



Friday 1 August 2014

## VCCCAR News

More information about this update at [www.vcccar.org.au](http://www.vcccar.org.au)

### Farewell from VCCCAR Director Rod Keenan

In this final edition of VCCCAR news I am pleased to report that our last year of operation has been particularly productive in terms of research outputs, with completion of final reports from major projects, including: Decision Principles for the Selection and Placement of Green Infrastructure to Manage the Urban Heat Island Effect, Decision Taking Under Future Climate Uncertainty, Governance and Regulatory Models for Adaptation and Natural Disaster Risk Management, the Implementing Adaptation project, and Coproduction of Knowledge for Evidence-Based Policy. There has been considerable collaboration in the production and presentation of these reports from state government agencies, from local community and community service organisations. Outputs from research projects are also now being published in national and international journals.



Other output highlights included the report from our final International Visiting Fellow, Dr Benjamin Preston from the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in the USA. In an analysis of our activities Ben concluded that:

*Boundary organisations such as VCCCAR possess a number of advantages with respect to generating credible knowledge that is simultaneously relevant to policy and practice. In addition to research, boundary organisations take on roles such as convening, collaborating, translating, and mediating. He argued that these roles are ultimately essential if research is to be relevant to stakeholders, particularly for complex issues associated with high uncertainty and where stakeholders have different perspectives and values. Boundary organisations also contribute to building relationships and social learning that enhances capacity, which enables such organisations to have greater societal impact and return on investment than they would if they were limited to research alone.*

This strong endorsement for VCCCAR's place in the adaptation landscape was reiterated by the VCCCAR Advisory Board at its final meeting on 25 June 2014, where the following statement was included in the minutes.

*The VCCCAR project has been an outstanding success. From the perspective of its host and other member universities, VCCCAR has established an impressively high level of cooperation and collaboration across the Victorian climate change adaptation research community and built extremely productive links with various arms of Victorian Government and the broader community. In the opinion of the Advisory Board, the climate change adaptation community of practice which has built up through five years will provide an invaluable foundation for future initiatives required in adaptation policy and practice in Victoria and nationally. The Board extends its warm congratulations to all who have contributed to the outstanding success of the VCCCAR achievement.*

Adaptation activity in Victoria will continue with a number of VCCCAR partners involved in projects under the **Victorian Adaptation and Sustainability Partnerships program** (VASP).

My best wishes to everyone involved with VCCCAR. I will be travelling to Central America and the UK on a Special Study Program from 4 August to mid-February. One project during this period will be producing a book on the VCCCAR experience. I look forward to making contact when I return.

Regards

Rod Keenan

### New VCCCAR publications now available online

#### Visiting Fellow reports

- [Use of climate science in adaptation planning and decision making - Jonanthan Overpeck](#)

- [Research to action: A multi-institutional synthesis of the Victorian Centre for Climate Change Adaptation Research - Benjamin Preston](#)

#### Policy brief

- [Adaptation planning for community service organisations and primary care partnerships](#)

#### Final reports

- [Lessons learnt from engaging and supporting the primary health and community services sector in climate change adaptation](#)
- [Design-led decision support for regional climate adaptation](#)
- [Enhancing water infrastructure provision with climate change uncertainty](#)

#### Technical paper

- [Managing the uncertainty and risks of climate change - legal, information and insurance issues](#)

#### Literature review

- [Towards an efficient strategy to manage risk and uncertainty in climate change adaptation](#)

### Short films to communicate climate change adaptation

VCCCAR research scientist Alianne Rance has developed two entertaining short films to better communicate climate change adaptation to the general public. *Adaptation for Victorians* draws a parallel between climate change and Australian Rules Football, with Ali interviewing her brother, Richmond Tigers defender Alex Rance. Linking one of Australia's favourite past-times to the 'challenge of our generation', aims to increase awareness for adaptation action. The second film *Cooking for Adaptation*, is a light-hearted take on the adaptation process, aiming to communicate adaptation more effectively to the general public. These videos will be available on the VCCCAR website next Wednesday. For queries regarding the videos, please contact Ali on [alianne.rance@rmit.edu.au](mailto:alianne.rance@rmit.edu.au).



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