The Student and Junior Doctor in Distress –
“Our Duty of Care”

Proceedings of a Conference of the Confederation of Postgraduate Medical Education Councils
19–20 July 2001

CONFEDERATION OF POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION COUNCILS
Postgraduate Medical Council of Victoria
The Postgraduate Medical Institute of Tasmania
The Northern Territory Postgraduate Medical Council
The Postgraduate Medical Council of New South Wales
Council for Early Postgraduate Training in South Australia
The Postgraduate Medical Education Foundation Queensland
The Prevocational Training and Accreditation Committee in Western Australia

Supported by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care
through the Medical Training Review Panel

Organising Committee

Tamsin K Cockayne, MB BS
Prevocational Doctor
Royal Darwin Hospital, Darwin, NT 0810

Geoffrey W Dahlenburg, MD, FRACP
Chairman, Confederation of Postgraduate Medical Education Councils
71 Edward Street, Norwood, SA 5067

Martha M Finn, BSc, MD, MRCOG, MRCPI, FRANZCOG
Director of Clinical Training
Royal Darwin Hospital, Darwin, NT 0810

Richard Hays, MB BS, PhD, FRACGP
Dean, School of Medicine
James Cook University, Townsville, QLD 4811

Stefan C Kane
President
Australian Medical Students Association
161 Ward Street, North Adelaide, SA 5006

Alison M Reid, MB BS, MHA, FAFPHM
Medical Director
New South Wales Medical Board
PO Box 104, Gladesville, NSW 1675

Faye E Stephens, BA, BSc, MA(Psych)
Assistant Director
Medical Training Review Panel Secretariat
Department of Health and Ageing,
GPO Box 9848, Canberra, ACT 2601

David G Thomas, MD, FRACP
Director of Physician Training
Women’s and Children’s Hospital
North Adelaide, SA 5006

Simon M Willcock, MB BS(Hons), FRACGP
Chairman
Postgraduate Medical Council of New South Wales
PO Box 422, Gladesville, NSW 1675
## Contents

### Conference Overview
- Conference overview: a duty of care
  - Geoffrey W Dahlenburg S3
- Conference recommendations S4

### Setting the Scene
- The student and junior doctor in distress
  - Kay A Wilhelm S5

### Student Issues
Chair — Patricia D Molloy
- A student mental health and welfare program in a medical faculty
  - Chris C Tennant S9
- Stress in a graduate medical degree
  - Gisele M L Mouret S10
- Tasmanian University Medical Students Society student mentor scheme: a model to help students in distress
  - Lisa M Barrow S12
- Examining stress and responses to stress in medical students and new medical graduates
  - Michele G Daly and Simon M Willcock S14
- Registration of medical students by medical boards
  - Stefan C Kane S15

### Prevocational Doctors and Trainees
Chair — Simon M Willcock
- Overview: the experience of the Health Committee of the South Australian Medical Board
  - Ross S Kalucy S17

### The Role of Medical Boards
Chair — Lloyd A Toft
- Overview: the experience of the New South Wales Medical Board
  - Alison M Reid S25
- Changes to the South Australian *Medical Practitioners Act 1983*
  - David H Wilde S26
- Return to work for junior doctors after ill-health
  - Jillann F Farmer S27

### Breakout Groups
Chair — Simon M Willcock
- Reports from breakout groups S30

### List of Conference Participants

### Acknowledgements
The Confederation of Postgraduate Medical Education Councils acknowledges with gratitude the work of the Conference Recorder, Melissa Sweet, whose accurate and promptly produced reports made the work of editing much easier than it otherwise would have been. Thanks are also due to the Conference Organiser, the South Australian Postgraduate Medical Education Association, and in particular Janine Power. Finally, thanks to Libby Davidson, Executive Officer of the Council for Early Postgraduate Training in South Australia, for her tolerance in the drafting and redrafting of this report.
Conference Participants

Dr Stephen Addis
Ms Anita Alps
Dr George Anasson
Dr Adrian Anthony
Ms Margaret Banks
Ms Lisa Barrow
Dr Michaella Baulderstone
Ms Joan Benjamin
Dr Jane Birks
Mr Bob Bradford
Dr Wilton Braund
Prof Richard Burns
Prof Alan Carmichael
Mr Rajeev Chalasani
Dr Suz Chan
Dr Thomas Chan
Dr Cleo Cheng
Dr Anthony Clarkson
Dr Tamisn Cockayne
Dr Mary Cohn
Ms Judy Conroy
Mr Graeme Cox
Miss Jackie Cunningham
Ms Samantha D’Cruz
Prof Geoffrey Dahlenburg
Ms Michele Daly
Ms Libby Davidson
Mr Fletcher Davies
Dr Anne Egan
Dr Jillann Farmer
Dr Rodney Fawcett
Dr Martha Finn
Dr Eleanor Flynn
Ms Helen Fraser
Dr Andrew Gardner
Dr Matt Gaughwin
Ms Karen Grace
Dr Mitra Guha
Ms Jennifer Hadley
Dr Sue Hampton
Mrs Jennifer Harlem
Mrs Kaye Harnwell
Dr Richard Hays
Dr Joanna Hely
Dr Patrick Hertnon
Ms Vanessa Hewson

Ms Eve Hiland
Ms Jane Hosking
Mrs Gemma Howarth-Hockey
Dr Jaspal Hunjan
Dr Imre Hunyor
Mr Robert Indrigo
Dr Michael Jelly
Mr Greg Jemsek
Ms Penelope Johnston
Mr Gregory Jones
Dr Jo Jordan
Ms Carol Jordon
Prof Ross Kalucy
Mr Stefan Kane
Ms Tanya Kelly
Miss Bronwen Koenders
Dr Christine Lai
Prof Lou Landau
Mr Mitchell Lawlar
Ms Adrienne Lewis
Ms Rebecca Laicastro
Ms Siobhan Lockwood
Dr Cathy Love
Dr Andrew Lovett
Mr Cameron Mackay
Dr Anne Martin
Dr Helen McArdle
Prof Barry McGrath
Ms Helen McKeering
Dr Sally Middleton
Ms Jacqueline Milne
Dr Patricia Molloy
Dr Gisele Mouret
Dr Catherine Muggeridge
Ms Anne-Marie Murray
Ms Rosalind Nagoroka
Miss Sarah Nunan
Dr Susan O’Brien
Dr Elizabeth O’Driscoll
Prof Gary Phillips
Ms Anne Powell
Dr Luis Prado
Ms Penelope Purslow
Mr Evan Rawstron
Mr Hesom Razavi
Dr Deborah Read

Dr Alison Reid
Prof Geoff Riley
Ms Helen Ritchie
Dr Darren Roberts
Dr Linda Roberts
Dr Stuart Roberts
Miss Michelle Rodrigues
Prof Peter Roeser
Dr Elizabeth Rozenbils
Dr Stuart Salingher
Ms Susie Sangas
Dr Anthony Sangster
Dr Vino Sathianathan
Dr Michael Schirripa
Mr Tyler Schofield
Dr Narelle Shadbolt
Prof Ian Simpson
Dr Andrei Salter
Ms Faye Stephens
Dr Margaret Sturdy
Dr Mary Surveyor
Ms Melissa Sweet
Dr Brenda Tait
Dr Richard Tarala
Prof Christopher Tennant
Dr David Thomas
Dr Lloyd Toft
Assoc Prof Anne Tonkin
Dr Andrew Turner
Dr Angus Turner
Dr Jane Vernon-Roberts
Dr Alistair Vickery
Prof Alan Walker
Dr Naham Warhoft
Dr Bruce Warton
Dr Richenda Webb
Dr Sarah Whitelaw
Mr David Wilde
Assoc Prof Kay Wilhelm
Dr Simon Willcock
Mr Owen Williams
Mr Simon Wilson
Prof Lindon Wing
Mr Jason Yates
Dr Michele Yeo
Ms Anita Yuen