugural Road Safety Research Forum a success

The Centre hosted the first 'Directions in Road Safety Research' Forum at the Mercure Grosvenor Hotel, Adelaide on 12-13 May.

The Forum coincided with the launch of the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020 and attracted over 50 delegates including researchers and postgraduate students from all the major Australian road safety research centres.

The keynote address was delivered by Mr. Lauchlan McIntosh, President of the Australasian College of Road Safety, Chairman of Australasian New Car Assessment Program (ANCAP) and Asia Pacific Ambassador for the International Road Assessment Program (iRAP).

A total of eight sessions comprising a series of presentations on current research initiatives were conducted over the two days. Delegates were able to explore common research issues through peer discussion, in depth review and exploration of issues of research quality and data reliability.

The Forum's limited numbers and casual design provided delegates with the opportunity to network with Australasia's leading road safety professionals, develop ideas for future studies and explore possibilities for collaboration on future research projects.

The forum complements the Australasian Research, Policing and Education Conference, which continues to provide an excellent opportunity to disseminate completed research outcomes.

The Centre for Accident Research & Road Safety – Queensland will host the 2012 Directions in Road Safety Research Forum.

Further information can be obtained by contacting Clare Murray, Marketing and Events Officer at CARRS-Q, [clare.murray@qut.edu.au](mailto:clare.murray@qut.edu.au)



Lauchlan McIntosh presenting the keynote address at the forum.



Associate Professor Andry Rakotonirainy, CARRS-Q presenting at the forum.



## Research that makes a difference

The Centre has reviewed its key contributions to road safety countermeasures since 2002 and published a brochure titled 'Research that makes a difference: 2002-2010'.

For a copy of this publication please contact the centre on 08 8303 5890 or by email to [library@casr.adelaide.edu.au](mailto:library@casr.adelaide.edu.au)



## New publications

Anderson RWG, Hutchinson TP, Linke BJ, Ponte G (2011) Analysis of crash data to estimate the benefits of emerging vehicle technology (CASR094).

Baldock MRJ, Grigo JAL, Raftery SJ (2011) Protective clothing and motorcyclists in South Australia (CASR088).

Doecke SD, Woolley JE (2011) Cost benefit analysis of Intelligent Speed Adaptation (CASR093).

Raftery SJ, Wundersitz LN (2011) No restraint? Understanding differences in seat belt use between fatal crashes and observational surveys (CASR090).

Raftery SJ, Wundersitz LN (2011) The efficacy of road safety education in schools: A review of current approaches (CASR077).

The full report series can be accessed at: <http://casr.adelaide.edu.au/publications/researchreports/>

If you would like to subscribe to the electronic mailing list for this newsletter or would like to be removed from the mailing list altogether please email [library@casr.adelaide.edu.au](mailto:library@casr.adelaide.edu.au)



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# At the scene

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## Road Safety Timeline is a valuable research tool

CASR has developed an online road safety timeline database that summarises information about key topics in road safety in a user friendly, efficient manner.



CASR supports the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020



The timeline covers various road safety topics including drink and drug driving, restraint use, speed limits and speeding, mobile phone use and legislation relating to motorcyclists, cyclist, graduated licence holders and heavy vehicles.

The idea for the timeline arose because of the high frequency of legislation related requests received by library staff. "Since developing the timeline I've been able to answer legislation related questions quickly and easily", explains librarian and coordinator Jaime Royals. "The questions I am asked are varied and can include clients needing information about offences and penalties, dates when a legislative provision came into operation or a comparison of legislation across states. Creating the timeline enables all of this information to be captured in one place, and library users are able to access the information quickly and easily."

CASR researcher Sam Doecke agrees that the timeline is valuable, particularly when working on projects that require offence and penalty information. "Using the timeline enables me to find penalties for offences quickly. I can compare penalties across states for an offence without having to look in legislation for eight separate states. It's very useful."

Examples of questions that can be answered using the timeline include:

- When did drug driving legislation come into force in each state?
- What are the current penalties for driving 15-30 kph over the speed limit?
- How many demerit points does a driver receive in South Australia and Victoria for using a mobile phone while driving?

The timeline has two distinct sections, a chronology of events dating back to the 1960s and a summary of road safety related penalties.

The chronology features key dates about road safety legislation. Non-legislation related dates are also included for road infrastructure, major events and media campaigns. The chronology of events is fully searchable and also browsable by key topic. Each record contains comprehensive information about the related legislation and details of associated press releases by the Minister.

The penalties tables bring together penalty amounts for road offences for all states. "Locating penalties for an offence is complex because there are five penalty types that can be implemented and often the penalties are contained in different pieces of legislation," Jaime explains. "The timeline enables the user to view all of this information in one place."

In 2009 a Law Foundation of South Australia grant was awarded to the project to improve the functionality of the timeline. CASR gratefully acknowledges this support.

Access to the timeline is currently limited to CASR staff. The timeline will be available to selected external users in 2012.

For more information please contact Jaime Royals [Jaime@casr.adelaide.edu.au](mailto:Jaime@casr.adelaide.edu.au)

## Message from the Director

CASR took a major step forward this year when we moved to our new vehicle testing laboratory. For many years we operated from a small laboratory located inside a bus depot. We are very grateful to Barry Nesbitt and his family from Explorer Coach Lines for allowing us to use the space and we would like to acknowledge the extensive support and assistance they provided to us over the years.

Our testing at the old laboratory was recognised for its technical quality and efficiency but eventually we needed an area that would lend itself to educational and promotional events and allow us to expand our scope of work. Our new laboratory is a purpose built facility located at Kent Town close to our city campus offices.

CASR undertakes the pedestrian testing component of the Australasian New Car Assessment Program (ANCAP) and our move to the new laboratory was only possible with the support of ANCAP. We look forward to our premises becoming a focus for knowledge transfer about the role of vehicle design in protecting pedestrians from injury.

The Hon. Tom Kenyon, Minister for Road Safety opened the new laboratory on 11 March 2011. Tom Phillips, Chair of the CASR Reference Board, hosted the event and Lauchlan McIntosh, Chair of the ANCAP Board also made a presentation. The opening was attended by Roger Cook (Chair of the Motor Accident Commission and the National Road Safety Council), members of the ANCAP Board and representatives from Government and Industry. We expect to operate from our new laboratory for many years and believe that it will allow us to make further contributions to reducing road trauma.

*Pictured top left: Hon Tom Kenyon, Minister for Road Safety speaking with the media at the opening.*

*Top right: Tom Phillips, Chair of the CASR Reference Board, giving the opening address.*

*Centre left: Head impact test machine.*

*Centre right: Leg impact test machine.*

*Bottom: Mike Stapleton (ANCAP Director), David Shelton (ANCAP Director), Mike Harris (ANCAP Director), Keith Simmons (ANCAP Director), Phil Allan (ANCAP Director), Lauchlan McIntosh (ANCAP Chairman), Nick Clarke (ANCAP Business Manager), Hon Tom Kenyon, Minister for Road Safety, Mike Paine (ANCAP Technical Manager), Mary Lydon (CASR), Mark Terrill (ANCAP Director), Craig Newland (ANCAP Director), Ray Grigg (AAA President), Jack McLean (CASR).*



## CASR Director chosen for ARRB Hall of Fame

Professor Mary Lydon, Director of CASR (pictured right), has been selected as an inaugural member of the ARRB Hall of Fame. The ARRB Group Hall of Fame recognises former ARRB staff that have made a significant and sustained contribution to ARRB.



## Intelligent Speed Adaptation technology

**Intelligent Speed Adaptation (ISA) is an emerging vehicle technology that has shown great potential to reduce road trauma.**

In recent years CASR has conducted several research projects on ISA funded by organisations including Department of Transport and Main Roads (QLD), Office of Road Safety – Department of Premier and Cabinet (WA), Transport Certification Australia, VicRoads, Transport Accident Commission (VIC) and the Roads and Traffic Authority (NSW). Initial research relied upon applying results from international trials to Australian conditions; however, recent research was able to utilise data from the NSW Centre for Road Safety's trial of advisory ISA.

"The advent of a new safety technology always raises new questions that need to be answered. I enjoy being part of the process of providing answers to those questions," said principal ISA researcher, Sam Doecke. "It is encouraging to see interest in ISA

gaining momentum, especially as our research to date shows that, if implemented correctly, ISA will represent a significant step towards achieving the Safe System we are all aiming for."

The primary focus of ISA research at CASR has been modelling the potential reductions in casualty crashes and costs of the system. Various implementation scenarios have been considered, including a project specifically dedicated to ISA in government vehicles. Other topics included utilising microsimulation to examine the effect vehicles with ISA have on the speed of vehicles without ISA and the sensitivity of the effect of ISA to time.

The initial research was presented at the Road Safety Research, Policing and Education Conference in Canberra last year, with further research to be presented at the conference this year in Perth.

For more information please contact Sam Doecke  
[sam@casr.adelaide.edu.au](mailto:sam@casr.adelaide.edu.au)

## CASR presents Austroads traffic management and infrastructure seminars

In May Jeremy Woolley presented the 'Lessons from in-depth crash investigation' program to transport professionals in Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Wellington, Darwin and Adelaide.

The seminars used findings from the CASR in-depth crash investigation program to demonstrate what considerations are needed for improved traffic management and infrastructure design.

The program was funded by Austroads and managed by the Department for Transport, Energy and Infrastructure (SA).

For more information please contact Jeremy Woolley, [jeremy@casr.adelaide.edu.au](mailto:jeremy@casr.adelaide.edu.au)

## Jack McLean earns College of Biomedical Engineers Award

The College of Biomedical Engineers awarded the David Dewhust Award to Professor McLean in March. The Award recognised Jack's distinguished career both in road safety and as founder of the Centre for Automotive Safety Research.

*Pictured: Mr Mike Flood (Immediate Past Chair and Canberra Representative of the College), Jack McLean, Professor Lynne Bilston (University of New South Wales, member and past chair of the National Panel on the Biomechanics of Injury).*



## In the spotlight – Adrian Weissenfeld

Adrian is currently undertaking a PhD supported by Motorcycling Australia. He is studying human factors involved in motorcycle crashes and in motorcycling in general. His research aims to identify contributing factors in motorcycle crashes and to examine the behavioural and cognitive processes involved in motorcycling.

Adrian hopes his research will assist in gaining an understanding of the behaviour, motivation and attentional processes of those involved in motorcycle crashes and that this will help to identify and help those groups at a higher crash risk.

Adrian believes "what is great about studying at CASR is the diversity of backgrounds of researchers and the strong links to industry and government. This allows you to see real changes in society coming from your research."

About his project Adrian says "I believe a major issue in motorcycle safety is in the understanding of the different motivational and behavioural patterns between motorcyclists. A lot of research and development has focused on the environmental and protective side; however understanding the actual rider is of primary importance."