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Professor Richard Harvey selected for prestigious Australian Government research fellowship

The Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute's Professor Richard Harvey was one of twelve scientists who were each awarded a 5 year, \$4 million research fellowship from the Australian Government, through the National Health and Medical Research Council.

The Parliamentary Secretary for Health and Ageing, Senator Jan McLucas announced the Australia Fellowships and the forty-eight million dollars worth of research funds that accompanies them to the twelve winners. The winners were presented with gold medals by Senator McLucas at an event held this morning at the VCCRI's new Lowy Packer Building at Darlinghurst, NSW.

Selected from a pool of 71 extremely high quality applicants, these 12 awardees are among Australia's most outstanding and creative researchers.

The Australia Fellowships are presented annually and have a term of five years.

Professor Richard Harvey, a pioneer of molecular and developmental cardiology in Australia, commented "I am working on the molecular and anatomical basis of heart development and congenital heart disease, as well as on the biology of adult cardiac stem cells that we think can regenerate the heart. I will use this fellowship to develop a new experimental approach, Systems Biology, to better understand the development of the heart and heart diseases."

Professor Robert Graham, Executive Director of the VCCRI, said it was an enormous recognition for Richard Harvey to be awarded an Australia Fellowship. "In these tough economic times we greatly appreciate this fellowship from the Australian Government for medical research and we are delighted that the VCCRI was asked to host the event.



.... for the heart of Australia

Established in 1994, the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute (VCCRI) is committed to excellence in research into heart disease and cardiovascular biology, cardiovascular research training, and facilitating the rapid application of research discoveries to patient care. For more information visit www.victorchang.edu.au

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