The new MD program is being introduced with the current Year 1 students as the first cohort. They will spend an extra clinical day at Westmead, starting later this year or early 2015. This is an exciting change and we are looking forward to implementing this program.

The school is keen to expand teaching outside Westmead Hospital and would welcome additional teaching opportunities at both Norwest and Westmead Private Hospitals. Dr Amanda Harrison or Amanda Burke would be happy to further discuss proposed placements and required content. We frequently receive very positive feedback from our Stage 3 students who have completed Geriatric Medicine placements with the Geriatric Medicine rotation at Norwest Private Hospital and we are keen to increase this initiative further.

The new WMI building is well on the way to completion, with staff expected to begin moving into the new building soon. This will free up space in the clinical sciences corridor and allow some much-needed expansion of the school's facilities.
Farewell…

We wish Sondra Edmonds, who worked as Electives Officer at the clinical school for the past 14 years, a very happy retirement.

After 18 months with the clinical school, our accountant, Michelle Wypych, has moved to another position at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. We wish Michelle all the best with her new position.

Welcome New Staff…

Welcome to Lynne Gallaty, who has recently joined us as Tutor Liaison Officer for a six month placement at the medical school.

Welcome to Sam Saha, who will be looking after all our accounting needs. Sam is located in Room 2008A in the Clinical Sciences Corridor.

Welcome back to Dr Maryanne Dawson, who has returned to the clinical school, primarily to upgrade student procedural skills training.

2013 Student Awards…..

We are extremely proud of the following Westmead students for achieving Awards for 2013:

Honours Class I:
- Elissa Cassar
- Shakti Dabholkar
- Rhiannon Mellor
- Christopher Sadler
- Yvonne Strohmeier
- Xin Zhang

Honours Class II, Division 1
- Shivani Aggarwala

Dean’s List of Excellence in Academic Performance:-
- Katie Lam
- Ricky Harjanto (Stage 2)
- Jason Kwok (Stage 2)

Arthur Edward Mills Graduation Prize:-
- Sally Bath

Campbell Kordick Memorial Prize in Psychiatry (joint winner):-
- Xin Zhang

Harold John Ritchie Memorial Prize for Clinical Medicine:-
- Sally Bath

Joint Sidney B Clipsham & William Henry & Eliza Alice Sharp Prize in Surgery:-
- Christopher Sadler

KCT Rawle 104 ACCS Association Prize:-
- Christopher Sadler

Robert Scot Skirving Memorial Prize:-
- Sally Bath

The Children’s Hospital at Westmead Medical Staff Council Prize in Paediatrics (joint winner):-
- Sally Bath

The Dr F Norton Manning Memorial Prize:-
- Sally Bath

Academic Merit Prize
- Jayson Jeganathan (Stage 1)
- Nathan Wong (Stage 2)
Awards...

We are extremely pleased to announce that **David Philip** has been awarded the Sydney Medical School Dean’s prize for research in Basic Science for 2013 for his medical honours research project undertaken at the Brain Dynamics Centre. This award is given annually for the best honours project and highest performance in research in basic sciences, clinical sciences and research in public health.

David’s research project was also recently accepted in the journal Neuroimage: “Thalamic volume and thalamo-cortical white matter tracts correlate with motor and verbal memory performance.”

Philip DJ, Korgaonkar MS, Grieve SM
Neuroimage. 2014 May 1;91:77-83

Congratulations to **Dr Ines Prasidha** (medical school alumnus) who was the Network 10 finalist in the AMA’s Doctors-in-Training Awards in the category of JMO of Year.

Congratulations also to **Dr Ruth Mitchell**, Neurosurgery Advanced Trainee, who was the Western Sydney LHD finalist in the AMA’s Doctors in Training Awards in the category of Registrar of the Year.

2014 Sydney Medical School Awards...

Congratulations to the following recipients of this year’s awards:

- **Professor Philip O’Connell** – the Distinguished Professorial Award;
- **Dr Bronte Holt** – Prime Minister’s Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Scholarship;
- **Dr Christine Clarke** – NHMRC High Achiever;
- **Professor John Fletcher** – NSW Merit Award; and
- **Associate Professor Clara Chow** – Ross Hohnen Award

Clinical Academic Titles /Promotions...

Congratulations also to the following appointments or promotions which have been conferred recently:

- Associate Professor Vincent Lam;
- Conjoint Professor David Lewis;
- Conjoint Associate Professor Golo Ahlenstiel
- Clinical Senior Lecturer Jim Poulipooulou;
- Clinical Lecturer Darush Daneshvar;
- Clinical Associate Lecturer Pranav Jani;
- Clinical Associate Lecturer Shyam Nagubandi;
- Clinical Associate Lecturer Joanna Connolly; and
- Research Fellow Jason Amatoury

Elective Term Scholarships 2013/14...

The following students were awarded scholarships from the Westmead Charitable Trust Fund for 2013/14 for placements in Third World or Rural Australian Medicine:-

- Joon Kwon – Tanzania
- Philomena McNamara – Papua New Guinea
- Cyrus Mehta – India & Belize
- Jesse Noon – Uganda & Seychelles
- Lily Francis – South Africa
- Hayley Worth – Papua New Guinea
- Apama Ravinutala – Uganda
- Hoi Sang Wong – Kenya
- Julian Barson – Royal Flying Doctor Service, Broken Hill

Don’t miss the Clinical School’s Medical Grand Rounds on 30 April, when three of these recipients will present their elective experiences.
Tutor of the Quarter...

Our students, from Years 1-4, were asked to nominate their favourite tutor, to recognise their contribution to student teaching during the past quarter.

We are pleased to announce that, from a competitive field of nominations, Dr Rashi Minocha has been nominated as the Tutor of the First Quarter of 2014.

Postgraduate Student Unit...

Induction Day 2014

All new students from Semester 1 2014 and Semester 2 2013 were invited to attend the Induction Day held in conjunction with the Children’s Hospital, at CHW.

PG Research Seminars

The new schedule for the PG Research Seminars started in February 2014. We have revamped the schedule, with sponsored seminars now taking place every month, which has allowed us to provide lunch for attendees following the seminars.

It is also a chance to award the best presenter from each month with a gift card, and an opportunity to compete for the Researcher of the Year prize at the Finals Seminar in November. Monthly winners are chosen by a panel with scores given for the following: Background, Methods, Results, Slides/Conclusions and overall Delivery.

Congratulations to our February & March winners, who were each awarded a $200 gift card:

- February: Christian Girgis for the presentation “Effects of Vitamin D in Skeletal Muscle”
- March: Nimeshan G. Geevasinga for the presentation ‘Diagnostic utility of TMS in Motor Neuron Disease’

Lucky door prize winners were:

- February: Matthew Watts (movie) & Badr Alzahrani (JB HiFi gift card)
- March: Kaitlin Tagg (movie) & Adrian Ong (JB HiFi gift card)

The following Masters Degrees have been awarded in 2014:

- Michael James Millar – Ophthalmology;
- A J Foster – Sexual Health (Clinical Med);
- G Marcelo – Sexual Health (Clinical Med);
- B Rumianek – Sexual Health (Clinical Med);
- M Soo – Sexual Health (Clinical Med);
- V Tarfon – Sexual Health (Clinical Med);
- L Finlay – Sexual Health (Clinical Med);
- E Maslen – Sexual Health (Clinical Med);
- E Soe – Sexual Health (Clinical Med);
- L Tomlins – Sexual Health (Clinical Med); and
- Ghusoon Abdulrasool – Immunology, ICPMR

The following PhDs have been awarded in 2014:

- Mojgan Aminnejad – Centre for Infectious Diseases & Microbiology;
- Jing Jing Wu – Centre for Transplantation & Renal Research;
- Chayanika Biswas – Centre for Infectious Diseases & Microbiology;
- J in Gun Cho – Respiratory Medicine; and
- Sarah-Jane Schramm – Westmead Institute for Cancer Research.
Welcome to Stage 3 by Westmead Association.....

Our new Stage 3 students attended the annual Welcome to Westmead luncheon, hosted by the Westmead Association on 6 March 2014.

Students and staff enjoyed lunch and the relaxed atmosphere arranged by Georgette Hanna on behalf of the Westmead Association.

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 Musculoskeletal & Endocrine, Nutrition & Sexual Health blocks;
- Clinical Reasoning Sessions (CRS);
- Procedural skills; and
- Formative long case examiners to assist our Stage 3 students with practice sessions.

Within a few weeks, we will also call for MD project supervisors for the new Year 1 students.

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.

Westmead Student Surgical Association (WSSA)....

The WSSA will be hosting a meet-the-surgeon session on Monday, 7 April 2014, from 4.00pm in Lecture Theatre 2, Education Block. Surgeons include Prof Henry Pleass, Prof Danny Cass from ChW, A/Prof Vincent Lam and Dr Elisabeth Elder.

Students will have the opportunity to meet the surgeons, learn about their career journeys and discuss work-life balance.

Please RSVP to admin@wssa.org.au if you are interested in attending. Refreshments will be provided and a lucky door prize awarded.

Emergency Medicine Interest Group (EMIG)....

EMIG is a student-led group for extra-curricular education at Westmead Hospital with the following sessions planned for 2014 including: Pre-hospital afternoon; Not-So-Grand-Rounds; suturing workshop and the popular Disaster Workshop with Dr Kavita Varshney.

The first EMIG workshop for 2014 was held over 2 days recently, with over 80 students from several universities learning from emergency physicians and anaesthetists about basic and advanced airway techniques, obtaining difficult IV access (intra-osseous and ultrasound guided) and the Seldinger technique.
It is encouraging that several Stage 1 students have joined the group, helping to organise the 2014 calendar. EMIG is looking for Stage 2 and 3 students to help facilitate events and students are encouraged to email their interest.

The EMIG is also happy for you to join their Facebook group or email contactemig@gmail.com to keep up-to-date with the team activities.

**Graduation Ceremonies 2014...**

There will be two Graduation Ceremonies during 2014 for SMS students:

- Friday, 9 May 2014 for students who completed the MBBS at the end of 2013, and
- Friday, 5 December 2014 for the 2014 final year MBBS cohort

Our Postgraduate students will also graduate on these dates.

See website for further information http://sydney.edu.au/current_students/student_administration/graduations/ceremony_schedule.shtml

**Rural Preferential Recruitment (RPR) Information Evening...**

HETI is holding its annual RPR Information Evening for prevocational medical graduates on Friday, 11 April 2014, from 6.00 to 9.30pm at the ParkRoyal Hotel, Darling Harbour.

HETI invites medical students who are in their final year, or final two years of study to attend this event.

RPR is a recruitment pathway in NSW that provides employment opportunities for medical graduates and promotes a medical workforce in rural areas around NSW.

For further information or to RSVP, email internship@heti.nsw.gov.au or call 02 9844 6551. A flyer is also available on the bulletin board of the SMP website.

**International Medical Student Elective Report...**

**Cyrill Wehling, University of Heidelberg, Germany**

Arriving mid January in Westmead, I was welcomed by some very strange bird noises and loud crickets which made me wonder whether I took the train a bit too far into the countryside. But no, it did not take very long to realize how much wildlife there is actually within Sydney – taking walks through Parramatta Park, I saw possums, kookaburras, parakeets and by the riverside water dragons and heaps of flying foxes.

I stayed for a total of seven weeks at Westmead Hospital, during which I experienced elective rotations at the departments of Radiology, Nuclear Medicine and Rheumatology.

Overall, I was really impressed by the great effort everybody made to teach the students, making this one of the greatest elective terms I have had. No matter if I was looking at interesting cases with the registrars at radiology (and enjoying good old Oporto’s lunch together), testing different probes in ultrasound and getting excellent one-on-one lectures about the fundamentals in nuclear medicine or discussing rare medical conditions and serology patterns in rheumatology – everywhere I got the chance to
experience dedicated teachers. Thank you for such a great time!

**Sydney Medical School Events 2014...**

Please see the Sydney Medical School link below for 2014 events which may be of interest to you.


**Science without Borders...**

We have recently welcomed exchange students from Brazil as part of the Science without Borders exchange program, which places students from various universities throughout Brazil for one year studying medicine at Sydney Medical School.

The three students attached to Westmead are Yan Carvalho, Bruno Moreira Simiao & Camila Brasil E Silva and have recently commenced core block terms with our current Stage 3 students. All three students are very keen to immerse themselves into the Sydney student experience and are keen to learn new skills.

**Annual Westmead Library Registration...**

All continuing students are reminded that you are required to re-register with the library every year to ensure records are kept up to date.

All users have registration expiry dates and if these expire, users will be unable to use their library cards to borrow on the self checkout machine nor maintain access to the library after hours.

**Student News...**

Congratulations and best wishes to Michael Carter, who will be marrying Tamara this weekend.

Katrina Giskes’ daughter, Alina Jong Wah, and Colin Moncrieff’s daughter, Isolde, recently had the chance to catch up. Now 7½ months and 9 months, respectively, the girls are growing fast.

**Westmead Hospital Art Prize 2014...**

Submissions with the broad theme of “Redevelopment, Renewal & Revitalisation” are being sought for the 2014 Westmead Hospital Art Prize.

Entries close at 5pm on **28 April 2014**, with finalists announced on **31 May 2014**. Please see [http://www.ic.sydney.com.au/2014-Westmead-Hospital-Art-Prize](http://www.ic.sydney.com.au/2014-Westmead-Hospital-Art-Prize) or contact Meredith Lynch at [westmeadartprize@gmail.com](mailto:westmeadartprize@gmail.com) or 02 9417 3311, for further information.