

NZATS Regional Meeting
12th September 2008 6.30pm
Shadzz Motel and Conference Centre, Fitzherbert Avenue
Palmerston North

Meeting kindly sponsored by Maree Kedslie, Intermed Medical

Present : Karen Bennett, Cynthia Riddell, Mark August, Paul Mullen, Lynne van de Waardt, James South, Leanne Morrison, Tracey Hanna, Christina Lubbers, Diane McClelland, Carolyn Dyer, Marija Durakovic, Maggie Boyce, Nick Pullan, Paul Hanson-Brooks, Mike Nettle.

Apologies : Mike Nash(regional rep), Andy Leleni, Mark Carpenter, Grant Scarf.

Meeting commenced with a presentation from Dr Alberto Ramirez, Consultant Anaesthetist, Palmerston North Hospital. The presentation was on Ultrasound Guidance in Anaesthesia.

Lynne van de Waardt presented issues as an AUT marker. Worksheets form part of the final mark for all Anaesthesia papers, 10% in Anaes 3. Referencing for assignments is an important requirement.

NZATS Executive report presented by Karen Bennett, Chair.

Conference

2008 – Wgtn 10th – 13th October

2009 – Rotorua 4th – 7th November

2010 – NZATS/ASAPO only conference 19th-22nd November

2011 - AKLD

Particular note for this year's conference is the educators meeting Friday 10th pm and the Review of the Diploma.

There has not been any feedback from the membership with any ideas or solutions for qualified techs wishing to complete Diploma papers.

Non-training hospitals, especially previously NZATS accepted hospitals are encouraged to consider re-applying for training status. A number of hospitals in NZ are training large numbers of staff to ease the NZ shortage of technicians.

Regulations for extending training period of 5 years have been altered. Any trainee exceeding the 5 yr period will need to apply to the exec.for an extension.

Newsletter due out soon. PR/Communications officer Tania Kennedy is still seeking articles for the newsletter.

The executive wish to apologise for the delay in registration applications. New registrar Andy Hipkiss is endeavouring to rectify problems as quickly as possible.

Thankyou to those Charge Techs who replied to my email concerning their hospital policy for holding the drug keys. This information was gained for the DHBNZ technical and Scientific Workforce Project. I am the MidCentral contact for this group.

CTA Funding for professions currently receiving funding is under review. The CTA will be meeting with the executive towards the end of this year. At present they are collating Anaesthetic Technician data from NZATS.

English Language Requirement for overseas applicants on to the NZATS register has been increased to Level 7.

PSA/DHB MECA – expired contract moving towards ratification.

2 entries for both the Covidien and Basil Hutchinson Award have been received. It is a disappointing number considering the larger number of entries for 2007. However entries received are of high quality.

HPCA review – Karen attending meeting on the 18th sept. The agenda for this meeting is on the number of and nature of regulatory authorities.

Registration examinations practical 4th October, CHCH. Formal complaint process now in place. Information sent to all Charge techs and placed on Website, including guidelines for candidates.

Incoming and Acting Chairperson positions for NZATS vacant as of this years AGM. Nominations are being sought and elections to be held at AGM, NZATS conference Monday 13th pm.

Reports from the members

SX Wgtn - 3 Techs employed still wanting to recruit another.

Boulcott – seeking training hospital status. Have increased number of theatres, employment of techs relatively new to the hospital

Hawkes Bay – “like working in Disneyland” Staff happy, no vacancies, one trainee, trying for a further trainee. Very happy with APEX contract. Merit progression/portfolios in place. Would like exec. to investigate the possibility of a qualification medal.

Wanganui 2 techs, advertising for another.

Taranaki 7 full time staff, one agency. Unhappy with pay review for individual contracts.

Palmerston North Fully staffed, however a number of junior staff in department affecting skill mix.

Meeting concluded at 2115