

School of Medicine - General Practice Newsletter

Issue 6 / April 2012

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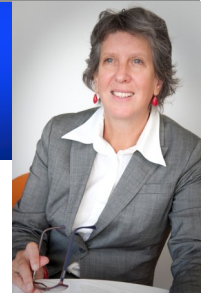
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From the Peter Brennan Chair — Jenny Reath



Dear Colleagues
It has been a busy start to the year with our GP Conference Week again an enormous and very successful enterprise.

Our grateful thanks go to all those GPs who made the time at the beginning of February to contribute to this intensive teaching program. As last year the students particularly commented on the calibre of our GP teachers and enjoyed the small group activities which enabled them to “mix it” with our GP teachers.

Our Conference Week teaching is going to be moved into Conference Weeks in Years 3 and 4 in acknowledgement of the GP rotations that occur in these years of the program. This means that whilst this year there will be a heavy load of duplicate teaching across all three years, there will be a reduced teaching load at the very start of the year in the future!

We are moving into a few years of increased student numbers as a “bulge” in Year 3 move through the program. This means we are putting the pressure on Heidi to identify GP placements for Year 5 students and on Tina for the Year 3 students.

If you know anyone you think would be a great teacher for our students who we have not yet approached please let them know about our program and we will approach them with great enthusiasm!

Our Department continues to grow and though we were sad to farewell Sara and Charlene from the research active part of our team, we are fortunate to have Ron Brooker and Erin Mathieu joining the team. Megan Matteazzi whose creative flare is responsible for this new look newsletter, provides us with some much needed admin support for Heidi!

Whilst we appreciate all who assist us with our program particularly our GP Supervisors and Conjoints, it is good to acknowledge the contribution of those who are working with us in the Rural Clinical Schools.

This newsletter includes a profile on Dr Jane Barker who has been leading our program in the Northern Rivers. We plan in the future to provide a similar introductions to other conjoints and team leaders.

Thanks to all those who give our students such a good understanding of rural and urban General Practice!

Thanks also to those GPs in the west of Sydney who kindly agreed to having their names added to a list of GPs willing to see UWS students. Under Wendy’s skilled leadership, this list is now included on a new website : “Med_SOS - A One Stop Shop of Learning and Support resources for Medical Students”.

We look forward to meeting with you this year at our GP Supervisors’ workshops. In Sydney we will again be working with WentWest, Sydney South West GP Link and GP Synergy to organise these teaching events.

Nick Collins is developing a comprehensive plan for GP Supervisor teaching which will include some “On Line training modules” we are currently piloting—more next newsletter!

Year 3 Supervisors—watch out for your Supervisor Manuals with all the relevant Year 3 information—similar to our current Year 5 Manuals!

Thank you for joining us in building the next generation of the GP Workforce. We are grateful for your commitment and expertise!

OUR NEWS

THE DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL PRACTICE AT BLACKTOWN / MT DRUITT CLINICAL SCHOOL

The new Clinical School at Blacktown Hospital was officially opened in October 2011 and our growing Department was lucky to be able to locate some staff in this state of the art facility. Wendy is now based at Blacktown and a number of our team will be spending regular days at the new clinical school. Angela Hsiao will also be conducting research in the Gestational Diabetes Clinic.



The facility includes teaching spaces such as a 160 seat auditorium, seminar and tutorial rooms, and research offices, laboratories and a clinical trials centre, which is also used for teaching health professional students.

There is also space for GP conjoints!!



WELCOME TO NEW TEAM MEMBERS

The Department of General Practice welcomes Megan Matteazzi, Erin Mathieu and Ron Brooker

Megan Matteazzi joins us as a part time Administration Assistant for a two year period. Megan has a variety of UWS experience having worked with the School of Social Sciences and the School of Nursing and Midwifery. **We welcome Megan to the team.**

Erin Mathieu joins the Department as a Lecturer in Community Research. Erin is teaching students research skills as part of the Community Medicine Group Project and liaising with project supervisors, including GPs who have generously allowed students to conduct projects in their practices. Students are already benefiting from Erin's skills as a qualified teacher, lecturer in epidemiology and biostatistics and experienced quali-

tative researcher. Erin recently completed her PhD on internet based RCTs and has published on the development of decision aids. Her research interests include quantitative research methods, physical activity in adolescents and informed choice. If you have any queries or suggestions about her research or the Community Medicine Group Project, Erin can be contacted at e.mathieu@uws.edu.au. **Welcome Erin**

Ron Brooker is our new Research Officer. Ron also comes from a UWS background working as part of the Social Justice, Social Change Research group and Interpreting and Translating Research Group as well as the Whitlam Institute in Parramatta.

Ron holds a Bachelor with Honours in Psychology, a PhD in Educational Psychology from UNSW and also a LLB. **Welcome Ron.**

DONOR HIGHLIGHT—DR PETER BRENNAN



Bradcorp CEO Peter Brennan received an Honorary Doctorate from The University of Western Sydney at the 2011 School of Medicine Graduation ceremony for his contributions to the community and to the School. In 2008, Mr Brennan made a generous donation to establish what is now the school's Peter Brennan Chair in General Practice.

Dr Brennan has actively supported the school throughout its foundation years and through this Chair has enabled UWS students to work collaboratively with General Practitioners

(Insert Pic—Dr Peter Brennan with Professor Jenny Reath—Peter Brennan Chair of General Practice)

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Publications

High-intensity training improves airway responsiveness in inactive non-asthmatic children: evidence from a randomized controlled trial. *Journal of Applied Physiology*. (Rosenkranz SK, Rosenkranz RR, Hastmann TJ, Harms C. 2012) (In Press)

Effective nutrition education for Aboriginal Australians – lessons from a diabetes cooking course. *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*. 44(1):55-59. (Abbott P, Davison J, Moore L, Rubinstein R. (2012)

Conference Presentations

The assessor, the student, the patient and the extras: a video ethnographic study of assessment in clinical environments. (WCY Hu, S Rosenkranz, Y Salamonson, L Zakrzewski, A Bialocerkowski, J Reath—School of Medicine, School of Nursing and Midwifery, School of Health and Biomedical Science, University of Western Sydney, Australia

15th OTTAWA CONFERENCE - KUALA LUMPUR

The Ottawa Conference on the assessment of competence in the medicine and healthcare professionals were set up by Professor Ian Hart (Ottawa, Canada) and Professor Ronald Harden (Dundee, UK) in 1985. Held biennially, they provide a forum for medical and other healthcare professions educators to network and share ideas on all aspects of the assessment of competence in both clinical and non-clinical domains, throughout the continuum of education.

Associate Professor Wendy Hu attended this year's conference and presented an oral presentation titled "The assessor, the student, the patient and the extras: a video ethnographic study of assessment in clinical environments." (WCY Hu, S Rosenkranz, Y Salamonson, L Zakrzewski, A Bialocerkowski, J Reath—School of Medicine, School of Nursing and Midwifery, School of Health and Biomedical Science, University of Western Sydney) Australia)



GENERAL PRACTICE CONFERENCE WEEK

This year's Conference week was a great success with great feedback coming from both students and presenters.

Students enjoyed most of the presentations, with Thursdays dermatology workshops a real success.

The Department of General Practice would like to thank the following people for their contribution to student learning at our conference week.

Prof Brad Frankum
Prof Ian Wilson
Dr Simon Young
Dr Mark Schifter
Dr Michael Fasher
Dr Jenny Brackenbury
Dr Melissa Kang
Dr Andrew Knight
Dr Jo McMahon
Dr Helen Parsons
Dr Suresh Badami
Dr Amanda Johnson
Dr Sarah Gani
Dr Wally Jammal

Dr Ross Wilson
Dr Joe Nicholas
Dr Bill Kefalas
Dr Sarah Bird
Dr Rob Paver
Dr Daniel Hewitt
Dr Jay Ramanathan
Dr Nick Collins
Dr Nick Zwar
Dr Di O'Halloran
Dr Darshana Dave
Dr Jenny James
Dr Jocelyn Lin

Dr Louise McDonnell
Dr Miriam Brooks
Dr Tim Senior
Dr Wendy Thornwaite
Ms Angelique O'Flynn
Dr Harry Pope
Dr Matthew Gray
Dr Magdy Girgis
Mr Curtis Ruhnau
Ms Margaret Ruhnau
Mr Max Dobbie
Ms Christina Shaheed
Mr Jay Allen

RESEARCH

PROMOTING SEXUAL HEALTHCARE

An Evaluation of the NSW Sexually Transmissible Illnesses Program Unit (STIPU)'s GP Project

Throughout 2011, we have undertaken an extensive evaluation of the GP and Practice Nurse resources designed to improve the diagnosis and management of sexual health issues in the primary health care setting. We used an online survey (recruiting 214 GPs and 217 Practice Nurses), and interviewed GPs and Practice Nurses as well as GP Divisional employees and the

STIPU team who developed the resources. Findings from this study will help to refine existing STI educational resources and shape the development of future GP educational initiatives. 'This project is conducted in collaboration with the CInIS Research Group, which is the administering Research Group'

Hassan Hosseinzadeh - Research Officer

THE RACGP/APHCRI INDIGENOUS HEALTH AWARD

I received the RACGP/APHCRI Indigenous Health Award for 2011. This has allowed me to conduct a project entitled "Aboriginal health workers' understanding of cardiovascular risk and its assessment". The aim of this study is to gain a new perspective from Aboriginal health workers working in the area of chronic disease and heart health in the Aboriginal community of Western Sydney on their understanding of cardiovascular risk and how they assess it. I have recently finished conducting in-depth interviews at the Aboriginal Medical Service Western Sydney with Aboriginal health workers. These interviews will now be analysed thematically to establish major

themes and sub themes. Some interesting points and recurring themes have already been found and I am excited to put them all together after further analysis!!! Culturally relevant qualitative research processes can provide a powerful tool for informing policy intended to improve health care delivery and health promotion.

I would like to thank Dr Abbott and Professor Reath for their ongoing guidance and support!! I would also like to thank the RACGP and the APHCRI for giving me this opportunity!!

Tejas Deshmukh (2011 Year 5 UWS Student)

JUSTICE HEALTH STUDY

In this study, medical students undertaking primary care placements within the Justice Health (JH) system are being asked about their experiences. The researchers, Penny Abbott, Wendy Hu and Ron Brooker, with the support of Suresh Bedami, Jenny Reath, and Helen Parsons, have started to analyse the qualitative data obtained from telephone and face-to-face interviews. Some of the themes that are emerging include the students' view that clinicians in JH require a high level of clinical skill and have good consultation skills, especially when dealing with challenging patients.

Being team-oriented and being adaptable when interacting with Corrective Services and the hospital were also mentioned by students. Students gained insights into the custodial system where managing drug and alcohol problems and 'manipulative' patients within a consultation are more frequently seen. An overall impression is that the students' placement experiences were generally quite positive.

Penny Abbott—Senior Fellow

IMPACT OF PGPPP TRAINING ON GP EARNINGS



Decrease in Earnings Because of Training?
 Prevocational training in general practice:
 RMOs studying patients in their natural environment!
 GPs part of medical training!
 Future specialists who've experienced general practice!
Unbelievable!



But how much does it cost GPs to participate in the PGPPP?
 Thanks to a GP Research Fellowship from the UWS Department of General Practice, my research project will estimate the hourly cost, in time and/or billings, of PGPPP supervision.
 Combined with other costs this will allow GPs to assess the financial impact on their practices.
 For more information, please contact Dr Graham Chaffey (g.chaffey@uws.edu.au)

THANK YOU TO OUR GP CONJOINTS

Dr James Aitken
 Dr Kam Cheung Glen Au-Yeung
 Dr Matthew Bailey
 Dr Monica Ball
 Dr Jurriaan Beek
 Dr Hani Bittar
 Dr Michael Burke
 Dr Graham Chaffey
 Dr Geoffrey Chew
 Dr Kenneth Cho
 Dr Jason Chow
 Dr Helen Chriss
 Dr Nicholas Collins
 Dr Michelle Crockett
 Dr Milan Djukanovic
 Dr Clare Donnelly
 Dr Bernadette Droulers
 A/Prof Michael Fasher
 Dr Agatino Ferraro
 Dr Sarah Gani
 Dr Deepa Garg
 Dr Magdy Girgis
 Dr Upkar Goyal
 Dr Matthew Gray
 Dr Stephen Hampton

Dr Emad Hanna
 Mrs Angela Hsiao
 Dr Greg Hunter
 Dr Rosemary Isaacs
 Dr Colin Jamieson
 Dr Walid Jammal
 Dr Channappa Jayadev
 Dr Bill Kefalas
 Dr Frank Keh
 Dr Sayeed Khan
 Dr Chee Khoo
 Dr Andrew Knight
 Dr Heather Knox
 Dr Tatjana Lakic
 Dr Madhu Lal
 Dr Carina Law
 Dr Philip Law
 Dr Jane Lawrence
 Dr Mark Yang Lee
 Dr Karen Lickiss
 Dr Tom Lieng
 Dr Kenneth McCroary
 Dr Louise McDonnell
 Dr Linda McQueen
 Dr Arif Mirza

Dr Suresh Nair
 Dr Diana O'Halloran
 Dr David Pan
 Dr Helen Parsons
 Dr Anna Pham
 Dr Ramesh Pillai
 Dr Harry Pope
 Dr Jay Ramanathan
 Dr Georgia Rigas
 Dr Hal Rikard-Bell
 Dr Bernd Rupprecht
 Dr Adel Samaan
 Dr John Sandra
 Dr Raymond Seeto
 Dr Timothy Senior
 Dr Christopher Soo
 Dr Lawrence Tan
 Dr Michael Tan
 Dr Ian Thong
 Dr Furio Virant
 Dr Fredrick Wilson
 Dr Kam Cheung Wong
 Dr Ling Yoong
 Dr Simon Young

The Department of General Practice would like to apologies to

Dr Suresh Nair, Dr Ramesh Pillai & Dr Helen Chriss

whose names were missed in the last newsletter.

We value all our Conjoints and greatly appreciate their hard work and dedication to our students!

ARE YOU INTERESTED??

Become a GP Supervisor: 2012 GP Term

<p>UWS Year 3 MiC students 2 sessions (1 day) per week for 5 weeks</p>	<p>28 May—29 June 23 July—24 August 27 August—28 September 1 October—2 November</p>
<p>UWS Year 5 GP students 6 sessions (3 days) per week for 5 weeks</p>	<p>2 July—3 August 6 August—7 September 24 September—26 October 29 October—30 November</p>

If you would like to become a GP supervisor or you are interested in finding out more, please contact Dr Nick Collins on n.collins@uws.edu.au or Heidi Forbes on GPdept@uws.edu.au. We will notify the University of Sydney of any expressions of interest in the West of Sydney, as we share recruitment and placement processes across both universities in the west.

GP Supervisors' Frequently Asked Questions

Do I have to have a student each rotation?

No. By now, GP supervisors should have received their Availability Form for Year 3 and Year 5 rotations for 2012 - in the West this covers the first 6 months and in the South West the entire year. If there is a rotation for which you are unavailable, please let us know and we will update our database.

I haven't had a student for a while, is there a problem?

No. Students are allocated practices within a certain radius of their residential address. There are occasions when there are more practices available in an area than there are students to place with them. We try and keep a steady flow of students to most practices. If you feel that you may have been overlooked, please call and let us know.

I haven't returned my 2012 Availability Form, is it too late?

Not at all! We have plenty of rotations to fill for this year, so please let us know your preferences.

Do I need to be assessed before becoming a GP Supervisor?

No. We offer a visit by one of the Senior Lecturers in the Department of General Practice to introduce ourselves and answer any questions. Each Supervisor will receive a Supervisor's Guide prior to their first rotation. (These will be mailed to our Year 3 supervisors in the next month.) There may be more than one Supervisor in a practice (and therefore more than one student, maybe even from different years).

Can I earn QA+CPD points for teaching students?

Certainly. The RACGP's QA+CPD website displays links to the Active Learning Module which each individual GP can complete and submit for assessment. The State QA+CPD coordinator can award 40 Group 1 points for Teaching in any one triennium.

Any questions about being a GP Supervisor can be addressed to:

Heidi Forbes
Tina Banks
Dr Nick Collins

Year 5 Placement Officer
Year 3 Placement Officer
Senior Lecturer

h.forbes@uws.edu.au
t.banks@uws.edu.au
n.collins@uws.edu.au

INTRODUCING..... DR JANE BARKER

Dr Jane Barker has been a rural GP in the Northern Rivers area for over 20 years. She emigrated to Australia from Papua New Guinea where she had been working in Paediatrics. Most recently she has been attached to the University Centre for Rural Health in Lismore as Academic coordinator and senior lecturer in general practice. She keeps her clinical skills up working in a local Aboriginal health service and finds medicine to be continually challenging and fascinating. She has a special interest in



mental health and this has expanded into an interest in doctor wellness which she has shared with the medical students going through UCRH. Her other passion is integrating healing into the western medical paradigm. She has thoroughly enjoyed the youthful energy and enthusiasm of the Western Sydney students who she believes share her passion for social equity.



(Paron Nadeswaran and Jessica Nghiem from the University of Western Sydney, and educator Dr Jane Barker.)



http://www.uws.edu.au/medicine/som/general_practice

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**Thank you for your
contributions.**



If you would like
something included in the next issue of our
newsletter or have any comments or
questions

please contact
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m.matteazzi@uws.edu.au