You will all be aware by now, that Professor Brian Trudinger donated the Westmead Fertility Centre to The University of Sydney on 30 June 2014.

Since then, the university has appointed representatives to oversee the transition of Westmead Fertility Centre to become a controlled entity of the university.

The university has given a commitment to continue to provide affordable fertility services to the people of Western Sydney operating from the Westmead Hospital campus.

The university also intends to expand its research activities in the areas of maternal fetal medicine, reproductive endocrinology and infertility and it is envisaged that the operations of Westmead Fertility Centre will be a vital component of this strategy to improve Australia’s research leadership in fertility treatment and assisted reproductive technologies.

This is an exciting and welcome enterprise for patients and The University of Sydney.


DATES FOR YOUR DIARY....

**FINAL YEAR STUDENT LUNCHEON** - GREEN ROOM
12 noon, Thursday, 30 October 2014

**ROCKETS & BOMBS – MSF: DR JOHN SWINNEN** - AUDITORIUM
7.15am Friday, 31 October 2014

**TUTOR LUNCHEON – CLINICAL SCHOOL**
Thursday, 4 December 2014

**CLASS OF 2014 GRADUATION**
Friday, 5 December 2014

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Next Issue: November 2014
Please contact Amanda Burke on T 9845 7661 or Amanda.Burke@sydney.edu.au if you would like to include a story/feature in the next edition.
Vale Dr Ross Jeremy...

It is with deep regret to inform you that Dr Ross Jeremy, a VMO with the Dept of Rheumatology, has recently passed away.

Dr Ross Jeremy was one of the early pioneer rheumatologists of Australia that devoted over 40 years of service to the specialty through teaching, research and service. As a physician, he was a role model to many young trainees, hospital personnel and colleagues alike that respected his approach and manner when it came to patient management. His contribution to rheumatology dates back to the 1960’s when he was one of the first to show the value of a bone scan in the application to rheumatology. This now is taken for granted but at that time it was a significant breakthrough that was soon taken up by other clinicians. Dr Jeremy was also instrumental into the study of reactive arthritis in natives from Papua New Guinea at a time when arthritis in the New Guinea highlands was endemic. The Parr prize that was awarded to him by the Australian Rheumatology Association for excellence in research acknowledged his contribution to the understanding on the cause of the arthritis. He subsequently continued his research and training in rheumatology in the University of Washington, Seattle and came back to Australia to work as a visiting physician in Sydney Hospital. With the closure of Sydney Hospital, he was relocated to Auburn and Westmead Hospital where he served as a general physician and consultant rheumatologist for over 30 years.

He was a valued member of the Department; a humble and sincere man, that will be very much missed.

Farewell...

Dr Maryanne Dawson has recently retired from the clinical school to pursue travel and other exciting things.

Awards...

Dr Odette Erskine was awarded the John Read Prize for best presentation in Sleep & Physiological Research at the Thoracic Society Australia & New Zealand Annual Scientific Meeting in April 2014. The John Read Prize for Physiological research is named in honour of the late Professor David Read. Professor Read distinguished himself as a brilliant student during his undergraduate years at the University of Sydney, where he was awarded the university medal in medicine. In 1968, he became the youngest Professor in Australian academia at only 39 years of age.

Dr Erskine’s abstract was titled: “polysomnography and Sonomat Measurements are Similar in Sleep Laboratory Patients”. This work is part of her PhD which she commenced in 2013, with the Ludwig Engel Centre for Respiratory Research, Westmead Millenium Institute.

A/Prof Steve Vucic was recently awarded the Sir Zelman Cowen Universities Fund Prize for Discovery in Medical Research. This prestigious award recognizes Steve’s contribution to improving our understanding of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) and for his part in co-inventing a diagnostic technique for ALS. The prize will be shared between Steve and Associate Professor Anthony Gill.

Professor Christine Clarke and Associate Professor David Booth NHMRC fellowships were recently renewed.
Publications...

Congratulations to all involved in the following important studies!

**Dr Sarah Zaman** who has been awarded the Dean’s Research Student Publication Prize for 2013, for her research paper “Long-Term Arrhythmia-Free Survival in Patients with Severe Left Ventricular Dysfunction and No Inducible Ventricular Tachycardia After Myocardial Infarction”.

**Linda Feng**, a current Stage 3 student, on her major contribution to a case report “Symptomatic Histologically Proven Necrosis of Brain following Stereotactic Radiation and Ipilimumab in Six Lesions in Four Melanoma Patients” in conjunction with with colleagues and others from Westmead, including Richard Kefford.

**Andrew White, Paul Healey, Jie Jin Wang & Paul Mitchell** and their colleagues on their recent publication in *Nature Genetics*. A number of groups were involved in this publication including Centre for Vision Research, Westmead Millennium Institute, University of Sydney, Westmead. The paper is entitled “Common variants near ABCA1, AFAP1 and GMDS confer risk of primary open-angle glaucoma”.

**Professor Richard Lindley and the Stroke Unit Team** at Westmead Hospital for their role in largest meta-analysis undertaken to investigate the use of alteplase, which was just published in the *Lancet*. This individual patient meta-analysis provides clear data to guide stroke thrombolysis protocols for the future. Westmead patients were included in the IST-3, one of the nine trials incorporated in this meta-analysis.

Clinical Academic Titles / Promotions...

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

- Emeritus Professor John Fletcher;
- Clinical Professor Paul Harnett;
- Clinical Professor Michael Veness;
- Clinical Associate Professor Jane Holmes-Walker;
- Clinical Associate Professor Kristina Kairaitis;
- Clinical Senior Lecturer Seethalakshmi Viswanathan;
- Clinical Senior Lecturer Christine Younan;
- Clinical Lecturer Jennifer Kim;
- Clinical Lecturer Meena Singde;
- Clinical Associate Lecturer Elias Nehme;
- Clinical Associate Lecturer Sarah So;
- Clinical Associate Lecturer Christine Wong;
- Clinical Associate Lecturer Siddharth Trivedi;
- Clinical Associate Lecturer Katrina Pavic;
- Clinical Associate Lecturer Nathan Moore;
- Clinical Associate Lecturer Dinusha Chandratilleke;
- Senior Research Fellow Lionel Hebhard;
- Honorary Senior Research Fellow Justine Gatt;
- Postdoctoral Fellow Alicia Fajardo Lubian;
- Postdoctoral Fellow Andrew Ginn;
- Postdoctoral Fellow Carola Venturini;
- Honorary Associate Maria Huerta Brogeras
- Honorary Associate Deepal Deshpande
Teacher of the Quarter...

Westmead Clinical School students, from Years 1-4, were asked to nominate their favourite teacher 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 Jimmy Chien from Respiratory has been nominated as the Teacher of the Quarter for September 2014.

Postgraduate Student Unit...

Research Seminars
Congratulations to our PG Research Seminar Winners!! They will join our previous winners from the beginning of 2014 to compete for the ‘Young Investigator Awards’ to be held in November.

- July – Roslyn Vongsuvanh, Storr Liver Unit
- August – Suja Padamanabhan, Endocrinology
- September – Mohammed Eslam Abdel Hafiz, Storr Liver Unit

And a special mention to our Lucky Door Prize winners:

- July – Vi Nguyen, Storr Liver Unit
- August – Zebunnessa Rahman, Neurology
- September – Korri El Khobar (Storr Liver), Carolina Firacative (CIDM)

We only have one more month of heats (October), and then we have our finalists present at our finale on 27 November, starting at 10am in the new WMI Building.

Awards
Melad Farraha – Cardiology
Second recipient of the “My Westmead Early Career Research Scholarship” from the Westmead Medical Research Foundation for this year. Congratulations Melad!!

Badr Alzahrani – Centre for Virus Research
Chosen as a finalist in the 2014 June Halliday Young Investigator Science Award (YIA). AGW is the most popular international Gastroenterology conference held in Australia. Good Luck Badr!!

Samantha McAllery – Centre for Virus Research
 Participated in the 3 minute thesis finals on the 31st of August at USyd, and won the runners-up award of $500. Congratulations Samantha!!

Rahul Samanta – Cardiology
Rahul’s presentation “Evaluation of indirect myocardial pacing using a saline bridge in the large animal model" has been short listed in the Young Investigator category at Asia Pacific Heart Rhythm Society, New Delhi. This is the largest Heart Rhythm Disorders meeting in the Asia Pacific region. Good Luck Rahul!!

Presentations – International & Local
Sultana Banu – Medical Parasitology
Sultana will be presenting her research paper in the upcoming international conference of infectious diseases in Malaysia on 26-29th.
Detection of anti-Leishmania antibodies among Asymptomatic Contacts of Patients with Kala-azar in Bangladesh
SS Banu1, 2, 3*, B Ahmed3, R Kim1, W Meyer1, 2, R Lee1, 2
1Centre for Infectious Diseases & Microbiology Laboratory Services, Westmead Hospital, Australia; 2The University of Sydney, Australia; 3Directorate General of Health Services, Bangladesh
Abstract
Visceral leishmaniasis is a vector borne and an emerging parasitic infection caused by an intracellular protozoan parasite of the genus Leishmania. It is primarily a zoonosis and is transmitted to humans and other vertebrate hosts by the bite of a female phlebotomine sand fly. Commonly known as kala-azar (KA), this infection poses a major public health problem in the centre and the north-western quarter of Bangladesh. The annual incidence of KA is about 40,000-45,000 cases with more than 40.6 million people at risk. About 300 cases per 10,000 populations per year are reported from the highly endemic district of Mymensingh bordering with the highest endemic Indian states of Bihar and West Bengal. We carried out a cross sectional study among 257 asymptomatic and apparently healthy contacts of KA patients. These healthy subjects came with infected patients from different areas of Bangladesh attending Surya Kanta Kala-azar Research Centre (SKKRC), Mymensingh district, from May, 2013 to May, 2014. Among 257 study subjects 208 (80.93%) were family members and 49 (19.07%) were adjacent neighbours. Recombinant 39-amino acid-repeat antigen containing immunochromatographic test (rk39 ICT) and enzyme linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) using crude promastigote antigen were done on plasma specimens of asymptomatic contacts to detect anti-Leishmania antibodies. The results show that 21.40% (55/257) were positive by either of the two tests. Of which 67.27% (37/55) were positive by rk39 ICT, 83.64% (46/55) by ELISA and 50.91% (28/55) by both of these tests. Among sero-positive individuals 49 (23.56%) were family members of the index cases and 6 (12.24%) were adjacent neighbours. Further confirmatory tests are underway but the study results so far show a higher number of asymptomatic human carriers who reside closely with infected patients. This indicates that diagnosis and treatment of asymptomatic human cases should be considered as part of the strategy in controlling human leishmaniasis.

Melad Farraha – Cardiology
Melad has had a paper accepted and a poster presented at the 36th Annual International Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society, held from August 26-30, 2014 in Chicago. The paper was titled: Investigating the Utility of in Vivo Bio-impedance Spectroscopy for the Assessment of Post-Ischemic Myocardial Tissue.

The same poster as above was accepted and presented at the Westmead Hospital Week.

Farzan Bahin – Storr Liver Unit
Farzan will be presenting 3 oral abstracts and a poster of merit at a national Gastro meeting (Australian Gastroenterology Week) in October at the Gold Coast.

Zunaira Awan – Storr Liver Unit
Zunaira from Storr Liver Unit - WMI, had the opportunity to present her PhD work orally and also received a travel award in the 21st International Symposium on HCV and related viruses on 7th-11th September 2014. The venue was in a heavenly Canadian place - BANFF, Alberta where she got to see snow for the first time in her life. It snowed in September after 1912 and they named it “SNOWTEMBER”. It was a lovely and wonderful experience.
Ulzii Gurjav – Infectious Diseases

Temporal dynamics of Mycobacterium tuberculosis genotypes in New South Wales, Australia.
Gurjav U, Jelfs P, McCallum N, Marais BJ, Sinchenko V.
Abstract
BACKGROUND: Molecular epidemiology of Mycobacterium tuberculosis, its transmission dynamics and population structure have become important determinants of targeted tuberculosis control programs. Here we describe recent changes in the distribution of M. tuberculosis genotypes in New South Wales (NSW), Australia and compared strain types with drug resistance, site of disease and demographic data.

METHODS: We evaluated all culture-confirmed newly identified tuberculosis cases in NSW, Australia, from 2010-2012. M. tuberculosis population structure and clustering rates were assessed using 24-loci Mycobacterial interspersed repetitive unit (MIRU) analysis and compared to MIRU data from 2006-2008.

RESULTS: Of 1178 tuberculosis cases, 1128 (95.7%) were successfully typed. Beijing and East African Indian (EAI) lineage strains were most common (27.6% and 28.5%, respectively) with EAI strains increasing in relative abundance from 11.8% in 2006-2008 to 28.5% in 2010-2012. Few cases of multi-drug resistant tuberculosis were identified (18; 1.7%). Compared to 12-loci, 24-loci MIRU provided improved cluster resolution with 695 (61.6%) and 227 (20.1%) clustered cases identified, respectively. Detailed analysis of the largest cluster identified (an 11 member Beijing cluster) revealed wide geographic diversity in the absence of documented social contact.

CONCLUSIONS: EAI strains of M. tuberculosis recently overtook Beijing family as a prevalent cause of tuberculosis in NSW, Australia. This lineage appeared to be less commonly related to multi-drug resistant tuberculosis as compared to Beijing strain lineage. The resolution provided by 24-loci MIRU typing was insufficient for reliable assessment of transmissions, especially of Beijing family strains.

Amit Lalwani – Endocrinology
Amit has had a review article published in ADE (Australian Diabetes Educators Publication) in June 2014. The title of the article is ‘The Bronze Killer: Haemochromatosis and Diabetes’.

Farzan Bahin – Storr Liver Unit
Publication in Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology:
Prophylactic Endoscopic Coagulation to Prevent Bleeding After Wide-field Endoscopic Mucosal Resection of Large Sessile Colon Polyps.
Bahin FF1, Naidoo M2, Williams SJ2, Hourigan LF3, Ormonde DG4, Raftopoulos SC4, Holt BA2, Sonson R2, Bourke MJ5.

Carolina Firacative - CIDM

Congratulations
Congratulations to Annie Brennan (Brain Dynamics Centre) and her husband on the birth of their beautiful baby girl.

Other News
Farzan Bahin from Storr Liver Unit has just completed a 4 week observership in advanced endoscopy at Evangelical Hospital, Duesseldorf, Germany. The observership was funded through a travel grant obtained from the Sydney West...
Translational Research Centre at Westmead.

PRESENTATION: SPSS (for clinical research)
PRESENTER: Liz Barnes, Biostatistician at the NHMRC Clinical Trials Centre and the Research Centre at The Children’s Hospital at Westmead

Tuesday 21 October 2014
1.00pm to 2.30pm
Research Meeting Room 1
Kids Research Institute
The Children’s Hospital at Westmead

This session will cover all the basics of using SPSS – reading in and saving data, labelling variables and variable values, creating categories, checks and descriptive summaries for continuous and categorical data, graphs and simple statistical comparisons. It will also describe how to use the SPSS syntax to save effort and keep analyses consistent and easily repeated.

Westmead Student Surgical Association (WSSA)
Research Opportunities…..

Please see list of opportunities compiled by the WSSA with the kind assistance of Prof Henry Pleass.

If you are interested in joining any of these research groups, please email the nominated contact.

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<th>Field:</th>
<th>Supervisor:</th>
<th>Contact:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Breast Cancer</td>
<td>Drs Elisabeth Elder &amp; James French</td>
<td><a href="mailto:e.elder@bigpond.net.au">e.elder@bigpond.net.au</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:djamesfrench@gmail.com">djamesfrench@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vascular Biology (Lab based)</td>
<td>Dr Heather Medbury</td>
<td><a href="mailto:heather.medbury@health.nsw.gov.au">heather.medbury@health.nsw.gov.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical Vascular Surgery</td>
<td>Drs Mauro Vicaretti &amp; John Swinnen</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mvic3700@usyd.edu.au">mvic3700@usyd.edu.au</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:john.swinnen@bluebottle.com">john.swinnen@bluebottle.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kidney Transplantation,</td>
<td>A/Prof Wayne Hawthorne</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wayne.hawthorne@sydney.edu.au">wayne.hawthorne@sydney.edu.au</a></td>
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<td>preservation &amp; xenotransplantation</td>
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<td>Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary</td>
<td>Dr Ahmer Hameed</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ahmerhameed@gmail.com">ahmerhameed@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary</td>
<td>Drs Lawrence Yuen &amp; Mehan Siriwardhane</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary</td>
<td>Prof Henry Pleass &amp; A/Prof Vincent Lam</td>
<td><a href="mailto:henry.pleass@health.nsw.gov.au">henry.pleass@health.nsw.gov.au</a></td>
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<td>Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary</td>
<td>Prof Henry Pleass &amp; Dr Kerry Hitos</td>
<td><a href="mailto:henry.pleass@health.nsw.gov.au">henry.pleass@health.nsw.gov.au</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:kerry.hitos@sydney.edu.au">kerry.hitos@sydney.edu.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Breast Surgery &amp; Trauma Surgery</td>
<td>Dr Jeremy Hsu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jeremy.hsu@health.nsw.gov.au">jeremy.hsu@health.nsw.gov.au</a></td>
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2014 Global Corporate Challenge........
Congratulations to the Westmead Wacky Wanderers, led by Natalie Wearne of PWH, who amassed total steps of 10,811,123 (6919km) and achieved 6th place in the Sydney University participants in the recent Global Corporate Challenge. Well done!

The Global Corporate Challenge is an initiative to encourage participants to engage in activity to promote fitness levels.

We look forward to taking on the challenge again in 2015.

NSW Surgical Skills Competition....

Congratulations to the team of senior medical students representing Sydney Medical School, including Hannah Lorking & Mona Liu from Westmead, who recently won the inaugural NSW Students’ Surgical Skills Competition at Liverpool Hospital.

The SSSC is a six station surgical skills competition, based on the Golden Scalpel Games run by NSW HETI. The Sydney Medical School team competed against teams from other NSW medical schools including UNSW, UWS, Wollongong, Notre Dame and Newcastle.

Emergency Medicine Interest Group (EMIG)....

This quarter saw a busy time for EMIG, hosting three hugely successful events. In June we held our first pre-hospital workshop. EMIG was shown around the CareFlight helicopter, saw what was inside an ambulance and learned about scene safety and extraction.

A new event, the pre-hospital afternoon was a hit with the Stage 1 students. We look forward to more events in partnership with CareFlight in 2015.

July was the always-popular EMIG Disaster Workshop. Dr Kavita Varshney, Westmead Disaster Medicine specialist, took the students through the basics of managing a disaster scene. Students were involved in groups to think through how they would manage an emerging disaster site with multiple casualties.

In August, EMIG hosted a suturing workshop. This event was so popular it ran out of places within just a few days of opening. Students learned basic knot tying, suturing and closure of simple wounds while the senior students mastered more complex suturing techniques. Thanks to the ED staff specialists and registrars for taking the time to lead the workshop.

EMIG is student-run, led by Nathan Harvey (stage 3) and supported by Dr Andrew Coggins to facilitate interest and learning in the field of emergency medicine. It is open to medical students from Sydney University as well as other interested students. To express interest in becoming a part of EMIG for 2015, please email contactemig@gmail.com or check out our Facebook page.
Westmead Student Surgical Association (WSSA).....

Achieving proficiency in surgical skills is all about practice. As Professor Pleass always remarks, all you need to be a surgeon is the drive and commitment, we can teach you the rest. The WSSA is proud to provide an avenue to practice the surgical skills that medical students find essential, practical and ultimately an enjoyable addition to medical training during our apprentice years.

In June, a Knot-Tying Workshop was held and students were challenged to manipulate a piece of string as they would a suture to produce a flat and locked knot using their left hand. Hand knot ties are useful in most surgical specialties, particularly in General Surgery where you may find yourself elbows deep in your patient’s abdomen. What’s more, when you close a surgical wound, you will take pride in knowing that the wound edges are opposed and everted to allow maximal healing and restoration to occur. The Advanced Suturing Workshop in July taught our budding surgeons to close wounds with a continuous subcuticular suture – an acquired skill useful for long incisions. The aim of this technique is to close a straight wound that is under low tension to ultimately optimise healing and produce the most satisfying aesthetic outcome for your patient.

Our capital event of the year will be the Surgical Olympics. This is the third successive year the WSSA has hosted this event for Westmead students. Teams will compete in a semi-simulated surgical procedure where they will race to the last throw of the suture, to be heralded as victors for 2014. Teams must compete against each other in scrubbing and gowns, catheterisation, laparoscopic block passing, deep hand knot-ties and suturing with bonus points awarded for answering questions on anatomy under pressure. The Surgical Olympics will be held on Friday 24th October at 4.30pm in the Clinical Skills Laboratory. Best of luck to all teams!

Harry Constantin
Westmead Student Surgical Association
Stage 3 Representative

Australian Medical Football Team (The Docceroos).....

The Docceroos (Australian Medical Football Team) would like to invite all footballing doctors Australia wide to participate in an interstate football frenzy on Saturday 22nd November and Sunday 23rd November 2014.

The Docceroos have now been playing together in the annual international World Medical Football Championships since 2003 and would like to bring all past, present and potential future Docceroos, as well as any avid soccer enthusiast who is a
doctor, together for an interstate round robin.

The weekend will also serve as a selection trial to join the Docceroos for The World Medical Football Championships 2015, Long Beach California and the Over 45s 7 a side team to compete in parallel in the Veteran's Cup.

For further information, please see http://docceroos.com.au/index.php/trials

Salsa (Students as Lifestyle Advocates) & Triple A (Adolescent Asthma Action) Programs.....

Triple A (Adolescent Asthma Action) is the 1st peer-led education program to improve the health and wellbeing of students with asthma.

With a collaborative team from the University of Sydney, Western Sydney high schools and the Sydney West Local Health District, led by Project Director A/Prof Smita Shah, an innovative student-centred approach is used to enable students to become the drivers of both the teaching and learning processes.

For further information regarding these programs, please visit Salsa & Triple A Programs or www.facebook.com/TripleAProgram

Congratulations to.....

Congratulations to Cassanne Eccleston on the birth of her gorgeous daughter, Lily Grace, on Monday, 14 July 2014.

One of our Year 4 students, Kristine De Jesus, who “has never won anything in her life” is now the proud owner of a new Ipad Mini thanks to the Royal Australian & New Zealand College of Radiologists.

Students were invited to take part in the evaluation of new teaching units “Online Modules for Appropriate Imaging Referrals”. All students who completed the trial went into the draw and Kristine was the lucky winner. We’re sure she’ll use this serious prize to expand her knowledge and assist her learning and will never, ever be tempted to play Candy Crush!

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:**

- Med 2 Summative OSCE examiners during November 2014

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**Medical Student Elective Reports...**

**Neville Fields, Flinders University - ICU**

Final year medical school electives were something that I had been excitedly thinking about since the beginning of med school and I never imagined truthfully I would do one of them in Sydney... but I am so glad that I did.

Working in the Westmead ICU was an incredible experience for me as a final year student and made a big impact on me. The team of clinicians from the most junior through to the most senior all made me feel so welcome and were always so keen to teach. I found my time in the ICU to strengthen my confidence in critical care and has removed a great deal of fear and apprehension I felt for the unstable patient.

Not only was my time in hospital wonderful, but I fell in love with Sydney and the people. I somehow in 6 weeks made a wonderful group of friends and found myself catching the train into the city numerous times a week for drinks, outings and dinners. I attended a Gala Ball, the Opera, went out on the town a couple of nights and even got to see some of Bondi and Wollongong. I now feel that I know what it would be like to live in Sydney and work in Westmead Hospital and that makes me truly grateful.

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**Neville ten Den, Radboud University, The Netherlands - ED**

Two months ago I arrived in Sydney for my 8-week elective emergency medicine. After a nice welcome from Angela and Ray, I did some sightseeing in Sydney on the weekend in fantastic weather! Didn’t feel like winter to me!

On Monday, I then started my elective in the ED. During the first week I was a bit overwhelmed; so many patients, so many staff and different approaches. Luckily I got used to it fast and in the remaining 7 weeks I saw a lot of patients, took histories and psychical examinations and I even did an ambulance ride along. I really enjoyed the opportunity of seeing all different sorts of medical problems and on top of that doing this in a beautiful foreign country. Also, the 3 days of Hospital Week 2014 were the icing on the cake! This experience will forever stay with me and helps me in the doctor I will become. Thank you all so much!