**Message from Deb and Lizzi**

Graduation is such an emotional time of year. For students it is the culmination of five years hard work, the end of one chapter and the start of another. It is such a privilege to see them take the "Declaration of Geneva" and make that pledge to their society and patients. It is so lovely to finally meet all the families and supporters at graduation and share in the excitement and celebrations. We always feel so proud to have been a part of their formative training years and are confident that our graduates are well prepared for the next stage in their lives.

Over a quarter of the graduating students spent a year on the North West Coast and our ongoing research demonstrates that many of our graduates are choosing to practice rurally. We have 8 RCS students staying on as interns next year and we look forward to working with them as colleagues.

The federal government recognises the importance of our role and has granted us another three years of funding. This year we started our Rural Application and Pathway scheme, this is a significant step in supporting and encouraging rural students to apply to enter medicine.

Thank you to all who have made these achievements possible and for your ongoing support.

We are sad to bid farewell to Jen Beamish, who has worked for the University since 1996 and for the Rural Clinical School since 2006. Jen has seen the campus, its facilities and student numbers grow during her time and we thank her for her contribution to the University, to building the Rural Clinical School and for all the bushwalking. We wish Jen all the best for her retirement and the future.

Thank you all for an amazing year. We hope that you have a peaceful and restful break.

Look forward to seeing you all again in the New Year as we look forward to welcoming our new students and colleagues in 2016.

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**Graduation**

**Congratulations to the graduating class of 2015**

First row: Gabby Touyz, Bobby Flecker, Bradley Williams
Second row: Jessica Beechey, Conrad Jackson, Sanjay Dutta, Sam Johnson
Third row: Shab Kamalanathan, Brodie Carlon, Jon Osborne, Lachlan Stewart, Jeni English
Fourth row: Elodie Moreau, Katelyn Brooks, Alex Lewis
Fifth row: Alice McGushin, Jay Shoemaker
Sixth row: Hayyani Jasmin, Clinton White
Seventh row: Dzidula Clottey, Lili Davies
Eighth row: Kaitlin Duell, Shahab Pathan
Ninth row: Maryse Daniel, Victoria Jordan
Tenth row: Shalisha Menon, Zeeka Mushairry
**Rural Clinical School**

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**RCS Graduate Awards List**

- **Conrad Jackson**
  Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists Prize

- **Jessica Beechey**
  Gurdip K Sindhu Prize in paediatrics

- **Clinton White**
  (RCS student in 2014, completed final year at the Launceston Clinical School)
  David Gibson and Bruce McDonald Prize in Respiratory Medicine

- **Katelyn Brooks**
  Therapeutics Guidelines Prize

- **Victoria Jordan**
  JF Correy Prize in gynaecology, Royal Australasian College of Physicians Prize in Internal Medicine & Royal College of Surgeons Prize

- **Shahab Pathan**
  The University of Tasmania Prize in Ophthalmology

- **Kaitlin Duell**
  Frank Gaha Prize and a Leadership award

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**RCS Award Winners**

**Back row - L-R:** Conrad Jackson, Jessica Beechey, Clinton White & Katelyn Brooks

**First row - L-R:** Victoria Jordan, Shahab Pathan & Kaitlin Duell

Image courtesy of Alastair Bett F8 Photography

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**Local North West Coast students**

L-R: Maryse Daniel, Alice McGushin, Bradley Williams, Victoria Jordan & Keira Nair

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L-R: Elodie Moreau, Kaitlin Duell & Shahab Pathan

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L-R: Sanjay Dutta & Alex Lewis
Graduation continued

Above: Dzidula Clottey

Above: Brodie Carlon

Above: Brodie Carlon & Katelyn Brooks

Above: Victoria Jordan
Image courtesy of Alastair Bett
F8 Photography

Above: Jen Beamish, Luanne Steven & Dr Satish Kumar

Above: Jon Osborne, Zeeka Mushairry & Elodie Moreau

Above: Bradley Williams
Graduation continued

Above: 2015 RCS Graduating Class with Dr Deb Wilson, Dr Satish Kumar, Renee Harvey, Maggie Lea, Dr Lizzi Shires, Luanne Steven & Jen Beamish

More graduation photos and media can be found on the [RCS Facebook page](#).

Alumni News

Congratulations to 2013 RCS graduate Anna Maynard (nee Hebblewhite) and her husband Andrew on the birth of their first child. The couple welcomed a little boy, Fischer John Maynard, into the world on 23 November 2015.

Congratulations also to 2009 RCS graduate Meredith Stewart and her husband Lewis on the birth of their baby boy, Jacob Henry born on 3 December 2015.

Elective Students

Introducing Ivan and Paul from Monash Malaysia who are visiting on their elective from 30 November - 24 December 2015. They will spend two weeks in DEM and two weeks in Medicine at the Mersey Community Hospital.
Upcoming Events & Activities

13 Jan - Welcome BBQ at the RCS for North West Coast students who have been offered a place to study medicine at UTAS
1 - 5 Feb - Orientation Week
2 Feb - In-house THS Welcome BBQ held at the RCS
4 Feb - RCS Community Welcome BBQ held at the CCC
10 - 12 Feb - Emergency Skills Course (Year 5) Queenstown

For more information on upcoming Community Engagement events contact Kayla and for Academic Programme activities contact Renee.

Publications, Conference Presentations and Achievements


Project Funding

Funding has been granted for the project ‘What perinatal risk factors are associated with impaired lung function in children at the age of 6 to 8 years?’ to the total value of $16,100. This funding is for the period of 1 January 2016 - 31 March 2017. This funding has been sourced from Clifford Craig (North West Medical Research Fund). Dr Heinrich Weber is involved in this project.

Allied Health Professionals Symposium

Miranda also presented a poster with Dr Heather Bridgman (Centre for Rural Health) and Tracey Dean (Psychology Department, UTAS) at the Allied Health Professionals Symposium in Hobart, 20 November. The poster was titled ‘Psychology Training in Rural Tasmania: Process, Progress and Potential!’

L-R: Dr Heather Bridgman and Miranda Stephens with their poster at the Symposium.

Well done Mel!

Congratulations to Mel White on successfully completing a 6 week online course via Coursera with the University of Pennsylvania. The course was titled ‘Vital Signs, Understanding What the Body is Telling Us’ which Mel received a 96.7% on her final exam.

L-R: Dr Heather Bridgman and Miranda Stephens with their poster at the Symposium.

2015 Youth Health Conference

RCS fourth year students, Laura Turner and Leah Spencer presented on behalf of a 2015 Year 4 Research Project Group at the 2015 Youth Health Conference in Melbourne (11-13 November). Other members of this research group included Julian Chang, Jack Strugnell, Isabel Di Tommaso and Magella Tate.

L-R: Laura Turner & Leah Spencer with their poster at the conference.

RCS fifth year student, Kaitlin Duell also presented at the same conference. The 2015 Year 5 Research Project Group ANGST assessed youth friendly aspects of General Practices in North West Tasmania. Other members of the group included Brodie Carlon and Victoria Jordan.

Above: Kaitlin Duell presenting at the conference.

Well done Heather & Lynn!

Congratulations to Heather Bryer & Lynn Greives on their successful completion of the Advanced Life Support (Level 2) course in Hobart on 20 & 21 November.