



From our chairman

2010 has been another fantastic year for SWB. The postgraduate Seminar in Surgery in Kigali made the national Rwandan news. It was attended by 130 Rwandan doctors, and for the first time we had Australian registrars and medical students assisting.

Flinders University in South Australia has undertaken evaluation of the seminar, with extremely positive feedback, particularly in the area which was innovative for SWB - the introduction of Structured Clinical

Instruction Modules (SCIMs). We were also delighted with the feedback from our medical students and the impact the trip had on them as potential doctors.

Alexander Downer, the former Australian Foreign Minister, has agreed to open our seminar on medical education / aid as part of the RACS international forum day which should set the standard for an excellent debate.

Dr Paul Anderson
Chairman, SWB
December 2010

What we do

SWB is an Australia-based non-profit organisation working to enhance the sustainability of medical service provision in developing countries.

Through the co-ordination of an international group of volunteer medical specialists, SWB delivers specialist-led training programs for medical personnel in partner countries. For more about our projects and our volunteer teams of specialists, please visit our website.



Student Rep 2011

The SWB National Executive Committee is pleased to announce that Kim Yeoh has been selected as our Medical Student Rep for 2011. Kim is a Physio graduate and is currently in her fifth year of her medical degree at Melbourne University. She will serve for the year as a Co-opted member of SWB's National Executive Committee, acting as a liaison between the committee and Australian medical students.

SWB joins GIEESC

In November 2010 SWB became a member organisation of the World Health Organisation's Global Initiative for Emergency and Essential Surgical Care (GIEESC).

The GIEESC is an international collaboration of Ministries of Health, WHO country offices, organisations and academia aiming to strengthen capacity to deliver effective emergency surgical care and training in low and middle income countries. For more information please visit our website.

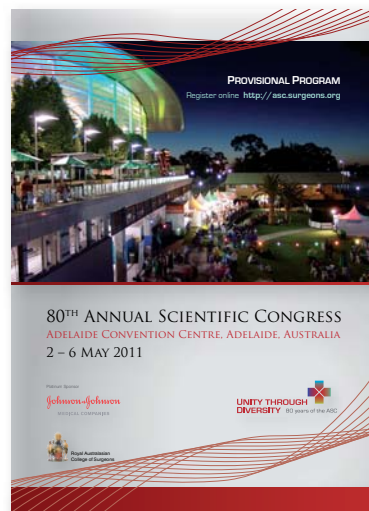
SWB International Session - RACS ASC, May 2011

On 2nd May 2011 SWB will be hosting a session as part of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) Annual Scientific Congress (ASC) in Adelaide, South Australia.

As part of the International Forum program, the aim of the session is to look at improving efficacy of global medical education and aid initiatives.

Although the seminar will be primarily Australasian focused through the exploration of how this region can better contribute, participants from northern hemisphere organisations have also been invited to ensure that their valuable input is included.

Dr Paul Anderson is currently finalising the program for the seminar, which will soon be



available on the SWB website. Anyone interested in attending should please contact Megan Coupland via info@specialistswithoutborders.org for more information.

Full details of the ASC can be found on the RACS website: www.surgeons.org.

Draft Strategic Plan now Online

SWB members are invited to comment on the draft of our Strategic Plan 2011 - 2013, now available on our website. The document outlines our key areas of activity over the next three years. Please submit all comments via email by the 10th January 2011.





Kigali Seminar in Surgery - September 2010

SWB continued our medical education initiatives into Africa with a Seminar in Surgery over three days in September in Kigali, Rwanda.

The seminar saw a team of 14 Australasian surgeons travel to Rwanda, accompanied by five medical students and a surgical registrar. The program was structured to include morning lectures on surgical topics requested by SWB's in-country partners, the National University of Rwanda and the Rwandan Surgical Society.

Afternoons were divided into 40 minute Structured Clinical Instruction Modules (SCIMs) to reinforce material presented in morning lectures.

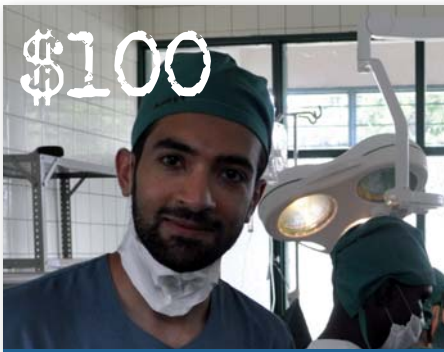
Over 130 Rwandan doctors participated in the seminar, and participant feedback highlighted the value and quality of the teaching, and the SCIM method of delivery in particular.

SWB will run a follow-up seminar in Rwanda in 2011, in addition to exploring requests for training from Mongolia, Burma, Cambodia and Honduras.

For more information about the Kigali seminar, including the event program and lecture summaries, please visit our website.



Our most grateful thanks go to the team of volunteer instructors and our Rwandan project partners.



sponsors a developing country doctor or nurse to attend a seminar.



sponsors an Australian medical student to travel with the SWB team.



fully funds a developing country seminar, with corporate sponsorship rights.

There are various ways you can help support SWB's work:

You can help.

1. Join our Database of Volunteers

Please contact us if you are a medical specialist, nurse or allied health representative interested in volunteering your time to join us on a trip to a developing country to share your skills. We are always looking to expand our database of volunteer instructors.

2. Make a Donation

Whilst all the specialists involved in the training seminars fund their own flights and accommodation for workshops, general donations are invaluable to our work. Your donation can fund a developing country doctor to attend a seminar, or be used towards the provision of much-needed resources in developing country hospitals and clinics.



Show your support by joining our Facebook group - an easy way to ensure you have the latest SWB news!

3. Become an Ordinary Member

Help grow SWB by joining our membership, which is entirely free of charge. As a member you can provide input and feedback into the policies and direction of the organisation, attend SWB's Annual General Meetings and all members receive regular updates on our work.



Specialists Without Borders (SWB)
Level 5, Room 5A 153
Flinders Medical Centre
Flinders Drive, Bedford Park
SA 5042, Australia

Email: info@specialistswithoutborders.org

Web: www.specialistswithoutborders.org