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Institute Director honoured for science career

Director of The Wesley Research Institute, Professor Julie Campbell, was awarded an Office of the Order of Australia (AO) in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for her distinguished service to science and education in Australia.

Professor Campbell has made an extraordinary 35-year contribution to cardiovascular disease research and post-doctoral education in Australia.

Professor Campbell has been Director of The Wesley Research Institute since 1996.

The Wesley Research Institute is located in the grounds of The Wesley Hospital, Brisbane and funds and supports clinical research projects aimed at improving patient care and quality of life.

"My goal is to establish The Wesley Research Institute as the Mayo Clinic of the southern hemisphere and to inspire a research culture among all Uniting HealthCare doctors and allied health professionals," Professor Campbell said.

"Being a part of a team translating research outcomes into improved patient care and quality of life for patients and the community is one of my greatest achievements."

Professor Campbell said she was truly honoured to receive such an acknowledgement for her work.

"There are many, many people to thank who have helped me along the way none more so than my mother, Hazel."

She is recognised as a world leader in her field of cardiovascular cell biology and is currently working on a project to grow vascular grafts from the body's own bone marrow cells using the patient's abdominal cavity as a bioreactor.

The revolutionary technique has remarkable implications for patients requiring coronary artery bypass grafts or arteriovenous access fistula for dialysis and has spawned a series of spin-offs including applications for bladder and uterine grafts and in reversing vasectomies.

The Institute's researchers are doctors, nurses and health professionals who work directly with patients on clinical research projects in hospitals throughout Queensland.

For more information please contact 07 3232 7264.