



April 2008



Faculty of Health Sciences Executive Dean's News

Excellence and Innovation in Teaching, Research and Community Service in Health

Dear all

The year is beginning to gather an exciting momentum as we build on our Research and Learning and Teaching initiatives. There are a number of exciting developments which I would like to share with you.

Professor Justin Beilby
Executive Dean

New Appointment

I would like to formally announce that the Faculty, after discussion with the Vice Chancellor and the Heads of School, has created a new position of Deputy Executive Dean. This position will be rotated through the Heads of Schools annually with the person having overall responsibility for the Faculty in my absence. I have recently been appointed to the National Health and Hospital Reform Commission which will require me to be absent about a day a week.

Professor Bob Vink, Head of the School of Medical Sciences, has been appointed to this position for the next 12 months.

Staff

I would like to congratulate Faculty staff who have been nominated to the Australia 2020 Summit under the following areas :

A long-term National Health Strategy

Professor Christian Gericke, [Discipline of Public Health](#)

Professor John Spencer, [Australian Research Centre for Population Oral Health](#)

Professor Gary Wittert, [School of Medicine](#)

Options for the future of Indigenous Australia

Dr Veronica Arbon, [Discipline of General Practice](#)



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Learning and Teaching

We have just commenced a number of new initiatives. These include a **quality enhancement** project which will embed quality enhancement processes into Faculty governance structures. These include improved monitoring and support for students at academic risk, the monitoring, analysis and reporting of SELT, CEQ, and GDS data, developing benchmarking guidelines for courses and programs, and course development, evaluation and student handbook templates. Another is an emphasis on **continuing support for clinical title holders**. Specific strategies will be established to better support clinical title holders who teach into Faculty programs including better recognition of their important contribution and assistance with professional accreditation of teaching activities.

I will talk further about Title Holders later in this Newsletter.



Postgraduate Programs

Development of new Postgraduate Coursework programs is a priority for the Faculty in 2008. Work continues in the development of four new programs for Health Sciences students which include courses in policy and health economics, nutrition, psychology and forensic science.

International Opportunities

We have been examining new international education and training opportunities in South East Asia. In March, I travelled with Associate Dean International (Professor Burgess), and the Heads of the Schools of Psychology and Dentistry (Professors Turnbull and de Vries respectively). We visited a number of potential partner Universities. They include The International Medical University, MAHSA College, Universiti Sains Malaysia and the International Islamic University in Kuala Lumpur. Profs Burgess and Turnbull also visited the Ngee Ann Adelaide Education Centre in Singapore.

New Clinical Placements

Expansion into private hospitals for clinical placements is creating exciting educational opportunities. The Discipline of Nursing within the School of Population Health and Clinical Practice has had the opportunity to place students for clinical placement within Calvary Health Care Adelaide. Ten nursing students will be placed among the various campuses within the group and will stay affiliated with the group for the three years of their Bachelor of Nursing degree. This is a wonderful opportunity for nursing students to develop skills and knowledge of the private health care sector and to experience diverse specialty placements such as intensive care, oncology and rehabilitation. Students will be well supported onsite with a dedicated clinical tutor who is a staff member of Calvary Health Care Adelaide.

Florey Lecture 2008

The Florey Lecturer for 2008 is Professor Fiona Stanley. Professor Stanley is a noted Australian epidemiologist, who was awarded the Australian of the Year title in 2003 and received an Companion of the Order of Australia (AC) in 1996 for her contribution to maternal and child health research and to improving Aboriginal and community health. The Florey Lecture will be held on Thursday 18 September in the Florey Lecture Theatre, Level 1 Medical School North. Further details will be announced in due course.



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Research

Congratulations to those staff who were awarded NHMRC Postgraduate Scholarships, Training Fellowships & Career Development Awards. Over \$2M was awarded to 10 FHS staff and affiliates

Career Development Awards were awarded to:

- Dr Maria Fuller (Paediatrics & Reproductive Health)
- Dr Sandra Hodge (Medicine)

Training Postgraduate Fellowships were awarded to:

- Dr Tanya Little (Medicine)
- Dr Amanda Sferruzzi-Perri (Paediatrics & Reproductive Health)
- Ms Renee Turner (Medical Sciences)

Training Postgraduate Scholarships were awarded to:

- Dr Ni-Hing Lin (Dentistry)
- Dr Darryl Leong (Medicine)
- Dr Hany Dimitri (Medicine)
- Dr Benjamin Dundon (Medicine)
- Dr Rowena Newcombe (Medicine)

Northern Lights Exhibition (Bonython Hall)
- photo taken by a Faculty staff member

Executive Dean's Prizes for Excellence in Teaching

The Executive Dean's Teaching Awards evening will be held on 3rd June 2008 from 4pm-6pm at the Art Gallery of South Australia. Please come along to celebrate the achievements of Learning and Teaching and the winners of the Executive Dean's Prizes for Excellence in Teaching 2008.

To all academic staff who are interested in applying for this award, applications close on 8 May 2008. To obtain a copy of the guidelines, please visit:

<http://www.health.adelaide.edu.au/awards/>



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Clinical Titleholders project

The Faculty has recently completed an important project examining the needs of our titleholders. Andi Sebastian and Sue Graebner from DQ Consulting have drawn together survey results and extensive interviews to produce a series of recommendations. These recommendations will form the basis of a workplan for a Working Group to be Chaired by myself.

I have included part of the Executive Summary below.

"In the Faculty of Health Sciences a significant amount of teaching and research supervision is conducted on behalf of the University by just over 1400 practitioners. The fact that these contributions have occurred for many years, involving generations of health practitioners and graduating students in every Discipline in the Faculty, is a remarkable achievement that reflects considerable credit on all involved.

The environment in which clinical teaching is occurring is facing unprecedented changes. These include growing pressures on the health workforce in South Australia and elsewhere to deliver more with less; service delivery imperatives that are reducing the length of in-patient services; the proposed building of a \$1.7b hospital to replace the Royal Adelaide Hospital; competition between the existing two medical schools and the increasing mobility and globalisation of the health workforce. This report looks at ways to revitalise the partnership between the University, the health institutions and all those who provide teaching and research supervision for the Faculty of Health at the University of Adelaide.

Ensuring good quality support programs for those who provide teaching and research supervision for the Faculty of Health poses a number of challenges. These challenges are being taken up by Disciplines and Schools across the Faculty with positive initiatives being trialled. We contend however that the essential relationship is currently at risk and that in order to significantly raise the quality of the University's academic programs in Health Sciences, the traditional assumptions and infrastructures supporting the clinical titleholders need to be addressed.

The survey of titleholders undertaken as part of this project demonstrated that:

- *Titleholders continue to have a strong commitment to educating the next generation of professionals (91%)*
- *Titleholders enjoy teaching (95%)*

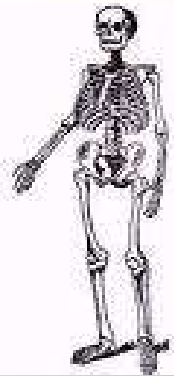
The Faculty of Health Sciences can make improvements to its relationship with titleholders and with the quality of Learning and Teaching outcomes. We suggest however, that only in a partnership involving the executive level of the University; the teaching hospitals and other institutions in which titleholders teach and supervise students; and the Schools and Disciplines that comprise the Faculty; will titleholders feel really supported and the delivery of quality clinical teaching and supervision be sustainable."

A series of recommendations have been made which will now be acted upon.



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Redevelopment of the Ray Last Anatomy Laboratories

The School of Medical Sciences is pleased to announce that the first stage of the redevelopment of the Ray Last Anatomy Laboratories is nearing completion with teaching already underway in the new Anatomy Laboratory, located in the Medical School South Basement. The new Anatomy Laboratory provides our staff and students with a state of the art facility, comprising fully integrated IT and A/V systems that enable videoconferencing with existing on campus facilities and externally to teaching hospitals and other national and international institutions. In the very near future, it is envisaged that this integrated approach will provide our students with exposure to anatomy and pathology resources, surgical scenarios, clinical skills simulation and interaction with live patients, all within the one facility. In addition, within the next month, a new lift will be installed in the Medical School South adjacent to the Anatomy Laboratory. Stage 2 of the redevelopment is also nearing completion with the School to soon take possession of two new laboratories in the Medical School North Basement encompassing Surgical Skills, Bioskills, a new entrance foyer and reception area, staff offices, student bag storage area and new toilet facilities.

