**FEATURED PROFILE: DR GEOFFREY SPURLING**

Dr Geoffrey Spurling graduated from medical school at The University of Queensland in 1995 and did his intern year in Mackay. Following junior doctor placements in Queensland and the United Kingdom, he started General Practice training in 2000 including a year with MSF (Doctors without Borders) in Central America.

Since 2004, Geoff has been working as a General Practitioner at the Inala Centre of Excellence in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care in Brisbane, serving the Spanish-speaking clinic at Inala Primary Care and as Senior Lecturer in General Practice at the University of Queensland.

Geoff starting teaching 2nd year medicine PBL groups and was nominated for a UQMS teaching award by his first PBL group. He lectures on upper respiratory tract infections, cardiovascular cases, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health in primary care and socio-economic disadvantage in the 3rd year MBBS Discipline for General Practice Rotation. He has also lectured in tropical health, global health, communication skills and Aboriginal health in other rotations of the MBBS course. More recently he has been exploring prezi as an alternative presentation platform to powerpoint and these presentations can be accessed online.

Geoff’s main research interest focuses on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and he started his part-time PhD in this area in 2011. Consulting with Inala Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community regarding their priorities for health research has been central to his PhD.

Consulting with potential beneficiaries of research has also been successful in engaging grassroots, bag-carrying GPs on the Sunshine Coast. In 2011, together with another DGP researcher, Dr Tina Janamian, he attended a meeting convened by the then Sunshine Coast Division of General Practice. The primary health care workers (including GPs, practice nurses, practice managers) voted for a wound care project that was important to them at the time. In collaboration with the Sunshine Coast Medicare Local, the research was conducted using data collected by the GPs, analysed in partnership with the Discipline for General Practice and will be published in Australian Family Physician in 2014.

**FOR YOUR CALENDARS**

**THIRD YEAR GP ROTATION DATES 2014**

Monday 13th January - Friday 7th March
Monday 17th March - Friday 9th May
Monday 19th May - Friday 11th July
Monday 21st July - Friday 12th September
Monday 22nd September - Friday 14th November

**VISIT US**


or contact Dr Nancy Sturman: n.sturman1@uq.edu.au
The Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences proudly acknowledges the dedicated work of its many externally-funded health professionals, including our general practitioner teachers.

To recognise the work of these health professionals the Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences awards individuals with academic titles.

Many of Queensland’s best health professionals are UQ Academic Title Holders with the Faculty.

It is their enthusiasm and dedication that keeps the Faculty at the forefront of worldwide health education and research trends and ensures the recognition the Academic Title gives is of the highest value.

Benefits of a University of Queensland Academic Title include:

**UQ EMAIL ACCOUNT, INTERNET AND STAFF WEB PORTAL ACCESS**
All Academic Title Holders receive a UQ email account, internet and staff web portal access.

**DISCOUNTED BOOKS**
The University Bookshop offers a rewards system for UQ staff and Academic Title Holders (approximately equivalent to 10% discount on books after a certain number of points accrued).

**UQ SPORT**
Academic Title Holders are eligible to join the University’s sports club - UQ SPORT. Members have access to over 40 sporting clubs and receive discounts at a number of St Lucia campus facilities.


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**Practice Manager & Practice Nurse Tips**

ENSURE students feel as though they are contributing to the practice.

FEED BACK the patients’ comments to the students as some of the comments have been very positive – “two for the price of one”, “talking with the student prior to the doctor reminded the patient of other questions they wanted to ask their doctor”, “was grateful to have a chat with such a lovely young lady”.

SCHEDULE sessions when there is a spare room so the students get a chance to take histories on their own before the supervising GP joins them for the consult.

ENCOURAGE the student to ask questions and assist where possible.

**Students’ General Practice Evaluations**

The things I liked most about my clinical attachment:

- I could get very involved. I was allowed to see patients on my own before their consult and given opportunity to practise clinical skills such as vaccinations, venepunctures and suturing.
- I could interview patients on my own and make notes in the system
- I got to observe a large number of doctors and their styles
- Preceptor was an absolutely inspiring role model!
- The GP emphasized how important student teaching is and this meant that very few patients were unhappy with having a student involved in their consultation

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**Academic Title Holders for General Practitioner Teachers**

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Benefits of a University of Queensland Academic Title include:

**UQ Library Access**
The UQ Library has one of the largest academic collections in Australia and by far the largest in Queensland. It provides an exceptional collection of health and medical books, more than 3500 health and medical e-Journals, drug information online and access to medical databases.

**Research Support Network**
Academic Title Holders are expected to submit research grant applications through UQ and will benefit from the excellent research support network available.

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**The University of Queensland Australia**