



**Issue # 41**  
**August 2010**

**In this issue**

Links  
Link2  
Link3

**Links:**

[Contact us](#)  
[FPM](#)  
[ANZCA](#)  
[RACP](#)  
[RACS](#)  
[RANZCP](#)  
[AFRM](#)  
[APS](#)  
[NZPS](#)

## 2010 Spring Meeting

We invite you to register for the Spring Meeting in Newcastle on **8-10 October**. The theme is **“Transitions in Pain”** with prominence given to the Models of Care sub-theme. Dr Cathy Price (Southampton, UK) is the International Visitor. [Click here](#) for the online registration brochure.



## PROFESSIONAL

### Overseas Aid - Pain in the Pacific

Drs Roger Goucke and Wayne Morriss ran two one-day pilot Essential Pain Management (EPM) courses, one in Lae (20th April) and one in Port Moresby (22nd April). 22 people attended the Lae course and 15 people attended the Port Moresby course. Course aims included:

- Trial of a teaching system for recognizing, assessing and treating pain
- Identification of pain management barriers and exploration of possible solutions
- Exploration of options for future courses



Dr Goucke and Dr Morriss plan to further develop the EPM course materials with a view to repeating the course in PNG later this year and introducing the course into Fiji within one year.

An application for support for this worthwhile project was

successful and a grant has now been made available to the College from the Ronald Geoffrey Arnott Foundation, managed by Perpetual Trustee Company Limited. Professor Kate Leslie recently accepted the cheque for a \$20,000 donation from Michael Carroll, Senior Financial Consultant, Perpetual Trustee Company Limited.

## Professional Documents

The Board approved the following new Faculty Professional Document:

PM1 Principles Regarding the Use of Opioid Analgesics in Patients with Chronic Non-Cancer Pain This has followed extensive review of the literature on both the goals of treatment and addiction medicine knowledge which has become more available for ongoing research, together with similar consensus statements in Europe, US and UK. To view [click here](#)

## FACULTY EVENTS

## 2011 Refresher Course Day and CSM



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 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 meeting will be of value for Fellows, Trainees and other practitioners who have an interest in Pain medicine and will precede the ANZCA/FPM and HKCA Combined Scientific Meeting. The Faculty's ASM will run from 14-15 May. For information on the CSM [click here](#)

## New Fellows Conference 2011

11-13 May 2011

Disneyland Hotel, Hong Kong Fellows Conference 2011

**"Managing the Change"**

Applications are invited from Fellows in all training Regions for selection to attend the 2011 New Fellows Conference in Hong Kong. To be eligible, Fellows must be within eight years of Fellowship and attending the 2011 Combined Scientific Meeting (CSM). Selection will be undertaken by the Regional and National Committees and the Faculty of Pain Medicine. 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. Special emphasis will be placed on professional excellence, leadership and involvement in College and Faculty affairs. For more information [click here](#) or to view Guidelines [click here](#)

For registration details and more information [click here](#)

## Other Meetings of Interest

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

For More information [click here](#)

### **Basic Cervical And Lumbar Zygapophysial Joint Spinal Intervention Workshop**

Date: Saturday 2 October, and Sunday 3 October, 2010

Venue: Clinical Anatomy and Surgical Skills Department, University of New South Wales.

This hands-on cadaver-based workshop will provide participants with the basic understanding, knowledge and skills to undertake diagnostic (and potentially therapeutic) cervical and lumbar zygapophysial joint, medial branch nerve and intra-articular injection procedures. For further information please contact G Speldewinde at [gspeld@capitalrehab.com.au](mailto:gspeld@capitalrehab.com.au) or 02 62826240.

### **November 11-14, 2010 | Budapest, Hungary**

The forum is targeted at all medical professions from all fields of medicine and will focus on innovative educational sessions in palliative care. The program will include presentations, interactive workshops, and present research at various levels of development.

More information [click here](#)

## Position Vacant

To see positions that are currently being advertised please [click here](#)

## Expressions of Interest

The Supervisor of the Supervisors of Training (SSoT) Dr Tim Semple will be resigning from this position in October and expressions of interest from FPM SOTs are being sought for his successor. The role of the SSOT is to manage and coordinate the needs of the Supervisors of

Training (SOTs). The SSOT also oversees the two annual FPM SOT workshops and the Trainee Lunch which is held at the Annual Scientific Meeting. The Faculty would like to thank Tim for his enthusiasm, dedication and hard work on formalising the SoT ratification process. For further information please contact the Faculty Office.

## RESOURCES

### Australian Pain Management Association

On 14th April, Queensland Parliamentary Secretary for Health, Murray Watt MP, officially launched Pain Link, APMA's new telephone helpline service.

Pain Link is available for the cost of a local call and is staffed by volunteers with pain who've undertaken Lifeline training. Pain Link is one way that those who live in regional areas or who are housebound can be supported by people who manage their own pain and have skills to pass on.

For more information on Pain Link and to read the APMA Autumn Newsletter [click here](#).

### Arthritis Australia Booklet

This new booklet was produced by Arthritis Australia (AA) with funding from the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing through the Better Arthritis and Osteoporosis Care initiative.



The booklet can be obtained by calling the Arthritis Australia freecall number 1800 011 041.

To view the booklet [click here](#)

### Pain Authorities for Treatment with Opioid Drugs of Dependence

Drug and Alcohol Services South Australia (SA Health) wishes to make public to all Medical Practitioners in South Australia the processes currently adopted by the Drugs of Dependence Unit in the granting of authorities for pain management treatment with opioid drugs of dependence.

Please click here for more information [click here](#)

### Pain Management Research Review

Pain Management Research Review is a unique Australian publication bringing you some of the most important research from around the world. The Review is a summary of what we think are the ten most significant new papers, plus local commentary on why they are important and how they can potentially affect practice. Selection and review of the trials is carried out by Dr David Gronow, Director of both the Sydney Pain Management Centre and Multidisciplinary Pain Services at Westmead Hospital. The Review also provides website links to the abstract or fully published papers so you can make your own judgements. To view [click here](#)

## NEWS FROM THE FACULTY

### Faculty Board

The Faculty Board met on 9 August. Dr Lindy Roberts was welcomed to the Board as the Council representative, as was A/Prof. Milton Cohen as the first DPA for the Faculty.

Later in the meeting the Board was joined by Mr Graeme Campbell, Chair Fellowship Services Committee of RACS and the RACS representative on ANZCA Council.

BACK ROW: Drs G M Bashford, C A Arnold, F J New, R Garrick, M Majedi, L J Roberts, C Hayes, Ms H M Morris (Executive Officer) FRONT ROW: Professor E A Shipton, Drs B J Moore (Vice-Dean), D Jones (Dean), P A Briscoe and A/Professor R L Atkinson

## TRAINEE AFFAIRS

### New Accreditations

Fremantle Hospital (WA) was accredited for pain medicine training for a period of three years, with a paper review after the first trainee year. This takes the number of accredited units to 24.

## Reviewer Training

A workshop for the Faculty's Panel of Reviewers was held at ANZCA House on Saturday 7th August and was facilitated by Mark O'Brien of the Cognitive Institute. The workshop attracted the majority of Faculty Reviewers who learned valuable interviewing skills. This was considered by all to be a highly valuable exercise. One outcome from the Workshop is to instigate pre-review teleconferences between the two reviewers to discuss potential issues and coordinate who will lead the review.

## Examinations

The Faculty's Examination Committee met the day before the Board Meeting to review feedback from the 2009 Exam, to appoint examiners and to set the 2010 paper. Drs Charles Brooker (FANZCA) and Martine Holford (FANZCA) were appointed as examiners and Dr Ming Chi Chu (Hong Kong) and A/Prof David Scott (ANZCA Chair Examinations) have been invited to Observe

Invitations to attend the Faculty's Pre-Examination Short Course have been circulated to eligible trainees. Registrations close on 1 October 2010. For those wishing to attend, please return your registration and payment forms to the Faculty Office

### Examination Dates

24-26 November 2010

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

Closing Date for Registration: 8 October 2010

### Pre-Exam Short Course

13-15 October 2010

Royal Adelaide Hospital, SA

Closing Date for Registration: 1 October 2010

## FELLOWSHIP AFFAIRS

### New admissions

The following were admitted to Fellowship:

#### By examination and training:

Assad HUSSAIN

Max SARMA

Kerry Louise THOMPSON

This takes the number of Fellows to 291

### Election to Fellowship

The Board resolved to introduce interviews with applicants, proposers and referees as part of the process for consideration of applications for Fellowship by Election beginning January 2011. Interviews will be conducted by a Board member from a different state and specialty background.

## RELATIONSHIPS PORTFOLIO

### Liaisons with Medical Colleges

### RACS

Mr Graeme Campbell, RACS Chair Fellowship Services Committee and RACS representative to ANZCA Council, met with the Faculty Board in August and reported on the recent formation of a pain section within RACS that will be open to every surgeon with an interest in pain medicine

and will provide the opportunity for Fellows and Trainees to share resources. In discussion it was suggested that an area for collaboration, over time, is the opportunity to develop pain as a module early in young surgeon's training. Another key area identified is to increase current knowledge and education, particularly around persistent pain after surgery. Opportunities to share SoT and examination resources can be explored. A/Prof Leigh Atkinson will continue to work with Mr Campbell to identify opportunities for collaboration to work toward better patient care.

## **AFRM (RACP)**

As a result of discussions between the Executive members of the AFRM and AFRM representatives on the Faculty Board, Drs Carolyn Arnold and Guy Bashford, the AFRM President, Kath McCarthy, has written to offer the opportunity for Faculty trainees to attend AFRM's Bi-National Training Program teaching sessions of relevance to their training. Opportunities for reciprocity will be explored.

## **APS/NZPS**

### **2010-2011 GYAP**

At a teleconference meeting of the FPM/APS/NZPS, there was strong support for collaboration on the 2010-2011 IASP Global Year against Postoperative Pain. It is intended to get a co-ordinated approach for Australia and NZ, and involving other relevant organisations: FPM, NZSA, ASA, NZPS, APS and the Acute Pain Special Interest Group. ANZCA Communications Unit has commenced work on a possible media strategy to promote activity and maximise coverage of this event

### **Endorsement of documents**

A general sharing of documents/guidelines between FPM/APS/NZPS is accepted. A principles guideline document on the use of longer term opioid analgesics in patients with chronic non-cancer pain and an accompanying 2 page appendix useful for primary care was approved by this August Board meeting, and will be accordingly be circulated for endorsement by the Pain Societies.

## **Corporate Affairs**

### **National Pain Strategy**

Discussions have commenced on the formation of a National Advocacy Body for Pain. Dr Penny Briscoe represented ANZCA and the Faculty on the Interim Executive Meeting. The name "Pain Australia" has been agreed with a "tag line" of "Leadership to prevent and effectively manage pain" under discussion.

### **Blueprinting Sub-Committee**

The Blueprinting Sub-Committee recently convened focus groups in Queensland, NSW and Victoria to assist with the development of a detailed statement which describes a pain medicine specialist, so that agreement can be reached on the core knowledge and skills specific to a pain specialist from any background. Participants were requested to complete a questionnaire in advance of the Workshop to allow the facilitators, Drs Owen Williamson and Frank New, the time to organise their review in advance of the meeting.

Feedback from these focus-groups will be valuable in the ongoing development of the curriculum, training and examination processes to achieve the desired objectives.

## **Synapse**

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

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