The recent College Board meeting was held on Thursday 21st July 2011, with a workshop held the next morning to consider the preliminary feedback from the AMC accreditation and the plans to instigate a review of the CICM curriculum.

Guests at the Board meeting were Kate Leslie (ANZCA President), John Kolbe (RACP President) and Michael O’Leary (ANZICS President).

The Board opened with the President acknowledging the hard work and dedication shown by all those involved in the AMC accreditation process. The AMC gave a brief preliminary report to the Board after the inspection however a draft of recommendations will not be available until early September. The Board have begun discussions regarding reviewing the curriculum.

**INTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**Staffing and College Offices**

The College has recently hired a part time consultant, Andrew Bolzonello to liaise between staff and our contracted IT company on the various IT projects currently underway and also to assist with improving our finance reporting. The College offices have expanded into the suite next door, which will provide adequate space for expansion over the next few years. Dr Penny Stewart of Alice Springs generously donated two original paintings by renowned Aboriginal artist, Margaret Scobie, to brighten the office walls.

**Online Library Facilities**

The online library facility has faltered in recent months due to unforeseen technical issues. These are now being investigated thoroughly by our IT company and the journal providers and the College are assured the problems will be rectified shortly.

**Communications**

The College communications are thriving with the initiatives of Facebook and the e-news gaining momentum. The forums are lacking involvement from Fellows and Trainees so we would encourage everyone to get involved.
REGIONAL & NATIONAL COMMITTEES

Queensland and New Zealand Office Support

It was confirmed at the Board meeting that the current arrangement with ANZCA to provide administrative support to QLD and New Zealand would continue until the end of 2013.

New Zealand Representation

It was resolved that the Chair of the New Zealand National Committee will in future be invited to attend Board meetings as a co-opted member.

Northern Territory

The Board will be inviting a Fellow from the Northern Territory to attend the November Board meeting to discuss the feasibility of forming a NT Regional committee, possibly as a joint committee with ANZICS.

EXAMINATIONS

Primary Examination

The last Primary exam had a pass rate of 50% with 6 out of 12 candidates passing. The next exam has 31 candidates, a record number for the CICM Primary. The oral section of the exam will be held in Brisbane. It was reported that of all those who have sat the CICM Primary and then gone on to the Fellowship exam, the pass rate is 100%.

Ross Freebairn and Michael Clifford have now joined the panel of Primary Examiners.

General Fellowship Examination

The second General Fellowship Exam currently has 70 candidates and the orals will be held in Sydney.

The Board discussed introducing a limit on the amount of times a Trainee can sit an exam and the Examination Committee will be bringing a recommendation to the November Board meeting.

The Deputy Chair of the General Fellowship Committee, Rob Young, will be retiring towards the end of the year with the August/October exam being his last. Dr Michael Corkeron, Dr Julian Hunt-Smith and Dr Vineet Nayyar are now members of the Panel of Examiners for the General Fellowship Exam.
Paediatric Fellowship Examination

The Paediatric Exam will be held in Brisbane in November 2011, there are currently 11 candidates.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Education Committee

The Committee are working on guidelines and standards for ultrasound training. The College are beginning to work on an Online Journal Club that will be launched in early 2012 with monthly updates. The Board also discussed at length an indigenous health section of the training program and the Education Committee will be working on this for the next Board meeting.

Supervisors of Training Workshop

The College have run two successful SOT workshops, in Sydney and Brisbane this year. Both were well attended and the feedback has been positive. Another workshop is planned for early 2012.

Introductory Courses to Intensive Care Medicine

The Board approved new Requirements for Accreditation of Introductory Courses to Intensive Care Medicine and these can now be found on the website.

Regulation Changes

The Board ratified minor changes to Regulation 5, specifically relating to deferred training and requirements for sitting the Primary Exam. Full details of the Regulations can be found on the website under Resources.

Trainee Committee

The Trainee Committee have been very active with a high degree of enthusiasm shown by all members. The Committee are concentrating on assisting with specific areas tackled by the Board for last half of the year including the roles of SOT’s, Trainee feedback, the Curriculum Review and defining roles of mentors. The Committee are also planning to increase their profile and communications with other Trainees.

Liz Steel is currently working on an article for CC&R, publishing the results of the Trainee survey.
HOSPITAL ACCREDITATION

Hospital Accreditation Committee

The following hospitals have undergone recent HAC inspections and continue to be accredited for training:

Toowoomba Hospital (Queensland) - C6
Waikato Hospital (New Zealand) – C24
Frankston Hospital (Victoria) – C12
Alfred Hospital (Victoria) – C24
Nambour Hospital (Queensland) – C12
Robina Hospital (Queensland) – C6
Box Hill Hospital (Victoria) – C12
Dunedin Hospital (New Zealand) – C12
St Vincent’s (New South Wales) – C24

A number of new units have applied for accreditation and will be reviewed over the next few months, including several in Hong Kong.

The Hospital Accreditation Committee are working on streamlining processes, including inspections and formal feedback.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

2011 ASM - Canberra, 3-5 June.

The 2011 ASM was a great success with very positive feedback from both delegates and trade. International and local speakers enjoyed the event and were well received. The Graduation Dinner was held in the superb venue of the Great Hall, Parliament House and was enjoyed by all with a total of 35 new Fellows graduating. The CICM Medal was presented to Dr Alan Duncan, who also delivered a splendid Oration. The Felicity Hawker Medal was awarded to Dr Michael Putt for his submission ‘Adequacy of phenytoin loading in adult intensive care patients’ and the Free Paper prize was awarded to Dr Tariq Husain for his paper ‘A multimedia training package for junior doctors undertaking transfers of intensive care patients’.

The Don Harrison Medals for 2010, for the best performance in each Fellowship Examination, were awarded to Dr Moushumi Salvi and Dr Lisen Hockings

2012 ASM – Melbourne

The ASM Committee are working hard on the next conference with venues booked and speakers being sourced. The theme is Respiratory Medicine and the dates are 25th – 27th May 2012.
Clinical Update Course

The College ran an extremely successful Clinical Update Course on the day prior to the 2011 ASM. The feedback was extremely positive and it is the intention of the College to run the course annually before the ASM.

New Fellows Conference

The 2011 New Fellows Conference was very successful and an opportunity for new Fellows to meet other Intensivists and discuss issues relevant to those new to the speciality. The feedback has been positive and the Committee for 2012 has been formalised.

FELLOWSHIP AFFAIRS

Fellowship Affairs Committee
The Committee are currently working on documents regarding the Ageing Practitioner and providing assistance and advice to the CPD Project team.

Overseas Aid Committee
The College has formed a new committee, the Overseas Aid Committee, chaired by Charlie Corke. The Committee’s role will be to provide advice to the Board on policy regarding support for training and continuing professional development in Critical Care in neighbouring developing countries and to develop, oversee and/or implement Board approved initiatives in his area. In the event of a disaster in a neighbouring country the Committee may offer advice and appropriate assistance.

Admission to Fellowship by Examination and by the OTS Pathway

The following were formally admitted to Fellowship:

Andrew Donald       QLD
Sachin Gupta        VIC
Benjamin Reddi      SA
Nicholas Simpson    VIC
Rakshit Panwar      VIC
Kartik Atre         ACT
Mahesh Balakrishna Savithri    QLD
Mark Kol            NSW
Angajendra Ghosh    VIC
The College’s finances are currently in a very healthy position with income and expenditure both tracking close to budget for the first half of the year. It is likely that for the full year we will end up with a modest surplus, rather less than last year due to the various increased costs we have faced this year.

**PROFESSIONAL AFFAIRS**

**Policy Documents**

After consultation with regions and relevant stakeholders the Board ratified amendments to IC-1 Minimum Standards for Intensive Care Units and IC-2 Intensive Care Specialist Practice in Hospitals Accredited for Training Intensive Care Medicine. The amended policy documents will be available on the website as of the 8th August.
Rural Health Continuing Education Project Grant

The College has been awarded a project grant through the RHCE fund to run an ‘Occasional Intensivist’ Course for rural Fellows and other specialists who do some work in intensive care. It will be a 2 day course with a similar program to the Clinical Update Course. It is yet to be decided where the course will be run but the first one will probably be held in about March 2012.

CPD Program for Fellows

The CPD Development Team is currently working on the new CPD Program to launch in January 2012. The online diary was presented to the Board and it was very well received. It is still in the production stages with testing to begin in the next couple of weeks. The CPD Team have published the draft framework on the website and more resources will be published shortly.

Prof. John Myburgh
President, College of Intensive Care Medicine of Australia and New Zealand