Welcome to this, the first Alumni and Staff newsletter of the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences.

I took up the position of Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences over six months ago and I have spent a lot of time visiting the different campuses, departments and schools of the Faculty, and learning more about the undergraduate and postgraduate courses we deliver and about the wide range of research activities we are engaged in across the face of medical science.

The Faculty is amongst the largest centres of health education and research activity in Australia, with a strong national and international profile in both areas. Medical and Health education generally at Monash is renowned both in Australia and throughout the region and Monash University and associated health research institutes have become increasingly recognized as one of the major areas of medical research strength in Australia.

Currently there are some 1200 research scientists and over 270 enrolled PhD students in the Faculty. In spite of its size the Faculty continues to be a friendly place to work and still has the vitality of a young institution.

A great deal of work has gone into designing a new state of the art MBBS course in recent years and this course is now in its third year. All indications are that it is an outstanding course which will produce superb graduates as Monash has always done.

Major new developments on the horizon include the development of a new medical school in Malaysia and the development of an allied health precinct on the Peninsula campus. New research institutes are springing up at Monash Medical Centre and on the main University Clayton campus which will play a role in ensuring that Monash is at the forefront of Australian medical research Universities.

It is sometimes the case with new institutions that they do not build as effective links with their Alumni as they might and to some extent that has been the case with Monash and our Faculty. Our intention is to remedy this as our Alumni and their achievements are enormously valued by our staff and current students and we wish to promote strong engagement into the future.

Measures set in train to facilitate this include a regular alumni lecture series, this new Newsletter which will be sent regularly to all our graduates, and a number of social occasions that the Faculty will organize to facilitate regular contact.

The aim is to develop and strengthen the concept of a Faculty community encompassing current students, staff and Alumni as a group connected by both a common tradition and values of excellence in the health sciences.

I encourage all Alumni to keep in touch with the Faculty. We value both you and your achievements!

With best personal wishes,
Ed Byrne
Dean

Inside this Issue

From the Dean 1
Faculty News 2-3
From the Schools 2
Research Centre for Prevention of Child Abuse 3
Tim McKenzie Scholarship 3
Unlikely Ally in the Treatment of Stroke 4
Centre for Medical and Health Sciences Education 5
Alumni News 6-7
Events, Reunions, Activities 7
Notice Board 8

We welcome readers’ contributions to this newsletter. If you have something you’d like to share with your colleagues please forward hard copy to:

Alumni Office
Building 64
Clayton Campus
Wellington Road
Monash University, Vic 3800

or email: alumni.med@monash.edu.au

Contributions should be no more than 200 words and should be relevant to the interests of the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, its students, graduates and staff.

While every effort will be made to run readers’ contributions, we reserve the right to evaluate content for suitability, and to edit content where necessary.
Faculty News

From its inception as a medical school, offering a single MBBS course to 115 first year students, the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences has grown to become the largest of the ten Monash University faculties in terms of annual income, and the fourth largest in terms of total student numbers.

The Departments of Psychology and Social Work, being the most recent additions to the faculty, transferred from the faculties of Science and Arts respectively in 2000/02.

The Faculty now offers undergraduate courses in medicine, nursing, rural health, medical radiography and medical imaging, biomedical science, behavioural neurosciences, nutrition and dietetics, social work and ambulance and paramedic studies, plus around 500 PhD places and 70 postgraduate coursework courses.

In 2004 we estimate that over 5,500 students (EFTSUs) will undertake our courses and that our teaching, research, and administration staff will total around 1,300 people. Our estimated total income of around $200m is fully allocated to support our teaching, research, administration and operating commitments.

Due to the growing size, complexity and dispersed location of the Faculty, a school structure replaced the traditional departmental structure in 2001. Based on a number of factors, including location and activity, the restructuring saw seven schools emerge from 26 departments.

A review of the school structure, which was planned after three years, is currently underway. The review is considering the success of the new structure, whether the current department and activity mix is the most appropriate, any particular issues that may have arisen, and whether any divergent views exist within schools.

At this stage, it is intended that the review findings will be submitted to the Faculty Executive later in 2004.

Janet Kemp, May 2004

School of Nursing

New appointment for rural nursing

The School of Nursing is pleased to announce the appointment of Professor Karen Francis as inaugural Professor of Rural Nursing (Gippsland Campus). Professor Francis will initially focus on relationship building with local Gippsland communities to help identify their educational needs. Professor Francis currently teaches health education and promotion and research, and supervises PhD, Masters and Honours students. She is president of the Association for Australian Rural Nurses, and is recognised for her outstanding contribution to rural nursing practice.

Necrosomal infection control

Master's student Rajesh Raihan, from the Faculty of Medicine, University Kelantan Malaysia, was interested in the high necrosomal infection rates, particularly MRSA and ESBL infections, among hospitalised newborns in the new Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

Under the supervision of Associate Professor Tony Barrett, Rajesh's Master of Nursing project investigated a protocol for reducing infection rates in the NICU.

By implementing an education intervention program for nursing staff, coupled with observation and assessment tools, the protocol shows a significant reduction in the occurrence and transmission of necrosomal infection rates.

International Nursing Research Conference

The School of Nursing and King's College, London, were sponsors of the Inaugural International Nursing Research Conference, on 9 - 10 June 2004.

Clinical research, methodological issues and the role of policy and politics in collaborative care were the themes of the conference, which was held in Pisa, Italy, of Monash's 18th Century Plazzo Vecchi.

Prominent experts inuitive care, Professor Alison Hidmenton, King's College, Professor Joan Dettore, University of British Columbia and Professor Margaret D' Connor, Monash University, presented keynote lectures.

School of Psychology, Psychiatry and Psychological Medicine

The School of Psychology, Psychiatry and Psychological Medicine, comprising the Department of Psychology and the Department of Psychological Medicine, joined the Faculty in 2002.

The School teaches undergraduate courses in psychology and in the medical, behavioural, social sciences, biomedical science, and nutrition and
discipline degrees. It offers postgraduate coursework degrees from Graduate Certificate to Masters, as well as research Masters, PhD and Doctor of Psychology programs. Its doctoral programs are very successful in attracting high calibre Honours graduates. The Monash University Clinical Psychology Centre, which opened in 2003, delivers advanced training for postgraduate psychology students and provides high-quality psychology services to the community.

A strong emphasis is placed on research productivity and excellence. The School is recognised as a leader in a diverse range of research areas including developmental psychology and psychiatry, forensic mental health, health psychology and psychiatry, neuroscience and neuropsychology, schizophrenia and depression, and animal welfare. Other research areas represented in the school include organisational psychology, behavioural ecology, education, and research methods.

The School provides a broad range of services to the community through its consulting, clinical and advisory capacity, and provides a considerable professional resource to promote community mental health and quality of life.

The School can be contacted on (03) 9905 9588.

Rural Health

The School of Rural Health recently added Salte in East Gippsland to the growing list of regional facilities which constitute the Rural Clinical School. East Gippsland, along with Gippsland, Mildura and Bendigo, is one of four Regional Clinical Schools which provides rural placement options, of 10 to one year’s duration, to MBBS students. Similar opportunities are also being explored for health sciences students.

At the Opening, School of Rural Health head, Professor Gregor Schuler, spoke of the benefits of the Regional Clinical Schools for staff, students, the partner health services and the communities.

"This is one of the very rare projects that has the potential to provide significant benefits to all those concerned, that is, wins all round," he said.

"There are benefits to the students by an improved academic program and broadening their horizons, benefits to the health service by increasing the potential of attracting new or more health professional staff and benefits to the community because they have more health professionals and a better health service."

Professor Schuler added that the benefit to Monash was a more dynamic curriculum for staff and students and the potential for innovative research.

The Honourable Peter McGurcan MP, Minister for Science and Federal Member for Gippsland, and Mr Brian Harlington MLA, State Member for Morwell, joined Professor Schuler in opening the Salte facility.
Faculty News

Faculty Research Centre

Eighy researchers and senior staff attended the Research Summit at the Sheeprunner Conference Centre, Cape St. Francis, on 6 - 9 May 2004.

The summit considered strategies that would, over the next five years, enable the Faculty to raise its research profile to top-50 status internationally and keep up the steady increase in research income.

Associate Dean (Research), Professor Michael Berndt, said that current national funding was increasingly targeted at centres of excellence and large multi-disciplinary teams which were addressing areas of government priority, and that outcomes for either public health or commercialisation were expected.

In this context the summit agreed that the Faculty should be more proactive in its research approach, with funding success and growth to be built upon the development of cross-school and cross-faculty programs in key areas attuned to government priority.

Facilitating the development of cross-school and cross-faculty collaborations and programs should be the alignment of major national and international research areas with the existing Faculty research strengths, such as in Neurosciences, Cardiovascular Disease and Public Health.

National Research Centre for Prevention of Child Abuse

“Child abuse will only stop when children like me become important to everyone”

Words of a 9 year old boy who attended counselling at the Australian Childhood Foundation to heal the hurt left by a parent who had deserted him.

A collaboration between Monash University's Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences and the Australian Childhood Foundation has resulted in the newly established National Research Centre for Prevention of Child Abuse.

With the number of reported cases of abuse and neglect of children increasing in Australia - from 49,791 in 1990/91 to over 115,000 in 2000/01 - the centre is driven by one clear objective: To achieve a permanent and effective reduction in the incidence of child abuse and the harm it causes to children and the community.

Research has shown that the consequences of child abuse and neglect are complex and can affect all areas of the abused person's life. Victims of abuse are more likely to fail at school, suffer mental health and relationship problems, become drug and alcohol addicted and engage in criminal behaviour.

Although many Australian organisations provide welfare services to abused children and their families, none focuses specifically on researching the causes of child abuse and strategies for preventing it.

Under Associate Professor Chris Goddard, the Centre's interim director and one of Australia's leading experts in child abuse and child protection, a research program will commence which will involve a number of specialist Monash groups, including the schools of Psychology, Psychiatry and Psychological Medicine, Rural Health and Nursing; the departments of Social Work, Forensic Medicine and Paediatrics; and the Centre for Developmental Psychiatry and Psychology.

It's expected the five-year program will lead to the creation of new treatment programs for victims of child abuse, the development of an internationally accredited child abuse prevention program and the establishment of a cross-disciplinary postgraduate Masters course in child protection studies.

Current and planned research initiatives of the National Research Centre for Prevention of Child Abuse include:

- Children's experiences of child abuse and child protection intervention
- The emotional and psychological abuse of children
- The connections between the physical punishment of children and child abuse
- Child homicide
- A comparison of Australia's child protection systems
- The prevention of child abuse

Tim Mc Ardle Inaugural Scholarship Presented

Wangarill student Melinda Mason was recently presented the inaugural Tim Mc Ardle Memorial Scholarship.

The scholarship provides financial support for a student living in Gippsland and studying medicine, nursing or one of the health sciences at Monash University.

Melinda, a double degree nursing and rural health student at Monash's Churchill campus, said she was proud to be the first recipient of the scholarship and that it would greatly assist her with the substantial living and fees costs.

The scholarship honours the memory of Dr Tim Mc Ardle, a Monash University medicine graduate (1980), who was tragically killed in a road accident on September 11, 2003. Tim's untimely death rocked his home town of Wangarill to such a degree that a committee was formed to search for ways to celebrate his life and honour his contribution to the local community.

The committee has so far raised over $64,000 in funds and local businesses have contributed free goods and services. The funds will serve as an ongoing memorial to Tim and his commitment to the people of Wangarill by providing practical support to the community.

For further information about the scholarship, or to contribute to the Tim Mc Ardle Scholarship Fund, please contact Jane Barrett, Development Officer, Foundation, on 03 9653 5971.
Unlikely Ally in the Treatment of Stroke

If you embrace the horror story image of the vampire bat as a frightening, blood-sucking fiend, then the findings of recent research may surprise you.

In real life it turns out that the vampire bat may well be a saviour, not the villain portrayed by writers of horror stories.

Dr Robert Medcalf of the Department of Medicine has been conducting research into an enzyme found in vampire bat saliva. His findings show that the enzyme holds much promise in the treatment of patients with ischaemic stroke.

"The removal of blood clots from patients suffering from myocardial infarction is commonly achieved by infusion of a naturally occurring thrombolytic agent known as tissue-type plasminogen activator (t-PA)," said Dr Medcalf.

"T-PA is a protease produced by cells lining the blood vessels that does not break down clots by itself, but instead converts an otherwise inactive protein called plasminogen into its active form plasmin, hence the term: plasminogen activator. Plasmin, itself a powerful protease, in turn destroys the fibrin scaffolding of the blood clot, restoring blood flow."

Drug companies have developed t-PA for the treatment of patients with myocardial infarction.

Dr Medcalf said t-PA was also effective in treating patients with ischaemic stroke but only if administered within three hours of stroke onset. Use of t-PA after three hours of stroke onset has been associated with an unacceptable high incidence of intracerebral haemorrhage.

As well as providing a natural means of removing blood clots from the blood stream, a role has been discovered for t-PA in the brain.

Dr Medcalf said, "Research over the last few years has highlighted a previously unsuspected role for t-PA in the central nervous system where it has been shown to have both positive and negative effects.

On the positive side, t-PA has been shown to participate in long-term memory, synaptic plasticity and visual processing. On the negative side, t-PA, surprisingly, has been shown to mediate excitotoxic neuronal cell death.

Furthermore, in animal models of stroke, the presence of t-PA has actually been found to be detrimental.

While the mechanisms behind t-PA as a neurotoxic protease are still unclear, these results have raised further questions about the use of t-PA in stroke patients and have prompted a search for other effective thrombolytic agents that lack the negative effects of t-PA.

Enter the vampire bat. According to Dr Medcalf there are more than 1000 species of bats, but only three which have adapted to blood feeding. These three species of "vampire" bat have evolved a unique means to keep blood in its undiluted form.

"This bat requires this for two reasons," he said, "firstly to reduce the chance of the wound inflicted on its prey from drying (and reducing its meal size), and secondly to aid in digestion."

"The most studied vampire bat, Desmodus rotundus, achieves this by possessing a powerful plasminogen activator known as DSPA. Desmodus rotundus salivary plasminogen activator in its saliva.

DSPA is very similar to t-PA but is a 200-fold more fibrin-specific plasminogen activator than t-PA, which means that DSPA essentially only becomes active in the presence of a fibrin blood clot and is less likely to promote bleeding."

Dr Medcalf said that this feature of DSPA led to its development as a thrombolytic treatment for patients with ischaemic stroke, and that phase 2 clinical trials were already completed.

Research conducted in the Department of Medicine at Monash University has also shown that DSPA lacks the neurotoxic properties characteristic of t-PA. Dr Medcalf said this was a very important finding because the non-neurotoxic and fibrin-solvent properties of DSPA suggested much promise for effective treatment of patients with ischaemic stroke."
The doors of the Centre for Medical and Health Sciences Education (CMHSE) were opened in late 2003 after extensive renovations were completed.

Situated in building 15 on the Clayton campus, the CMHSE occupies space which previously housed the Haig-saw - Andrew Science and Medicine Library.

The new facilities boast an outstanding suite of seminar, tutorial and clinical skills training rooms, which include 20 e-learning rooms with wireless technology. Two additional rooms function as simulated general practice surgeries, and ensues training, assessment and practice observation to take place through video links and one way glass.

With its state of the art facilities and innovative programs, the CMHSE aims to raise the bar in providing quality continuing education opportunities to undergraduates, postgraduates and health professionals in Australia and overseas.

Professor Brian Jolly, who was appointed the Centre's director in 2002, has a vision of building one of the best health professions and medical sciences education centres in the country. In previous roles, Professor Jolly headed similar centres in the UK, one in Leeds and one at St Bartholomews and the Royal London Hospital Medical School which he started from scratch in 1987. By 1995 it was the largest Medical and Dental Education Unit in England, having attracted over 1.5 million pounds of research and development funding for innovation in education.

Professor Jolly said the CMHSE would raise the profile of health professions and biomedical sciences education in Australia, towards the status it holds in Europe, Canada and the USA.

"Australia has pioneered work in medical student selection, in the use of problem-based learning, graduate entry medical education and in harnessing rural and remote locations for undergraduate medical education," he said. "However, continuity of training from undergraduate to postgraduate level remained a challenge and the CMHSE's primary goal was to develop creative approaches and find better ways to educate people who want to work in healthcare and related biomedical disciplines, "ultimately, for the benefit of patients".

Active engagement within the Faculty and beyond is a key goal of the CMHSE, and joint projects are already underway with the School of Nursing, Department of Radiography, Centre for Ambulance and Paramedic Studies and the Joint University Centre for General Practice. The growing list of the CMHSE's external collaborations includes the Faculties of Law and Information Technology at Monash University and the Medical Faculty Education Unit at the University of Melbourne.

In 2008 the CMHSE will have an opportunity to publicly showcase innovations in healthcare and medical science education, when, together with the University of Melbourne, it co-hosts the Ottawa Conference on Medical and Health Science Education known as "Ottawa 2008". The first such conference was held in Ottawa, Canada in 1994 and has travelled the world biannually since. 2008 will be the first time the conference has been held in Australia and the CMHSE was instrumental in co-ordinating the Australian bid.

A more immediate challenge for the CMHSE however, is to augment the new state of the art facility with a complete set of clinical skills training equipment. Through the Faculty Foundation, a target sum of $400,000 per annum for the first five years has been set to purchase equipment ranging from ophthalmoscope units to virtual chaperone digital assistants, and to outfit the educational facilities.

The Faculty Development Officer (Foundation) Ms Janine Barrett said that whilst a start had been made there was still a long way to go before the $321m total was reached. "Generously," she said "we would love to see past graduates, those who've been successful in their careers, contribute to the learning experience of current and future generations."

Ms Barrett said a variety of opportunities to recognise donors was available, ranging from commemorative plaques to naming rights for floors and even the entire building.

For further information on contributing to the clinical skills equipment fund please contact Ms Janine Barrett on (03) 9905 5971, and for further details about the CMHSE please contact Professor Brian Jolly on (03) 9905 8042.

"Professor Brian Jolly
RUSSELL VL CMHSE"

"Featur
Alumni Profile
Avni Sali, MB BS 1966

Avni Sali was in Monash Medical School’s first graduating class of 1966. He has experienced a fascinating career with many transitions since.

Presently the head of the Graduate School of Integrative Medicine at Swinburne University, a position which he has held for six years, Avni’s early career followed a fairly typical path for an academic surgeon.

After residency at the Alfred Hospital, Avni’s rotations were completed at the Alfred and at Prince Henry’s Hospital. He was an NIHRC Research Fellow from 1969 until 1972, a Clinical Assistant in the Department of Surgery, and Surgical Registrar at Prince Henry’s between 1970 and 1974, an Honorary First Assistant Surgeon and Lecturer from 1974 to 1975 and a Research Fellow at the University of Glasgow from 1975 to 1977.

From 1977, Avni was Professorial First Assistant (Associate Professor) in the Department of Surgery at the Melbourne University, hospitalist and General Hospital, then Specialist Surgeon at Repatriation and General, and Surgeon at the Austin Hospital in 1979.

Avni undertook postgraduate training and was admitted as an FRACS in 1972. He completed a PhD and was admitted as an FRCS in 1982. During this time he was heavily involved with research into a variety of health issues, including cancer, gall stone disease, nutrition, interventional endoscopy, psychological factors and disease and sports science.

However, after more than 10 years in surgery, Avni became disenchantment with the approach of conventional surgery, which he felt focused on treating the disease rather than preventing it. He developed a passion for researching lifestyle and toxic factors predisposing patients to cancer and other diseases.

In 1997, Avni’s new found passion for alternative approaches to health care took him to Swinburne University of Technology where he founded the Graduate School of Integrative Medicine. Amongst the traditional subjects taught at medical school, Mind-Body medicine, Environmental Health, Nutrition and Toxicology formed part of the Swinburne curriculum.

In the true Monash medical tradition, Avni has developed a reputation as an innovator and a visionary. Seeking ever more intriguing ways of bringing medical education he went to Egypt in 2003 where, together with his colleague from university days, John Munrogh, he conducted a comprehensive medical course for Australian and Egyptian doctors.

Avni has made a significant impact on preventive health. He has been instrumental in forging new paths in medical education and in the advancement of medicine.

Avni’s contribution was acknowledged in 2003, when he was presented with the St. Michael’s Award for outstanding community service.

Avni is married to Tina, a former violin player with the Leitch Symphony Orchestra and has three children.

---

Alumni in the News

The Faculty extends best wishes and congratulations to the following alumni who were named in the Australia Day Honours list earlier this year.

Professor Gail Kocornik (MBBS Honours 1971, MD 1996) was admitted as a Member of the Order of Australia (OAM) for service to medicine in the fields of gynaecology, obstetrics, fetal medicine and neonatal intensive care through research, specialist clinical services and education, and to the community.

Emeritus Professor Roger Shon, who received an OAM, for service to science as a reproductive biologist and as a contributor to local and international groups concerned with fertility and related issues.

Associate Professor Enrico Arison (MBBS 1970, DPhil 1973, DSc 1983) was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for service to medicine, particularly in the development and delivery of education programs for ambulance officers and paramedics.

Dr Ian Rowle (BSc 1969) was also awarded an OAM for service to medicine and to the community through history, international and the Western Health.

Dr Leslie Bryant (MEd) received an OAM for service to medicine, particularly through support for women in rural and remote practice.

---

Fast Facts

Monash Medical School took its first cohort of students in 1961, but it wasn’t until 1963 that a ceremony was held officially open the School.

Monash has graduated approximately 5,600 MBBS students in the past forty years.
Alumni News

News, Events, Reunions, Activities

Monash Medical School Turned 40 1963-2003

It was April 1963 when renowned medical scientist Sir Macfarlane Burnet addressed an eminent gathering of scholars and political leaders with the bold words:

"I am greatly honoured by the privilege of speaking on this occasion of the formal opening of what I believe can and will become one of the great medical schools of the world".

He was of course referring to the fledgling Monash medical school, which had just weeks before, inducted only its third cohort of first-year students.

"Aeal of Monash", he said, "I can see a long succession of accomplishments in the advance of knowledge, the improvement of medical care and the maintenance of scholarly ideals".

Fifty years on, in 2003, Sir Macfarlane Burnet's words proved prophetic as students, graduates and current faculty staff and others, gathered to celebrate the achievements of four decades of Monash Medicine.

Nearly 600 people, in total, attended the Academic Day Symposium, which showcased a mere handful of the many achievements of Monash medical graduates, and the Gala Black Tie Ball. Both were held on Saturday, 25 October 2003.

More pictures and stories at www.mmf.monash.edu.au/alumni

1964 Reunion

A 20 year reunion dinner for 1964 graduates and partners will be held on 11th September 2004 at Wellingtons Bar and Bistro, Clayton.

We need to know now if you are interested. PLEASE contact us! Family name beginning with:

A to D: contact Therese Anthriles at therese.anthriles@adm.monash.edu.au

E to H: Judith Hammond at judith.hammond10@tfast.com.au

I to L: Chrys Slavina at adstrh zespoł@conexional.net.au

M to P: Sally Meddleton at sallymed@epg.com.au

Q to T: Julie Groen at julie.groem@bigpond.com.au

U to Z: Ann Williams at annwilks@fastnet.com.au

1973

On 29 March 2004, graduates from 1973 began reunited at Rydges Riverwalk Hotel, beside the Yarra River in Melbourne. An organised but informal luncheon was held on Saturday and was followed by broadcast on Sunday. In between, smaller groups gathered for dinner at various venues, some later retreating to a couple of the hotels' rooms where merry was played until the wee small hours. In all, 45 graduates went to some part of the reunion, and greetings and messages came in from another 10 who were far away (or just unable to come).

The format was so successful it is likely to be repeated for the next reunion, possibly at the 33rd or 35th year mark.

Dean's/Alumni Lecture Series

The first Dean's/Alumni Lecture, the Rod Andrew Oration, was held on 22 April 1987. Professor Frank Fenner AC, CMG, MBE, Hon MD (Monash 1960) spoke on the topic; Big lessons from smallpox, bioterrorism and emerging infections.

Professor Fenner was followed by the Monash Medical Alumni Interactive Panel, which consisted of Professor Paul McAdam (1974), Dr Ian Hulse (1973) and Dr Bill Keogh (1962), as well as Professor Fenner. The panel was moderated by Dr Sally Coodlin (1982).

One hundred and ten people attended the oration and panel discussion.

2nd Dean's Alumni Lecture: 25 July 2004

The second lecture will be held on 22 July 2004 at Monash Medical Centre. It will be given by Professor Denis de Kretser on the topic Genetics of Male Infertility. The audience will be followed by a discussion panel which will ask the question, "Is the human male becoming redundant?".

Look out for a flyer which will be forthcoming or contact alumni@med.monash.edu.au for further information.

A Round of Golf Anyone?

What do you call a group of rabid golf lovers who also happen to be Monash medical graduates? Why, MMADoGS of course.

The Monash Medical Alumni Devotees of Golf Society (MMADoGS) recently played in the inaugural Monash University medical alumni golf match at the superb Metropolitan Golf Club in Oakleigh.

On a near perfect, 25 degree day with only light cloud overhead, 48 MMADoGS vied for the honour of taking home an inaugural trophy.

In anticipation of a varied standard of play, match organiser David Healy (1973), Terry Sullivan (1976) and Greg Fox (1972), put together a helpful competition which recognised the range of talent present.

Zelko Lovic (1987) took home the coveted Best Stableford Score trophy and Ian Meredith (1962) was awarded the Most Outstanding Achievement of the Day for turning up to the course penniless and wearing knickerbockers as voted by his peers.

Trohphies were also awarded for Nearest the Pin and Longest Drive, as well as for the lowest Stableford Score and the Shortest Drive.

Golf Day sponsor Paul Grubbe, managing director of AIMA Financial Services offered the players a piece of advice. "Enjoy the day...", he said "and if your golf game works, enjoy that too!"

The Golf Day is intended to be an annual event and will be played on the Friday before the end of the May long savings. If you think you've got what it takes to be a MMADoGS, telephone Carol Rodrigues at Professor Healy's rooms on (03) 9592 7455, or email your contact details to alumni@med.monash.edu.au

Lucky winners of an inaugural Golf Day Trophy.
Notice Board

From the skills laboratory to the workplace: are we making the connections?
9-11 May 2005
Prato, Italy

Convened by the Centre for Medical and Health Sciences Education at Monash, in conjunction with Kings College, London, this conference serves as a multidisciplinary forum for the discussion and sharing of ideas on the research, development and applications of topics related to clinical skills teaching and learning in the health professions.

The aims of the conference are to:
- Distill and share best practice in clinical skills teaching
- Consider perspectives and needs of clinical teaching in developing countries
- Discuss work based practices and transitions to the real world from the practicum

- Explore the role of e-learning, virtual reality, simulation and robotics in teaching clinical skills
- Examine outcomes of multiprofessional collaboration in learning and teaching clinical skills

We invite you to attend Prato, Italy - part of the region of Tuscany - in 2005 for the First Clinical Skills International Conference, and, to submit proposals for all presentation types.

For more information please contact Annabel Whitby at the Department of General Practice;
Ph: +61 3 8575 2215
Fax: +61 3 8575 2233
Email: annabel.whitby@med.monash.edu.au

Anniversary Booklets

To celebrate the 40th anniversary of the official opening of the Monash Medical School, a commemorative booklet was produced, which includes class lists, photos and reminiscences.

A few copies of the booklet are still available, so if you'd like a copy contact the alumni office on (03) 9905 9329 or alumni@med.monash.edu.au

Booklets are only $20.00 each, which includes postage and handling.

Name this Newsletter Competition

The Faculty is offering a dinner for two to Wellingtons Bar and Bistro, at Clayton Campus, for the best entry in our name this newsletter competition.

We are looking for a catchy name or phrase - one that captures the essence of the Faculty - to use as the title of this newsletter.

The competition is open to all readers. Employees of the Faculty and their families are eligible to enter, but the judges' decision will be final and no correspondence will be entered into!

To enter, simply email your contact details and your suggestion for a title to alumni@med.monash.edu.au or fax same to (03) 9905 4302 by October 1, 2004.

You can enter as many times as you like. The winner will be notified by telephone or email.

Keep Us Informed

Have you moved, or are you about to move? Keep us informed of your new contact details so we can continue to deliver this newsletter.

Simply photocopy this page, fill in the information and fax to (private box) 03 9905 4332, or go to www.monash.edu.au/alumni/fax/address.html to update your details online.

Title ____________________________ Given Name ____________________________ Surname ____________________________

Year of graduation ____________________________

Preferred Contact Address

P/Code ________________

Is this your home or business address? ____________

Preferred contact telephone number ____________________________ Preferred contact mobile number ____________________________

Preferred email address ____________________________

Please tick if you prefer to receive this newsletter by email ____________

Please tick if you no longer wish to receive this newsletter ____________

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences