

## Welcome to Update No. 2

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](mailto:jstone@csu.edu.au)

Professor Mark Burton, Director, Dentistry (Implementation)

## Sustained Progress

The pace of progress has been rapid over the past 2-3 months and we are now well into the design stages of building, curriculum, partnerships and networks. The Project Team coordinating the development consists of senior staff from finance, human resources, marketing, courses, IT and community relations and has now met on numerous occasions. The Team is consulting widely across Australian stakeholders to ensure the program is at the forefront of technology and custom.



The new Head of School Designate, Professor Ward Massey, has made a flying visit to the Orange campus and met with the project Team to provide input into the key issues of the program. Even before his commencement in January of next year Professor Massey is intent on providing assistance to the planning process.

Of immediate note is progression that has occurred in relation to the original ideas on the naming of the degree programs following significant input from a number of

sources. The recommendation is now for the 5 year dental program to be comprised of a double degree Bachelor of Oral Science/Bachelor of Dental Science. The 3 year oral health program will be offered from a Bachelor of Oral Health (Therapy/Hygiene).

The dentistry program will commence in Orange in 2009 and following the completion of much of the foundation medical science components of the program students will attend the clinical sites across the 5 campuses. In contrast, the oral health students will commence their program on the Wagga Wagga campus and then distribute around the 5 clinical sites for their patient interaction. Thus, both groups of students will participate in their clinical education together in a team approach across the CSU dental clinics.

## Workshop Outcomes

Two information workshops were held on the Orange and Wagga Wagga campuses in August to provide a forum for regional dentists and oral health practitioners in relation to plans for the new School. The main topics discussed at the forums were:

- o Progress on development
- o The building plans
- o Discussion of issues around the establishment of the CSU Clinics on the campuses in Orange, Bathurst, Wagga Wagga, Dubbo and Albury
- o Opportunities for clinical teaching
- o Opportunities for practice involvement in the clinics
- o Opportunities for establishing partnerships with CSU.

There were around 25-30 participants at each forum and it was determined that more workshops would be held over the development period to provide an opportunity to continue involvement in the process.

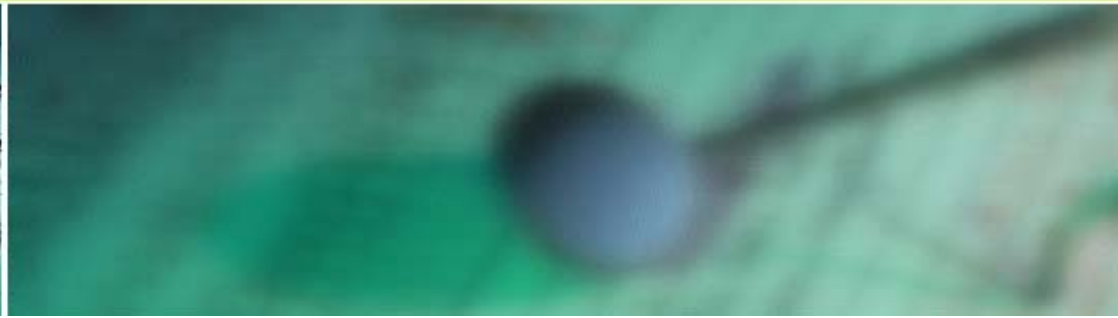
Photographs of the attendees, including the key role of the ADA facilitator (Matthew Fisher), at the workshops can be found on the CSU Dentistry Website.

## Design and Construction

The design process has now been completed for the main School buildings on the Orange and Wagga Wagga campuses. The University's Division of facilities management and the appointed architects have travelled across Australia visiting new dental facilities to inform the design process. The end result is very impressive and combines all elements of a clinical and foundation teaching facility from lecture theatres through anatomy and dry laboratories and into the clinical setting. Please check the website for a view of the plans.



The development applications for these buildings have been lodged and we are hopeful that they will be processed in good



time in collaboration with our community's local government supporters. It is planned that construction will be under way in February of next year for an early 2009 completion.

## Recruitment

In July of this year CSU ran an advertisement in the national newspapers seeking any Expressions of Interest from clinicians and academics who may be considering joining the dentistry development at CSU. Despite the advertisement being non-specific and covering the full developmental period up until 2013 a tremendous response has resulted.

The prospect of being involved in the development of a new School with state-of-the-art infrastructure, great lifestyle opportunities and a unique curriculum ethos has been very alluring. The respondents have been added to a database of interested parties and they are receiving advance notice of upcoming positions and information on progress. Professor Massey will be making contact with these parties on his commencement next year to discuss teaching and clinical opportunities and progress on curriculum development and thus needs for faculty.

The next key appointment for the dentistry development has now been advertised. See the CSU recruitment website for details on the appointment of the coordinator of the oral health program based in Wagga Wagga

## Partnerships

Much discussion at the workshops centred on the plan to invite regional practitioners to establish clinical partnerships with the CSU clinics. The intention is to provide an opportunity for a dentist and/or specialist(s) to move their current clinical concerns from existing premises into the CSU clinics on each campus. A business model for this opportunity is currently being researched and any suggestions or input from interested practitioners would be welcome (direct to Paul Dowler, Director of Business, [pdowler@csu.edu.au](mailto:pdowler@csu.edu.au)).

It is expected that a call for Expressions of Interest in developing business/teaching partnerships will be advertised at the end of this year for appraisal in the new year.

## Curriculum Committees

The Core Curriculum Committees for both the dental and for the oral health curricula have been formed with expertise from around Australia and within the public and private systems being utilised. These Committees will develop the curriculum frameworks for internal CSU and for national ADC processes over the next 3-4 months. The members meet alternatively on a fortnightly basis via teleconferencing from Western Australia through to Baltimore in the USA:

- o Associate Professor Geoff McKenzie – Associate Dean (Courses), Faculty of Science – Presiding Officer

- o Professor Ward Massey – Head of School of Dentistry and Health Sciences
- o Ms Janet Wilks - Courses Quality Officer, Faculty of Science
- o Professor Marc Tennant – University of Western Australia
- o 2x External Curriculum Consultants for Oral Health
- o 2x External Curriculum Consultants for Dentistry

A further development committee has been formed to recommend the key enrolment requirements for students seeking entry into the dentistry and oral health programs. This Committee will provide guidelines over the next 4 weeks on issues including the need for written applications, directed interviews and merit-based entry standards.

## Curriculum Survey

Part of the 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. However, they have also been tasked with the need to further enhance this expectation by adding content to meet the unique environment of rural regional and remote dental and oral health practice.

The Committee seeks feedback from the dental 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.

You will note that there is room at the bottom of the survey for you to make comment on specific areas of need that you think our curriculum should focus on and to make any contribution to curriculum process that you feel would be useful. We will also place this survey instrument on the website and if you would like to refer colleagues to that site we again would appreciate any input that may ensue. A similar survey for oral health curriculum will follow shortly.

## 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.



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