

Introduction

This publication was produced at the suggestion of the Dean, Andrew Coats, to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Faculty of Medicine, the oldest and largest Faculty of Medicine in Australia. We are honoured to take his suggestion forward. The book continues the history of the Faculty from the Centenary Book of the University of Sydney Faculty of Medicine produced for the 100th anniversary of teaching in the Faculty, but some historical context illuminates the more recent developments. As the pace of change continues to accelerate, so the book records the Faculty's substantial growth, major development and considerable achievements over the period.

As one of two publications to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Faculty, it accompanies 150 years, 150 firsts: the people of the Faculty of Medicine. The editor of that volume, Lise Mellor, has willingly provided an enormous amount of assistance and support throughout the production of this volume.

After introductions to provide a historical context, the chapters in this book concentrate particularly on events from 1980 till the present. An early decision was made not to record a linear story, but rather to deal with themes of particular importance for the Faculty. Chapter 1 records activities in the Faculty, locating its operations within the broader framework of broader societal issues, higher education and the University as a whole. Chapter 2 deals with the major changes in the education of Medical students during this period – a time of substantial ongoing collaborative development within the Faculty. In Chapter 3, Faculty's increasing responsibilities for educating students other than those enrolled in the Faculty of Medicine are reviewed. Also included are descriptions of important resources that extend and support the students' basic educational experience. Two chapters cover the Faculty's contributions to research. Chapter 4 brings themes in the history of research within the Faculty up to date, whereas Chapter 5 records the diversity of the research conducted within the various associated institutes. In Chapter 6, the development of the Clinical Schools and their relationships with the University are explored. Chapter 7 includes a description of the development of the diverse strands of public health education and research within the Faculty. Chapter 8 entertainingly presents the lively activities of the students and records the extensive contributions of the Medical Society (MedSoc), an enduring organisation. In Chapter 9, the development and diversity of our infrastructure is recorded, from the sandstone of the iconic Anderson Stuart building to the stainless steel of the planned new research building.

Over time, academic and professional titles change, as a consequence the people of the Faculty are referred to consistently by given name (or the name they are usually known by) and surname.

This publication was produced with little lead-time (nine months) and with a great deal of dedication by a number of people on a voluntary basis. First, considerable thanks must go to the authors of all the chapters and the various subsections for responding so quickly and willingly to such a massive task. Many from various parts of the Faculty and the University, as well as in the clinical schools, contributed specific sections and or information, and we are grateful for their input.

Fundamental to this project has been the support offered to the authors by the University of Sydney Archives and in particular Julia Mant, for providing access to the Faculty's minutes and to a range of wonderful historical photographs. The Rare Book Librarians provided particular help in locating some older sources. We thank all those – on campus, in the clinical schools or research institutes – who were pestered and who responded to requests for help.

Assistance with illustrations has come from a large number of people, including from the Archives, but without the skilled support of Clive Jeffery and Roland Smith both for historical as well as more recent photographs, the book would have been much less richly illustrated. Many others also located and sent or lent relevant images for digitisation; we record our grateful thanks to them.

Tom Rubin and Ria Deamer were, as always, strongly supportive and ever-helpful, along with others in the Dean's Office, in particular Vera Terry.

The earlier chapters (1–4) were enriched with statistical information on staff, students and graduates supplied by Geoff Woods and Natalia Ledger from the University's Planning Support Office. The Science Faculty Office also provided some enrolment data. Thanks are due to Jo Fairley for the pictures from the Faculty of Dentistry.

We particularly thank the many staff in the Faculty and the Directors of the Research Institutes, who provided information in Chapters 4 and 5 about their activities and, in some cases, gave access to their own publications and reports. Many staff willingly supplied pictures and provided further information.

Many people have contributed either directly or indirectly to information about the Clinical Schools (Chapter 6), their development and the relationships between the University and the health system. We are grateful to those current and retired Associate Deans and the Heads of the University Departments of Rural Health who contributed to sections in the relevant chapters and provided additional information and illustrations. Particular thanks go to Peter Castaldi and John Stewart for discussions relating to Westmead and Nepean; Diana Horvath for her knowledge of negotiations between Deans and the hospitals; Donald Child (and others) for stories about Royal Prince Alfred; Charles George for his encyclopaedic knowledge of Concord; the current Associate Deans of the Schools who gathered pieces of information that would not otherwise have been

found; and Paul Gatenby in Canberra who provided various insights into the health politics of the ACT. Ray Barbour provided many clinical school photographs from which we could choose. In addition, the executive officers and their staff in each of the clinical schools willingly provided essential help, sometimes at short notice.

Simon Chapman and Milton Lewis generated the original conception of Chapter 7. Subsequently, written and oral accounts were also provided by Bruce Armstrong, Geoffrey Berry, Jonathan Craig, Bob Cumming, Basil Donovan, John Hall, Shane Hearn, Les Irwig, Charles Kerr, Stephen Leeder, Stephen Morrell, Don Nutbeam, Sue Quine, Glenn Salkeld, Judy Simpson, Richard Taylor, and Marilyn Wise. Stephen Leeder also assisted with the final preparation and editing. Kathy Flitcroft's help in providing illustrations is gratefully acknowledged.

For Chapter 8, thanks are due to Carolyn Sein, Ravi de Costa, Andrew Eakin and David Evans. Chris Legge-Wilkinson and Ruthven Blackburn provided considerable assistance for Chapter 9. We are pleased to acknowledge the general assistance of Tarina Rubin, Ruth Carr, Helen Kapnopulos and Alex Coats.

Given the short timeframe, the publishers were under considerable pressures to complete the project. We want particularly to thank Josh Fry for his professionalism, enthusiasm and commitment to meeting our needs and deadlines, and Miguel Yamin for his expertise in designing and producing the book to a very high standard. They ensured that the book would be well presented, extensively and colourfully illustrated, and produced on time.

The Faculty is large, complex and widely distributed. Many who are not specifically named in the book – amongst both staff and students – have made, and continue to make, substantial contributions, often beyond normal expectations. Without the talented, enthusiastic and committed students in a range of programs – both undergraduate and postgraduate – who study on campus and or in the clinical schools, the Faculty's overall achievements would be diminished. Without a diverse, committed and supportive workforce and enthusiastic students, the Faculty would not have reached its current strength.

We record our thanks to the Dean, Andrew Coats for conceiving the project. It has been an honour to have the opportunity to explore the Faculty's stories and relationships, to have interesting discussions and to gain insights into the complexity and strengths of the Faculty's operations. A few extra months for preparing and writing would have been welcome, though!

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