

# GRADUATE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

AUGUST 2007

## INFORMATION BULLETIN No.12

### Appointment of Dean

On Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> of June, a strong field of candidates was interviewed for the position of Dean.

The position was offered to, and has been accepted by, Professor Liz Farmer BSC (Hons), MBBS, FRACGP, PHD, who will take up the post in January 2008.

Liz's previous positions have included Associate Professor in Medical Education at Flinders University Medical School, and she is presently Director of Education for the National Primary Care Collaborative Program. She is also our Director of Educational Development, and will be well known to many of you through our Faculty Development Programme.

I feel it is an accolade for our young School that we had such an impressive field of candidates for Dean. I personally welcome Liz as I am confident that her appointment will ensure that our vision is in good hands, and our future assured.

Professor Farmer will take up the post in January 2008

**John Hogg – Foundation Dean**



### Intensive Clinical Experience (ICE)

Our students have just completed their three week Intensive Clinical Experience (ICE) placements where they joined multidisciplinary teams in the Illawarra, Shoalhaven, Southern Highlands and Northern Rivers regions. The feedback on the demeanour and the enthusiasm of our students has been outstanding.

We have now completed semester one, which also included the Introductory and Cardiovascular/Respiratory blocks. After the mid-year break the students will commence the Gastrointestinal/Liver block, and then the Urogenital/Renal/Genetics/Endocrine/Skin block.

I would particularly like to thank and commend all those who have contributed to our student's learning during this most successful first semester. Clearly the students have not only acquired significant knowledge and skills, but they have demonstrated impressive personal and professional behaviours. We can be very proud of them.

## Medical Research and Innovation Networking Conference

A Medical Research and Innovation Conference is being planned for Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2007 to be held at the University.

The aim of this conference is to bring together clinicians active in research and innovation, University biomedical researchers, and people in the Area Health Service, University and community who support researchers.

The hoped for outcome is the development of research partnerships between University and Clinician Researchers.

The day will be structured as a series of brief presentations which will give everyone present an idea of what is going on in our region in medical research interspersed with networking opportunities.

Those interested in participating in this conference are asked to contact John Hogg at [jhogg@uow.edu.au](mailto:jhogg@uow.edu.au).

Full conference details will be announced in the near future.

## \$16.3M Government Funding for Rural Programme

The GSM has been successful in securing \$16.3 million in the recent commonwealth budget to assist us over the next four years in establishing and running our School's rural programme.

This success is the outcome of the hard work of many in the GSM, and special thanks go to Fred Reich, Senior Project Accountant, and Canio Fierravanti, Group Manager Public Affairs, for their efforts in obtaining this funding.

## Clinical Academics Support

We are sadly farewelling Marg Brown who joined the school in 2005 and played a pivotal role in helping us through the planning process.

Amongst her many functions was the task of co-ordinating the recruitment and support of our Honorary Clinical Academic Faculty, a task she carried out with distinction.

This task will now be taken over by Jenni Broadhead, who may be contacted on (02) 4221 5925 of [jb@uow.edu.au](mailto:jb@uow.edu.au).

## Patient Volunteer Coordinator

Alissa Tran has established and run an outstanding Patient Volunteer Programme in Wollongong. She is now leaving to work in Vietnam.

We have appointed Isabelle Potter to this important role.

We wish Marg and Alissa all the very best for the future.

## Associate Professor Gary Butler

Our congratulations go to Gary, our Phase 1 Director for being awarded his Masters in Medical Education with Distinction. To have completed this while being heavily involved in the planning of our school is a significant achievement.

## Giving for Our Future

The Graduate School of Medicine is key to meeting the future health needs of our regions. Its basic funding comes through government grants and student fees. To achieve our vision as a world leader in medical education and an important contributor to medical research, we have established a Medical Education and Research Fund, which is now open for donations. These funds can be directed as wished towards research, student scholarships, and the funding of infrastructure and facilities for the school.

Coinciding with the establishment of the fund has been a generous donation from St. Jude Medical, further details of which will be featured in our next bulletin.

People and organisations wishing to discuss giving may contact Professor John Hogg on (02) 4221 5151 or [jhogg@uow.edu.au](mailto:jhogg@uow.edu.au), or our campaign manager Elissa White, on (02) 4221 3918 or [elissa\\_white@uow.edu.au](mailto:elissa_white@uow.edu.au).