

September 2007

Dr Tamara Mackean

Dr Mackean is a descendent of the Wongai people's of the Goldfields region in Western Australia. She completed her Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery at the University of New South Wales and was joint recipient of the Alumni Award for Achievement with Dr Kelvin Kong for their development of a pre-medical program for Indigenous students.

Dr Mackean relocated to Adelaide to commence her internship at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in 1999. After varied clinical experiences in obstetrics and gynaecology, general practice and ophthalmology, Dr Mackean is pursuing a career in Public Health Medicine with the Australian Faculty of Public Health Medicine within the Royal Australasian College of Physicians.

Dr Mackean is currently the Senior Lecturer in Indigenous Health at the Flinders University School of Medicine and has just been conferred with a Staff Award for Outstanding Contribution to Flinders University. She has a significant leadership role as the incoming President of the Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association, as a Ministerial appointee to the Indigenous Higher Education Advisory Committee and as a Prime Ministerial appointee to the Australian National Council on Drugs.

Dr Mackean has been involved in health reform at various levels. With regard to medical education she co-authored "Reform in Australian medical schools: a collaborative approach to realising Indigenous health potential" which was recently published in the Medical Journal of Australia. She has also been involved with health reform in South Australia and has been a Board member for the Central Northern Adelaide Health Service for the last three years.