



HARRY PERKINS INSTITUTE
OF MEDICAL RESEARCH



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PERKINS Seminar Series

THURSDAY 28 JULY



Dr Marnie Blewitt

NHMRC RD Wright Fellow

Co-Chair of the WEHI Gender Equity Committee

The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute

"Setting up screening systems for epigenetic modifiers and characterizing the molecular mechanisms of epigenetic control"

Marnie Blewitt completed her PhD with Prof. Emma Whitelaw at The University of Sydney, developing a sensitised mutagenesis screen for novel epigenetic modifiers in the mouse, for which she was awarded the Genetics Society of Australia DG Catcheside prize. Marnie took up a Peter Doherty Post-doctoral fellowship with Prof. Douglas Hilton at The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute. In her post-doctoral studies, she continued to work on the novel protein Smchd1 that she identified in her PhD, analysed its critical role in X inactivation, and studied the role of polycomb group proteins in hematopoietic stem cell function. This work earned her the AAS Gani medal and the L'Oreal Australia Women in Science fellowship 2009. In 2010, Marnie established her own group at The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute as an ARC QEII fellow, working on the molecular mechanisms of epigenetic control in haematopoietic stem cells, neural stem cells and in X chromosome inactivation. She is now a NHMRC RD Wright fellow. Her recent work earned her the Financial Review 100 Women of Influence Award 2013 and Lorne Genome Conference Inaugural Women in Science Award 2015. In addition to her laboratory interests, Marnie's interests extend to Gender Equity as the Co-Chair of the WEHI Gender Equity Committee, and free online science education as the creator and course instructor for the only available online course on Epigenetics.

12:00noon till 1:00pm

followed by a light lunch courtesy of Logical Freight Solutions

For more information please contact Dr Gina Ravenscroft

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