

DEAN'S UPDATE

As preparations are underway for the commencement of Semester One, it gives me pleasure to report on the 2006 Faculty Teaching Awards that were announced on 1 February 2007. I congratulate the recipients and look forward to celebrating their achievements at the Faculty Awards Night on 19th April. The theme for these Awards will be "For Futurity" in keeping with the history of Great Hall of the University. The hall was built in 1859 at a time when there were only three professors and twenty-four students at the University of Sydney. Francis Merewether, Vice-Chancellor at the time, said "We must build, not for today, or for tomorrow, but for Futurity".

It is therefore very fitting that this is the venue for the Faculty Awards Night which will acknowledge the outstanding contribution made to the future of pharmacy in Australia, by members of our Faculty. I congratulate the following:

Outstanding Teaching

Recipient: Kylie Williams

Highly Commended: Bandana Saini

Support for the Student Experience - Academic Staff

Recipient: Daniela Traini

Highly Commended: Paul Young

Support for the Student Experience - General Staff

Recipient: Bruce Tattam

Highly Commended: Noeris Salam

Highly Commended:

Heba Abdel Halim

Research Higher Degree Supervision

Recipient: Andrew McLachlan

Highly Commended:

Jane Hanrahan

I hope that many of our industry, alumni and university colleagues will be able to join us on 19th April at the Awards Night.

Finally, I would also like to congratulate Dr Bret Church on his promotion to Senior Lecturer.

Iqbal Ramzan
Dean

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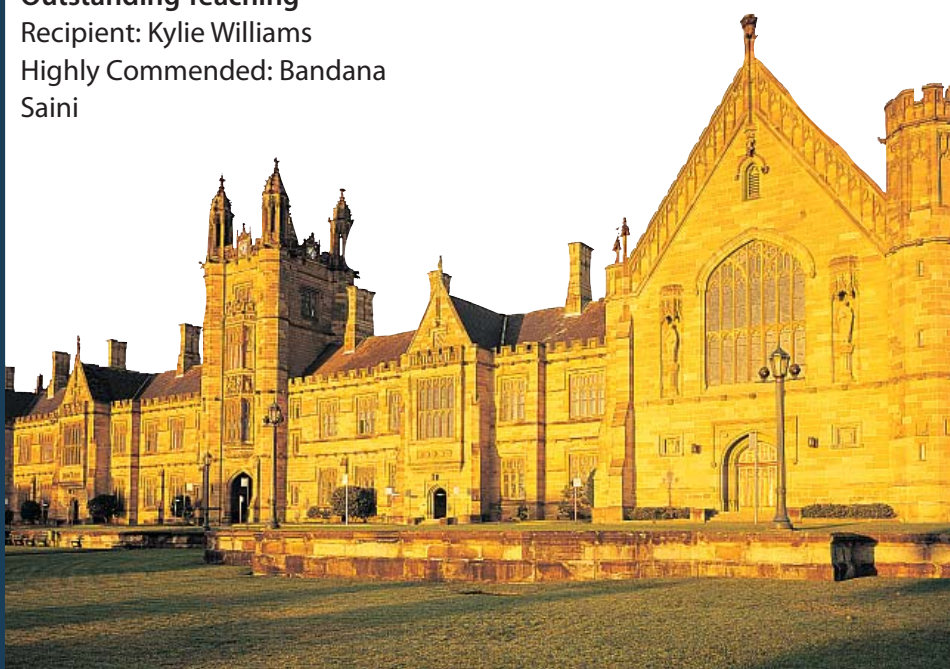
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WHY HYGIEIA?



In Greek mythology, Hygieia was the goddess of health, and was also known as the giver of health. The Bowl of Hygieia is the symbol of pharmacy and appears in the faculty logo and stained glass window in the main corridor of the Pharmacy Faculty building, so is a fitting name for our newsletter.



FACULTY MANAGER'S UPDATE

I am pleased to be able to report this month on the completion of another stage within our Faculty facilities development program. As you can see from the photo at right, the reception area for the Dean's Office is now complete. In addition, the new offices for the Pharmacy Education Unit (PEU) are fully functional.

Also this month, the recently refurbished Badham PBL room was used to welcome an international visitor to the Faculty, Professor Jean-Pierre Gregoire, from L'Université Laval in Quebec, Canada. Professor Gregoire presented a special seminar entitled "Adherence to, persistence or compliance with drug treatments: A discussion on

the impact different definitions has on research findings". Our thanks to Andrew McLachlan for organising this visit, and also to Daniela Traini who welcomed Dr Robert Price from the University of Bath in the UK this month. Dr Price provided a special seminar entitled "Advances in Drug Delivery for Inhalation".

Following the resignation of Marlon Ornek in January to take up a senior role in the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Community) office, the position of Student Services Officer (undergraduate) was advertised. The successful candidate was Narelle Da Costa, who has previously held the Clinical Placements position.

Carroll Graham



Ms Tess Webster & Ms Eleanor Luntao in the new Dean's Reception Area



Mrs Narelle Da Costa, Student Services Officer

CLINICAL PLACEMENTS UPDATE

We take this opportunity to thank all preceptors for their continuous contribution towards the training of our students. Students are often inspired by their preceptors and tend to return post-graduation to continue on their chosen career paths.

Rural Clinical Placements

2006 was a busy year regarding clinical placements, particularly for rural sites. Four different groups of students undertook rural placements:- the BPharm 4th year students (2 weeks in July), the B Pharm (Rural) 4th year students (who spent 12 weeks in a rural setting and completed all their university work at that site), the B Pharm (Rural) 3rd year students (1 week in July) and the MPharm students (2 weeks in both July and November).

Below is a summary of the number of students who claimed support through the Guild placement support scheme and the hours

spent on placement.

In addition to this, six B Pharm (Rural) students spent one week on a rural placement near their family home and therefore did not qualify for Guild support.

The BPharm (Rural) students who spent their 12 weeks either in Lismore or Broken Hill were well supported by the staff at the University Departments of Rural Health.

2007 is also shaping up to be a rewarding year in regard to clinical placements. The MPharm students have already completed their 6 weeks of Clinical Residency, comprising 3 weeks in a community pharmacy and 3 weeks in a

hospital pharmacy. The feedback received from preceptors has been extremely positive.

It is also encouraging to note that we have been offered a total of 316 placements (hospital + community) from 114 preceptors for BPharm Students in Semester 1 this year. Thanks once again to all those preceptors who have responded to our invitation to host students.

The Clinical Placement Group hopes to continue its collaboration with pharmacy and allied health preceptors and, as an ongoing commitment, is planning to host an annual clinical placement forum.

Degree Program	Number of students Claiming Support	Hours Spent
B Pharm	50	3445
BPharm (Rural) 4th Year	6	2160
B Pharm (Rural) 3rd Year	3	90
M Pharm	4	260
Total	63	5955

VACATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

As researchers, we often think we know what we are doing. However, the outcomes of our endeavours are often surprising, leading us in new and often quite unexpected directions. During the summer vacation eight Pharmacy students traded fun in the sun for the chance to gain first hand experience of the seemingly mysterious and unpredictable world of research.

The Vacation Scholarship Program aims to provide high achieving students with the opportunity to experience all aspects of the research process. This program exposes students to the rigours and challenges of research and the excitement of the unexpected discovery, in contrast to the more structured content offered in undergraduate degree programs.

This is the second year that the Faculty has offered the popular Vacation Scholarship Program. Recipients were given the

opportunity to undertake research across all three disciplines. Students took part in projects as diverse as the annotation of genes in disease aetiology to patterns of psychotropic drug use in Sydney. The experience has been described as beneficial and rewarding for both students and staff, allowing students to gain an understanding of the relevance of research to the profession of Pharmacy and, hopefully, inspiring some of our students to consider future careers in pharmaceutical research. This continues the tradition of Pharmacy which, like rocket science, has historically been founded on research with more than a handful of unexpected outcomes.

Recipients of the 2006/07 Summer Vacation Scholarships were Stephen Wong, Naveed Nadvi, Samir Nurboja, Ping Teoh, David Yuan, Natasha Gisev, Kristal Obrien, and William Bobroff.

Jane Hanrahan, Assoc. Dean, UG



"Research is what I'm doing when I don't know what I'm doing."

Wernher von Braun
German rocket scientist



SUPA UPDATE



SUPA hosted a BBQ for new students, both undergraduate and postgraduate on the Arts Lawn, 28 February during O-week, as well as assisting with faculty tours.

President, Kim Tran, provided details of the benefits of membership at the SWOT presentation.

Sydney University Pharmacy Association (SUPA) represents the interests of pharmacy students at the University of Sydney. For over 40 years SUPA has been providing services, organising social events and representing our members on campus, and to the wider profession and community. New students are invited to visit the office in the Faculty building, or check out the website <http://www.pharm.usyd.edu.au/SUPA/index.html>

EVENTS

"Women in Pharmacy", a committee of the Pharmacy Alumni Association held its Annual Dinner / Seminar on 16 February 2007, entitled "2007, where to now? A forum of women in Pharmacy". This committee is an innovative program providing mentoring support for women pharmacists. It aims to help women in Pharmacy to achieve their goals within the profession. Please contact Margarethe Trimble (Tel: 02 9351 2668) for more details of future events and opportunities.

The Faculty of Pharmacy Academic Retreat on 27 February included presentations by Faculty members,

and invited guests. The themes under consideration were effective management, research and learning and teaching.

On the 21st of March 2007 the Faculty will hold an evening event (Common Room, 6-8pm) to bring together students who have participated in the Summer and Industrial Placements Vacation Research Scholarships with their respective Industrial/Faculty sponsors. Posters summarising the student's projects will be available for viewing and students will be on hand for questions regarding their research experiences.

GRANTS

Bruce Tattam and his colleagues from Sydney Children's Hospital have received a grant from the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia DBL Development Fund (details below):

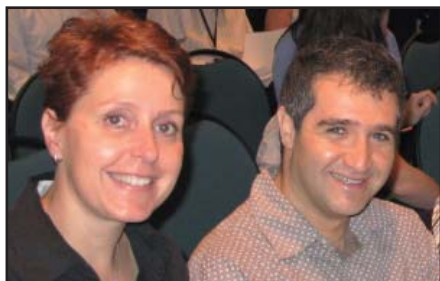
SHPA DBL Development fund
Project Title: Stability of omeprazole suspension; implications for paediatric prescribing. Funding: \$6,600

Chief Investigator: Linda Graudins*
Co-investigators: Bruce Tattam & Julie Arena*

*(Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick)



Dr Paul Young & Dr Alaina Ammit



Dr Daniela Traini & Dr Ramin Rohanzadeh



Mr Warwick Plunkett, Professor Sid Gray, Professor Iqbal Ramzan, Mr Ross Brown

CONGRATULATIONS

Hajar Basheti arrived safely into the world. Both mother, Iman, and daughter are doing well.

Congratulation to Iqbal and Nadia Mohi on the birth of their son Ahid Abdul-mohi.

Long Service Awards

At a ceremony in the Great Hall on 22 February, the long service of the following Faculty of Pharmacy staff was honoured:

Professor Shalom Isaac (Charlie) Benrimoj
Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Strategic Planning)
Professor of Pharmacy Practice
Fifteen years service at the university

Basil D Roufogalis
Professor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry
Twenty years service at the university

Susan Putnam
Finance Officer
Twenty years service at the university

Jiamin You
Senior Technical Officer
(Pharmaceutical Chemistry)
Fifteen years service at the university.

Staff completing fifteen and twenty years of service have been presented with a certificate in recognition since 2002.