Dean's Message
Professor Gervase Chaney

Dear Colleagues, alumni and friends of the School of Medicine

2018 has been another big year for the School and I would like to start by acknowledging all the great work being done by all of our staff to deliver the best program we can to our students. I would also like to acknowledge the students for their engagement, enthusiasm and support for each other.

This year I have been lucky enough to witness many excellent educational experiences for the students (as well as some for staff) and even participate in a few. Some great examples have been the Kimberley Placement and Broome Immersion, Broome Learning on Country, inter-professional learning sessions, flipped classrooms, PBL tutorials and CD sessions as well as some of our Aboriginal cultural learning opportunities. I am continually impressed by our staff’s commitment to the pastoral care of the students as well as the delivery of high quality and often innovative education and learning.

We have seen a number of significant changes of staff this year and I would like on behalf of the School to thank the following staff who have departed for their contribution: Brian Power, Lama Al Ramahi, Helen Slattery, Bree Johnson, Marian McPharlin, Lynn Merigan, as well as Jelena Maticicovic who has gone on parental leave. I would also like to welcome new staff Brad Hayhow, Kylie Russell, Trish Hollingum, Kylie Howard and Rebecca Anglin, who have already settled in and are making important contributions.

It is now 10 years since our first graduates completed 4th year and commenced as interns and I believe that our reputation continues to grow strongly. Our QILT results for 2017 were outstanding especially for our MD program results from 1st year ranking us 1st nationally for five out of six categories (all except learning resources) and reflect the excellent work being done. I would also like to acknowledge our excellent partnerships with hospitals and health services both public and private; the Rural Clinical School with UWA; and the Community Engagement Week with Curtin University, Rural Health West and local shires: that have been critical to the success of the School.

As a school we are in a strong position, but we have a number of significant challenges to address such as ensuring access to high quality clinical placements, developing more rural training opportunities, ensuring student wellbeing and growing our research capacity and capabilities.

Lastly I would like to thank the staff, our adjuncts, alumni and other volunteers who have once again so generously agreed to assist us with admission interviews and the exams for this year.

Professor Gervase Chaney MBBS, FRACP, FAIM
Dean
Bevis Smith Chair of Medicine
School of Medicine, Fremantle
University of Notre Dame Australia
Welcome

Professor Rebecca Anglin  
(Associate Dean, Preclinical)

Kylie Howard  
(Administrative Officer, Electives)

Kylie Russell  
(Preclinical Assessment Coordinator)

Brad Hayhow  
(Discipline Leader, Psychiatry)

Trish Hollingum  
(Administrative Officer, Midland)

Caroline Crossley  
(Lecturer, PPH)

Farewell

Brian Power  
(Assistant Dean, Preclinical)

Marian McPharlin  
(Senior Lecturer, Electives)

Dr Lama Ramahi  
(Preclinical Assessment Coordinator)

Bree Johnson  
(Administrative Officer)

Helen Slattery  
(Discipline Leader, Psychiatry)

Lynn Merrigan  
(Administrative Officer, Midland)

On leave

Jelena Maticevic (parental leave)  
(Lecturer, PPH)

Senior Fellow of the Advance Higher Education

Congratulations to Associate Professor Frank Bate for being a Senior Fellow of the Advanced Higher Education.

Advance Higher Education is an independent, non-profit organisation with a stated objective to support strategic change and continuous improvement, through the development of individuals and organisations of higher education to advance the student learning experience. Notre Dame has been working in partnership with Advance Higher Education (previously Higher Education Academy UK) on a pilot project to support Notre Dame academics to become Fellows.

To become Fellows, academics must demonstrate sustained and significant commitment to excellence in learning and teaching in higher education. As outlined by the HEA website:

Senior Fellow: An experienced member of staff able to demonstrate impact and influence on other colleagues through, for example, responsibility for leading, managing or organising programmes, subjects and/or disciplinary areas and the ability to demonstrate a thorough understanding of effective approaches to teaching and learning support as a key contribution to high quality student learning.

From theory to better practice - Our Inaugural Medical Education Round Table

by Lorna Davin

Over 20 staff joined us at Fairweathers in May for our inaugural Medical Education Round Table on the topic of student engagement. Lively discussion was held while enjoying some wine and cheese.

The second and final Medical Education Round Table for the year was held in September. Former students were invited back to share their stories about how the Notre Dame experience impacted on their transition to practice. Valuable discussion ensued, highlighting areas in which we do really well and some opportunities for improvement. The junior doctors also reflected on their patient experiences and how the experience evoked strong memories for them related to how they learned about disease in the context of patient-centred care. Their lack of expertise in ‘teaching’ junior colleagues was also raised, with the possible suggestion of developing mini-modules being offered in the workplace as an extension of the postgraduate studies in Health Professional Education offered by the School.

The event is hosted by the Medical Education Support Unit (MEDSU) and held twice a year. It is a way to collegially discuss key educational issues, based on the latest research, while considering how we can improve our learning and teaching practice. We look forward to interested staff joining us again in 2019, where the first Round Table planned for April will discuss best practice in providing Feedback.
New Fellows Presentation and Awards Ceremony 2018
by Maureen Nichols

Dr Danii Paterson and Dr Kieren Wilson have both been made Fellows of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. They graduated in 2008 as part of our first cohort that started in 2005.

Connecting, learning, enjoying: PRIDoC 2018 conference, Hilo, Hawaii
by David Paul

In July this year the school was able to support two Aboriginal students to attend the 9th Pacific Region Indigenous Doctors Conference hosted by ’Ahahui o nā Kauka, the Association of Native Hawaiian Physicians. This is THE conference for Indigenous doctors in the Pacific region, and globally. PRIDoC provides the opportunity for Indigenous medical students and doctors from around the Pacific to come together to network and to share knowledge and information in a unique environment. The theme of this year’s conference was ‘Oi Ola Wai Honua, which means, Life is Better...while the Earth has Water.

This year PRIDoC2018 included a two and a half day student track which enabled students to not only meet Indigenous students from many countries but also to learn about and engage with many local cultural activities including traditional wayfaring, assisting with restoration of local fish ponds and a visit to Mauna Kea, the tallest mountain in the world from base to peak and a sacred place for Indigenous people of the region.

PRIDoC2018 included many highlights in the formal program. The story from Aotearoa of how a significant reduction in sudden infant deaths has been achieved by the introduction of a cultural solution to bed sharing. Drawing on the evidence that different sleeping surfaces are an important factor and combining this with cultural ways by using a wahakura (woven flax basket) for infants to sleep in the same bed as the parent/s.

Two other highlights were the presentations from Alaska and British Colombia about meaningful Indigenous control of mainstream health services. Dr Evan Adams, Medical Director of First Nations Health Authority in British Columbia spoke about how the First Nations Health Authority, since 2012, has taken on the oversight of health care provision for some 200,000 Indigenous peoples in BC. In the same session, Dr Donna Galbreath, Senior Medical Director of the South Central Foundation in southern Alaska, provided an overview of how, since 1998, Alaskan Native peoples have owned and operated their own Primary Health Care from hospitals to family physicians. These examples of Indigenous community control of health and health care services for the local Indigenous communities at a system wide level were really very inspiring. Whilst in Australia, Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations have led the way globally, other places have been able to take the next steps and secure meaningful control of health care systems.

Scholarships winner

HDR student Shereen Paramalingan has been awarded the Kailis Scholarship (UNDA and Spinnaker) and the prestigious Byron Kakulas PhD Scholarship (Perron).

AIDA 2018 Associate Member of the Year Award

Congratulations to Professor David Paul who has received the AIDA 2018 Associate Member of the Year Award. In their media release, AIDA acknowledged David “for being a long serving and active medical practitioner, educator, researcher, mentor and community member in the field of Aboriginal health.”

The full article can be found on the AIDA website: https://www.aida.org.au/media/media-releases/
Patient Experience
Week 2018
by Heidi Waldron

School of Medicine staff participated in two events hosted by the Health Consumer’s Council (WA) in April 2018.

Firstly, the ‘Gathering of Kindness’ workshop was held in Western Australia for the first time. Consumers and health care workers came together to discuss ideas about how to build and instil a culture of kindness throughout the healthcare system. 
https://www.gatheringofkindness.org/


The award recognises health organisations that demonstrate an ongoing partnership with health consumers to improve health outcomes. Videos modelling patient-centred communication were created and embedded in the medical course. In addition to communication techniques, the videos highlight the importance of listening and aim to promote lasting commitment in the way doctors relate to patients. The Mary Philippa Brazill Foundation Grant (2016) with co-funding from the School of Medicine Fremantle supported production costs and implementation research. Their support is gratefully acknowledged. http://brazill.mercy.org.au/grant.html

Advocacy In Medicine Workshop
By Tessa Clifton (MEDI6200 student)

The Advocacy In Medicine Workshop ran on 14th April 2018, the first workshop on Social Justice hosted by UNDAF. With the ongoing support of Professor Gervase Chaney and the School of Medicine, the social justice chapter of the medical student association invited the Public Health Institute of Western Australia (PHAIWA) to provide a one-day workshop for both staff and students of UNDAF, Curtin University, and UWA medical schools.

Activities included practical advocacy advice within the WA health system, writing a letter to a politician, online advocacy, and how to write an effective media release. Dr Melissa Stoneham and Ms Melinda Edmunds provided ample question time and feedback as to their experiences with advocacy in the Australian health domain, and their insights into the future of public health in Australia.

Both speakers noted students and staff as a ‘delight’ to work with, with comments highlighting committed and passionate learners. Attending students and staff have been invited to collaborate with PHAIWA into the future, and to contribute to a national blog on health advocacy issues. We look forward to running this event in the future.

A Global Oncology Experience
by Rachel Dennis (MEDI6400 student)

In July this year I had the opportunity to travel across the globe to the University of Groningen in the Netherlands to participate in the International Summer School Oncology for Medical Students.

The city of Groningen is a university town in the north of the Netherlands. It features beautiful canals, delicious Dutch cheese and streets filled with bicycles.

Here I was joined by 30 other medical students from around the world, including Western and Eastern Europe; South America; the Middle East; Africa and Asia. We were immersed into an intense program – both academic and social. The program included interactive lectures on common cancers, the opportunity to hear and learn from patients, discussions around ethical issues such as euthanasia and clinical skills workshops. There were a number of site visits including to the University Medical Centre Groningen and the modern Groningen Proton Therapy Centre. We also participated in workshops on scientific writing and presented a clinical abstract or research project. Other than study, activities included ‘biking’ around Groningen, an international cooking event, bowling and pool to name a few.

The most valuable part of the experience for me was being able to meet and get to know other students from around the world and share views on a range of issues relating to oncology and medicine, as well as broader discussions. I encourage other students to seek such opportunities to travel and experience medicine in a different context. It has provided me with a more holistic understanding of oncology and inspired me to work in this area in the future.

I would like to acknowledge the scholarship made available through the estate of the late Dr. E. Milly L. Haagedoorn MD PhD for making this experience possible, and also thank all those involved in organising the Summer School.
RCPA Scholarships in Pathology for Medical Schools 2018

Lindsay Green, a MEDI6400 student, is the recipient of the RCPA Scholarship in Pathology for Medical Schools 2018. Lindsay will undertake her elective attachment with the Western Australian Coroner’s Pathologist, in Forensic Pathology, in October and November 2018. The Scholarship will be supervised by Dr Jodi White (HOD Forensic Pathology) PathWest and Associate Professor Louise Smyth. In addition to her time of active participation at Forensic Pathology, she will be supported by brief attachments at SCGH, Anatomical Pathology and ACL Clinical Pathology to enhance her understanding of the various outcomes of investigation of a cause of death and to expand her general knowledge of the principles guiding Laboratory Medicine.

Institute for Health Leadership and Notre Dame Medical School Leadership

by Chris Skinner

Increasingly the healthcare sector has identified that medical engagement in innovation and leadership is key to delivering sustainable, safe care. The Institute for Health Leadership (IHL) is centred as a conduit of leadership excellence for the WA public health system. Tasked with empowering staff and building leaders at all levels, the IHL is responsible for the design, development, delivery and assessment of system-wide leadership development.

Through this role the IHL have been working with the University of Notre Dame to integrate the concepts of medical leadership into the medical curriculum. By investing in leadership development in medical school curricula, the future doctors of WA will possess an understanding of the importance of leadership and display leadership behaviours before they embark on their medical careers.

At the end of July a coordinated set of group exercises delivered via Clinical Debriefing (CD) sessions in second year medicine was complemented by an IHL lecture. Ms Esther Dawkins and Dr Sumit Sinha-Roy from the IHL delivered an interactive Introduction to Leadership lecture. Students were challenged to reflect on their own leadership behaviours through a number of interactive activities.

The CD exercises and lecture highlighted the importance of communication and listening and how as students they have a leadership role. Students learnt that leadership is a set of behaviours, not a position, and is the art of motivating others to act toward achieving a common goal.

Leadership need not be seen as a dry topic or an over-used adverb with minimal relevancy. Instead leadership should be seen as something that’s continually evolving and the theory behind it can be delivered in a fun and interactive way. The IHL will continue to work with the Notre Dame Medical School to further embed leadership so that all medical students enter their intern and resident years with a greater understanding of how they can influence how healthcare is delivered.

Taste of the Wheatbelt from the Medical Forum magazine.

The Wheatbelt was buzzing with the excitement of about 160 medical students from Notre Dame and Curtin medical schools as part of an immersion program, a collaboration between the universities, Rural Health West, WAPHA and the Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils, to familiarize students with the challenges and delights of delivering health care to the regions. The hard-edge to the program’s aims is to encourage young doctors to head bush once graduated to relieve some of the pressures of WA’s acute doctor shortages in rural and remote areas. Student headed to Bruce Rock, Cunderdin, Kellerberrin, Merredin, Narrogin, Southern Cross and Westonia where they were billeted by local families and immersed into the life of these communities.

Karen Redhead winner of the UNDA Fremantle Campus three minute thesis (3MT) competition!

by Kathryn Hird

Karen Redhead is a SoMF PhD candidate and her winning three minute presentation of her doctoral research impressed both the audience and the judges. Her win of both the judges and people’s award placed her in the final of UNDA’s national 3MT competition which was held in the “Research Hub” in Customs House on the 7th of September. Whilst Karen did not win the final she provided very strong competition against the 5 other competitors from both UNDA Fremantle and Sydney campuses.

Karen’s research titled “Sleep, pregnancy and babies” explores the consequences of disturbed sleep for both the mother and child during pregnancy. She discussed the particular impact of sleep apnoea on maternal depression and infant developmental outcomes.

The three minute thesis competition was the brainchild of the University of Queensland and since its inception in 2008 these fast and captivating annual thesis competitions are now held in over 200 Universities worldwide. The aim of the competition is to provide a communication science challenge for PhD candidates where they are required to captivate and inform an intelligent audience who does not have a background in research about their research. In rising to this challenge PhD candidates need to develop skills in professional presentation, effective communication and explanation of complex or niche ideas as well as demonstration of their high level academic and research skills.

Congratulations to our colleagues who are graduating from the Graduate Certificate in Health Professional Education

by Lorna Davin

Semester one was a major milestone for three of our colleagues here in the School of Medicine, Fremantle. Dr Tim Leahy, Dr Deepa Bhandari and Dr Janelle Staton have all completed their studies in the Graduate Certificate in Health Professional Education (HPE). The school would like to congratulate them for their achievement in formally extending their expertise in the scholarship of health professional education and in doing so building our collective educational expertise across the school.

Congratulations too, to Linda Berlach who completed Assessing Competence in Health Professional Education to consolidate and build upon her understanding of contemporary assessment practices. Linda chose to do this course as a Not for Degree option. An option available to staff who wish to undertake a specific course as part of their ongoing professional development.

Our suite of postgraduate studies include the following 3 degrees: Graduate Certificate of Health Professional Education, Graduate Diploma of Health Professional Education and the Master of Health Professional Education. These programs nurture knowledge, skill and affective learning opportunities, in a flexible and contextualised manner, fully online, to health professionals who work in the clinical and/or academic context. If you would like to know more please contact the HPE Program Coordinator Lorna.Davin@nd.edu.au

Congratulations to Dr Paige Tucker

Congratulations to Paige Tucker on passing her PhD with flying colours. Paige enrolled within School of Medicine, as a part time PhD candidate in July 2015. Juggling both a full time clinical load with her PhD she completed and published 6 peer reviewed journal articles in good clinical journals. It was a task for her supervisors to keep up with her energy. Paige finished her PhD in record time. Title of her PhD thesis: “Sexual Healing: Sexuality After Risk-reducing Salpingo-Oophorectomy”. Paige was supervised by Professor Paul Cohen, Professor Nik Zeps and Professor Max Bulsara.
7th International Congress on Emotional Intelligence: Personal and Professional Development in Medicine

by Chris Skinner

Theme: Emotional Intelligence for the Professions
When: 5.30pm Sunday 14 July – 1.30pm Wednesday 17 July 2019
Where: ND4, The University of Notre Dame Australia, Fremantle, WA

The International Society for Emotional Intelligence (ISEI) is pleased to announce that the 7th International Congress will be held at Notre Dame in July 2019. Join our global community of scholars, educators, researchers, consultants and clinicians who share a focus on emotional intelligence.

The 2019 ICEI will focus on emotional intelligence within the professions of medicine, education, law, arts, social sciences, health sciences and business and allows for a unique networking opportunity at the local, national and international level.

Top experts in the applied and academic fields of emotional intelligence (EI) will present the most current advances of EI Theory, research and application. You are encouraged to participate in the international symposia of developing trends and issues. Workshops, oral papers, posters and symposia will be used to stimulate personal and professional discussion. Applications for abstracts are now open.

Further, sign up for specialised training at the pre-conference workshops and network with a wide range of multidisciplinary professionals.

Areas and Congress Themes
Theoretical aspects of Emotional Intelligence: Application to measurement, neurosciences, emotion and cognition
Emotional Intelligence in Education: Education and social emotional learning, perception and appraisal of emotion
Emotional Intelligence from Individual and Organisational Perspectives: individual/organisational/cultural issues, emotional facilitative thinking
Emotional Intelligence in the Professions: Leadership, consultation and coaching process, employing emotional knowledge
Application of Emotional Intelligence to Health and Wellbeing: health and optimal development, clinical application, work engagement and burnout

Registration and Abstracts
Early bird registration opens: 1 December 2018
Standard registration opens: 14 April 2019
Abstracts open: 15 August 2018
Abstracts close: 24 February 2019

Email icei2019@nd.edu.au  Website: www.icei2019.com