

The College of Intensive Care Medicine (CICM)

There has been a lot of activity preparing for the transition from the Joint Faculty to the new College of Intensive Care Medicine (CICM). The constitution has been ratified by the interim Board (the current JFICM Board) and the College has been registered as an incorporated body with ASIC.

The interim Board held its first meeting in late February and the following were voted in as office bearers: President, Professor PV van Heerden; Vice-President, Professor J Myburgh and Treasurer, Professor B Venkatesh.

The Australian Medical Council has been informed of the CICM's intentions, and has indicated that they will wish to conduct an assessment of the new college's training program 12 – 18 months after independence. The Medical Council of New Zealand has been informed of the plans and discussed the matter at their education committee meeting in March. Medicare has also been informed and we have requested that they take the appropriate steps to have the new body listed under Schedule 4 of the Health Insurance Regulations. Notification has also gone out to a broad list of other societies, regulatory authorities and associations both in Australia and internationally.

There is a lot of work to be done in setting up the necessary infrastructure to enable the new college to function well from the outset. Apart from securing appropriate premises and setting up a functional office, finance and IT systems, considerable thought needs to be given to the transferring of Fellow and trainee data from the existing ANZCA system. The JFICM website needs to be re-designed and hosted elsewhere and all the existing JFICM documents need to be reviewed and re-printed.

Encouragingly, all the current JFICM staff have indicated that they are happy to transfer their employment from ANZCA to the new college. Without their knowledge of JFICM processes the transition would be much more difficult.

The design of an appropriate coat of arms for the new college is under way, using the expertise of the Australian Heraldry Society to assist with choosing dignified and fitting symbols to signify the art and science of intensive care medicine and also the place of the new college in our geographic region.

A joint working party consisting of the ANZCA President and Vice President and the JFICM Dean and Vice Dean, is meeting regularly to review progress, to ensure that the interests of ANZCA and the new college are protected and to discuss some of the more complex issues that arise, such as the degree to which the new college will be supported by ANZCA during its formative stages.

At this time our expectation is that the new college will take over the operations of JFICM towards the end of this year, and for convenience sake the actual transfer of systems and employment will probably be December 31, 2009.

