

GP Obstetrics Advisory Committee

The GP Obstetrics Advisory (GPOA) Committee was formed in 2005 to represent the views of Diplomates within the College, thus providing an opportunity to provide input relating to continuing professional development and College statements. Since then, GPOA Committee activities have expanded dramatically in the representation of Diplomates.

GPOA Committee Membership

In accordance with College policy, elections were held for all positions on the GPOA Committee. As a result we welcomed two new members, Dr Tamsin Cockayne (intrapartum care representative) and Dr Helen Roxburgh (shared care representative). They replace Dr Terrence Bohlsen and Dr Jennifer Anderson who were founding members of this committee. Dr Jeff Taylor and Dr Elizabeth Boyd (intrapartum care representatives) and Dr Linda Mann (shared care representative) were re-elected.

Diplomates Days

Continuing professional development has remained a high priority this year. For the first time, a Diplomates Day program, catering for both procedural and non-procedural general practitioners was held outside of Australia in conjunction with our trans-Tasman colleagues at the AOCOG/RANZCOG 2009 Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) in Auckland, New Zealand. Planning is well underway for the two-day Diplomates program (Office Obstetrics and Office Gynaecology) to be held at the RANZCOG ASM in Adelaide, South Australia in March 2010.

Another two-day Diplomates program was held in conjunction with the Provincial Fellows ASM in Broome, Western Australia, in May 2009. Day one was 'Obstetric Day' and day two was an intensive ultrasound workshop. Following the success of Diplomates Days at both the ASM and Provincial Fellows meetings, the GPOA Committee has recommended that Diplomates Days be included in the regulations governing all regional ASMs.

Membership

In 2008/2009, RANZCOG membership includes 2365 Diplomates, of which 137 hold the DRANZCOG Advanced, 1736 hold the DRANZCOG and 492 hold the DIPRACOG. During the year, 31 Diplomates resigned and nine DIPRACOG holders and 29 DRANZCOG holders were removed from the register of Diplomates due to their unfinancial status. During this period there were 17 newly certified DRANZCOG Advanced and 37 DRANZCOG holders.

Specialist Obstetric Locum Scheme (SOLS)

The Specialist Obstetric Locum Scheme is funded by the Australian Federal Government and designed to supply affordable quality

locum relief to rural and remote obstetricians. In October 2008, increased government funding enabled SOLS to expand to include the provision of GP obstetrician locums. Despite a slow start in registrations, it is pleasing to note that the scheme was able to provide for 17 GP obstetrician locums throughout regional Australia.

RACGP and ACRRM Scientific Meetings

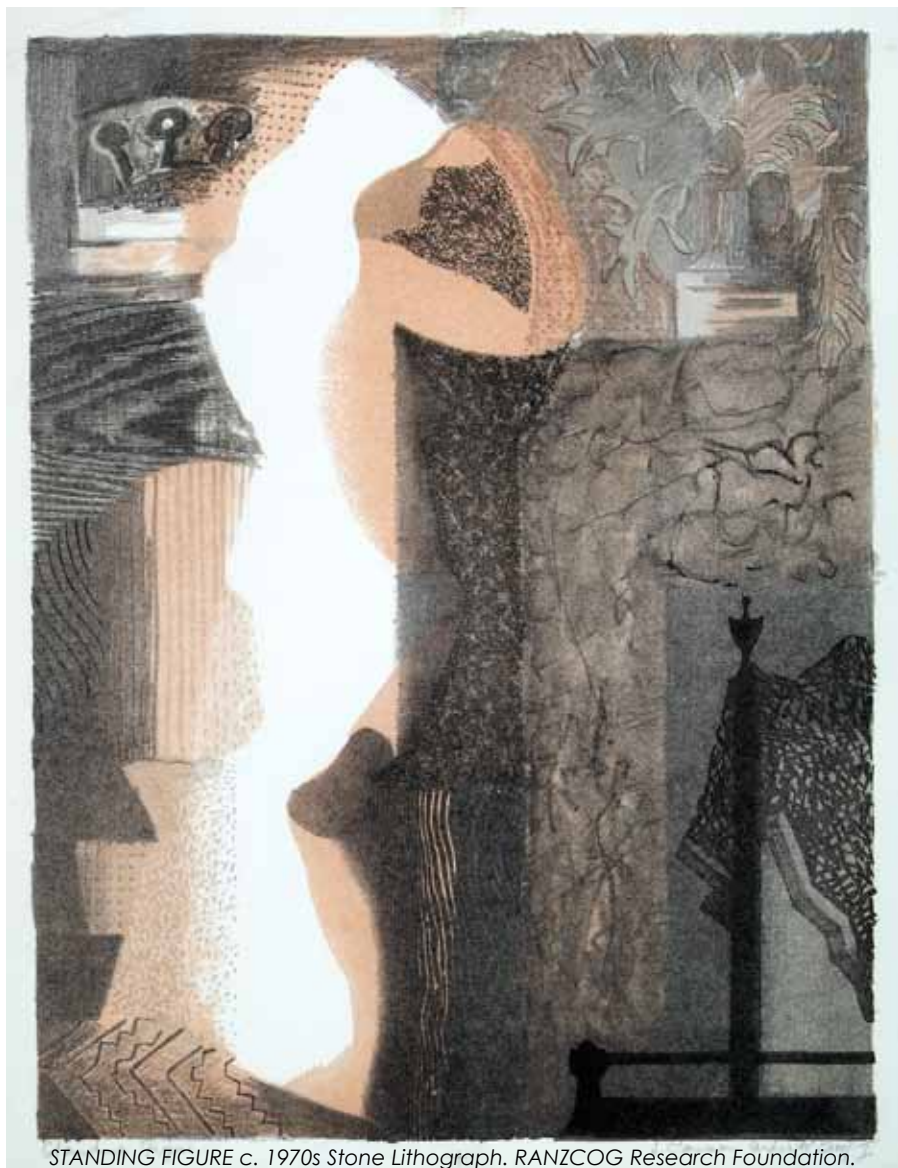
RANZCOG, along with the GPOA Committee, has continued to attend both Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) and Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM) events in order to promote the Diploma to new graduates and keep Diplomates abreast of the current workings of the College, as well as upcoming educational activities.

Dr Jeff Taylor

Chair, GP Obstetrics Advisory Committee

Val Spark

Coordinator, GP Obstetrics Advisory Committee



STANDING FIGURE c. 1970s Stone Lithograph. RANZCOG Research Foundation.