

Christopher Dobbins is a BHI Alumni and is currently the Head of Unit of the Trauma Surgery and Surgical Oncology Unit at the Royal Adelaide Hospital in Adelaide, South Australia.

1. When were you based at the BHI?

In 2006 and 2007

2. What were you doing then?

I was enrolled in a Masters of Surgery degree at The University of Adelaide under the supervision of Prof Guy Maddern

3. What attracted you to work/study at the BHI?

I really liked the facilities and the people there, both clinicians and those in research.

4. What were the best things about working/studying at the BHI?

I really enjoyed the collaboration between all of the research staff and the TQEH clinicians. At the time I was there, a lot of really high quality research was being performed across many different areas and the research environment was very strong and supportive. The support staff in the laboratories were also really helpful in assisting me in performing my experimental work.

5. Do you have a favourite memory of your time at the BHI?

My favourite memory is of working in the lab, tinkering with the machines I was using to perform my experiments and actually getting positive results.

6. Would you recommend the BHI as a place to work/study? Why?

Absolutely. It was a really supportive place in which to do research and was still very closely linked with clinical medicine, which was important for me as a clinician.

7. What have you done since you left the BHI?

After completing my master's degree, I went back to clinical work. I completed surgical training and gained my Fellowship in General Surgery in 2013. I subsequently commenced as a surgical consultant at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and am now the Head of Unit of the Trauma Surgery and Surgical Oncology Unit at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. I have maintained some connection with The University of Adelaide as a Clinical Senior Lecturer in Surgery.

8. What is your biggest career highlight so far?

Being appointed as the Head of Unit in my chosen subspecialty. It is the culmination of many years of hard work as a clinician, researcher and the education of others.

9. What advice would you give to any current/future students at the BHI?

When doing research, always give yourself plenty of time. For clinicians taking time out from clinical work to do research, it is important to try and complete writing up your research before returning to clinical work.