

# MedEd Newsletter

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 2

FRIDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2011



FACULTY OF MEDICINE

## Medical Education Interest Group @UNSW

Dear All

The untimely loss of Alan Hodgkinson (Associate Dean of Postgrad Education, SPHCM) last semester has left a huge hole in the teaching fabric of the faculty. We acknowledge the great work he achieved in both his own teaching practice and in the strategy planning and support for teaching within his school, the postgraduate courses and the wider faculty and university. His considered and consistent support was invaluable, and the gentle but critical mentoring that he gave so many teaching staff and students during his time at UNSW will not be forgotten. Our condolences go to his family and friends.

Regards, Rachel Thompson (Ed)

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## Upcoming Conferences

**AMEE** - *Inspire...and be inspired.*

Vienna, Austria

**Annual International Conference on Education & e-Learning (EeL 2011)** - Hotel Fort Canning, Singapore.

**4th Annual Threshold Concepts Symposium** - *From personal practice to communities of practice.*

Trinity College Dublin, Ireland.

For a full list and details of

upcoming conferences see:

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

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## MedEd Meetings

Our June meeting was a fantastic joint meeting with the STInG-SoLT group and the Science Faculty on the topic of Assessment:

**"How to design course assessments that are well aligned with course content and objectives".**

The session attracted over 40 enthusiastic attendees and was deftly facilitated by A/Prof Chris Hughes. You can access the presentations at: <http://www.med.unsw.edu.au/medweb.nsf/page/MedEd+Seminars>

## Next meeting:

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> August at 8am in Lower Ground of Wallace Wurth (LG03 Seminar room). Prof Phil Jones will talk on **"What can we learn from test results using item response theory?"** Tea, coffee and cake will be available. Please contact Rachel for video-conference link up.

## Teaching Staff Promotions

Congratulations to the many of our teaching staff who were promoted in this year's round of Senior Lecturer applications, including three who moved up on the "Teaching Only track". Please contact Rachel for advice on how to make the best of your teaching in promotion applications.

## ALTC citations

Congratulations to Dr Chinthaka Balasooriya and Dr Mark Hill who have each gained a prestigious citation for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning by the Australian Learning and Teaching Council. View more at:

<http://www.altc.edu.au/award-recipient>

## We wish a happy retirement...

...to the one and only A/ Prof Chris Hughes who has led us all across many sloughs and up many mountains in our intrepid trek to develop the new med program. He will be missed also for his advocacy for staff and teaching rights and in advising us on our careers as well. He will be sorely missed but we hope that he will visit us often and keep in touch. However, if he enjoys his retirement as we expect hopefully he won't have time to miss us at all!

## Learning & Teaching Month - September 2011

You are cordially invited to the  
**2011 Semester 2 Learning & Teaching Forum**  
**Assessment: Feedback and Beyond**  
**Friday 16th September 9am to 2pm**  
**Tyree Room, Scientia Building, UNSW**

**Keynote speaker:** Emeritus Professor Royce Sadler, Griffith University.

Prof Sadler is at Griffith Institute of Higher Education and has a keen interest in the assessment and feedback. See: <http://www.griffith.edu.au/professional-page/emeritus-professor-royce-sadler>

For more details on the forum and to register for the forum, go to:

<http://teaching.unsw.edu.au/forum-september-2011>

During the month of September there the L&T Fellows of each faculty will be arranging some joint L&T meetings on assessment topics, e.g. peer review – Watch this space!

## SOTL and Professional Development

### L&T@UNSW Connections

**Reframing the way we construct assessment: A student-centered approach.**

**Tuesday 2 August, 1-2pm, Goodsell LG19 Dr Adele Flood, Learning and Teaching Unit**

How to create student centred assessment tasks that help position assessment as learning for students. Dr Adele Flood will pose a series of questions that academics should ask themselves when developing assessment tasks for student learning.

**Learning to love group work: diversified task design to optimise group learning**

**Tuesday 16th Aug, 1-2pm, Goodsell LG29.**

Managing group work can be hard when your students say they don't like it - come and see some great ideas from academics who are making it work for themselves and their students, and ask them for their secrets. The discussion will be led by Dr Branka Spehar, Faculty of Science, Dr Christine van Vliet, Faculty of Medicine, and Janis Wardrop, Australian School of Business.

**For further info on Connections Seminars, see:**

<http://teaching.unsw.edu.au/connections>

Questions or themes to suggest? Contact Carolina Matheson: [c.matheson@unsw.edu.au](mailto:c.matheson@unsw.edu.au), ext 58636.

You must register to attend Connections seminars. BYO lunch.

**Register at the following site:**

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

**Check out the Connections blog** for useful write-ups / resources from past seminars, e.g. slides, notes, contacts, refs: <http://blogs.unsw.edu.au/connections/>

### Other Learning & Teaching Events / Groups

The **Foundations of University Learning and Teaching (FULT) program for UNSW teaching staff** consists of an intensive five-day workshop (taken consecutively in the week long course or as a set of Thursdays) and follow-up activities embedded in participants teaching practice. The FULT program targets teaching staff with little experience of teaching in higher education. The program is free for all UNSW staff with a current teaching role.

[http://www.learningandteaching.unsw.edu.au/content/LT/teaching\\_support/FULT\\_program.cfm?ss=2](http://www.learningandteaching.unsw.edu.au/content/LT/teaching_support/FULT_program.cfm?ss=2)

### UNSW Network of Work Integrated Learning Educators (WILEd)

The UNSW Network of WILEd, developed by Learning & Teaching @ UNSW and Careers & Employment,. The network group will meet 4 times per semester. Remaining 2011 meeting dates: 24 Aug, 5 Oct, 23 Nov 12pm - 1.20pm (BYO lunch); L&T @ UNSW, Level 4, Matthews Building.

Queries? Contact Keri Moore (9385 6188 or [keri.moore@unsw.edu.au](mailto:keri.moore@unsw.edu.au))

### UNFED group

The UNFED group is an e-learning group that meets monthly on a Wed at 1230-1400 in LG29, Goodsell Building. If you are interested in networking, sharing and discussing elearning, please email Xinni Du [xinni.du@unsw.edu.au](mailto:xinni.du@unsw.edu.au)

### New L&T Gateway – Take a look!!

The first phase of the new [Teaching@UNSW Gateway](http://teaching.unsw.edu.au) has been launched.

The Teaching@UNSW Gateway is the first of two Gateways (the other being Learning@UNSW due later this year). Together these will provide information and support for Teaching and Learning at UNSW for both teaching staff and students.

The key point of access to the new Teaching Gateway will be from the Learning & Teaching menu link on the UNSW homepage or <http://teaching.unsw.edu.au>. Please be aware that this will affect any links and bookmarks you may have to the old site.

**This month we recommend a look at the assessment topic area:** <http://teaching.unsw.edu.au/assessment>

The [Assessment Toolkit](#) provides practical resources on designing assessment with some of the more sought after topics including:

- [Assessment as Learning](#)
- [Designing Assessment As Learning](#)
- [Standards-Based Assessment](#)
- [Feedback](#)
- [Reducing Plagiarism](#)

### For Sessional Staff

You still have your own [gateway](#) with advice from experienced teachers, theory behind the practice and other useful information to support your teaching.

### UNSW Library News

#### Postdoctoral Academy

The Library will be presenting the second of two seminars in the 2011 Post Doctoral Academy for Science Engineering and Medicine. They will be based on the content of a successful half day workshop that we have conducted for the last 3 years for ECRs with the Research Training Office.

The first seminar called "smart publishing" was in June, but the second seminar is on **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> Sept** and is called "Impact Tracking". This seminar will cover issues on tracking citations; impact measures and indices; citation tools; citer analysis; and how to present your impact. Please register through MyUNSW.

#### Reminder..UNSW Library E-book survey - win an iPad 2!

Hurry, as this closes soon. The Library invite you to take part in a quick survey (8-10min). The survey is anonymous. You can enter the draw for an iPad 2 (wireless/3G), provide your name and email address on completing the survey (details will remain separate to your survey response).

[http://asb.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_eQAX46Gv1rhFE8s](http://asb.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_eQAX46Gv1rhFE8s)

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](mailto:kate.dunn@unsw.edu.au) (Mon-Wed).

Covering the Schools of: Public Health and Community Medicine, Medical Sciences, Psychiatry, Women's and Children's Health and affiliated Centres.

**Susan Mills** -T: 9385 3674 or M: 0411 103 269

Email: [susan.mills@unsw.edu.au](mailto:susan.mills@unsw.edu.au)

Covering: National Centres, Clinical Schools, Conjoint, & liaison with Hospital Libraries

**Noreen Kirkman** -T: 9385 1039 or M: 0411 201 959

Email: [n.kirkman@unsw.edu.au](mailto:n.kirkman@unsw.edu.au)

Covering: Lowy Cancer Centre

## SPOTLIGHT on Learning & teaching

### iPads in teaching

*Report by Sonal Bhalla, Learning and Teaching, Postgraduate Programs, SPHCM*

AUC (Apple Universities Consortium) held a seminar on June 23<sup>rd</sup> @ UNSW where it was unveiled that tablet/mobile devices, such as the iPad, are set to become essential tools for learning, with the potential to revolutionise students' educational experiences in tertiary education. The seminar presented by an Apple guest and Dr Daniel Woo (CSE) showcased some of the ways this technology is currently being used in institutions around the world. Along with sharing case studies and current research from a number of institutions across the globe, there was a demonstration of some applications (Apps) that are currently being used to enhance the student learning experience. There were also examples of how iTunes U (a distribution system for lectures, films, labs, audio books and tours) and ebooks are being used to make educational content easily accessible to students.

Following the example of institutions, such as the Science Faculty at University of Adelaide and Stanford University School of Medicine, who provide iPads to all their first year students, do we need to examine the use of similar technologies in our classrooms? Is it merely the equivalent of a notebook or is it a tool with distinct advantages, where the world of Apps continues to evolve and open doors to unlimited possibilities?

**For further information on this topic, visit:** <http://dl.dropbox.com/u/272671/AUCiPad.txt> (References for case studies, research, videos and examples used in the presentation), <http://elearnmag.acm.org/featured.cfm?aid=1999656>, <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/news/news41241.html>.

**Also recommended:** view the two videos of Dr. Mohamed Noor from Duke University Biology Department explaining how and why he uses an iPad in teaching a large class: <http://cit.duke.edu/2011/06/watch-dr-noor-explain-why-and-how-he-teaches-with-an-ipad/>

**The ACT Health Library has been involved in an iPad project for medical students and clinicians:** [http://tch.anu.edu.au/hlapdday/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=15&Itemid=1](http://tch.anu.edu.au/hlapdday/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15&Itemid=1)

**iPads to be distributed to incoming class by Stanford medical school:** <http://med.stanford.edu/ism/2010/august/ipad.html>

**Incoming UCI medical students to receive iPads loaded with first-year curriculum, and soon will have technological advances such as digital stethoscopes and handheld ultrasound units:** [http://today.uci.edu/news/2010/08/nr\\_ipad\\_100803.php](http://today.uci.edu/news/2010/08/nr_ipad_100803.php)

**Brown Medical School will require medical students to use iPad medical textbooks via Inkling:** <http://www.imedicalapps.com/2011/06/brown-medical-school-require-medical-students-ipad-medical-textbooks-inkling/> Article on Inkling – buying texts by the chapter not the whole book: <http://chronicle.com/article/Textbooks-Go-the-iTunes-Route/127590/>

**A/Prof Chris Hughes advises:** *"When Apple's iCloud becomes operational (later this year perhaps) the iPad could be even more useful. My hesitation, that it is not easy to type on, does not seem to be a barrier for students. The scope to write dedicated apps for disciplines, even for particular topics is huge. It will be interesting to see how this pans out."*

**Dr Ralph V Clayman, Dean of the UCI School of Medicine, USA:** *"In the future, physicians will literally carry a library's worth of information on a tablet computer in the pocket of their white coat or suit jacket."*

### Faculty L&T Support

#### Research Coffee Group to launch in August

This idea for this group sprang from last year's evaluation of the MedEd group activities, with several respondents expressing a wish to meet on an informal basis to discuss current and future L&T research. This will be a chance to share successful methodologies and discuss barriers to research. [Rachel](#) is organizing the first date so please email her if you are interested.

#### MedEd Blog

Take a look at our new blog page which can be found at: <http://blogs.unsw.edu.au/meded/>. You can subscribe to live bookmarks via the orange RSS feed on the top right of the page, and you will be notified via your preferred browser if new posts are added and can view the page quickly.

If you wish to be able to comment on the posts, then you need to join UNSW blogs by registering at: <http://blogs.unsw.edu.au/wp-signup.php>, after registering, send Rachel your username (not the password!).

## MedEd Interest Group Seminars 2011

The next MedEd Meeting is an early morning one – 8am in WW LG03 on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> August. Prof. Phil Jones will talk on: **“What can we learn from test results using item response theory?”**

The primary purpose of test results is to provide data, which are used to judge a student’s achievement in a particular field of study. Although these judgements carry considerable consequences, typically little attention is given to confirming the validity of the test results. As researchers we employ a range of techniques to confirm the validity of empirical data but as teachers we uncritically accept test data. The use of item response *theory*, specifically the Rasch model, will be demonstrated using test data from the final written examination in the Medicine program. The detection of anomalies in the test data and their implications for item and test design and student learning will be discussed. Other potential roles of the Rasch model including equating tests, tracking student performance over time and detecting rater effects will be briefly outlined.

Please RSVP by Friday 5<sup>th</sup> August if you wish to attend or wish to link by V-C: [rachelt@unsw.edu.au](mailto:rachelt@unsw.edu.au)

For more information regarding the STinG (SoMS Teaching Interest Group) - contact Gary [g.velan@unsw.edu.au](mailto:g.velan@unsw.edu.au).

Date	Time	Topic	Location
Weds 8 <sup>th</sup> June		Combined STinG-SoLT group, Biomedical Sciences & MedEd Group. “How to design course assessments that are well aligned with course content and objectives” A/Prof Chris Hughes	Resources available at: <a href="http://www.med.unsw.edu.au/medweb.nsf/page/MedEd_Seminars">http://www.med.unsw.edu.au/medweb.nsf/page/MedEd_Seminars</a>
Tues 9 <sup>th</sup> August	8-9am	<b>“What can we learn from test results using item response theory?”</b> Prof Phil Jones	LG 03 Seminar room, Lower Ground Floor, Wallace Wurth Building, Kensington Campus, UNSW
Weds 14 <sup>th</sup> Sept*	11-12pm / 12-1pm	STinG-SoLT Learning and Teaching Month Special Meeting on Peer Assessment	<i>Note: This may become a joint meeting with science, and the date may change.</i>
Tues 11 <sup>th</sup> October	8-9am	L&T Research – TBC - Planning and Study Design	TBA
Weds 9 <sup>th</sup> November*	11-12pm / 12-1pm	STinG-SoLT L&T Research – TBC - Ethical approval for L&T research.	TBA
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	9am–2pm	Faculty of Medicine Annual Learning and Teaching Forum	TBA

## 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: [rachelt@unsw.edu.au](mailto:rachelt@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...

**The MedEd site has 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/>

**Blog page is now available** at: <http://blogs.unsw.edu.au/meded/>

Useful information will be posted here to keep you informed about learning and teaching activities Please subscribe to get updates sent to you whenever the blog page changes. To comment on the posts, you need to join UNSW blogs: <http://blogs.unsw.edu.au/wp-signup.php>, after registering, send Rachel your username (not the password!)

### Your newsletter

**Please contribute**— write a book review when you read a great book, send in info on new L&T research or an update on your own 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 [rachelt@unsw.edu.au](mailto:rachelt@unsw.edu.au)

### To subscribe to the MedEd email group

Send an email to <[majordomo@explode.unsw.edu.au](mailto: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

## Quote of the month

*“For many people, knowledge has the remarkable power of producing confidence, instead of measurable aptitude.”*

Nassim Nicholas Taleb

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nassim\\_Nicholas\\_Taleb](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nassim_Nicholas_Taleb)