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June 2009 Update

Board Membership 2008-9			
Adrian Elliot-Smith	<i>Limestone Coast Division</i>	James Dunbar	<i>University Dept of Rural Health</i>
Tony Brown	<i>Otway Division (Chair)</i>	Naomi Harris	<i>GPRA</i>
Mike Page	<i>GPS Association</i>	Rod Fawcett	<i>Health Services</i>
Brendan Kay	<i>RACGP (Vice Chair)</i>	Phil Hall	<i>ACRRM (Treasurer)</i>
Dale Ford	<i>Otway Division</i>	Greg McMeel	<i>CEO Secretary (Ex officio member)</i>
Lucie Walters	<i>Flinders University</i>	Ruth Stewart	<i>Deakin University</i>
Staff: Supervisor Liaison Officer: Tim Slattery <i>Cambourne Clinic</i>		Registrar Liaison Officer: Josh Bye & Joseph Ngui	
Senior Medical Educators: Marg Garde, Eldon Lyon		Program Manager (Medical Education): Brian Trotter	
Finance: Alicia Nicolson IMG Project Officer: Angela Beilby		Office Manager: Leanne Cook Business Development: Simon McKinley	

GGT's Newest RACGP Fellow

Congratulations are extended to Michelle Zhang (Otway Medical Clinic) on becoming GGT's latest graduate from the GP Training program

Supervisors' Workshop

The next GGT supervisor workshop will be held at the Royal Mail Hotel, Dunkeld, on Saturday July 25th. There will be at 12.00pm with the workshop to commence at 1.00pm. The workshop will finish with lunch around 12.30pm on Sunday.

This workshop is open to all GPs involved with teaching to registrars in their practice.

It would be appreciated if acceptances can be given to Leanne in the office as soon as possible please. In these tight times the hotels are becoming very particular about confirmed dates.

IMG Training

1. The AMC Funding that was received for the first six months of 2009 has now been expended and unfortunately this program has come to an end. Four doctors have passed the AMC clinical and six are awaiting a future date for their clinical exam.

Many thanks go to Drs Debbie Hough, Naomi Harris, Ann Dunbar and Chris Clohesy who have run successful sessions.

An application will be made seeking some more funding to run the program in late 2009 & 10. Western District Health Services have offered Hamilton hospital as the venue.

2. Dr. Suliman Moolla has been given support to attend Dermatology workshops and will run a Dermatology/Aboriginal Health workshop in Keith (not Penola) on July 4th for 6 doctors. These doctors are approaching the RACGP written exam on August 15th. Siza Sibanda from the Limestone Coast Division will also assist with this program.
3. The other workshop July 4th in Colac will see a guest speaker from the Victorian Doctors Health Association (VDHP). This will be followed by written skills practice for the RACGP exam.
4. Five IMGs will be attending the GGT GP Registrar Pre exam workshop on July 17th to prepare for the written exam to be held on August 15th.

Angela Beilby
 Special Projects Coordinator.

GGT Marketing of the 2010 Program.



Eldon Lyon encouraging visitors to consider GGT as their No. 1 preference

Representatives of GGT have completed their round of attendances at a range of activities designed to publicise general practice and, in particular, general practice training.

Applications for round 1 of the 2010 GP Training program will close at 9.00am on Monday June 22nd. At the time of typing this newsletter the national application rate is slightly lower than for the same time last year, but the very pleasing result from the GGT perspective is the high number of applications for the available positions within GGT. For 2010 GGT will have a total of 18 places compared to the 17 on offer for 2009. On June 15th fourteen applicants have placed GGT as their No. 1 training provider preference, seven of them Australian Medical Graduates. It is hoped that these numbers hold.



GGT stand at the Rydges evening.

One of the trends noticed by those attending the Career Information sessions was the increasing number of Australian medical graduates and medical students making enquiries about joining the GP training program. This trend appears to be evident in the figures available to date.

The timeline for the selection and placement of applicants is as follows.

June 22nd - Applications close
August 5th - 6th - GGT Interviews
September – GGT Practice Matching.
Feb 8th 2010 – Round 2010 commences

Meet your GGT Personnel

Dr Margaret Garde – Co-Director of Training



The present

Marg lives in Portland where for the past 20 years the vast majority of her experience has been in rural general practice.

Marg has a special interest in working with underprivileged groups such as patients with a major mental illness, patients with an intellectual disability, Aboriginal patients and “at risk” adolescents.

In 2005 Marg began to work in the positions she now holds:

- Director of Training for Greater Green Triangle GP Education and Training
- Medical Officer at Dhauwurd Wurrung Community Care Centre
- Solo private practice

In addition to her professional work, Marg is busy working with her husband, Rob, in restoring the Cape Nelson Light station precinct in order to provide unique accommodation for visitors to Portland and the Great South West Walk.

Attractions at the Lighthouse include lighthouse tours and a boutique café.

This is the second in a series where we will profile one of the GGT staff members.

Medical Education

The two most recent Registrar workshops were held in Colac & Mt Gambier respectively. At Colac, topics included asthma management, immunisation, ophthalmology and Women`s health. Practice nurses were invited to attend the sessions on asthma and immunisation. These topics were facilitated by asthma educators, Christine Buckley and Ev Thuma, and by nursing staff from DHS Immunisation department. It was pleasing to see that inter-professional education (IPE) was deployed, with specialist nurses teaching registrars, practice nurses and council immunisation staff. The sessions were well received by all. At Mt Gambier, topics included contract negotiation and making use of GP Supervisors, Practice Managers and RLOs in this process.

Other topics included Breaking Bad News and Bowel Cancer, the latter being presented by surgeon Matthias Wichmann from Mt Gambier. Friday was devoted to men`s health and ethical issues. We were pleased to have the services of international guests; Dr. John Gillies, a Scottish GP who specialises in medical ethics, and his wife, Mary.

April 30th was the day of the Supervisor workshop, held at Warrnambool, which was devoted to aspects of research. The day was facilitated by Rachel Boak and was well received, attended and reviewed. Sadly, Rachel will no longer be our research mainstay as she is undertaking a PhD and devoting her time to this. We would like to thank her for all her excellent work and welcome her successor, Michael Coates.

The National Medical Educator Workshop was held on 28-29th May in Melbourne. Marg Garde was part of the organising committee for this event and Eldon Lyon gave a brief presentation on Inter Professional Education.

Two pre-exam workshops are scheduled, the first on July 17th at Deakin University and the second on September 25th at Portland. One of these workshops will cover the AKT and KFP components of the exam; the second will involve the OSCE`s.

Marg Garde and Eldon Lyon have held two meetings with Vicky Hunt and Julianne Crowe from ODGP looking at organising the conference that will be the new look SW Update next year and at further ways to co-operate in IPE.

Both Marg and Eldon have been working through their way through their Training Advisor visits and are now getting toward completion of these.

Eldon Lyon
Co-Director of Training.

Across the Board Table

- *The Collaboration Plan that has been developed after wide consultation over the past few months will be submitted to GPET by June 30. The Board reinforced its position that GGT should fight to maintain its independence as a Regional Training provider.*
- New training practices to come on board include: Kingston, Seaport (Portland) and Bordertown. These practices are in the process of accreditation.
- A new process of accreditation is being implemented with one third of GGT training practices due for an accreditation visit each year. Presently the Victorian faculty run a more streamlined procedure of accreditation than the SA faculty and Brian Trotter is meeting next week with representatives of Adelaide to Outback, Sturt-Fleurieu and the RACGP`s SA/NT faculty to improve this aspect.
- The AGPT program structure is changing in a way that will allow general pathway registrars to either complete 12 months in outer metro, thus forgoing their obligation for rural terms, or 12 months in rural forgoing their obligation for outer metro.
- GGT GPET has successfully applied to spend the accumulated funds of 2008 on a continuation of the IMG program.
- GPET and DoHA met with all RTPs last week and would like to see a reduction in the number of RTPs and will limit small RTPs` capacity to continue operation by a tightening of the funding arrangements.
- Greg McMeel (GGT CEO) has met with both Otway Division and Limestone Coast Division to investigate ways GGT might work

collaboratively into the future, particularly in the areas of inter-professional education. Greg has also spoken with Barry Morphett about supporting the education program offered by SWH.

- Peter Carver spoke to RTPs in Sydney last week and suggested that all RTPs would be in prime position to coordinate regional communities of interest that would place students of allied health, medical and nursing into the district.

Do you have a burning question or have you ever thought you would like to do some research and teaching?

If so, an academic post may be for you. An academic registrar post provides a salaried position for six months full time equivalent for you to further or start your academic journey. These posts can be taken as an elective, an

extended skills post, an advanced rural skills post or as part of your ACRRM training. Academic posts provide the opportunity to join an existing project (recurring academic posts) or develop your own project.

Interested?

Contact your medical educator and check out the website.

<http://www.agpt.com.au/TrainingPosts/Academictraining/>

But remember

Applications for academic registrar posts starting in January 2010 close on the 18th of August 2009