Welcome to the Bachelor of Health Science Newsletter for 2008.

As the year is drawing to a close we hope that you have enjoyed your year of study and that it has been productive.

The Department welcomes four new staff members to our Department. Jordana Davis, Hilding Hanna, Mel Alexander and Julia McKessar have joined us this year.

Julia McKessar is the face you all see when you come to drop off or collect an assignment. Julia is our new Receptionist and if you have any queries regarding your topics or just a general question please come and see Julia and she will be happy to assist you. Julia can be contacted on Julia.mckessar@flinders.edu.au or ring 8201 3296. Also if you wish to book an appointment to see Eileen (course coordinator) please contact Julia for a time

Jordana Davis is a new academic in the Paramedic area. Jordan teaches in Pathophysiology of the Nervous System and the Respiratory Systems. Jordana’s background is in emergency nursing and as a trained paramedic. If you wish to contact Jordana you can email her on jordana.davis@flinders.edu.au or ring her on 8201 5643.

Hilding Hanna and Mel Alexander are new academics in the Paramedic area with Hilding only commencing in July and Mel will commence in January 2009.

Hilding teaches in Applied Paramedic Practice. His background is as a practicing paramedic as well as teaching. Hilding can be contacted on hilding.hanna@flinders.edu.au or phone him on 8201 7893.

Mel will be teaching in Pathophysiology of the Cardiovascular system and her background is also as a practicing paramedic.

The Department would like to congratulate Tim Wray, a Double degree nursing student, who was awarded the Marion Young Citizen of the Year award for 2008. Well done Tim, an inspiration to us all.
The School of Medicine has increased its support for students in relation to travel and conference grants. For further information regarding this please contact Tanya Tamm. This initiative will be effective from 2009.

In 2009 our Department of Paramedic and Social Health Sciences will dissolve. The Paramedic staff, Tim, James, Jordana, Hilding, Kerry Mel and Phil will be part of a newly formed Institute in Clinical Change. They will stay on the Sturt site, but be ‘inside’ the building, probably in either the South or North Wings.

The remaining department staff – Eileen, Louise, Claire, Tanya, Carol and Julia will move to another Institute.

These moves are part of the Dean of Medicine’s endeavour to align the School of Medicine more with teaching and research interests. The changes should not affect students in the first instance as both teaching teams will continue to work closely together. Another area of change is in teaching programs. The School of Medicine is examining the possibility of developing more masters programs in allied health professions. In order to think this through a curriculum retreat will be held in October. The paramedic student association (FUSPA) will have a representative at this event, as will the BHS/Bach of Nursing (James Bonello) and Health Promotion stream (Marissa Brouwer).

In all probability the Bachelor of Health Science office will move to the South wing in 2009 to what is now the Education office. These moves are a result of the School of Education moving to a newly built site up behind the Law and Commerce faculty. The Health Science Faculty office will also move to the new Health Science building next to Registry (but the Bachelor of Health Science and Paramedic programs will stay on the Sturt campus).

Do you have a grade point average of 4.5 or above?

Here are a couple of steps that you need to do:

- Figure out where you want to study
- Check the list for a “partner university” at that location. The list of more than 80 partner universities listed on the university web site
Search that university for like topics, what is easiest is to find similar topics to those in the core program, such as sociology, psychology etc.

You will need to make time to speak with A/Prof Eileen Willis about your equivalent topics to determine if they are sufficient for equivalency in the first instance. (Don’t forget to make the appointment through Julia)

Get in touch with Kate Lowry at the International Office as she is responsible for study abroad programs. There are a number of other steps that follow after this, but this will get you on your way! Check out this website:

http://www.flinders.edu.au/international-students/study-abroad-exchange/study-overseas.cfm

Already we have had students abroad in Canada and the UK. For those paramedic students, you may wish to consider undertaking your placements overseas, what a great opportunity!

Every year we usually have a series of focus groups in August where we ask students to reflect on the course as a whole. These focus groups have in the past resulted in a number of changes. For example in the focus groups in 2005 students commented on the overlap between Critical Thinking and Communication skills and the Legal and Ethical and Just Health topics. As a result students now only do one Legal and Ethical topic and one topic on Communication skills. One of the other changes was to the topic Health Care Systems and Delivery. It is now two topics in first year with the pace more measured.

In 2008 we will hold these focus groups in late November after exams. An invitation will be extended to graduating students (3rd or 4th years) to attend. We have limited it to graduating students as it is an open forum where we wish students to be frank and forthright. If you are interested in being part of these focus groups let your stream coordinator know via email. Stream coordinators are:

Nursing Combined degree:
Martin Caon
Nursing combined degree/mental health: Deb O’Kane
Commerce combined degree:
Peter Lenz
Education Double degree:
Felicity Lewis
Health Promotion: Claire Drummond
Health Management: Louise Reynolds
Life Science: Eileen Willis
Paramedic: Rhianon Evans
Nutrition: Jane Scott
Disability: John Grantley
The following students are potentially graduating this year and our congratulations go to them. We wish them every success in gaining employment and hope to see them at graduation in April. If you think you are graduating and your name is not listed please get in touch with Tanya Tamm on tanya.tamm@flinders.edu.au or ring her on 8201 5608.

Jennie Adams
Maria Adnreopoulous
Emily Bajev
Jeremy Beer
Jack Berry
Jodie Blackmore
Robyn Bowditch-Walsh
Kathryn Bray
Marissa Brouwer
Courtney Burkett
Lauren Carter
Jonathan Chien
Frances Coleman
Graeme Coles
Chanetelle Cruise
Robyn Dawes
Alex Devonshire-Gill
Tania Eilers
Jacqueline Erdos
Anthea Evans
Rhiannon Evans
Harley Ewing
Daniel Fraser
Eva Gill-Minero
Jennie Gostelow
Allen Grant
Monique Gray
Ann Gregg
Lisa Greig
Steffi Hacket
Jesse Hallas
Bradley Harrison
Rebecca Harvey
Amy Heidrich
Amy Hirst
Lisa Hurcombe
Alexandra Kanyitur
Alex Kenny
Lauren Kervers
Kate Krzys
Kristi Lane
Tiffany Lee
Sophie Li
Paul Liersch
Ping Adelia Loh
James Maina
Vincenza Mammonne
Hollie McClure
Cara McGrain
Andrew McGuire
Natalie Moore
Tristan Moyle
Christopher Pearce
Amanda Pike
Joanne Patterson
Sophie Porter
Katherine Rodwell
Naomi Ross
Timothy Sara
Scott Smith
Alex Splitt
Justine Toms
Dwayne Traeger
Shanra Williamson
Nick Worthley
Stuart Young
Katie Zacher

Each year we timetable a session in conjunction with the Careers office to assist graduating students in gaining employment. This has not been very successful as few students turn up. This year we will try something new. All graduating students other than Paramedic and Nursing will be invited to an exit interview with Eileen Willis. You will receive a letter in the mail inviting you to ring Tanya Tamm and make a time. At this interview Eileen will provide you with a Careers kit, information of further study in allied health and our current jobs booklet. We hope you can make it.
Anthea Williams completed a BHSc last year, majoring in health management, and is currently undertaking Honours part time. During her undergraduate degree, Anthea developed a passion for research administration. Her Honours study *Optimising the process of recruitment in clinical trials: The development of a predictive tool*, is investigating the hypothesis that recruitment targets in clinical trials are often not reached within timeline or budget, and why recruitment expectations often differ from reality. After examining how big the problem of recruitment into clinical trials in Australia really is, what researchers see as the main issues around recruitment, and what guidelines are currently available, Anthea hopes to develop a Recruitment Checklist containing a spreadsheet simulation and an extensive list of recruitment strategies researchers can adopt at the trial design phase, to enhance optimal recruitment.

In her spare time, Anthea is the Research Development Officer for the Flinders Centre for Clinical Change & Health Care Research. She also manages the Faculty of Health Sciences Office at the Repatriation General Hospital, Daw Park, where more than 650 Flinders University students visit on placement each year, and more than 100 University staff or academic status holders are based. Anthea is also a member of the Faculty Board and is involved in the School of Medicine Realignment process. Long term, Anthea hopes to apply her research findings at a national level.

If you are interested in going on to do Honours and have a grade point average of 5 or above, contact either Claire Drummond on Claire.drummond@flinders.edu.au or Tanya Tamm on tanya.tamm@flinders.edu.au