



# DISCIPLINE OF GENERAL PRACTICE TEACHING NEWSLETTER

JANUARY, 2014

*HAPPY NEW YEAR and WELCOME to another year of teaching our University of Queensland medical students in your general practice.*

*The General Practice Rotation was again rated very highly by students in 2013, which is a fitting tribute to your enthusiastic commitment to teaching.*

*The Discipline of General Practice continues to be active in the scholarship of medical education. Some recent projects have included: contributing to a review of the effectiveness of longitudinal community placements in medical education, published on the BEME (Best Evidence Medical Education) website; a comparison of the characteristics of multi-learner and single-learner general practices, which extends a long-standing interest in vertical integration in teaching and learning; evaluating the effectiveness of new approaches to assessing clinical reasoning; and an exploration of general practitioner attitudes to, and confidence in, teaching about ethics and professionalism in general practice.*

*A new project this year is our involvement in a School of Medicine evaluation of an innovative, web-based approach to clinical examiner calibration and training. We are hoping to recruit GP teachers who examine in clinical examinations (including the MBBS year 4 OSCE, as many of you do) to participate in this project with colleagues from other medical disciplines. Keep an eye out for the flier in a month or so!*

*Finally, for your information, the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners is finalising the ALM for Teaching Medical Students for this current triennium's QICPD requirements, and we anticipate that 40 Category 1 points will be again available.*

*The PIP payment for medical student teaching continues to be \$100 per session (a maximum of two sessions a day can be claimed) to practices accredited for PIP payments.*

*With our best wishes for a rewarding year of teaching,*

*Professor Mieke van Driel, Head of Discipline &  
Associate Professor Nancy Sturman, Academic Coordinator*

## FOR YOUR CALENDARS

### THIRD YEAR GP ROTATION DATES 2014

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January - Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March - Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September - Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November

## 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 socioeconomic 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.

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