



**nzmsa**

New Zealand Medical Students' Association

## NZMSA Monthly Update - April

Date Published: 1/7/2024  
Version: 1

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## ENGAGEMENT

**NZMSA CONFERENCE** This month was an eventful month for the Engagement portfolio. Almost all of the Engagement Working Group was in attendance at the NZMSA IGNITE Conference at Parliament in Wellington, and helped to support the Conference Team in pulling off fantastic events over the weekend.

**STUDENT RESEARCH FORUM** The bulk of our work with the New Zealand Medical Student Journal for the Student Research Forum has been done, having now confirmed speakers, sponsors and delegates for the event in Tāmaki Makaurau on Saturday 27 July. Flights are now booked and we have a fantastic lineup of presenters who will be competing for a range of prizes and showcasing their research.

**UPCOMING EVENTS** We look forward to an exciting event and to working more with the team from the New Zealand Medical Student Journal, who have been invaluable in putting the Student Research Forum together. We are now also looking towards events such as our regional engagement events, Vampire Cup, and NZMSA elections.

## WORKFORCE

**GUIDE TO GRADUATION** The Vice President is reaching out to sponsors and partners throughout July. The Workforce Working Group is to meet and begin planning and division of labour for Part II of Guide to Graduation in mid-July after Beyond the Med School Gates. Production is to occur during August and expected launch date to be September as per the Working Group's timeline.

**TRAINEE INTERN ROLE EXPECTATIONS VS HOUSE OFFICER DOCUMENT** Has been sent out to the Steering Committee to seek feedback from RMSA presidents currently. This initiative has taken a backseat due to lack of student interest and lack of mandate, however NZMSA still wants to push for this to be sent to Te Whatu Ora and the Universities of Auckland and Otago by the end of the term.

**TI CONCERNS FORM** No longer being pursued due to lack of uptake from students. TI scope and work load does not seem to be an active issue for TIs and as such, mahi revolving this space will take a back-seat. However, this is certainly an area to keep eye on as doctor shortages continue, to ensure TI learning opportunities are protected without being made to work beyond their scope.

**BEYOND THE MED SCHOOL GATES** Dates have been confirmed! July 17th - 18th from 7pm to 9pm (times are approximate). The Workforce Working Group's availability is very limited for this mahi, as such will likely involve reaching out to the wider Executive for help on this initiative. The wider Executive are expected to attend webinar, and to promote the event on class pages/group chats. Our social media drive has begun, with posts made on NZMSA's Facebook page and Auckland/Otago MBChB 2024 pages. The Executive is to share this initiative to our students via their own channels. A question form is to be circulated to the Executive and students to ask questions for our speakers in advance!

## ADVOCACY

**PARENTS IN MEDICINE** Our Working Group has written up a report for our Advocacy initiatives around Parents in Medicine. This report includes information for NZMSA, the RMSAs, and our Universities on how to better support our student parents, while also shaping our long-term advocacy in this area.

**NATIONAL SURVEY** The National Survey for 2024 has now been closed with 360 responses. We are currently in the process of going through the data and writing up our report.

**FINANCIAL HARDSHIP** The Working Group has been working on addressing the issues surrounding financial hardship for students. One of our objectives has been to advocate for a free lunch programme for our clinical students on placement. Our letter for this has been written up and presented to Te Whatu Ora.

**RURAL MEDICINE** The Working Group is writing up a document highlighting the barriers surrounding rural medicine and how these look across the different campuses.

**GP24 CONFERENCE** Vice President Workforce, Andrew, and Vice President Advocacy, Divyashri, will be speaking at the GP Conference this month on "Diagnosis and potential management of student (dis) interest in general practice."

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

- **18 July 2024** – NZMSA Executive meeting
- **25 July 2024** – NZMSA Steering Committee meeting
- **27 July 2024** – NZMSA x NZMSJ Student Research Forum