



Issue 42  
October 2010

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## NEWS FROM THE FACULTY

The Faculty Board last met on 11 October in conjunction with the very successful Spring Meeting in Newcastle.

## RELATIONSHIPS

### Liasons with Medical Colleges

#### **AFRM (RACP)**

Dr Kathy McCarthy, President of the AFRM (RACP) met with the Board in Newcastle to discuss opportunities for collaboration and sharing of resources. Faculty trainees will now have access to the AFRM Bi-National Training Program (BNTP) sessions of relevance to their training. There will be no site or individual fee for Faculty trainees attending BNTP sessions from a site where there is an AFRM trainee. A schedule and list of funded sites will soon be circulated to Faculty trainees.

The potential for a combined conference of the two organizations was discussed.

Dr McCarthy also reported on the success of the Australian Rehabilitation Outcomes Centre, a joint initiative of the Australian rehabilitation sector (providers, funders, regulators and consumers) established by the AFRM (RACP) in July 2002. The Faculty Research Committee is considering the development of a Pain Outcomes initiative.

#### **APS/NZPS**

Following a recommendation at a recent teleconference meeting with the APS and NZPS, the Faculty Board resolved that a combined meeting of the Faculty and the two societies be considered for 2017, then every 6-8 years thereafter. These dates were calculated not to compete with the IASP World Congress scheduled every 2 years.

## CORPORATE AFFAIRS

#### **New Zealand Application for Specialty Recognition**

The New Zealand Office of ANZCA has now received the letter from Medical Council of New Zealand confirming its decision to invite the FPM to submit to Stage Two of their application process for recognition of Pain Medicine as a separate vocational specialty in New Zealand. For the Stage Two submission some 'additional' information will be required because of their

changed policy part way through our submission process. The additional information is especially regarding the sustainability of the FPM. It is expected Stage II will take at least 6 months.

### **Undergraduate Student Medical Prize**

As part of its strategic plan to increase the level of education and training in pain medicine, the Board resolved to pilot an undergraduate medical student prize in ten medical schools across Australia and New Zealand. All medical schools will have the opportunity to apply for the award. Ten prizes, each of \$500 and a certificate, will be awarded to the best undergraduate students in pain medicine in the last two years of undergraduate training.

## Regional Committees

### **FPM NSW Regional Committee CME Evening: Renaissance in Opioid Therapy: Striving for Wisdom & Safety**

On Thursday 16th September, FPM fellows and trainees from Sydney and the surrounding area gathered for the FPM NSW Regional Committee's Continuing Medical Education Dinner Meeting. The many disciplines fundamental to the practise of Pain Medicine were well represented, and there was an encouraging number of current and potential trainees in

attendance. Overall, the meeting was a great success, achieving the Committee's aims of providing an opportunity for education as well as fostering a sense of community and peer support amongst Pain Medicine practitioners in Sydney and the surrounding areas.



### **FPM Qld Regional Committee**

#### Statewide Persistent Pain Steering Committee

This Committee will assist in administering the Statewide Persistent Pain Health Services Strategy 2010–2015 and the new funding announced in the

Queensland State Budget. There was considerable interest to the call for expressions of interest, with many people applying. Approximately 12 were appointed including four Faculty Fellows:

- Julia Fleming
- Leigh Atkinson (QRC)
- Kathleen Cooke (QRC)
- Robert Lattik

The FPM QRC plans to support this Steering Committee wherever possible to achieve a good outcome for Pain Medicine services across the State. This includes establishing other units for training and supporting a rotational training program.

## Report on the International Pain Summit: Montreal Convention Centre, 3 September 2010

*Report by A/Prof L. Atkinson*

The first International Pain Summit was held at the Montreal Convention Centre on Friday 3rd September 2010. This meeting followed the very successful Australian Pain Summit in Canberra on the 11th March 2010.

The Montreal meeting was convened by Prof Michael Cousins AM who headed an international organising subcommittee. 250 delegates attended the meeting from most membership countries involved in the International Association for the Study of Pain.



Australia was well represented with Prof Michael Cousins as the Chairman and Convenor. Prof Margaret Sommerville gave a significant address by video on Human Rights and Ethics. Dr James Cleary from Wisconsin also spoke strongly on the need for pain management in palliative care. Impressive papers were presented by Dr Noor Abdullah, Deputy Director General of Health, Malaysia and Dr Jerman Ochoa from Columbia. Dr Rajagopal from India presented his impressive activities establishing over 20 pain clinics in Kerala, India.

The 250 delegates contributed to the development of an international strategy and plan to improve access to pain medicine services throughout the world. The organising committee will now finalise a paper titled The Declaration of Geneva which will be submitted to the Council of the International Association for Pain for final endorsement.

The meeting concluded with the statement that pain management is the fundamental right of all human beings.

## COMMUNICATION

### 2010 - 2011 Global Year Against Acute Pain

The Global Year Against Acute Pain (GYAAP), launched on Monday 18 October, attracted significant publicity following the distribution throughout Australia and New Zealand of a media release prepared by ANZCA and the FPM, that highlighted the fact that managing pain is not routinely taught to medical students and young doctors.

The ANZCA Communications Unit also produced a poster, developed in collaboration with the APS, NZPS and ASA, which was widely distributed for use to promote GYAAP and increase awareness of acute pain.

Click [here](#) to access GYAAP resources and view the media coverage.

### National Pain Summit Video

The video produced by ANZCA's Communication Unit with media production company Immediacy, used to open the National Pain Summit in Canberra earlier this year, has been recognised at the Chicago International Film Festival. The film was awarded a certificate of merit in the inspirational/motivational category of the 2010 International Communications Media Competition (INTERCOM).

To view the video click [here](#).

To view the INTERCOM media release click [here](#).

## TRAINEE AFFAIRS

## Education

### **Blueprinting Project**

To progress the Faculty's blueprinting and curriculum review project, the Board resolved to appoint a non-clinical educationalist at .2FTE for a period of 12 months to co-ordinate the future process. The appointee will report to the Education Committee through its Chair. A position description is in development and expressions of interest will be called for.

### **Appointment of Supervisor of SoTs**

Dr Melissa Viney FANZCA (Vic) has been appointed as the Faculty's new Supervisor, Supervisors of Training as of 1 January 2011, replacing Dr Tim Semple (SA) who is stepping down from the role due to his imminent Presidency of the Australian Pain Society.

### **Appointment of SoT**

Dr Glen Sheh has been confirmed as the Supervisor of Training at Concord Repatriation General Hospital, NSW.

## Examinations

The 2010 Pre-Exam Short Course was recently held on 13-15 October at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. 20 trainees participated in this event, which provides an overview of the examination process, and an opportunity to participate in mock examination scenarios. The Faculty greatly appreciates the efforts of Dr Robyn Campbell in convening this course, of presenters and of staff at the Royal Adelaide Hospital who contribute to its success.

Registrations for the 2010 FPM examinations have now closed.

The examination will be held between the 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> November, at St Vincent's Hospital in Melbourne. A total of twenty candidates have registered.

### **Examination Dates**

24-26 November 2010

Barbara Walker Centre for Pain Management at St Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne, VIC

## Training Unit Accreditation

The Royal Melbourne Hospital and Royal Adelaide Hospital and St Vincent's Hospital Sydney have been re-accredited for pain medicine training.

## FELLOWSHIP AFFAIRS

### **New admissions**

Dr Suyin Tan (NSW) was admitted to Fellowship by examination and training. This takes the number of Fellows to 292.

### **Honorary Fellowship**

Dr Pongparadee Chaudakshetrin, Fellow of the Royal College of Anaesthesiologists of Thailand was invited to Honorary Fellowship of the FPM. Dr Chaudakshetrin is a leader of Research and Education in Pain Management in Thailand. Dr Chaudakshetrin has been invited to present for conferment of Fellowship at the Hong Kong ASM.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION

### Faculty Events

#### 2011 Refresher Course Day and Combined Scientific Meeting - Hong Kong

The Faculty will hold its ninth annual Refresher Course Day on 13 May 2011 in Hong Kong. The theme is 'Pain Management: Getting Closer to the Dragon Pearl'. The registration brochure will be available on line from early November at <http://www.anzca.edu.au/fpm/events> and will be circulated in hard copy later in the year along with the CSM Registration brochure. The provisional Program is headlined by international guests, Professors Catherine Bushnell, You Wan and Spencer Liu, and complemented by national leaders in opioid management and outcomes in pain medicine. The Faculty's ASM will run from 14-15 May. For more information and to download the program & registration, [click here](#). For information on the CSM [click here](#)



#### 2011 New Fellows Conference

Drs Duncan McKay (WA), and Teik Guan Tay (NSW) have been confirmed as the Faculty's 2011 New Fellow Conference Representatives. The object of the New Fellows Conference is to provide each participant with skills to assist them in dealing with their professional lives and relationships during their work in anaesthesia and pain medicine. The 2011 conference will be held between 11 – 13 May 2011 at Hong Kong Disneyland.

#### 2011 Spring Meeting

Drs Geoff Speldewinde and Guy Bashford will convene the 2011 Spring Meeting at the Park Hyatt Hotel, Canberra. Dates have been confirmed as 28-30 October 2011. Program development has commenced.

#### 2012 ASM- Perth

Dr Dan Bennett (USA) and Professor Henrik Kehlet (Denmark) have accepted the Faculty's invitation to be 2012 FPM ASM Visitor and FPM Perth Visitor respectively. The Local Organising Committee comprising Dr Max Majedi (FPM Scientific Convenor), Dr Lindy Roberts, Prof Stephan Schug and Dr Stephanie Davies have commenced work on program development.

#### 2013 FPM - Melbourne

Dr Michael Vagg (FAFRM, RACP) has been confirmed as the Faculty's 2013 ASM Convenor.

### Other Meetings of Interest

***Inclusion is for information only and does not imply endorsement***

#### **Chronic Pelvic and Perineal Pain, an update**

Date: 18 February 2011

Venue: Royal Hospital for Women (Auditorium), Sydney NSW

## Australian Pain Society 31st Annual Scientific Meeting

Date: 12 - 16 June 2011

aps.jpg

Venue: Darwin Convention Centre, NT



For more information please

visit [www.dcconferences.com.au/aps2011](http://www.dcconferences.com.au/aps2011)

or contact the APS Secretariat: DC Conferences Pty Ltd | P

61 2 9954 4400 | F 61 2 9954 0666 E [aps2011@dcconferences.com.au](mailto:aps2011@dcconferences.com.au)

## ACHS Education Workshop Calendar for January to June 2011

The Australian Council of Healthcare Standards (ACHS) Education calendar for the first half of 2011 is now available online at:

<http://www.achs.org.au/EduCalendarmonth/>

For more information on any of these workshops or other education enquires contact [educate@achs.org.au](mailto:educate@achs.org.au)

Please click [here](#) for more information on these and other events.

## 2010 Spring Meeting

The 2010 Faculty of Pain Medicine Spring Meeting, "Transitions in pain" in Newcastle from October 8-10 was well-received by the 120 delegates who attended and attracted significant [media coverage](#).

## Call for CSM Abstracts

The Scientific Committee cordially invites prospective authors to submit their abstracts for presentation at the Combined Scientific Meeting of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists, the Faculty of Pain Medicine and the Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists taking place in Hong Kong from May 14-17, 2011. All authors are requested to submit their abstracts in electronic format, online at [hk\\_skyline.jpg](#)

[www.csm2011.com](http://www.csm2011.com) by 5pm Hong Kong Time

(7pm AEST), Friday, February 11, 2011. All

presentations will be in poster format except for the Gilbert Brown Prize, Formal Project Prize and FPM Dean's Prize presentations, which will be oral presentations. Notification of acceptance will be

sent to presenters by email in early March 2011. To ensure abstracts are included in the final program, please register for the CSM2011 by March 18, 2011 (close of early-bird registrations). Please visit [www.csm2011.com](http://www.csm2011.com) for further information and to submit your abstract.



## RESEARCH

### The Anaesthesia & Pain Medicine Foundation: Research Awards 2011

The following FPM Fellows were successful in their Research Grant applications for 2011:

**Dr Philip Finch (WA)**

**Dr David Lindholm (Vic)** *Does adjunctive therapy with minocycline improve pain in burns patients when initiated on admission to hospital?*

***A prospective randomised controlled trial.***

**Dr Susan Lord (NSW) *A randomised double-blind placebo-controlled trial of the efficacy of Remifentanyl for procedural pain in neonates.***

The Faculty congratulates Drs Finch, Lindholm and Lord on their successful applications and outstanding commitment to research.

The ANS St Jude Medical ANZCA Research Fellowship was awarded to **Dr Philip Finch** for his project ***Mechanism of adrenergic hyperalgesia in the partial sciatic nerve ligation model of neuropathic pain.***

## Research Awards 2012

Applications for the 2012 Anaesthesia & Pain Medicine Foundation Research awards will be opening on 1 December 2010. Applications are invited from Departments of Anaesthesia and Pain Medicine Centres, Fellows and registered trainees of ANZCA and the Faculty of Pain Medicine for research awards for projects related to anaesthesia, resuscitation, peri-operative medicine or pain medicine. Check the Faculty news section after 1 December 2010 for more information and application forms.

## PROFESSIONAL

### Recent submissions

The Faculty continues to contribute to a growing number of ANZCA/FPM submissions. Recent submissions include:

- National Safety and Quality Healthcare Standards and Their Use in a Model National Accreditation Scheme (Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care)
- Risk Profiling and Doctors with Multiple Complaints (Health Quality and Complaints Commission)
- Competence-based medical education consultation paper (Australian Medical Council)

More information is available via [ANZCA's website](#).

The Faculty also submitted Annual Reports to the Medical Training Review Panel and Australian medical Council for the 2009 year.

## RESOURCES

### Clampdown on painkillers helps to cut overuse: Industry

07/09/2010: The Australian Self-Medication Industry says the "gross overuse" of potent painkillers was rare, and now harder to do following a clampdown on access. [Click here](#) for more.

### National Prescribing Service changes its spots

When the National Prescribing Service (NPS) was launched it was all about promoting better standards of prescribing ("QUM") and any suggestions there was a cost-saving agenda were decried.

[Click here](#) for more.

### Addiction to household pain killers is a serious problem

06/09/2010: Addiction to household painkillers is a serious problem with major health impacts, according to an Australian study of people taking up

to 100 painkilling tablets a day. [Click here](#) for more.

### **Pain scales in multiple languages**

The British Pain Society has produced a series of pain scales in multiple languages to assist and encourage improved assessment both by the healthcare professional and the patient, for whom English is not their first language. Difficulty in assessing pain is one common barrier that can inhibit effective treatment, particularly when the patient's first language is not English, so it is hoped that these pain scales will go some way to combat this. [Click here for more.](#)

### **Realising the Health Benefits of Work**

The Australian Faculty of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (AFOEM) recently released a position statement outlining some of the key evidence regarding the health benefits of work. The statement can be viewed [here](#).

### **Pain Medicine: A Multidisciplinary Approach**

*Edited by: Siu Lun TSUI, Phoon Ping CHEN, Kwok Fu Jacobus NG*

 This is designed as a textbook for medical practitioners preparing for higher qualification examinations in pain medicine, as well as a reference book for other medical and allied healthcare workers. A unique feature of the book is its multidisciplinary approach to manage pain. This is reflected by the contributors' multi-national/cultural origin and the diversity in their medical background (anaesthesiology, neurosurgery, orthopaedic surgery, internal medicine, clinical oncology, clinical psychology, nursing, physiotherapy, and occupational therapy).

### **Pain Medicine Journal Now Online**

Pain Medicine is now available to all ANZCA and FPM members online via the Library journal list. Pain Medicine is a multi-disciplinary journal dedicated to the pain clinician, teacher and researcher. It is the Official Journal of the American Academy of Pain Medicine and of the Faculty of Pain Medicine of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists. The journal is devoted to the advancement of pain management, education and research.

Log-in to the ANZCA website with your College ID and password and view the [Library Online Journal list here](#).

## **Other Publications of Interest**

**Australian Pain Management Association: Winter Wellbeing Newsletter Vol 2, No 3:** [Click here to download](#)

## **Positions Vacant**

Currently there are no advertised positions vacant

## **Synapse**

We look forward to receiving any contributions which should be directed to Hayley Rule at the Faculty Office ([hrule@anzca.edu.au](mailto:hrule@anzca.edu.au))

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The Faculty of Pain Medicine (FPM) is the professional medical body in Australia and New Zealand that conducts the education, training, and continuing professional development of pain medicine specialists.

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