

NEWSLETTER

SURGICAL EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND TRAINING (SERT) INSTITUTE
ROYAL NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY



Royal North Shore
Hospital
Sydney, Australia

KEY EVENTS IN 2017

- Appointment of Managers of the SERT Institute and the DASO Unit
- Move into a dedicated space on the ground floor of the Kolling Institute
- Advertising for four NEW part-time Academic Surgeon positions at RNSH



No 2 – May 2017

MESSAGE FROM PROFESSOR TOM HUGH

This is our second newsletter and I am pleased to announce that full-time managers of the **SERT Institute** (Ms. Shelly Dhaliwal) and the **Data Analysis and Surgical Outcomes (DASO) Unit** (Ms. Maria Albania) have now been appointed. Both have started in their new roles and they are excited about the work ahead (see their profiles below). Also, we have now advertised the first of four new part-time academic surgeon positions. The title of the new appointment will be *Co-Director of Surgery for the Sydney Medical Program* at the Northern Clinical School. See page 2 for more details.

A few weeks ago we visited the Institute of Academic Surgery (IAS) at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. This is a new and innovative surgical research and education centre run by Michael Solomon and Paul Bannon. We sat in one of their fortnightly Executive meetings as observers, and were then given a tour of the IAS facility. This includes a simulation theatre with robotic technology, a skills laboratory, and numerous tutorial and meeting rooms. The IAS is certainly changing the landscape of surgical training on their side of the bridge. It was inspiring to think what we might achieve here at RNSH!

We have put together two brief documents outlining the purpose, vision and mission of the SERT Institute and the DASO Unit. These will be distributed widely in the next few weeks with the aim of providing a deeper understanding of what we are trying to achieve in surgical academia on the campus. I encourage you to be part of this initiative at RNSH.

There are many ways that busy clinical surgeons can get involved. I am hoping that the work of the SERT Institute will stimulate you to think about your own role as a surgeon in a major teaching hospital. I would welcome any comments or feedback.

MANAGER, SERT INSTITUTE – SHELLY DHALIWAL



Shelly started her management career at a young age and was trained by the Australasian College of Health Service Management to take up leadership roles within the NSW Health. This included a Master's degree scholarship in public health management. Shelly has since managed large portfolios both within and outside of NSW Health. She also had a brief career break, which led her to the Native Indian communities in Central and South America.

Shelly is enthusiastic about her new role and is looking forward to working with surgeons to enhance surgical academia on the Northern campus.

MANAGER, DATA ANALYSIS & SURGICAL OUTCOMES (DASO) UNIT – MARIA ALBANIA



Maria Albania is a trained Biostatistician experienced in clinical data management. She is keen to ensure that clinicians have adequate data resources and that high quality data is available in the public health sector. She has extensive experience in data management, statistics and health research including a Bachelor’s degree in Mathematics and a Masters in Biostatistics. Maria has previously worked for the Cancer Council NSW on research projects focused on skin cancer and prostate cancer. Maria has also spent time in the UK working in research management and governance at the National Institute for Health Research. In 2014 Maria moved her career to the NSW public health sector with previous roles as the Upper Gastrointestinal Surgery Data Manager at Royal North Shore Hospital and the Intensive Care Unit Data and Research Manager at Prince of Wales Hospital.

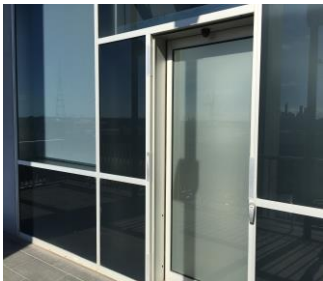
New Academic Surgeon position in Surgery at RNSH

An advertisement for an Academic Surgeon with a specific role as “*Co-Director of Surgery for the Sydney Medical Program at the Northern Clinical School*” (0.2 FTE) is now on e-recruit. This position is the first of several new part-time academic surgeon appointments to work in conjunction with the Professor of Surgery and the SERT Institute. The successful applicant will work in a multidisciplinary environment in conjunction with the current administrative and clinical staff in the Northern Clinical School to expand and strengthen the surgical component of the SMP at Northern.

For more information, please [click here](#)

SERT OFFICE SPACE

We are excited to have moved into our own physical space in the old Medical Illustrations Unit on the ground floor of the Kolling building. We are in the process of cleaning up and reorganizing the office area. Plans are also being drawn up to carry out a more definitive renovation in the near future. Here is a sneak peek!



Our entrance



Our waiting area



Some office space

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DIRECTOR OF SURGICAL SKILLS TRAINING UPDATE

Dr Anubhav Mittal

The *Sydney Clinical Skills and Simulation Centre (SCSSC)* located on level 6 of the Kolling Building routinely runs skills courses for the University of Sydney, industry, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, GSA and the ANZHPBA and ANSGOSA. These courses range from the basic skills courses that lay the foundation for future surgical skills learning to more advanced courses aimed at experienced surgeons. In addition, the centre also runs several 'homegrown' surgical skills courses that teach laparoscopic skills, bowel anastomosis and vascular anastomosis. The faculty for these courses is largely derived from surgeons at RNSH, and we are grateful for their ongoing help and support.

For example, the basic laparoscopy course (pictured below) teaches the participants both the theory and practice of safe laparoscopic procedures. Models are used to teach the principles behind appendectomy and cholecystectomy.

We are fortunate to have such a "state of the art" facility run by full time staff on our campus. The RACS ASSET courses in NSW are all run through the SCSSC. We encourage you to contact either Jenny Ludeman (Jennifer Ludeman jennifer.ludeman@sydney.edu.au) or Anubhav Mittal (anubhav.mittal@sydney.edu.au) if you are interested in running or hosting a skills course related to your sub-specialty.



COMING UP IN THE NEXT THREE MONTHS

- Advertisement of three more part-time Academic Surgeon positions
- The SERT executive will be contacting all surgical departments in the coming weeks requesting that they might come to a departmental/unit meetings to give a brief presentation about the SERT Institute and the DASO unit
- Development of webpages for the SERT Institute and the DASO Unit

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Contact Us

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