

Bruce Robinson – UWA brief bio.

UWA/Professional:

Research: Bruce Robinson is a multi-award winning physician-scientist and was the founding Director of a highly successful Australian national co-operative/NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence, studying subjects such as asbestos cancers and tumour immunology. The team has many firsts in the field including understanding tumour neo-antigen cross presentation, the first human and mouse mesothelioma cell lines, first asbestos-induced tumour neo-antigen and the first reliable blood biomarker for mesothelioma. Team members are experienced in many areas including cancer gene sequencing-defined tumour antigens, transgenic mouse models, tumour biomarkers and novel immunotherapy approaches. He was co-chair of the international ICGC-TCGA mesothelioma gene sequencing program.

He also leads a COVID-19 digital health research project.

He has published >240 scientific papers, >50 invited book chapters and numerous key invited reviews in top journals such as the New England Journal of Medicine, Nature Reviews and Lancet plus 2 scientific books.

Professor Robinson's team are the world leaders in the field of mesothelioma research

Professor V Courtney Broaddus, Chief of Pulmonary, San Francisco, USA. 2012 Report to NHMRC CRE Board.

Clinical: He has been a practicing pulmonary specialist for >30 years, with a special interest in asbestos induced lung disease and pulmonary cancer. He has cared for hundreds of patients with mesothelioma and has led a number of world first immunotherapy and chemotherapy trials in that disease.

He has presented many invited talks at major international and national clinical society meetings (including Thoracic Society of Aust and NZ, American Thoracic Society, European Respiratory Society, Chinese Society of Clinical Oncology plus Japanese, Hong Kong & Indonesian Thoracic Societies. He is considered to be one of Australia's leading clinician-scientists.

Bruce Robinson is an Australian icon as a clinician-investigator".

Prof W Anderson, CEO NHMRC. 2012

Teaching: Bruce has taught and mentored medical students for over 40 years. His teaching roles have included bedside teaching, breaking bad news to cancer patients, work-life balance for doctors, diseases of developing nations, how research can make you a better doctor and many other topics. He initiated and has run, over the past 25 years, the successful pre-intern training camp for the UWA final year medical students to prepare them clinically for their intern year. Responsible for preparing doctors for dealing with communication issues with patients by running the communications skills course in the UWA medical school.

Authored the training manual the UWA course in 'Breaking Bad News'.

The communications session on giving bad news was confronting but a very valuable session.

Prof Robinson's personal experience made the whole thing much more relevant & practical.

Amazing tutorial on a usually poorly taught subject I now feel more prepared to give people bad news. In all honesty I wasn't looking forward to this tutorial. However I found it very useful and a safe encouraging place to talk about the thing that nobody wants to talk about – death.

UWA Med 4 feedback on the Breaking Bad News teaching program.

He has received 3 UWA 'Teacher of the Year' awards

Prof Robinson is one of the most inspiring teachers I have ever had. I don't have many role models but Bruce has become one of them.

His dedication to his patients and his ability to communicate his genuine compassion to them also sets a good example for medical students. He is reminder of why we chose medicine as a career'

UWA Excellence in Teaching award nominations.

Professional leadership roles:

Professor of Medicine; Chairman of the WA State Health Research Advisory Council and the FutureHealth WA committee; Director of a National Centre of Research Excellence (NCARD); Board Member Marshall Centre, Bernie Banton Foundation, Australia-Indonesia Institute and International Mesothelioma Interest Group; NHMRC Research Committee, Program Grants and other committees. Led the study of occupational diseases by establishing the National Centre for Asbestos-Related Diseases (NCARD) a prestigious NHMRC-funded Centre of Research Excellence which brings together most of the best Australians in the field to work collaboratively towards curing and preventing asbestos cancers, serving as the inaugural national Director of this body.

Co-founded the International Mesothelioma Interest Group (IMIG) in 1990 comprising all of the world's leading scientists & clinicians in the field of asbestos cancer. This has become the peak international body and meets biennially, mostly in the USA and Europe. He is widely acknowledged as a world leader in the field of asbestos cancer research.

He also cofounded the Cancer Research Association of WA and was a founding member of the WA Institute for Medical Research (now the Perkins Institute).

He served on the Asbestos Management Review Committee under the jurisdiction of the Minister for Workplace Relations and has been or is a member of committees/Boards for the Australian Lung Foundation, Keogh Institute, Australian Cancer Foundation, WA Institute for Medical Research; SCGH Research Advisory Committee; UWA Faculty, PMH, Clinical Oncology Society of Australia. Served as a Board member of DFAT's Australia-Indonesia Institute, promoting improved health training (e.g. the 'AIM HI' program – 'Australia-Indonesia Medical and Health Initiative'), youth & media exchanges, a student exchange program and other international and inter-faith activities.

Other leadership roles

Australian Medical Council National Workshop on Competency-based Skills Assessment in Medicine; Is/has been a member of 24 professional societies, 12 professional journal review panels, 17 professional research body peer review panels plus Mensa and >15 other senior teaching, research and appointments committees of his hospital and university.

Community leadership:

Director, Board Member and founder of The Fathering Project; Board Member of Tall Trees Resources; Director and Board Member, International Skills and Training Institute in Health; Head Coach University Football club and club life member.

Roles in Leadership training and mentoring: Has trained >20 postgraduate doctors in medical research and translational clinical trials, 10 of whom have won Young Investigator Awards for their work. Had also co-supervised >30 PhD and/or honours students. Regular speaker on Leadership topics, e.g. to Leadership WA, Rotary and other community groups, Lush TV Leadership series and many other leadership fora.

Parenting for professionals/work-life balance.

Bruce has published three best selling books on fathering. Also, after his first book *Fathering from the Fast Lane* became a best seller, he founded the multi-award-winning Fathering Project at the University of Western Australia which is now active in most states in Australia.

The Fathering Project has been described as 'the most powerful force in Australia to change the future of our kids'.

I personally have benefitted from The Fathering Project and I am absolutely convinced that this is something Australian dads need.

Hon John Anderson AO, Former Deputy Prime Minister of Australia

This work has helped hundreds of thousands of busy parents, fathers and mothers, become better parents. That Project works through schools, workplaces, community groups and the internet. In addition to his 3 best-selling books on fathering he has spoken to >16,000 parents in live audiences in seven countries on this subject. In 2013 he was named Western Australian of the Year for this work. The Fathering Project has recently been granted \$5.4 million from the Commonwealth Government to expand its schools program into half of the primary schools in the country over the next 5 years, an activity that is predicted to save the community over \$10 billion.

Bruce has been publicly acknowledged as 'the Fred Hollows of fathering in Australia' by parenting author Steve Biddulph and 'Australia's foremost author on fathering' by Warwick Marsh of the Australian Fatherhood Foundation.

That was the best talk I have ever been to. And I don't mean the best talk on parenting. I mean the best talk of any sort. And I have been to dozens and dozens of conferences. His ability to engage with that audience of business people was remarkable".

Dr L Irving, Physician, Melbourne.

Bruce did what he said he was going to do; provide a thought provoking, encouraging and enjoyable session exploring practical advice for busy fathers. He is easy to listen to, not patronising nor intimidatory.

P Mumford. Health Management Consultant, London

He has also led his medical school's training program in work-life balance for over 25 years and is a regular speaker on the subject to professional and community groups in Australia and internationally.

Volunteer medical service in poorer countries

Bruce also serves as a volunteer doctor in poorer countries suffering earthquakes and tsunamis, mostly in Indonesia (Aceh, Padang and Sulawesi) as well as Haiti and elsewhere. He is an honorary professor at the University of Indonesia.

He co-founded the International Skills and Training Institute in Health (ISTIH) which provides train-the-trainer programs to facilitate Australian physicians, nurses and allied health workers in neighboring countries in the region to provide training. ISTIH is a founding partner of the Indonesian Clinical and Training Education Centre (ICTEC). Bruce has also specifically published and lectured on the pulmonary complications of natural disasters.

Awards:

Bruce has received numerous prestigious awards for his work:

International: Wagner Medal, Selikoff Lifetime Achievement award and IMIG Advancement Award

National: Australian Medical Association, Thoracic Society and Royal Australasian College of Physicians medals and the Premier's Science and Saint Awards plus an EY Entrepreneur of the Year 2011 (for co-founding ISTIH,). He received an Order of Australia and was Western Australian of the Year in 2013 and a finalist in the Australian of the Year awards in 2014.

Media contributions.

Television: BBC news, ABC Catalyst, Four Corners, TV Evening News (all channels, all states), ABC TV (James O'Loughlin), 10 (Bert Newton), 7 (Denise Drysdale), NZTV (Morning Show), 10 (Mornings with David and Kim + Evening News), 7 (Today Tonight) The Morning Show on Seven, Today Tonight on Seven, Good Morning Australia with Bert Newton, Good Morning on TV NZ.

Radio: ABC radio in all capital cities + regional areas plus ABC Life Matters (several occasions) and ABC Family Matters (Panel Member - 6 weeks), 6PR afternoons with Peter Bell (regular guest), ABC radio with Geoff Hutchinson (regular guest) as well as >60 radio interviews and >50 talk-back shows

Newspapers and Magazines: The Australian, The Age, West Australian, SMH, Sunday Telegraph, Brisbane Courier Mail, Western Suburbs Weekly and Post Newspapers and > 50 other regional stations.

Personal

He is married to Jacqueline and has 3 children and 6 grandchildren. He is a member of Mensa. He was an All-Australian footballer and varsity coach. He speaks five languages and enjoys camping, wine tasting, AFL, cricket and kayaking

Links:

www.bruceroobinson.com.au

www.thefatheringproject.org

www.ncard.org