**Professor Gomez Montes**

Professor Gomez Montes (Fercho) was the recipient of a sponsored AusAid Grant and will be with the Clinical School on two separate occasions. His first visit was in 2012 for 3 months from July - October and his second visit will be in 2013 from April - June. In total a 6 month program. Fercho will be looking at the Falls and Fracture Clinic and developing strategies to prevent falls in older persons in Colombia. The training and research findings he receives here in Australia will assist him in the implementation of best practice models, research and policy in falls prevention in rural areas of Colombia.

**Fellow program name:** An intercultural comparative controlled evaluation of falls and dizziness outpatient clinics in Australia and Colombian Andes Mountains.

**Program description:** This research is an evaluation of one falls and dizziness outpatient clinic in terms of reduction or ameliorates of dizziness symptoms and its effects on falls, injurious falls, and fall-related healthcare in two Falls Outpatients Clinics in developed and developing countries.

**Purpose:** Australia is one of pioneer countries in falls prevention programs by since the mid 1990’s. The first described multi-disciplinary Falls Clinic in Australia was established in 1988 in Melbourne and the number of Falls Clinics in Australia, and those reported in the international literature have increased substantially since the late 1990’s. In Sydney the Falls and Fractures Clinic at Nepean Hospital in Penrith began operation in June 2010 and it is an initiative of the Discipline of Geriatric Medicine at Sydney Medical School Nepean Campus and the Department of Geriatric Medicine at Nepean Hospital, so, the Falls and Fractures Clinic at Nepean Hospital is seen as promissory leaders nationally, regularly hosting visitors from interstate and overseas.