



MedEd Newsletter

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 2

FRIDAY 7TH MAY 2010

Medical Education Interest Group @UNSW

Busy time, busy teachers. Some useful workshops and meetings coming up if you can grab the time to attend— L&T Connections workshops (pg 2) and MedEd (pg 3). New innovations in graphs in our Website of the month and good articles on Professionalism in medical students from the BMJ (see below). Hope to see you at the meeting next week.
Regards, RT (Ed)

Coming Events

- *L&T CONNECTIONS next meeting: Tues 25th May 12.30-2.00pm, Showcasing Teaching. Presentation by VC Awards for Teaching Excellence Winners see pg 2.*
- *Next MedEd meeting Tues 11th May at 8.00am LG02, Wallace Wurth. Giving Difficult Feedback = academic failure, professionalism, academic misconduct.*
- *L&T Focus on Assessment Forum Friday 21st May, 9.00am - 1.30pm, Tyree Room, Scientia Building (see pg 2).*
- *Don't forget the 3rd Biennial Threshold Concepts Symposium 1-2 July at UNSW. Discount for UNSW staff.*

Report on April MedEd meetings

There was a good turn out for the newly formed STinG (SoMS Teaching Interest Group) on 14th April. The STinGers are a keen bunch and insect related puns were soon buzzing around the room. Contact Gary Velan for more information: g.velan@unsw.edu.au. RT gave a brief talk on professional development in medical education. If you would like further advice please contact RT (rachel.t@unsw.edu.au).

The main MedEd meeting that followed was a repeat of the successful Research in Education talk by RT from last year. A positive session on the key steps in setting up L&T research. Next meeting: Tues 11th May at 8am (see pg 3)

PowerPoints for both these talks will go up in the MedEd Seminar resources area: <http://www.med.unsw.edu.au/medweb.nsf/page/MedEd+Seminars>

Website of the month

Thanks to Prof. Tom Torda for sending in this fascinating website that has graphing software and resources:

GAPMINDER WORLD: <http://www.gapminder.org/for-teachers/>

Amazing interactive world maps showing global trends in areas such as "Wealth and health of nations" and the "HIV epidemic" but also downloads for making your own statistical maps and graphs. A must see, must have, cool resource...

Reading topic this month = Professionalism and Misconduct

Students in difficulty can present in many ways and at different points in their training. How important is this and what can we do to help? Dr Alison Reid (Medical Director, New South Wales Medical Board) has written a stimulating editorial about fitness to practice to introduce a new small study from the UK on risk factors at medical school associated with later misconduct: http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/340/apr27_1/c2169

The main findings of this study were that male sex, a lower socioeconomic background, and early academic difficulties at medical school were independently associated with being a case (having had a later, proven case of severe professional misconduct): http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/abstract/340/apr27_1/c2040. For further reading, there are a couple of interesting articles from last year in the Student BMJ (free = just create a login):

Fitness to practise. New guidance tells UK students how they should behave—and what happens if they fall short of the mark. By Toby Reynolds. Student BMJ 2009;17:b1464

<http://student.bmj.com/student/view-article.html?id=sbmj.b1487>

Identifying problem medical students early. How can medical schools spot students who won't make the grade? By: Richard Hays. Student BMJ 2009;17:a2840

<http://student.bmj.com/student/view-article.html?id=sbmj.a2840>

The **MedEd meeting on Tues 11th May at 8am in LG02 of Wallace Wurth** will discuss what you can do to help students in difficulty and give you useful pointers and policies to support this.

SOTL and Professional Development

L&T@UNSW Connections

Coming up in the next couple of months:

Monday 24th May
12.30-2.00pm

Connections in Learning and Teaching: Showcasing Teaching

Presentation by 2009 Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Teaching Excellence Winners

Peter Sheldon and Tracy Wilcox, ASB who will share their practice in learning and teaching.

Tuesday 8th June
12.30-2.00pm

Connections in Learning and Teaching: Storytelling- Innovating to Engage Students

Presentation by Frances Miley, School of Business, ADFA

Wednesday 23rd June
12.30-2.00pm

Connections in Learning and Teaching: Presentation by Heinz Harant Award Winner

Richard Buckland, Engineering, 2009 Heinz Harant Award Winner for Teaching Excellence, will present his teaching practice.

Please note: No lunch will be provided at these events. Please bring along your own lunch if you wish. **Register at the following site:**

http://www.edtec.unsw.edu.au/event_rego/events.cfm

For more information on L&T topics see the: [Learning and Teaching @ UNSW website](#)

Focusing on Assessment 2010

Mid-year L&T colloquium on assessment good practice, emerging issues and challenges.

Friday 21st May, registration from 9.00am.
9.30am - 1.30pm, Tyree Room, John Niland Scientia Building.

To register and find out more see: http://learningandteaching.unsw.edu.au/content/about_us/2010Mid-YearColloquium.cfm?ss=0

Learn more about Learning & Teaching

Try the FULT and GCULT courses available free for teachers at UNSW = see details available at:

http://learningandteaching.unsw.edu.au/content/LT/capacity/prof_dev.cfm?ss=2

Conferences for 2010

3rd Biennial Threshold Concepts Symposium

Being held at UNSW on 1st and 2nd July.

The website - including registration - 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

ANZAME 2010:

'Overcoming BARRIERS, RE(E)Forming Professional Practice'

13-16th July at James Cook University, Townsville, Queensland

<http://www.jcu.edu.au/anzame10/>

For the full list of upcoming conferences and submission /registration details see:

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

UNSW Library

For library research support and help with UNSWorks etc speak to our Outreach Librarians:

Kate Dunn - T: 9385 1012 M: 0434 181 908

Email: kate.dunn@unsw.edu.au

Covering the Schools of:

Public Health and Community Medicine, Medical Sciences, Psychiatry, Women's and Children's Health and Centres affiliated with these Schools

Toni Le Roux - T: 9385 8241 or M: 0411 103 269

Email: t.leroux@unsw.edu.au

Covering:

National Centres, Lowy Cancer Centre, Clinical Schools, Conjoint and liaison with Hospital Libraries

Quote of the month

"Whereas he who has a taste for every sort of knowledge and who is curious to learn and is never satisfied, may be justly termed a philosopher."

Plato's Republic

Courtesy of Dr Matthew Links (St George Hospital)

MedEd Interest Group Seminars 2010

May's MedEd group is on a challenging topic = how to help students in difficulty. A/Prof Tony O'Sullivan will discuss the best way to give students difficult feedback on their lack of progress or poor behavior, including mention of the current guidelines on academic misconduct, fitness to practice policy and related issues.

If you are in SoMS don't forget your STinG meeting will be next month (Wed. 9th June) prior to full MedEd meeting (see * below) —contact Gary Velan g.velan@unsw.edu.au for more information.

Video-conferencing can be arranged for the MedEd meetings—please contact Rachel (rachel.t@unsw.edu.au).

For your diary

Date	Time	Topic	Location
Weds 14 th April*	1200-1300	Getting started in Educational Research. Resources available at: http://www.med.unsw.edu.au/medweb.nsf/page/MedEd+Seminars	
Tues 11th May	0800-0930	Helping Students in Difficulty: Giving difficult feedback, Academic Misconduct, Fitness to Practice policy and related issues A/Prof Tony O'Sullivan	Seminar Rm LG02 Lower Ground Floor, Wallace Wurth Building, Kensington Campus
Weds 9 th June*	1200-1300	Conference practice presentations— <i>email RT if you are interested in doing a trial run</i>	LG02, LG floor WW
Mid-year break			
Tues 10 th August	0800-0930	Conference presentations and feedback	TBA
Weds 15 th Sept*	1200-1300	TBA	TBA
Tues 12 th October	0800-0930	TBA	TBA
Weds 10 th November*	1200-1300	TBA	TBA
Weds 8 th December	0930- 1400	Faculty of Medicine Learning and Teaching Forum	Seminar Rm LG02 Lower Ground Floor, Wallace Wurth Building, Kensington Campus.

Discover the Medical Educational Research Resource. This month = "MSOD"

MSOD = the *Medical Schools Outcomes Database (MSOD) and Longitudinal Tracking Project*.

This is the Australian Government's main data collection tool for medical student information—set up through the organisation of the Medical Deans Australia and New Zealand. All 19 existing medical schools in Australia agreed on a minimum data set to be collected about medical students commencing all medical programs from 2006 onwards. Demographic, educational and career choice data is being collected longitudinally with tracking of students into post-graduate years. The data reports since 2006 are available with some (limited) but interesting data on demographics and early career intentions of new medical students.

Website accessible at: <http://www.medicaldeans.org.au/msod.html>


 UNSW
MEDICINE

MedEd contact and newsletter editor

Dr Rachel Thompson
L&T Fellow Medical Faculty
Medical Education and Student Office
UNSW Medical Admin Building B27
cnr High and Botany Streets

Phone: 02 938 58038

Fax: 02 938 51874

Email: 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...

Your newsletter

Please contribute—start writing those book reviews and send in info on new L&T research. If you read interesting articles or find new and 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

To subscribe to the MedEd email group:

Send an email to majordomo@explode.unsw.edu.au with the following command in the body of your email message:
subscribe meded-interest-group

Note: Do not include anything else in the body of the email and leave the subject heading blank

Don't forget the MedEd site with support for new teachers, resources to help you teach, previous seminar and training recordings, and lots more!

See < Learning and Teaching > under "For Staff" on the faculty website:
<http://www.med.unsw.edu.au/>

SPOTLIGHT on learning & teaching research

L&T 2010 Seed grant fund successes

Well done to all those who made a big effort to apply for this grant round. Congratulations to the three medical faculty staff who were successful with awards of circa \$3000 seed fund grants for L&T research:

1. Innovative methods in teaching socio-cultural aspects of health to undergrad medical students:

Alison Rutherford is going to use her seed grant to employ a 2nd or 3rd year medical student to conduct two international literature reviews on innovative methods to teach social and cultural aspects of health, and public health methods, to undergraduate medical students. It is envisaged that this will lead on to both an ILP in this area for the relevant student, and an ALTC grant exploring how different universities in Australia teach these concepts. For more information or if you would like to be involved in this project please contact Alison on a.rutherford@unsw.edu.au.

2. Student and tutor perceptions of the Rural Clinical School (RCS) tutoring scheme:

The UNSW undergraduate medicine program admits 25% of students under the Rural Entry Scheme, in which rural background students may gain entry to medicine with a lower ATAR than general entry students. The RCS provides various supports to rural students including extra tutoring when the need arises. Under this scheme, students who are struggling with academic requirements are offered 2 hours per week tutoring for each course in which they are having difficulties. The one-on-one tutoring is provided by more senior rural background students who are paid but have not had any training in pedagogy.

During 2009, 14 rural students were tutored under this program, of which 5 were provided with tutoring for more than one course. Although the tutoring scheme has never had a formal evaluation, it is anecdotally well regarded. The aim of this research is to investigate the perceptions of both the tutored students and the tutors in order to identify the positive features of the tutoring experience as well as those features that are less helpful. The ultimate aim of this research is to assist in the development of a proposed tutoring preparation course in order to better prepare tutors for their role. For more information please contact Mandy Ampt on m.ampt@unsw.edu.au

3. Introducing undergraduate medical students to the health care needs of people with an intellectual disability:

Seed grant awarded to: A/Prof Julian Trollor, Department of Developmental Disability Neuropsychiatry, School of Psychiatry. More on this project in the next newsletter.