

## **Diploma in Applied Science (Anaesthetic Technology) report to the NZATS, November 2009**

Enrolments for 2009 have increased in the first year papers.

There were 46 enrolled in both Anaesthesia I and Anaesthetic Technology I compared with 42 in 2008

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Anaesthesia II, III and Anaesthetic Technology II have 36 trainees enrolled compared with 27 in 2008.

With the changes to the Faculty Human Anatomy and Physiology papers, Special Topic was introduced, which has been very well received by trainees, those involved in teaching it, and those in hospitals who have heard about it.

All block courses went well during the year. Very positive feedback on each – very well organised and run.

Two virtual block courses, for Anaesthesia II ( to replace a day of lectures) and Special Topic, were developed. We have yet to seek feedback on these from trainees. There was a lot of work involved in setting each up. Thankyou very much to Brenda Knowles and contributors for organising and developing the Anaesthesia II block course, and Kirsten Hansen and contributors for the Special Topic block course. Both being online had their teething problems, but all issues were resolved to the satisfaction of the trainees (eg second opportunities).

Similarly, the pharmacology component of Anaesthesia III had a large online component, including weekly quizzes, as well as weekly submitted worksheets. Again, being the inaugural year, there were issues which have been and will be resolved for 2010. The expectations of the Pharmacology unit do have to be addressed in terms of the Learning Outcomes. These will be discussed at the Education meeting.

There were several issues with Machine Check Assessments this year, resulting in the need to run one extra day of assessments for 11 trainees. As a result, the guidelines, timing and running of the assessment on the day are being reviewed.

2009 has been the first year to have a page on AUTonline for Anaesthetic Technician Supervisors. It is intended to be for communication and a repository of documents. Unfortunately this page does not have the facility to e-mail notification to users (as the trainees receive form the papers they are enrolled in) so it does mean frequenting the site regularly. We do out important information both here and on the NZATS website.

AUT has agreed to employ a part- time hourly paid assistant for the Diploma in Anaesthetic Technology for the duration of the academic year. This semester was the first; and I would like to thank Kirsten Hansen for the fantastic job she has accomplished in coordinating block courses, papers and exams.

Thankyou to all who have been involved and contributed to the development delivery and marking of all of the material associated with this programme.

The programme was externally reviewed this year, and although the final report has not been recieved, verbal feedback was extremely positive. I will forward the formal feedback to NZATS when it arrives.

Happy Christmas and all the best for 2010.

Regards

Wendy Emson