

# MedEd Newsletter

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 7

WEDNESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2009

## The Medical Education Interest Group @UNSW

Welcome to the seventh and final MedEd newsletter this year. Nominations are open for the Faculty L&T Awards, and coming up soon—the faculty's own **Learning and Teaching Forum** on Weds. 2nd Dec, lunch provided. Get writing your paper now! All are welcome—so please invite a friend to come along. I look forward to seeing you there.

*Regards, RT (Ed)*

### Coming Events

- *Call for abstracts for our own L&T Forum to be held on Weds. Dec 2nd (see below)*
- *Open for Nomination: the Faculty L&T Awards (see adjacent)*
- **CONNECTIONS** *lunchtime meetings held weekly by L&T@UNSW. These are educational meetings for teachers; see page 2 for more detail.*

### Report from the October MedEd

1. Assessment: John Barnard gave a fascinating talk what can be learnt from setting and analyzing results from exam questions.
2. Research in Education (2): Ethics approval and design. Many thanks to A/Prof Helen Worth for her stimulating talk. The PPT and Lectopia recording from the presentation will be going up online soon via: <http://www.med.unsw.edu.au/medweb.nsf/page/MedEd+Seminars>

### Congratulations to the following on their promotion to Associate Professor:

Jason Abbott, SWCH

Chris Hughes, SPHCM/MESO

Gary Velan, SOMS/MESO

All are excellent teachers who are also well known for their contribution to curriculum design and convening. Chris and Gary are also active in educational development and research. Well done all!

### Faculty Learning and Teaching Awards—open for nomination

Faculty Learning & Teaching Awards; nominations for the 2009 L&T Awards are to be submitted by **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Nov**. Please note the addition of a new category for an award for Professional & Technical Staff.

Applications should be forwarded to Associate Professor Philip Jones, Associate Dean (Education) by email – [Philip.jones@unsw.edu.au](mailto:Philip.jones@unsw.edu.au)

Hard copies may be delivered to the Medicine Education and Student Office. Further information and nomination forms are available on the Faculty website: <http://www.med.unsw.edu.au/medweb.nsf/page/Awards>. For advice please contact Rachel [rachelt@unsw.edu.au](mailto:rachelt@unsw.edu.au) Tel: 93858038

## 2nd Annual MedEd Learning and Teaching Forum—Call for papers

It is nearing the end of the year, and we are all weary, but take a deep breath and submit a paper for this forum. It aims to bring together the many teachers and educationists within the faculty for a networking occasion, and is also to provide the chance for those who are doing research in L&T to air their work, present papers in progress and discuss problematic teaching topics. Video-conferencing facilities are available and should be booked with Rachel.

**Morning tea and lunch will be provided so please RSVP attendance by Fri 27th Nov.**

**The following presentations on *medical education or relevant learning and teaching topic* are sought:**

**A Long research paper**—20 mins with 5-10 mins discussion time. Papers in progress; papers that have been or will be presented in other fora are all welcome. Abstract 250 words max.

**B Short presentation**— 10 mins with 5-10 mins discussion time. Suggested format: Problem—Solution—Effectiveness of implemented change. Abstract 150 words max

**C Poster presentation**— have you presented a poster this year but not had a chance to discuss it locally? Do you need to prepare one for next year? Abstract 150 words max. Posters will be displayed in the meeting room and discussed over the coffee break.

**Please send abstracts along with a short bio (3 lines) by 5pm on Mon 23rd November to Rachel: [rachelt@unsw.edu.au](mailto:rachelt@unsw.edu.au) Tel: 93858038.** A programme will be emailed out to participants by Weds. 25th Nov.

>>MedEd L&T Forum<<

**Wednesday 2nd December 9.30am — 1.30pm**

**Venue: LG02 Seminar Room, Lower Ground floor, Wallace Wurth**

## SOTL and Professional Development

### L&T@UNSW

#### A New initiative launched this Spring: CONNECTIONS

Held on **Wednesdays, 12-1:30pm** at the Climate Change seminar room, Level 4 Mathews (next door from the 416 L&T Workshop room).

Next seminar meeting is on

**Weds. 18th November**

**Researching Learning and Teaching**

The following week:

**Weds. 26th November**

**Connections - Exploring Threshold Concepts**

Please register online at [http://www.edtec.unsw.edu.au/event\\_rego/events.cfm](http://www.edtec.unsw.edu.au/event_rego/events.cfm)

All the information and resources related to the Connections seminar series will be disseminated through the Connections blog: <http://blogs.unsw.edu.au/connections>. You are welcome to comment on blog entries.

#### Request from L&T for suggestions

If you would like to propose a theme for a future seminar in the Connections seminar series, please send an email with your suggestions to Ann Wilson, [annwi@unsw.edu.au](mailto:annwi@unsw.edu.au)

### Masters of Philosophy Higher Education

If you are interested in finding out more about this excellent way to progress your own teaching education please contact the program coordinator Jan Mclean [jan.mclean@unsw.edu.au](mailto:jan.mclean@unsw.edu.au)

Information about the program can be found at <http://www.handbook.unsw.edu.au/research/programs/2010/2359.html>

### UNSW Library

For library research support and help with UNSWorks etc speak to our Outreach Librarian: Toni Gifford [t.gifford@unsw.edu.au](mailto:t.gifford@unsw.edu.au) Tel: 9385 8241

### REPORT on MedEd 09, Oct 30<sup>th</sup> / 31<sup>st</sup> 2009

#### By Dr Meredith Makeham, Course Convenor Phase 3 Primary Care.

Last week I attended the 'MedEd09' conference in Sydney, which was titled "**Investing in our Medical Workforce**". This was the third in a biennial services of national meetings aimed at advancing medical education in Australia and New Zealand, and chaired by Professor Neville Yeomans, Dean of the University of Western Sydney. Attendees included Deans and educators from Medical Schools across Australia and New Zealand, representatives of state and federal departments of health, postgraduate medical education councils, medical colleges, and medical student organization. The focus of this conference was on finding solutions for the downstream problems and pressures being placed on the health system, as a result of the near **doubling of undergraduate medical students numbers around Australia between 2005 and 2013**. The continuum of medical education from university, the pre-vocational training years and through to vocational specialisation are all affected by this increase, and building training capacity was explored in all of these areas.

Some of the highlights included lessons shared from the UK's experience by keynote speaker Professor Sir John Tooke, and reflecting on our trans-Tasman neighbour's perspectives from recent president of the RANZCOG Dr Ken Clark, who reminded us that **every doctor is a doctor in training**. A/Prof Richard Murray, Dean of James Cook Uni Medical School, turned us on our heads and made us look at Australia from a regional perspective. He emphasised that **there is an imperative for regional Australia to capture a share of the medical graduate growth** and this should be regarded as a **national policy emergency**. There was a lot of discussion about the importance of **supporting vocational training models for generalists**, not just GPs but also general surgeons and general physicians, which will be in much greater demand as we move towards an aging population with more complex health needs.

I left this meeting with many ideas about **building training capacity in community settings**, and hope that the increased number of graduates will result in great opportunities for improving our medical education and health system. It was inspiring to see the good will and leadership displayed by the range of medical educators in attendance in partnership with other delegates, including reps of college, governments and our medical students.

**HERDSA News** — Accepts short articles on current educational topics (up to 1800 words). See the September 2009 issue at: <http://www.herdsa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/HERDSA%20News%20Volume%2031%20No%202%20September%202009.pdf> Run your idea past the Editor.

### INVITATION FOR CONTRIBUTORS TO A SPECIAL ISSUE OF the HERD Journal = "Critical Thinking in Higher Education"

Contributions are invited for this special issue. Papers should be submitted by December 30th, 2009 for an issue to appear in June 2010 or to meet the production date to be scheduled by the publishers.

Papers should be no longer than 7000 words inclusive of references and follow the stylistic conventions of the HERD journal. All papers will undergo peer review. Papers should be submitted to the guest editor, Dr W. Martin Davies by email: [wmdavies@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:wmdavies@unimelb.edu.au) For manuscript guidelines see: [http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~db=all~content=t713423834~tab=submit~mode=paper\\_submission\\_instructions](http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~db=all~content=t713423834~tab=submit~mode=paper_submission_instructions)

Papers should be original, previously unpublished papers. They can be comparative reviews, empirically-based papers or reflective case studies. For the HERD Editorial Policy, see: [http://www.herdsa.org.au/?page\\_id=189](http://www.herdsa.org.au/?page_id=189)

## MedEd Interest Learning and Teaching Forum 2009

This is a great networking event and a chance to share and present proposed, current or finished research in Medical Education / Learning and Teaching to your peers and colleagues in a semi-formal setting. Open to the MedEd Interest group and all other interested parties. Please see Page 1 for details of the call for papers, short presentations and posters. Video-conferencing facilities are available—please contact Rachel to link up.

## MedEd 2009 Seminar Programme

Date	Time	Topic	Location
Weds. 2 <sup>nd</sup> December <b>Lunch provided</b> <b>All welcome</b>	09.30 – 13.30	<b>MedEd L&amp;T Forum</b> With presentation of Faculty L&T Awards and FULT gradu- ates	<b>Moved to LG02</b> <b>Seminar Room in</b> <b>Lower Ground</b> <b>floor in Wallace</b> <b>Wurth</b>

## More Upcoming Conferences for 2010 – submission dates are closing already!

### OTTAWA: 14th Ottawa Conference on the Assessment of Competence in Medicine and the Health-care Professions Conference

To be held in Miami 15-20 May 2010. Submission of abstracts by 15 November. <http://www.ottawaconference.org/>

### 3rd Biennial Threshold Concepts Symposium

To take place at UNSW on 1-2 July, 2010. The website - including the call for papers - is available at <http://www.thresholdconcepts2010.unsw.edu.au/>

Further information from: Jan McLean, Learning & Teaching@UNSW, 9385 2509, email: [j.mclean@unsw.edu.au](mailto:j.mclean@unsw.edu.au)

### The Use of Video Games for Health, Game Connect Asia Pacific Workshop, December 6th, Melbourne

<http://www.gameconnectap.com>

The use of video games in the health sector is one example of the emerging use of games for "serious" applications. Serious games offer alternate to traditional means of informing and educating people across a range of domains from medicine to the military. In health contexts, video games have been used to: train surgeons in laparoscopic surgery, teach children about a range of health and dietary issues, educating medical students about fall risk in older people through to improving cancer-related knowledge in adolescents with cancer.

The Games for Health forum brings together the Australian game development industry with healthcare providers, clinicians and health technology developers. It is intended for games and health practitioners, and for academics from both fields. This sector constitutes a rapidly growing \$6.6 billion international market, that Australian companies are well placed to access. Experts from the medical and video game industries will speak across a range of topics including educational impact e.g.: The use of virtual 3D environments (eg SecondLife) for health education and training, Mandy Salomon, Smart Services

Please feel free to register at <http://www.gameconnectap.com> if you wish to find out more about this exciting new area of research and development. Sent in by: Dr Stuart Smith, PhD, MSc, Senior Research Officer, Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute [s.smith@powmri.edu.au](mailto:s.smith@powmri.edu.au)

**A full list of upcoming conferences is available at:**

**<http://www.med.unsw.edu.au/medweb.nsf/page/SOTL>**



## MedEd Contact and Newsletter editor

Dr Rachel Thompson  
L&T Fellow  
Medical Faculty, MESO,  
UNSW Medical Admin Building B27  
cnr High and Botany Streets

Phone: 02 938 58038  
Fax: 02 938 51874

Email: [rachel.t@unsw.edu.au](mailto:rachel.t@unsw.edu.au)

The MedEd Interest Group formed in November 2006 following a research presentation forum held at UNSW. It aims to bring together medical faculty staff interested in education issues to support scholarly practice, encourage research and create new networks amongst its members.

Our main activities include a monthly seminar series, this monthly newsletter, and an annual research forum. We will keep you in touch with upcoming grants, conferences, awards and new L&T publications, innovations and lots, lots more...

### Feedback requests

**Please contribute**—start writing those book reviews! And if you read some interesting publications, or find new or exciting L&T or medical education websites, then please send them in. What are your best teaching tips? —send them in for “**Teaching tip of the Month**” (<100 words please).

What else would you like to see in the Newsletter?

Send ASAP to [rachel.t@unsw.edu.au](mailto:rachel.t@unsw.edu.au)

### Please keep your details up to date for the MedEd mailing list:

If your email has changed or you wish to be join our mailings, please update the mailing list by sending your name, email address and current research / area of interest to: Vicki Truskett on [V.Truskett@unsw.edu.au](mailto:V.Truskett@unsw.edu.au)

## Don't forget the MedEd Website

with **NEW** resources to help you teach, and lots more!

Find it at: [www.med.unsw.edu.au](http://www.med.unsw.edu.au) under “For Staff” / Learning and Teaching

*“I touch the future. I teach.”*

*Christa McAuliffe. (1948-1986)*

*Teacher and Space Shuttle crew member on the ill-fated Challenger mission in 1986, USA*

### Teaching Tip

Whether you are marking exam scripts or projects or assignments or presentations... always return to the beginning 5-10 and remark them. For assignments or presentations etc this is so that you mark them in the context of the cohort or the *achievable* criteria. For exam scripts—this is to ensure that your later generosity (we mostly get more generous as we progress throughout the pile) is shared with the unfortunate few at the beginning of the alphabet. (*Ed.*)

## Web-site of the month sent in by S. Mobbs

Medworm

<http://www.medworm.com/rss/aboutmedworm.php>

This is an RSS aggregator and search engine for Medicine = useful for keeping up to date with the latest news

*Please share the good L&T websites that you come across with the MedEd Google group!*