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#### **Grievances Committee - PGIM**

The Standing Committee on Academic Affairs Accreditation, Examinations & Discipline (AAAED) of the PGIM, having considered various issues such as student evaluation, examinations, discipline and allocation of trainees that have arisen over the years, recommended to the Board of Management, the importance of establishing a committee to address relevant issues for the smooth functioning of the PGIM and to minimize court cases.

Accordingly, the PGIM established a Grievances Committee on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2012. Justice H.S. Yapa has been appointed as the Chairman of the Grievances Committee of the PGIM.

#### Workshop on 'Child interview skills'

The Board of Study in Forensic Medicine conducted a workshop on "Child interview skills" at the PGIM on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> August 2012 from 09.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

The main resource person for this workshop was a foreign expert - a forensic Psychologist, Dr. Rita Shackel from

Australia who is also a lawyer.

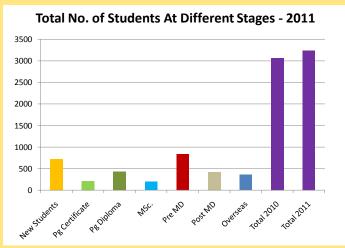
Main objective of the workshop was to improve interview skills of the specialists in Forensic Medicine (in the Min-

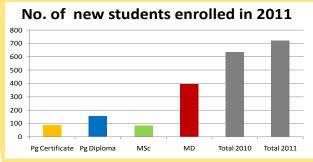
istry of Health and the Universities), in the field of evaluation of victims of child sexual abuse.

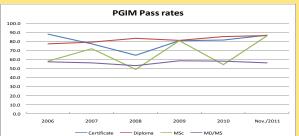


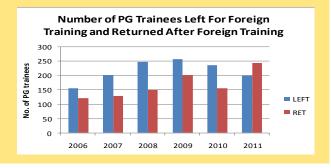
#### PGIM Statistics—2011

When analyzing the recent data of the PGIM as given below, it is clearly evident that the Postgraduate Institute of Medicine is steadily improving in the sphere of postgraduate education in medicine in Sri Lanka.





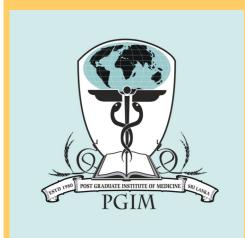




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### Postgraduate Institute of Medicine; Quo Vadis

By Prof. Prasantha Wijesinghe (Deputy Director/PGIM)



The vision of the Postgraduate Institute of Medicine is to be an internationally recognized centre of distinction producing specialists and other professionals of high caliber to meet health needs of the country, region and contribute to world health; and to be an academically, financially and administratively independent institute working towards eventually acquiring university status.

Academic Activities: The number of new trainees enrolled into different study programmes every year is steadily increasing (637 and 723 in year 2010 and 2011 respectively) with an increase in the total number of Board Certified Specialists (183 and 230 in year 2010 and 2011 respectively). In order to cater to this ever rising demand for Postgraduate Medical Education, the PGIM is in the process of introducing new study programmes, and strengthening the existing study programmes. Currently several new study programmes are being developed. New programmes such as Emergency Medicine, Critical care medicine, Elderly Medi-

cine, Disaster Management, Human Nutrition, Physiology and Anatomy will be launched in the year 2013.

With a view to further strengthen the existing study programmes; PGIM has started a process of revising the relevant prospectuses. The standing committee on Academic Affairs Accreditation Education and Discipline (AAAED) is in the process of upgrading the by-laws, regulations and rules to support and streamline the future academic activities. A grievance committee got off the ground recently to enhance transparency, equality, and fair play.

With a view to improve the trainer/examiner capacity the PGIM conducts regular workshops on curriculum development and review, curriculum delivery, clinical training and evaluation methods which will help the academic activities in the future.

**Research:** In order to develop a healthy research culture in the field of medicine, all training programmes are encouraged to incorporate a research component in to the curriculum. An ethics review committee and a research fund are being established to support research activities. The PGIM academic sessions and the oration provide opportunities for trainers and trainees to disseminate their research findings.

**Infrastructure development:** With the ever expanding academic activities and the need to accommodate the support services for these activities in mind the PGIM has initiated a new building project, which will provide more teaching and learning facilities and much needed expansion of the academic and examinations departments. The online programmes are in the process of revision and upgrading which will lead to user friendly interactive online training programmes in the future.

**Permanent Academic staff and training facilities:** In achieving the above targets the services of permanent academic staff members become crucial. The PGIM has already recruited four senior lecturers in the fields of Medical Education, laboratory sciences and clinical sciences. It is envisaged that they will join the PGIM soon.

At present, the facilities of the ministry of health are extensively utilized for training purposes. The need for our own facilities for training has been identified and ways and means of achieving this are being explored. There is an urgent need of permanent senior academic staff and clinical training units in hospitals to support the present training programmes and introduce new training programmes in the future.

**Roll of the alumni:** Almost all the trainers and examiners of the PGIM now are our own alumni and it is envisaged that this will continue in the future. The alumni association of the PGIM is in its infancy at present and there is no doubt that this will continue to grow in the future and engage in mutually beneficial activities to further strengthen the bond between the PGIM and its alumni.

Since its inception some 30 years ago, the PGIM has grown to become a national institute providing training facilities to cater for the country's health care needs. It will continue to strive to explore new avenues to achieve its mission "to plan and develop, implement, monitor and evaluate postgraduate academic programmes required to produce specialists and other professionals of the highest quality, competence and dedication in order to provide optimum and humane health care to the people of Sri Lanka, the region and the world".

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# Staff News—New Appointments Deputy Director—PGIM



Professor Prasantha Wijesinghe assumed duties as the Deputy Director of the Postgraduate Institute of Medicine in June 2012.

Before joining the PGIM he served as the Professor of Obstetrics and

Gynaecology at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya. He is the chairman of the representative committee of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists; Sri Lanka.

He has served the PGIM in various capacities over the years. He had been a member of the Board of Management of the PGIM in the past. He has also functioned as a member of the Board of Study in Obstetrics and Gynaecology for several years and has also been an examiner at MD part I and part II examinations.

#### Assistant Registrar—General Administration



Mrs.S.A.A.M.Perera was appointed as the new Assistant Registrar of the General Administration, on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2012. She took over from Ms.G.M.Y.Danangoda who held the post for 6 years.

Mrs.Perera graduated from University of Moratuwa(2009) and followed a postgraduate degree in Master of Economics at University of Colombo (2012). She joined the PGIM as an assistant registrar in 2012 denoting the beginning of her administrative career.

### Senior Assistant Bursar—Ms.P.C.P.Fernando



Ms.P.C.P.Fernando is covering up duties of Deputy Bursar with effect from 20/07/2012 and she took over the duties of the PGIM from Mr.H.M.N.C.Herath—Deputy Bursar of the PGIM who is currently on sabbatical leave.

She Started her administrative career

as an Assistant Bursar attached to the PGIM on 10/09/2002 and promoted to the post of Senior Assistant Bursar on 23/11/2011 of this institute.

She graduated from IHRA, University of Colombo in Labour Education, obtained the Postgraduate Diploma in Human Resources Advancement and Masters Degree in Human Resources Management Of the IHRA, University of Colombo.

### Senior Assistant Registrar—Miss E.P.I.Premaratne



Miss E.P.I.Premaratne was appointed as Senior Assistant Registrar in March 2012 of the Academic division of the PGIM. She is presently functioning as the head of the Academic Division

She is graduated from the Open University of Sri Lanka in Natural Sciences and obtained the Postgraduate Diploma in Business Management & Master of Business Studies from University of Colombo. She Started her administrative career in the University System as an Assistant Registrar at the PGIM in 2006.

#### Assistant Network Manager — PGIM



Mr.Dulip Wijesinghe was appointed as the assistant network manager of the PGIM on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2012. He is the first assistant network manager to be attached to the PGIM. Mr.Wijesinghe obtained his BSc. in Computer Science from University of Sabaragamuwa in 2004 and is a diploma holder in Linux Network Administration and Security. He is

also a CISCO certified network associate (CCNA).

Mr. Wijesinghe functioned as the Assistant Network Manager at the University of Sabaragamuwa prior to joining the PGIM

#### **Assistant Registrar—Examination Branch**

Miss N.M.Dabare, who graduated from the Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya in year 2011 assumed her duties as the new Assistant Registrar of the PGIM Examinations Branch on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2012 starting her career as an administrative officer.

#### Ethical Review Committee —PGIM

As stipulated by the Sri Lanka Medical Council and Sri Lanka Medical Association it is a mandatory requirement to obtain approval from an Ethical Review Committee before commencement of a research project.

The adopted practice at present by the PGIM trainees is to submit such research proposals for approval, to one of the established Ethical Review Committees in other organizations.

PGIM established a new "Ethical Review Committee" (ERC) on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2012.

The ERC will ensure the review and evaluation of all ethical aspects of the research proposals it receives from prospective researchers to ensure they follow and maintain nationally and internationally established guidelines.

It will also be the responsibility of the ERC to provide guidance to the PGIM trainees on ethical issues and conduct and promote education and training in research ethics to trainees and trainers of the PGIM.





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#### Write to us.....

Letters with useful suggestions will be featured. Anonymous and inappropriate correspondence will be ignored.



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# PGIM NEWSLETTER

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From:

Medical Education Resource Centre Postgraduate Institute of Medicine University of Colombo No.160 Norris Canal Road Colombo 07 To:

**INSIDE THE 23RD ISSUE** 

## Feedback...... Please write to:

What would you like to read in future editions of our PGIM Newsletter?

What would you like to ⇒ PGIM Statistics—2011

⇒ Grievances Committee of the PGIM

Send your comments and suggestions to:

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⇒ Postgraduate Institute of Medicine; *Quo Vadis* 

Workshop on Child interview skills

- ⇒ PGIM Staff Promotions and new appointments
- ⇒ Ethical Review Committee—PGIM