

Upper North Island NZATS Meeting Minutes 1st April 2008

Present: Andy Hipkiss, Sian Mitchell, Heather Godfrey, Jono Yardley-Jones, Aaron Oliver, Lee Pedersen, Brett Besley, Vinnie Neva, Karen Absil, Nicky Smith, Kaylene Henderson, Hirendra Singh, Daniel Williams, Lillian Nati, Alan Craig, Terry Leftley.

Apologies: Julie Bromley, Colin Spence, Muriel Cooper, Helen Nati, Nga Kairua, Karen Bennett, Mike Powell, Lyn Body, Ian Boxell

Previous minutes tabled.

Kaylene speaks as overseas registrar:

Spoke of recent experiences, language often a major barrier.

Up to 6 months for NZATS to get correct paperwork before application can proceed.

There can be up to 30 applications in the process at any one time.

NZQA need lots of time.

UK applicants should be two years experience, if not required to exit exam

Salary scale highly variable, there is a minimum salary clause with immigration, often guaranteed by hospital, including overtime.

Sian Mitchell speaks as AUT Liaison Officer:

There are Logistical problems with the number of trainees across the country in terms of effective communication between training hospitals and AUT.

This is being addressed by allocating hospitals to a National Assessor as a first point of contact.

New National Assessors group very proactive.

We had great feedback from last National Assessment which will help with improving standard.

HAP papers will possibly merge into one paper. To keep diploma status we need to fill the gap with another paper or increase the value of the existing papers. There is discussion with AUT that this paper will still be available as a distance learning paper.

Technology 1 & 2 papers changed to two hour exams instead of one hour exams.

Education section is planned to be included within current NZATS newsletter on a regular basis.

Nicola Smith speaks as a NZATS examiner:

Trainees must pass 75% of the part 1 exam which are MCQ's in order to progress to part 2 which are OSCI stations and a machine check.

For the October exam in Christchurch only have ADU machines so GE have loaned an [Aestiva](#) and an [Aespire](#) to be available for exam.

Research by the exam committee is currently underway to assess the way we test the current machine check – possible changes using other professions as a guide.

Trainees need to be organised and well prepared, trainees who have presented having just finished night shift or from having been called out or totally unfamiliar with the presented machine are at a handicap. Charge Technicians please be mindful when planning your roster.

Andy Hipkiss from the PSA presented MECA update:

Agreement in principal has been signed by both negotiating teams, once the CEO's have agreed and signed, it will be presented to members to vote on.

This is anticipated to happen by 18th August.

Possible sticking point could be extra progression step.

Meeting closed 2030.