



Professor Anthony N. Burkitt

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Professor Anthony Burkitt holds the Chair in Bio-Signals and Bio-Systems in the Department of Biomedical Engineering at the University of Melbourne. He was the Director of Bionic Vision Australia (2010-2016), a Special Research Initiative in Bionic Vision Science and Technology of the Australian Research Council (ARC), and he successfully led the project through all of its phases: Project conception, securing \$50 million in ARC funding, the research and development programs that led to the development of a prototype bionic eye (suprachoroidal retinal implant), the successful implantation in three patients, and the establishment of the company Bionic Vision Technologies (BVT) with US\$18M of venture capital for the ongoing commercial and clinical development of the technology. In addition to his work on the bionic eye, Professor Burkitt's research encompasses a number of areas of neuroscience and medical bionics, including computational neuroscience, neuro-engineering, cochlear-implant speech processing and bio-signal processing for epilepsy. His research has been instrumental in the development of visual stimulation paradigms for retinal implants, new cochlear implant speech processing strategies, methods for detecting and predicting seizures, and the use of electrical stimulation for seizure abatement in epilepsy.

Professor Burkitt has published over 89 journal papers and has been awarded more than \$57.4 M of research funding from 19 ARC and NHMRC grants. He is a Board member of the Organization for Computational Neurosciences and Chair of the Program Committee for the annual Computational Neuroscience conference 2015-2017. Professor Burkitt was previously the Deputy Director of the Bionic Ear Institute (now the Bionics Institute) and held research positions at the Australian National University and Universities in Britain and Germany. He completed his undergraduate studies in 1980 in Physics at the Australian National University and his PhD in 1983 in Theoretical Physics at Edinburgh University.