



Centre for Medical and Health Sciences Education

Newsletter Issue 1, 2009

Director's message



It is some time since the last CMHSE newsletter was distributed. So readers may like to note some significant events and achievements that have taken place over the last year or so.

This may be old news. Last year the Centre, working with colleagues from The University of Melbourne and Deakin University medical schools, hosted the 13th International Ottawa Conference on Clinical Competence – 'Ozzawa 2008'. This was an outstanding success with over 1000 delegates from nearly 50 different countries. Over 400 papers were given at the conference. Monash had a significant input of high quality presentations, from a variety of groups within the Faculty.

But this is not. What was not apparent from the conference programme was that recently available data shows that eight of the top 50 papers selected for presentation by two independent international reviewers came from Monash groups. These covered a broad range of topics, from a national survey of medical education in Australia to research on new work-based assessment methods for anaesthetists. Monash staff also hosted or contributed to several international symposia.

Why is this important? The Ottawa Conference is regarded as the leading international conference on clinical competence, with a major focus on assessment. The Monash profile was high, and the quality of presentations outstanding. There has been a number of national and international research collaborations stemming from discussions started at the conference. A keynote speaker at the conference, Professor Ron Epstein, is to collaborate on a book with Liz Molloy, and workshops on using simulated patients as teaching and research platforms will be given by Sheryl Cardozo and Debbie Kiegaldie at the 'Association of Standardized Patient Educators' and 'Clinical Skills' (see below) conferences in New York and Prato respectively later this year.

CMHSE, together with the University of Dundee and ANZCA host the 3rd 'International Clinical Skills Conference' in Prato, Italy July 1-4, 2009. The theme of the conference is 'Research in Clinical Skills: Showcasing Best Practice for Students and Practitioners' with keynote presenters including Professor Pat Croskerry, Dr Jim Crossley, Professor Stewart Dunn, Dr Jean Ker, Dr Rona Patey, and Professor Sari Ponzer.

We have secured several research tenders over the past year, including work with the Southern Health Medical Education Unit on the clinical supervision of students and juniors doctors; the supervision of international medical graduates (IMGs) in the Victorian hospital system, development of patient safety-oriented assessment tools for IMGs and developing high fidelity simulated learning environments for learning non-technical skills for surgeons in training.

What does the number 130209 mean to you? Well, in March 2008, after much agitation by researchers at Monash and across Australia, 'Medical, Nursing and Health Sciences Curriculum and Pedagogy' was identified as a research field by the Australian Bureau of Statistics with this code 130209. This means that this field is now on the map of research topics for the ARC and the NHMRC and both

will be allowing the code to be used in the next round of research funding. This year, the ARC recognised it but the NHMRC did not. Early indications are that about 15 projects nationwide were submitted to the ARC under this banner in the 2009 round.

The Centre managed to treble our ARC and NHMRC research submissions this year. This includes an international collaboration with Miriam Zukas and Sue Kilminster in the UK on transitions in workplace learning. A paper from a previous collaboration between us and Sue Kilminster remains in the top ten downloaded from the journal Medical Education, a position it held since 2004.

In late 2008, we led a consultative process with a number of university representatives with the aim of devising a strategy for Health Professional and Health Sciences Education (HPHSE) research and innovation across the Faculty. The findings and recommendations stemming from this consultation were presented at the Inaugural HPHSE Research Symposium, along with a showcase of educational research, and workshops based on discussions of educational innovation and research. The 2009 HPHSE Research Symposium, will take place on 29 September at Peninsula campus, Monash.

The consultative process strengthened the CMHSE's vision to encourage collaborations between HPHSE researchers, and to support educators, both in the University and clinical environment, as innovators and researchers. Margaret Bearman has established a Faculty wide HPHSE listserv, and together with Liz Molloy is facilitating the Educational Research Doctoral Group (currently 15 members), who meet on the first Wednesday of each month.

Once again, the CMHSE seminar series has created much interest within the education community, with Associate Professor Terry Haines from the Department of Physiotherapy/Southern Health presenting on educational research methodology, and Professor Miriam Zukas from Leeds University discussing transitions in medical education.

Non Technical Skills Training (NTS) for specialist trainees using simulation methods – Pilot training in Projects

Twelve surgical trainees within the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) specialist training program were invited to participate in a two-day pilot course in order to improve their skills in communication, decision-making, critical reflection and team work. A range of simulation technologies were applied to develop individual and team-based NTS. The course was underpinned by a framework of multi-source feedback and participant reflection.

The development and implementation of the course was led by a team of Monash educators including Dr Margaret Bearman (Project Leader CMHSE), Professor Brian Jolly (CMHSE), Professor Debra Nestel (Gippsland Medical School), Associate Professor Brendan Flanagan (Monash Simulation Network), Dr Elizabeth Molloy (CMHSE), Ms Jennifer Keast (Monash Simulation Network), and Ms Sheryl Cardozo (CMHSE).

This group has extensive experience in simulation methodologies in the health professional context, communication skills teaching, and expertise in the application of feedback and debriefing processes.

The course was tailored to the surgical context through close collaboration with our RACS colleagues. The course participants

engaged in: immersive simulation tasks; non clinical team problem-solving activities; and the pre-briefing and de-briefing sessions. Internal evaluation, as well as evaluation by an independent team indicated that this type of course would be highly valuable in enhancing a wide range of surgical trainees' skills.

CMHSE seminar series

The CMHSE seminar series has had three terrific speakers already in 2009; and great attendees with lots of very interesting discussions coming out of each session.

- Associate Professor Terry Heines – spoke on 'Research designs for evaluation of clinical education innovation'.
- Dr Peter Barton was the guest speaker at a round table on 'Managing OSCEs: complexity, quality and standardisation'.
- Professor Miriam Zukas – spoke on 'Learning responsibility on the job? Exploring doctors' transitions to new levels of performance'.

Our next speaker promises to be equally exciting:

- Professor Srikant Sarangi: Professor and Director of the Health Communication Research Centre at Cardiff University on July 15 2009. Time and venue TBC.

For further information go to our website www.med.monash.edu.au/cmhse/seminars or please contact Dr Margaret Bearman, CMHSE Seminar Coordinator margaret.bearman@med.monash.edu.au



International Council of Nurses INP/APNN Research Subgroup appointment

Beverley Bird, Lecturer in the Centre for Medical and Health Sciences Education and Fellow of the Royal College of Nursing Australia has been appointed as Co-Chair of the International Nurse Practitioner/Advanced Practice Nurse Network Research Subgroup of the International Council of Nurses for 2009 and 2010.

The research subgroup is made up of leading nurse researchers and practitioners from the United States, Canada, Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia and the United Kingdom.

Important upcoming International Council of Nurses events include the ICN 24th Quadrennial Congress to be held in Durban, South Africa from June 27 – July 4 2009 and the 6th International Council of Nurses Nurse Practitioner/Advanced Practice Nursing Network Conference which will be hosted by Australia in September 2010.

From back left: Ms Kathleen Hickey, Mr David Birks, Mr Adrian Anthony, Ms Mary Langcake, Mr Ian Civil, Professor Debra Nestel, Ms Sheryl Cardozo, Dr Margaret Bearman, Dr Liz Molloy, Associate Professor Brendan Flanagan



Learn how to teach and supervise effectively!

CMHSE is offering the following workshops throughout the year:

- Planning your teaching
- Teaching small groups
- Giving effective performance feedback
- Introduction to assessment in HPE
- Introduction to supervision
- Dealing with the poorly performing learner
- Teaching learners from Non-English speaking backgrounds
- Introduction to course planning
- Interactive lecturing

Book online at: www.med.monash.edu.au/cmhse/courses/educator-workshops/index.html

For all enquiries please contact Caroline Bopp on (03) 9501 5538 or email caroline.bopp@med.monash.edu.au

Symposium: Save the date

Dr Margaret Bearman and Dr Liz Molloy would like to invite you to:

Health Professional and Health Sciences Education (HPHSE) Research Symposium 2009

'Building the Culture of Educational Research in the Health Professions and Health Sciences'

Date: Tuesday September 29, 2009

Venue: Lecture Theatre A4:16
Peninsula Campus,
Monash University

Time: 9.00–4.30 pm

RSVP: pam.collom@med.monash.edu.au

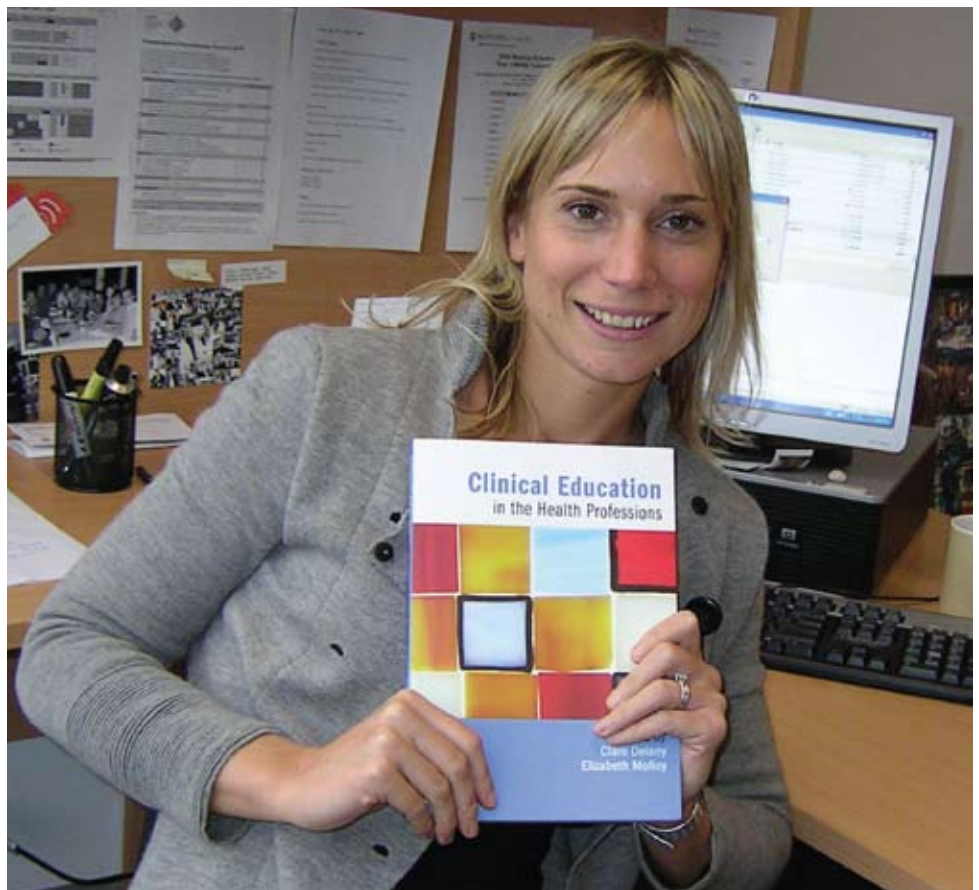
Following on from last year's inaugural symposium success, the Centre for Medical and Health Sciences Education (CMHSE), in association with Peninsula campus, Monash University are hosting a FULL DAY health professional and health sciences education research symposium for Monash Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences and associated partner organisations.

Attendees will have the opportunity to explore current issues facing health professional and health sciences educational research; as well as actively building networks with colleagues.

The program will include:

- a key note speaker on best-practice education theory;
- a debate about the culture of educational research across the health sciences and health professions;
- a researchers' showcase of current educational projects within Monash University and partner organisations;
- PeArLS to promote discussion about directions and synergies for HSHPE Research; and
- Presentation of the Inaugural CMHSE Emergent Educational Research Prize.

Call for abstracts coming soon!



Just published: Clinical Education in the Health Professions

Clare Delany from the University of Melbourne, and Liz Molloy from CMHSE, Monash, have co-edited and published a book called 'Clinical Education in the Health Professions' with Elsevier. Designed to inform, challenge and educate health professionals about the evidence underpinning clinical education practices and outcomes, it brings together some of the most important concepts in healthcare education and draws upon the ideas and expertise of researchers who have studied different aspects of clinical education including context and processes of learning; professional identity and socialisation; feedback and assessment; ethics, and inter-professional education.

Addressing the realities – and complexities – of teaching and learning in the clinical environment, each chapter presents a research-based facet of clinical education as a platform to support the generation of knowledge and future research in clinical education.

The authors encourage the reader to consider teaching and learning practices based on research findings, expertise and innovation, and to develop their own teaching methods and styles from a theoretical base that provides relevant principles, direction and support.

The editors:

Clare Delany

PhD, BAppSci (Phy), M Physio (Manipulative Therapy), M Health & Med Law. Is a Senior Lecturer in ethics, clinical education and qualitative research methods, Melbourne Physiotherapy, The University of Melbourne and Clinical Ethics Fellow at the Children's Bioethics Centre, Royal Children's Hospital.

Elizabeth Molloy

PhD, BPhysio (Hons). Is a Senior Lecturer in Educational Research Methods in the Health Professions and Clinical Supervision at the Centre for Medical and Health Sciences Education at Monash University, and a physiotherapist with the Australian Athletics Team.

Contributing authors:

Joy Higgs, Sue Kilminster, Gillian Webb, Rod Fawns, Rom Harré, Megan Davidson, Robyn Smith, Nick Stone, Anna Chur-Hansen, Robyn Woodward-Kron, Rola Ajjawi, Stephen Loftus, Henk G Schmidt, Silvia Mamede, Jenny Keating, Megan Dalton, Megan Davidson, Lynn Gillam and Rosalind McDougall.

The book is being launched at the 'International Clinical Skills Conference' in Prato, Italy on July 1 2009.

CMHSE – Education and Educational Research Activities and Resources

Symposium

2009 CMHSE Symposium:
29 September @ Peninsula campus
'Building the Culture of Educational Research in the Health Professions and Health Sciences'.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS NOW OPEN
www.med.monash.edu.au/cmhse/hphse.html

Prizes

Inaugural CMHSE Emerging Health Profession/Health Sciences Educational Researcher prize

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN
www.med.monash.edu.au/cmhse/hphse.html

Regular events

Seminar series – next seminar
Professor Sikrant Sarangi
on Wed July 15 (lunchtime).

Doctoral/Higher Degree by Research (HDR) group – meets first Wednesday of the month from 10am – 12noon.

Journal club/publication group – alternating third Friday of the month from 12.30 – 1.30pm.

Listservs

CMHSE seminar listserv.

This listserv provides notification of CMHSE seminars and other relevant seminars and conferences.

Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences listserv for Health Professional Health Sciences Educational Research list.

This listserv is an internal Monash health professional and health sciences research for collegiate exchange of relevant information eg key articles, achievements and so on.

Doctoral group listserv.

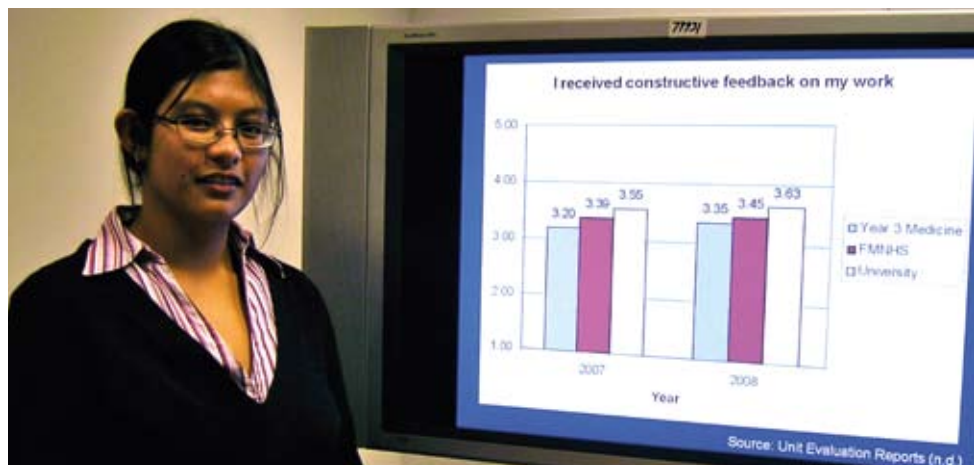
This listserv supports the Doctoral/Higher Degree by Research (HDR) group.

Please contact Dr Margaret Bearman at margaret.bearman@med.monash.edu.au for further information on the above.

Joanna Tai gets 'feedback' on her 'feedback project'

Bachelor of Medical Science (BMedSc) candidate Joanna Tai recently presented her research project titled 'Improving feedback for medical students: an inquiry and focussed educational intervention' to members of the CMHSE department. The BMedSc is the optional research degree for MBBS students and is undertaken over one academic year. Assessment occurs in the form of three oral presentations, one literature review and a final thesis submission of 15,000 words.

Joanna is spending the year at the CMHSE, working with supervisors Dr Liz Molloy and Professor Brian Jolly. Her project aims to examine and improve medical students' experiences of feedback in the clinical setting. It involves both questionnaire and focus group data collection, and an experimental 'feedback skills workshop' administered to Year 3 MBBS students. The data may inform future educational interventions designed to improve health professional students' ability to solicit and respond to feedback in the clinical setting.



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Something to say?

Would you like to include something in the next CMHSE newsletter?

Please contact Caroline Bopp:
Phone: (03) 9501 5538
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Every effort will be made to include contributions. However, due to limited space items may be edited.

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