

Speaker Biographies
Cultural Connections: A High Tea Affair
26 May 2024



Professor Linda-Slack Smith

Professor Linda Slack-Smith is a social epidemiologist undertaking qualitative, quantitative and translational research with her team and collaborators. Her work has focused on disparities in oral, child, older adult and Aboriginal health and she is a Professor in the School of Population and Global Health at the University of Western Australia. Linda has held international, national, university, government Board and community leadership roles in various organisations.

Linda was recently awarded the Distinguished Scientist Award in Geriatric Oral Research for IADR (International Association for Dental Research) awarded in New Orleans; was senior author on the paper awarded the international Giddon Award for Distinguished Research in the Behavioral Sciences 2024 with Angela Durey and Nola Naylor. senior author of the international Giddon Award for Distinguished Research in the Behavioral Sciences awarded in London in 2018 with co-authors: Durey A, McAullay D, Gibson B, Slack-Smith L Internationally she is Editor Emerita of the journal Gerodontology (which represents 4 major international geriatric dentistry societies), recent President of the Geriatric Oral Health Research Group of the International Association for Dental Research (IADR), and was IADR ANZ Division President 2015-2017. She was also Co-Chair of the Melbourne 2021 World Congress of Epidemiology.

She led a Worldwide Universities Network Collaboration in Oral Health and is partner on another collaboration in family and domestic violence. She is an executive and founding member of the Australian based Network for Integrated Oral Health. Linda was also a recent President of the Australasian Epidemiological Association and was Scientific Committee Chair for the Public Health Congress in Hobart in 2015.



Director of Aboriginal Health Strategy Melinda Robinson

I have connections to Ngaryinin and Gidja Country in the Kimberley and Indian connection. I am a nurse, mum and auntie. I am employed as the Director Aboriginal health strategy at Child and Adolescent Health Service which includes Perth Children's Hospital, Neonates, Child and Adolescent Community Health and Child and Adolescent Mental Health. I have over 34 years experience in nursing, policy, vocational education and training and health leadership.