

Garvan Institute of Medical Research

Leaders in Science & Society



Professor Ian Jacobs

President and Vice-Chancellor
UNSW Australia

“The Good, the Bad & the Ovary: UNSW Strategy, Challenges for Higher Education and Ovarian Cancer Screening”

Monday 15 June 2015 12PM, AUDITORIUM

HOST: PROF JOHN MATTICK

Professor Ian Jacobs has been President & Vice-Chancellor of UNSW Australia, a Group of 8 University in Sydney, since February 2015. Prior to this he was Vice President of the University of Manchester, Dean of the Faculty of Medical/Human Sciences and Director of MAHSC (Manchester Academic Health Science Centre) from 2011-15. He was Dean of the Faculty of Biomedical Sciences at UCL from 2009-11, Director of the Comprehensive Biomedical Research Centre at UCLH/UCL (2006-10), Research Director UCL Partners Academic Health Science System (2009-11) and Director of the UCL Institute for Women’s Health from 2004-9.

Alongside his leadership roles, he directs a laboratory and clinical research team focused on genetics, proteomics, imaging and biomarkers in detection and screening for gynaecological cancers and has held awards >£30m from MRC, CRUK and DH. He is PI on several large multicentre clinical trials including the UK Collaborative Trial of Ovarian Cancer Screening (UKCTOCS) involving 202,000 participants in 13 collaborating UK centres and the UK Familial Ovarian Cancer Screening Study (UKFOCSS).

He qualified at Cambridge University and the Middlesex Hospital, obtained accreditation in obstetrics and gynaecology working at the Royal London and Rosie Maternity Cambridge and specialist accreditation as a surgical gynaecological oncologist at Bart’s and The Royal Marsden. He completed an MD Thesis at QMUL, the CRUK McElwain Fellowship at Cambridge University and an MRC Travelling Fellowship at Duke University, North Carolina. Ian was head of Department of Gynaecological Oncology and then Obstetrics and Gynaecology at QMUL from 1996 to 2004 and set up and directed the UCL Institute for Women’s Health between 2004 and 2009.

In 2005 he established the Uganda Women’s Health Initiative which conducts a series of projects in Uganda including a cervical screening programme. He has been President of the British Gynaecological Cancer Society (2001-2004) and of the European Society of Gynaecological Oncology (2005-2007). He is Medical Advisor to the Eve Appeal (Gynaecology Cancer Research fund) which he founded in 1985, a Patron of Safehands for Women, non-Executive Director of Abcodia Ltd and holds an NIHR Senior Investigator Award. He is married with 3 children and his leisure time is focused on his family, running, travel, charitable work, sport and his lifelong support of Arsenal football club.