



The First Update for 2008

Much has occurred since we last provided an update and progress is sustained and significant. Again please feel free to access this update and other information provided on the CSU dentistry website to keep abreast of the development and provide your own input into the process: <http://www.csu.edu.au/student/dentistry/> or if you would like to be added to the automatic distribution list please speak to Judy Stone on (02) 6365 7883 or email her on jstone@csu.edu.au

Professor Mark Burton, Director, Dentistry (Implementation)

Establishment of a New School

2008 brings us a number of steps closer to the commencement of the new dentistry and oral health programs. Dentistry and Oral Health have now been firmly seated in a new school within the Faculty of Science. The School of Dentistry and Health Sciences have now been established and it will draw together a variety of disciplines into the dentistry and oral health spectrum.

The School will offer the Dentistry course, beginning in Orange and the Oral Health course beginning in Wagga Wagga as indicated previously. However, the Health Sciences component of the School will see the inclusion of existing and well established courses in Medical Imaging, Nuclear Medicine and Nutrition/Dietetics. This means the School, headed by Professor Ward Massey, already has a staff complement of 22 medical scientists, clinicians, laboratory and administrative personnel who are located on the Wagga Wagga campus of the School.

To assist Professor Massey with the management of that part of the School an Associate Head of School, Sue McAlpin, has been appointed. Ms McAlpin currently coordinates the nutrition and dietetics programs in the School and conducts research into the evolution of health systems in rural environments.



Key Oral Health Appointment

We are very pleased to announce the appointment of Dr Barbara Anne Taylor BDS MDSc FRACDS FICD to the position of Associate Professor of Oral Health. Associate Professor Taylor will develop and coordinate the oral health program for the School of Dentistry and Health Sciences.

A periodontist, teacher and clinical scientist, Dr Taylor is currently Head of the Department of Periodontics at Sydney Dental Hospital.

She qualified as a dentist at the University of Adelaide prior to postgraduate studies at the University of Sydney. She is a Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons and the International College of Dentists, a recipient of the Australian Dental Association Service Medallion, and a winner of the IADR (ANZ Division) Colgate Award.



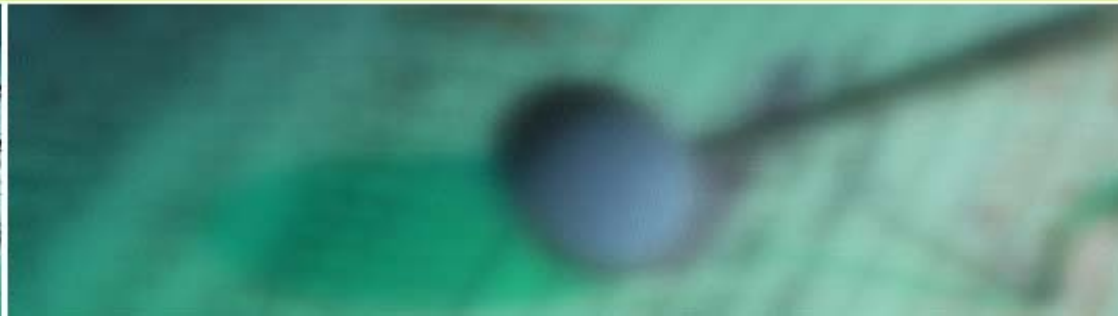
Dr Taylor has been Clinical Coordinator for specialist training in Periodontics at the University of Sydney and a Conjoint Associate Professor at the University of Newcastle. Dr Taylor established and leads the PERICAR research group which is investigating the association between periodontal disease and cardiovascular risk.

Temporary Program Office

With the arrival of new staff into the Dentistry program and the establishment of the new School of Dentistry and Health Sciences it has become necessary to move into specially modified temporary premises on the Orange Campus. Professor Ward Massey, Professor Mark Burton and Ms Judy Stone have now moved into the Dentistry Program Office – a cottage opposite the front gates of the CSU Orange Campus.

Anyone visiting the campus or Orange are most welcome to drop in and discuss the Program – contact us on 02 6365 7883.

It has been suggested that a better description of the cottage would be the Little House on the Prairie - see picture over.



Call for Expressions of Interest

In previous newsletters we have flagged a strong desire to develop strong collaborative relationships with a variety of areas of the profession. These include:

- Local general dental practitioners who may wish to practice and participate within the new University clinics,
- Specialists who may wish to develop a relationship with the University Clinics in relation to practice and/or teaching,
- Dental laboratory, prosthetics and technician services.

We would like to invite any expressions of interest or ideas on potential collaborative interaction from all interested parties by seeking the proposal documentation from the Dentistry Project Office, Ms Judy Stone (jstone@csu.edu.au – 02 6365 7883). It is expected that closure of initial expressions of interest will occur 31 March 2008.

Design and Construction

We are very pleased to report that the Development Application for significant construction for the School on the Orange Campus has been processed with expertise and tremendous cooperation by the Orange City Council. Tenders for construction have been called and we are expecting the first sod to be turned over the next 6 weeks.



We are waiting expectantly for the Development Application for the construction on the Wagga Wagga site to be approved as soon as possible.

Admission Requirements

The Faculty of Science Dentistry Admissions Committee has provided recommendations on the expectation of students seeking entry into dentistry. These include the UAI score, a written application/questionnaire and an interview. For entry into the Oral Health program the UAI score will be the principal determinant but an interview may also be required in some cases. Details of the processes will soon be placed on the dentistry website, the School of Dentistry and Health Sciences website and via the UAC notification procedures.

Bachelor of Clinical Science

Many queries have been received in regard to the role of the Bachelor of Clinical Science in relation to the new CSU dentistry course. It is expected that there will be significant opportunity for advanced standing and provision of credit for high achievers completing the first 2 years of the BClinSc and seeking entry to dentistry.

Bachelor of Oral Health Curriculum Survey

Part of the Oral Health Core Curriculum Committee's task is to devise curriculum content that meets current standards and expectations that will achieve accreditation requirements the same as all other dental Schools in Australia.

The Committee seeks feedback from the oral health profession on any particular areas of content that is considered to be especially necessary for both general and rural practice. Any submissions or ideas will be gratefully received but as a stimulus to the process, and the thinking to support it, we have attached a survey of general issues that we would be interested in your views on their relevance.

Feedback

For us to be able to develop a program with wide application and of a quality that will be of the highest standard we need your input. We would welcome any feedback on the progress of the development and any ideas or comments that you would like to provide. Please feel free to telephone the Dentistry Program on (02) 6365 7883 or leave a message on the website.



Australian Government
Department of Health and Ageing

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