

DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL PRACTICE

NEWSLETTER

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Page 2	Department News
Page 3	GP Supervisor News
Page 4	News about our Students
Page 5	Research Coming Events
Page 6	Conjoints



MESSAGE FROM THE PETER BRENNAN CHAIR OF GENERAL PRACTICE

Dear Colleagues

If change brings new learning, we are learning a lot in the Department of General Practice!

We are farewelling a number of staff this year including one of our longest serving team members Prof Wendy Hu. Thankfully Wendy is only moving down a floor when she takes up her position as Professor of Medical Education, Director of Academic Program. We will continue to work closely with Wendy and with Erin Mathieu, who will also be moving

“downstairs” with Wendy.

Please catch up on other staff changes on page 2 and join us in welcoming Melinda Wolfenden to the now permanent role of Administrative Officer. Mel is already relishing the change and bringing many “systems improvements” to the Department!

Another addition to the GP talent at UWS is Dr Kumara Mendis who will join the team at the Bathurst Rural Clinical School from 2013 - a warm welcome to Kumara!

We have successfully completed the first and busiest year of GP Conference Week presentations across Years 3-5 of the course. As we stream the GP teaching across all three years it will become a little easier. Many thanks to those who helped out this year. Enjoy reading about our innovative wounds management workshop on page 2.

After many enquiries about PIP payments, Megan has pieced together the story from the Medicare website.

PIP payments continue to be a critical issue for us, as for all medical schools engaging with GP's in relation to student teaching, and it is a space in which there is ongoing and active lobbying. Other organisations, including the AMA, also have a keen interest and you can read their proposal to government around PIP for teaching on their website

<http://ama.com.au/node/8029>

Our GP supervisor online learning

package is up and running so take a look at page 4 to access this.

With our first cohort of students now having commenced their internships and actively pursuing careers in General Practice, we've also included some information about our enthusiastic GP Student Network of current medical students (p.5).

You will see we remain actively engaged in research and are hoping to welcome another Academic GP Registrar to our team next year to assist in both teaching and research.

We warmly invite you to our Annual GP supervisor Workshop to be held at the Campbelltown Campus on October 16th - see page 6 for more details.

We continue to be amazed and impressed at the feedback our students provide about “My GP”. Your breadth and depth of knowledge and willingness to share this with our students provides the core of their General Practice learning.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!

Finally an enthusiastic WELCOME to our new GP Conjoints! For those yet to take up this opportunity please email the DptGP@uws.edu.au to register your interest in becoming a Conjoint of UWS.

Professor Jennifer Reath

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

FAREWELL AND WELCOME

Mid Year has seen completion of several research projects and temporary appointments to our Department. Each of those leaving the Department has made a valuable contribution to our team both personally and professionally.

Darshana Dave, our first academic GP registrar was an enthusiastic contributor and we enjoyed watching her confidence grow in teaching and research. With support from our Senior GP Fellow Dr Penny Abbott, Darshana completed a project studying Cultural Educator and Mentor views of what is important in the General Practice consultation with Aboriginal patients. She used this information to develop a trigger video, that will be piloted in GP trainer teaching sessions later this year. We wish Darshana all the best in her General Practice career and thank her for making our first academic registrar experience such a worthwhile and enjoyable one.

Hassan Hosseinzadeh worked enthusiastically evaluating the GP program developed by the NSW Sexually Transmissible Illnesses Program. We have greatly appreciated his expertise, particularly in on-line survey methodology and his contribution to our research program more widely. We are actively seeking opportunities to work

again with Hassan who was also a pleasure to have on our team.

Heidi Forbes stepped into our Administration Officer role for a 9 month secondment. Her helpful, obliging nature endeared her to students, supervisors and the GP team. We wish Heidi all the best and look forward to catching up over a coffee. Meanwhile **Megan Matteazzi**, Heidi's right hand woman, has taken up the challenge of running her own family business—a take away shop in Richmond, so perhaps we'll have to travel north for those coffees! Many thanks to Megan for her superb events and communications management including this new look newsletter!

Congratulations to Wendy Hu who has been appointed Professor of Medical Education, Director of Academic Program. This appointment recognises Wendy's experience and expertise. We have been fortunate to have Wendy's skills, especially in the establishment of the Department, and are glad we will be continuing to work closely with her in her new role.

With Wendy's move, **Erin Mathieu**, (Lecturer in Community Research) will also be transitioning to the MEU. Erin has been a delightful and hard working presence in our Department. With Wendy, Erin has crafted the Community Research Program to become a key

component of our student research experience.

We are very pleased to be welcoming **Melinda Wolfenden** to our team as the permanent Department of General Practice Administrative Officer. Melinda has extensive senior administrative experience in the corporate, industry and government sectors, the last four years of which have been spent working in a variety of roles for UWS School of Nursing and Midwifery and School of Medicine. Melinda is already setting us on track for the next phase of our development and is looking forward to meeting all those with whom we work.

The Department as we were:

*Back Row - Ron Brooker, Hassan Hosseinzadeh, Lawrence Tan, Nick Collins
Middle row - Graham Chaffey, Penny Abbott
Front row - Heidi Forbes, Darshana Dave, Wendy Hu, Jenny Reath, Mathieu, Megan Matteazzi*



GP TEACHING SESSION IN YEAR 4 CONFERENCE WEEK

"Festering wounds, IT glitches, crook knees, stiff shoulders and pains in the neck." These were some of the problems faced by Year 4 UWS medical students in June when they participated in a round of practical, hands-on workshops facilitated by experienced

GP's, nurses, physiotherapists, podiatrists and a rheumatologist. It was great to have an interdisciplinary team sharing their skills and expertise. Students rotated through a smorgasbord of stations as they learnt how to use various wound dressings, measure an ankle-brachial index, input and extract data from GP software, and examine various joints. They also explored little known corners of the

Campbelltown campus as they journeyed from the School of Medicine to the IT lab and the Uniclinic. Despite initial confusion over group allocations, students felt this teaching session was 'excellent', 'informative' and 'short and sweet'. Many thanks to our team of interdisciplinary health professionals for some very dedicated teaching.

GP SUPERVISOR NEWS

INFORMATION ON THE PRACTICE INCENTIVE PROGRAM (PIP)

The Practice Incentives Program (PIP) aims to encourage continuing improvements in General Practice through financial incentives to support quality care, and improve access and health outcomes for patients. The PIP includes payments made to encourage practices to teach medical students.

How payments are made

PIP payments are made by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) to the account nominated by the practice on the application form. PIP payments do not attract a Goods and Services Tax (GST).

Practices have up to three consecutive 'point in time' dates to provide the required information to Medicare Australia.

Eligibility requirements

To be eligible to participate in the PIP, a practice must:

- ◆ meet the RACGP definition of a 'general practice' (see below)
- ◆ maintain full accreditation or be registered for accreditation against the RACGP Standards for general practices
- ◆ achieve full accreditation within 12 months of joining the PIP and maintain full accreditation thereafter
- ◆ maintain current public liability insurance
- ◆ ensure that all practice GP's maintain current professional indemnity cover.

Practices are given 12 months from the date of joining the PIP to obtain accreditation, and are not eligible for any further payments beyond this period until full accreditation is achieved.

Withheld payments

Payments to practices are sometimes withheld by Medicare Australia.

Payments may be withheld for a number of reasons including, but not limited to:

- ◆ a change of practice ownership
- ◆ non-compliance
- ◆ expiry of accreditation status
- ◆ significant variance of practice data
- ◆ incomplete or inaccurate practice details.

If the practice remains ineligible for payment(s) at three consecutive 'point in time' dates, the practice will be ineligible to claim any withheld payments) and will be withdrawn from the PIP.

For more information about the PIP email pip@medicareaustralia.gov.au or www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/pip or call 1800 222 032.

WHEN PAYMENTS ARE MADE

"Point in Time" Dates (Last Day of PIP Submission to Medicare)	Quarterly Payment Month
31 January	February
30 April	May
31 July	August
31 October	November

Please be advised that **ALL Year 5** students return their completed PIP forms to the university. These are then signed and sent directly to Medicare by the UWS GP Dept. **ALL Year 3 students** complete a Record of Attendance. The PIP forms are created from this form and sent to the practice for signing and sending to Medicare from the Practice.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A GP SUPERVISOR?

If you would like to become a GP Supervisor or are interested in finding out more information, please contact Dr Nick Collins (n.collins@uws.edu.au) or Melinda Wolfenden (GPDept@uws.edu.au). We will notify the University or Sydney of any expressions of interest within the West of Sydney, as we share recruitment and placement processes across both Universities in the west

UWS Year 3 MiC students
2 sessions (1 day) per week
For 5 weeks

UWS Year 5 GP students 6 sessions
(3 days) per week for 5 weeks

Dates for 2013 will be advised in October, 2012.

GP SUPERVISOR NEWS

AN ONLINE 'TRAIN THE TRAINER' PACKAGE FOR GP PARTNERS

With funding under the Increased Clinical Training Capacity (ICTC) Program of the Department of Health and Ageing, the School of Medicine has developed e-learning resources to support GP's and Community Partners as they engage with our students during their GP and community attachments.

The GP Supervisor components consist of **6 modules**:

1. *Planning the attachment*
2. *Fostering a safe and inclusive learning*

environment

3. *Application of communication strategies*
4. *Facilitation of individual learning*
5. *Provision of instruction and demonstration*
6. *Planning and conducting assessment*

Each module includes useful **resources** and **interactive exercises**. Completion of a linked evaluation survey indicates formal completion of the module.

The online system is Intuitive and easy-to-navigate. It is based on **Moodle and LAMS** (Learning Activity Management System) which operates on a variety of

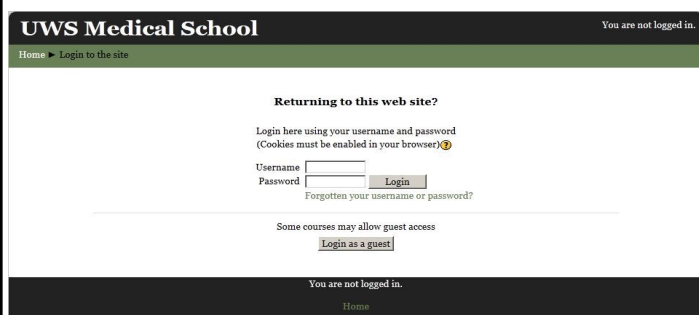
browsers (e.g. Internet Explorer and Firefox) and only requires the Flash plug in for the system to work.

We are currently working with Sydney South West Medicare Local to seek RACGP QI and CPD Category 1 points for this learning activity.

You can access these modules at:

<http://uwsmic.lamsinternational.com/>

Below are some examples of the login screen, which you should have received either via email or mail. If you haven't received your login details, please contact Tina Banks by email (t.banks@uws.edu.au).



NEWS ABOUT OUR STUDENTS

UWS STUDENTS WIN ANNUAL AGPT & AMSA VIDEO COMPETITION

Three UWS Medical students recently won the annual joint AGPT & AMSA "Get Promoting General Practice"

competition.

The Competition encourages medical students to consider and promote General Practice as a career.

Kath Mayer, together with her friends, Cristina Murphy and Danielle Klingberg,

created a fun and inventive short film called "Piece together your Future". Each student won \$1500 by expressing the opportunities offered by a career in General Practice.

Congratulations to Kath, Cristina and Danielle

STUDENTS ARRIVE FOR GP ORIENTATION IN BATHURST

A group of ten intrepid Year 4 UWS medical students packed their bags and kitchen utensils and relocated to Bathurst for their rural placements that started in July. They will be there for a year before returning to Sydney in mid-2013 for their pre-internship placements.



During their stay in Bathurst they will be rotating through placements in Indigenous Health, Medicine, Surgery, Paediatrics, Oncology, General Practice and of course will develop a deeper understanding of the challenges and rewards of rural medicine. They will also undertake a Community Research project in Bathurst as part of their course requirements.

Dr Lawrence Tan took advantage of an invitation from the lovely staff at the Bathurst Rural Clinical School to visit during their orientation week to outline the GP placement curriculum requirements. He was joined by Dr Ross Wilson, who provided an entertaining introduction to

the history, culture and leisure activities in the Bathurst area, Dr Jenny Beange from the Western NSW Medicare Local, Megan Armstrong and Madhu Tamilarasan from the RTP Beyond Medical Education, and Paul Toole, the local Member of Parliament.



The students were warmly welcomed to Bathurst and are all looking forward to learning from a group of enthusiastic and experienced rural clinicians.

NEWS ABOUT OUR STUDENTS



GENERAL PRACTITIONERS STUDENT NETWORK - THE NEXT GENERATION OF GENERAL PRACTITIONERS



The General Practitioners Student Network (GPSN) is having a fantastic year in 2012. The year began with a very popular slushy stand at O-week and a stall at the Med Camp trade show where we let the first year students know what

GPSN was about and obtained hundreds of signups!

We then ran our first ever GP Dinner with support from the brilliant GP faculty at UWS. We had a range of lovely GP guests and two amazing speakers talking about the wide range of opportunities available in General Practice: Dr Lawrence Tan, Senior Lecturer at UWS, and Dr. Helen Parsons, the Medical Administrator and Medical Director of Justice Health NSW. We received a lot of positive feedback from the students regarding this event and can't wait to run it again next year!

Our next event was to promote the GPSN first wave scholarship. A fantastic opportunity for preclinical students to get exposure to clinical and academic general practice. We had previous scholarship recipients Thomas Patterson and Alice Fraser speak about their experiences followed by pizza for all!

In the last month we have held two GP Grand Rounds. Blacktown students were lucky to have the wonderful Dr



Casey Maddren present a fascinating case that illustrated the principles of General Practice. The Campbelltown students were treated to the enthusiastic Dr Jemma Golding whose case "Friday night special" kept us guessing till the end.

2012 has also seen the creation of the GPSN UWS Facebook group. With over 200 members it's a great way to promote GP conferences, scholarships, resources or anything we think would interest the students.

2011 GRADUATING STUDENTS



The communities of Greater Western Sydney received a special gift this December when the first University of Western Sydney medical students graduated. They have joined the ranks

of doctors working in our hospitals starting early 2012.

The inaugural UWS School of Medicine graduation ceremony is the culmination of five years of study and clinical training for 86 students – over 60 percent of them from Western Sydney. It was held on Wednesday 21 December at the Parramatta campus.

The establishment of the UWS School of Medicine in 2007 immediately created opportunities for students from Western Sydney who aspire to a career in medicine to study and train in their own community.

The School also builds on the health and medical research endeavours of UWS. Four students have been awarded a

Doctor of Philosophy and two students a Bachelor of Medical Research – all of whom were supervised by School of Medicine academics.



RESEARCH

NEW RESEARCH PROJECT:

BUILDING ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CULTURAL EDUCATION AND CULTURAL MENTORING CAPACITY

After a successful tender led by Professor Jenny Reath, the General Practice Department with Urbis has

commenced research, funded by General Practice Education and Training (GPET) to investigate how General Practice Registrars and junior doctors are prepared for working in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, with particular reference to cultural mentoring and education. The investigators also include Dr Penny Abbott and Dr Ron Brooker from the

Department, Associate Professor Berice Anning, Dean and Director, the Badanami Centre for Indigenous Education, and Dr Linda Kurti, Director, Public Policy, Urbis Ltd. Ethics applications are underway and advertisements for a Project Research Officer are being prepared.

CONFERENCES

2012 PRIMARY HEALTH CARE RESEARCH CONFERENCE - CANBERRA, ACT

The Primary Health Care Research & Information Service (PHCRIS) Annual Conference in Canberra on 18-20 July

was attended by Professor Jenny Reath, Dr Penny Abbott and Dr Ron Brooker. Penny's paper on "Improving the GP diagnosis of otitis media" attracted lots of interest, as did her poster presentation documenting the results of the STIPU project. General Practice research featured consistently throughout the program and the UWS representatives were able to meet with

many like-minded researchers. This was an excellent conference for updating on current research projects around Australia and New Zealand.



COMING EVENTS



GP SUPERVISOR WORKSHOP EVENING



The Department of General Practice, in conjunction with South Western Sydney Medicare Local, will be holding our annual GP Supervisor training evening, at the Campbelltown campus of the University on **Tuesday October 16th, 2012**. We will update you on our activities, then offer you the opportunity either to

learn more about **"The Nuts & Bolts of being an Undergraduate GP Supervisor"** with Dr Nick Collins, or to explore **"Horizontal Integration - Learning General Practice from Interprofessional Teams"** with Dr Lawrence Tan.

At the end of the evening we will be

seeking your input to the ongoing development of UWS GP supervisor teaching and support activities.

To register for this event please contact Melinda Wolfenden on 02 4620 3896 or via email gpdept@uws.edu.au



CONJOINT RESEARCH FORUM



On **Monday 17th September**, UWS with Campbelltown Hospital, is convening a **Conjoint Research Forum** in the Auditorium of Campbelltown Hospital, commencing at 12 midday. The program will include **Cellular Mechanisms of Peripheral Neuropathies** by Dr Simon Myers, Refugee mental health: A comparison

of psychological distress amongst resettled Iraqi refugees seeking psychological treatment versus those not by Dr Shameran Slewa-Younan, **Prevalence of Sleep Disordered Breathing in Pregnancy** By Annette Robertson, **Retinal Vascular Changes in Hypertensive Disorders of Pregnancy** by Samantha Lupton, **The Cerebral and**

Prostate Cancer Pilot by Carol Gano **and Update on the Ingham Research Institute Conjoint academic promotions and careers** by Professor Annemarie Hennessy. A light lunch will be provided, commencing at 11.45am. For more information, contact Jenny Greer on 4620 3899 or via email j.greer@uws.edu.au

THANK YOU TO OUR GP CONJOINTS

Dr James Aitken	Dr Emad Hanna	Dr Suresh Nair
Dr Glen Au-Yeung	Mrs Angela Hsiao	Dr Diana O'Halloran
Dr Matthew Bailey	Dr Greg Hunter	Dr David Pan
Dr Monica Ball	Dr Rosemary Isaacs	Dr Helen Parsons
Dr Jurriaan Beek	Dr Colin Jamieson	Dr Anna Pham
Dr Hani Bittar	Dr Walid Jammal	Dr Ramesh Pillai
Dr Michael Burke	Dr Channappa Jayadev	Dr Harry Pope
Dr Graham Chaffey	Dr Bill Kefalas	Dr Jay Ramanathan
Dr Geoffrey Chew	Dr Frank Keh	Dr Georgia Rigas
Dr Kenneth Cho	Dr Sayeed Khan	Dr Hal Rikard-Bell
Dr Jason Chow	Dr Chee Khoo	Dr Bernd Rupprecht
Dr Helen Chriss	Dr Andrew Knight	Dr Adel Samaan
Dr Nicholas Collins	Dr Heather Knox	Dr John Sandra
Dr Michelle Crockett	Dr Tatjana Lakic	Dr Raymond Seeto
Dr Milan Djukanovic	Dr Madhu Lal	Dr Timothy Senior
Dr Clare Donnelly	Dr Carina Law	Dr Christopher Soo
Dr Bernadette Droulers	Dr Philip Law	Dr Lawrence Tan
A/Prof Michael Fasher	Dr Jane Lawrence	Dr Michael Tan
Dr Agatino Ferraro	Dr Mark Yang Lee	Dr Ian Thong
Dr Sarah Gani	Dr Karen Lickiss	Dr Furio Virant
Dr Deepa Garg	Dr Tom Lieng	Dr Ross Wilson
Dr Magdy Girgis	Dr Kenneth McCroary	Dr Kam Cheung Wong
Dr Upkar Goyal	Dr Louise McDonnell	Dr Ling Yoong
Dr Matthew Gray	Dr Linda McQueen	Dr Simon Young
Dr Stephen Hampton	Dr Arif Mirza	

The Department of General Practice would like to welcome and congratulate the recent Conjoint appointments:

Dr Thava Seelan , Dr Suresh Badami , Dr David Peiris , Dr Angela Kwok & Dr Parker Magin and Dr Anne Gilroy

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