



MedEd Newsletter

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 8

TUESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2008

Welcome to the final newsletter of the year

from the Medical Education Interest Group @UNSW

Thank you all for your involvement, attendance and encouragement over this year. I look forward to seeing you again in the New Year with our new seminar series, at new times with stimulating new topics. Please send in your requests now!

Wishing you a restful but fruitful few months' break til we meet again in March. RT (Ed).

MedEd News

Hot news

Don't miss the:

*HERDSA Conference 2009
6-9th July in Darwin:
The Student Experience.*

Keynote speakers on:

- *What is the one thing we should do to increase student engagement and success on our campus?*
- *Diversity and the student experience: targeting specific student needs in a multi-sector university.*
- *Taking the distance out of off-campus learning.*

Early bird submissions due in by 20th Nov (to allow for booking of cheaper travel to the NT):

[http://
conference.herdsa.org.au/2009/](http://conference.herdsa.org.au/2009/)

Report from the November Meeting—

Assessing professionalism in medical students

A good sized audience listened to A/Prof Tony O'Sullivan present his interesting findings on professionalism in medical students at UNSW. The findings stimulated a productive discussion about students' ethical and moral behaviour and whether this affects or even determines their quality of practice following graduation.

It is clear that the UNSW Academic Misconduct policy sits at too high a level to play a useful role in guiding students through their uni years and is also ineffectual in all but very severe cases of misconduct. However, there is plenty of teaching in the medical program on professionalism (often under a different name). But, is this enough, and is it having the desired effect?

There is no teaching that specifically addresses the key areas that this study found to weak.

Consequently, many suggestions were made on how the teaching of professionalism could be improved, including more content on developing key skills (e.g. record-keeping, punctuality and time management) and emphasising basic morals and ethics (e.g. honesty, respect) and other essentials of professional practice. Conveying to students the importance of this key capability was also deemed to be crucial—requiring that we, as teachers (both at uni and in clinical practice), act as exemplary role models and also align teaching with assessment. The essentials of this discussion will be taken further through Phase committees /Ethics and QMP convenors. A working party is already developing a *Fitness to Practice Policy* for the Medical Program. This study's findings are published (co-author: Sue Toohey) in *Medical Teacher* 2008, 30, 3, 280-6. http://sfx.nun.unsw.edu.au:9003/sfx_local?issn=0142-159X&date=2008&volume=30&issue=3&page=280

MedEd Seminar meetings will recommence in March 2009: more information on Page 3.

Desperately seeking examiners:

The Phase 3 Biomed Correlation Viva Examination is coming up on Weds 26th & Thurs 27th Nov at UNSW (and also at rural school sites). Hospital based examiners are especially needed—please contact Gary Velan if you are able to examine. G.Velan@unsw.edu.au

Phase 2 Portfolio examinations take place on Weds to Fri 3rd to 5th December. Hospital and uni based teachers who are familiar with the Phase two program and graduate capabilities or have examined in the Phase one portfolio are invited to take part. Please nominate the days when you will be available by going to:

[http://notes1-med/
PortExamPreferences2007.nsf/
RecordPrefs-2008?OpenForm](http://notes1-med/PortExamPreferences2007.nsf/RecordPrefs-2008?OpenForm)

Call for Papers = = = MedEd Interest Group L&T Forum

This forum 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.

The following presentations on a *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 **Weds 19th November** to Rachel: rachel@unsw.edu.au. A programme will be emailed out to participants by Mon 24th Nov.

>>MedEd L&T Forum<<

Wednesday 3rd December

9.30am — 1.30pm

Venue: SG rooms 6-9, Mathews Basement

Lunch will be provided = Please RSVP attendance by Weds 26th Nov

Please email your queries or contact Rachel on: 938 58038.

SOTL and Professional Development

SOTL debate

Professor Sue Clegg gave an interesting and rather controversial keynote presentation titled "The struggle for connections" at this year's ISSOTL conference in Atlanta. She took a theoretical and philosophical look at the essence of SOTL and questioned the overly theoretical direction that SOTL has taken in recent years, bringing it back to the concrete and practical.

If you are looking for a good topic to discuss at morning coffee, you may find this wonderfully written speech at:

[http://www.leedsmet.ac.uk/carnegie/Keynote address ISSOTL 17 10 2008.pdf](http://www.leedsmet.ac.uk/carnegie/Keynote%20address%20ISSOTL%2017%2010%202008.pdf)

ISSOTL 2008

The 2008 ISSOTL Conference "Celebrating Connections" was held in Atlanta USA last month and from all accounts this was "less like the last hoorah than expected" with lively debates and interesting keynotes, papers and presentations.

ISSOTL conference papers don't tend to be published as a collected proceedings but keynotes should go up soon on the website and the program with abstracts (beware: a huge download file) is available at:

<http://www.issotl.org/ISSOTL2008Program.pdf>

From UNSW Library

The library would welcome some feedback on the usefulness of **Medical Matrix** as it has fallen out of use by staff and students:

<http://info.library.unsw.edu.au/cgi-bin/local/access/access.cgi?url=http://www.medmatrix.org/>

The subscription is quite expensive and has been problematic the past few years. Please send your feedback comments to Kate Dunn (Medicine Faculty Outreach Librarian) : kate.dunn@unsw.edu.au

What's on @ L&T@UNSW?

UNILT workshop

Friday 14th Nov 10am -12pm
in SGR7, Mathews Basement

This workshop provides teachers with practical strategies for effective and efficient online teaching which can be adapted and integrated into their existing teaching methodologies and/or their existing courses.

Strategies such as planning the structure and assessments for an online or blended course, actively engaging students in discussion boards, managing student expectations in an online environment and incorporating flexibility will be discussed.

Alex Steel (School of Law) and **Simon McIntyre & Karin Watson** (COFA Online) will draw on their experience in teaching in a range of postgraduate and undergraduate programs, in fully online, blended and face-to-face formats.

Research Showcase #4:

Meeting on Weds 12th Nov 2008 (1230-2pm)
L&T workshop room 416, Level 4, Mathews Building
Bring your own lunch.

For the workshop list for November and to register for these workshops, please go to: http://www.edtec.unsw.edu.au/event_reqo/events.cfm

UNSW Centre for Health Informatics is holding a 2-day workshop on:

Systems Thinking and Modelling for Health: Simple Models for Complex System Dynamics

November 27-28th at AGSM, Kensington Campus.
Application areas include teaching as well as research—e.g. of health care systems, safety and quality of care, physiology models etc. More information: <http://www.chi.unsw.edu.au/CHIweb.nsf/page/Workshops>

Review of this Month's Publications

This month, a new publication from **BEME** shows that inter-professional education is effective in 'enabling knowledge and skills for collaborative working to be learnt': BEME Guide No 9: "A Best Evidence Systematic Review of Interprofessional Education" Hammick M, Freeth D, Koppel I, Reeves S & Barr H available from: <http://www.bemecollaboration.org/beme/pages/reviews/hammick.html>

BEME is a collaboration that produces evidence based reviews on current medical education topics—so it's worthwhile dropping into the site every now and then to see what is available.

Previous reviews, including "How can experience in clinical and community settings contribute to early medical education? A BEME systematic review" (by Dr Tim Dornan), are also available—have a browse at: <http://www.bemecollaboration.org/beme/pages/published.html> (RT)

MedEd 2009 seminar programme

Next year's MedEd seminar series will begin again in March with an alternating programme of eight lunchtime and early morning seminars, workshops and research showcases.

Topics suggested so far:

Guest speakers / workshops:

- The when and how of ethics approval for teaching evaluation and other MedEd studies
- Evaluating your own teaching
- Professional development– the teaching element
- Basic statistics for teachers
- Getting published

Research Showcases:

- Student learning— theory into practice—presentations from within the faculty
- Aligning Assessment— theory into practice—presentations from within the faculty

Polling will take place to decide the best meeting times as well as the final 8 most popular topics. The polling booth will be opened at the L&T Forum on 3rd Dec and continue for 1 week afterwards. (Details will be emailed to the MedEd group). **Cast your vote for a say in the group's events!**

In the meantime please email Rachel rachelt@unsw.edu.au with more topics.

For Your Diary – Not to be missed!

| Date and time | Seminar Topic | Speakers | Location |
|--|--|--|--|
| Weds 3 rd Dec 0930 –1330 | L&T RESEARCH FORUM — presentation of proposed, current or finished research in Medical Education or Learning and Teaching @UNSW | Open to MedEd group and all other interested parties | SGS6-8 under Mathews Building, Upper Kensington Campus |

L&T Resources

RefWorks --- an online research management, writing and collaboration tool -- is designed to help researchers easily gather, manage, store and share all types of information, as well as generate citations and bibliographies.

If you are not an Endnote /Reference Manager user and are looking for a way to manage your literature research and references, take a look at **RefWorks**. This is an online reference management system that is easy to use and accessible anywhere using your login and password—useful to those of us with several workplaces / computers and those lucky enough to jetset around the world. Students will find it even more useful—so pass the word around.

Access via UNSW Library Sirius—Find Resource—RefWorks or use this link from a UNSW network PC / Mac:

<http://info.library.unsw.edu.au/cgi-bin/local/access/access.cgi?url=http://www.refworks.com/refworks>

To take a look or try the online tutorials, see: <http://www.refworks.com/>

Note: Trial dates 7/10/08 - 7/11/08 but we have been told the Library will be procuring a subscription in 2009

Please note: users have to individually register to use this resource.

1. When you link to this resource you will be taken to the 'Welcome to RefWorks' page
2. ALL (both on and off campus) users should access via the '**Remote Access**' tab
3. Complete the blank field with our Group Code of RWUONSWales and click on 'Go to Login'
4. If using RefWorks for the first time click on New to RefWorks? 'Sign up for an Individual Account'.
5. Complete the registration page and create an individual log-in and password. Please use your university email address.
6. A confirmation email detailing your group code, log-in name and password will be sent.
7. You will be taken straight into RefWorks to begin research.
8. Each subsequent time you access RefWorks use the Remote Access tab, fill in the Group Code of RWUONSWales and then use your nominated log-in name and password.

MedEd Contact and Newsletter editor

Dr Rachel Thompson
L&T Fellow

Medical Faculty
OME

30 Botany St

Phone: 02 938 58038

Fax: 02 938 51120

Email: rachel@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 a twice yearly 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

Hot Seminar Topics for 2009

Please send your ideas /requests for seminar topics or suggested speakers to rachel@unsw.edu.au

For your Newsletter next year—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@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

Take a look at the MedEd Website!

Find it at: www.med.unsw.edu.au under “For Staff” /
Learning and Teaching

Info on the key conferences for 2009 is already up!

Quote of the month:

"You teach best what you most need to learn." Richard David Bach

Web-link of the month:

Our students have been trialling the “BMJ OnExamination” site at:

<http://info.library.unsw.edu.au/cgi-bin/local/access/access.cgi?url=http://www.onexamination.com/international>

Take a look and see what you think...

Please send any comments to Kate Dunn kate.dunn@unsw.edu.au

Please note: Users have to individually register to use this resource.

1. When you log in you will get the OnExamination homepage.
2. Towards the bottom of the page you will see the question “got an institutional access code?”. The access code is *newsouthwalestri- al2008*. Click on Submit.
3. You will get the ‘Sign in or register page’
4. If using the resource for the first time fill in your email address and choose the ‘No, I am a new member’ option. Click on “Continue”
5. Choose your password, select email preferences and agree to the terms and conditions. Click on ‘Continue’
6. You can now begin to use the resource.
7. Next time you access OnExamination you just need to click on “Sign in to my account’ in the top right and use your email and chosen password.

Share the good L&T websites that you come across with the MedEd Google group!

How about joining the UNSW Med Ed Google Group? - it'll be THE place to discuss SOTL and medical education topics between now and the start of uni 2009!

The Google Group is for contact and discussion in-between meetings, for hot topics, sharing of recent developments and innovations and also for networking and needs new members to get us going! If you would like to join up, send your details (name and email address) to rachel@unsw.edu.au. See <http://groups.google.com.au/> for info.