

FPM Board meeting report

October 2012

Report following the Board meeting of the Faculty of Pain Medicine held on 29 October 2012

Death of Fellows

The Board noted with regret the death of Fellow Professor Issy Pilowsky (SA). A tribute to Professor Pilowski was presented by Professor Michael Cousins at the Faculty's Spring Meeting in Coolum and will be published in *Synapse*.

Honours and Awards

The Dean conveyed on behalf of the Faculty, acknowledgment and congratulations for the following appointments;

- Dr Leona Wilson – Awarded the ANZCA Robert Orton Medal for distinguished services in anaesthesia
- Dr Kerry Brandis – Awarded the ANZCA Council Citation in recognition of significant contributions to College activities.
- Professor Michael Cousins – Honorary Doctor of Science, McMaster University in Ontario Canada
- Professor David Story (Vic) appointed Chair of the Centre for Anaesthesia, Perioperative Medicine and Pain Medicine, School of Medicine, University of Melbourne

Relationships

Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine

Dr Stephen de Graaff, President-elect and Chair, Policy and Advocacy Committee, AFRM (RACP) met with the Board to discuss areas of common interest and opportunities for engagement.

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) Pain Medicine Section

The RACS Annual Scientific Congress (ASC) in Auckland in May 2013 will include a pain section. The 2014 ASC will be combined with neurosurgery and will be co-located with the ANZCA/FPM ASM. Professor Peter Teddy, is convening the RACS pain program under a theme of "Dilemmas in surgical pain management" and is working with the ANZCA and FPM Scientific Convenors to coordinate contributions from each group with the aim of attracting a broad audience.

RACGP

The GP Online Learning initiative, collaboration between the FPM, RACGP and the Bupa Health Foundation, was officially launched at both the FPM Spring Meeting in Coolum on September 29 and at the RACGP GP12 meeting on the Gold Coast on 26 October. The Dean spoke at both launches and a combined FPM/RACGP/Bupa media release attracted media attention. This will be the first Active Learning Module to be available through the GP Learning platform on iPad and iPhone, promoting accessibility.

Painaustralia

Among recent achievements was a meeting with the Federal health Minister, Tanya Plibersek and policy advisor Kate Lee which had been positive. National Pain Week in July generated considerable publicity.

A combined Boards meeting of the APS, NZPS, FPM and ANZCA had been convened in Melbourne in March 2012 and a further meeting occurred in Coolum in October to discuss how best to collaborate in advancing the National Pain Strategy.

A key pillar of the Faculty's strategic plan is to build advocacy and access through collaborative initiatives with PainAustralia and the Pain Societies.

Corporate Affairs

Strategic Planning

The FPM Strategic Plan 2013-2017 was launched at the Spring Meeting outlining the Faculty's vision and plan for the future. This is now available on the FPM website

<http://www.fpm.anzca.edu.au/about-fpm/structure-and-governance/pdfs/FPM%20Strategic%20Plan%20FINAL.pdf>.

2013 Business Plan

The Board endorsed the 2013 FPM Business Plan outlining the objectives, initiatives and actions to be undertaken in the coming year.

AMC reaccreditation

The AMC accreditation team visit occurred during the week of 15 October. Feedback in the preliminary report was positive. The team's final report with their recommendations is awaited. The Board acknowledged those who provided input to the process and noted that alignment with ANZCA's thorough processes had reflected favourably on the Faculty.

New Fellow Board Position

Recognising the benefits of input from trainees and New Fellows in the decision making processes, the establishment of a New Fellow representative to the Board will be explored. In the interim, steps will be taken to seek and correlate feedback from Regional Committee New Fellow representatives.

Trainee Affairs

Part-time and interrupted training

The Board approved criteria for the assessment of proposals for part-time training with a view to increasing flexibility. All proposals for part time training will be assessed on the basis of being at least 50% full time equivalent and with a demonstrated ability to satisfy all the components of training during the course of training.

Curriculum Revision 2015

Board approved the high level outline of the new curriculum and program and endorsed the proposed project deliverables. The budget for the project was approved for submission to Council for approval as a capital project.

A project governance structure was approved to streamline the decision making process and to ensure work is appropriately delegated to project groups to avoid cost overruns and time blowouts. As well as Faculty representatives, ANZCA's CEO, GM Strategic Projects Office and GM, Education will participate in the Project Governance Group.

Fellows attending a forum on the curriculum redesign convened in conjunction with the Spring Meeting in Coolum gave positive feedback.

Summative assessment regulation

Board resolved that Regulation 3.2.8 be amended to remove the requirement that an applicant offered the summative assessment without further training as a pathway to Fellowship be required to register as a trainee 6 months prior to the examination. Candidates will be able to register as per the normal requirements of the examination.

Examinations

Examiners

Board endorsed the appointment of the following as examiners for a period of three years:

Dr Ming Chi Chu, FANZCA
Dr Gary Clothier, FAFRM (RACP)
Associate Professor Philip Siddall, PhD
Dr Clayton Thomas, FAFRM (RACP)
Associate Professor Andrew Zacest, FRACS
Dr Michael Vagg, AFRM (RACP)

Board endorsed the re-appointment of the following examiners for a period of three years:

Professor Michael Cousins, FANZCA
Associate Professor Pamela Macintyre, FANZCA
Dr Owen Williamson, FRACS
Dr Paul Wrigley, FANZCA

Clinical Case Study

New Clinical Case Study guidelines and assessment criteria were ratified and will be updated on the Faculty website and promulgated to trainees and supervisors of training.

Examiner Training Assessor

The Board approved the appointment of a recently retired examiner, familiar with each component of the Faculty's examination, as an Examiner Training Assessor on the panel of examiners. The appointment will be made by the Examination Committee.

Training Unit Accreditation

The Kowloon East Cluster Pain Unit (Hong Kong) and St Vincent's Hospital (Sydney) have been re-accredited as Tier 1 units.

Board resolved that Terms of Reference for both the Training Unit Accreditation Committee and the Education Committee be reviewed and altered to reflect that the position of Supervisor of Training will be ratified by the Education Committee.

Dr Peter Cox was confirmed as Supervisor of Training for Westmead Hospital, NSW.

Professional

Specialty recognition – New Zealand

Subsequent to the Board meeting, the Faculty was advised officially that the Medical Council of New Zealand has accredited pain medicine as a scope of practice in New Zealand for a period of 5 years until 2017– a very welcome outcome to a two-year application process. The new scope and its associated qualification (Fellowship of the Faculty of Pain Medicine of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists – FFPMANZCA) will come into effect on December 3, 2012.

Submissions

The Faculty has recently contributed to the following submissions which can be viewed at <http://www.anzca.edu.au/communications/submissions/government-submissions-2012>

- Review of Australian Standard Classification of occupation, First Edition, Revision 1 – September 2012
- Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists Accreditation – September 2012
- Changed to *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act* regarding international criminal history checks – August 2012

In September, a joint PainAustralia and FPM submission was made at short notice to the NSW Agency for Clinical Innovation Pain Management Network to apply for funding to replicate the GP Online education model for pain education for primary care and allied health practitioners.

Support for Developing Countries

The Board formally acknowledged the remarkable personal efforts of Dr Roger Goucke and Dr Wayne Morris in advancing the Essential Pain Management (EPM) initiative which has been an enormous success. EPM has now been widely delivered throughout the Pacific Islands and has been translated into Vietnamese, Mongolian and Spanish with consideration for translating into Swahili.

Fellows with an interest in teaching in low and middle income countries, Aboriginal Health, or Australian undergraduates are encouraged to contact Associate Professor Roger Goucke.

The Dean, on behalf of the Board, paid tribute to Roger Goucke for his ongoing dedication and service to the college in promoting access to pain medicine throughout the third world through this initiative. His activities reflect extremely positively on the international profile of both the FPM and ANZCA.

Fellowship affairs

New Fellows

Dr Romil Jain, FCICM (NSW) is congratulated on his admission to FPM fellowship.

New Fellows' Conference 2013

Dr Dilip Kapur (SA) was nominated as the Board representative to the 2013 New Fellows' Conference. Two New Fellow representatives will be nominated after the closing date of 2 November.

Continuing Professional Development

2012 Spring Meeting – 28-30 September - Coolum

The Board congratulated convenors Associate Professor Leigh Atkinson and Associate Professor Brendan Moore on the success of this meeting. The well received program included launch of both the GP Online Education initiative and FPM Strategic Plan 2013-2017.

2013 ASM & FPM Refresher Course Day and ASM – 3 May & 4-8 May – Melbourne

Sofitel on Collins, Melbourne. Theme: "Selling Pain Science – Communication and Cultural Competition". Scientific Convenor, Dr Michael Vagg.

2013 Spring Meeting – 25-27 October 2013

Byron at Byron Resort and Spa, Byron Bay, is confirmed as the venue for the 2013 Spring Meeting. The meeting will be convened by Dr Michael Vagg with a theme to coincide with the IASP Global Year Against Visceral Pain with an emphasis on gynaecological/pelvic pain.

2016 Annual Scientific Meeting, Auckland

ANZCA has appointed Dr Michal Kluger, FANZCA, FFPMANZCA as convenor. The Faculty's 2016 Scientific Convenor appointment is currently under consideration.

Research

ANZCA Research Grants

Three grants (of the 16 successful applications) were awarded to investigations with a pain focus:

- Associate Professor Philip Siddall (NSW) – *Levels and associations of existential distress in people with persistent pain*
- Dr Kelly Byrne (NZ) – *Tramadol vs morphine for refractory postoperative pain in the recovery room*
- Dr Nolan McDonnell (WA) – *Evaluation of the safety of intrathecal administration of magnesium sulphate in a sheep model*

The St Jude Medical Research Award was awarded to Associate Professor Philip Siddall.

The John Boyd Craig Research Award was awarded to Dr Nolan McDonnell.

An academic enhancement grant was awarded to Professor Matthew Chan (HK) title is *Transcriptional regulation of chronic postsurgical pain*.

Electronic Persistent Pain Outcomes Collaboration (ePPOC)

The recruitment process at the University of Wollongong for an ePPOC manager and a statistician will commence upon release of funds from NSW Health. A pilot will initially commence in NSW before drawing in data from other states in a national benchmarking process. There will be an opportunity to review the agreed national dataset prior to implementation nationally.

Pain Device Implant Register

Discussions have commenced with statisticians at the Data Management and Analysis Centre (DMAC) at the University of Adelaide to advance this initiative. The National Joint Replacement Registry is currently coordinated within that department. The next steps will be to develop a business plan and questionnaire and determine pilot centres. Funding avenues are being explored.

Resources

Finance.

The Board approved the Faculty's 2013 budget and fee schedule, based on the delivery of initiatives proposed in the Faculty's Strategic Plan and 2013 Business Plan.