

PedorthicNEWS

FOOT CARE THROUGH PROPER FOOTWEAR

Retirement of Professor Iain Graham

Iain finished in his role of Dean, School of Health and Human Sciences and Director of Clinical Services on 20 December, 2019.

Iain joined Southern Cross from Bournemouth University (UK) over 12 years ago. Since 2007, he has transformed the School from its early days of nursing, exercise science and naturopathy into a School that encompasses an integrated suite of health and allied health programs. He has led a large team of academic and professional staff developing and delivering a successful and growing portfolio of programs across three campuses. As part of this journey, Iain brought a much-needed contemporary, global and intellectual approach to the vision, goals and strategic activities of the School.

One of Iain's greatest strengths, which has resulted in important benefits to Southern Cross, has been his connection to and engagement with local, state and national health agencies.

Continued on page 2



Sayed Ahmed (left), founder of Foot Balance Technology during the panel presentation on "The future of health & the health of the future" at the International Forum on Advancements in Healthcare (IFAH) in Dubai, December 2019.

IFAH Dubai 2019

Sayed Ahmed, the founder of Foot Balance Technology, an Australian Pedorthist and a PhD candidate in the field of pedorthics at Southern Cross University, attended the international healthcare conference in Dubai, organised by International Forum on Advancements in Healthcare (IFAH) which was held from December 16-18, 2019.

While Sayed received the award "Top 50 Companies in Healthcare" on behalf of his company, he also made a panel presentation on "The future of health & the health of the future" to represent the Pedorthics profession. The other panellists were from the pharmaceutical and medical fields from the USA, the Netherlands, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and India.

The panellists discussed critical developments for healthcare service deliveries in their respective fields, current challenges and the strategies for the future to meet the needs of contemporary healthcare services. The pedorthics service model was somewhat new to most delegates who were

Food for Thought - from members for members

Have you been following the controversy surrounding the new Nike VaporFly and the possible banning of it for competition races?

With its new rocker sole profile, full length carbon fibre plate and pressure reducing soling materials, it almost sounds like the perfect therapeutic shoe.

Can we learn something from this or did they learn something from us?

Either way, I would like to encourage you to consider having a closer look at sports footwear over 2020.

This is a market that traditionally has not been a focus of the Pedorthist, the question is why?

This is a growing market, people are hungry for more information about how their shoes are performing and the suitability. They want to know how to get back from an injury or better still prevent one. We as Pedorthists understand gait, soft tissue injury and footwear better than most. This market is perfect for any Pedorthist and a great opportunity to grow your business and to broaden the appeal of Pedorthics to new students for SCU.

The sporting world is just waiting for us and our focus to change!

by David Sutton

attending from around the world and were amazed by the service offerings pedorthists are doing in healthcare and seeing the profession ready for the future. There was a Q&A session following the panel discussion, and a good number of questions were asked to Sayed Ahmed about the pedorthics profession and how people can have access to these services where there is a significant service gap evident globally. The delegates were able to relate the profession to have great importance in chronic disease management such as diabetes, arthritis, and other foot health conditions. Overall, it was a very well engaging event and great publicity for Pedorthic profession among other health professionals on a global platform.

On the panel were: **Dr Ian E McFadde** - President & CEO | HRM International (Moderator), USA; **Mr Sayed Ahmed** - Founder and CEO | Foot Balance Technology, Australia; **Dr Mandar M. Kodgule** - Chairman and CEO | IQGEN-X Pharma Pvt Ltd, India; **Dr Yasser Al Obaid** - CEO | Sudair Pharmaceutical Company (SPC), Saudi Arabia; **Mr Manish Raval** - Founder & CEO | Thermaissance, India; **Mr Jorrit Ebben** - Co-Founder and Chief Strategy & Innovation Officer | Academy Het Dorp, The Netherlands

by Sayed Ahmed

Continued from page 1

In particular, Iain has developed strong working relationships with the Northern NSW Local Health District, Gold Coast Health District, Mid North Coast Local Health District and the North Coast Primary Health Network. In addition, Iain's expertise and insight has been acknowledged through his participation in a number of high level state and national working groups including the Cancer Council of NSW, Nursing and Midwifery Council of NSW, Council of Deans of Nursing, Australian and New Zealand, ANMAC Registered Nurse Accreditation Committee, and the Gold Coast Health District's Workforce Strategy Group.

As a colleague - both within the School and across the University - Iain has always put the needs and interests of SCU students and colleagues first. He has been a generous and determined proponent of quality health education not just within our region, but across the country.



Iain is known for expressing a passionate voice for modern and effective delivery of health programs as well as contributing personally (often behind the scenes) to making Southern Cross a healthy and safe place to study and work.

In recognition of Iain's past and continuing contribution, we are fortunate to have him continue his association with us as an Emeritus Professor.

Appointment of new Dean:

Professor Julie Jomeen will commence as our new Dean of Health and Human Sciences in April 2020. Julie joins Southern Cross from the University of Hull in the United Kingdom, where she has been Professor of Midwifery since 2011 and Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences since 2017. Julie is both a qualified nurse and midwife who worked at both clinical and strategic levels within maternity services in Hull.

Julie has been Dean for nearly 5 years, currently managing the largest faculty at the University of Hull with 500 staff and 4,500 students across disciplines such as Nursing and Midwifery, Medicine, Biomedical Science, Psychology and Sports Health.

In recent years Professor Jomeen has been at the forefront of research on maternal and reproductive health with a particular focus on perinatal mental health and the psychological aspects of childbirth.

A key achievement during Julie's term as Dean for the Faculty has included securing, with the University of York, a nationally competitive bid to expand the Hull York Medical School (HYMS). The bid was focused on a widening participation approach to medical education including the development of a gateway year and a focus on the development of general practitioners and psychiatrists in line with regionally identified needs.

Julie is thrilled to be joining Southern Cross and we look forward to welcoming her early next year.

Interim arrangements:

Meanwhile we are pleased to advise that Professor Wendy Gilleard (former Deputy Head of School) will be the interim Dean and Head of School from January to April 2020.

by Southern Cross University



My University Experience at SCU

I, Jo Pollet, recently graduated from Southern Cross University with a Bachelor of Podorthics.

I completed the course through an accelerated pathway offered to existing graduates who have undertaken study in a similar field. As I have previously completed a degree in Podiatry at Western Sydney University, I was eligible for exemptions on several theory based subjects. I was then able to complete the practical component of the course over two years.

The pathway is offered to encourage existing clinicians to further their study and promote podorthics amongst the allied health field. Before I finished podiatry in 2016 I knew I wanted to continue studying in the area of podorthics. I had a keen interest in footwear as I had been working at Comfort and Fit since 2011. When Karl-Heinz Schott presented a workshop at my university and



Kristy, Kyle, Adam and Jo wearing their custom shoes made in practical subject 1 (2017)

promoted the course I knew it was the direction I wanted to take. Karl's education session also got the attention of several of my podiatry peers at Western Sydney Uni who have since commenced the podorthics bachelor degree.

The practical component of the course is divided into two subjects which involve practicing footwear modifications, AFOs, custom making a stability boot and brace including last manufacturing, as well as custom making a pair of shoes

for ourselves off modified prefabricated lasts.

Once I completed these two subjects I was able to commence the second major practical component. This involved 21 weeks of full-time placement within an existing podorthics setting and at the SCU lab and clinic. Each placement requires a client case of varying difficulty, where the whole process from assessment

to dispense and review is completed by the student.

I really valued how hands-on the course was and how it covered the extensive scope of podorthics. The opportunity to work alongside podorthists in clinical and lab environments was an invaluable experience that will benefit me in my future endeavours as a Podorthist CM once I complete the certification process.

by Jo Pollet



Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor of the Pedorthic News.

I am both humbled and honoured to be made a life member of the Pedorthic Association of Australia. I accept this with gratitude.

I have always promoted "teamwork" to achieve optimal outcomes, for both patient and client alike. My role with the PAA was no different. There are so many people who made up the PAA team with the primary goal to stride towards recognition and professionalism for Pedorthics. I was just a small part of that team. I must thank all my friends and colleagues who have supported the PAA and my self over the years. Your combined and individual contributions were invaluable and appreciated.

I was thrilled to see the increased interest and participation in the Bachelor of Pedorthics Degree. I was also impressed that the Annual symposium was such a success.

The challenges that lies ahead for the Pedorthic profession is to continue to be "out there" and receive support and recognition from other health and allied organisations. Encourage education and certification. Recognise and embrace technology in all its forms as it will influence and be part of the growth of the Pedorthics. The PAA needs to recognise that we should be part of the political and government process.

I wish the PAA all the best for the future. I will be in the background and I will monitor the growth of Pedorthics. You will get the odd E mail from me as well as items that maybe included in the Pedorthic News Wire.

Casper Ozinga
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What is the PAA?

The Pedorthic Association of Australia recognises the need for representing professional practitioners of pedorthics. These people provide service and product to patients that have mobility difficulties due to the medical problems with their lower limb.

Formed over 45 years ago the association has grown so that it now regularly communicates with the key representatives from government and medical health funds. Through its programs, the PAA encourages its members to improve their qualifications and recognition. Programs include CPed, Quality Assurance and Competency Standards.

The names and organisations of the people that earn the Certified Pedorthist and Registration are published on the APRB website. The medical profession is encouraged to recommend CPeds to their patients for the provision of expert advice and product. The other sections of the certification system recognise the specialised Retail and Footwear Modification components of our profession.

The PAA is also providing guidance in the Quality Management of the organisations that are represented by its members. The Generic Quality System has been specifically designed for implementation in a Pedorthic Practice. It recognises the special relationship between the provider and the patient and assures the provision of expert advice and quality product by the organisation.

The PAA is for members that want recognition of their competency to provide a full service in the Pedorthic industry, work in organisations that have as their key objective to provide quality advice or product and who want to support the development of the industry through contact with the people and organisations that have the greatest impact on the industry and their business.

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