

## **New Zealand Trainees Committee (NZTC)**

The NZTC has 10 elected committee members which functions as a voice for all Trainees in New Zealand. The structure of the committee is such that almost every Trainee should have access to a National Committee member, such that ideas and issues can have a direct path back to the College if appropriate. The committee is primarily a body to deal with training and education issues. Workforce conditions and the like are so different across the country it is neither appropriate nor legal for the College to become involved, although it may be interested to hear training problems arising as a result of these.

**Time Requirements:** The NZTC is not a huge time requirement as a standard member. The committee meets four times a year (three via teleconference, one face-to-face meeting). The meetings usually last for approximately 90 minutes on a weekday evening. The Chair runs each meeting and also sits on the NZ National Committee (3 meetings a year in Wellington) and the Education sub-committee (meets twice yearly, one teleconference and once usually face to face) as well as the ANZCA Trainees Committee (ATC) (see below).

Each October nominations are called for the NZTC Committee. Members are elected for two years. Interested trainees are asked to nominate themselves with the backing of two colleagues for NZTC. If you would like to see changes within the College, or feel your opinion on training and trainees is important, then this is an ideal vehicle. The time requirement is probably less than most people already spend debating the merits of the modular system or complaining about the Formal Project, and it is heard where it matters. The committee need enthusiastic trainees with a desire to make their voice heard and to represent the trainees in their hospitals.

Issues discussed and acted on by the committees include:

- New Zealand Trainee's Guidebook (being distributed in January/February 2010)
- Representative on Clinical Teachers Development Working Group (CTDWG)
- Representative on the Curriculum Review Working Group (CRWG)
- Encouraging Video conferencing of the November Annual Registrar's Meeting

## **Regional/National Trainees Committees**

The Regional/National Trainees Committees comprise members of the training region whose number depends on the number of trainees in that region. The committees are formed from trainees who nominate themselves in the voting period in October/November. Due to variations in the size and geography of the various regions within ANZCA, the formation and function of these groups has been wide and varies. If there is an excess of trainees nominated in a region a ballot can be held to select them.

Each Regional/National Trainees Committee should have a member who is from a rural hospital, and also a representative from each of the Rotations. They also elect a Chair at the first meeting of the year and it is normally this person who participates in the Australasian meeting. As well, the Chair is responsible for organising the local Trainee Committee meetings and is also a representative on the Regional/National Committees. The Regional/National Trainee Committee meetings are also attended by local College representatives

## **ANZCA Trainees Committee (ATC)**

The ANZCA Trainee Committee was established in 2004 by the College Council to give the Trainees a voice in college activities and to act as a forum for the discussion of matters relating to trainees. The committee comprises representatives from each State and Country in the College. From Australia there is a representative from Queensland, NSW, Victoria, South Australia, ACT, Tasmania and Western Australia. From overseas there is a rep from New Zealand, Malaysia, Hong Kong and Singapore. Each of these reps are selected from within their local regions according to different local policy, but are usually the Chair of the local Committee. Each meeting is also attended by the Chair of the College Education Committee and sometimes another Council Representative.

The Committee elects a Chair at the first meeting of each year. The Chairs responsibilities include:

- Chairing the ANZCA Trainee Committee meetings
- Attending the meetings of the ANZCA Council and Education Committee meetings
- Reporting to the College on matters affecting trainees

The ATC meets four times a year via teleconference. Additional roles within the committee may require attendance at College meetings, but these can be delegated within the committee to share the burden.

Issues discussed and acted on by the committees include:

- The requirement to complete a minimum number of modules prior to sitting the Part Two exam was removed after discussion and request for review by the committee
- The College Accreditation Committee has requested that the Regional/National Committees be involved in the hospital feedback prior to inspections as a way of ensuring fair and anonymous information about hospitals from trainees.
- Module requirements and completion rates are constantly reviewed and discussed.
- Regional courses that have proven successful have been shared to enable all trainees benefit from the contents.
- College documents relevant to education and training have been submitted to the committee for comment and feedback prior to being approved by the College Council.