Branch Newsletter!

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Events:

**A Career in Radiation Oncology**

Recently four Queensland branch members (two pictured below) lent their time to the ‘A Career in Radiation Oncology’ (ACRO) project at the Brisbane Careers & Employment Expo on May 23rd at the Brisbane and Exhibition centre. The project aims to promote and encourage interest in careers as radiation oncologists, radiation therapists and radiation oncology medical physicists. ACRO is funded through a grant from the Australia Government Department of Health and the Better Access to Radiation Oncology (BARO) funds is an initiative involving RANZCR, AIR and ACPSEM. The project commenced in October 2012 and has involved the development of brochures, a website, Facebook page, presentation and videos. ACRO has been involved in over 60 careers expos, careers days and workshops and a number of other educational events. Departments with visiting students are encouraged to direct students (and teachers) to the resources including the website: [www.acareerinradiationoncology.com.au](http://www.acareerinradiationoncology.com.au) and the Career in Radiation Oncology video at [http://youtu.be/5E5ssMKEBHs](http://youtu.be/5E5ssMKEBHs).

Some of the team lending their time at the ACRO booth in Brisbane (thank you all!)

The project resources (i.e. careers brochure, presentation, pull-up banners, posters and videos) are available for all members of the radiation oncology profession to use at careers events by contacting Ms Mel Grand, RANZCR Project Officer at [mel.grand@ranzcr.edu.au](mailto:mel.grand@ranzcr.edu.au) or +61 2 9268 9765.
PRIMPs 13 Gold Coast University Hospital
The attendees of the 14th PRIMPS meeting had the opportunity to have a tour of the new medical imaging facilities at the Gold Coast University Hospital (GCUH) for a full set of images and description of the tour please see: http://acpsemq.org.au/gcuh-medical-imaging-tour/

GCUH under construction

Siemens Magnetom Area being installed at GCUH
Nuclear Medicine hot laboratory at GCUH
Updates:

**Townsville Cancer Care:**

TPS
- XiO will be phased out and Monaco 5 commissioned.

QA
- Currently commissioning Sun Nuclear 3DVH for IMRT/VMAT patient QA.
- PTW Octavius 4D currently being commissioned.

Machines
- SRT commissioning employing Elekta Apex micro MLC being finalised. First treatment will occur in the next few weeks.
- Two new Elekta Infinity Linacs start commissioning beginning of August.
- Our old microSelectron HDR unit is being replaced with the Flexitron unit. Go live will be the end of July.

Lectures
- Since February 2014 until August 2014, The Physicists at Townsville Hospital have been performing Physics Lectures to the Radiation Oncologist Registrars from Queensland (Townsville, ROQ Toowoomba, ROQ Cairns, RBWH and Matter) and New Zealand (Wellington, Waikato, Dunedin, Palmerston North, Christchurch and Auckland). These lectures cover the Radiation Oncology Physics Phase 1 section of the RANZCR Radiation Oncology Training Program Curriculum.

**Radiation Oncology Queensland:**

We said a sad farewell to John Kenny who finished work at ROQ at the start of May. He took in an international conference and had a well-earned break in the US before assuming the Chief Physicist position at Epworth in Melbourne. We wish him all the best for his future endeavours and thank him for all his hard work at ROQ over the last 18 months. Please contact Rebecca Murry, Sam Towns or Guy Godwin for any matters that you might have previously addressed to John.
ROQ Toowoomba celebrated its 7th Birthday on 30th May with a dinner for staff (and partners) at a local (reputable) establishment. ROQ Cairns continues to keep Sam busy with their often weird and wonderful array of tumour types (resulting in many a-typical planning solutions). ROQ Gold Coast continues to ramp up its numbers (patient and staff) and we are busy adapting our procedures to include the differing linacs and QA equipment. ROQ Springfield is continuing to spring out of the ground and we are all looking forward to getting another centre up and running in the very near future.

Congratulations to Dean Wallace (registrar at GC) who has had his talk “Investigation of parameters affecting image quality for Kilovoltage Intrafraction Monitoring (KIM) during RapidArc prostate radiotherapy” accepted to present at the CSM in September.

**Genesis CancerCare Queensland:**

We are pleased to introduce the newest addition to GCCQ – Southport CT! This CT managed to just scrape under the 2 tonne building lift weight limit by 3.6kg (after a bit of effort and coordination!), and was carefully guided into its newly renovated home on the 8th floor of Premion Place. The Southport CT is the first GCCQ CT on the Gold Coast, so was eagerly awaited and warmly welcomed by all staff.

Brendan Hill happy CT got into the room.
The new CT about to be moved into the lift.

**Nuclear Medicine Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital:**

The Nuclear Medicine department at the RBWH is in the process of developing new radioisotope traces. Nuclear Medicine at the RBWH also welcomes Dr Steven Goodman to the team.

The Herston Imaging Research Facility (HIRF) which is a collaboration between Queensland Health, University of Queensland, Queensland University of Technology and the Queensland Institute of Medical Research based at the RBWH campus took delivery of 3 scanners on the 15th of June: A Siemens PET/CT, 3T MRI and Australia’s first PET/MR(3T)! All were craned in through the roof.
Photos of the new scanners being delivered via crane.
Welcome and goodbye:

- Townsville Cancer Care welcomes Stephen Gibson as a Senior physicist who previously worked in Biomedical engineering.
- Townsville Cancer Care says a fond farewell to Dr Sylwia Zawłodzka who has taken a senior physicist position at the Radiation Oncology Mater Centre in Brisbane.
- Townsville also farewells Ms Aleksandra Kazi who relocated to (slightly) cooler climates on the Gold Coast and has taken over the Radiation Oncology Preceptor position in Queensland Health.
- Nuclear Medicine at the RBWH welcomes Dr Steven Goodman as a Medical physicist, who previously worked at the Cancer Care Services RBWH.
Congratulations:

• T. Kairn, for receiving the 2014 ACPSEM Boyce Worthley Young Achiever Award for outstanding achievement in the profession. This prize honours one of the founding members of the College, Boyce Worthley, who was a senior physicist with the Anti Cancer Foundation, Adelaide. He became the College's first Life Member. This prize is awarded to a younger member of the College for a significant contribution to the profession of physical and engineering sciences in medicine, generally with several publications in refereed journals as a primary author.

This award covers the expenses of registration and travel to the next College's annual conference as an invited speaker. The intent of this award is to recognise achievement for outstanding work and to encourage such members to stay in the profession. Past recipients of the award have included, Phillip Bones, Lorraine Holley, Marienne Hibbert, Dale Bailey, Richard Jones, Peter Metcalfe, Aina Puce, Geoff Tansley, Richard Fright, Steven Meikle, Tomas Kron, Peter Hoban, Martin Ebert, Paul Keall, Martin Butson, Lois Holloway, Lisa Duggan, Loredana Marcu, Zoe Brady and Michael Taylor.

• Congratulations Paul Charles - his paper A practical and theoretical definition of very small field size for radiotherapy output factor measurements is still one of the top three most read papers in Medical Physics, three months after it was first published!

• M Roche, S M Mahou-Lago and T Crabtree for publishing their paper: Accounting for the effects of carbon fibre treatment couches in the XiO treatment planning system.

• Z. Baldwin and R. Fitchew for publishing their paper: The influence of focal spot size, shape, emission profile and position on field coverage in a Gulmay D3300 Kilovoltage X-ray therapy unit

• T. Markwell, L. Perera, J. Trapp and A. Fielding for publishing their paper: Evaluation of MegaVoltage Cone Beam CT image quality with an unmodified Elekta Precise Linac and EPID: a feasibility study

• Z. Moutrie for gaining certification in Radiation Oncology Medical Physics
Reminders and upcoming events:

**IUPESM World Congress 2015:**
The 2015 IUPESM World Congress will be hosted in Toronto from June 7th – 12th by the Canadian Medical and Biological Engineering Society and the Canadian Organization of Medical Physicists. The Congress will be co-chaired by David Jaffray (Medical Physics) and Tony Easty (Biomedical Engineering). The event is sponsored by the International Union of Physical & Engineering Sciences in Medicine and its member organizations: the International Organization for Medical Physics and the International Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering.

Abstract submission opens in September 2014 (closing January 2015), and registration in October 2014 for more information please visit: [http://wc2015.org/](http://wc2015.org/)

**CSM:**
The combined scientific meeting (CSM) which has been predicted as being the largest and most significant of its kind in Australasia, combining ACPSEM, AIR and RANZCR annual scientific meetings. This is only the second time it has been hosted as a combined meeting and was a great success last time. The deadline for early bird registrations is 9th July. For more information see the official website: [http://www.csm2014.com/](http://www.csm2014.com/).

**Award Nominations:**
Nominations are now invited for the Bob Fitchew Member of the Year Award. This award was introduced last year by the ACPSEM Queensland branch to recognise the achievements of Queensland members of the ACPSEM and to establish an ongoing culture of recognition of outstanding work performed by a Queensland member.

The award was named after Mr Bob Fitchew in recognition of his outstanding career long contribution to the ACPSEM, to radiation oncology, and to cancer care in general. Bob’s contributions to the ACPSEM have been recognised nationally with him being awarded the ACPSEM distinguished service award.

To be eligible for nomination, the nominee must be a financial member of the ACPSEM, must satisfy at least 2 of sections 2 – 5 in the nomination form, and must have made the nominated achievements within the specified period. The period for the 2014 award is
January 1st 2013 through to the close of nominations. In the case that the nominee was the award recipient last year, the same nomination items cannot be used again for nomination this year.

To nominate a fellow colleague for the award, please complete their details using the example template located on the documents section of the website (http://acpsemq.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/bob-fitchew-2014.pdf) and send to our secretary (bess.sutherland@premion.com.au). The closing date for this year is July 7th. The potential winner for 2014 will be announced and awarded at the local symposium in August.

**Website:**
A reminder to all of our members that the ACPSEM-Q branch has its very own website! Please feel free to have a look at http://acpsemq.org.au/.

**APCSEM-Q Symposium:**
The ACPSEM QLD Branch Annual Symposium will be held on Friday August 1st at Princess Alexandra Hospital. Three outstanding keynote speakers have been locked in and we are calling for presentations. Please see the flyer for more information. A timetable will be released closer to the date. See Flyer below:
Annual Symposium 2014

Friday 1st August
Russell Strong Auditorium
Princess Alexandra Hospital

Keynote Speakers

Dr Robin Hill
Chief Medical Physicist, Chris O'Brien Lifehouse

Dr Donald McLean
Principal Medical Physics Specialist, Canberra Hospital

Dr Kieran O'Brien
MR Senior Scientist, Siemens Healthcare

Call for Presentations

• Presentation length should be 10-12 minutes (with 3-5 minutes of questioning afterwards).
• Presentations need not cover in-depth detail of the work, they may if desired simply introduce the research and/or the group being represented, their general activities and describe specific projects in an "abstract" format.
• Topics need not be confined to medical physics and may be of more general interest to the physics community.
• Student researchers are welcome.
• To present, please forward a nomination with a brief (2-3 lines) description of what you'd like to present together with your personal details by Friday 18th July 2014 to the QLD branch secretary [bess.sutherland@genesiscare.com.au].

Information

• Registration is free to ACPSEM members, industry professionals and students.
• Lunch and tea break refreshments will be provided.
• Please register interest in attending with Bess Sutherland [bess.sutherland@genesiscare.com.au].

Event sponsor

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The ACPSEM Student Scholarship 2014

The ACPSEM have 15 Scholarships on offer to attend the 2014 Combined Scientific Meeting (CSM) conference. The ACPSEM Student Scholarship is an outstanding opportunity for students to experience a professional conference, engage with the latest developments in physical sciences and engineering in medicine, build professional networks and learn of potential careers in this exciting field.

The ACPSEM Student Scholarship 2014 includes:
- Registration to the Combined Scientific Meeting conference including social functions and associated activities ($1,450 value)
- Return airfares from your nearest capital city to Melbourne
- Four nights accommodation in Melbourne


Other scholarships and awards

A number of other scholarships are available to APCSEM members each year and more information can be found:

ACPSEM Photography in Medical Physics (PiMP) - Competition & Exhibition

The ACPSEM is hosting a photography in medical physics competition/exhibition:

“Let’s celebrate our exciting profession and show off visually stimulating aspects of the work of a Medical Physicist. You are invited to submit your photos (up to 5 in total) to the first “Photography in Medical Physics (PiMP)” competition. Submission is open now through to 12 July 2014.

The competition will run in three categories:

- P - Professionals at work
- O - Other exciting aspects of Medical Physics
- M - Macro: Get up close and personal with Medical Physics

Images will be judged by a jury of professionals from Medical Physics and Photography, including Prof Dave Rogers of Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada,
and Mercury Megaloudis of Melbourne, Victoria, a recent Australian Professional Photographer of the Year.

Criteria are visual impact, storytelling aspects, and technical quality. The top three images in each category will be awarded prizes and the soon to be highly coveted “PiMP award”. There will also be a public’s choice prize, selected by all interested members of the Australasian College of Physical Scientists & Engineers in Medicine (ACPSEM). All judging will be blinded (names of photographers removed).

The images will be shown at the Combined Scientific Meeting 2014 in Melbourne and some images will be published in the ACPSEM Newsletter and other publications. Exhibitions in galleries and at schools/universities/hospitals will be organised pending great submissions.

For details on competition entry please read these Terms and Conditions.

The competition is organised by Joerg Lehmann (Medical Physicist and Professional Photographer) and May Whitaker (Medical Physicist and Organisational Multi-Talent) as a social activity of the ACPSEM, supported by the NSW/ACT branch. We very much look forward to your entries!

For news on the competition or to post a question, go to the Photography in Medical Physics - PiMP Facebook page.

Alternatively contact May May.Whitaker@lh.org.au.”
We are always on the lookout for newsletter submissions. If you would like to contribute to our next branch newsletter, please forward articles to the editors.

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