

CJD Support Group Network shared La Trobe Institute for Molecular Science's photo.

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Congratulations Cathryn Ugalde and thank you so much for accepting this CJDSGN Scholarship Award in memory of Carol Willessee at the 8th Annual National CJD Conference on Saturday 14th November 2015. Our audience appreciated your presentation and overview of your work. Good luck!



La Trobe Institute for Molecular Science

· November 16, 2015 · Melbourne, VIC · 🌐

Cathryn Ugalde awarded Carol Willessee PhD Scholarship

Congratulations to Cathryn Ugalde (PhD Student; Hill Lab) who on Saturday was announced as the recipient ...of the 2015/16 Carol Willessee PhD Scholarship. This was presented on Saturday at the annual CJD Support Group Network Conference, held in Melbourne, which is attended by families of those affected by prion diseases, health professionals, caregivers, and researchers. Cathryn presented a short talk on her work using organotypic brain slices (a 'brain in a dish' as she addressed the audience) to model prion diseases and identify the mechanisms by which nerve cells die during the disease. The conference gave an opportunity for researchers to hear about the impact of these diseases from family members and also the health implications that surround these disorders.

More on the story of Carol Willessee can be found at

https://www.cjdsupport.org.au/site/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/carol_willessee_story.pdf

Also announced were the CJDSGN Memorial Awards which fund projects relating to prion disease. Professor Simon Hawke and Georges Grau (University of Sydney) and Professor Andrew Hill (LIMS) were awarded one for their project investigating the use of the MS drug fingolimod as a potential therapeutic for prion disease.