At the risk of sounding like a broken record (or a corrupt MP3 file for the digitally inclined), 2011 was another big year for RVTS. Our 2011 intake grew to 22, an increase of seven on the previous year. This necessitated splitting the cohort into two groups, which required 30 extra teletutorials, plus additional clinical teaching visits and supervisors.

To cope with the growth, our new Senior Medical Educator, George Cerchez wasted no time lighting the match for an explosion in medical educator numbers. By the year's end the team had doubled in size. This additional people power resulted in significant innovations in educational structure and content, including the strengthening of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander materials.

We were also kept very busy with reviews and certifications. These included an external review of our selection process, achieving ISO 9001 Quality Certification, and being assessed for reaccreditation as a training provider with RACGP and ACRRM. These experiences always unearth useful feedback and new ideas that are then incorporated into the program.

In our spare time (ha!) we moved to a larger office, relocated our IT system to a distant cloud, implemented a new strategic plan and joined the social media revolution. Registrar recruitment was a success with our 2012 intake filling in the first round.

Next year promises to be just as adventurous. Watch this space.

Pat Giddings
Chief Executive Officer

During 2011, the medical educator team grew to meet the educational needs of a rapidly expanding program and is now well placed to meet the challenges of 2012 and beyond.

One innovation was the development of small teams to manage specific program components, such as teletutorials and workshops. Two new registrar medical educators began working within these teams, providing input to ensure relevance and appropriate educational support. Following the RVTS medical educator face-to-face meetings, there was a revamp of the support and remediation process for registrars, with an emphasis on early recognition. A program to support registrars who still have to complete the AMC also commenced and will expand in 2012.

The RVTS educational program has strengthened the organisation’s strategic goal of achieving a high Fellowship success rate, and has also helped to develop the qualities that make our registrars good doctors who take a holistic approach to their patients’ health.

George Cerchez
Senior Medical Educator

The Supervisor Liaison role has certainly been interesting and challenging. Fortunately, I’ve enjoyed the gentle guidance of George Cerchez (previous SLO) and inspired input from Tim Lloyd-Morgan. This collaboration has resulted in numerous innovations, perhaps the most significant being greater supervisor involvement at workshops.

A Facebook group was launched to encourage more regular communication between supervisors. So far we’ve been sharing links to interesting websites and educational ideas, and hope to introduce more discussions as the group grows. I encourage supervisors to get involved; simply email me at ddrberni@internode.on.net and I will assist with set-up and answer any security concerns you may have.

May 2012 be the year we communicate and share.

Berni Haasbroek
Supervisor Liaison Officer

What a year! A big thank you must go to the RVTS team for two wonderful workshops, 135 teletutorials and 93 clinical teaching visits.

Congratulations also to the 16 registrars who gained Fellowship; no doubt a bittersweet moment knowing the RVTS experience is over. Never fear! An alumni group is forming so you can keep in touch and maybe even assist with training future cohorts.

2012 offers some big challenges with the largest number of registrars enrolled to date. An expanded RLO team of two, plus three registrar medical educators will no doubt come in very handy indeed.

So as a new year begins and the teleconference program gets underway, it’s ‘once more unto the breach, dear friends’; enjoy your medicine and I’ll see you at the first workshop!

Michael Young
Registrar Liaison Officer
Workshops

RVTS runs two, five-day education workshops annually where registrars hone skills that cannot be taught via distance. The focus is hands-on skills, with a healthy dash of realism. Think manikins giving birth to rubber babies, actors with Hollywood-style wounds, and surgery on offal. Workshops aren’t a walk in the park on a sunny Sunday afternoon (unless it’s an emergency medicine scenario and someone is about to go into cardiac arrest), although they are the most popular part of the program. They provide registrars with a valuable combination of skills development and networking with peers.

MELBOURNE 2011

The first workshop for 2011 was held at the Melbourne beachside suburb of St Kilda in April. The medical education team lined up a wide variety of sessions, including emergency obstetrics and a day at the College of Surgeons.

The families were also kept busy; the highlight of the family program being a ride on the Puffing Billy steam train.

Flashback 2011

No, you can’t keep the gown.

Come back to see me in six weeks.

Another healthy rubber baby.

“I am so impressed by my supervisor’s knowledge and wisdom.”

“IT can’t get any better than the Brisbane workshop.”

“I couldn’t have made it in general practice without this unique program.”

Satisfaction Survey Feedback
Remain calm,
I’m an RVTS registrar.

“RVTS has helped me to be a better GP, and the local community has greatly benefited.”

Fine Fellows

Sixteen RVTS registrars were awarded their Fellowship in 2011. Congratulations to all those who hurdled their exams and crossed the finish line. That last 100 metres is always a challenge.

Some registrars are staying on for advanced skills training, others lining up for more exams in the quest for dual Fellowship.

FARGP is becoming more popular, so expect a few more of these in 2012.

A couple of brave individuals are currently working towards a triple crown: FRACGP, FARGP and FACRRM. Just imagine the postnominal letters; that sounds like a job for extra-wide business cards.

FRACGP
Aiad Al-Essa
Vincent Cornelisse
May El-Khoury
Amitosh Mondal
Brad Murphy
Hamid Raoof Kateb
Paul Saad
Andrei Schapov
Anna Tervit
Emilie Willcox

FACRRM
Peter Bennett
Adam Pritchard
Andrew Jamieson
Alex Stevenson
Anna Tervit
Andrew Wilke

FARGP
Ruth Johnston

briSbane 2011

It was off to Brisbane for the year’s second workshop. Dental emergencies and dermatology were the most popular sessions, while a highlight for many was the retrieval medicine scenarios, where the blood smelt suspiciously like chocolate sauce. The families enjoyed a live wildlife show featuring all manner of fluffy and scaly creatures that illuminated the faces of all present, including the registrars.

“Steady as she goes, captain!”

Roll up, roll up, to the greatest workshop on earth...

RVTS family fun.

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REGISTRARS AND LOCATIONS 2011

2007 COHORT
Dan Harris, Alice Springs NT
Abbas Hussein, Texas QLD
Rodney Jones, Tennant Creek NT

2008 COHORT
Ismael Al-Badran, Grenfell NSW
Paul Barac, Gatton QLD
May El-Khoury, Condobolin NSW
Andrew Jamieson, Karratha WA
Mike Nixon, Ngarinyin NT
Hamid RaofKate, Harden NSW
Paul Saad, Baradine NSW

2009 COHORT
Fred Aiello, Barcaldine QLD
Vincent Cornelisse, Biggenden QLD
Jessica De Chastel, Injune QLD
Paula Ferguson, Darwin NT
Aaron Frazer, Innisfail QLD

Imran Hussain, Emerald QLD
Shingai Jaravaza, Tara QLD
Anupam Kumar, Clifton QLD
Simon Madin, Walungurrur NT
Pasi Maphosa, Miles QLD
David Norus, Dorrigo NSW
Tatiana Pavlovskaya, Leeton NSW
Adam Pritchard, Cairns QLD
Anna Tervit, Yarrabah QLD
Lis Young, Wadeye NT

2010 COHORT
James Allen, Bowen QLD
Thet Aung, Collingville QLD
Don Dematagoda, Clermont QLD
Amjad Halizullah, Edenhope VIC
Joanna Longley, Springsure QLD
Rafik Mansour, Fitzroy Crossing WA
Anna Morgan, Coen QLD
Matthew Neal, Magnetic Island QLD
Alvan Okonkwo, Tieri QLD
Rosalie Schultz, Tennant Creek NT
Jolmer Smit, Barham NSW
Carville Tolson, Tennant Creek NT
Michael Young, Bowen QLD

2011 COHORT
Martes Alison, Trundle NSW
Kwame Campbell, Leeton NSW
Renee Cremen, Babinda QLD
Osman Darwiche, Tumut NSW
Nilesh D’Cruze, Gin Gin QLD
Sanjeeewa Don, King Island TAS
Sam Jones, Badu Island QLD
Michael Khalil, Halls Creek WA
Babu Kothalanka, Roebourne WA
Lenon Mandikiza, Miles QLD
Tonia Marquardt, Kowanyama QLD
Ramesh Nandamuri, Agnes Water QLD
Jason Peterken, Aurukun QLD
Raj Ramakrishna, Three Springs WA
Paul Rees, Mitchell QLD
Sebastian Rubinsztain-Dunlop, Broome WA
Vishnu Vasudevan, Biggenden QLD
Jolmer Smit, Palm Island QLD
Thet Wai, Dongara WA
Sam Wakista, Narromine NSW
RVTS People 2011

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Christian Rowan
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EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT
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Michael Young (RLO)

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Amanda Hollands
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Melinda Phillips
Carl Roe
Sarah Thomas

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Training Doctors in Remote Communities
for Remote Communities
“An Australian Government Initiative”

Remote Vocational Training Scheme Ltd
PO Box 37 Albury NSW 2640
Phone: (02) 6021 6235  Fax: (02) 6041 5149
www.rvts.org.au

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93 clinical teaching visits
60 communities benefited from RVTS training
135 teletutorials
10 days of F2F workshops
52 remote supervisors
State of greatest expansion: WA

2011 In Stats

165 fieldwork
60 communities
93 clinical
teaching
visits
10 days
of F2F
workshops
52 remote supervisors