



PGIM NEWSLETTER

Vol 1 Jul-Sept
2006

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WEB SITE: www.cmb.ac.lk/pgim

DESIGNED BY: **MEDICAL EDUCATION
RESOURCE CENTRE**

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FELLOWSHIP OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCE



Our Director, Vidyajyothi Professor Rezvi Sheriff Senior Professor of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, UOC was conferred the Fellowship of the National Academy of Sciences which is the highest award of distinction any scientist can achieve in Sri Lanka. The NASSL is an elite organization amongst all the sciences in Sri Lanka and he was the only person who received this award for Medical Sciences in 2006

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



The PGIM is now just over 25 years old. Over 6000 persons have got a Certificate, Diploma, Master of Science, MD or MS in this period. We have a current roll of 1400 students in training. 79 exams are held every year. So silently we do an enormous service to the country with one Academic Director and a small staff complement. We established 'MERC'-Medical Education Resource Centre and redefined their roles. A small faculty is being built up with present cadre provision for 2 lecturers and

possibly 3-4 Senior Consultants. They will focus on Education, Teaching Training, Learning and Research Assessments.

Therefore we need information flow. This old fashioned newsletter will still draw attention of our clients-young and old doctors. We plan to have a JGIMSL. The newsletter is the first step planned, at least 2-3 times per year. We want to increase fellowship by organizing a PGIMSLAA-PGIM Sri Lanka Alumni Association which is to form the basis for a growing international link.

I hope you will support us by reading and giving us your ideas to improve on content and style.

MEDICAL EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTRE (MERC)

Staff members : Dr. Dinendra Athukorale, Dr. Harsha Ediriweera, Dr. K. Sutharshan, Dr. Sumudu Wickramasinghe, Ms. Upamall Wijeratne



Medical Education Resource Centre (MERC) formally called Medical Education Unit was established in 2004 under the leadership of Professor Lalitha Mendis former Director PGIM, Professor Colvin Guneratne

was appointed as the WHO Consultant. He was instrumental in conducting colloquia on MCQs and reviewing of MCQs selected at random from MCQ banks.

MERC played a major role in organizing and coordinating the first ever academic session held on 1st & 2nd July 2005, with 90 presentations and 350 participants. This was followed by the South Asian Conference on Postgraduate Medical Edu-



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- VISITING FOREIGN LECTURERS
- UK WORK PERMIT ISSUE
- FUTURE DEVELOPMENT PLANS OF BOARDS OF STUDY

cation (SACPME) held from 1st to 3rd August 2005. MERC was involved in organizing this event. Launch of SANPEM (South Asian Network on Postgraduate Education in Medicine) web site took place during this conference. In 2005 Dr. Harsha Ediriweera joined the MERC as a Lecturer. Along with the Board of Study Family Medicine, MERC has developed a Distance Education programme for the Diploma in Family Medicine with WHO assistance. With the able guidance and leadership of Professor Rezvi Sheriff Director PGIM, MERC is gathering momentum to become the hub of educational activities of the PGIM.



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BOS IN FAMILY MEDICINE

Chairperson:
Dr. Leela de A Karunaratne
Secretary :Dr. A L P de S Seneviratne

The DFM India exam has been held since 1999 with the joint effort of the Indian Medical Association and the examiners from PGIM who travel to India to hold this exam. There are 32 applicants to sit the DFM from India in 2006. DFM is been organized in a Distance Education format and we

BOS IN MICROBIOLOGY

Chairperson: Prof Nelun deSilva
Secretary :Dr. S Nanayakkara

In the recent past the objectives and outcomes of both the Diploma and the MD have been revised extensively in the context of new developments in medical education, at workshops conducted with all the trainers participating.

A request to the PGIM from the Ministry of Health through the College to fast track the training in Microbiology and produce a Diploma in Clinical Microbiology to improve the Microbiology services in the base hospitals of Sri Lanka is under consideration of the Board. In this context we have increased the intake into the training programme from 8 to 12, which will come to effect in the Selection Examination in 2006.

BOS IN ONCOLOGY

Chairperson: Dr. Damayanthi Pieris
Secretary : Dr. Kanthi Perera

This Board came into function in 1985 with Dr. R S Jayathilake as Chairman. Its main role is to maintain the academic standards of the Oncologists by conducting MD Clinical Oncology degree programme. At present all 16 qualified Oncologists are in the country. This board is planning to have further sub specialization

BOS IN PATHOLOGY

Chairperson: Prof. N.V.I. Ratnatunga
Secretary :Dr. Bimalka Senevirathne

Postgraduate training programme in Pathology and the curriculum will be revised soon. This is still in progress and the Curriculum committee appointed by the Board is working on it. A workshop is scheduled to be held in September 2006, to finalize the new curriculum.

BOS IN FORENSIC MEDICINE

Chairperson :Prof Ravindra Fernando
Secretary :Dr. I S Gunasekera

Around 65 medical officers have obtained the MD Forensic Medicine and approximately 100 medical officers have obtained the DLM. Recent developments in the course include the addition of general pathology to the Diploma course and the inclusion of an additional 12 months of post-MD training in Sri Lanka before Board Certification as a specialist. Our future plans include the possibility of obtaining part exemptions from the membership examinations in Pathology conducted in the UK Australia and Canada and exploring the possibility of overseas training for MD graduates at least in a few sub-specialties like Forensic Histopathology, Forensic Anthropology and Forensic Toxicology.

BOS IN SURGERY

Chairperson :Prof. P C A Ratnatunga
Secretary :Dr. Upali Banagala

Board of study in Surgery is the training board of all surgical specialists except Eye surgery and ENT surgery. Board of study in Surgery is planning to introduce separate training programme for different specialties. To start with separate programmes will be introduced in respect of Orthopaedic surgery, Neuro surgery and possibly Cardio-thoracic surgery

BOS IN DERMATOLOGY

Chairperson : Dr. G.M.P. Sirimanna
Secretary :Dr. Jayamini Senevirathne

A new programme of postgraduate training in Dermatology was commenced in the year 2000. During the first six months of basic Dermatology the trainees have the privilege of attending a month long lecture series conducted by a senior visiting Professor of Dermatology from Germany. Permanent Consultant Dermatologist post at LRH was established in 2001.

BOS IN RADIOLOGY

Chairperson : Dr. G W Subasinghe
Secretary :Dr. Anoma Fernando

The recent developments of our Board are number of training centers & number of Radiologists trained for a year been increased from 6 up to 18, the new prospectus for MD Radiology examination was prepared, regular appraisal of training was introduced and training programs for selected subspecialties in Radiology was formulated.

Plans for the future are to expand the training program to fill the country's demand in general Radiology & subspecialties as early as possible, and at the same time develop the standard of training by increasing the skills & attitudes of the Radiologists who will be serving in the periphery after completion of training.

BOS IN DENTAL SURGERY

Chairperson: Dr. M.A.M. Sitheecque
Secretary : Dr. J U Weerasinghe

Up to the year 2005, the PGIM through its Board of Study in Dental Surgery has produced 49 Consultants in Oral Surgery 19 consultants in Orthodontics and 9 consultants in Restorative Dentistry. In addition 178 Diplomas also have been awarded. A major curriculum reform is underway and the duration of the training of MS (Oral surgery) programme is to be lengthened. A new diploma programme in general dental practice and a new degree programme of MD (Oral Pathology) are to be commenced soon.

VISITING LECTURERS TO PGIM

Dermatology



Dr. Hofmann from Department of Dermatology Munich, Germany visited PGIM to give a lecture series to the postgraduate trainees for four weeks duration.

Anaesthesiology



Dr. Graham Arthurs from England visited the PGIM to conduct a workshop for postgraduate trainees for 5 days starting from 13th of July 2006.

THE AMBASSADOR TO KUWAIT

It is our immense pleasure to announce that one of our long standing Board of Management members of the PGIM *Mr. S.A.C.M. Zuhyle* has been appointed as Sri Lanka's Ambassador to Kuwait. He is due to handover his credentials this month. The Board of Management congratulated him at the meeting held on 1st of July 2006 and wished him every success in his new career. He has promised to help us find foreign funding for a new Medical Education Resource Centre building. We are planning to house part of a modernized library in addition to our NHSL main library

WORK PERMIT ISSUE IN UK LEADING TO A SERIOUS ISSUE IN OBTAINING PGIM TRAINING PLACEMENTS



Professor Rezvi Sheriff, Director and Mr. Chandradasa Deputy Registrar of the Postgraduate Institute of Medicine (PGIM) visited the UK in order to make representations to the British Authorities with regards to the above mentioned issue on

the 1st week of May 2006.

The delegation at present is awaiting for a positive response from the UK authorities. The whole hearted support given by the Sri Lankan High Commission in the United Kingdom and the foreign ministry officials were highly appreciated. Home office has indicated that a subcategory of visa under TWES (Training & Work Experience Scheme) upto 24 months with PGIM stipend would be introduced soon.

NEW MEMBERS OF STAFF

Mr. H.A. Saththar joined as the Senior Assistant Registrar of the Examination branch from 01/06/2006. Apart from his M.B.A. (UK) he holds a postgraduate degree in Management, Postgraduate diploma in Business Finance & Administration (CISL) and Postgraduate diploma in Education (Merit Pass) – NIE

Miss. E.P.I. Premaratne was appointed to our organization as the Assistant Registrar of the Academic branch with effect from 1st of August 2006. She replaces Ms Vindya Jayasena.

Mrs.M.S.Ranasinghe was appointed to PGIM as Assistant Registrar General Administration and Establishment with effect from 1st of August 2006. She replaces Ms.Anoma Ratnayake.

Mr. K.Jayantha Weerawardane, Computer Applications Assistant (Grade-III) was appointed to our Institution on 3rd of April 2006. At present he is working at Computer Unit, PGIM.

Ms. W.M.S.Upamali Wijeratne, Computer Applications Assistant (Grade-III) was appointed to our Institution on 26th of June 2006. At present she is working at MERC, PGIM.

MEMBERS OF STAFF WHO LEFT OUR ORGANIZATION RECENTLY...

Mr. J. A. G. W. Jayasuriya was the Senior Assistant Registrar of Examination branch. He was appointed to this post on 16th of October 1997. He had been transferred on promotion to Rajarata University as the Deputy Registrar with effect from 30th April 2006. We wish him well in his new post.

Mrs. K. A. A. P. Rathnayake was the Assistant Registrar of Administration and Establishment branch. She was appointed to this post on 1st of April 1999. She had been transferred on promotion to the Institute of Indigeous Medicine as a Senior Assistant Registrar with effect from 15th of March 2006.

Ms. W. L. V. Jayasena was the Assistant Registrar of the Academic branch since 10th June 2002. she had been transferred on promotion to the University of Moratuwa as a Senior Assistant Registrar with effect from 15th March 2006.

We thank them for their services to the PGIM and wish them well and good luck in their new posts.

NEW PGIM FLAG



DESIGNED BY: MERC

PGIM financing 2005

Please note that the PGIM total budget is Rs. 77.9 million. Nearly 50% needs to be generated. This is difficult. PGIM plans to have a small registration fee for all workshops to cover costs of overheads in addition to what participants have to pay for colleges etc.

DIRECTORY OF POSTGRADUATE TRAINERS & TRAINING UNITS

We are happy to say you that we (MERC) are in the process of making a directory. It contains details regarding postgraduate trainers and training Units. From this directory contact details, training capacity, special research interest and publications of trainers can be obtained. Directory will be available at the PGIM very soon for the reference of Postgraduate Trainees.

EDITOR IN CHIEF:

Professor Rezvi Sheriff

EDITORIAL STAFF:

Dr.Kugadas Sutharshan

Dr.Harsha Ediriweera

Dr.Dinendra Athukorale

Dr.Sumudu Wickramasinghe

Miss. Upamali Wijeratne

FEEDBACK.....

This is our first newsletter released by MERC, PGIM. We would be grateful if you could let us know what you think about the articles you have read in this newsletter, what other articles would you be interested in seeing covered in future newsletters. Finally any other useful suggestions to improve our future issues are also welcome.

Please write to:

Coordinator-Incharge
newsletter

Medical Education and
Resource Centre

E-Mail: merc.pgim@yahoo.com

**OUR EXAMINERS
OVERSEAS.....**



Professor Shyam Fernando, Professor of Medicine visited Pakistan to conduct FCPS part 2 (Oral & Clinical) examination from 23rd of July to 27th of July. Dr.M.L.Najimudeen, Consultant Obstetrics & Gynaecology also visited Pakistan to conduct the FCPS examination from 16th to 20th of July. The exam was conducted by College of Physicians and Surgeons-Pakistan (CPSP).

**CERTIFICATE OF
COMPETENCE IN
COMPUTER
APPLICATION (CCCA)**

PGIM is conducting a computer course for postgraduate trainees trainers & doctors who are holding SLMC registration. We are teaching MS Office (Word, Excel Power point, Access, Outlook) Internet & Email, Hardware, SPSS and brief introduction to other softwares. We have successfully completed two batches each containing 20 students. Now we are in the process of registering students for fourth intake. Those who wish to register themselves please contact Medical education and Resource Centre.PGIM.

**ROOF TOP BUILDING
PROJECT**

The rooftop building project was started last month and hope to be completed by the end of this year. We have planned to move MERC office, set up a Distance Education cell, E-Learning facility Teleconference Consultation room MCQ rooms, Students/Staff rest and recreation areas and a luncheon area for participants at workshops etc. We plan to set up some points for internet access to staff and PGIM trainers.

**VISIT OF THE DIRECTOR TO THE BRANCH
LIBRARY, PERADENIYA**



Prof. Rezvi Sheriff, the Director PGIM visited the PGIM branch Library at the Teaching Hospital Peradeniya on 28 July 2006 on an invitation of the Senior Assistant Librarian Mrs.Daisy Seneviratne.

The purpose of the visit was to find out the strengths and weaknesses of the library in order to make necessary changes for improvement.

The Director inspected the resource collection and the services provided by the library. Prof.C.Ratnatunga, Coordinator of the PGIM branch Library, Dr. C. Wasusawithana, Chairman, and Library Committee joined the discussion. It was a happy occasion as it indicated that the Director was committed to the development of the library and information services to the PG trainees in the Kandy region. The visit coincided with the visit of Prof.Andrew Dawson to the library. Prof. Andrew Dawson, who was introduced to the librarian that day donated a copy of the library CD and promised to send the Postgraduate Medical Journal for the library use.

The SAL at Peradeniya Branch Library was very grateful to Prof. Rezvi Sheriff for visiting the library for the first time with his busy schedule in Colombo.

**CONCEPT OF POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF
MEDICINE LOGO**



The Book at the base depicts knowledge, the foundation of postgraduate training. Caduceus is from ancient Greek mythology and a symbol of Medicine. The Globe above his wings shows the quality and standard of the education & attitudes practiced is excellent and can match any global standard. The curved paths depict the rigorous nature of the postgraduate training and the paddy seeds symbolize the ultimate achievement after such an effort is productive. At the bottom it illustrates the starting year.

WITH THE COMPLEMENTS OF....

JANSSEN - CILAG

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helping add life to years

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