

## Letter: Next President of University College London protecting harmful research fraud at University of Sydney

Dear members of the University College London Academic Committee and Academic Board (and observers),

I hope you all are well. My name is Rory Robertson. I am a professional economist in Sydney, Australia.

I am writing to inquire about whether or not UCL undertook any comprehensive due diligence before announcing that Dr Michael Spence in January 2021 will become the next President of UCL: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/news/2020/feb/dr-michael-spence-ac-appointed-new-ucl-president-provost>

As "one of the world's top research institutes" I assume UCL leaders have zero tolerance for serious research misconduct that works to harm millions of people, promoting misery and early death, especially in Indigenous populations.

In your due diligence, did you become aware that Dr Michael Spence as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sydney is carefully overseeing two influential scientific frauds that work to suppress medical science's effective cure for type 2 diabetes? The ongoing harm to public health ultimately will be seen as a national scandal, perhaps even the subject of a Royal Commission: <https://www.royalcommission.gov.au/>

Critically, one of Australia's highest-profile scientific experiments (involving ~900 mice fed 30 diets and \$1m of taxpayer funding) has become an influential scientific fraud, aspects of which are being reported in *The Australian Financial Review* and *The Australian* newspapers: <https://www.afr.com/policy/health-and-education/a-diet-obsessed-economist-scores-a-win-against-sydney-university-20200720-p55drv> ; <https://www.theaustralian.com.au/higher-education/uni-challenged-on-highcarb-research-claims/news-story/dc3afcd39b4fc4b0ce7d67d8372148d8> ; also, there was an early report in the University of Sydney's newspaper, *Honi Soit*: <https://honisoit.com/2019/06/peak-medical-research-body-asks-usyd-to-investigate-concerns-2/> The faulty formal paper on which this harmful fraud relies has been cited **over 500 times** in the formal literature.

The remainder of this letter is in six parts. **The details and actual lifespan results of the University of Sydney's 30-diet experiment are set out in Section 2. The serious misconduct by Dr Michael Spence's senior management is detailed in Section 3.** So simple, transparent and brazenly dishonest, the University of Sydney formally protecting the harmful research fraud of its big-name researcher who is also a Senate "Fellow" is an impressive case study in "doing the wrong thing" (pp. 2-4).

### 1. Royal Commission ultimately may follow NHMRC's review of University of Sydney's 30-diet Lifespan Fraud

My basic concern is that University of Sydney "science" over the past decade has become fundamentally untrustworthy, as there is no effective quality control when it matters. Taxpayers are funding shonky science and the community is being harmed by false "findings" that are being protected by unethical University of Sydney senior management, led by Vice-Chancellor Michael Spence.

For two years I have been seeking **an independent investigation**. For now, all I have managed is to prompt the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and its Australian Research Integrity Committee (ARIC) to formally "review" the University of Sydney's response to my evidence documenting what I've called the University's "30-diet Lifespan Fraud". Key aspects to be reviewed include my formal claims that:

- the *actual* lifespan results of the taxpayer-funded 30-diet experiment have been **blatantly misrepresented**, including by hiding five killer low-protein diets and 143 dead mice from the scientific community;
- the University of Sydney "has not produced a robust preliminary assessment [research-integrity "initial inquiry"] able to withstand scrutiny"; and
- the University of Sydney's two formal inquiries carefully "**hid evidence, then fabricated evidence and dishonestly contrived a false finding** in order to exonerate Professor Stephen Simpson of serious research misconduct"

In more detail: (i) the critical evidence hidden was the definitive assessment of "**the independent veterinary office overseeing the study**", that 143 hidden mice on five hidden killer diets "**would soon have died from malnutrition**"; (ii) the evidence fabricated by the University of Sydney is its desperate and fluffy false claim that the mice "**were not sick when culled**"; and (iii) Professor Stephen Simpson is the NHMRC's "Principal investigator" on this 30-diet project, also a "Fellow" of the University's Senate and the Academic Director of around 1,000 researchers at the Charles Perkins Centre.

**In overseeing the fraud, the basic strategy of authors Professor Simpson *et al* and three of Michael Spence's Deputy Vice-Chancellors has been to hide the unresponsive *actual* lifespan data, and dishonestly pretend that five hidden cohorts of (143) dead mice were not harmed by Simpson's five killer protein-restriction diets (see pp. 2-4 below).**

**Caution:** If you think it's unlikely that Professor Simpson and Vice-Chancellor Spence would be comfortable directly overseeing serious scientific fraud, please be aware that they are in fact repeat offenders, also actively protecting **the Australian Paradox sugar-and-obesity fraud**. The ridiculously flawed high-profile paper in that hoax - <https://www.mdpi.com/2072-6643/3/4/491> - still has not been formally retracted, as scientific integrity requires, protected as it is by heavy-hitters Simpson and Spence. Indeed, Simpson used his influence to assist misbehaving Professor Jennie Brand-

Miller to dishonestly expand her infamous fraud into the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*: pp. 5-6 <https://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/USyd-Misconduct-June19.pdf>

All this wouldn't matter much, perhaps, if the sugary low-protein, high-carbohydrate falsehoods dishonestly promoted by the University of Sydney as factual - even in full-page newspaper advertisements paid for by Michael Spence's managers - didn't work to suppress medical science's effective cure for type 2 diabetes. Taxpayer-funded university scientists and their highly paid senior managers are promoting and protecting harmful false dietary information that is promoting type 2 diabetes, misery and early death in millions of Australians, especially Indigenous Australians: <https://www.diabetesaustralia.com.au/about-diabetes/diabetes-in-australia/>

The **big question** in coming months is whether NHMRC CEO Professor Anne Kelso AO and ARIC Chair Patricia Kelly will have the competence *and* courage to stop the University of Sydney's harmful research misconduct, ensuring the formal retraction of the faulty paper on which the 30-diet Lifespan Fraud relies. NHMRC's conflict dilemma is outlined in Section 5.

## 2. A summary of Professor Simpson's career-defining 30-diet experiment and its critical lifespan results

The 30-diet experiment's hidden mouse-lifespan data have been retrieved from deep in a file NHMRC Principal investigator Simpson *et al* inappropriately call "Supplemental information". **These critical data are reproduced in Table S2 and Table 3 in my formal *Submission* to NHMRC/ARIC's review**: pp. 6-7 <https://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/RR-Submission-NHMRC-review-2020.pdf>

Here's a quick summary of Simpson's career-defining 30-diet experiment and its critical lifespan results, matters of fact highlighted in my *Submission*:

- It all started innocently, with a couple of distinguished entomologists (insect specialists) deciding to try to upgrade their careers from fruit flies and locusts, to mice and humans.
- Funded with \$1m from NHMRC and led by NHMRC Principal investigator Simpson, they devised a **career-defining *changeover* experiment** to launch from sleepy time in the insect space into mainstream (human) public health.
- Simpson's big experiment began with an unknown number of mice (probably 900) fed 30 diets based on Simpson's 10 chosen ratios of Protein to Carbohydrate (P:C). Simpson predicted that *high* P:C cohorts of mice would die first.
- **The 30-diet experiment's *hypothesis* featured in Simpson's pre-experiment book - *The Nature of Nutrition: A Unifying Framework from Animal Adaptation to Human Obesity* - was that insect-friendly low P:C ("protein restricted") diets "**extend life span**" in mice and thus humans (pp. 17-18 in my *Submission*).**
- Alas, the 30-diet experiment's hidden results show that **five of the top seven diets for median lifespan had high (not low) P:C ratios!** (That must have been a massive disappointment for Professor Simpson?)
- Indeed, Tables S2 and 3 (again, pp. 6-7) show that median lifespan was greatest for a diet **high in protein (42%)** and low in carbohydrate (29%). That is, the best diet (P:C 42:29 = 1.45) was Professor Simpson's worst nightmare!
- **The standout median lifespan of that best diet (P:C 42:29 = 1.45) was 139 weeks, some 10% greater - a human decade! - than the next best of 30 diets.** A human decade longer in median lifespan than any other diet!
- Again, falsifying Simpson's hypothesis that low P:C (protein-restricted) diets would outperform, five of the top seven diets for median lifespan had *high* (not low) P:C ratios! But hey, what's this?
- Simpson *et al*'s faulty paper featuring colourful charts is so divorced from the reality of the experiment's *actual results*, that the outperformance of *high* P:C diets didn't rate a mention! (Fake it or make it?)
- The hidden data also show that **the five worst diets are all low P:C "protein restriction" diets**: five hidden cohorts of (143) near-dead mice were perishing on five (of Simpson's nine) insect-friendly 5%-protein diets (p. 4)
- **The "independent veterinary office overseeing the study" euthanised those 143 sick mice because they "would soon have died from malnutrition"** (p. 5). So insect-friendly protein-restricted diets tend to kill mice?
- **The veterinary office's evidence that those five killer low P:C diets caused "malnutrition" included severe weight loss, "rectal prolapse" and "failure to thrive"**.
- So, what to conclude when five of the seven best diets for median lifespan are *high* P:C diets and the five worst diets - killer diets - are all (protein-restricting) low P:C diets?
- Bizarrely, Simpson *et al*'s supposedly "peer reviewed" paper insists: **"Median lifespan was greatest for animals whose intakes were low in protein and high in carbohydrate"**. Huh?
- **This faked mouse-diet "finding" - that sugary low-protein, high-carbohydrate diets "extend life span" - was then recklessly extrapolated to humans. This is a key aspect of the research misconduct** (pp. 3-4 & 24).
- Michael Spence's University of Sydney management then recklessly promoted this blatantly false and harmful "finding" in the national media, including by paying for full-page advertisements in major newspapers (pp. 15-16).
- Tragically, Simpson's sugary low-protein, high-carbohydrate (low P:C) mouse diets cause type 2 diabetes in humans, especially in Indigenous Australia. The Charles Perkins Centre is harming Aborigines (pp.23-24 & 42-59).

Clearly, the University of Sydney's widely marketed "low P:C (protein-restriction) diets extend life span" finding is a blatant misrepresentation of the 30-diet experiment's *actual* lifespan data. Where I come from, that's called "scientific fraud".

The ongoing harm to the community from the University of Sydney's misguided promotion of sugary low-protein, high-carbohydrate (low P:C) diets as lifespan-extending is part of a large body of shonky university "science" that is suppressing medical science's effective cure for type 2 diabetes. Again, all this is documented in my formal *Submission* (pp. 42-59).

### 3. Here's how Australians do influential scientific fraud at Michael Spence's University of Sydney

In January 2019, weeks after my *Expression of Concern* was distributed to the ~70-scientists on the Editorial Board of *Cell Metabolism*, the University of Sydney's leading scientific fraudster, Senate Fellow and Charles Perkins Centre Academic Director Stephen Simpson dishonestly tried to pretend to his journal's Editor-in-Chief (then Nikla Emambokus, now Allyson Evans) and an inquiring journalist that "...Rory's concerns are in every respect unfounded": p.

21 <https://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/RR-Submission-NHMRC-review-2020.pdf>

Again, in overseeing the 30-Diet Lifespan Fraud, the basic strategy of highly influential Professor Simpson, actively assisted by three University of Sydney Deputy Vice-Chancellors, has been to hide the unsupportive *actual* lifespan data and dishonestly pretend that the 143 hidden dead mice were not harmed by Simpson's five killer low P:C diets.

Now, when I say 143 dead mice were hidden from the scientific community, I'm referring to a formal finding of fact: "...Professor Koopman also identified a **discrepancy** between the total number of animals reported in the paper (N=858) and the actual number of animals used (N=715)" (p. 5 in my *Submission*).

Devoted to suppressing the key facts of the matter, **neither of the University of Sydney's two formal investigation reports on the 30-diet Lifespan Fraud present the actual lifespan data**. Nor in fact does Simpson *et al*'s faulty original paper, featuring as it does mainly colourful charts based on a carefully truncated dataset, including one chart (Figure 2B) with the single-best diet - median lifespan 139 weeks - simply deleted. Again, the highly influential-but-defective paper has been cited over 500 times in the formal literature: <https://www.cell.com/action/showPdf?pii=S1550-4131%2814%2900065-5>

Beyond better hiding the 143 dead mice (by even now reporting only "715" mice fed 25 diets rather than the initial "858" across all 30 diets), the University's formal response to my correct concerns has been to dishonestly pretend that the five hidden cohorts of dead mice fed Simpson's five hidden killer protein-restriction diets **were not harmed by those killer low P:C diets**.

To do that, Simpson *et al* and Michael Spence's University of Sydney management **colluded to "disappear" the critical fact** that the "the independent veterinary office overseeing the study" assessed that the five perishing cohorts of mice - reported to be suffering severe weight loss, rectal prolapse and/or failure to thrive - **"would soon have died from malnutrition"** (pp. 5 and 8 in my *Submission*). That definitive assessment is straightforward and important: in the 30-diet-and-lifespan experiment, it was found by "the independent veterinary office overseeing the study" that five of Simpson's preferred low P:C diets were quickly killing 143 unlucky mice.

**Here's where Michael Spence's supervisory role in the influential fraud really gets wheels.** Two of University of Sydney Vice-Chancellor Michael Spence's direct reports - Deputy Vice-Chancellors Stephen Garton and Duncan Ivison (Garton is second-in-charge of the University) - **simply hid my hard evidence** that Professor Simpson in January 2019 had formally advised his *Cell Metabolism* journal's Editor-in-Chief and its ~70-scientist Editorial Board, an inquiring journalist and me that the "independent veterinary office overseeing the study" had assessed that the (143) fast-dying mice suffering on Simpson's five killer low-protein diets "would soon have died from malnutrition": p. 21 <https://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/RR-Submission-NHMRC-review-2020.pdf>

Amazingly, Deputy Vice-Chancellors Stephen Garton and Duncan Ivison produced a formal "initial inquiry" report in December 2019 that simply **"disappeared"** my evidence: <https://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/2014-2019-USyd-enquiry-report.pdf>

That is, there is **absolutely no mention of "the independent veterinary office overseeing the study"**; further, there is **absolutely no mention of "malnutrition"** (try "control F" on the document above).

That was sneaky and dishonest but effective, for a time. When I formally pressed the University on this point, it emerged from the second formal inquiry report - this one in May 2020 by brand-new Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Provost Barbara Messerle - that **everyone "investigating" while getting paid by Michael Spence now insists that the 143 hidden mice "were not sick when they were euthanised"**, despite the independent veterinary office relying - at the time it culled the fast-dying mice - on its definitive assessment that they "would soon have died from malnutrition". (Professor Messerle is the Provost who suddenly left the University in early September 2020 (sick of holding her nose?) after less than 12 months, "to pursue other opportunities": <https://campusmorningmail.com.au/news/provost-to-leave-uni-sydney/> )

Specifically, it emerged that NHMRC Principal investigator Simpson, the other 17 (?) claimed co-authors and Michael Spence's University of Sydney senior management had **formally fabricated a fluffy falsehood** to pretend that Simpson's five discontinued killer low P:C diets were harmless. Indeed, they all now insist that the five cohorts of (143) dead mice whose lives were cut short by the vet were as strong as 10 men at the time, and might well have lived forever if left uninterrupted to keep enjoying Simpson's five killer 5%-protein diets:

1. **Simpson *et al* apparently were very "convincing" on this point: "The authors provided *additional submissions* to Professor Koopman regarding this issue to the effect that the mice on discontinued diets were not sick when culled, and those that were not losing weight may well have lived long and healthy lives, albeit as smaller mice": pp. 6-8 <https://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/RR-outcome-letter-7May20.pdf>**
2. **Professor Garton's chosen friendly part-time investigator - retired University of Queensland Professor Peter Koopman - was happy to get paid after swallowing that clownish falsehood, hook, line and sinker: "...it is not**

known whether mice would have died, or whether they may they may have lived long and healthy lives, had they not been euthanased".

3. **Slippery Deputy Vice-Chancellors Garton and Ivison were always going to embrace the dishonest fabrication: "Professor Garton noted that as euthanasia of the mice in the 2014 study was mandated by the responsible ethics committee, it could not be known whether mice fed these diets would have died, or whether they would have lived long and healthy lives had they not been euthanased".**

Profoundly contradicting his dishonest new fiction, Professor Simpson personally wrote to *Cell Metabolism* and me in 2019 stating that those five cohorts of (143) mice fed his killer low P:C diets were dying fast, and **were set to record "what would have been very short lifespans had they not been removed from the experiment"** (again, p. 21 in my *Submission*).

Furthermore, Simpson's desperate fluffy fabricated falsehood that "the mice were not sick when culled" is **absolutely contradicted by the definitive assessment of "the independent veterinary office overseeing the study"** at the time of culling, that the five fast-dying cohorts of mice - suffering severe weight loss, rectal prolapse and/or failure to thrive - "would soon have died from malnutrition".

What new, credible evidence was cited by all those paid by Michael Spence's University of Sydney to invent stories to defend its 30-diet Lifespan Fraud? What stunning revelation was sufficient to prompt the conclusion that "the independent veterinary office overseeing the study" was **100% wrong** to assess that those five hidden cohorts of (143) perishing mice - suffering severe weight loss, rectal prolapse and/or failure to thrive - "would soon have died from malnutrition"? Well, actually, no evidence at all, just some fluffy waffle from Professors Stephen Simpson and David Sinclair (?) *et al*: "The authors explained that malnutrition is not the same as failure to thrive" (pp. 6-8 in Provost Messerle's May 2020 formal report, in the link above).

**What a disgrace.** Fabricating desperate fluffy falsehoods while struggling to keep a straight face and effectively stealing \$13m from taxpayers (p. 11 of my *Submission*) works only if there is no effective quality control when it matters. Why would anyone accept the self-serving opinions of "the authors" - and allow their shonky stories to trump the definitive assessment of "the independent veterinary office overseeing the study" - when the dishonest Simpson *et al* had to be forced, after more than 12 months of chasing by me, to formally "correct" their faulty paper - <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cmet.2020.01.010> - after sneakily hiding five cohorts of (143) dead protein-restricted mice from the scientific community?

Any competent, objective and honest investigator would quickly have put "the authors" in their place by making the obvious point that severe weight loss, rectal prolapse and failure to thrive are all *symptoms* of malnutrition, and that the "independent veterinary office overseeing the study" at that time of the decision to cull the mice was - and is - the **definitive last word** on whether or not the mice were - unsurprisingly - dying fast from "malnutrition" caused by Simpson's five killer 5%-protein diets.

#### 4. Series of heavy-hitters duped by the University of Sydney's 30-diet Lifespan Fraud

Again, Professor Simpson's faulty original paper has been formally cited in the literature over 500 times, so there are (multiples of) at least 500 scientists already duped by this highly influential fraud.

Unfortunately, **Australia's premier health journalist - Dr Norman Swan** - has been ensnared in the web of Professor Simpson's brazen 30-diet Lifespan Fraud. Simpson duped listeners of Swan's influential **Health Report program on ABC Radio National** with his story about "what we did was design 25 [not 30] diets". Simpson did not mention that his preferred class of protein-restriction (low P:C) diets claimed to extend life span in mice, and thus humans, also caused severe weight loss, rectal prolapse and/or failure to thrive in five hidden cohorts of (143) mice, so much so that the vet had to euthanise all 143 sick mice after assessing "they would soon have died from malnutrition". Notably, the ABC has refused to correct the public record: <https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/healthreport/high-protein2c-low-carbohydrate-diet/5309616>

Alas, so enthusiastically and haplessly did Dr Swan swallow Simpson's low-protein, high-carbohydrate diets are awesome for extending life span in mice and thus humans "finding" that he is **personally marketing Simpson's tasty high-carb science fiction in a magazine article under his own name**: <https://cosmosmagazine.com/biology/carbs-earn-their-place-table/>

**ABC journalist Sarah Dingle and (now Channel Nine's) Chris Uhlmann** also were hoaxed by Simpson *et al*'s science fiction. Their report misinformed the national audience of ABC radio's AM program, via several falsehoods: "The team put mice on 25 [not 30] different diets, altering the proportions of protein, carbohydrates and fat"; "The study published in the journal *Cell Metabolism* shows that the best diet for a long life is low protein and high carbohydrate [low P:C]"; and "The healthiest [low P:C] diets were the ones that had the lowest protein, 5 to 10 to 15 per cent protein, the highest amount of carbohydrate, so 60, 70, 75 per cent carbohydrate...": <https://www.abc.net.au/radio/programs/am/time-to-put-down-the-shake-study-warns-high/5299324> ; <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-03-05/low-carb-diet-may-shorten-your-life-study-finds/5299284?nw=0>

Impressively, NHMRC Principal investigator Simpson duped **usually smart Qantas CEO Alan Joyce**, with Qantas marketing its "partnership" with Simpson's dodgy Charles Perkins Centre research. A corporate happy-snap of CEO Joyce with Professor Simpson and Dr Spence show him awkwardly unaware that he has been hoaxed: "The centre's research has already influenced what meals and beverages we'll be serving" (p. 9 of my *Submission*). Anyone who worries that most of Qantas's meals and snacks are dominated by sugar and/or processed carbohydrates can be confident our national carrier's "protein restriction" approach to meals is fuelling type 2 diabetes in its millions of Frequent Flyers (pp. 23-24 & 42-60 in *Submission*).

Even **NHMRC CEO Professor Anne Kelso AO** was duped by the University of Sydney's 30-diet Lifespan Fraud. That is, her NHMRC was so impressed with the faked low P:C lifespan results from the 30-diet experiment (recall NHMRC provided taxpayer funding to the tune of \$1m) that her NHMRC now is in the process of providing another \$13m over 2019-2023 to scientific fraudster Simpson and his team at the University of Sydney (p. 11 in my *Submission*).

Importantly, the 30-diet Lifespan Fraud extends beyond Australia to Harvard University. **Harvard's global Lifespan superstar - Professor David Sinclair** - is listed as a co-author of the faulty influential paper. I have documented in convincing detail that Sinclair is either a fake author added to the list of (18) authors perhaps to "wow" potential research funders (pp. 34-35 of my *Submission*), or he is one of authors who provided the dishonest "additional submissions" to the formal research-integrity inquiry, falsely claiming that "the mice were not sick when culled", outrageously dismissing ("disappearing") the independent vet's *definitive* assessment at the time - that the five hidden cohorts of (143 near-dead) mice were suffering severe weight loss, rectal prolapse and/or failure to thrive, and so "would soon have died from malnutrition" - as 100% wrong.

## 5. Will NHMRC CEO Professor Anne Kelso AO and ARIC Chair Patricia Kelly stop the fraud, or help it?

How *could* this happen? And *why* did this happen? Well, again, there is no competent quality control at Group of Eight universities when it matters.

It appears that Professor Simpson was determined to "confirm" the high-profile hypothesis promoted in his widely cited pre-experiment book, and brazenly misrepresenting the *actual* lifespan data by hiding key experimental results from the scientific community - including that five of his top seven diets for median lifespan are *high* (not low) P:C diets, and that five of his preferred protein-restriction (low P:C diets) caused "malnutrition" and a quick move towards early death in five cohorts of (143) mice - is what **was required to secure his "preferred outcome"**.

Notably, Simpson *et al's* original paper falsely claimed: "The data we present derive from 858 mice fed one of 25 diets". **A slippery, deliberately misleading "Correction"** - <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cmet.2020.01.010> - published in March 2020 falsely claims that everything is still excellent, despite now pretending only "715" mice were "used", not 858, not 900 and not the ~1000 initially advertised (p. 3 in my *Submission*). Five cohorts of (143) dead mice now have been hidden more effectively.

Importantly, while the University of Sydney likes to pretend that the 143 culled mice were "**removed from the experiment**", those five cohorts of malnourished mice fed Simpson's five killer diets in fact remain the **clearest outcome of the experiment**. That is, the experiment revealed that most - five out of nine - of Simpson's insect-friendly 5%-protein diets promoted early death in mice (and thus humans?). Again, Professor Simpson personally wrote to me and *Cell Metabolism* in 2019 stating that those five disputed cohorts of mice fed his killer low P:C diets had been dying fast, and were set to record "what would have been **very short lifespans** had they not been removed from the experiment". Again, Simpson's five cohorts of near-dead low P:C mice were **not removed from the experiment**, they were sneakily removed from **the formal report of** the experiment.

Dishonestly pretending that Simpson's five killer protein-restricting (low P:C) diets did not harm those five hidden cohorts of (143) near-dead mice is unconscionable. From a public-health perspective, it is only a short step from Simpson *et al's* formal fabrications to a scenario whereby: "**The University of Sydney provided additional submissions to the Coroner regarding this issue to the effect that the Aboriginal children on low-protein diets were not sick when taken to hospital, and those that were not losing weight may well have lived long and healthy lives, albeit as smaller children**".

Talk about bringing science into disrepute. Why should the community trust "the science" of complicated things like fixing global warming, assessing the health of the Great Barrier Reef, or the efficacy and safety of newly discovered vaccinations, when we all can see that the University of Sydney's blatant misrepresentations of simple mouse-lifespan results are protected by untruthful science careerists and their equally slippery university management led by Vice-Chancellor Michael Spence?

The **big question** now is whether or not NHMRC CEO Professor Anne Kelso AO and ARIC Chair Patricia Kelly will have the competence *and* courage to stop the University of Sydney's harmful research fraud, ensuring the formal retraction of the faulty paper on which the 30-diet Lifespan Fraud relies.

Unfortunately, neither NHMRC nor ARIC have any real tradition of stopping research fraud. NHMRC mainly is seen by the universities and their researchers as a tame conduit for hard-to-get taxpayer grants, while ARIC (established 2011) is still seen as a "toothless tiger" existing mainly for marketing purposes: "no research misconduct here". Further, the fact that NHMRC CEO Anne Kelso - if she wanted to stop the influential fraud - would have to admit to careless administration and wasting taxpayers' money - again, she is gifting a further \$13m to Simpson's research group over 2019-2023, after having been duped by Simpson's faked lifespan results (p. 11 in my *Submission*) - means she is somewhat conflicted in her current "review" of the University of Sydney's dishonest responses to my hard evidence about its 30-diet Lifespan Fraud (p. 61 in my *Submission*).

A clear sign that NHMRC/ARIC's review is a **genuine truth-seeking exercise**, not a tame box-ticking exercise, will be whether or not the *actual* lifespan data from the 30-diet experiment are presented (along the lines of Table S2 and Table 3 on pp. 6-7 in my *Submission*) in its coming report. If the hard experimental lifespan data are not presented, the NHMRC report should be viewed with considerable suspicion. (It may be another untrustworthy "whitewash", wilfully or otherwise ignoring the hard evidence provided. As with many "captured" Higher-Ed journalists, officials at regulatory entities like NHMRC and ARIC I suspect tend to be unduly respectful of what "more worldly" Group of Eight university bosses tell them.)

Further, whether or not the formal NHMRC/ARIC report independently assesses the University of Sydney's desperate fluffly **fabrication - "the mice were not sick when culled"** – also will tell us whether "the fix is in". That the NHMRC/ARIC formal "review" has been underway for over six months, without ever seeking to formally interview me, suggests it is more of a sleepy process than a rigorous effort to document truth and minimise harm to those suffering type 2 diabetes, misery and early death.

In my opinion, there is no scope for competent and honest officials - taxpayer representatives doing their job properly - to allow Michael Spence's University of Sydney to quietly and falsely dismiss ("disappear") the critical - and undisputed - fact that "the independent veterinary office overseeing the study" assessed at the time of culling that the five hidden cohorts of (143) near-dead mice - fed five of Simpson's 5%-protein diets and suffering severe weight loss, rectal prolapse and/or failure to thrive - "would soon have died from malnutrition".

**Importantly, it is undisputed that the "the independent veterinary office overseeing the study" assessed at the time of culling that the 143 hidden mice "would soon have died from malnutrition", because that is exactly what Professor Simpson in January 2019 formally advised his *Cell Metabolism* journal's Editor-in-Chief (now Allyson Evans) and its ~70-scientist Editorial Board, as well an inquiring journalist and me: p. 21 <https://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/RR-Submission-NHMRC-review-2020.pdf>**

If the NHMRC can't or won't fix stop this harmful, influential research fraud - the clear evidence about which has been delivered to it on a platter (in my *Submission*) - then the community would be correct to assume (as I do) that that there is no honest, effective quality control in Australian science when it matters. Ordinary people would be right not to trust much of what is said by eminent scientists: their important-sounding stories - like the straight-faced stories told by Stephen Simpson and David Sinclair (?) *et al*, supported by the powerful-but-dishonest influence of Michael Spence, Stephen Garton, Duncan Ivison, Barbara Messerle and Peter Koopman combined - could just as easily be self-interested, faulty nonsense designed to boost their distinguished careers, as millions of Australians eat low P:C diets on their way to type 2 diabetes, misery and early death.

## **6. University College London, research fraud, taxpayers duded and the reckless promotion of type 2 diabetes, misery and early death**

In summary, what I have documented is a national scandal in Australia and ultimately will be widely seen as such.

Michael Spence's leadership of the University of Sydney has become a menace to public health. At the heart of the governance crisis at the University of Sydney is the fact that three of Vice-Chancellor Spence's direct reports - Deputy Vice-Chancellors Stephen Garton, Duncan Ivison and Barbara Messerle - all embraced the authors' dishonest false claim that 143 hidden dead mice fed Simpson's five killer low-protein diets "were not sick when culled". This straight-faced fabrication was conveyed by authors Simpson *et al* to the formal research-integrity "initial inquiry" in the form of desperate false "additional submissions", to allow the authors and their University management (which paid major newspapers to advertise the faked low P:C diet results) to keep pretending that low-protein, high-carbohydrate (protein restriction) diets "extend life span" in mice and thus humans, as claimed in Simpson's pre-experiment book (pp. 3-8 and 15-18 in my *Submission*).

It is utterly unacceptable that taxpayer-funded university scientists and their highly paid senior managers are promoting and protecting harmful false dietary information - via the 30-diet Lifespan Fraud and the infamous *Australian Paradox* sugar-and-obesity fraud - in the process promoting type 2 diabetes, misery and early death in millions of Australians, especially Indigenous Australians. It is tragic and perhaps even criminal that harmful research misconduct dishonestly protected by a Group of Eight university's management is working to suppress medical science's effective cure for type 2 diabetes (pp. 42-59 in my *Submission*).

Beyond public health, the crisis in governance at Michael Spence's University of Sydney is such that University researchers and their senior management appear to be in the process of effectively stealing \$13m from taxpayers over 2019-2023, via false and deceptive conduct involving deliberately misleading claims to NHMRC about the 30-diet lifespan results (p. 11), and roughly \$700m per year on top of that, via dishonest false claims of a unique devotion to research "excellence" (p. 41).

**Awkwardly, all these problems involving research fraud, harm to public health and the careful duping of taxpayers to obtain undeserved (and then mis-spent) research funding are set to become problems for University College London when Dr Michael Spence becomes its next President in January.** Accordingly, I suggest that you as leaders of UCL's academic community should print out a copy of my *Submission* to the NHMRC, and consider carefully - before January - all the matters of fact that I have documented, before any new President takes the reins of your respected University College London.

Finally, if you are disturbed by the troubling misconduct I have documented above, please relay your concerns to the relevant scientific authorities so that the two faulty papers can be formally retracted, as required if the community is to trust "science" and the veracity of the scientific record. On the other hand, if you see anything I have written above or elsewhere that you believe is factually incorrect or otherwise unreasonable, please get in touch immediately, and I will fix any serious problem, if indeed there is one (highly unlikely)

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## Dedication

Charlie Perkins was born in Alice Springs near the red centre of Australia in June 1936. I was born there 30 years later in March 1966. I dedicate my body of work exposing the Charles Perkins Centre's *Australian Paradox* sugar-and-obesity fraud and its low-protein, high-carbohydrate lifespan fraud to my mother, **Elaine Lucas**, who nursed Aboriginal and other Australians in remote places - including Katherine, Alice Springs, Balcanoona, Woorabinda and Baralaba - from the early 1960s to the late 1980s. And to my (late) father, **Alexander "Sandy" Robertson**, who grew up in Scotland and in the Scots Guards, shifted briefly to Melbourne then Coogee in Sydney, before working with cattle, sheep and wheat across country Australia for half a century. He taught me (and my brother and sister) much about what is right and much about what is wrong, often by example. (A longer piece on Dad's life and times can be found in one of the links below.)

I also have firmly in mind people like Bonita and Eddie Mabo, Faith Bandler, Charlie Perkins (who Dad often said he knew briefly - so too his brother Ernie - in The Territory over half a century ago), Waverley Stanley and Lou Mullins of Yalari, and especially Noel Pearson, all of whom worked or are working indefatigably for decades to improve the lot of their mobs, their peoples left behind. Finally, I wonder whatever happened to the many Aboriginal boys and girls I met across country Australia when I was a boy, especially the big Woorabinda mob with whom I shared classrooms and sports fields back in Baralaba, central Queensland, in the late 1970s. Much of the news over the years has been tragic and depressing.  
<https://www.australianparadox.com/baralaba.htm>

**Please note:** In this and other documents, I have detailed influential incompetence and worse in nutrition and health "science", and by Group of Eight university senior management. Importantly, if you read anything here or elsewhere from me that is factually incorrect or otherwise unreasonable, please contact me immediately and, if I agree, I will correct the text as soon as possible. This all matters because more than one million Australians today have type 2 diabetes, the number growing rapidly. Many of these vulnerable Australians can expect mistreatment, misery and early death, harmed by high-carbohydrate diabetes advice promoted by a range of respected entities advised by highly influential Group of Eight science careerists. The unfolding diabetes tragedy can be seen most clearly in the quiet suffering of short-lived Indigenous Australians.

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**rory robertson**

**economist and former-fattie**

<https://twitter.com/OzParadoxdotcom>

Here's me, Emma Alberici and ABC TV's Lateline on the University of Sydney's Australian Paradox: <http://www.abc.net.au/lateline/content/2015/s4442720.htm>

Here's the latest on that epic Australian Paradox sugar-and-obesity fraud: <http://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/ABC-investigation-AustralianParadox.pdf>

Here's Vice-Chancellor Spence's threat to ban me from campus: p. 64 <http://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/Big-5-year-update-Feb-2017.pdf>

During National Diabetes Week 2016, I wrote to the Department of Health about "The scandalous mistreatment of Australians with type 2 diabetes (T2D)": <http://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/Expanded-Letter-HealthDept-type2diabetes.pdf>

Want to stop trends in your family and friends towards obesity, type 2 diabetes, heart disease and various cancers? Stop eating and drinking sugar: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xDaYa0AB8TQ&feature=youtu.be>

Here's the diet advised by Dr Peter Brukner, recently the Australian cricket team's doctor: <https://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/PeterBrukner.pdf> ; <http://www.abc.net.au/catalyst/lowcarb/>

A life in our times: Vale Alexander "Sandy" Robertson (1933-2015): <http://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/AlecRobertson-born2oct33.pdf>

Comments, criticisms, questions, compliments, whatever welcome at [strathburnstation@gmail.com](mailto:strathburnstation@gmail.com)

[www.strathburn.com](http://www.strathburn.com)

Strathburn Cattle Station is a proud partner of YALARI, Australia's leading provider of quality boarding-school educations for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander teenagers. Check it out at <http://www.strathburn.com/yalari.php>