



Newsletter 179 University of Wollongong is Promoting Non-evidence based Claims about Vaccines

Please see the letter below that has been sent to the Vice-Chancellor and academics at the University of Wollongong, NSW, Australia:

Open Letter

23 October 2017

To University of Wollongong (UOW) Vice-Chancellor, Paul Wellings

Copied to Professor's Heather Yeatman, Alison Jones and UOW Academics

Dear Professor Wellings,

The University of Wollongong (UOW) is inappropriately promoting information about the safety and efficacy of vaccines that is **non-evidence based**. These comments are being used to underpin **mandatory and coercive vaccination policies** in Australia

The promotion of **Heather Yeatman's** (Professor of Nutrition) **personal opinion** of vaccines is inappropriate because this is not her field of expertise. Further, the promotion of claims made by the Australian government about vaccines and signed by other UOW academics, is also inappropriate because the claims have not addressed the **scientific evidence and arguments** provided in my PhD thesis - [published on the UOW website](#).

The UOW, that works in partnership with industry, published Heather Yeatman's *personal opinion of vaccines* on the UOW website **one week after** my [PhD thesis](#) was published in January 2016.

UOW has also permitted these organised lobby groups to misuse the universities policies to besmirch my research and reputation in the mainstream media.

Here are several statements promoted on the UOW website that are *not supported by evidence*:

Firstly, the word 'immunisation' is misused in these comments. The comments refer to '**vaccination**' not '**immunisation**' - these two words have different meanings and they are not interchangeable. I have corrected the use of these words in the comments below.

The following claims that are promoted on the **UOW website** are not supported by **scientific evidence**:

1. The international scientific evidence overwhelmingly supports immunisation [**vaccination**] to protect children from infectious diseases.
2. Large-scale immunisation [**vaccination**] programs began in the 1930's and gathered pace in the 1950's.
3. These vaccination programs led to a 99% drop in deaths from vaccine preventable diseases.

These claims are **untrue and/or misleading** and they are not supported by the academic literature on vaccination or infectious diseases.

Here are two **7 min videos** that describe my research on vaccines at the UOW and the scientific evidence that debunks the claims of safety and efficacy that the University of Wollongong is promoting:

- i) [The Undone Science in Government Vaccination Policies](#)
- ii) [Vaccine-created Herd Immunity did not Control Infectious Diseases](#)

In addition, **Professor Alison Jones**, executive dean of the Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health, has co-authored an article titled '[Public Health and the Necessary Limits of Academic Freedom](#)' that argues that academic freedom on vaccination research should be constrained – a strategy that would result in suppressing the scientific debate of vaccination because it would remove some perspectives of the science underpinning vaccines - specifically the [risks of vaccination](#).

Please ensure that you address this information promptly so that vaccination legislation in Australia will protect the health of Australians and will not result in significant **deaths and illnesses** due to vaccines that are preventable and unnecessary.

Yours Sincerely,

Judy Wilyman PhD

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