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World class director sought for leading Aboriginal and Tropical Health research institute

Menzies School of Health Research has begun a national and international search for a new world-class Director.

International executive search firm Heidrick and Struggles have been appointed to secure Menzies a new face to head its operations.

Menzies is the only medical research institute in the Northern Territory and the only one in Australia with a major focus on Indigenous health. It employs more than 300 staff and has an annual turnover of more than \$30 million.

With its headquarters in Darwin, and offices in Alice Springs, Brisbane and Adelaide, it carries out research in more than 60 communities across Australia and in developing countries in the region.

Chairman of the Menzies' Board Professor Simon Maddocks said Menzies has a prominent position in Indigenous and tropical health research.

"It's an incredibly successful place and it continues to grow and to deliver. This opportunity will be high on the list of anyone wishing to help steer an already prestigious research school towards reaching its potential."

Professor Maddocks said Menzies want to attract someone with a great reputation and a clear, dynamic vision for Menzies' future.

"We're looking for a Director who can consolidate what we've got, meet the opportunities ahead of us and sustain Menzies' phenomenal success rate in securing research grants.

"We encourage men and women of excellence in research and research leadership to apply. We want someone with vision, and who can develop and sustain partnerships with government and non-government agencies.

Incumbent director Professor Jonathan Carapetis will finish in his position in June to become the new Director of The Telethon Institute for Child Health Research in Perth, replacing former Australian of the Year Fiona Stanley. While the recruitment process continues, interim arrangements are in place to ensure Menzies runs as per normal.

Menzies is a significant contributor to health education and research training, through its formal association with Charles Darwin University (CDU). Its long-standing collaborations with CDU and the Northern Territory Government have allowed it to embrace new opportunities such as establishing the Centre for Child Development and Education in 2011. Menzies major research programs include infectious diseases, chronic diseases, environmental health, health services research, social determinants of health, mental health, and international health.

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