



**ACPSEM**

Australasian College of Physical  
Scientists & Engineers in Medicine

**FOCUS**

FEBRUARY 2020

## ACPSEM PRESIDENT'S WORDS - RICHARD DOVE



ACPSEM has launched a new look website which you have hopefully taken time to have a look at. The look is certainly new and fresh, and is now responsive to different devices, but even more important are behind the scenes changes that give us a platform for improved services in the future. Inevitably IT upgrades have their issues so a big thanks to Susie Zhong, Craig Miner and the rest of the ACPSEM team for all their work on this.

February has seen both the College's 2020 Board and the Professional Standards Board (PSB) meeting in Sydney to set up the year's work. For the first time the Board and PSB met on the same day which enabled a couple of hours to be spent together discussing common themes. The Board governs the "business" of ACPSEM while the PSB is delegated to oversee professional standards work; such as TEAP and registration. Understanding each other and making some time together to do future thinking can only help coordination!

At the February 2020 Board Meeting we also welcomed Rosemary Peavey to the board. Rosemary has been appointed to the Board to bring an external perspective to help us keep developing our governance processes. For more information on the 2020 board keep reading our newsletters. Additionally, you can find out more about our other 2020 Board Members in this newsletter.

## UPDATES FROM SHARON

### AN OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS

This update is designed to keep members informed about the range of strategic activities and other projects underway by the Board, various committees and specialty groups in the ACPSEM. Feel free to contact the Office for further information.

#### ACPSEM Board

The focus of the Board's work in 2020 is continuing the oversight of the changes to governance and other specific projects:

- Refining new delegations made to the PSB (following the 2018 governance review) based on dialogue and testing of assumptions.
- Transitioning the 3 Year TEAP Working Group tasks to the PSB for oversight.
- New (Dynamic) Curriculum Review policy and procedures.
- Regionalising Training (including a broader review of supervision models) - expect a members update in late March 2020.

- 2021-2023 Strategic Planning.
- 2020 ACPSEM Workplan development and monitoring.
- Further work on the AHPRA Registration (or not) followup paper (for circulation to members in mid-March) - approving the assumptions and scope of the next stage of discussion paper.

### **The PSB**

In mid 2019 the PSB was reconstituted with different delegations and expectations and it has moved through stages of finalising TEAP policy and procedures, developing reporting protocols for the ACPSEM Board, and is now focussed on refining site accreditation management procedures, examiner recruitment and retention, and determining the detail of information flow to and from the Certification Panels.

### **ROMP Projects**

- This newsletter includes a summary of the wide range of items being addressed by the ROSG
- ROMP CTG Review will begin in April 2020 and until the plan is approved an end date has not been identified. Broad consultation will happen.
- ROMP Workforce Modelling- The EOI to be part of a short term task force, will appear in March 2020. This project will be completed by December 2020.
- The ROCP is nearing the end of a year long project to increase exam questions

### **DIMP Projects**

- This newsletter includes updates from the radiology and nuclear medicine SGs.
- The DIMP Workforce Modelling Project is well underway and will likely be launched in full at EPSM20
- In February 2020, the PSB approved a revised PET certification framework.
- Members can expect an update on MR Safety-related discussions including recent review of the optional DIMP CTG modules and development of a course for which broad interest is expected, that will be run mid year 2020.

### **RPS Projects**

- The RPS review (2019) is complete
- Focus is now on upskilling supervisors to take increased responsibility for sign off competencies.

### **Working Groups**

- MRI Linac WG terms of reference released and EOI just completed.
- Particle Therapy WG - the new Particle Therapy Fellowship will be awarded imminent.

### **Three Year TEAP**

- The three year TEAP project will be formally implemented from 1 July 2020. This means that for those who are enrolled after 1 July 2020, there will be consequences associated with registrars not meeting milestones set out at the time of enrolment.
- At this time the mechanisms will also be in place by which registrars supported by chief physicists or equivalent shall apply for an exemption to the three year requirement.
- Important developments that you may have heard are underway include:
  1. Transition from an Annual Performance Review (APR) to a Periodic Performance Review (PPR) ; a key step to sustain the three year completion goal and also changing the outcome
  2. Providing an early touchpoint (conversation) about the publication requirement, (for DIMP and ROMP) including mentoring for those in obvious need of further support.
  3. Reviewing the timing of exams and assessments.

Once again feel free to contact the office for further information about anything mentioned above.

## LAUNCH OF THE NEW ACPSEM WEBSITE

### WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE LAUNCH OF THE NEW ACPSEM WEBSITE!

Our **new website** is your go-to place for industry news, upcoming events, accessing our e-Learning platform (Comet) and information about the College. Our new website features a number of upgrades to enable you to fully use your College membership, including:

- **Search functionality** – easily search for relevant information and documents
- **Clearer menus** – navigating will be easier and more logical
- **Entering your CPD points** – find the correct program and enter your points with ease
- **Reliable payments** – making payments will be more successful, even on the first try
- **Responsive design** – access the new website on any device
- **Tailored communications** – choose your own communications preferences and subscriptions
- **PESM Journal** - access the previous editions of the journal
- **Jobs** – the jobs board will continue to be available for job seekers, and clients can now prepay for job adverts.

### YOUR LOGIN DETAILS

You can access the new website by using the same web address - [www.acpsem.org.au](http://www.acpsem.org.au) - **however, your member login details have changed**. Please refer to the email you received with your new login details.

### UPDATE YOUR DETAILS

Once you have logged into the new website **please check/update your contact details** by clicking "My Details" and fill in any missing information. Note, you can change your password at any time by logging in and clicking "Change My Password".

We hope you enjoy using our new website. For further information on the features of our website relating to your membership, please **refer to our guide**.

## IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

### A POLITE REMINDER TO RENEW YOUR ACPSEM MEMBERSHIP

Thank you for your continued loyalty and support over the last year, and to all members who have already renewed their membership online. In 2019, the College completed the Refreshing Professional Standard Project and continued to enhance our membership engagement via new programs and industry events. Check out our 2019 achievements in our **recent video**.

This year we will continue these initiatives to help build a solid professional network for members, and we need your support to remain as a member, to involve yourself in these programs and to provide suggestions and ideas on our member services and delivery.

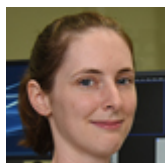
By logging into **our website** you can ensure your contact details are up-to-date, renew your ACPSEM membership, access a full range of services associated with your membership, and take up the **ESTRO Affiliate Membership Offer**.

To renew please log into the **ACPSEM website**, click "My ACPSEM" and then "Renew My Membership" where you will be able to pay online by credit card. You will receive your tax invoice afterwards via email and it's also downloadable via "My Invoices". We encourage members to make online payment, however if you would like to do an EFT transfer instead please contact our Office (P: +61 (0)2 8305 3900) and ask for Susie or Angela in our Membership Team.

## THE ACPSEM 2020 BOARD AND NEW APPOINTMENTS

### RE-INTRODUCING THE EXISTING ACPSEM 2020 BOARD MEMBERS

Last year we were pleased to notify you of four new members on the 2020 Board. However, we would like to acknowledge and thank our four existing board members for their efforts to date, and let them tell you a little bit more about their selves.



#### Lucy Cartwright (NSW)

"I'm a certified Radiology Medical Physicist, and I've been involved with ACPSEM on various projects and I've been on the Board since the start of 2019. I'm keen to raise awareness of our profession, improve patient care for services which do not yet have access to imaging physicists, and to create opportunities for the future generations."



#### Martin Ebert (WA)

"I'm a Research Physicist and I enjoy planning grand projects, seeing students achieve, and sharing a full home with my wife, 3 daughters, dog, 2 cats and chickens! As a board member I hope to help prepare our profession for a future healthcare system driven by technologies which we are only starting to get a glimpse of."



#### Kym Rykers (VIC)

"I am the Medical Physicist Manager at Austin Health - we provide external beam radiotherapy to patients. I hope to consolidate the role of medical physics and engineers in patient care by enhancing the visibility and value of the ACPSEM when representing members to government groups and health service providers."



#### Nataalka Suchowerska (NSW)

"I hold a tenured position leading medical physics research at Chris OBrien Lifehouse. My research broadly aims to apply novel technologies and fundamental science to improve the treatment and outcomes for cancer patients. I have been an ACPSEM member since 1985 having served on several committees and panels."

For a reminder of the announcement of the new 2020 Board Members (Michael Bernardo, Richard Dove, Kevin Hickson and Ivan Williams), please [read more](#). Additionally, the Board were pleased to appoint a new and independent member in early 2020, Rosemary Peavey.



#### Rosemary Peavey

"I'm a legal and governance professional currently working with Aurecon, a professional services company, as a Senior Lawyer and Company Secretary. I was attracted to the board because of ACPSEM's focus on helping science professionals improve patient outcomes, and I bring with me core skills in the areas of governance and risk management."

## NEWS AND BRANCH REPORTS

### CALL FOR APPLICATIONS TO FILL POSITIONS ON THE BHT FOUNDATION BOARD

Four positions have opened up on the Better Healthcare Technology Foundation Board. The positions are open to ACPSEM members, particularly those with a background in diagnostic imaging or radiopharmaceutical science. [Read more](#)

### ACPSEM ENDORSES AAPM POSITION STATEMENT - PICKED UP BY THE NEW YORK TIMES

In August 2019 the ACPSEM Board voted to endorse the [AAPM Position Statement on the Use of Patient Gonadal and Fetal Shielding](#) which recommends that shielding of patients be "discontinued as routine practice", upending an age-old practice. The New York Times have recognised the ACPSEM on behalf of Australia for endorsing the position statement. [Read more](#)

### **SIGN UP TO oMAMQA - ONLINE COURSE**

The CPD approved Online Mammography QA course is a valuable training tool for mammography radiographers within Australia and New Zealand. Comprising of 12 modules, this course allows you the flexibility to tailor the course to your personal needs, experience and equipment. [Read more](#)

### **CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF THE DISCOVERY OF X-RAY TECHNOLOGY**

Did you know 2020 marks the 125th anniversary of the discovery of x-rays? **Siemens Healthineers** have a monthly series which looks at their many applications, and covers the history of x-rays, current research projects, and future developments. [Read more](#)



### **VIC/TAS ANNUAL BRANCH MEETING 2019**

The ACPSEM Victoria/Tasmania branch held their ABM on 5 December 2019 in Melbourne, VIC. The meeting included insightful presentations, followed by dinner in the loft. It also includes information on the new branch committee members. Thank you to NL-TEC for sponsoring this event. [Read more](#)



### **VIC/TAS BRANCH COMMITTEE WELCOME 2020**

The ACPSEM Victoria/Tasmania branch held a welcome event on 27 February 2020 for their new committee members. A few updates took place throughout the evening, including branch plans and events for 2020 and an interesting APSIG Fundraising idea! [Read more](#)



### **AGM PRIMPS 2019 EVENT - QLD BRANCH MEETING**

The ACPSEM Queensland branch held their Annual Branch Meeting on 10 December 2020 which was followed by PRIMPS (Progress and Research in Medical Physics Series) 29. The event included six very interesting presentations. [Read more](#)

### **MEDPHYS DAY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY - NSW/ACT BRANCH**

The NSW/ACT Branch held their MedPhys19 event on 10 December 2019, where presentations were given by medical physics registrars and postgraduates students. Special congratulations were given to Terry Perkins, Natasha Morton, Anthony Espinoza and Nicholas Hindley. [Read more](#)

### **ACPSEM SCIENTIFIC MEETING - NSW/ACT BRANCH**

The NSW/ACT Branch held a Scientific Meeting with Dr Vladimir Feygelman (Department of Radiation Oncology, Moffitt Cancer Centre) on the '*Challenges in Patient Specific Dosimetric QA of Single-Isocentre Multiple-Target SRS*' on 11 February. The event was well attended, both by visitors in person and those viewing via Zoom. To read Dr Feygelman's abstract, please [read more](#)

### **WA ANNUAL BRANCH MEETING 2019 AND NEW 2020 COMMITTEE**

Following the success of EPSM, the ACPSEM Western Australian branch held their ABM on 10 December 2019 at GenesisCare in Wembley, WA. As part of the meeting a number of positions were filled on the 2020 Committee. Watch this space for more information from the WA Branch.

### **MACHINE LEARNING IN RADIATION THERAPY**

On 14 February, four medical physics masters students at the University of Western Australia organised a workshop on "Machine Learning in Radiotherapy", which outlined the various applications of machine learning. [Read more](#)

### **WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU MIX PHYSICAL SCIENCE WITH COFFEE?**

It's not too late to take an entertaining look at the associations between medical science and coffee! Buy a copy of 'A World of Physical Science and Coffee', proceeds from this booklet will go to the Better Healthcare Technology Foundation. [Read more](#)



## HELP FOR TANZANIA

In January our members received an email requesting items for a radiation oncology facility in Tanzania, Africa. If you have any radiotherapy and medical physics books, journals, reports, conference proceedings, ICRP reports etc, that you no longer need (earlier editions included), please contact Howell Round (howell.round@gmail.com).

## BHT FOUNDATION: MAJOR RADIOLOGY POLICY CHANGE: NO FOETAL & GONADAL SHIELDING

The Better Healthcare Technology Foundation has released a new blog post. [Read more](#)

# SPECIALTY GROUPS & SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

A number of Specialty Groups and Special Interest Groups are **seeking new members**, and it is now easier than ever to join. Visit our new website, log on and select "specialty groups". In this area you will find all groups, a description, and an option to subscribe.

For the full guidelines on Specialty Groups and Special Interest Groups, please [click here](#).

## EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR APSIG VOLUNTEERS IN SOUTH EAST ASIA

Calling ROMP members! The Asia Pacific Special Interest Group (APSIG) is seeking expressions of interest for members to volunteer by supporting radiotherapy centres in Cambodia, Laos, and other countries across Asia. For further information about APSIG and volunteering opportunities, [read more](#)

## MEDICAL IMAGE REGISTRATION SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (MIRSIG)

MIRSIG and the TROG Image Registration Subgroup are holding an activity-based workshop designed to improve image registration skills for Radiation Oncologists, Radiation Therapists and Medical Physicists. The workshop is taking place at the University of Sydney on 15 March. [Read more](#)

Additionally, the BHT Foundation have written a blog article on MIRSIG. [Read more](#)

## NUCLEAR MEDICINE SPECIALTY GROUP

The call for Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to join the ACPSEM Nuclear Medicine Specialty Leadership Committee has been extended to Monday 9 March, and overall an increased membership is required for this specialty group. [Read more](#)

The Nuclear Medicine Specialty Group has had a number of recent updates, including the appointment of a new Chair, and the industry as a whole is seeing an explosion of novel techniques being used. [Read more](#)

## RADIOLOGY SPECIALTY GROUP

The Radiology Specialty Group is pleased to inform you of some exciting updates, including new committee members, recommendations to the ACPSEM board, and more. [Read more](#)



## RADIATION ONCOLOGY SPECIALTY GROUP

The RSOG has provided an update on their related projects and an agenda for the year ahead. Their update includes information on the representation of radiation oncology medical physics, current leadership committee members, a TEAP review, and a call for expressions on the MRI Linac Working Group. [Read more](#)

## MEMBERS

### DR SIVA SARASANANDARAJAH AND COLLEAGUES RELEASE REGION-LEADING PAPER

Congratulations to the team on their paper which looks at postgraduate medical physics programmes across the Asia-Oceania region, and how these differ due to an increase of medical imaging and radiation therapies. The survey investigates the variance of graduate skills and qualities which could pose a threat to patient safety. [Read more](#)

Additionally, Siva has made significant contributions through the [IAEA technical cooperation program](#) by using his radiotherapy expertise to help in establishing the first radiotherapy centre in the northern part of [Tajikistan](#). The centre will help approximately 3,000 cancer patients in Tajikistan who require radiotherapy. [Read more](#)



### NEW STARTER - ACPSEM - MEGAN ANDERSON, EDUCATION MANAGER

We would like to welcome Megan Anderson to ACPSEM! Megan is our Education Manager and she will be managing and supporting the development and delivery of education and assessment related tasks across all College TEAPs. Megan's background is in research, evaluation, project management and policy development across a number of related sectors. Welcome Megan!



## CAREERS

### BUILDING A SUCCESSFUL CAREER SERIES



**Bryn Currie** tells us how he got into medical physics, what it was like to be one of the first groups of ROMP TEAP registrars in New Zealand, and reveals what he expects to see in the future for medical physics. Additionally, Bryn tells us why he has briefly stepped away from working in the clinic. [Read more.](#)

Are you interested in telling others about your career journey? Or perhaps you would like to nominate someone? If so, please email [communications@acpsem.org.au](mailto:communications@acpsem.org.au)

### VACANCIES

#### RADIATION ONCOLOGY MEDICAL PHYSICIST: REGISTRAR

Melbourne, VIC - Closing date tbc

#### MEDICAL PHYSICS SPECIALIST RADIATION ONCOLOGY

Gosford, NSW - Closing 3 March

#### NSW ROMP CPC COORDINATOR

Newcastle, NSW - Closing 12 March

#### SENIOR MEDICAL PHYSICS

Canberra, ACT - Closing date tbc

See all vacancies [here](#).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### NEW ZEALAND PHYSICS AND ENGINEERING IN MEDICINE

9-10 March 2020, Hamilton, NZ

The New Zealand Branch of the ACPSEM invites you to the annual NZPEM 2020 Conference, held in Hamilton, NZ, in March 2020. Register on the website. [Read more](#)

### GIRLS IN PHYSICS BREAKFASTS

10 March 2020 - onward, various across VIC

Female scientists and engineers are encouraged to participate in the 'Girls in Physics Breakfasts' taking place across Victoria from March. The series of events will allow female school students to ask people working in our industry about their work and life. [Read more](#)

### PRIMPS 30

10 March 2020, Brisbane, QLD

The ACPSEM Queensland branch is hosting a PRIMPS 30 event which will include informative presentations such as 'Deep Learning Technology in CT for Image Reconstruction', 'Jelly vs Foam', site updates and more. [Read more](#)

### ACPSEM - PRACTICAL IMAGE REGISTRATION

15 March 2020, Sydney, NSW

The ACPSEM Medical Image Registration Special Interest Group (MIRSIG) and TROG Image Registration Subgroup are holding an activity-based workshop designed to improve image registration skills for Radiation Oncologists, Radiation Therapists and Medical Physicists. [Read more](#). See the event poster [here](#)



### TROG CANCER RESEARCH'S 2020 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

16-19 March 2020, Sydney, NSW

Register for TROG's 32nd ASM being held in Sydney. The 2020 ASM will host international and national keynote speakers, alongside TROG cancer researchers and clinicians. [Read more](#)



### ESTRO 2020

3-7 April 2020, Vienna, Austria

ESTRO is a multi-professional society focusing on radiation oncology as a core component of high-quality, multidisciplinary cancer treatment, in partnership with other oncology societies. [Read more](#)

Additionally, join Elekta, one of our sponsors, for their User Meeting prior to ESTRO 2020. [Read more](#)



## SAVE THE DATE EVENTS

### SAVE THE DATE - ACPSEM SRS WORKSHOP

2 June 2020, Sydney, NSW

The ACPSEM NSW/ACT branch are organising an SRS Workshop in June. More details to come soon!

### SAVE THE DATE - ACPSEM RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SYMPOSIUM

7 July 2020, Sydney, NSW

The ACPSEM NSW/ACT branch are organising a Research and Development Symposium. More details to come soon!



### SAVE THE DATE - RANZCR ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

7-9 August 2020, Wellington, NZ

15-18 October 2020, Melbourne, VIC

Save the date for this year's RANZCR (The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists) Annual Scientific Meetings. The ASMs provide an opportunity to learn about recent advances in the fields of clinical radiology and radiation oncology. [Read more](#)

### SAVE THE DATE - EPSM 2020

1-4 November 2020, Brisbane, QLD

Save the date for EPSM 2020 - the Engineering & Physical Sciences in Medicine Conference - taking place this November in Brisbane. EPSM is the premier annual event for medical physicists, biomedical engineers and radiopharmaceutical scientists in Australia and New Zealand. [Read more](#)

## CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER

**We'd love to hear from you!** Some ideas for contributions include:

- Awards and achievements - celebrating our members and their successes
- Your career background - as part of the Building a Successful Career series
- Events and activities - promotions or updates within your branch
- Specialty groups - updates, plans, and group outcomes
- Reviews and feedback - from industry conferences, events, workshops, etc
- Pictures and videos - show us your work, your colleagues (with their permission!), your events, or anything else that your work involves!

If you are interested in contributing, please email Kath at [communications@acpsem.org.au](mailto:communications@acpsem.org.au)

## LET'S GET SOCIAL



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