



SYNAPSE



Issue 39
March 2010

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Register now for the 2010 Refresher Course Day to secure your place. [Click here to register.](#)

Faculty Board

At the February Board meeting of the Faculty, Dr David Jones was elected to the position of Dean-Elect. Dr Max Majedi, FANZCA was welcomed as the co-opted WA representative, following Dr Eric Visser's resignation in November.

Dr Kerry Brandis' term as the Co-opted Representative of ANZCA Council expires in May. As he is an apology for the April Board Meeting, Dr Brandis was warmly thanked for his enthusiastic and thoughtful contributions over the past three years.

The Faculty Board will next meet on 29th April and the new Board will meet on 2nd May 2010. [Read more..](#)

National Pain Summit - A Call to Action



More than 200 delegates representing 130 organisations at last week's National Pain Summit have united to back the world's first National Pain Strategy and called on the Federal and state governments to implement its recommendations.

A campaign to destigmatise chronic pain and the introduction of standardised interdisciplinary pain management networks are two of the key recommendations of the Summit that was opened by the Federal Minister for Health and Ageing, the Hon. Nicola Roxon, in Parliament House, Canberra on Thursday March 11.

The National Pain Strategy is the result of collaboration between leading authorities in pain medicine, other healthcare professionals, industry, funders and consumer groups.

The Summit was led by the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists, Faculty of Pain Medicine, the Australian Pain Society and Chronic Pain Australia in collaboration with inaugural supporters' MBF Foundation and the Pain Management Research Institute.

Further details can be found at www.painsummit.org.au.

Appointments

Hayley Urriola has joined the Faculty of Pain Medicine team in the newly created position of FPM administrator. Hayley will provide administrative support to the Faculty's research committee and the Fellows' CPD program, in liaison with the ANZCA CPD unit. Hayley will also maintain the FPM membership



database, process fees and registrations and provide support to training unit accreditation, exams and faculty events.



FELLOWSHIP AFFAIRS

Director of Professional Affairs

The Faculty of Pain Medicine of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists is seeking to engage a senior specialist pain medicine physician of high standing to the position of Director of Professional Affairs, Faculty of Pain Medicine (DPA FPM). This is an advisory position to the Dean, Board and Executive Officer of the Faculty on clinical and professional issues of importance to the Faculty.

The position is part-time (0.2 Full Time Equivalent) and is based within the Faculty of Pain Medicine, located at the ANZCA head office, 630 St Kilda Road Melbourne. Residence in Melbourne is not necessary for this position although presence is required from time to time.

The Faculty is seeking expressions of interest from Fellows and former Board Members of the Faculty who have had clinical experience within the past two years.

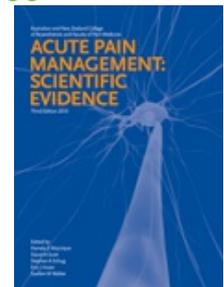
An attractive remuneration package will be negotiated with the successful candidate.

Expressions of interest should be communicated to Ms Sarah Hunter Partner

Amrop Cordiner King
Level 44 Rialto
525 Collins Street,
Melbourne, Vic 3000
Telephone: (03) 9620 2800

Acute Pain Management: Scientific Evidence

NHMRC endorsement was received on 4th February. The 3rd edition was published on the ANZCA and FPM websites on 19th February. Hard copies will be circulated to all College Fellows and financial trainees in due course. The Board expressed its appreciation of the enormous commitment of A/Profs Pam Macintyre and David Scott, Professor Stephan Schug and Drs Eric Visser and Suellen Walker in bringing this third edition to fruition.



New Zealand Application for Speciality Recognition

Recent communications from the Medical Council of New Zealand advises that a convenor and lay person have been appointed by their Education Committee to assess the stage 1 application for recognition of the vocational scope of pain medicine (Prof Peter Ellis, Ms Liz Hird). Feedback has been sought from external stakeholders and medical education institutes and initial assessment of the stage 1 application has commenced. A draft report on the application will be provided to the MCNZ Education Committee on 19 April 2010 and the Faculty will be given an opportunity to comment beforehand. The MCNZ Education Committee will then make a recommendation about whether the pain medicine application should proceed to stage 2. This recommendation will be considered by the MCNZ at its meeting of 26 May. Council will then chose between:

1. Invite to submit stage 2 application
2. Request further information regarding stage 1 application
3. Resolve that PM has not met criteria for recognition of new vocational speciality

If initial application is accepted, then Stage 2 will take approximately 4-6 months.

Regional News

Prospective Pain Medicine Trainees in NSW:

Upon approval from NSW Health, it is likely that accredited centres will now advertise their Provisional Fellow positions for pain medicine training in May 2010 and again in the usual time around July/August if positions are not filled. Please search in the

Department of Health's website under Pain Medicine as they may not appear anymore under Anaesthesia. Prospective trainees should also make contact with the respective units that they wish to train with to obtain further information. Further enquiries regarding the advertising process can be directed to the FPM NSW Regional Committee

Queensland

The profile of Pain Medicine in the public hospitals is continuing to rise. Professor Julia Fleming is reviewing patient services at the Tess Cramond Multidisciplinary Pain Unit at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital in light of the large number of referrals to that unit. On the 14th April the patient support group, The Australian Pain Management Association, is holding a reception in Parliament House which is being hosted by the Parliamentary Secretary for Health, Mr Murray Watt MLA. In addition, it is expected that the Health Department will appoint a Project Officer to coordinate pain management services in Queensland public hospitals.

The New Children's Hospital site has been cleared for the building of the Queensland Children's Hospital. The FPM Queensland Regional Committee has made effective representations to the CEO, Dr Peter Steer, to ensure Pain Medicine services are developed in the hospital. At present, Dr Kathleen Cooke is working on these services between the two children's hospitals in the city.

Western Australia

There will be a Medical Careers Expo held on Tuesday 30 March. The WA Regional Office would like for any interested WA Fellows to help on the stand and speak to prospective Pain Medicine trainees. For further information please contact Sandra Box, WA Regional Office on 08 9386 2077 or sbox@anzca.edu.au

Pain Medicine in India

Dr Vijayanand is a recent graduate of the FPM training programme who has been very busy after returning to his own country, India. He is developing services which are guided by this experience and training. Reading his article is very instructive about the very different circumstances confronting Fellows in our own regions, and can be very useful for Fellows to consider how best to use the resources available to them. His article comes recommended by other fellows. [Read Article](#)

InsideRadiology

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists is pleased to inform that InsideRadiology [www.insideradiology.com.au], a web-based resource for health consumer information about radiology tests and procedures, was formally launched on 15 December 2009.

The format of the resource was developed following two years of research into the needs and preferences of health consumers regarding information about radiology tests and procedures. The information items have been developed by expert content writers in close collaboration with consumer writers. With the additional material for health care professionals, this resource fills a much needed gap in currently available Australian health information.

Trainee Affairs

Fellowship Training and Examination Dates for 2010

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

CONTINUING EDUCATION & QUALITY ASSURANCE

Scientific Meetings

2010 ASM - Christchurch

Registration brochures were circulated in February and is also available online so please make sure you register to secure your place. The programs for both the Refresher Course Day and ASM are now available on the website. [Read more..](#)

2010 Spring Meeting - Newcastle

Dr Chris Hayes will convene this meeting in Newcastle and the theme will be "Transitions in Pain" with prominence given to the Models of Care sub-theme. The meeting will be held on 8-10 October at the Newcastle Town Hall. The Organising Committee comprises of Chris Hayes, Susie Lord, Di Pacey, Mark Russo and Stephanie Oak. [Read more..](#)

2011 ASM - Hong Kong

Dr P P Chen has been confirmed as the FPM Convenor for the 2011 Meeting in Hong Kong.

The Impact of Pain -APS & NZPS Combined ASM

Australian Pain Society and New Zealand Pain Society Combined Annual Scientific Meeting will be held from 28-31 March in the Gold Coast.

Keynote speakers include:

Professor Irene Tracey (UK), Professor Francis J Keefe (USA), Professor Troels S Jensen (DEN)

[Click here to read more](#)

Acute Pain Day Workshop

This workshop which will be held on Sunday 28th March 2010 prior to the start of the Australian Pain Society and New Zealand Pain Society Combined ASM. [To view the flyer click here.](#)

Other Meetings of Interest

Please click here to view the list of pain related meetings that may be of interest. [Read more..](#)

Pfizer Australia Research Grants

Pfizer Australia will allocate up to AUD\$300,000 per annum to neuroscience research. The research grants program is open to medical graduates who are early in their research career, having commenced research (or have returned to research after an appropriate break) within the last 5 years. Therefore applications are open to medical graduates who have obtained, or are in the process of obtaining specialist qualifications/doctorate and/or are currently in advanced training. Individual grants will be available up to AUD\$44,000 (including GST). Each grant is for a period of 12 months.

The principal applicant must be a citizen or permanent resident of Australia. Grant recipients must conduct the majority of the research within Australia.

Research funding is awarded for clinical research across the fields of (but not necessarily confined to):

- Pain Medicine
- Psychiatry
- Neurology

Application closing date 14th April 2010

For more information or to obtain an application form visit: www.nsrgrants.com.au

Positions Available

Positions in Queensland, South Australia and Victoria are currently being advertised.

For further information please visit the website at

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

Communications

A reminder to Fellows and Trainees that the communications department is keen to capture interesting and relevant stories and would love to know about specialists and trainees who may be engaged in interesting or different activities so we can "tell the stories". Please feel free to contact Nigel Henham (NHenham@anzca.edu.au).

Synapse

We look forward to receiving any contributions which should be directed to the Faculty Office.

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.

Disclaimer: The FPM e-newsletter is a general newsletter for the information of FPM Fellows and trainees. The Faculty of Pain Medicine cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions or any consequences from the use of information contained in this newsletter. The views and opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the FPM, neither does the publication of announcements of advertisements necessarily constitute endorsement by the faculty of the matters referred to in these announcements or advertisements.

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