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Issue 45
April 2011

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FPM

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FACULTY BOARD

Board Meetings

The Faculty Board last met on 28 February. Please [click here](#) for a full report. Other meetings for 2011 are:

12 May (Hong Kong)

15 May - New Board (Hong Kong)

22 August (Melbourne)

20 October (Melbourne)

FPM Annual General Meeting

The Faculty of Pain Medicine's Annual General Meeting will be held on **Sunday, 15 May 2011** commencing at 3.00 pm in Theatre 2, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Hong Kong. A formal notice, including the Agenda and Proxy form, has recently been mailed to Fellows. Note: Fellows are advised that the AGM Notices incorrectly indicate the Annual General Meeting in Hong Kong is to be held on Sunday 14th May. This should read Sunday 15th May. Apologies for any confusion.

RELATIONSHIPS PORTFOLIO

NHMRC Achievement Award for Top Ranked NHMRC Research Fellow

Congratulations to Professor Paul Hodges of The University of Queensland, who recently received an NHMRC Achievement Award. Professor Paul Hodges is Director of the NHMRC Centre for Clinical Research Excellence in Spinal Pain, Injury and Health. He has doctorates in physiotherapy and neuroscience and uses this mix of skills to bridge between basic neurophysiological and clinical research. His work aims to understand mechanisms underpinning chronic pain and to develop conservative treatments.

Painaustralia website: A new website has been established at www.painaustralia.org.au. It is a work in progress established initially by migrating the content of the National Pain Summit website, which will henceforth lapse. Much of the Summit content will be preserved and the site will be progressively updated to reflect the role of painaustralia.

Regional News

New Zealand

Pain Society ASM cancelled

As a consequence of the earthquake, the New Zealand Pain Society cancelled its 36th annual scientific meeting. The ASM was to have been held at the Grand Chancellor Hotel in Christchurch from 17-20 March. The organising

committee and the NZPS Council are now planning to combine the 2011 and 2012 conferences in Wellington on 13-15 April 2012. That conference will incorporate much of this year's program, including inviting its keynote speakers from England and the USA.

New South Wales

The NSW Liberals & Nationals Plan for Pain Management

The NSW Regional Committee reports that the liberal party has specifically discussed pain medicine in their plan for health for NSW. No specific funding has been announced in this document although commitment to a statewide pain medicine plan is very positive. The message of early effective intervention to reduce (much of) the chronicity is one which the Faculty strongly supports. Please [click here](#) for further information.

Professor Michael Cousins was interviewed about this on 2GB Alan Jones at 7.40, 10th March 2011. Please [click here](#) for further information.

Queensland

A letter from the new Chair of the Regional Committee:

Dear Colleagues,

Dr Paul Gray has recently stepped down as chair of the Regional Queensland Committee and handed over to me. Paul has done a great job over the past three years and the FPM thanks him for his time, effort and patience over the years.

The QLD regional committee continues to grow and be active in education and advocacy for fellows, trainees and patients. We continue to take interest and support the persistent pain advisory group in their establishment of the four new proposed pain units in Queensland.

Last year saw a well attended CME programming that included input from a variety of areas including palliative medicine, genetics, rehabilitation and the legal arenas. This year promises to be just as productive and interesting. I would ask that all fellows support the CME program by attending and providing feedback.

I would encourage all Queensland fellows, especially the younger ones to consider making a commitment to the committee in the future. The more energy, considered thought and time we all have from you will only benefit our specialty and our patients in this state.

Look forward to seeing you at the CME meetings.

Regards, Mark Tadros
Chair of the Queensland Regional Committee

For further information on the CME Meetings visit the QLD Regional Committee website at: <http://www.qld.anzca.edu.au/fpm>

Inaugural ANZCA Media Award

Media in Australia and New Zealand have been invited to participate in the inaugural ANZCA Media Award. A prize of \$5000 will be awarded for the best news story or feature about anaesthesia or pain medicine that appears in print, on radio, on television or online in 2011. Entries will be judged on their originality and the impact they may have had in giving the community a better understanding of anaesthesia or pain medicine.

Media kits were posted to key health and medical journalists, program directors and newsrooms in Australia and New Zealand last week and the poster was emailed to a wider group last night. For more information, click on the banner advertisement that has been posted on the [FPM website homepage](#).



TRAINEE AFFAIRS

Education

2011 Supervisor of Training Workshop

12 May 2011, 13:00 – 17:00hrs

Renaissance Harbour View Hotel, Hong Kong

This Workshop will provide an excellent opportunity for FPM SoTs to interact, share stories and experiences and exchange ideas as well as highlight areas related to their portfolios as SoTs. This workshop also provides an opportunity to meet the Faculty's requirements for workshop participation outlined in the SoT Agreement.

Dr Melissa Viney, Supervisor of SoTs, would welcome feedback from SoTs on other topics that might be included in the Agenda. SoTs unable to participate are still welcome to forward Agenda items that they feel are particularly relevant. Please forward any suggestions to jcollins@anzca.edu.au by COB **6 May 2011**.

Podcasting

The Faculty is pleased to report that the three FPM keynote speakers at the CSM in Hong Kong have agreed to record podcasts for our e-learning library. It is hoped these podcasts will be a useful resource to both Trainee's and Fellows. Once edited, the podcasts will be uploaded to the FPM Website at the following location: <http://www.anzca.edu.au/fpm/resources/e-learning-resources-for-fpm-trainees-fellows.html>

Examination Dates

25-27 November 2011 (Friday – Sunday)

The Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, Brisbane QLD

Closing Date for Registration: **7 October 2011**

FPM Pre-Examination Short Course

23-25 September 2011

ANZCA Queensland Regional Office West End Corporate Park, River Tower, 20 Pidgeon Close, West End, QLD 4101

Convenors: Dr Richard Pendleton and Dr Frank Thomas

Closing Date for Registration: **9 September 2011**

The program is currently being developed. Registrations and further information will be circulated to eligible trainees in due course. Contact Penny McNair at pmcnair@anzca.edu.au during office hours for further information.

Geelong Examination Preparation Course

21-22 May 2011

MacKellar Centre, North Geelong

Convenors: Dr Michael Vagg and Dr Diarmuid McCoy

Drs Michael Vagg and Diarmuid McCoy are convening an examination preparation course in Geelong on 21-22 May 2011 at the MacKellar Centre, North Geelong. This course will concentrate on the broad aspects of how to pass all sections of the exam. The cost of this course is \$160.00 and all Faculty trainees are welcome to attend. Further details can be obtained by contacting the Pain Clinic at the Geelong Hospital on 03 5226 7111 during office hours.

A program is currently being established and will be circulated in due course.

FELLOWSHIP AFFAIRS

Survey for the national drug and alcohol research centre - invitation to participate

Milton Cohen FFPMANZCA and Bridin Murnion FFPMANZCA FACHAM are Associate Investigators in a study being conducted by the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC) into the behaviour of people taking opioid analgesics. The aim is to develop a brief scale for use with pain patients to ensure quality and safety of treatment. As part of this study, the opinions of pain specialists are being sought. If you would like to contribute to this confidential survey, which will take 15-30 minutes, please [click here](#).

Note - this survey is for doctors who work in Australia only.

New Admissions

In March, the Faculty reached the 300 Fellows mark with the admission of one new Fellow by election and four by examination:

Dr Ross Drake (FRACP), was admitted to Fellowship by election in February.

Dr Renata Bazina (FRACS), Dr Trudia Disney (FANZCA), Dr Roger Chen Wah Tan (FANZCA), Dr Christopher Orlikowski (FRCA) were admitted to Fellowship by training and examination in March and April.

Submissions

Telehealth Advisory Group

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

FPM/ANZCA has made a submission strongly 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 has also been identified.

Part C Prostheses List – Potential delisting of infusion pumps

As a result of continuing concerns raised by *PainAustralia*, high level meetings with the Ministers office were convened in Canberra on 21 February. J Biviano attended to represent ANZCA and the FPM and has confirmed that there have been no funding withdrawals for the infusion pumps. Subsequently correspondence has been received from the Minister for Health and Ageing with assurances that no device will be removed from Part A without a proper process being followed, and natural justice afforded to sponsors of existing listings.

Australian Guidelines: Selection for Neurostimulation in Chronic Pain

An article authored by FPM Fellows entitled "Selection of patients for neurostimulation" has been accepted for publication in the Journal of Clinical Neuroscience. A draft FPM Professional Document on Neurostimulation has been prepared.

End of Life Policy

Anticipating that euthanasia is likely to be a prominent controversial topic in 2011, the attention of Fellows is drawn to College Professional Document PS38 *Statement Relating to the Relief of Pain and Suffering and End of Life Decisions – 2010* and to the Palliative Care Australia Document: Voluntary Euthanasia and Physician Assisted Suicide.

National Pharmaceutical Drug Misuse Strategy – Call for submissions

Dr Penny Briscoe, past Dean of the Faculty, is representing the FPM on the Expert Reference Group for the development of the National Pharmaceutical Drug Misuse Strategy. The Strategy will cover both prescription and over the counter drugs, with the focus on those pharmaceutical drugs subject to non-medical use, misuse and/or diversion, with priority given to those drugs which cause the most harm. It is anticipated that responses will be developed in the areas of supply reduction, demand reduction and harm reduction, as well as a research agenda.

An extensive consultation process is being undertaken to provide opportunity for all interested parties to have input into the development Strategy. The Faculty would like to draw Fellows' attention to a Call for Submissions that forms part of that consultation process. To view the flyer [click here](#). The closing date for submissions is Friday 27 May 2011. More information is available on the website: http://www.nceta.flinders.edu.au/projects/new_projects.html

Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC)

A/Prof Milton Cohen represented the Faculty at a very recent stakeholder meeting called to review the current listings of opioids on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS). Professor Cohen took to the meeting a set of Faculty proposals regarding the rules governing the access of patients to PBS-subsidised opioids, to promote appropriate prescription and minimise unsanctioned use. The resources of the Faculty were offered to the PBAC for ongoing discussion with respect to education and policy. Fellows and trainees

are encouraged to familiarise themselves with Professional Document PM1 (Principles regarding the use of opioid analgesics in patients with chronic non-cancer pain) and the associated Guideline.

CONTINUING EDUCATION AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

FACULTY EVENTS

2011 Refresher Course Day and Combined Scientific Meeting - Hong Kong

The registration brochure for the Faculty's Refresher Course Day on 13th May 2011 was circulated with the CSM Registration brochure but is also available for download online. The meeting theme is 'Pain Management: Getting Closer to the Dragon Pearl'. Please [click here](#) for further information. If you are planning to attend but have not yet registered, we urge you to do so to ensure we have adequate catering and registration materials.

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2011 Annual Faculty Dinner

As the major Faculty social event of the year, we warmly welcome you to attend the Faculty Dinner at Jumbo Kingdom Restaurant on Friday 13th May, following on from the Refresher Course Day. We do hope you will come along to this spectacular venue and join in the fun.

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Please [click here](#) for further information.

2011 ASM/CSM – Hong Kong

An excellent Pain Medicine program has been organised in conjunction with the ANZCA CSM. Keynote speakers are Professor Catherine Bushnell (FPM CSM Visitor, Montreal), Professor You Wan (HK Pain Medicine Visitor, Beijing) and Professor Spencer Liu, SAHK Visitor, USA) together with both Hong Kong and Australian/New Zealand Pain Medicine expertise.

FPM Dean's Prize and Best Free Paper Award

The Faculty was pleased with the increased number of pain papers submitted for the Hong Kong CSM. The FPM Scientific Meeting Awards Committee selected papers for the FPM Dean's Prize/Free Paper session and successful authors have been advised. The Prizes, if awarded, will be presented at the Faculty's Annual General Meeting.

2011 Spring Meeting

Professor Lars Arendt-Nielsen (Denmark) has been confirmed as the keynote speaker for the FPM 2011 Spring Meeting at the Park Hyatt Hotel, Canberra on 28-30 October 2011.

Medical Board of Australia CPD Requirements

An error was made in the editing of this item in the FPM Board Meeting Report published in the March *Bulletin* (P89, 1st paragraph). To avoid confusion the item is repeated herein with the corrected paragraph underlined.

For ongoing registration with the Medical Board of Australia (MBA), satisfactory compliance with a CPD program is mandatory. This has been the standard in place in NZ for some years. The Board were advised that the MBA stipulates "Medical practitioners with more than one qualification may have specialist registration in more than one speciality. They are expected to comply with the continuing professional development requirements of every speciality in which they hold specialist registration." The MBA accepts that CPD undertaken to fulfil the requirements of one College may also fulfil the requirements of more than one College. Whatever else is decided, it is recommended that Fellows maintain skills relevant to their scopes of practice, and therefore carry out CPD activities relevant to what they do in practice.

At a recent presentation to ANZCA Council by Dr Joanna Flynn, Chair of the MBA, it had been confirmed that this did not mean that specialists would be required to complete two programs, and that it was up to the Colleges to determine what recognition they gave to programs of another College.

External Events

Inclusion is for information only and does not imply Faculty endorsement

RACS 2011 Annual Scientific Congress – Pain Medicine Programme

Unity through Diversity: Diversity as exemplified by the nine disciplines and the numerous special interest groups that work together under the unity of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons.

Date: 3-6 May 2011

Adelaide Convention Centre, South Australia

Please [click here](#) for further information Adelaide is proud to host an outstanding international and national faculty for the Pain Medicine programme of the RACS in May 2011. Two international Pain Neurosurgeons, Professor Kim Burchiel (USA) and Professor Yucel Kanpolat (Turkey), will share their vast expertise on the surgical management of trigeminal neuralgia, peripheral nerve injury, cancer pain and neurosurgical pain research and education. Professor Yehuda Shavitt (Israel) and local faculty will update delegates on the evolving role of spinal glia and opioids. The

programme will focus on latest developments, evidence based medicine, current controversies and future directions in the neurosurgical management of pain. Please [click here](#) to view the flyer.

RACP 2011 Congress

Take up the Challenge: Indigenous Health and Chronic Disease

Date: 22-25 May 2011

Darwin Convention Centre, Northern Territory

Please [click here](#) for further information

RANZCP 2011 Congress

Close relations

Date: 29 May-2 June

Darwin Convention Centre, Northern Territory

Please [click here](#) for further information

AFRM (RACP) 2011 Congress

Striking AcCord – Succeeding through teamwork. Joint AFRM/ANZSCOS conference

Date: 13-17 September 2011

The Sebel & Citigate Hotel, King George Square, Brisbane, Queensland

Please [click here](#) for further information

Australian Pain Society 31st Annual Scientific Meeting: The Frontiers of Pain

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Date: 12 - 16 June 2011

Venue: Darwin Convention Centre, NT

For further information please visit



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

ACHS 6th Annual Executive Masterclass programme

Teamwork and Communication: What Healthcare Can Really Learn from Aviation – Making it Work

Melbourne: Thursday 5 and Friday 6 May 2011

Sydney: Monday 9 and Tuesday 10 May 2011

Brisbane: Thursday 12 and Friday 13 May 2011

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION CLOSES EARLY APRIL 2011 All details to be found at: <http://www.achs.org.au/ExecMasterclass2011/>

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/>

The Australian Council of Healthcare Standards (ACHS) Education is also offering free EQuIPS Short Introductory sessions for members.

For further information on any of these workshops or other education enquires contact <mailto:educate@achs.org.au>

ACHS Executive Masterclass

The Australian Council on Healthcare Standards has announced details of its

2011 executive masterclass. This year the topic is *Teamwork & communication: what healthcare can really learn from aviation – making it work*. This responds to the increasing need to be able to create and manage dynamic multidisciplinary teams in health care, to improve patient safety and enhance organisational performance. Masterclass dates:

- Melbourne: Thursday, 5 and Friday 6 May 2011
- Sydney: Monday, 9 and Tuesday 10 May 2011
- Brisbane: Thursday, 12 and Friday 13 May 2011

Further information including registration arrangements, is available [here](#).

3rd Annual Strategic Directions Research Workshop

The **3rd Annual Strategic Directions Research Workshop** will be held at Peppers Resort, Palm Cove Qld on Friday 12th August to Sunday the 14th August 2011. This event follows successful one day workshops in 2009 and 2010, and will include one and a half days of workshops where research proposals will be discussed, mentored and worked up for funding. The idea of the workshops is to foster new and emerging researchers as well as those already established in developing multi-centre research ideas for the future.

For further information please see

<http://www.anzca.edu.au/resources/trials-group/about-the-trials-group.html/?searchterm=clinical%20trial%20meeting>

ANZCA Research Grants

Grant applications for 2011 are now closed. The FPM Research Committee would like Fellows to note that the last date for 2013 grant applications is April 1st 2012.

For further information please see

<http://www.anzca.edu.au/resources/research>

RESOURCES

Inclusion is for information only and does not imply endorsement.

Australian Pain Management Research Review

To view the latest issue of the *Australian Pain Management Research Review*, [click here](#). 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.

Communications

Pain Specialist on Talking Health

Dr Malcolm Hogg, the head of Pain Services for Melbourne Health was interviewed at length by Dr Sally Cockburn on 3AW radio's "Talking Health" program on Sunday February 27, 2011.

The "Talking Health" segment also included an interview with Christchurch anaesthetist Dr Bryce Curran, who was involved in the double amputation of a man trapped in a building following the Christchurch earthquake.

To hear the interview, [click here](#) to be referred to the appropriate website.

TIME magazine special issue on Pain

<http://www.time.com/time/magazine/0,9263,7601110307,00.html>

Appointments

kira_45.jpg

FPM Administrator, Accreditation and Communications

Kira Beer has joined the FPM team in the role of Administrator, Accreditation and Communications and will provide administrative support to the Faculty's Training Unit Accreditation Committee and its activities, respond to trainee enquiries, maintain the FPM membership database, and provide additional support to in the organisation of events and coordination of Faculty communications.



0.2FTE Medical Educator

Recruitment has now commenced for a part-time Medical Educator to support the Faculty's blueprinting and curriculum review project.

ANZCA Library – New Journals for 2011

The ANZCA Library has added three new medical education journals to the online subscriptions: Clinical Teacher, Medical Education, and Medical Teacher.

Another new title, Journal of Pain Research, is an international, peer reviewed, open access, online journal that welcomes laboratory and clinical findings in the fields of pain research and the prevention and management of pain.

[Access all ANZCA Library Journals](#) (College ID log-in required)

Positions Vacant

Queensland Director – Persistent Pain Service, Division of Rehabilitation, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Woolloongabba, Metro South Health Service District.

For further information please visit the website at:

<http://www.anzca.edu.au/fpm/fellows/positions-available>.

A number of positions are currently being advertised.

Further College News

Please [click here to view the ANZCA e-newsletter](#)

Synapse

We look forward to receiving any contributions which should be directed to Kira Beer at the Faculty Office <mailto:kbeer@anzca.edu.au>

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

From the Staff at FPM.



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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