2013-2014 Annual Report

Christian Medical and Dental Fellowship of Australia

Following Christ: Integrating Faith and Practice
PO Box 877, Baulkham Hills, NSW 1755
Ph (02) 9680 1233  Fax (02) 9634 2659  office@cmdfa.org.au  www.cmdfa.org.au  ABN 95 084 292 464
Our Aims

Building community amongst Christians in the profession of medicine and dentistry for the purpose of:

• Motivating Christian doctors and dentists to honour God and demonstrate His compassion in their professional practice.

• Presenting the claims of Christ to students and graduates to win their allegiance to Him.

• Providing forums to develop Biblical thinking concerning how Christian faith applies to daily practice and issues of public concern in medicine and dentistry.

• Fostering interest, awareness and participation in cross-cultural medical and dental mission.

• Strengthening and encouraging Christian medical and dental students in their faith and obedience to Christ, helping them develop their understanding of what it means to be not just a doctor or dentist, but a Christian doctor or dentist.

• Encouraging members to be actively serving in their local churches.

• Providing pastoral support and being a caring community
**National Chair Report**

**We stand firm in Christ**

*Philippians 1:27-29* says "Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then,… I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel without being frightened in any way…"

It’s not easy in our hospitals, in our practices, in the community to stand up for Christ. Having increased visibility can come with a cost!

The scriptures urge us to stand firm *in Christ*. As we unite together in ‘Following Christ, integrating faith and practice’ the CMDFA provides a visible flagpole for medical and dental professionals to rally around the flag of Jesus our King, and stand firm. Thank you to each of you for your commitment to being part of this fellowship and this movement!

**Thanking God for**

- **Growth in numbers** – Continuing our growth trend over the last 3 years, we give thanks to God for over 700 members, including over 250 student members

- **Growth in fellowship groups** – It’s exciting to hear of new hospital based fellowships, campus groups or regional groups springing up here and there as passionate and committed Fellowship members show initiative and make things happen. I thank God for individuals that have caught the vision for being a blessing to their colleagues by serving in nurturing fellowship.

- **Growth in communication and networking** - The CMDFA is a grass roots organization, not a top-down one and the communication hub that the national office, Facebook groups and the website provides a structure that God is using to cause much cross-pollination, ideas-sharing and friendship-building

- **Growth in resources** – we are thankful to God for the wonderful generosity of our members financially, providing resources, in increasing measure. Funds are used not only for the day to day Office to function, but are being used to support initiatives like VISION where for student leaders are equipped and encouraged at the beginning of each year.

- **Growth in prayer** - There’s been a new spirit of prayerfulness, with a new Fellowship prayer group started under the care of Aet Lees.

- **Growth in leadership** – where do I start? We have so many people who serve amongst us, often quietly giving up their time and their talents in so many ways. We are truly blessed and I thank God for each one who is serving on Branch and other committees, on campuses, hosting home groups, in hospital mentoring, in writing, in training and more.
• **Growth in godliness** – This is my prayer for all of us. For this is, after all, the most important thing we can encourage to ‘do’! Let us always keep focused on encouraging each other at all our meetings and in all our conversations in growing in our love for Christ and in faithful living in obedience to His word.  

*Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ.*

It is my privilege to have served as your National Chair for 6 years, since Nov 2008. In that time the board has been able to oversee a constitution review and governance restructure, and a restructure of our management roles. These restructures are serving the Fellowship well. The last piece to the restructure that we need is Financial Restructure. Discussions have started at the Equip meeting this year with State leaders and the National Board what this will look like. Be assured we have an expert National Treasurer leading us through a process to simplify state and national banking, and I commend these changes to you. Will you also please pray and ask God to raise up new leaders for the Fellowship who have vision, energy and humility to serve? He knows who will be the next Chair… may He also show us!

We’ve seen the student ministry mature as IMPACT turned fifteen in 2014! Some of us remember the wonderful exciting beginnings at IMPACT 2000 in Canberra and marvel at how God has caused such a renewing of the Fellowship as movement through the last 15 years. The ripples have spread out far and wide for His glory.

I would like to express my appreciation to the National Board who travel four times a year from different parts of the country to attend Board meetings. They give sacrificially of their time to serve us. A special thank you to these concluding National Board members: Lisa Koo, Recent Grads Ministries Rep Joanne Choo and Student Ministries Rep Chris Chan. They have not only given outstanding service but have passed the baton well!

I believe our fellowship is in a good place: healthy around the country, growing, renewing itself generationally, whilst keeping focused on its core aims which have not changed. Let us keep praying that we keep in step with His leading.

In all these things we thank God, humbly acknowledge that He is the source of all good.

He alone is worthy and He is the one to be praised.


Your sister in Christ

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**Dr. Judy Fitzmaurice**  
**National Chair CMDFA**
Dear Members,

By the grace of God and the guidance of the Holy Spirit we have seen exciting growth and expansion in the ministry of the CMDFA over the last 12 months. This has been evidenced by the following activity:

- Growing our membership in terms of students and graduates.
- Improving existing services.
- Providing new services.
- Developing a new website providing us with a far more secure business system and communications and service hub that portrays CMDFA as an exciting 21st Century organisation.
- We have received our first Bequest which in addition to our growing membership has helped strengthen our financial base.

**Membership trends**

Since the significant decline in membership experienced across 2009-2013 when the graduate membership dropped from **511** in 2009/2010 to **443** in 2012/2013 we have seen a significant turnaround in the membership trends.

In 2013-2014 year the graduate membership has grown to **483** graduate members (+9% vs prior year) as can be seen in the following chart.

We have made a very determined drive to attract student members by increasing membership activity across national campuses and dropping the student membership fee. This has resulted in student membership growing from **99** in 2011/2012 to **242** in 2013/2014.

The growth in student membership means that we are significantly sowing into the future membership and success of CMDFA by growing the base of future graduate members.

We have also restructured the Partnership financial base and have grown the financial support from Partnerships from **$35400** in 2011/2012 to **$70277** in 2013/2104.
Website Development

The single most strategic achievement over the last 12 months has been the development of the new CMDFA website. Primarily due to the previous website being vulnerable to hacking attacks it was decided to invest in the development of a new site. The process was initiated in April 2013 and continued across the first 10 months of the fiscal year. The new website came online ready to handle the annual membership and partnership renewal process starting in May 2014.

We obtained a very competitive deal from a highly professional and competent Christian web developer however; this was still a major investment for the Fellowship and was made possible by the very generous contributions by a number of our members and our state organisations.

The outcome has been a very secure and robust site which houses our back-end system which handles membership renewals, conference and event registrations and our member's database. In addition the website is providing a very modern, attractive and user-friendly window to the world.
It is easy to pass over the appearance of the site and concentrate on the extensive functionality that the site delivers however research conducted by Stanford University demonstrated that the major online factor influencing an organisation's credibility is the design of a website as opposed to its content. So the fact that we now have a very modern, professional and clean website design contributes very significantly to the credibility and professional perception of the CMDFA that is in line with the professional standing of our membership.

The website proved its mettle by handling successfully one of the busiest periods of use across the May - July period when the majority of membership renewals and partnership payments are made.

The website has specific sections for our main member types carrying items of specific relevance and interest to each section which are as follow:

- Students
- Recent graduates
- Graduates

Since its launch the website has received over 20,000 visits and has handled 430 financial transactions. Regular monthly traffic to the website is on the increase.

In conjunction with our mass email tool we have maintained regular communications with our members over a range of matters and these are opened by an average of around 400 recipients every mailing.

Thus the website is proving to be a major positive tool for developing our membership service delivery and keeping our members up to date with the new and expanding range of services and activities that we provide.
Website Services

Posts

The POSTS section provides the means of communicating relevant and meaningful articles including the following:

- Summary of articles from Luke’s Journal
- Papers and articles developed by and submitted by our members
- Reports such as those from our members attending the International Congress
- Videos relating to events and speakers at events

Events

This sections allows us to promote events held at a national and a state level in an exciting and attractive forma

Online store

One of the major new functions provided by the website is the online store. This enables us to provide a range of relevant and interesting books for our members at discounted prices.

We are also able to provide special offers at significant discounts for defined periods. This helps our members to obtain quality material at a value price.

A number of our members have begun to avail themselves of this service and we will continue to develop the range of books and material over the coming months.
We have also initiated a new service for our members in conjunction with Regent College the theological graduate school in Vancouver.

Regent provides a wider range of their courses and other addresses in the form of downloadable Audiobooks.

At our request they have made available 40 titles of relevance to our membership in a special CMDFA section that is linked to our website.

We have also begun to promote some specific titles that we have knowledge of and are seen as particularly pertinent to our members

International Conference

The world Congress was held in Rotterdam form July 19th - 26th. This was attended by Bill Hague, Regional Secretary for Oceania, and including Bill there were 32 people from Australia, 7 from New Zealand and 4 from PNG.

Australia helped subsidise the 4 PNG attendees and within the Aussie group there were 3 students whose attendance was sponsored by the National Office, New South Wales and Queensland regions.
The annual EQUIP conference was held in May this year with the primary focus being the financial affairs of the Fellowship. We had an extremely productive day delivering some major decisions that will help us to streamline the Fellowship’s financial processes going into the future.

National Conference 2015

Following the very successful conference held in Melbourne in 2013 we are in the process of organising the next conference in Sydney 5th-7th June 2015.

The theme will be Refreshment and Vision. Key points for your attention:

• The venue will be the YHotel in the heart of Sydney city.
• This hotel offers excellent accommodation for singles, couples and families. It even has small dormitory accommodation suitable for students
• We will have a well-known Bible Teacher as our main biblical speaker
• In addition we will have 3-4 of our own members to speak on a number of relevant Medical and/or Dental topics.

We are planning to make sure that in addition to the organised sections of the conference that there are plenty of opportunities for Christian Fellowship among members.

• In 2011 the conference had 111 attendees
• In 2013 the conference had 140 attendees
• In 2015 we are targeting at least 180 attendees.

This is not just a matter of numbers but of seeking to ensure that we provide Fellowship opportunities in an informal manner as well as in organised talks and activities for as many of our members as we possibly can.

Bequest

During the course of this year we were blessed with provision of a Bequest from one of our long-standing members. The provision of such a financial blessing was really encouraging as it adds
more reinforcement to our financial position and enables us to make plans for increasing member’s services.

While always acting prudently with our financial assets we do believe that the parables of the Talents provide us with a strong Christian model for using our funds to help grow and prosper CMDFA by sowing back into our Fellowship.

Thank you all for your continued support. Remember we are always looking for your input and suggestions for growing and improving our Fellowship. So please feel free to let us have any suggestions that you would like us to consider.
We look forward to hearing from you,

Every Blessing for the year ahead

David Brown
National Manager
NATIONAL TREASURER’s REPORT

Financial year to 30th June 2014

Overview

The 2013–2014 financial year was one of consolidation following the previous year which I described in last year’s Treasurer’s Report as a year of restructuring.

The Net Surplus for the Fellowship in the 2013/14 financial year to 30th June was $3,839.
This compares with a Deficit of $38,740 for the year to 30th June 2013.

The Board is currently budgeting for a similarly sized surplus for 2014/15 as well as the establishment of a small pool of reserves to assist with strategic growth.

CMDFA ended the 2013/14 financial year with Fellowship cash balances of $270,907 (the 2012/13 comparative figure was $242,879), including prepayments of subscriptions of $151,987 earmarked to cover the current year’s expenditures.

Conference on Financial Stewardship August 2014

Last year the Board noted the need to grow its underlying core financial base to ensure that the Fellowship has a sufficiently robust ongoing income stream to ensure a self-sustaining base for Fellowship activities and outreach.

To this end there was a one day Equip & Connect Conference in August at which the states and national leadership combined to examine key issues for financial stewardship.

The aim of this conference was to make a difference in equipping and connecting the Fellowship.

The issues discussed were:

1. The need for a strategic plan to replace the 2009 version. The plan would then be reflected in subsequent budgets and financial accounts.
2. Safeguarding of CMDFA’s financial assets
3. Controlling and monitoring of financial liabilities
4. Compliance with government reporting and regulatory requirements

A summary of the key issues is shown below
State of Play as at the CMDFA Equip & Connect conference on Financial Stewardship August 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Current state</th>
<th>Comments</th>
<th>Outlook</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Cash Balances</td>
<td>Satisfactory</td>
<td>Bequest allowed the Fellowship to start year with strong cash balance.</td>
<td>Major cash injections in June –</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Liquidity flow</td>
<td>Satisfactory</td>
<td>Sufficient but limited room for expenditure on initiatives.</td>
<td>Remains positive throughout year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Underlying operating</td>
<td>Being addressed</td>
<td>Negative operating margin for past 3 years 2013/14 boost from one-off bequest.</td>
<td>2014/15 returns to operating surplus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cash flow</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Profitability of events</td>
<td>Being addressed</td>
<td>Need an overall surplus on standard events to allow for initiatives.</td>
<td>Positive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Office Efficiency</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Efficient staff &amp; operations but membership base too small for real effectiveness</td>
<td>Fellowship is growing, especially at student level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 CMDFA funding base</td>
<td>Too low</td>
<td>CMDFA requires minimum additional recurring $30K base income</td>
<td>Trend is positive</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Overall, the conclusions agreed upon where that while the Fellowship is financially sound, it tended to operate on a yearly financial cycle and there was no obvious strategy in place to finance any growth spurts.

Direct outcomes from the meeting included the Board appointing an internal committee to draft a strategy on future growth & financing, the switch of CMDFA’s accounting systems to Xero and some streamlining of our banking and accounts.

Profit & Loss account and Balance Sheet

The audited Profit & Loss account and Balance Sheet are included in the Annual Report and form part of the Treasurer’s financial summary. Key points are highlighted below.

Income and expenditure & Net financial position

CMDFA’s total income for the 2013/2014 financial year was $199,249 (previous year $196,962) - a gain of 1%
CMDFA’s total operating expenses over the same period was $215,411 (previous $233,222) – an improvement of $17,811 or 8%. The result was an operating shortfall of $16,162 ($36,260) – an improvement of $20,098 or 55%. A surplus is planned for the 2014/15 financial year.

Non-operating Income in the form of a Bequest of $50,000 was partly used for additional expenditure on student subsidies and similar purpose, with $30,000 retained in Provisions for future periods.
Overall, this resulted in a Net Surplus for the year of $3,839 (previous period was a deficit of $36,260).

**Financial Reserves (Balance Sheet)**

Total Net assets or equity (Fellowship Funds) were $49,339 as at 30th June 2014 ($45,500 as at 30th June 2013). This is almost exactly the optimal level ($50,000) that the Board had targeted as providing the appropriate trade-off between financial security/ governance and growth for an organisation of the current size of CMDFA.

These financial reserves are designed to be sufficient to cover most contingencies except extreme and unforeseen events. Because reserves partly represent resources diverted from increased operational activity, their level will only be deliberately raised to very high levels to meet a planned initiative that requires substantial new funding.

**Cash balances (Balance Sheet)**

CMDFA finished the 2013/14 financial year with Fellowship cash balances of, including prepayments of subscriptions of $151,987 earmarked to cover the current year's expenditures.

This year National and state cash balances of $270,907 (the 2012/13 comparative figure was $242,879), comprised National bank accounts at 30th June of $211,608 and state accounts holding a further $59,299.

Of this amount, $151,987 was in the form of Subscriptions for 2014/15 paid, as normal, in May & June 2014.

Because of the strong seasonal nature of our cash flows, the Board’s projections anticipate the Fellowship balances falling to a low in March 2015 before replenishment to at least the same levels in June 2015 as at June 2014.

**Financial Benchmarks**

The Board monitors several financial benchmarks in order to assist them to assessing the financial strength of the Fellowship and to provide early warning of any emerging risk that may affect the Fellowship’s ability to meet all financial obligations in a timely manner – thereby assisting the Board in exercising due diligence and in achieving a high level of corporate governance and stewardship.

Three key issues are:

1. **The adequacy of cash flow to meet all “reasonably anticipated” requirements**: actual and forecasted cash flow currently meets this requirement.

2. **The adequacy of Reserves to meet a major negative event.** Reserves are currently at Board target levels.

3. **The efficiency and robustness of the Fellowship's overall financial position.** This remains an issue for the Board’s attention. The Fellowship needs a significant increase in income from events, members’ contributions, bequests and new initiatives – see below.
Overall financial position

The past two years have been ones of consolidation and restructuring of the Fellowship’s administration and operating base, including the website and accounting systems & controls. While the changes have involved significant expenditure, they are now virtually complete.

The current structure of the National Office – staffing level, administrative and systems network and operating costs – is capable of handling major increases in membership numbers and event activity without significant additional overhead increases.

This means that incremental income is virtually all available for outreach, fellowship events and expansion.

The focus can now be on growing the Fellowship’s income base.

Dr Richard Allan
National Treasurer

Attached: Audited financial reports for 2013 - 2014
Recent Grads Retreat

The 5th annual Recent Grads Retreat is just around the corner! The theme of this year’s retreat is Fighting Cynicism and it is being held in mid-November in the Mornington Peninsula of Victoria. We are thankful for the interest in this year’s retreat; in fact, we are almost over-subscribed and are running out of rooms at Norwood House!

I won’t be able to attend this year so I am most grateful that local doctor Lee Wong is helping with the logistics of venue, accommodation, speaker / mini-sessions and registrations. We have recent graduates attending for the first time as well as many returnees. Some are now able to bring spouses and children along as well. I am also grateful for the assistance of Victorian dental member Elice Chen who has designed the website for information about the retreat (http://cmdfaretreat2014.strikingly.com/). We look forward to having new recent grads join us at this upcoming retreat for mutual encouragement as they share the trials and hardships of working life in the early years. We hope that many will come to be actively involved within the CMDFA in their respective states.

There has been a relatively new gathering of recent graduates meeting in Adelaide and we hope to make plans for next year’s recent graduate’s retreat to be held there. Please stay tuned and keep praying for this new group.

Intern Boot Camp

Round Two of the Intern Boot Camp will be held in January 2015 across the states. We are currently working to update the manual which was used at the boot camps in January this year. In Sydney we had a catch up session with the interns and other recent grads in May to follow up with
the intern boot camp we held earlier in the year. They were grateful for the preparation & encouragement the boot camp provided before they started work as interns.

Meanwhile, the Foundations book by CMF UK has been most helpful to some of our recent grads. This resource can be purchased through the online store.

**INTERN BOOT CAMP**

**Hospital Fellowship Network**

The national office and I are in the process of gathering details of known Hospital Fellowship groups across the country. We have plans to put together an interactive map on the new website that will allow people to view times, locations and contact details of existing Hospital fellowship groups. This could be especially helpful for recent graduates who tend to move around frequently for training, leaving their local churches and support networks behind for a short or long period. Please contact our Business Manager, David Brown, at david@cmdfa.org.au if you host or are part of a hospital fellowship group which has not yet contacted us with your details.

**Handing over of role**

I praise God for his provision in confirming the next national recent graduates staffworker who will take on this role as of January 2015.

**Dr. Joel Wight** is already well known amongst CMDFA circles. Both Joel and his wife Shu-En have been involved in CMDFA for many years and no doubt you have already met them at various CMDFA conferences and events.

Joel once served as NSR (National Student Representative) when he was a medical student at James Cook University (QLD) and helped to organise the 2007 Impact on Magnetic Island. He has also been a bible speaker at the VISION conferences and Recent Grad Retreats.

They currently live in Melbourne with Joel working as a haematology registrar at the Austin Hospital and Shu-En working in private dentistry. They have a dog called Rufus.

Please continue to pray for and support Joel as he takes on this new role.
Personal Update

My husband, Jonathon, and I welcomed Elijah Choo into the world on Saturday, October 18th and since then have been enjoying getting to know our little one. We are very blessed that so far we are settling into life with a newborn and have been overwhelmed with the love, practical help, gifts and well wishes of friends and family. We can’t wait to introduce him to the CMDFA family at IMPACT next year. Meanwhile, he will be attending his first (and my last) CMDFA board meeting in mid-November.

Thank you for your support over the last 3 years as I have served in this role of national recent graduates’ staffworker. I know many have prayed for and practically supported the emerging ministry of recent graduates and I certainly couldn’t have done this without your help. I’m excited to see what God will do with recent graduates within CMDFA over the next few years as they take on the motto of “following Christ, integrating faith with practice”. 
National Student Staff-worker AGM report
Dr Chris Chan

It’s been another big year in national student ministry in CMDFA! We have been very excited to see the launch of the website with a design that we feel is much more accessible for students and recent graduates. We look forward to seeing the website increasingly utilised for content and as a hub around which our fellowship can grow.

We thank you for your prayers for us as staffworkers, and we thank God for His provision throughout the year. Last year, Jo and I wrote about transition: and indeed, there is further transition ahead! But first, a few notes from the year that was...

Vision

The national student year kicks off each year with the Vision Conference, a leadership training weekend for students from across Australia over the Australia Day long weekend. Although I was unable to attend this year (moving interstate and houses that weekend made it tricky!), Vision is a personal favourite activity on the CMDFA calendar. Run since 2002, hundreds of student leaders over the years have been blessed by the opportunity to learn, share, and be inspired to return to their campuses and be His light to their friends and their universities.

For the first time, Vision was held this year on the Gold Coast, with 49 students and 16 mentors attending. As the Vision Committee writes:

“At the end of the conference, many students shared about how encouraged and uplifted they were in their walk with Jesus. They were also excited to return to their various campuses to organise and run their campus ministries. Some students were also embarking on starting new campus groups”.

A huge thanks to the organising team, led by Dr Michael Chong and Dr Phillip Wong, for their tireless efforts throughout the year in facilitating the Vision Conference. I would like to echo the committee’s thanks to the wider CMDFA community for your support. I have had the privilege of seeing a generation of students be equipped and inspired, and go on to start and grow new campus ministries around the country. It is your prayer and financial support that allows students to attend, be blessed, and go out to influence the lives of many.

IMPACT and ICMDA

IMPACT was held this year at the Collaroy Centre in Sydney in April. With the theme of ‘humility: a life laid down’, the 250-ish delegates and mentors were challenged in our understanding of what it meant to follow a God who humbled Himself to give us life, and the expression of humility before Him in our clinical practice and through missions. In conversations with the students, it was particularly encouraging to see a large number of first-time attendees.

As with any IMPACT conference, there are many hands, hours, emails and phone calls that have been generously given to make it all possible. I’d like to thank Dr James Xu, who ably lead the main organising team, the many local student and recent graduate volunteers, and the input of Dr Jo Ma and Dr Judy Fitzmaurice for their support, encouragement and guidance. Tim Blencowe shared some stirring messages, but I was also greatly encouraged to see him deep in
conversation with students throughout the conference, imparting wisdom that would have been a
tremendous blessing to those he spent time with; we thank him for his time, his insights and
Teaching, and his example of humility. I’d also like to thank all the mentors, elective speakers,
graduate panel members and missions speakers who made themselves available to share their
experiences and wisdom.

We look forward to seeing you next year in Kyneton in Victoria for IMPACT 2015 over April 24-27th,
with the theme “Faith and Work”. The team, led by Dr. Chris Williams and Dr. Jacki Dunning, is
hard at work and has locked in some exciting speakers for the conference. Please check out the
(amazing!) IMPACT 2015 website at: http://impact15.wix.com/impact15. See you there!

Several of our student leaders were also supported by the fellowship to attend the International
Christian Medical and Dental Association (ICMDA) Conference in Rotterdam, the Netherlands this
year. They returned with stories of their time spent with fellow students from across the world,
bound together by the faith we have in Christ. They also were inspired to bring back some of what
they tasted at the conference. As Jacki, one of the attendees writes:

“It truly was a life-changing experience. We all learnt so much from the talks
that we can apply not just to our own lives, but also to the student ministry in
which we are involved... I will not take this experience for granted and it has
served to renew and re-invigorate my desire for student ministry, and to serve
Christ in my workplace.”

The year ahead

Student ministry in CMDFA is in constant motion, always changing and growing and evolving to
meet the needs of the students and campus groups in Australia.

We continue to work on improving the accessibility of bible study material (which was written
specifically for medical and dental students in the Australian context) via the website, which should
be available by early next year. We want to get better at supporting student leaders, and Dr Jacki
Dunning- in her role as the National Student Representative (NSR) this year- has been
instrumental in improving our structures with state student representatives responsible for
overseeing the campuses in their region. There is still much potential for growth in our use of
social media, in engaging with ethical issues, in mentoring programs, to name just a few.

As mentioned previously, there is further transition ahead for us as a ministry team. Dr Jacki
Dunning, our current NSR, is stepping down as she graduates from medicine, and we are ecstatic
to welcome Hayley Hwang as the new National Student Representative. Hayley is a dental
student in Perth, and has led her local campus group as well as being the state student
representative for WA this year. Having personally worked with Hayley in church ministry
previously, I am sure she will make a fantastic contribution to student ministry next year.

On a personal note, I too will be stepping down from my role as the national student staffworker at
the end of the year. It has been a privilege and tremendous blessing to be involved in student
ministry at a national level for nearly 6 years, and the time has come for the next generation to take
up the baton, bringing fresh ideas and perspectives.

I am hugely excited to commend Dr Jacki Dunning to you and the CMDFA board as the next
national student staffworker. Jacki is married to Joe and will be commencing her internship in
2015. Jacki has served humbly and faithfully in leading the local campus group at Monash, as the
NSR, and on Vision and IMPACT committees to date, and has agreed to take on the role next
year. She has an intimate understanding and a unique passion for CMDFA and the issues that
affect students, and has the vision and verve to shape student ministry for generations to come. I look forward to stepping back and seeing God’s work continue through her in the coming years in CMDFA!

I thank you all for your wonderful support and prayers over the years, and I ask you pray for Jacki as she transitions into the role.

In Him, Jo & Chris

**Dr. Joanne Ma**
REGS Worker

**Dr. Chris Chan**
Student Worker
Report “CMDFA Qld Branch” 2014

A number of our members, including our Chair, Dr Carolyn Russell, attended the International CMDA congress in Rotterdam. Queensland had the privilege of financially assisting one of our students to attend this important event.

We were excited that the Vision Conference was based on the Gold Coast in January of this year. We thank Philip Wong, Tash Yates and the national organising committee for bringing one of the national CMDA events to our state.

The Gold Coast has been our most active hub thanks particularly to the efforts of Tash Yates. The ministry of AFES at Griffith University is also very active and we are appreciative of the efforts of Tony Rowbotham and his team in this regard. The Townsville hub is also particularly active and has had positive interactions with the YWAM medical ship when it was based at Townsville.

On July 5, a full day conference was with the theme of “Salt and Vinegar” was held on the Gold Coast. Many students attended this event and a number of graduates acted as mentors. We particularly looked at discussing spiritual issues with sensitivity, respect and permission; praying with patients, taking a spiritual history and real life examples of how faith and health care can interact in the daily life of a Christian health professional.

On this same weekend, we had a weekend of training for PRIME (Partnerships in Medical Education). Here we have a linkage to HealthServe. http://www.healthserve.org.au/prime-project.html. The focus is on becoming better educators and also how to teach “whole person medicine”. Subsequently, Sharon Darlington was able to visit Papua New Guinea to engage in further educational initiatives there.

Much of our activity is related to supporting students at Universities (University of Queensland, Griffith, Bond and James Cook in NQ). We are very encouraged by the vibrant student ministries that are in each of these campuses. On May 23, the students at the University of Queensland held a panel night where Christian doctors shared their experiences and answer questions from the students. A tri-university event (Griffith, Bond and Queensland unis) consisting of Praise and Worship and a message by Tash Yates entitled “Our Identity in Christ” was held on September 20.

Mission is also very important to the fellowship. Many of us are inspired by the commitment of the team led by Dr Neil and Gwen Wetzig who have gone year after year to the DR Congo to provide education and upskilling to the local health service in Goma. We were also encouraged to hear from Drs. Nick and Fay Woolfied on April 9 who after retirement from practice in Caboolture have semi-retired and moved to work in Central Asia as missionaries with Interserve. We are also fortunate to have interactions with Bruce and Libby Hayes, who have spent many years working with CMS in Nepal and are currently on home assignment in Brisbane.

A combined medical and dental dinner, including students and partners, was held on September 6. The Hon Tim Mander, Minister for Housing and Public Works and Member of the Queensland state parliament was the guest speaker. Previously Tim Mander has been a referee for the National Rugby League and CEO of Scripture Union Queensland. He spoke about proclaiming your faith early in a new workplace and the subsequent need for exposed “Christians” to display total
integrity. He related this to the various occupations he had experienced but particularly as an MP. We thank our dental colleagues (particularly Bill Leivesley, Peter Farrington, John Yared and Ross Dunn) for organising.

Finally, a word of thanks to Dr Paul Mercer, who continues as one of the editors of Luke’s Journal. As Paul is Queensland based, there are a significant number of articles which are written by Qld based colleagues. I make particular note of an article that Dr. Frank Garlick helped write entitled “Speaking the Truth in Love – A History of CMDFA in Qld.”
CMDFWA Annual Report for 2014 AGM

Dear Friends

It’s close to the end of the year already and I am pleased to report that God has been faithful to our focus on GROWTH for the year. In the health landscape of WA, I can clearly see the GROWTH of CMDFWA as a body.

We started the year with the Intern Boot Camp which was a day meeting to prepare this year’s interns for the Spiritual and professional challenges of doctoring. We have had regular grassroots meetings throughout the year such as the Dental Small Group meetings and the Women’s Breakfast meetings. Additionally, this year we started and ran several Mentor Breakfast meetings. Please pray that there continues to be much edification and encouragement as we hope to continue these meetings next year.

From a missions perspective we continue to support David and Jessica Liaw, and Virginia (surname has been omitted for privacy reasons). This year’s Thanksgiving Dinner was focused on Missions and we also ran a Missions Evening in conjunction with SMA. Please pray for Moses and Nat as they lead our first ever CMDFWA Mission Trip to Cambodia in December. Not forgetting missions in the workplace, we also ran a Saline Course in September.

Nationally, we continue a good working relationship with the National Board and other member states. We continue to participate in National conferences like VISION, IMPACT and Graduate Conferences. Of note this year was the ICMDA International Conference which happens every 4 years, this year being held in Rotterdam. Let us give thanks to God for unity and growth in these areas.

We continue to work closely with the student bodies in the University of Western Australia and University of Notre Dame. Please pray for the students having exams and also for a smooth transition of leadership as their respective committees shall transition to 2015.

Please pray for the CMDFWA committee as we also make transitions for 2015. The team have organised all the events listed above, kept their budget in surplus and also launched a new website! It has certainly been another great year working with such a great team and I really want to thank everyone for their efforts. The CMDFWA committee really reminds me of the disciples and how they handed out the fish and loaves. With so little resources (5 loaves and 2 fish), God has certainly multiplied their efforts this year! Indeed the miraculous results are from God, but He still chose to use the humble hands of the disciples to feed the many.

We wish you all a safe and special end to the year and look forward to walking this journey together a little bit more next year. To God be the glory!

Many Blessings

Dr. Mike Chong and the CMDFWA Committee