Welcome to the March edition of our newsletter.

This issue includes the inaugural Tutor of the Quarter award on page 4, which is awarded based on student nominations for the quarter and which will become a regular feature in future editions.

Westmead Emergency Medicine Interest Group (EMIG)......

The Westmead Emergency Medicine Interest Group held its first workshop for the year and numbers, swollen by an eager cohort of our new stage 1 students, exceeded expectations.

Under the management of Dr Andrew Coggins, Eleanor Hitchen, Timothy Scrivener, Harry Constantin, Fiona Schleyer, Aparna Ravinutala, Nathan Harvey and Patrick Fisk, the EMIG combined its annual “meet the ED doctors” session with teaching and revision of skills commonly required in ED. Dr Kevin Lai (pictured here with Stage 1 student, Minh Ahn Nguyen) taught airway management while many other ED physicians guided students through suturing, cannulation, venepuncture, tracheotomy and other stations.

The students showed great enthusiasm and a willingness to participate and learn. Not even the arrival of a trolley-load of pizzas was sufficiently distracting to slow the pace.

Many thanks to all the clinical staff who kindly gave their time and knowledge and to our EMIG coordinators for all their hard work. A great success!

dates for your diary....

Wednesday, 1 May 2013
Prof Bruce Robinson Visit to Westmead & MGR: Stage 3 student elective term presentations

Next issue: June 2013

Please contact: Amanda Burke @ 9845 7661 or Amanda.Burke@sydney.edu.au
If you would like to include an article in the next edition
Vale Prof Sydney Nade

Professor Sydney Nade has had a long association with the University of Sydney and, for the past 25 years, with the Westmead Clinical School, where he made invaluable contributions to teaching. His rare commitment and unique approach to teaching and his exceptional expertise in musculo-skeletal medicine together made him one of our best.

Welcome New Staff...

Dr Andrew Coggins (pictured in the CareFlight helicopter) from Westmead’s ED has been an enthusiastic contributor to WCS for the past few years. We are pleased to announce that Andrew has taken on a new, formal role in WCS to help with various aspects of medical student teaching, including tutor recruitment and long case preparation.

Awards...

2012 Australia Day Honours

- AM Ben Marosszeky for significant service to rehabilitation medicine, and through contributions to people with arthritis.
- AM David Sillence, for significant service to medicine in the field of clinical genetics.

- OAM Norma Castaldi, for service to the community as a fundraiser and volunteer.

Honours at Graduation & Prizes 2012 - Westmead Recipients

Honours:
First Class -
- Monique Atkinson
- Lucy Attwood
- Emilia Esterman
- David Greenup
- Andrew Jacques
- Ines Prasidha
- Benjamin Tassie
Second Class/Division 1 -
- Nalinaa Kanapathipillai

Prizes for Sydney Medical School - Westmead Recipients

A Hing Memorial Prize in Gynaecology (Shared)
- Clare O’Sullivan
- J Moutzouris (Concord)

Dagmar Berne Prize (Shared)
- Clare O’Sullivan
- F A Joseph (RPA)

Campbell Kordick Memorial Prize in Psychiatry
- Emilia Esterman

Dame Constance D’Arcy Memorial Prize in Gynaecology
- Clare O’Sullivan

Iain Buzzard Dunlop Memorial Prize (Shared)
- Benjamin Tassie
- L Edwards (Concord)

Mabel Elizabeth Leaver Memorial Prize in Obstetrics
- Emilie Jakstas
2013 SYDNEY MEDICAL SCHOOL AWARD FOR EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE BY GENERAL STAFF

Congratulations to Angela Wallace, who has just been awarded the 2013 Sydney Medical School Award for exceptional performance by General Staff, for her outstanding support of WCS activities, especially for Stage 3 students. Angela joins Izam Mujir who won the award a couple of years ago.

Publications...

Congratulations to Chris Liddle, Jenny Gunton and their colleagues who recently had another major publication, this one in Cell. The paper is a joint collaboration between Westmead/WMI and The Garvan Institute, because Jenny and Sue Lyn Lau’s contribution originated at Garvan. The paper is entitled “A Master Cistromic Circuit Governing Hepatic Fibrogenesis”. The authors are AuDing N, Yu RT, Subramaniam N, Leblanc M, Wilson C, Rao R, He M, Coulter S, Scott C, Sherman M, Lau SL, Atkins AR, Barish GD, Gunton JE, Liddle C, Downes N, Evans RM.

A second publication from Chris, “An inhibitor of the protein kinases TBK1 and IKK-ε improves obesity-related metabolic dysfunctions in mice”, was published in Nature Med in February 2013, and was picked up by CNN and ABC News, just to name two major media groups. Chris has just returned from another stint in the Salk Institute in La Jolla and has an enviable number of high impact publications to follow.

The Peter Klineberg Westmead Association Charitable Trust Fund Recipients 2013...

Congratulations to the following Stage 3 students who have been awarded scholarships in relation to their elective terms in third world locations.

- Eleanor Hitchen – Lima, Peru
- Ezra Keebaugh – Hamachal Pradesh, India & Amman, Jordan
- Adam Moody – Soweto, Johannesburg, South Africa & Livingstone, Zambia
- Karla Villafana Soto – Santiago, Cuba
- Ann Walz – Cape Town, South Africa

The students will have the opportunity to present their elective experiences at Medical Grand Rounds on Wednesday, 1 May 2013.

Clinical Academic Titles/Promotions...

Congratulations to the following staff members whose appointments have been conferred recently:

- Clinical Senior Lecturer Faruque Riffat
- Clinical Senior Lecturer Andrew White
- Clinical Lecturer Alfred Hing
- Clinical Associate Lecturer Darshika Christie-David
- Clinical Associate Lecturer Sean Stanek
- Clinical Associate Lecturer Michael Su
- Research Fellow Paramjit Bansal
- Research Fellow Tracey Tsang
- Research Fellow Min Kim
- Honorary Associate Khaled Al Oweidat
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 Amanda Harrison has been nominated as the Tutor of the Quarter for March 2013.

Sydney Medical School Events - 2013.....

Please follow the Sydney Medical School link below for 2013 events which may be of interest to you.


Donation to Clinical School.....

A/Prof Nages Nagaratnam recently donated one of his landscape paintings to the clinical school. This painting has taken pride of place near Prof Ham’s office.

We kindly thank Prof Nagaratnam for this generous gift.

Postgraduate Student Unit...

Summer Research Scholarship Presentations

Congratulations to Allison Grech, the winner of the local Summer Research Scholarship Presentations held on 25 February 2013. Allison represented Westmead for the Dean’s Prize on Friday, 8 March 2013.

2013 Induction Day

On Wednesday, 20 March 2013, the Postgraduate Unit held its annual Induction Day for all new postgrads in conjunction with The Children’s Hospital at Westmead and the Children’s Medical Research Institute.

Students were provided with a mountain of information from various people including Postgraduate (PG) Coordinators, PG Administrative staff, SUPRA (Sydney University Postgraduate Representative Association) and Elizabeth Pigott from the Sydney University Medical Library. Past students attended and gave their tips and ideas on how to survive the years of postgraduate study, along with an Introduction session, where each student presented a brief outline of their research.

Students enjoyed socializing during the morning tea and lunch breaks, utilizing the opportunity to meet their fellow students, whilst enjoying some incredibly tasty cuisine.
Internship Orientation 2013...


Tony Issa, MP for Granville (second from left) attended during orientation to show support for the new recruits.

Med 1 Orientation...

On 6 February 2013, the clinical school welcomed the new cohort of 60 students to Westmead.

These students will attend Westmead for their clinical days on either Mondays or Wednesdays, depending upon their allocated group.

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 on 9845 6403 or email amanda.harrison@sydney.edu.au at the clinical school to discuss possibilities further.

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

This quarter, we particularly require tutors for:-

- Communication skills and history taking (Med 1 & 2) for the upcoming Drug & Alcohol, Musculoskeletal, Endocrine & Sexual Health 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.

New Email Addresses for Clinical School Staff......

Please note the following new email addresses for clinical school staff:-

- Karen Robertson, EA to Prof Harris – wcs.ea@sydney.edu.au
- Lillian Mah, Administration Assistant - wcs.admin@sydney.edu.au
Congratulations...

Congratulations to Daniel Demosthenous (Stage 3 Year 3 student) and his new wife, Sandra, who were recently married in Orange, NSW.

Danny and Sandra met in their first year of dental school. After a honeymoon in New Zealand, Danny and Sandra have settled in Westmead, with Danny studying medicine with interests in oral and maxillofacial surgery and Sandra as a resident in the paediatric dental department.

Hoc Mai Foundation Students...

Miss Khuanthip Billamay & Ms Appasone Phoumindr
University of Health Sciences, Vientiane
Lao People’s Democratic Republic

Background

Khuanthip
I have seen my father work with children since I was a child until now. I am really interested to work with children, especially poor children who live in rural and remote areas. I want to be able to go and help them, so I want to be a good paediatrician.

Appasone
There are not many neurologists in my country especially women Neurologists, so I want to be able to help treat patients with neurological problems in Laos.

What have you gained from spending 8 weeks at Sydney Medical School – Westmead?

Khuanthip
I can learn a lot of new abbreviations of medical words and new medical words as well. I have seen a lot of new medical equipment. I can see how doctors and nurses work every day. They are very busy and work hard. I can study a lot about new medicines too.

Appasone
I have gained a lot of knowledge from doctors, medical skills which I’ve never had the opportunity to learn before in my country. Most importantly, I received friendship from doctors, nurses, local students and even from the staff of Westmead.

Would you recommend other Lao student/s to come to Sydney Medical School – Westmead for the Hoc Mai elective term?

Khuanthip
Yes, I would. This is a very good opportunity to learn and get new experience.

Appasone
Sure! I gained a lot of experiences from this program. I feel like I’m smarter as well as my English skills have really improved.
What will you miss when you finish your 8 weeks?

Khuanthip
I will miss Mr Izam Mujir. He is very nice to us! When we have problems he’s the one who can give us a good suggestion about fixing things. I will miss Mrs Sondra Edmonds and also Ray the cleaner. They are always taking care of us and we feel like we are at home because of them.

Appasone
I will miss my time in ED, because I saw a lot of different things. I met many patients and I was with many good interns. They were so nice and taught me a lot. My skills have improved in ED.

MedBall 2013...

The Sydney University Medical Society (SUMS) invites students from Years 1-4 to the MedBall 2013 – “Once Upon a Time”. This event will be held at the Crystal Ballroom, Luna Park, Sydney, on Saturday, 11 May 2013.

The night will include a sit-down meal, table service drinks, live music and the company of med student friends and their partners.

Tickets on sale from on Friday, 22 March. Early bird tickets are limited to two per person at $99 (for the first 100). Full price tickets will be $109.

To purchase tickets, please contact Hamiet Caterson at vpsocial@sydneymedsoc.org.au

2013 Student Year Reps...

Year 1
Stream A Monday
- Teresa Yu
teyu7271@uni.sydney.edu.au
- Michael Hagarty
mhaq1577@uni.sydney.edu.au

Stream B Wednesday
- William Ziaziaris
wzia5232@uni.sydney.edu.au
- Shannon Lees
dlee9686@uni.sydney.edu.au

Year 2
Stream A Tuesday
- Darcy Cheung
dche6547@uni.sydney.edu.au
- Marianna Rudakova
grud7824@uni.sydney.edu.au

Stream B Thursday
- Kerry Chen
kche9610@uni.sydney.edu.au
- Stasio Ulasszyn
sula5693@uni.sydney.edu.au

Year 3
Stream 1
- Andrew Tan
atan0245@uni.sydney.edu.au
Stream 2
- Sophia Leathem
slea4302@uni.sydney.edu.au
Stream 3
- Souvik Kumar Das
sdas3707@uni.sydney.edu.au
Stream 4
- Stefan Dimou
sdim5163@uni.sydney.edu.au

Year 4
- Welan Dionela
wdio4117@uni.sydney.edu.au