Dr. Dunning will describe his involvement in different outbreaks, from novel respiratory virus pandemics to viral haemorrhagic virus disease outbreaks, through to expected and unexpected monkeypox outbreaks. Reflecting on his work over the last 13 years, he will propose his own wins, failures, regrets, controversies and lessons learned, using some of his published papers as points for discussion. Jake will describe how a multidisciplinary work-life works for him, and how his experiences have influenced and sometimes changed his views on evidence, public health policy making, collaborative science, global health, and how we should - but sometimes cannot - prepare for the next ‘big event’.