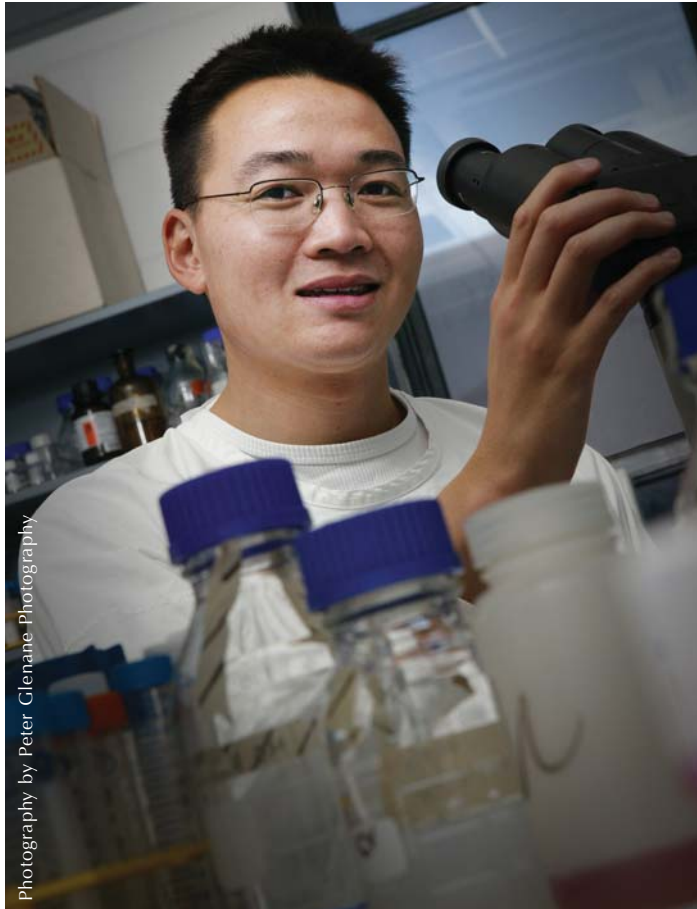


The Menzies Foundation

2008

Annual Review



Photography by Peter Clenane Photography

Dr Ken C Pang, NHMRC/RG Menzies Fellow

To promote excellence in health research,
education and post graduate scholarship by Australians

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



The Hon Sir Guy
Green, AC, KBE, CB

2008 has been a year of change for the Menzies Foundation.

At the end of November, the Hon Sir Daryl Dawson, Chairman of the Board since 1998, retired. During his term of office the Foundation has enhanced its standing and increased the scope of its work and its resources. I extend our thanks and appreciation to Sir Daryl for his leadership and wise counsel. I am honoured to have been chosen as his successor.

The Foundation has been privileged since its inception to have had a representative of the Menzies family on its Board. In November Ms Edwina Menzies, who had been a Director since 2003, stepped down and will be replaced by her cousin Ms Diana Menzies. During her directorship Ms Menzies was our nominee on the Selection Committee for the RG Menzies Scholarship to Harvard and we are pleased that she will be continuing in that important role.

We also welcomed three new Board members: Mr Nick Callinan, Prof John Mathews and Prof Robyn O'Hehir. Their extensive experience and varied skills will add to the strength of our Board.

In 2009 there will be further changes with the retirement in March of our Executive Director, Prof John Coghlan. The recruitment process for a new Executive Director took place in the latter part of 2008 and I am pleased to announce that Prof John Mathews has been appointed. Prof Mathews brings to the position an extensive background in health research, public health policy and administration and we welcome him and wish him every success.

Financially the past year has been the most difficult ever experienced by the Foundation. All three investment portfolios - GS JBW Asset Management,

the BT Wholesale Active Balanced fund and our independent investment portfolio - made unprecedented negative returns. Accumulated funds at the end of the financial year were \$15.377m including \$3.5m held in term deposits (2007: \$21.879m). The operating deficit was \$6.501m (2007: surplus \$1.261m).

The Foundation has, however, been able to continue with its core activities. Funding for the three Menzies health research centres totalled \$430,000 and funding for the various Menzies Fellowships and Scholarships totalled \$443,224. A total of \$117,449 was committed to other activities including the Menzies Innovation Grants, the Allied Health Sciences Grants and the Menzies Oration on Higher Education.

I have long admired the work of the Foundation and I look forward to working with my fellow Directors and the Secretariat as the Foundation moves into a new era.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT



Professor John
Coghlan, AO

This is my last Executive Director's Report. For some reason there seems

to be a great curiosity about what I am going to do now. Well, I am going back to the University of Melbourne attached to the Dean's Office, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences in my time honoured role as resident 'stirrer'.

I have been honoured to serve the Menzies Foundation over the past 10 years. The Foundation has a strong administrative and organisational base and operates with the highest degree of professionalism that enhances its reputation in the academic, research and general communities.

Changes during my tenure have been restricted by our desire to maintain

our financial corpus well in excess of inflation, but much has been achieved.

Highlights include:

- the grant of \$3m from the Howard Government for the Foundation to continue its innovative health research;
- the strengthening of the scholarship schemes, especially in the Allied Health Sciences, an area that is, to some extent, the Cinderella of the whole health care system. We have also introduced "start up grants" for Menzies Allied Health Sciences Scholars following the completion of their PhD;
- the introduction of Menzies Innovation Grants for cutting edge research;
- the establishment of the Menzies Centre for Health Policy at the University of Sydney and the Australian National University. The Centre aims to provide the Australian people with a better understanding of their health system and to encourage informed debate about how Australians can influence health policy;
- the launch of the Menzies Virtual Museum by Prime Minister John Howard and its continuing popularity as an exceptional educational site on the life and times of Sir Robert Menzies;
- an exciting series of jointly sponsored public lectures and workshops on health-related topics.

The new Executive Director, Prof John Mathews, comes in at a time when we are somewhat financially shackled. Past experience before and during my tenure indicates that cuts should not be too deep lest we reach stalling speed. The financial situation will improve as a good proportion of our income has been re-invested over previous years and is helping us in these difficult times.

The Menzies Foundation is a fine institution and does its job well. Managing to maintain excellence in a rapidly changing academic, social and financial environment is one of the demands of the 21st Century.



The Menzies School of Health Research (Menzies) has had another outstanding year of growth, with an overall growth of staff numbers of 15%, and a total of almost \$7.5 million from NHMRC project grants. This is a 50% success rate and the best performance by the Menzies team ever. Other achievements have been:

- The establishment of a dedicated 'Substance misuse' unit.
- Completion of the Evaluation of the 18-month 'Tobacco Project' in six remote Aboriginal communities.
- Completion of qualitative research about Aboriginal perceptions of why people smoke and quit, and of effectiveness and acceptability of different tobacco control activities.
- Work with Outback Stores on tobacco control led to their decision to remove tobacco from public display in all their stores.
- The 'Implementing the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Adult Health Check' project included a community intervention focused on tobacco cessation. This successful intervention decreased tobacco consumption by 8%.
- Development of a new "high resolution melt"-based method for the genetic fingerprinting of bacteria.
- A new collaboration was established with the Katherine West Health Board that saw the commencement of web-based teaching sessions to staff of remote Aboriginal communities.

• Prof Anne Chang and Assoc Prof Joan Cunningham were successful in NHMRC Fellowship applications and Dr Kerry-Ann O'Grady and Dr Sue Skull were awarded NHMRC Training Fellowships.

- Three Scholarships - the Menzies Scholarship, Gurdiminda Indigenous Health Scholarship and the Alan Walker Scholarship - were established for students showing exceptional research promise in their fields of study.
- The Inaugural 'Ochre' art auction raised over \$250,000 for Indigenous child health research at Menzies.
- Menzies' Director, Prof Jonathan Carapetis, was invited to attend the Prime Minister's 20:20 Summit.
- A successful event was held on the Tiwi Islands in which Menzies staff took the opportunity to thank the Tiwi people for their involvement and assistance over the past 20 years.



The Menzies School of Health Research thanked families of the Tiwi Islands for their involvement and assistance in research projects over many years.



The Menzies Research Institute (Menzies) exists to improve human health and well-being by conducting innovative research into a range of diseases relevant to Tasmanians and other communities, by contributing to the translation of that knowledge into clinical practice and policy, and by providing research training and education. We carry out local research that is globally significant.

Menzies continued to perform outstanding research and experience significant growth in 2008. Highlights included:

Growth

- Total income \$17.3 million - 43% increase from 2007;
- Research income \$12.9 million - 51% growth from 2007;
- Competitive grant income \$8.7 million - 60% growth from previous year; and
- Staff and student numbers totalled 277 people - 21% increase from 2007.

Development of our new facility

- Stage One of the new building progressed substantially, with the completion date now November 2009. To accommodate the needs of Menzies a Stage Two project is required. Menzies is campaigning to raise the required \$60 million.

Grant success

- Menzies again exceeded the national average success rate with seven NHMRC project grants awarded for 2009; and
- Over 70 grants were awarded to Menzies' staff during 2008.

Research Excellence

- The quality of journals that Menzies

MENZIES CENTRE *for* HEALTH POLICY

The Menzies Centre for Health Policy had a successful year implementing its health policy analysis, education and research programs. Key achievements include:

- Numerous consultations with the National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission, Preventative Health Services Taskforce, Special Commission of Inquiry into Acute Care Services in NSW Public Hospitals and NHMRC Review of Public Health Research.
- A Review of Government Mental Health Initiatives Across Australian Jurisdictions, commissioned by the National Advisory Council on Mental Health, by Dr Lesley Russell.
- Analyses of: the Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook 2008-09; COAG spending in health care announced November 2008; Chronic Disease Management program 2007-08; MBS items for GP case conferencing; health spending in the 2008-09 Commonwealth, State and Territory budgets; and the Commonwealth Government's election commitments against funding and implementation announcements.
- Appointment of Professor Stephen Leeder to the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing Health and Hospitals Fund Advisory Board.
- A well attended events program featuring regular evening seminars and joint seminars with Minter Ellison. The 2008 Menzies Oration was delivered by Mr Gary Banks, Chairman of the Productivity Commission. The 3rd annual Emerging Health Policy Researchers Conference was again a popular event.

- Development of a new Master of Health Policy program to be delivered at the University of Sydney from 2009.
- Establishment of a new Master of Public Health program to be delivered at The Australian National University from 2009.
- Staff supervision of 10 PhD students and a WHO Fellow.
- Completion of the Menzies-Nous National Survey of Attitudes towards the Health System. The first two reports of the survey on privacy and financial stress generated good interest and media attention.
- Completion of the first phase qualitative study of the Serious and Continuing Illness Policy and Practice Study (SCIPPS).
- Participation in research projects in India, Tanzania, Argentina and China and delivery of training programs to health policy officials from India, Malaysia and China.
- Three successful NHMRC project grant applications and one NHMRC capacity building grant application that have Menzies staff listed as a Chief Investigator.
- Publication of: 22 peer reviewed papers; 19 opinion papers in national newspapers; 4 discussion papers; 2 commissioned reports; and regular opinion papers in industry publications such as Australian Doctor.
- Regular commentary in national newspapers and radio.
- Delivery of 20 international and national conference presentations and 17 presentations at forums/seminars.

publishes in, measured by the average impact factor, increased by 14%;

- Menzies lifted its average and median impact factors in two successive years. This is a 14% and 12% increase respectively from 2006; and
- Dr Brendan McMorran and Professor Simon Foote had a paper accepted in the prestigious Science journal.

Research Expertise

- Appointment of five new senior research fellows from strategic funding provided by the University of Tasmania; and
- Launch of the Wicking Dementia Research and Education Centre.

Commercialisation

- TasTherapeutics Pty Ltd was formed, a commercialisation company spun-out of Menzies; and
- Menzies filed a number of provisional and international patent applications for discoveries that have commercial potential.

The Menzies Foundation continues to be an important stakeholder that significantly enhances the standing of, and contributes to, the Institute's development and strategic direction.



Photomontage of the new Menzies building in Hobart due for completion in November 2009.

THE MENZIES ORATION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

The Menzies Oration has been presented annually since 1991 at the University of Melbourne in conjunction with a higher degree graduation ceremony. The choice of this University as the venue for the Menzies Oration recognises the eminent role played by Sir Robert as its Chancellor from 1967 to 1972 and his contribution to the development of Universities and higher education in Australia.

The 2008 Oration "The Challenge for Universities in the Education Revolution" was delivered by The Hon Julia Gillard MP, Deputy Prime Minister; Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations; Minister for Education; Minister for Social Inclusion.

The Menzies Foundation medal, specially struck by the Royal Australian Mint, is presented to each Orator. The oration is available from the Menzies Foundation's web site at menziesfoundation.org.au.



The Foundation's Chairman, Sir Daryl Dawson with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Education, Julia Gillard, who holds the Menzies Medallion which was presented to her by Sir Robert's grandson, Mr Alec Menzies.

MENZIES ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES GRANTS

In 2007, the Foundation introduced a "start up" grant for Menzies Allied Health Sciences Scholars. This grant of \$25,000 is to help the Scholar's research at an early stage of his or her career following the completion of their PhD.

This year the awards have been made to Dr Fiona Dobson and Dr Simone O'Shea who were both awarded the Menzies Scholarship in 2004. Fiona's PhD project was entitled "Walking patterns in children with hemiplegic cerebral palsy" and Simone's PhD project looked at the effects of peripheral strength training for people with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

MENZIES INNOVATION GRANT

The Menzies Innovation Grant of \$50,000 was awarded to La Trobe University to conduct a feasibility study into the establishment of a Centre for Allied Health Research. The Principal Investigator is Prof Alison Perry, Chair, School of Communication Sciences.

As part of the study, Prof Perry is co-ordinating a number of Focus Groups across and within each allied health discipline, to both establish concordance and to examine differences in views about establishing and running such a Centre.

VALE DR ERIC WIGGLESWORTH AM

It is with sadness that we record the death on 23 March 2009 of Dr Eric Wigglesworth AM, founding Executive Director of the Foundation from 1979 until 1998. Eric will be remembered for setting high standards for the Foundation's administration and, through his energy, intellect and leadership, establishing a framework of success for its future.

FAREWELL SIR DARYL DAWSON

Clarendon Terrace

13 November 2008



Above left: Sir Daryl Dawson

Above right: Prof Alison Perry, Dr Deb Walsh and Ms Edwina Menzies



Above: Mr Brian Doyle, Lady Green, Mr Stan Guilfoyle, Dame Margaret Guilfoyle and Ms Anne O'Donovan.



Above left: Mr Bob Wells, Dr Anina Rich and Dr Marie Estcourt

Above right: Mr Brian Doyle



Above: Mrs Anne-Marie and Mr Daniel Hill, Sir Guy Green and Prof Alison Venn

MENZIES SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Allied Health Sciences

The Sir Robert Menzies Memorial Scholarship in the Allied Health Sciences is at postgraduate level and tenable in Australia. Recipients of the 2008 awards were:

Ms Anne-Marie Hill, MPhysiotherapy (2001), Curtin University of Technology. PhD project: "The role of patient education in prevention of in-hospital falls in the older population" at the University of Queensland.

Mr Phillip Tully, BHealthSc (Psychology) (H1), University of Adelaide (2004). PhD project: "Quality of life outcomes after cardiac surgery" at the University of Adelaide.

Engineering and Law

The Sir Robert Menzies Memorial Scholarships to the United Kingdom commenced in 1982 and are awarded in association with the Sir Robert Menzies Memorial Trust, London, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office since 1990 and the Australian Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations. The scholarships are awarded for one, two or three academic years.

Menzies Scholarship in Engineering:

Mr Rohan Shekhar, BEng (Mechatronics), University of Queensland with First Class Honours and the University Medal. Rohan commenced his PhD at Cambridge University in October 2008.

Menzies Scholarships in Law:

Mr Thomas Prince, LLB with First Class Honours and the University Medal (2008) and BSc with First Class Honours and the University Medal (2006) from the University of Sydney. Tom will undertake the degree of LLM at University College London commencing in October 2009.

Ms Aparna Rao, LLB with First Class Honours and the University Medal and BSc (2007), Australian National University. Aparna will undertake the degrees of BCL and MPhil at Oxford University commencing in October 2009.

Medicine

The CJ Martin/RG Menzies Fellowship awarded in association with the NHMRC is available for postgraduate medical study at approved overseas institutions with tenure for up to four years.

In 2008 the award was made to:

Dr Ken C Pang, Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research. His study is "RNA transport: a new paradigm in cell-to-cell communication" at the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, Harvard University.

Harvard

The Menzies Foundation, the Harvard Club of Australia and the Australian National University jointly sponsor the Robert Gordon Menzies Scholarship.

In 2008 awards were made to **Dr Clare Barnett**, a medical resident in neonatal services at the Royal Women's Hospital, Melbourne and **Ms Maja Cassidy**, a Masters student in Electrical Engineering at the University of New South Wales.

Clare will undertake a Masters of Public Health in International Health at the Harvard School of Public Health.

Maja has undertaken research on developing high frequency readout systems for quantum computing devices and will undertake a Doctorate in Applied Physics in the School of Engineering and Applied Science.

Menzies Scholars following presentation of their scholarship medallions at the annual MMSA dinner held at the Menzies Foundation, Clarendon Terrace, East Melbourne.

l-r Thomas Prince, Phillip Tully, Naomi Kuhnell (Menzies Centenary Prize winner), Aparna Rao, Anne-Marie Hill and Anna Dawson (AHS, 2006).



Menzies Centre for Australian Studies Fellowship

Each year the Menzies Centre for Australian Studies, in association with the Menzies Foundation, offers a Menzies Foundation Fellowship for work on an Australian subject fitting the Centre's current research interests.

The Menzies Foundation Fellow for 2008 is Dr Rebe Taylor, an ARC Postdoctoral Fellow in the Australian Centre, University of Melbourne. Dr Taylor is preparing a critical database of holdings on Tasmanian Aborigines in private collections in the United Kingdom and also researching the 'scientific' study of Tasmanian Aborigines in the colonial period.

Menzies Centenary Prize

Initiated to mark the centenary of Sir Robert's birth in Jeparit, this prize of \$10,000 towards the cost of tertiary study is awarded to a Year 12 student from Dimboola Memorial Secondary College. It is jointly funded by the Foundation, the Menzies Memorial Scholars Association and the generous support of Sir Robert's daughter, Mrs Heather Henderson.

Recipient of the 2008 Prize is Ms Naomi Kuhnell. Naomi achieved an ENTER score of 93.45, won the College's Year 12 Scholastic Prize as Dux of the College, won her form's Scholastic Excellence Award in each of her six years at the College and was the University of Melbourne Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholar in 2007. She represented the College in swimming, athletics, cross-country, football, hockey, soccer and netball. Naomi is undertaking a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Melbourne.



The British Consul-General, Mr Stuart Gill, pictured at the annual dinner with Ms Naomi Kuhnell, the 2008 Menzies Centenary Prize winner. Mr Gill represented the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on the interview panel for the Menzies Scholarship in Law to the United Kingdom.

MENZIES MEMORIAL SCHOLARS ASSOCIATION

The Menzies Memorial Scholars Association Annual General Meeting took place at Clarendon Terrace in November and was followed by Scholars' presentations given by Rowan McRae and Kate Peterson, Dr Fiona Dobson and Dr Anina Rich. The following extracts are from an article by Justin Hogan-Doran (Law 1998) in the scholars newsletter, the Menzies Brief.



Congratulations to Kate Peterson (left) and Rowan McRae who were both awarded Prizes for their LLM programs at the London School of Economics' Law School

Menzies scholars in Law 2007, Rowan McRae and Kate Peterson, attended the London School of Economics' Law School. Rowan focused her studies on international law and human rights, two areas in which LSE excels. Kate's attention was given to labour law, another key area of study at LSE. Each took up interdisciplinary studies and developed their core areas of interest with dissertations, supervised by among the world's leading experts in their respective fields.

Dr Fiona Dobson (Allied Health Sciences 2004): Cerebral Palsy (CP) sufferers often find walking difficult, their illness striking at the ability of the neuromuscular motor control system to control the many planes of movement involved in just putting one foot in front of another. The intellectual core of Fiona's work has been to establish common ground across clinicians on classifications of the type and degree of mobility impairment of CP sufferers.

A standardised process is being developed that maps the multiple planes of movement of bones and joints from hip to toe in each leg of CP sufferers. From this, a measurement of the degree of variance can be determined.

The new NaviGAIT system will automate the diagnostic process by producing a report that analyses the findings and suggests modes of treatment. This can mean that each patient,

wherever located, has the benefit of the combined diagnosis by a group of leading practitioners who the patient otherwise might never see. The result is a faster, higher quality and lower cost diagnosis for all patients.

Dr Anina Rich (Medicine 2005): A snapshot of perception: Exploring the role of colour in guiding attention.

Anina presented some of the work she did while at Harvard on her CJ Martin/ RG Menzies Fellowship and continued on her return to Australia, highlighting the value of these fellowships in establishing international collaborations.

Using fantastic photos from her time in the US, Anina illustrated for the non-neuroscientists how visual perception works. Anina's work showed that humans actually have a varying ability to distinguish shades depending on the colours they are looking at. Her study showed that humans are far better at picking out different shades in the 'cream-pink-red' spectrum than in other colours.



Dr Fiona Dobson (AHS 2004) left and Dr Anina Rich (Medicine 2005) present their work on gait analysis and visual perception to fellow scholars

The hypothesis that came from this work was that this may be due to the need for humans/primates to identify skin colours for social networking. Thus the ability to identify skin colours has been selected above our need to identify greens and blues.

In the evening, Clarendon Terrace welcomed 63 scholars, board members and guests for the annual dinner and presentation by Mr Stuart Gill of the Menzies Meszaros Medallions to the new scholars. The lively discussions signalled a most successful evening.

PATRON

Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce, AC
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of
Australia

DIRECTORS as at 31 December 2008

The Hon Sir Guy Green, AC, KBE, CVO
Chairman

Mr B J Doyle, Deputy Chairman & Secretary

Mr B Jamieson, Treasurer

Mr N B Callinan

Dr M J Estcourt

Mr R A Illingworth

Mr C P H Kiefel

Professor S Maddocks

Professor J D Mathews, AM

Mr J L McLachlan

Ms D L Menzies

Professor R E O'Hehir

Dr D-A B Walsh

Profile of Directors is available at
menziesfoundation.org.au.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr B G Atkinson, AM

Professor M I Bullock, AM

Mr M H Codd, AC

The Rt Hon Sir Zelman Cowen, AK, GCMG,
GCVO

The Hon Sir Daryl Dawson, AC, KBE, CB

Professor T Dwyer, AO

Ms B G Gibson

Mr P G F Henderson, AC

Mr R J Hornsby

Dr T H Hurley, AO, CBE

Professor S R Leeder, AO

Professor J D Mathews, AM

Assoc Professor D A F Morgan

Professor K O'Dea, AO

Professor R Porter, AC

Mr A P Sheahan

The Rt Hon Sir Ninian Stephen, KG, AK,
GCMG, GCVO, KBE

Mrs J M Trethewey, OAM

Sir William Vines, AC, CMG

Professor P L Waller, AO

Mr R J White, AO

Dr E C Wigglesworth, AM

KEY FINANCIAL RESULTS

The audited 2008 financial reports are published separately and are available at
www.menziesfoundation.org.au or by contacting the Menzies Foundation.

Income Statement	2008	2007
For the year ended 31 December 2008	\$	\$
(Deficit) Revenue from continuing activities	(4,930,049)	2,711,547
Expenses from continuing activities		
Menzies Health Research Centres	(430,000)	(425,675)
Scholarships and fellowships	(443,224)	(363,134)
Other Memorial Activities	(117,449)	(215,050)
Salaries and salary on-costs	(347,611)	(248,255)
Other expenses from ordinary activities	<u>(233,624)</u>	<u>(198,267)</u>
(Deficit)/surplus from ordinary activities	(6,501,957)	1,261,166
Net (deficit)/surplus	(6,501,957)	1,261,166
Total (decrease)/increase in accumulated funds	(6,501,957)	1,261,166

Balance Sheet	2008	2007
For the year ended 31 December 2008	\$	\$
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	3,724,820	2,714,254
Receivables	77,879	84,167
Investments	11,717,555	19,193,847
Other	<u>15,659</u>	<u>10,659</u>
Total current assets	15,535,913	22,002,927
Total assets	15,535,913	22,002,927
Current liabilities		
Payables	1,692	9,392
Provisions	<u>150,274</u>	<u>108,782</u>
Total current liabilities	151,966	118,174
Non-current liabilities		
Provisions	<u>6,331</u>	5,180
Total non-current liabilities	6,331	5,180
Total liabilities	158,297	123,354
Net assets	15,377,616	21,879,573
Accumulated Funds	15,377,616	21,879,573

