



Newsletter 183 Loss of Freedom of Speech and Vaccination Debate in Australia

27 November 2017

Open Letter

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

Copied to UOW Academics

Dear Professor Wellings,

The University of Wollongong is complicit in harming the health of Australians by promoting [false and misleading information](#) about vaccines on the UOW website. This information has been provided by **Professor Heather Yeatman** a UOW academic who is not an expert in vaccination.

Further, she has a conflict of interest in her role as the president of the **Public Health of Australia Association (PHAA)** - an organisation that runs the **industry-sponsored** Australian Immunisation Conference and supports the **SAVN pro-vaccine lobby group (an offshoot of the Australian Skeptics Inc)**.

Heather Yeatman's **non evidence-based** claims about vaccines contradict the **evidence-based** research in my [PhD thesis](#) - published on the UOW website. Both claims cannot be correct and UOW is deceiving the public by promoting Heather Yeatman's unsupported claims about vaccines on its website.

In **November 2016** I made an official complaint to the *NSW Ombudsman* about
18/03/2021

this situation and **12 months later** the investigation *has still not been completed*. This situation is harming human health.

Publishing the unsupported claims of a non-expert in vaccination on a university website is deceiving to the public and Heather Yeatman, and other UOW academics, have refused to provide the evidence for her claims in many requests over the past 12 months. Silence is the only response we have received to our concerns about the risks of vaccines.

None of the UOW academics who have signed their names to Yeatman's false claims have addressed or countered the medical risks of vaccines that I have presented in my PhD thesis. Instead they are allowing others to frame these medical risks as "anti-vaccination".

On 20 November 2017 the City of Sydney stated that ["anti-vaccination" talks](#) should not be presented at Sydney Council venues. The framing of my research as "anti-vaccination" is a crime against the Australian population as I am presenting the risks of a medical intervention - for a healthy, genetically diverse population.

All medical interventions need to be assessed for their benefits and risks and the population will be harmed if they are not.

Any UOW academic, doctor, politician or journalist who is referring to the debate on the risks of vaccination as 'anti-vaccination' **or who is remaining silent** as others dismiss this medical literature as "anti-vaccination", will be liable for the harm that is being caused by this medical intervention.

The concerned Australian community will be following the US and taking civil action against any authorities who are dismissing the medical risks of vaccines as "anti-vaccination".

Here is the first notice of liability that has been sent to the [US Department of Health and Human Services](#). It contains the concrete scientific evidence that vaccines cause serious health consequences, including autism and death, and this is why Sweden and Colombia have stated they will not adopt mandatory or coercive vaccination policies.

As an academic whose research is published on the University of Wollongong website it is very concerning that lobby groups are preventing my information from being heard in public forums in Australia by dismissing it as anti-vaccination. Rachael Dunlop and John Cunningham are leaders of these

industry pro-vaccine lobby groups and they are constantly quoted in the mainstream media.

Please ensure that you stand up for the public interest in government policies by removing **Heather Yeatmans** false and unsupported claims about vaccines from the University of Wollongong website.

This is a tragedy for human health and academic integrity is at stake if UOW does not remove Heather Yeatman's false claims about vaccine safety and efficacy from the website.

Yours Sincerely,

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