Welcome to our June quarter newsletter. This edition includes a new Special Feature section (see pages 3/4) which, this quarter, showcases Emergency Medicine “In the Spotlight”, highlighting staff and activities of the department, plus one of our Y3 medical student’s Third World elective experience in Cuba during January this year. We are planning to include an “In the Spotlight” article on a different department with each edition. If your department would like to be included in a future edition or has other items for inclusion in our newsletter, please contact Amanda Burke on 9845 7661 or Amanda.Burke@sydney.edu.au.

Class of 2013: Graduation Day...

We are very proud of our students who recently graduated with an MBBS together with our postgraduate students who received their PhD’s at the graduation ceremony held in the Great Hall on Friday, 10 May 2013. It is very pleasing to see many of these young doctors have commenced their medical careers here at Westmead. Congratulations!
Clinical Academic Titles /Promotions: April-June...

Congratulations to the following appointments which have been conferred recently:

- Clinical Associate Professor David Chipps
- Clinical Associate Professor Naren Gunja
- Clinical Senior Lecturer Suriya Foran
- Clinical Senior Lecturer Julie Howle
- Clinical Senior Lecturer Syed Huq
- Clinical Senior Lecturer Sylvia Lim-Tlo
- Clinical Senior Lecturer Sue Lynn Lau
- Clinical Senior Lecturer Amith Shetty
- Clinical Lecturer Dharmesh Shah
- Clinical Lecturer Muzib Abdul Razak
- Clinical Lecturer Carolyn Jameson
- Clinical Lecturer Sara Ghaly
- Clinical Lecturer Rajesh Maheshwari
- Clinical Lecturer Jay Thakkar
- Clinical Lecturer Zebunnessa Rahman
- Clinical Associate Lecturer Clara Inkyung Lee
- Clinical Associate Lecturer Lawrence Ong
- Clinical Associate Lecturer Timothy Gray
- Clinical Associate Lecturer Deshan Sebaratnam
- Honorary Professor Ming Wang
- Honorary Professor Richard Russell
- Honorary Associate Sophia Lev
- Honorary Associate Dmitri Melkonyan
- Honorary Associate Rosemarie Sadsad
- Honorary Associate Babak Sanadgol

Sydney West Chair in Translational Cancer Research....

The University of Sydney has agreed to fund a new Chair to be known as the Sydney West Chair in Translational Cancer Research (a Chair of the University of Sydney Cancer Research Fund). Congratulations to the new Professor of Translational Cancer Research, Anna de Fazio.

Anna will continue in her role as the head of research within the Gynaecological Oncology Department, Westmead Hospital, and as head of the Gynaecological Oncology Research Group, Westmead Millennium Institute.

Publications...

Congratulations to A/Prof Nages Nagaratnam and Dr Kujan Nagaratnam recently published their latest book, Stroke & Stroke Related Disorders in the Elderly. Angela Wallace from the clinical school has received an acknowledgement for her assistance with diagrams contained in the book.

Congratulations also to our Stage 3, Year 3 student, Wenlong Li, and A/Prof Naren Gunja for their publication in the June 2013 edition of the Australian Family Physician entitled “Illicit Drug Overdose, Prevalence & Acute Management”. This publication was completed during an ILA term with the Westmead Toxicology Unit & NSW Poisons Centre.
The ED is a great place to learn and teach medicine. The Discipline of Emergency Medicine has been an active participant in the Sydney Medical School’s drive in skills and procedural education. Trauma, toxicology and disaster medicine are some of the subspecialties being taught from the ED. The ED is also an attractive and high demand placement for elective students.

- **A/Prof Naren Gunja** – 2008 recipient of the Westmead Association Award for Excellence in Teaching (Medicine)
- **Dr Kavita Varshney** – 2011 recipient of the Westmead Association Award for Excellence in Teaching (Critical Care)
- **Dr Andrew Coggins** – 2011 recipient of the Westmead Association Award for Excellence in Teaching (Critical Care)
- **Dr Hua Chang** – 2012 recipient of the Westmead Association Award for Excellence in Teaching (Critical Care)
- ARISE Study – multi-centre RCT of early goal directed therapy vs standard care in sepsis
- BUSS – bacteremic load in sepsis
- Australian Snakebite Project
- RAVE II – redback AV vs placebo multi-centre RCT
- NSW Airway Registry study
- Microchimerism in multiple transfusions
- Chest pain pathway and ECG stickers

**Conference Dates:**

- **ACEM Annual Scientific Meeting**
  - Adelaide, SA
  - 25-29 November 2013
- **International Conference on EM**
  - Hong Kong
  - 11-14 June 2014
Medical Student Elective Presentation: Stage 3 Medical Student - Karla Villafana Soto…

In January of this year, as part of my elective term, I spent four weeks in a hospital in the city of Santiago de Cuba. This placement was organised via Cuba Medical Electives http://www.cubamedicalelectives.org/ and was greatly assisted financially by the Westmead Hospital Charitable Trust Fund’s Third World/Rural Medicine Scholarship. During my time in Cuba, I spent two weeks each with General Surgery and Obstetrics and Gynaecology - two terms I had already completed at Westmead Hospital.

Music, daily temperatures above 35°C, amazing coffee and very loving people set the backdrop to all of my memories from Cuba. The hospital daily routine, team structures and dynamics were surprisingly like those I knew from Westmead, but a drastic shortage of resources made other aspects extremely different to what I have seen and become used to during medical school here.

Upon arriving in the Dr Juan Bruno Zayas Alfonso Hospital, I found myself among medical students who did not have the luxury of the internet, or even computers in most cases. I realised how dependent I am on being able to quickly run a search on my phone, or find any type of information within seconds.

Clinical examinations, rather than investigations, were the basis of medical practice. The reality of an equitable yet very limited supply of resources was visible every day - I saw regular shortages of things as basic as diuretics or antibiotics, and anaesthetics were used very sparingly. I witnessed a whole day's list of hernia repairs being performed solely under local anaesthetic.

Despite a maximum income of AU$20 per month (yes, month) on offer, there is a massive supply of very dedicated doctors who stretch resources very creatively, and strive to further their training by making use of every opportunity that comes their way - including seeking government funding to attend conferences, and establishing networks with overseas colleagues.

I was very warmly welcomed by Cuban colleagues who live in a fascinating and unique system, and always felt very safe both as a student and a tourist. I highly recommend Cuba as a tourist, professional and student destination!
Hospital Week 2013 – Student Symposium....

Westmead Clinical School will be a participant in the annual Hospital Week Program on Friday, 9 August 2013, from 9am -12noon in Lecture Theatre 1, Education Block.

Students, doctors and interns will pass on Lessons from the Front Lines, present experiences from overseas elective placements and discuss how they chose their particular specialty areas.

It would be great to have you there to share these experiences.

Elective Students from Xiangya School of Medicine, China....

From July this year Chinese medical students will be undertaking electives at Westmead Hospital. The students are from Xiangya School of Medicine, Central South University in Changsha. The students are based at Second Xiangya Hospital where they have a state of the art medical school. The medical school is one of the best in China and has received numerous awards for the excellence of its teaching.

Xiangya School of Medicine and Westmead Clinical School have recently signed a memorandum of understanding to promote an academic exchange between the schools. Westmead medical students will be welcome to undertake an elective in Xiangya. It is planned that from next year collaboration will extend to research, with occasional students coming to Westmead for one to two years.

Tutor of the Quarter...

Westmead Clinical School students, from Years 1-4, were asked to nominate their favourite tutor in recognition of their contribution to student teaching during the past quarter.

We are pleased to announce that, from a competitive field of nominations, Dr Socrates Angelides from Nuclear Medicine has been awarded the Tutor of the Quarter for June 2013.

We have included some of the students' comments below:-

• He is so willing and happy to teach us which is so much appreciated.
• Dr Angelides is a wonderful teacher.
• His care and contribution to our learning is very much appreciated, and he definitely deserves tutor of the quarter!

Postgraduate Student News...

Graduation 2013
Congratulations to the following postgraduate students who were awarded their PhD’s at the May Graduation Ceremony.

• Linda Hueston
• Matthew Vincent Neil O’Sullivan
• Candice Renee Quinn
• Amy Shih-I Pai

Postgraduate Research Support Scheme (PRSS)
Our application round for the 2013 PRSS closed on Friday 24 May, and we received a whooping 46 applications. The PRSS can be used by PG students for items such as
conference expenses, computers, specialist software and thesis production. It is hoped our students will know the outcome of these submissions shortly.

**Annual Interviews - October**

It won’t be long until we come to our Annual Postgraduate interviews held in October. Naomi Muir will be sending out emails to ALL supervisors at the beginning of August to drum up volunteers for interview panels. All volunteers receive a fabulous morning /afternoon tea for their time, so keep an eye out for your opportunity to volunteer.

**Research Seminars**

Our next Postgraduate Research Seminars will be held on Monday, 12 August and Monday, 14 October. They will be located in Lecture Theatre 2 and start at 11am. Feel free to come along and witness some of the innovative research being undertaken by our students.

**MGR: Student Elective Presentations...**

On 1 May 2013, three of our Stage 3 students, Adam Moody (Soweto, South Africa), Ezra Keebaugh (Hamachal Pradesh, India) & Eleanor Hitchen (Lima, Peru) shared their amazing and varied elective experiences with the MGR audience.

Karla Villafana Soto’s presentation (Cuba) will be given at the Hospital Week Student Symposium (see page 5). A brief snapshot of Karla’s elective is also included as part of our special feature section on page 4 of this edition.

Each student received a scholarship from the Westmead Hospital Charitable Trust Fund, which provides scholarships annually to students completing Third World or Rural Australia Medicine electives.

**Teaching Opportunities...**

As you may know, we are continually seeking tutors for all stages of the course.

If you are interested in teaching, please contact Dr Amanda Harrison at the clinical school on ☏ 9845 6403 or email amanda.harrison@sydney.edu.au to discuss possibilities/opportunities further.

We are happy to provide letters recognising your teaching contribution which can be included with your CV.

---

**This quarter, we particularly require the following tutors:-**

- Formative long case examiners to assist our Year 4 students with their long case practice prior to the Long Case exams in mid August;

- OSCE examiners (September) – Med 1

- Communication skills and history taking (Med 1 & 2) for the upcoming Respiratory, Haematology, Gastroenterology/Nutrition & Renal/Urology blocks;

- Clinical Reasoning Sessions (CRS); and

- procedural skills.

Thank you to all those junior and senior doctors who are assisting our students in practising their long case skills.

Thank you also to the many new and enthusiastic interns who are making themselves available to assist us with procedural skills teaching. We greatly appreciate their support.
Emergency Medicine Interest Group (EMIG) News...

City to Surf Medical Team
An opportunity exists for one student to be part of the medical team that Westmead sends to the City to Surf each year. You will have the opportunity to be an active member of the team. This is an excellent chance for hands-on experience in an exciting situation!

Tell us in one short sentence exactly why you would like to go - it doesn't have to be a serious reason! Please also include your full name and year group.

Please send your responses to contactemig@gmail.com

Disaster Medicine Session
Dr Kavita Varshney will be leading our Disaster Medicine session for medical students on Wednesday, 24 July 2013, with refreshments from 4.30pm and a 5.00pm start. The venue will be confirmed closer to the date.

The Dalai Lama at Westmead...
On Monday, 17 June 2013, while busy finishing their lunch and clearing the table, several clinical school staff were surprised to see His Holiness, The Dalai Lama at our tea room door while on his way to see patients in the wards.

Westmead Hospital Art Prize 2013...
The Westmead Hospital Art Prize 2013 finalists have now been announced and we are pleased to see that two current students and an alumnus have artworks selected as finalists in the Westmead Hospital Art Prize for 2013.

Congratulations to our Y4 students, Diane Xiao, for her painting entitled “As the sun sets” and Yea Chan for his painting entitled “Musical Colours. Yea’s artwork has been awarded 3rd prize in the Large Artworks category (see photo below). Dr Jennifer Snaith has two photography items entitled “Blue Eye” and “Child’s Play”. These artworks are located on Level 2 and will become part of the permanent art collection at Westmead Hospital for the enjoyment of patients, staff and visitors.

The Sydney Alumni Magazine 2013 Travel Photo Competition “People, Places & Nature”
The Sydney Alumni Magazine (SAM) has a proud tradition of sharing the amazing stories of our alumni, students, staff and donors. This year sees the launch of the first...
ever travel photography competition, aimed at sharing experiences and travels.

Whether you are a seasoned professional, or simply a happy snapper, SAM would like your submission and the story behind your image. There are some great prizes on offer for the winning entries.

Photographs can be from anywhere in the world, and must have be taken after 1 March 2011.

Entries close at 11.59pm on Friday, 1 November 2013.

This competition is open to students, alumni, donors and staff of the University, other than staff or family of staff of the Division of Alumni and Development who are residents of Australia.

For entry information, FAQs and full terms and conditions, please visit:-

http://sydney.edu.au/alumni/photo-comp/

You can also vote for the People’s Choice photo each month at

http://sydney.edu.au/alumni/photo-comp/galleries

Silver Pagoda by Steven Taunton Jan 13

Sydney Medical School Events 2013....

Please see the Sydney Medical School link below for 2013 events which may be of interest to you :-


WCS online radiology quiz...

Students at Westmead Clinical School can now further their learning in imaging via an online quiz, thanks to an innovation proposed by Professor Noel Young.

With the assistance of imaging registrars Babak Sandogal and Rob Ward, the students now have a weekly problem to solve. The images for each quiz may be x-ray, CT, MRI or ultrasound and the students answer a multiple choice question related to the image. Scores are collected and a prize is on offer for the top student in year 3 and year 4 - a $100 gift voucher for the Co-op Bookshop. Fortunately there is no requirement to use the prize for medical textbooks!

The images which have been used in the online quiz do double duty as the films used for our light-box quiz. This allows for more in-depth questions and more extensive exploration of the problem and its radiological diagnosis.

Next year, the quiz begins a two-year cycle with new images and a grand prize will be awarded for the top student over the course of the two years.

We extend our gratitude to Noel, Rob, Babak and also to Pam Dougan for all their thoughts, ideas and effort.