

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE **UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO**

PGIM NEWSLETTER

The Editorial Committee Wishes you a Prosperous Sinhala & Hindu New Near filled with Peace & Harmony...

Volume 07, January - March 2008

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Dawn of the New Year at **PGIM Grounds -**

New Year Celebrations

brought everybody together.



The morning was setoff with a warm Welcome Speech by Mr. Shiran, the President of the Welfare Society followed by Director Vidyajyothi Professor Rezvi Sheriff, which inspired the gathering for a New Year with New Hopes & Plans.

The opening of the PGIM Welfare Library on the same day by the Director was a long awaited dream which made the occasion nowned Author and Translator. colourful.

further heightened the enthusiasm of the bunch. (contd.)

Paediatric Oncology on the PGIM Map Soon

A Historic Meeting was held under the chairmanship of the Director to get all stakeholders to one table with BOS Paediatrics, College of Paediatricians, BOS Clinical Oncology, College of Oncologists, DDGMS & DGHS. Following a frank discussion it was decided to start a new programme for training Paediatric Oncologists. The Director & DDGMS promised to do needful in the National Specialist Cadre Projection Committee, once the University of Colombo senate approves it.

Diploma in Family Medicine by Distance Education: Few Places for Health Ministry Doctors

Dawn of the New Year was The PGIM started the first batch of DFM training by celebrated at the PGIM prem- Open & DE format on 29th November, 2007. This two ises with a friendly gathering year course has been designed to meet the needs of docorganized by the PGIM Wel- tors in the private sector who are unable to access PGIM Examiners fare Society. It was a morning facilities, to join the current full time one year face to The PGIM has been getting down Exterof entertainment, which face DFM training programme. Five more vacancies were offered to the Public Sector (Ministry of Health) MOs fulfilling the eligibility criteria & they were enrolled to the course on 14th of February, 2008.

Programme Development Group of Distance Education Modernization Project (DEMP)

A meeting on Programme Development Group of DEMP of the PGIM/DE programme was held on 28th February, 2008. Prof. Rezvi Sheriff (Director), Dr. Joel Fernando (DE Coordinator), Professor Chandra Gunawardena (Course Design Local Consultant), Dr. Sanath Jayasena & other members of the committee decided to arrange workshops for training of the trainers, after discussing on the development of the course to online proposed a new scheme for External mode.

We are proud to mention that a valuable collection of from UK/ Europe, Australia/New Zeabooks were donated by Mr. T. T. D. Gunasekara, retired

Senior Assistant Librarian, a re-

The Raffle which was held in aid of The benevolent gesture of Di- the PGIM Welfare Library was rector, by donating a cupboard drawn by the Director & the 1st three prizes were awarded; handsome gifts including a three burner cooker.



Mini Research Symposium on **Poisoning**

A Mini Research Symposium on Poisoning, a joint project of PGIM & SACTRC (South Asian Clinical Toxicology Research Collaboration) was held on 29th November 2007. Welcome address & introduction to SACTRC were delivered by Prof. Andrew Dawson, the Program Director of SACTRC & President of Asia Pacific Association of Medical Toxicology. The Symposium turned out to be very enthusiastic & dynamic, which consisted of a series of oral and poster Presentations.

New Scheme for External

nal Examiners from many countries amounting to 40 for the year 2007, in which UK ranked top by providing the highest number, which was 25.

The Director has pointed out several concerns inclusive of increased cost of air travel specially business class, hotels, difficulty in ascertaining arrival because of bomb scares, increasing examiner per diem etc. In fact he has pointed out that we have over 25 years of examining experience & there are many experienced local & regional examiners. Considering all, Director has Examiners which consists of getting down examiners on a rotational basis land, Regional (Asia) & Local Examiners if there are sudden cancellation of visits by foreign examiners in view of security problems.

The current drift of training site selection to Australia, resulting in requests for Australian Examiners, was also taken into account.

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Sri Lankan Network for eHealth and Alerts (SNeHA) Project

installed in Nodes of SNeHA are rising in number. receiving ability of the Nodes. On 27th & 28th of De- Programme will commence in April 2008. cember, 2007; presentation on the topic "History of Panagoda. Currently the receivers are all set for fu- will be determined at these deliberations. ture endeavours in local & international setup.

A Huge Step Further

The first successful lecture series of the SNeHA Project, was launched on the 13th of January, 2008. The series composing of three Instructive Lectures on Diabetes Mellitus, was conducted on consecutive days.



The first lecture on "Basics of Diabetes Mellitus with jyothi Prof. Rezvi Sheriff, Senior Professor of Medi-power planning. cine in which he elaborated the importance of foot care in order to prevent dreadful complications of Diabetes. It was followed by a lecture on "GP Perspectives on Diabetic Foot Care" by Dr. A.L.P. de S. Senivirathne, Family Physician at Sri Jayawardenapura University & a lecture on "Advanced Diabetic Foot Care" by Professor Mandika Wijeyarathne, Consultant Vascular Surgeon at NHSL. The series was a huge success & it was received by

many nodes in Sri Lanka as well as nodes in Bangalore and Kolkata. A certificate was issued to registered participants which included Doctors, Nurses & other Health Care workers.

Director Honoured...

The Director, PGIM Vidyajyothi Professor Rezvi Sheriff (Senior Professor of Medicine), was invited developing information technology to the Medical field. to Nigeria, by the Nigerian Association of Nephrology, for a Guest Lecture on "Role of Tacrolimus in Kidney Transplantation", on 20th of February 2008. He has also been invited by Royal College of Physicians, London to be a PACES Examiner in Chennai for the MRCP UK Exams from 10th-14th of March 2008.

Video Conferencing on Future Work Plans

The World Space team organized a video conference SNeHA, an outreach project of the PGIM in collabo- with Prof. Harry McConnell & Ms. Ashley Pardy, the ration with ISHED (Institute of Sustainable Health Australian ISHED work team to discuss the plans for Education & Development) is now stepping forward. Year 2008. The meeting took place on 11th February, We are happy to say that, the World Space Receivers 2008 & Prof. Rezvi Sheriff (Director) chaired the dis-



cussion & Dr. Rikaz Sheriff (Coordinator), Mr. Roshan Dikkumbura A series of Test Sessions were successfully con- (Technical Assistant) & the MERC team were present. Several issues includducted by the MERC, with Dr. Rikaz Sheriff (Co- ing Expansion of the number of nodes, Relocation of nodes, Funding for the ordinator, SNeHA Project) in order to explore the last year & New year work schedule were discussed. The new World Space

the PGIM" was delivered by Dr. Rasangani Pre- National Specialist Cadre Projection Committee Set Up

mathillake & Dr. Nethma Padmakumara. Presenta- The Director/PGIM & Secretary Health, restarted the joint meeting between tions on "Faculty of Medicine, Colombo" & "27th PGIM & Ministry of Health (MOH) to iron out many contentious issues.

Anniversary PGIM Academic Sessions" were deliv- DDG (MS) was requested to set up a National Specialist Cadre Projection ered by Dr. Shyamali Liyanage & Dr. Paboda Gu- Committee to meet twice a year under the Co-chairmanship of Director/ ruge respectively on the following day. The next PGIM & Secretary Health. This committee will invite all stakeholders. The session was held on 3rd January 2008 & the presenta-draft cadre document available will form the basic foundation. New Specialtion on "SLCOG" was delivered by Dr. Wishva ties, Review of numbers to be trained, University & Private sector numbers

> It was also decided to rent a premises near NHSL, for the PGIM Library, of which the rent should be shared equally between NHSL & PGIM. The Cochairmen agreed to this as a temporary solution. Secretary Health recommended that one floor in the new OPD Building should be reserved for PGIM Library when it finally comes up, which was agreed upon by the DGHS. Director/NHSL Dr. Hector Weerasinghe who was not present at the meeting, will be briefed on this matter by the DGHS. The GMOA also participated in the meeting, who expressed their ideas in favour of having the PGIM Library within the NHSL premises.

The joint meeting will be held once in two to three months & the PGIM wel-Special Emphasis on Diabetic Foot", was by Vidya- comes this cooperative action which will result in improved Health Man-

WHO Funded Projects for the Biennium 2008 - 2009

A meeting organized by Ministry of Health was held in the Health Education Bureau on 16th January 2008, for personnel & organizations involved in projects funded by the WHO. Three representatives from the PGIM participated in the meeting, in which briefing about Fund allocation, Preparing project proposals & Expected strategic objectives were done. The PGIM is now in the process of developing some project proposals mainly concentrating on Training of trainers, Library publications, Workshops for curriculum developments, etc. to be presented to the next WHO meeting.



HISSL AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Health Informatics Society of Sri Lanka was held on 24th January 2008, at PGIM. It consists of medical professionals interested in applying &

The elected office bearers for year 2008 are, Prof. Rezvi Sheriff (Director / PGIM), as the President & Dr. Vajira Dissanayake, as the President Elect. Several new members joined HISSL at this very productive meeting. Although a rapidly growing & already developed field in certain developed countries, Health Informatics is still at a primitive stage in Sri Lanka; on which the PGIM now has a Curriculum Development Sub Committee. The HISSL hopes to recruit any interested medical professionals in the subject and promote Health Informatics in Sri Lanka.





Arrivals & Departures of PG Trainees During January / February 2008

M O N T H	SPECIALTY	A R R	D E P
	Anaesthesiology	-	8
	Cardiology	-	1
	Clinical Oncology	-	1
	Community Medicine	-	1
	Cardiothoracic Surgery	1	-
J	Dermatology	2	2
A	Endocrinology	2	-
N	General Medicine	4	8
U A	General Surgery	2	1
R	Haematology	-	3
Y	Histopathology	-	2
	Medical Microbiology	1	-
2	Neurosurgery	-	1
0	Obstetrics & Gynaecology	2	3
0	Ophthalmology	-	2
8	Orthodontics	-	2
	Oral Surgery	1	-
	Psychiatry	-	3
	Radiology	1	3
		_	,
	Vascular & Transplant Surgery	-	1
	Vascular & Transplant Surgery TOTAL	16	1 42
	TOTAL	- 16 -	
	TOTAL Clinical Oncology	- 16 -	42
	TOTAL Clinical Oncology Community Dentistry	- 16 - -	42 1
F	TOTAL Clinical Oncology Community Dentistry Community Medicine	-	42
FE	TOTAL Clinical Oncology Community Dentistry Community Medicine Chemical Pathology	- 16 - - - 1	42 1 1 7
F E B	TOTAL Clinical Oncology Community Dentistry Community Medicine Chemical Pathology Dermatology	- - - 1	42 1 1 7
E	TOTAL Clinical Oncology Community Dentistry Community Medicine Chemical Pathology	- - - 1	42 1 1 7 - 1
E B R U	TOTAL Clinical Oncology Community Dentistry Community Medicine Chemical Pathology Dermatology Forensic Medicine	- - - 1 1	42 1 1 7 - 1
E B R U A	TOTAL Clinical Oncology Community Dentistry Community Medicine Chemical Pathology Dermatology Forensic Medicine General Medicine General Paediatrics	- - 1 1 -	42 1 1 7 - 1 1 3
E B R U A	TOTAL Clinical Oncology Community Dentistry Community Medicine Chemical Pathology Dermatology Forensic Medicine General Medicine General Paediatrics General Surgery	- - 1 1 - 1	42 1 1 7 - 1 1 3
E B R U A	TOTAL Clinical Oncology Community Dentistry Community Medicine Chemical Pathology Dermatology Forensic Medicine General Medicine General Paediatrics	- - 1 1 - 1 1	42 1 1 7 - 1 1 3 1
E B R U A R	TOTAL Clinical Oncology Community Dentistry Community Medicine Chemical Pathology Dermatology Forensic Medicine General Medicine General Paediatrics General Surgery Histopathology	- - 1 1 - 1 1	42 1 1 7 - 1 1 3 1 - 3
E B R U A	TOTAL Clinical Oncology Community Dentistry Community Medicine Chemical Pathology Dermatology Forensic Medicine General Medicine General Paediatrics General Surgery Histopathology Medical Microbiology	- - 1 1 - 1 1 1 1	42 1 1 7 - 1 1 3 1 - 3
E B R U A R Y	TOTAL Clinical Oncology Community Dentistry Community Medicine Chemical Pathology Dermatology Forensic Medicine General Medicine General Paediatrics General Surgery Histopathology Medical Microbiology Otorhinolaryngology	- - 1 1 - 1 1 1 1 - 1	42 1 1 7 - 1 1 3 1 - 3 1
E B R U A R Y	TOTAL Clinical Oncology Community Dentistry Community Medicine Chemical Pathology Dermatology Forensic Medicine General Medicine General Paediatrics General Surgery Histopathology Medical Microbiology Otorhinolaryngology Ophthalmology	- - 1 1 - 1 1 1 1 - 1 1	42 1 1 7 - 1 1 3 1 - 3 1
E B R U A R Y	TOTAL Clinical Oncology Community Dentistry Community Medicine Chemical Pathology Dermatology Forensic Medicine General Medicine General Paediatrics General Surgery Histopathology Medical Microbiology Otorhinolaryngology Ophthalmology Oral Surgery	- - 1 1 - 1 1 1 1 - 1 1	42 1 1 7 - 1 1 3 1 - 3 1 -
E B R U A R Y	TOTAL Clinical Oncology Community Dentistry Community Medicine Chemical Pathology Dermatology Forensic Medicine General Medicine General Paediatrics General Surgery Histopathology Medical Microbiology Otorhinolaryngology Ophthalmology Oral Surgery Paediatric Neonatology	- - 1 1 - 1 1 1 1 - 1 1 1 - 1	42 1 1 7 - 1 1 3 1 - 3 1 - 1
E B R U A R Y	TOTAL Clinical Oncology Community Dentistry Community Medicine Chemical Pathology Dermatology Forensic Medicine General Medicine General Paediatrics General Surgery Histopathology Medical Microbiology Otorhinolaryngology Ophthalmology Oral Surgery Paediatric Neonatology Psychiatry	- - 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	42 1 1 7 - 1 1 3 1 - 3 1 - - 1 2

A Workshop to Promote Research

A Forensic Medicine Workshop was held and Appraisal on 15th & 22nd February, 2008 at PGIM system. premises to promote research among PG Two Introduc-Trainees & Trainers. This was impletory mented as recommended by the Board of were held fol-Study, Forensic Medicine. The workshop lowing comprised of series of lectures on Re- welcome search Methodology. Trainers in Forensic dress on "Fundamentals of Reflective Medicine and MD & DLM trainees in Practice" by Prof. S. U. K. I. Ekarathne & Forensic Medicine participated in this "Use of Portfolio in Postgraduate Trainworkshop.

They Served the PGIM...

Dr. Ruwan Kuruppu & Dr. Gayan Adikariwattage, two enthusiastic Demonstrators, who were attached to the MERC, resigned in December, 2007 to take up their internship appointments. They were a driving force at the PGIM & made an enormous contribution especially for the 2007 "27th Anniversary PGIM Academic Sessions". We will miss their invaluable service & Wish them Best of Luck in all their future endeavours.

Farewell Mr. Gunasekara: We Will Miss Him...



Mr. T. T. D. Gunasekara, the Senior Assistant Librarian of the PGIM, retired on 4th of March 2008, after a memorable service for the institute since 1994. Whilst serving in the PGIM he was responsible for many landmark publications. Mrs. Dilhani Munasinghe, Assistant Librarian will look after affairs in the Colombo Main Library while Mrs. Daisy Senevirathne, Senior Assistant Librarian will look after the Peradeniya

Branch. The post vacated by Mr. Gunasekara will be advertised soon.

Peradeniya Senior Library Consultant Retires...



Prof. Channa Ratnatunga who rendered a remarkable service as the Professor of Surgery at Teaching Hospital, Peradeniya & the coordinator of the PGIM Branch Library at Peradeniya, retired on 31st of January, 2008. The Senior Assistant Librarian & Assistant Librarian of the PGIM Main Library, were also among the guests, at the unveiling of the plaque

in honour of Professor Ratnatunga.

Foreign Training Opportunity....

Mr. H. A. Saththar, Senior Assistant Registrar of the Examination Branch was given the opportunity for an overseas training for a Master's Degree in Human Resources Planning & Development in Delhi, India for a period of 1 year with effect from 1st of February 2008. Mr. N. M. Botheju joined as the Acting Senior Assistant Registrar, on the same day. Mr. Botheju who had recently retired as a Deputy Registrar, was a pioneer figure in PGIM affairs since 1980s.

Medicine Workshop: 2007



day shop. Prof. Rezvi Sheriff Director/

Monitoring

ad-

lectures the

ing With Examples" by Dr. Indika Karunathilake.

Sub workshops on setting up objectives for A workshop to introduce Portfolio for the SR training & on creating a portfolio format Senior Registrars training in Medicine for SRs in General Medicine were chaired was held on 14th November 2007, at the by Prof. Saroj Jayasinghe & Dr. Panduka PGIM. 32 Trainers participated in this one Karunanayake respectively. The report is work- awaited.

MSc Course in Community Medicine & Dentistry

PGIM on his New MSc Programme on Community welcome Medicine & Dentistry was launched on 14th address pointed out that, at present the SR January 2008. An orientation programme training has no clear objectives or work was held and Director PGIM gave an introplan & it's time to set up clear objectives duction to the course. Dr. Nihal while encouraging some degree of inde- Abeysinghe, Chairperson BOS Community pendent practice and have a structured Medicine, Prof. A. N. I. Ekanayake, Course Unit Advisor & Dr. (Mrs). Gauthamadasa, Course Director were present. This full time programme extends for 1 year and 30 students have enrolled to the course.

Anaesthesia Workshop

A 5 day workshop in Anaesthesia, with a series of paper discussions was held from 18th to 22nd February, 2008 at PGIM, to facilitate PG Trainees facing the exam. Prof. Peter Booker was the invited Guest Lecturer, Clinical Tutor of Royal Collage of Anaesthetists, UK. Members of the BOS Anaesthesia also participated.



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Feedback...

Your suggestions are most welful suggestions to improve our future issues.

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Certificate of Competence in Computer **Application Course**

Having successfully completed 9 batches, the next is starting on 29th, March 2008. This 7 week course comprises of MS Office, Hardware, Internet, Email & SPSS. PGIM conducts the course for PG Trainees, Trainers & Doctors who are registered with SLMC.

PGIMAA 2nd Council Meeting: Re-union of a Distinguished Fellowship January - March, 2008

On 13th February, 2008, the ALUMNI Association of the PGIM (PGIMAA) kicked off

with their 2nd Council Meeting, followed by a luncheon at 'The Pinnacle' of the Roof Top. PGIM. The



come. Please let us know what Director PGIM, convened the meeting, for Dr. you think about the articles in this Sarath Gamini de Silva who Presided with Dr. edition, what else would you be Ariaranee Gnanathasan as the Secretary.

interested to see & any other use- Among many routine matters it was discussed to start an International membership drive, a Scheme of inviting overseas alumni to give invited guest lectures at the PGIM and identify regional PGIMAA/Alumni/Clubs/etc. to a subsequent plan

Everyone enjoyed the relaxing break of a delicious lunch & a refreshing discussion at the breezy Roof Top.

Video Conference With Trainers for MS (Surgery) Part II Trainees

PGIM requires GP Tutors for This programme which includes monthly the DFM by DE course. Tu- Vivas and Interactive Discussions is cotors will be responsible for ordinated on behalf of the College of Surgeons providing written / typed or of Sri Lanka, by the Department of Surgery, online feedback to trainees on Faculty of Medicine, Peradeniya with MERC/ their assignments. The fee per PGIM & the Galle Medical Association assignment per trainee is (GMA). This will be starting on the Rs.750/-. Those who are inter- 24.03.2008 & the duration will be 10 months. Those who are interested can participate from Dr. Joel Fernando, DE Co- the PGIM Colombo & Branch Libraries Galle ordinator, PGIM, Norris & Peradeniya. The Course Fee will be Rs.500/-

For further details contact:

MERC (PGIM) - 0602168545 Sureka (GMA) - 0773-851121

Examination Performances (All Exams) -

Exam Type	Exam Date (′08)	Examination	S A T	P A S S	%				
DIP	02.01	Diploma in Hospi- tal Dental Practice	25	24	96				
P02	07.01	MD (Pathology) Haematology	5	4	80				
P02	07.01	MD Obstetrics & Gynaecology	14	12	85.71				
P01	07.01	MS Surgery	86	16	18.60				
P02	14.01	MD Dermatology	11	6	54.54				
P02	17.01	MD Medicine	56	11	19.64				
P02	21.01	MD Paediatrics	29	11	37.93				
P02	23.01	MD Medical Microbiology	5	3	60				
QLI	06.02	Diploma in Reproductive Health	17	10	58.82				
QLI	08.02	Diploma in Family Medicine (DE)	5	4	80				
P01	11.02	MD Community Dentistry	1	1	100				
P01	11.02	MD Community Medicine	6	6	100				
P02	11.02	MS Surgery	30	11	36.66				
P02	25.02	MS Orthodontics	3	2	66.66				
P02	25.02	MS Restorative Dentistry	1	1	100				
M01	03.03	MD Ophthalmol- ogy	31	19	61.29				
		Total	421	191					

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