

New Zealand Trainee Committee Newsletter October 2008

Welcome to the first newsletter from your New Zealand Trainee Committee. It's election time of year and not just for the government. We've been asking for nominations for the 2009 NZTC and would like to take this opportunity to let you in on what we've been doing in 2008 and what is coming up in 2009 and to encourage you to join in!

Attending College Meetings

Two of our members have been off to Melbourne representing New Zealand trainees to participate in various college meetings. There was the inaugural face-to-face meeting of the ANZCA Trainees Committee in July as well as the initial meetings of 2 new working groups set up by the ANZCA council- more on these later.

Social Events

We all work in a pretty stressful environment, and a lot of us are practically brainwashed into believing work is the most important thing we do. This often leaves us with little time to get to know our registrar colleagues and to develop relationships where we can watch out for each other. So we would like to encourage you to take the chance of the end of the run to organise drinks or some kind of celebration that we've survived another year of training, modules, exams, grumpy bosses- you name it! We've got the date set for the Whangarei department and are looking into the last Friday of the run in Auckland- any suggestions of where, send an email to Kathryn Hagen (s_m@ihug.co.nz).

Anzca.org.nz website

This is a relatively recent development of a National Committee home page, www.anzca.org.nz - it can also be accessed from a link on the ANZCA.edu.au homepage under the section 'National and regional offices'. It is still a work in progress, but the NZ ANZCA people are hoping it will be great resource for NZ trainees. The College website also has a trainees' section <http://www.anzca.edu.au/trainees/>, where updated information is posted by head office staff.

Reminder of exam applications date

For those sitting the part one in March, don't forget the closing date is the 15th of December. That's close to Xmas and run changeover time and late applications are not welcomed by the college!

ANZCA Working Groups

ANZCA has set up two new working groups this year with representatives from our RTC being invited to take part. The Curriculum Review Working Group are reviewing the curriculum and

taking submissions from all Stakeholders until December 31 2008. If you would like more information or would like to give your opinion of how the curriculum could be improved, please visit

<http://www.anzca.edu.au/edu/projects/curriculum-review/curriculum-review-anzca-trainingprogramme.html/?searchterm=CRWG>.

ANZCA also convened the Clinical Teachers Development Working Group to oversee the colleges "reviewing and re-designing the way in which it provides support and training for those Fellows delivering clinical teaching opportunities to our trainees." This group meets for the first time in December.

Consideration of development of Part zero course

Apparently common place in Australia and in Wellington, there is consideration of developing a more formal part zero course for those who are starting out in Anaesthesia in NZ. It would involve education about the College, exams, modules, training and crisis management. We may well be looking for trainees in the future who would be interested in contributing to such a course. If you have any ideas contact your local trainee representative.

Need to present your formal project?

The 2008 Annual Registrar Meeting is to be held on Friday November 28 in Auckland. Abstracts are due by October 31st. Get in now before it's too late. <http://www.anzca.org.nz/training>

Have you met your new college president- Dr Leona Wilson?

If not stay tuned for "Meet the president" opportunities for trainees, these are likely to coincide with courses and meetings throughout New Zealand

NZTC Nominations

Just another reminder that we are seeking nominations for the 10 positions on our NZ Training Committee. If any of the above has interested you, or you are just keen to see how things in the college work and want to be part of it, then get yourselves nominated before the closing date of Monday Nov 10. If you have deleted the email with the nomination form, then email jan@anzca.org.nz for further details.

Finally, just a note on keeping ourselves healthy-we all look after and worry about the health and follow up of our patients, and we would like to encourage you to do the same about yourselves. Having a GP is a vital responsibility of any doctor, especially those of us who are exposed to significant work place stress and that particular problem of exposure and access to opioids- an almost exclusive anaesthesia issue.

Enjoy the last few months of the year with the hectic wind up to run change-overs and Xmas. Good luck to the part two-ers who sit their

'clinicals' soon. Congratulations to those who see the end of this year as their last year as a trainee and we wish you well as a FANZCA!

Cheers

David Whybrew, Chairman, New Zealand Trainee Committee

Kathryn Hagen, Deputy Chair, New Zealand Trainee Committee