



SLMA and PGIM hand over resource material to set up a Medical Library at Menik Farm



SLMA on the invitation of Director General Health Services, Dr Ajith Mendis, visited the IDP camps at Menik Farm on 22-23rd June 2009. During the visit the SLMA President identified the need for a medical library for doctors stationed in Menik Farm. The SLMA in collaboration with the Post Graduate Institute of Medicine (PGIM) was able to fulfill this undertaking when they handed over resource material to the Minister of Healthcare and Nutrition, Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva on the 22nd September 2009 at the office of the Minister.

Prof. Rezvi Sheriff, Director PGIM and President SLMA handing over resource material to start a Library for doctors serving in the IDP camps in Menik Farm to Hon Minister of Healthcare and Nutrition. DGHS, Dr Ajith Mendis, Secretary SLMA Dr M R Haniffa and assistant librarian PGIM Mrs. P.P.D.Munasinghe were also present.

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Maldivian & Malaysian

High Commissioners visit PGIM

Mr. Ali Hussain Didi, Maldivian High commissioner and Dr. D. D. Ranasinghe, Sri Lankan High Commissioner for Malaysia met Prof. Rezvi Sheriff, Director PGIM on a visit to Sri Lanka and they discussed on an exchange program of students between Maldives, Sri Lanka and Malaysia.



e-Health Roadmap for Sri Lanka

A Joint meeting with the PGIM and Health Informatics Society of Sri Lanka (HISSL) to discuss feasibility study on deployment of e-Health in Sri Lanka was held on 10th July 2009 at the PGIM with the presence of Prof. Yasuo Uchida, Emeritus Professor, Kobe University and Director, Graduate School, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, Japan.



Prof. Rezvi Sheriff, President HISSL and Director, PGIM chaired the meeting. Prof. M.T.M Jiffry, Vice-Chairman, UGC led the brainstorming session. Presentations were made by Dr. Vajira Dissanayaka of Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo, Dr Jayantha Weerasinghe of Faculty of Dental Sciences, University of Peradeniya and Dr Duminda Nishantha of Institute of Information Comm. Technologies, College of Asia Pacific Studies, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, Japan.

Prof. Tanzeen Raza visits Director, PGIM

Prof. Tanzeen Raza, Consultant Physician from Royal College of Physicians came to Sri Lanka for the MD part 2 exam which was held at University of Peradeniya. On the way back, he paid a courtesy visit to Prof. Rezvi Sheriff's residence with Dr. S. Ragnathan, Chairperson, Board of Study in Medicine and Mr. H.A. Sathar, Senior Asst. Registrar Examinations, PGIM.



DFM by Distance Education – Print and Online Workshops

A workshop was held for the DFM Print trainees on the 26th & 27th of September 2009. Dr. Ruvaiz Haniffa did a session on “How to answer MEQs”. There was also a Q & A session on the DFM Exam with 4 panel members - Prof. Leela Karunaratne, Dr. Dennis Aloysius, Prof. Antoinette Perera, Dr. Joel Fernando. This session proved to be very useful for the trainees, as they were preparing to sit for the DFM Final Exam in 2009. Next, Dr. Dennis Aloysius did lecture demonstrations on Management of Snake bites and Management of Poisoning. A Mock OSCE was conducted by 5 examiners – Dr. Eugene Corea, Dr. Dinusha de Silva, Dr. Ruvaiz Haniffa, Dr. Erandi Ediriweera and Dr. Jayantha Thambar.



There was another workshop for the DFM Online trainees on the 1st of November 2009. All the lessons delivered during the second semester were discussed with the relevant tutor mentor. A feedback form was distributed among the trainees in order to obtain their feedback on the lessons. The workshop concluded with the trainees being guided through the work plan for the third semester.

1st Basic Sciences BOS meeting

First Board of Study Meeting of Basic Sciences, chaired by Prof. Rezvi Sheriff was held on 1st of September 2009 at the PGIM Auditorium. Members representing both Anatomy and Physiology Specialty Boards were present at the inaugural meeting.



“How to prepare best response MCQs”

A one day workshop on “How to prepare best response questions” under the Postgraduate Diploma in Critical Care Medicine was held on 29th September at the PGIM Auditorium. Dr. Bandula Wijesiriwardena and Dr. Indika Karunathilake were the lead resource persons of the programme and this was held specially for members of the Specialty Board in Critical Care & Emergency Medicine, Module co-ordinators and trainers involved in Critical Care Medicine training. All participants & resource persons were given certificates with CPD points recognized by the National CPD programme.



Medical Education Course; Opportunity for the Senior Trainers

Opportunity for senior trainers to follow the modules (Educational environment, Community oriented teaching and Psychometrics of assessment) of the Postgraduate Diploma in Medical Education course as an audit for experience is now open. The modules of the Postgraduate Certificate in Medical Education course will also be open to follow as an audit for experience, from January 2010 onwards. Course fee is Rs. 3000/= per module. Following the completion of a module, a Certificate of Attendance along with the CME points, will be awarded. Applications will be available on <http://www.cmb.ac.lk/pgim>, and at MERC.

New Wings to Medical Education at PGIM

Opening ceremony of the newly launched Postgraduate Diploma in Medical Education course was held at the PGIM, Auditorium, on the 18th of July 2009. Vidyajyothi Professor Lalitha Mendis, chairperson of the Specialty Board in Medical Education, Dr. Indika Karunathilake and Dr. Palitha Abeykoon addressed the gathering. This course will enrich the knowledge of the trainees who have completed the Postgraduate Certificate in Medical Education/ Certificate in Health Professions Education course. This course will gather momentum with the academic support by the leading trainers in Medical Education from Colombo, Peradeniya, Ragama and Ruhuna Medical faculties.



Inaugural Specialty Board Meeting of Elderly Medicine

The 1st meeting of the Specialty Board in Elderly Medicine chaired by Prof. Rezvi Sheriff, Director PGIM, was held on 6th August 2009 at the PGIM Conference hall. Dr. Raja Salgado from Sydney, Australia gave expert help.



Research Methodology workshop

The 2nd “Five day Course on Research methodology” was held from the 14th to 18th of September. Like the previous workshop held in May 2009 this was aimed at developing research skill in PG trainees as well as guiding them more towards research. This course had 50 participants, out of which 30 were students of the NOMA project. The course had to be advanced from the scheduled date, due to high demand from the PG Trainees and also a request from the NOMA Administration. It consisted of lectures from experienced professionals in the field of research and also hands on activities which made the sessions more interesting. The course ended with great success. The next course is planned to be held in early 2010. Professor Janaka de Silva is seen lecturing in this photograph.



Thank you Prof. Andrew Dawson Prof. Andrew Dawson, former Course Coordinator of the MSc in Medical Toxicology course left Sri Lanka in August 2009. PGIM admires and highly appreciates his efforts, dedicated service to the course and wish him success in all his future endeavors.



DFM Online – An Overview *By Dr. Joel Fernando*
DFM online is a two year study programme which consists of two major components - Online work and Clinical work. The programme runs into four semesters and five courses are delivered in the four semesters.

Family Practice - 1st Semester Adult Health - 3rd Semester
Society and Health - 2nd Semester Woman Health
Child Health } 4th Semester

Each semester delivers 16 lessons and a semester is of 24 weeks duration. The course schedule is firmly fixed well in advance, and the schedule for the semester is made available to the trainees at the start of each semester.

There are three important aspects to online learning – self learning, peer learning, tutor learning. Peer learning, i.e. learning from colleagues, is considered to be very important in our study programme and the trainees are encouraged to make maximum use of the discussion forums conducted online. In the online discussions, the trainees discuss a topic given to them with the tutor observing and guiding the discussion. Tutor based learning allows the trainees to submit assignments online and then, they will get a feedback from the tutor on their assignment.

Clinical work is very important. The trainees should always be motivated to learn from clinical work. The clinical work is learner driven. The objectives needed to be achieved during clinical training, in terms of knowledge and skills to be acquired in each specialty, would be provided. The trainees are expected to maintain records of their clinical experience in a Clinical Work Portfolio. The portfolio is a learning tool where the trainee captures something carried out by him / her during clinicals and then, reflects on the process.

In order to succeed in this course, the trainees must follow the course regularly and complete the course work on time. Therefore it is very important to stick to the given schedule; as otherwise, the workload would be increased towards the end of the course.

The course is structured in such a way that a trainee would have to spend about 4 hours per week in order to complete the work assigned for a week. Although 80% participation is needed in all activities, I must remind you that it may not be enough to succeed. If you really want to benefit from this course fully, you must have full participation and interact regularly with each other online.

Assumption of duties of newly appointed staff

New employees assumed duties in their respective departments with effect from 1st of July 2009. They took oaths in the presence of Prof. Rezvi Sheriff, Director, PGIM & Ms.G.M.Y.Dannangoda, AR-Gen.Admin. Standing from left to right - Mr.C.T.A.M.Perera, Mr.S.G.D.S.Dharmasiri, Mr.K.G.H.Kumara, Ms.K.G.Amaratunga, Ms. K. W. D. I. S. Wijesekara, Ms. D. D. E. Dasanayake, Mrs.D.A.S.S.Sooriaarachchi.



Staff News..... Ms. Manoja Priyangi Peiris, Staff assistant at Admin. Branch was transferred to University of Moratuwa on 31/08/2009 after 22 years of service to the PGIM. She will be missed at the PGIM and we wish her well.



Annual Staff Trip

Annual PGIM staff trip organized by the PGIM Welfare Society was a fun filled excursion to Wasgamuwa National Park on 11th & 12th of July with an overnight stay.

HISSL Annual General Meeting

The annual General Meeting of Health Informatics Society of Sri Lanka was held on 16th September 2009 at PGIM. Dr. Vajira Dissanayake was appointed as the President, HISSL for the year 2009-2010. Several special interest groups were created including Public Health Informatics, Clinical Bioinformatics and Mathematical Modeling in Medicine.



See HISSL web portal (www.hissl.org) for more details.



User Awareness workshop conducted by PGIM library Sponsored by HELLIS network

The seminar was held on 13th August 2009 at the MERC 4th floor (Computer lab), co-ordinated by Assistant Librarian PGIM. 46 medical postgraduate trainees actively participated in the seminar. The inauguration of the workshop was attended by Vidyajyothi Professor Rezvi Sheriff, Director, PGIM. The following presentations were done by the Resource Persons.

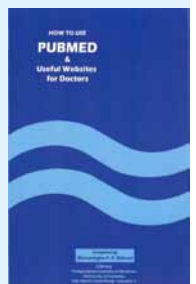
- *Electronic Journals, Scholarly Publications and other Resources* - Mrs. D.C. Kuruppu, SAL Medical Library, University of Colombo.
- *How to conduct a Literature Survey through Internet* – Mrs. Shirani Dharmarathna, SAL, Medical Library, University of Sri Jayawardenapura.



The participants were provided with handouts of the two presentations and presenters work with live Internet.

“How to use PUBMED & Useful websites for Doctors”

This book was compiled by Mrs. Munasinghe P. P. Dilhani Assistant Librarian / PGIM, as a practice manual for searching PubMed database and useful websites for Doctors. Preface is written by Vidyajyothi Professor Rezvi Sheriff, Director/PGIM. The objective of this book is to equip the professionals and researchers with basic skills on searching the PubMed database.





Explore the paradigm
<http://journal.hissl.org>



The Editorial Board would be pleased to entertain scientific articles on bio-medical informatics for this journal.
 We are also looking forward to give visibility to innovative eHealth initiatives in Sri Lanka through the journal. All submissions should be made electronically through the internet via the journal web site at www.sljol.info.

Write to us.....
 The Editors invite letters to the Editor. Letters with useful suggestions will be featured. Anonymous and inappropriate correspondence will be ignored.

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PGIM Oration & Titular Awards

PGIM Oration and Titular awards 2009 will be held on 26th November 2009, from 3.00 pm onwards at PGIM Auditorium. Prof.Kshanika Hirimburegama, Vice-chancellor, University of Colombo will be the chief guest on this occasion and Prof. Priyani Soysa will be the Guest of Honor.



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