

## **NSW Regional Trainee Committee Newsletter – Issue 1**

Dear fellow trainees,

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2010. In it I hope to raise the awareness of the role and function of the committee, and explain how you may be of help.

### **What is the Trainee Committee?**

Every region that comes under the governance of the college has a regional trainee committee. We aim to meet at least six times a year, usually by teleconference, but once a year we meet face-to-face at the college building in Crows Nest.

The committee has a representative, usually the chair, who sits on the NSW Regional Committee, and also on the National Trainee Committee. In addition, the National Trainee Committee then has representatives on many of the college committees, allowing trainee input into the functioning of the college.

### **What is the function of the Trainee Committee?**

The Trainee Committee provides a voice for trainees within the college. It thus allows:

- Provision of input to council regarding training issues
- Consideration of issues relating to education, training and other matters
- Consideration of matters on which the college council or its committees seek trainee opinion
- A mechanism by which trainees may bring suggestions for improvement to the existing system

The committee is also, in conjunction with GASACT, the organizer of the annual Part Zero Course.

### **What issues are we talking about?**

Issues currently being discussed by the committee include:

- Part Zero course
  - o This was recently held on 6<sup>th</sup> February. It was well attended, and the feedback from the day was very positive. It is planned that this will become an annual event held at the beginning of each year.
- Exam Fees
  - o A letter was drafted by the committee and sent to the college regarding the justification of multiple large examination fee increases, to which the college's honorary treasurer responded with a detailed letter. This will be discussed in a future edition of the ANZCA Bulletin.

- Independent Trainees
  - o This continues to be a problem in NSW, with some trainees struggling to gain positions on rotational schemes, and the completion of all modules, in particular paediatrics, cardiac and neurosurgery. The committee is currently providing input to the NSW Regional Committee regarding possible solutions.

### **So who is on the Trainee Committee?**

|                   |               |                            |
|-------------------|---------------|----------------------------|
| Natalie Smith     | Wollongong    | Regional Education Officer |
| Simon Martel      | Westmead      | Chair                      |
| Daniel Michael    | Liverpool     | Deputy Chair               |
| Michael Stone     | RPAH          | Secretary                  |
| Emily Stimson     | John Hunter   | Immediate Past Chair       |
| Jennifer Tan      | RNSH          |                            |
| Timothy Holliday  | RNSH          |                            |
| Rachel Ruff       | St Vincents   |                            |
| Colleen Bruce     | St George     |                            |
| Jamie Rickcord    | Coffs Harbour |                            |
| Katherine Jeffrey | Blacktown     |                            |

### **How can you help us?**

Two ways:

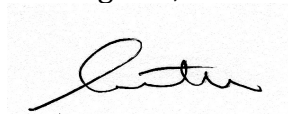
1. Get involved
  - We are looking for more members, who are keen to contribute both time and ideas. In particular, we would like to have representatives from all the rotational schemes, as well as some independent trainees, so as to have a representative mix of trainees.
2. Contact us
  - We can't represent trainees unless we know what is happening to trainees. So if you have a wonderful idea or are unfortunately having some difficulty with a college matter, we would love to hear from you. I can be easily contacted at:

[nswtrainingcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:nswtrainingcommittee@gmail.com)

We hope to have more newsletters this year, keeping you informed of issues pertinent to NSW trainees.

Finally, good luck to the many candidates currently sitting exams.

Best regards,



Simon Martel  
Chair - ANZCA NSW Regional Trainee Committee