

## The Clinical School Team



**Paul Malpass**  
Chief Medical Director  
(& Medical Training)



**Christine Payne**  
Executive Director  
Nursing & Midwifery  
(& Nursing Training)



**Lisa-Jane Dench**  
Clinical School  
Project Manager  
(& Allied Health Training)



**Stephanie Wynne**  
Administrative  
Assistant  
(& Student Liaison)

Our aim is to increase student numbers in those disciplines where we face current and future staff shortages and to give students such a good training experience that they will want to stay here, or return here to work once qualified. Our success will be measured by:

- An increase in Bay of Plenty District Health Board (BOPDHB) student

numbers/EFTS (Equivalent Full Time Students)

- An increase in the number of undergraduate students remaining with, or returning to, the BOPDHB as employees
- Positive student exit survey feedback
- An increase in DHB-wide research activity

## CEO Comment

My congratulations go to the Clinical School team for their progress in further developing this important workforce development initiative. Making the Clinical School a reality was one of three key goals I had when I was first appointed to my role as CEO. As this newsletter reports, a range of programmes are now being delivered throughout our primary and secondary care services.

The School has established good relationships with a range of tertiary education providers and local organisations. We will be working closely with them to ensure that programmes of study are designed to meet future health workforce needs in the Bay.

The DHB's investment in the Clinical School to date has been by way of appointing a Project Manager and an Administrative Assistant to establish and manage the systems and infrastructure needed for better coordination of student placements. The next step will be to invest in facility development so that students and BOPDHB staff can readily access the facilities and resources required of a clinical training institution.

Phil Cammish

## The Medical Scene

It is now three years since we organised the original "Think Tank" to consider clinical education in the Bay of Plenty. The consensus at that time was to create a multidisciplinary clinical school, not only to provide high class clinical training experiences, but also to improve the level of our healthcare performance via teaching and research.

We are currently concentrating on providing elective and selective placements for New Zealand medical students. We are also taking students from overseas and establishing relationships with Australian Medical Schools to trial rural immersion training in the Eastern Bay of Plenty.

There is an expectation that New Zealand medical school intakes will increase dramatically over the next five years as New Zealand moves to greater self-sufficiency. If the

Auckland Medical School is to double its output of medical students, it will not be possible for all these students to complete their clinical training at Auckland Hospitals. The Bay of Plenty will be the next port of call after Waikato. It is envisaged that we will increase our numbers of interns and 4th/5th year medical students in the short term. In the meantime and anticipating the future, Auckland Medical School is planning a Midland Region initiative: a network of District Health Board clinical campuses. A workshop has been called to discuss this proposal.

Other innovations being considered include reducing the length of medical student training, establishing a graduate entry pathway, as well as extending the rural immersion pilot presently being trialled in Northland.



# Who teaches the teachers?

The University of Auckland has awarded scholarships to twelve BOPDHB staff members, to allow each to complete either a Postgraduate Certificate or Diploma in Clinical Education. Most people complete these programmes part-time (four semesters for the certificate and eight for the diploma) and all of the courses can be completed by distance learning through Cecil, the University's online learning tool.

The University awarded 26 scholarships across NZ. Twelve staff from the BOPDHB (nine Senior Medical Officers, one Registrar and two General Practitioners) applied and all were successful. The BOPDHB has therefore won 46% of all scholarships granted.

Congratulations to all those who were awarded a scholarship. This is an extremely positive step towards improving our capacity and capability for student training.

Although BOPDHB applicants for this round of scholarships were all medical staff, all health professionals are eligible to complete this programme and apply for scholarship assistance so please contact the Clinical School if you have any interest in this programme.

During April there will also be "Teach the Teachers" training for our Occupational Therapists (on-site at Tauranga Hospital) and training for key Physiotherapy staff who will oversee physiotherapy student training during 2008 and 2009.

## Research

There are currently 56 Research projects being undertaken by BOPDHB staff registered with the Clinical School. The School receives regular updates on funding assistance available for research projects so if you have identified a research opportunity contact us for assistance and further information.



*Students from the Port Hedland campus of The Rural Clinical School of Western Australia, with staff of Whakatane Hospital, August 2007*

## Rural Clinical School in the Eastern Bay – an update

The University of Auckland's Medical School visited our facilities in March 2007 and were impressed with the range of rural experiences we could offer their medical students via clinical placements in the Eastern Bay. That visit ignited a great deal of enthusiasm about the possibility of establishing a "Rural Clinical School" in the Eastern Bay.

Although the University recognised future potential in the Eastern Bay, they decided to pilot this scheme in Northland and the first group of medical students commenced their placements in March 2008.

Will the Eastern Bay be next? The head of the Medical school has said that they cannot make a decision about

the location of future rural immersion schemes until

- 1) the success of the Northland pilot has been evaluated, and
- 2) the government raises the current cap on annual medical student intake and allows more students to enter the MBChB programme of study

In the meantime the Bay of Plenty Clinical School has evolved from a concept into an established division of the BOPDHB. It is working hard to build clinical training infrastructure and to develop an academic culture within the DHB that will benefit Auckland Medical School rural immersion students should they be placed with us in the future.

## AUT/BOP Clinical School initiative

The Bay of Plenty Clinical School is negotiating with Auckland University of Technology (AUT) to pilot a change in the Bachelor of Health Science (Physiotherapy) curriculum that will see final year physiotherapy students placed with us for a full academic year (30 successive weeks) instead of in two smaller periods split between their 3rd and 4th (final) years of study. The benefits of this initiative include:

- Providing these students with security and consistency of placements
- Enhancing the capacity for research to be undertaken within the DHB (as each student will complete a six-week research project on a topic agreed with the DHB)
- Providing the students with a long-term placement that will allow them to immerse themselves fully in the Bay's great lifestyle, hopefully encouraging them to stay here or return here to work in the future

# Nursing update

Ross Turner, Nurse Coordinator Postgraduate Education took up this role at the end of February. He has a 0.1FTE joint appointment with the University of Auckland School of Nursing to facilitate links with local students and the university. Ross is responsible for coordinating all Clinical Training Agency (CTA) funded postgraduate nursing training and for providing support and mentorship to nurses across the DHB's provider arm, primary and community sectors. Ross can be contacted on mobile 021 472 843.

Seventeen BOPDHB Practice Nurses have begun the new Postgraduate Certificate in Long Term Conditions Management, which the Ministry of Health has funded as part of improving chronic conditions management through increased primary care options.

The BOPDHB has been allocated over \$900,000 of CTA funds to support nurses on postgraduate study for 2008. This is \$300,000 more than in the previous year.

Rachel Hall has taken up a part-time joint appointment with Waikato Institute of Technology (Wintec) as lecturer for the acute postgraduate papers delivered in Tauranga.

Waiariki Institute of Technology – which currently places around 130 nursing students a year at BOPDHB – wants to increase enrolments by 33% over the next three years and to double their nursing student intake in the next ten years. The Clinical School will work with Waiariki to plan how to accommodate this increase in student numbers. Cindy Harper has recently been appointed to a new role as Student Nurse Coordinator, a joint appointment between Waiariki and BOPDHB.



## Keeping abreast of local and regional initiatives

Tertiary education is an important agenda item for all businesses in the Bay of Plenty region, as each relies heavily on the availability of skilled employees. The Clinical School is represented on a number of local and regional committees that meet regularly to share information about local issues such as education, workforce development, population growth and economic growth.

### Did you know that every week in the western bay...

- 100 new people arrive from other places
- 52 people leave the region
- 32 new houses are built
- 54 more vehicles go on the roads
- 45 new jobs are created

SmartGrowth Strategy & Implementation Plan – May 2007

A 2002 NZ Treasury report stated that "Population ageing has the potential to become the single biggest economic and policy issue of the next 50 years".

### Local statistics:

- By 2012, 50% of the NZ labour force will be over 42 years of age
- By 2035, there will be 35,000 people aged over 80 living in the sub-region – four times the population of Te Puke
- By 2051, NZ will have 60% more elders than children
- The region will require 56,000 additional FTE workers by 2021, however workforce growth will not match population growth leading to increased skill shortages

Priority One – March 2008 report

# What does the clinical school offer?

## Medicine

- Clinical placements for undergraduate doctors (Years 4, 5 & 6) from The University of Auckland and University of Otago Medical Schools in both primary and secondary care services
- Clinical placements for undergraduate doctors from a range of overseas universities
- Clinical placements for medical students seeking a "rural immersion" experience ie placement in a range of settings in the Eastern Bay

## Nursing

- Clinical placements for Bachelor of Nursing students primarily from Waiariki Institute of Technology but also from Wintec
- A twelve-month new graduate entry to practice programme
- Access to a registered nurse return-to-work programme

## Allied Health

- Clinical placements for a range of allied and technical students eg Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Speech Language Therapy, Radiography

## Research

- Management of requests to undertake research projects and maintenance of a Research Register
- Distribution of information on funding available to support research projects
- Access to support services such as statistician expertise

## Other

- Coordination of "Teach the Teacher" training that provides BOPDHB staff members who supervise students the chance to upskill

# Clinical School/ University of Waikato Partnership

The Clinical School has successfully negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the University of Waikato. This agreement outlines how our two organisations will work together to develop and implement health-related tertiary education programmes. We will work with the University to:

- Undertake research and/or projects related to health and healthcare
- Develop tertiary education programmes and training initiatives related to health and healthcare service management
- Provide these training initiatives
- Expand the training facilities in the Bay of Plenty region

The University Vice-Chancellor (Roy Crawford) and the BOPDHB Board Chairperson (Mary Hackett) will sign the MoU on 16th April.



Waikato  
Clinical School



## Profile

### Stephanie Wynne

Clinical School  
Administrative Assistant

Stephanie Wynne joined the BOP Clinical School on 14 January 2008 as our part-time Administrative Assistant. Her role focuses on student administration and information systems and on helping to raise the profile of the Clinical School. Stephanie is well-equipped for the position, with tertiary qualifications in science, management, systems analysis, business computing and university administration.

A Tauranga Girls' College old girl, Stephanie completed a Bachelor of Science at the University of Waikato

*Stephanie talking to secondary school students during USP's 2005 Open Day at Alafua Campus, Apia, Samoa*

and was then bitten by the travel bug. Seven years travelling included NZ, Europe and Africa, before she returned to NZ to begin a career in Education Administration.

Over the past nineteen years Stephanie has worked at the University of Auckland, AUT, the National University of Samoa and the University of the South Pacific - in Samoa and in Fiji. Stephanie says that throughout her education career her goal has been to provide high quality services to students and academic staff, which she hopes to continue to do for students and clinicians at the BOPDHB.

We are delighted to welcome Stephanie to our team.

## Bay of Plenty Clinical School website

The Clinical School website has had an average of 61 visitors a week since its establishment in July 2007. It is accessed via the BOPDHB website from the Training and Research tab on the DHB's home page. [www.bopdhb.govt.nz/ClinicalSchool](http://www.bopdhb.govt.nz/ClinicalSchool)

## Clinical School facility plans

The Clinical School Facility Sub-committee was formed to consider the DHB's clinical school facility needs and make recommendations to the Clinical School Steering Group on the configuration, design and location of school facilities within the DHB. Membership comprises representatives from BOPDHB, Universities, and from local and regional business organisations. The committee has proposed a purpose-built facility on the Tauranga Hospital site and upgraded or new facilities on the Whakatane

Hospital campus (depending on the outcome of the Whakatane Hospital Site Redevelopment Review). It also recognises that more educational facilities will be needed in primary care settings across the DHB.

Ideally a Clinical School should provide a reception area and offices, lecture theatre, skills laboratory, medical library, video-conferencing rooms, computer resource rooms, tutorial rooms, meeting rooms and a student common room.

**If you have students in your service/ department and we have not contacted you already, please give us a call so that we can enter details into our student database.**

**For further information please contact us:**

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