Teaching the Teachers

A new group of students have commenced studies in Health Professional Education in 2010. The Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences offers a suite of courses in this discipline: Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma and the Masters programme (by coursework or thesis). The courses, which began in 2007, are designed to help health professionals develop their teaching skills and practices. The coursework units include face-to-face classes, workshops and online activities, using examples of practical applications in the workplace.

Each year the number of enrolments is increasing. Currently we have a total of 38 students, 15 of which are completing the Graduate Certificate, two the Graduate Diploma and 21 the Masters programme. Of these, half are new to the University. We have four International students who have relocated to Perth from Brunei, Indonesia and Vietnam to undertake their studies. The students come from a variety of disciplines, and include nurses, midwives, doctors, occupational therapists, physiotherapists and a radiographer. If you would like information regarding the courses please contact

Associate Professor Sandra Carr, Director of Postgraduate Courses in Health Professional Education on 9346 4849 or sandra.carr@uwa.edu.au

A Word from the Associate Dean T&L

Hello, my name is Sandra Carr. I have taken on the role of Associate Dean, Teaching and Learning, for the Faculty in 2010. I have worked for the Faculty since 1998, initially teaching in the School of Women’s and Infants’ Health and subsequently as a medical educator and curriculum developer in the Faculty Education Centre. I have been the Deputy Director of the Education Centre since 2005 and have been involved in projects such as establishing the skills training programme in the medical course, leading the change to Outcomes Based Education across the Faculty, working with others to establish the MappEdOut curriculum database and enhancing faculty members skills in teaching and learning through the development and initiation of a suite of postgraduate courses in Health Professional Education. My current research areas relate to students’ abilities with insight and critical self reflection, emotional intelligence as a factor in selection and predictor of academic success and enhancing feedback students receive.

I have taken on this role during a time of great change for the Faculty. Over the next five years the student body, selection processes, the courses they study and possibly the ways in which we teach will change. This is both an exciting and challenging time for the Faculty. In view of these changes, the role of Associate Dean (T&L) has been revised. In the past the role has focused on teaching and learning across the whole Faculty as well as Chairing the Medical Curriculum Committee. My focus will be on supporting and, where able, enhancing the quality of the programmes developed, the teaching provided and the learning experienced. Professor Tony Celenza will Chair the Medical Curriculum Committee. This will mean each of the four undergraduate courses offered plus the Master of Nursing Science will have a person to spearhead the delivery of the programme of study for the current students and any curriculum development.

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P2 EdCentre ‘Under new management’ P3 Dentistry students make their mark. Introducing Catherine Clark P4 Calendar of events
Ed Centre ‘Under new management’: Introducing Tony Celenza

My first few months have been taken up with a growing understanding of the many functions provided by the EdCentre, and an appreciation of the hard work done by all the academic and administrative staff. Ulli Fritsch and Vivien Alexander have been extremely helpful in guiding me through this initial period. Many ongoing issues have needed to be followed through, and excellent handovers from both Dr Naomi Trengove, the previous Associate Dean of Teaching and Learning and Chair of the Medical Curriculum Committee, and Assoc. Prof. Sandra Carr, the previous Director of EdCentre, have made the transition nearly painless. The biggest hiccup so far has been the destruction of our building by the hailstorm and our emergency evacuation to R Block to maintain business continuity. Decantment of some staff to Population Health has been necessary due to insufficient office space. EdCentre staff remain functional in their temporary accommodation but eagerly await relocation to a more permanent address where we can be a Centre once again.

One important matter dealt with recently has been the Australian Medical Council accreditation visit in May. Close scrutiny of our medical course by others provided an opportunity to display aspects of our curriculum that serve as markers of quality in medical education, and also to focus on others that require clarification or improvement. This AMC visit will hopefully provide 10 years of accreditation for our current curriculum which should see us through to 2017 when the last students from this course will graduate. Thanks to all participants who provided time to attend the AMC meetings and demonstrate the many areas of excellence we have developed in our course.

Concurrently, plans for the new graduate-entry curricula are commencing. No definitive decisions have been made as yet. The position of Professor of Curriculum Design for the medical course has been accepted, and the pace of planning will certainly accelerate in the next few weeks with formation of working parties to define the philosophy and structures of the new course. Although anxiety regarding curricular change will occur among staff members, effective communication is important to minimise these uncertainties. Part of planning will include developing a multi-pronged communication process to keep interested parties up to date with progress. Among others, EdCentre News will provide one channel of communication. If the plan is to have an AMC accreditation document completed by mid-2012, the next two years will become rapidly hectic. I look forward to this challenge, and to working with many of you with an enthusiasm for curriculum design, change and collaboration.

A Word from the Associate Dean T&L

continued from page 1

- Dentistry: Professor Paul Ichim
- Health Science: Associate Professor Jane Heyworth
- Medicine: Professor Tony Celenza
- Nursing: Associate Professor Rosemary Saunders
- Podiatric Medicine: Professor Alan Bryant

A priority area for 2010 is to assist Faculty Development in the area of Teaching and Learning. To this end, a very successful Unit Coordinators Study Day was run earlier this year. Twenty unit coordinators attended the sessions which focused on aspects of curriculum design, teaching and assessment methods and evaluation of teaching. The study day was so successful that another will be scheduled for June. Thanks go to Assist/Prof Sue Miller for coordinating the day.

Another important event for the Faculty is the re-accreditation of the MBBS course. The re-accreditation submission was forwarded to the Australian Medical Council (AMC) in February, followed by a visit from the AMC re-accreditation team from 10–14th May. The team of seven panel members and two international observers visited nine clinical sites, including Albany and Kalgoorlie, and met with students, clinical and academic staff at each site.

The panel also met with the Heads of Schools, with the Faculty Executive and with representatives from the different student intake groups (indigenous education, GEMP, rural and outer metropolitan). They also met with numerous committees, including the Teaching and Learning Committee, the Medical Curriculum Committee and the Evaluation Committee.

The level of commitment shown by staff and the way in which everyone worked together to make this a success has been truly commendable and I am looking forward with confidence to the AMC’s final report, which is expected shortly.

The AMC’s final report may also provide valuable guidance for the development of the new (postgraduate) medical course under the Future Framework, and in each edition of the Ed Centre News I will share updates of how the Faculty moves towards postgraduate doctorates in medicine, podiatric medicine and dentistry are progressing and updates from the development of majors and honours (population health, pathology and laboratory medicine, pharmacology, medical science, aboriginal health and well-being). The proposals for majors and honours and for units within these programmes have been finalised at Faculty level and are currently being reviewed by the Interim Board of Studies. Further information about the Future Framework and the timeline is available at http://www.futureframework.uwa.edu.au/.

Associate Professor Sandra Carr
Dentistry students make their mark at international conference

In February 2010, 5th year Dentistry student Sanjana Mukhopadhyay travelled to Singapore to present her group’s research at the 7th Asia Pacific Medical Education Conference.

Sanjana Mukhopadhyay reports:

“When we started the 4th year Paediatric Dentistry research project, little did we know, that a year on, our names would be displayed on a poster in the midst of high profile medical educators, at an international conference in Singapore. We couldn’t have asked for a better outcome for what had then seemed like yet another uni assignment. Our chosen topic was “Dental student attitudes of behaviour management techniques used in paediatric dentistry” and under the guidance of our supervisor Prof Millicent Taylor, our group of six students (Sanjana Mukhopadhyay, Farhang Niaakhtar, Parsa Partovi, Jessica Quach, Alan Quan and Te Ming Saw and myself) worked throughout the year, attending monthly meetings, carrying out the research and finally submitting an abstract for the conference. The news of its selection for poster presentation came as a pleasant surprise to us, just before our long haul of exams!

“I was lucky enough to represent the group at the conference in Singapore in February this year. It gave me a unique opportunity to be at a conference with 700 delegates from 38 different countries around the world and was an enriching experience. The themes discussed in the conference revolved around newer and better ways of improving education at medical schools. Much of it can be extrapolated to dental teaching as well such as problem-based learning, case-based discussions, ethics, simulated patients, seminars for personal and professional development.

“It was heartening to note that most of these are already used in medical and dental education here at UWA. We attended lectures by keynote speakers from notable institutions like Harvard, NUS and gained an insight into how undergraduates are taught and how courses are structured in different parts of the world, especially the Asia-Pacific region.

“Finally, a trip to the vibrant city of Singapore wouldn’t have been complete without sampling its culinary delights, retail therapy and exploring its famous tourist attractions. I would like to express my profound gratitude to the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, in particular Dr Zarrin Siddiqui, Prof Andrew Smith & Prof Ian Puddey, for providing the funds for this trip.”

Introducing Catherine Clark, new Manager of the Medical and Dental Library

I have recently been appointed as the Manager of the Medical and Dental Library, taking over from Carol Newton-Smith who is enjoying a busy and fruitful retirement.

I have worked at the UWA Library for a number of years, including a previous stint in the Medical and Dental Library as Curriculum Liaison Librarian and Reference Librarian. My Masters research was based around the measurement of medical students’ information skills and I have completed studies at UWA in Public Health so I am very pleased to be back in familiar territory supporting FMDHS staff and students in their teaching, learning and research.

During my previous period as Curriculum Liaison Librarian in the Faculty, one of my first tasks was working with colleagues in the EdCentre to develop what was then ‘the new medical curriculum’ and I have arrived back to start the process again for the new course structure. Purely a coincidence, I hope! The Library has a strong programme of information skills teaching within the medical curriculum, in particular, and I am looking forward to working with curriculum developers in all the new graduate courses and undergraduate majors to ensure that FMDHS students graduate with the skills required to effectively locate, evaluate and use high quality information resources.

The UWA Library has the largest medical and dental collection in the state and the partnership between the Library and Faculty staff is crucial to ensuring that the collection matches current teaching, learning and research needs. I will continue to seek guidance and suggestions regarding information resources to make sure they are relevant and accessible for all Faculty staff and students. The challenges of providing resources across the length and breadth of the state are unique to this Faculty and I am fortunate to be extremely well supported by my colleagues in the Faculty and in the Library.

I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible over the coming months.

Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about Library resources and services.

T: 9346 7569
E: catherine.clark@uwa.edu.au
Calendar of Events

‘Talking About Teaching’ series and other Staff Development Workshops:

The Education Centre runs a series of ‘Talking about Teaching’ workshops/seminars to support academic, clinical and sessional staff in the advancement of their teaching skills and in their preparation for the new course structures under the future framework.

To register your interest and for further information, email vivien.alexander@uwa.edu.au

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seminar/Workshop</th>
<th>Facilitator</th>
<th>Date/Time</th>
<th>Venue</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Small group teaching: discussion and student engagement for sessional teachers</td>
<td>Asst/Prof Sue Miller</td>
<td>Tuesday 1st June 5–6pm</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learning in large groups</td>
<td>Asst/Prof Zarrin Siddiqui</td>
<td>Wednesday 23rd June 11–12.30pm</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment in small groups teaching</td>
<td>Asst/Prof Zarrin Siddiqui</td>
<td>Wednesday 30th June 11–12.30pm</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Small group teaching: Management and student engagement for sessional teachers</td>
<td>Asst/Prof Sue Miller</td>
<td>Tuesday 20th July 5pm–6pm</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>EdCentre Expo (see below for more information)</td>
<td>EdCentre staff</td>
<td>Thursday 5th August 9–12noon</td>
<td>CTEC Seminar room (Ground Floor)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit Coordinators’ Study Day</td>
<td>Asst/Prof Sue Miller</td>
<td>Friday 6th August 10am–4pm</td>
<td>Clifton Street Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment and Feedback for sessional teachers</td>
<td>Asst/Prof Sue Miller</td>
<td>Tuesday 10th August 5–6pm</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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EdCentre Expo

The Education Centre invites Faculty staff to its inaugural Expo on Thursday 5th August, held from 9–12noon on main campus at CTEC.

To register your interest email vivien.alexander@uwa.edu.au by 30th July.

Programme overview

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>9.00 – 9.15am</td>
<td>Introduction: ‘What does the EdCentre do?’</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.15 – 10.45am</td>
<td>5 short presentations of latest educational research and resources.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.45 – 11.15am</td>
<td>Morning tea (includes rolling demonstrations of resources (eg powerpoints, videoclips, posters).</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.15 – 12noon</td>
<td>Information regarding new course(s) progress including introduction of Prof. David Kandiah, Professor of Medical Curriculum Development.</td>
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Contact Us

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Fax: +61 8 9346 1665
Email: uly.fritsch@uwa.edu.au
Web: www.meddent.uwa.edu.au

We welcome contributions, photos, feedback and anecdotes.
Please send to uly.fritsch@uwa.edu.au or mail to the faculty address.

CRICOS Provider Code: 00126G

Peer Observation of Teaching

in the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences

This programme is suitable for those interested in improving their teaching skills, wishing to try educational innovations, or gathering evidence for a teaching portfolio.

Anyone wishing to participate in this programme should consult the Faculty’s website at: http://www.meddent.uwa.edu.au/staffnet/learning/observation

Further information or assistance in getting started can be found by contacting Dr Annette Mercer at: annette.mercer@uwa.edu.au

www.meddent.uwa.edu.au