

## **Report from the Faculty of Pain Medicine Board Meetings held on 12 May and 15 May 2011**

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### **Faculty Board**

The Faculty Board met on 12 May in Hong Kong and the “new” Board met on 15 May for the purpose of appointing office-bearers and Committee Chairs. Committee membership will be confirmed by Chairs within the coming weeks.

The Faculty’s 2011 Scientific Convenor, Dr P P Chen and Dr Steven Wong, Chairman Board of Pain Medicine, Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists met with the Board and gave an overview of the HK Pain Medicine Board’s Diploma program and plans to develop a Fellowship program in Pain Medicine. Dr Chen was congratulated on developing an excellent pain program for the Faculty’s Refresher Course Day and CSM.

### **Relationships Portfolio**

#### **ANZCA**

The Board noted Dr Mike Richards’ resignation as ANZCA CEO and expressed appreciation of his revamp and modernisation of ANZCA, along with support to the FPM, ANZCA during his tenure.

The role of the FPM Treasurer was discussed and there will be liaison with ANZCA on how this role could be made more effective with a view to being meaningfully involved in budgetary decision making.

Dr Jane Trinca has agreed to represent the Faculty on the ANZCA Quality and Safety Committee.

#### **Bupa Health Foundation Submission for GP Education**

The joint FPM/RACGP submission to the Bupa Health Foundation for funding to develop an on-line modular educational program for primary health care professionals has been successful. Bupa awarded \$200,000 to a partnership between the Faculty and the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, which will be used to develop a cutting edge online GP Education Program in the area of pain management.

Representatives of the Faculty, RACGP and Bupa Foundation met in Sydney on 20 May to discuss how the organisations will work together to ensure successful delivery of this project.

Bupa announced the winners of their 2011 health awards at the Sydney Opera House on 1 June 2011. Eleven successful applicants were awarded from close to 400 applications. Dr Brendan Moore, FPM Vice-Dean, represented the Faculty. A joint media release was prepared with the support of the ANZCA Communications unit.

#### **Liaisons with Pain Societies**

The New Zealand Pain Society has now formally endorsed Faculty Professional Document PM1 (2010): *Principles regarding the use of opioid analgesics in patients with chronic non-cancer pain.*

### **Corporate Affairs**

#### **Board Election**

F New was elected unopposed as RANZCP representative to the Board. A postal ballot was conducted for the three remaining places. Drs Brendan Moore FANZCA (Qld), Chris Hayes, FANZCA (NSW) and Prof Ted Shipton, FANZCA (NZ) were successful.

#### **Regional Committees**

### Western Australia

There being no Western Australian representation on the Board following the election, the Board resolved that a nomination of the Faculty's Western Australian Regional Committee be accepted. Board resolved that Professor Stephan Schug be co-opted to the Board as the WA Representative.

Dr John Akers has been elected Chair of the WA RC, taking over from Dr Max Majedi. Other officer bearers are: Dr Donald Johnson (WA Secretary) and Dr Max Majedi (WA Treasurer).

Dr Majedi was thanked for his contributions to the Faculty Board and for progressing activity of the FPM WA Regional Committee during his time as Chair.

### Queensland

The Board was updated on the progress of the Queensland Statewide Persistent Pain Steering Committee and advised that full time Directors positions have been advertised for the new pain clinics in Nambour, Townsville and the Gold Coast and other multidisciplinary staff are now being recruited for these and the existing clinic at Princess Alexandra Hospital. The Board expressed congratulations to the Faculty's QRC on spearheading efforts over the last three years for a persistent pain strategy in Queensland and were hopeful that Fellows would take a leadership role and step up to these full time public hospital positions.

### New South Wales

The NSW Government has adopted a Pain Policy. The NSW Agency for Clinical Innovation is proceeding with plans to consolidate resources in the state's nine tertiary multi-disciplinary pain clinics and the development of a Best Practice Model of Care to better manage patients at primary care level.

### South Australia

The Board supported the Committee's plans for establishment of an educational program for local fellows. Dr Andrew Zacest was congratulated on convening an excellent pain section of the RACS Annual Scientific Congress on 5-6 May.

### National Pain Strategy

Painaustralia is still in the phase of establishment. An office has now been set up, and the interim Board composition has recently been finalised with Diana Aspinall (nominee of the Consumer Health Forum) and Elizabeth Carrigan (nominee for APMA) appointed as community directors.

The focus of the strategic plan is the recognition of people in pain as a national health priority, with its three high priority objectives:

- establish a national body involving all stakeholder groups to identify partnerships, frameworks and resources required to build capacity and deliver proposed outcomes;
- destigmatise the predicament of people with pain, especially chronic non-cancer pain; and
- achieve federal and state government recognition of chronic pain as a chronic disease in its own right

The Board envisaged that Painaustralia and the Faculty would have complementary roles, noting that the primary role of Painaustralia is one of advocacy.

A protocol has been established for responding to issues at a government level to ensure appropriate sign off by the member organisations.

The ANZCA/FPM representative on the Painaustralia Board will keep the Faculty Board informed of development.

### Medicare Telehealth Advisory Group

("Connecting health services with the future: Modernising Medicare by providing rebates for on-line consultations").

FPM/ANZCA made a submission in support of telehealth consultations for pain patients, especially chronic pain, although the potential to contribute to the management of post-operative pain in remote hospitals was also identified.

The Faculty DPA attended a third meeting of this group in early May. A document is under development outlining technical aspects of the implementation. The principles are safety, effectiveness, security, privacy and evidence based practice. Challenges are tools, support, cost, evidence and change in practice. DoHA is looking to the Colleges to help develop guidelines for e-consultations. The aim is to complement, not replace, face-to-face meetings. There is a political imperative to implement this program on 1 July 2011.

## **Research**

### National Pain Outcome Initiative

To advance the Faculty's strategic initiative for the development of a National Pain Outcome Initiative, a sub-committee had met with Prof Kathy Eagar at the Centre for Health Service Development, University of Wollongong and reported back to the Board. Based on their track record with the Australian Rehabilitation Outcome Centre (AROC) and Palliative Care Outcomes Centre (PCOC), their strategic relationships and their enthusiasm for the project, the Board resolved to work with the University of Wollongong to move forward with this initiative.

It is hoped that the development of a National Pain Outcome Initiative can facilitate comparable improvements (to AROC and PCOC) in the quality and effectiveness of services for people with persistent pain in Australia.

A stakeholder meeting/workshop is proposed during the Spring Meeting in Canberra to finalise outcome measures.

## **Communications**

The Faculty Refresher Course Day generated significant media interest with seven speakers interviewed by interested journalists, resulting in more than 10 articles in print and online, and generating more than \$50,000 worth of media coverage.

The announcement of the Bupa Health Foundation's \$200,000 grant to the Faculty of Pain Medicine and the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners was also well-received, with the Vice Dean, Dr Brendan Moore, doing several interviews resulting in radio coverage in NSW (2UE, 2SM and WAVE FM), Canberra (2CC), Adelaide (5AA) and Perth (RTR FM), which have a combined listenership of more than 100,000 people.

Synapse is to regularly seek input from Fellows on potential keynote speakers for Faculty events.

## **Fellowship Affairs Portfolio**

### **Fellowship**

Since the February Board Meeting, the following have been admitted to Fellowship by Training and Examination:

Dr Renata Bazina, FRACS (NSW)  
Dr Trudia Disney, FRACGP, FANZCA (Tas)  
Dr Roger Chen Wah Tan, FANZCA (WA)  
Dr Christopher Orlikowski, FRAC (Tas)  
Dr Rebecca Martin, FANZCA (NSW)  
Dr Sachin Shetty, FAFRM (RACP), (NSW)  
Dr Venugopal Kochiyil, FAFRM (RACP), (SA)

Dr Milana Votrubic, FRACGP (NSW) was elected to Fellowship of the Faculty.

This takes the total number of admissions to 306.

## **Continuing Education and Quality Assurance**

### Scientific Meetings

#### *2011 CSM – Hong Kong*

The Faculty's Refresher Course Day and CSM Programs were well received. 158 registrants attended the Refresher Course to hear 12 speakers give presentations on sessions titled "Neurobiology", "Challenges in Opioid Therapy", "Outcomes in Pain Management" and "Eastern Influences".

The Faculty's CSM Program was well attended, with over 200 delegates attending the final concurrent session focusing on Acute Perioperative Pain. The Dean's Prize, awarded for original work judged to be the most significant contribution to pain medicine and/or pain research presented by a trainee, or a Fellow within eight years of Fellowship, was awarded and presented at the Faculty's AGM to Dr Rohan Russell, an ANZCA trainee from SA, for his paper "*A comparison of postoperative opioid requirements and effectiveness in methadone-maintained and buprenorphine-maintained patients*".

The international speakers, attracted significant media interest with a number of interview requests from print, radio and TV coordinated very effectively by ANZCA's Media Manager, Meaghan Shaw.

The Best Free Paper Award for original work judged to be the best contribution to the Free Paper session of the Faculty of Pain Medicine was awarded and presented at the AGM to Dr Allyson Browne, a clinical psychologist from Western Australia, for her paper "*Screening for Acute Factors That Predict Pain Post Trauma: A Pilot Study*".

#### *2011 Spring Meeting*

Registration brochures for the Faculty's Spring Meeting at the Park Hyatt Hotel, Canberra on 28-30 October will be circulated with the June Bulletin. The meeting theme is "*An exploration of the Pain/Musculoskeletal Polemics - Policies, Procedures and Pragmatics*".

#### *2012 ASM – Perth*

The Faculty's Scientific Convenor, Dr Max Majedi, and the local organising committee are well advanced with development of the Faculty's Refresher Course Day and ASM Programs, led by Dr Dan Bennett (FPM ASM Visitor) and Dr Henrik Kehlet (FPM Perth Visitor).

#### *2012 Spring Meeting*

The Board resolved to convene the 2012 Spring Meeting in Coolumb, Queensland in October. It is hoped to launch the joint RACGP/FPM online educational program at that meeting and opportunities will be explored to make this a joint meeting with Rural GPs or GPs with a special interest in pain management.

#### *2013 ASM Melbourne*

Professor Edzard Ernst (UK) was confirmed as the FPM ASM Visitor and Professor Fabrizio Benedetti (Turin) as the FPM Melbourne Visitor for 2013.

### Continuing Professional Development

The Board resolved that each FPM Fellow should comply with the CPD requirements of the primary specialty college and/or the ANZCA CPD program and that this be reviewed in three years time.

A framework for CPD has been developed by ANZCA which is adaptable to other specialty needs. The Faculty DPA, A/Prof Milton Cohen is working to define the standards required of a Specialist Pain Medicine Physician.

Dr Penny Briscoe was appointed as FPM Continuing Professional Development Officer and will represent the Faculty on the ANZCA CPD Committee.

## **Professional**

### *New Zealand Application for Specialty Recognition*

A scope of practice for Pain Medicine in New Zealand has been provided to the MCNZ, along with the advice that the qualification that should be recognised for Vocational Registration be FFPMANZCA. That has yet to be Gazetted by the MCNZ, and feedback sought from the wider community, as per usual. The remainder of the Stage II responses are nearing completion, including indicating how FPM ensures cultural competence in training and for Fellows, for submission by 30 June.

### *Australasian Guidelines for Neuromodulation in chronic Pain*

Draft Faculty Professional Document PM9 (2011): *Neuromodulation (Spinal Cord Stimulation) in the Management of Patients with Chronic Pain* was viewed by the Board. It is pending further scrutiny by the Neuromodulation Group before being finally accepted as a Professional Document.

### *National Pharmaceutical Drug Misuse Strategy*

The Faculty has representation on the Expert Reference Group and it was acknowledged that the group is well informed. Submissions were invited by 27 May. Faculty has made a submission.

### *Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) Opioid Stakeholders Meeting*

The Faculty Director of Professional Affairs attended the Stakeholder meeting on 5 April and a strong submission highlighting Faculty Professional Document PM1 (2010) *Principles Regarding the Use of Opioid Analgesics in Patients with Chronic Non-Cancer Pain*, has been made.

### *National Medicines Policy Partnerships Forum*

The Faculty will be represented at this forum on 29 July in Canberra.

## **Trainee Affairs Portfolio**

### **Training Requirements for Intensive Care Trainees and Fellows**

The Board resolved that Fellows of the College of Intensive Care Medicine of Australia and New Zealand who wish to train for FFPMANZCA be required to undertake 12 months of structured training in a Faculty of Pain medicine accredited unit.

### **Recognition of FPM training by the primary specialty**

The Board confirmed that the Faculty accepts cross-crediting recognition of training of Faculty trainees concurrently training in their primary specialty and is happy with other requirements of those colleges with respect to on-call requirements. The Faculty welcomes dual training recognition for higher trainees and at every circumstance has tried to facilitate it. Trainees are referred to Faculty Regulation 4.2.3: "when pain medicine training is concurrent with training in one of the primary specialties, advice should be obtained from both the parent College/Faculty and the Faculty of Pain Medicine.?"

## **Education**

### *Podcasting*

Three podcasts were recorded in Hong Kong and will be made available on the Faculty Website:

Prof You Wan            Treating acute pain: the wrath of peripheral firings  
 Prof Spencer Liu        Does postoperative analgesia improve postoperative outcomes?  
 Dr Meredith Craigie    FPM Examination and Case Report

After editing, the podcasts will be published on the Faculty Website at <http://www.anzca.edu.au/fpm/resources/e-learning-resources-for-fpm-trainees-fellows.html>

FPMANZCA Mentoring Program

The Faculty of Pain Medicine strongly encourages mentorship and a proposal for a Faculty Mentoring Program was accepted by the Board. Strategies will now be developed to implement the program and to encourage relationships between more experienced people and junior colleagues.

**Examination**

The Faculty's 2011 Pre-examination short course will be held at the Queensland Regional Office from 23-25 September. The Examination will be held at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital (25-27 November). The closing dates for registrations are 9 September and 7 October respectively.

Professional Documents

The Board resolved to update Faculty Professional Document PM4: *Guidelines for Patient Assessment and Implantation of Intrathecal Catheters, Ports and Pumps for Intrathecal Therapy*.

**Training Unit Accreditation**

The Training Unit Accreditation Committee was given approval to progress a proposal to significantly revise Faculty Professional Document PM2, *Guidelines for Units Offering Training in Multidisciplinary Pain Medicine* to include recognition of Tier 2 hospitals.

Tier 2 hospitals would be units able to offer good training opportunities, but not sufficient to meet all components of PM2. They would be suitable for a maximum of 6 months of training. They would be required to have a relationship with a Tier 1 hospital such that both SoTs would be overseeing the trainee.

Following successful reviews, Alfred Health Pain Services (Vic) and Liverpool Hospital (NSW) were accredited for pain medicine training. The Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (NSW) was re-accredited for training.

Dr Richard Burstall was appointed Supervisor of Training at the Hunter Integrated Pain Service.

**Resources Portfolio**

**Finance**

The Faculty continues to track closely to budget for 2011. Timing issues account for the most significant variations in expenses and income.

**Board and Committee appointments**

<b><i>Board Members:</i></b>	
Dean	David Jones
Vice Dean	Brendan Moore
Assessor	Frank New
Continuing Professional Development Officer/Assistant Assessor/ Annual Scientific Meeting Officer	Penny Briscoe
Chair Education Committee	Ted Shipton
Chair Examination Committee	Meredith Craigie
Chair Training Unit Accreditation Committee	Carolyn Arnold

Chair Research Committee	Chris Hayes
Chair Continuing Education & Quality Assurance Committee	Guy Bashford
Treasurer/Scientific Meeting Officer	Leigh Atkinson
Co-opted WA Representative	Stephan Schug
Co-opted Member representing ANZCA	Lindy Roberts
<b>Other Officers:</b>	
Senior Editor <i>Pain Medicine</i> / FPM Director of Professional Affairs	Milton Cohen
<b>Executive Committee/Portfolio Chairs:</b>	
Chair Relationships Portfolio	David Jones
Chair Trainee Affairs Portfolio	Ted Shipton
Chair Fellowship Affairs Portfolio	Brendan Moore
Chair Resources Portfolio	Leigh Atkinson
General Manager FPM	Helen Morris
<b>Committee Chairs:</b>	
Education Committee	Ted Shipton
Examinations Committee	Meredith Craigie
Training Unit Accreditation Committee	Carolyn Arnold
Research Committee	Chris Hayes
Continuing Education and Quality Assurance Committee	Guy Bashford
	Peter Rofe
<b>Sub-Committee and Working Party Chairs</b>	
Supervisors of Training Sub-Committee	Melissa Viney
Paediatric Pain Medicine Working Party	Meredith Craigie
Palliative Medicine Working Party	David Gronow
<b>Representation on ANZCA Committees:</b>	
Examinations Committee	Meredith Craigie
Primary Examination Sub-Committee	Meredith Craigie
Education and Training Committee	Ted Shipton
Research Committee	Chris Hayes
Fellowship Affairs Committee	Penny Briscoe
IMGS Committee	Frank New
Overseas Aid Committee	Roger Goucke
Quality and Safety Committee	Jane Trinca
Training Accreditation Committee	Carolyn Arnold
ANZCA Trials Group	Stephan Schug
Regional Committees:	
Queensland	Richard Pendleton
New South Wales	Lewis Holford
Victoria	David Scott
Tasmania	Gajinder Oberoi
South Australia	Pamela Macintyre
Western Australia	John Akers
New Zealand National Committee	Kieran Davis
Australian Capital Territory	Geoff Speldewinde
ANZCA/FPM Constitution Review Working party	P A Briscoe
	D Jones
	C Hayes
<b>External Committees &amp; Organisations:</b>	
Australasian Anaesthesia	Penny Briscoe