

4:2:3 Neuroimaging

Platform Leader: Professor Graeme Jackson

Platform Manager: Mr Steven Hateley

The Neuroimaging platform has been consolidated over the last twelve months and has built a new state of the art facility for patients and animals at the Brain Research Institute. This will be officially opened in the 2004-05 financial year.

The Howard Florey Institute operator position has been filled and this is facilitating well with the operations of the MR facility research there. The Royal Melbourne Hospital laboratory is also up and running.

The other sites have come together in a state-wide grid which has access policies and collaborative interactions. The PET facility has been very active with the NSV Schering projects in the field of Alzheimer's disease. We are proud to announce that Professor David Reutens, who has recently joined the Monash team, is now the platform representative at Monash. This has made the Neuroimaging Platform truly tri-nodal in the manner of most other NNF activities.

The core vision for the Neuroimaging platform is to develop and strengthen links with our national colleagues, initially in Queensland and Sydney. This will allow improved collaborations and optimisation of neuroimaging activities, linked via membership of the Neuroimaging platform, leading to better science, more activity, optimal synergies and greater funding possibilities.

The Neuroimaging platform is well on the way to integrating many, previously isolated, activities and is capitalising on opportunities for technology and knowledge transfer.

Neuroscience research activity within the platform has been quite extraordinary through the year, with activity at the BRI site averaging about 50 hours a month of funded studies. There has been considerable increased constructive interaction between the platforms and Neurosciences Victoria research programs. The Neuroimaging platform's contribution to the integration of ideas, facilities, co-ordinated long-term strategic focus and the significant improvement in communication has been of immense value.

Thanks to Mr Steven Hateley, Platform Manager, and to the Platform Management Committee for its efforts in the 2003-04 financial year:

- Professor Graeme Jackson – Brain Research Institute
- Dr Christopher Rowe – Nuclear Medicine and Centre for PET, Austin Health
- Professor David Crewther – Brain Sciences Institute
- Associate Professor Trish Desmond – Department of Radiology, Royal Melbourne Hospital

For more information on the Neuroimaging platform please go to www.nnf.com.au/imaging