

FRAME

FEDERATION OF RURAL AUSTRALIAN MEDICAL EDUCATORS

FRAME and Department of Health Update Lunch Meeting
Meeting Room 6 Cairns Convention Centre
Monday 1st May 2017 – 1:00 – 2:00PM
MEETING NOTES

Department of Health Representatives:

- David Meredyth – Acting Assistant Secretary
- Dave Hallinan – First Assistant Secretary – via teleconference
- Katy Roberts - Acting Director – Professional Entry and Rural Training Section – via teleconference

FRAME Attendees

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| Jenny May – University of Newcastle | Angela McLeod – Melbourne University |
| Angela McLeod – Melbourne University | Sarah Strasser – University of Queensland |
| Julian Wright – Melbourne University | Ian Wilson – University of Wollongong |
| David Garne – University of Wollongong | Meredith Peters – Flinders University |
| Shane Bullock – Monash University | Dee Risley – University of Adelaide |
| Scott Kitchener – Griffith University | Catherine Hawke – University of Sydney |
| Riitta Partanen – University of Queensland | Lizzi Shires – University of Tasmania |
| Lisa Farrar – Monash University | Lawrie McArthur – University of Adelaide |
| David Atkinson – University of Western Australia & University of Notre Dame Australia | Mark Yates – Deakin University |
| Kay Brumpton - Griffith University | Amanda Barnard – Australian National University |
| David Campbell – Monash University | |

Apologies: Joe McGirr – University of Notre Dame Australia

Chair's welcome & overview of discussion items

- Jennene, chair of FRAME welcomed everyone and acknowledged the traditional owners of the land.
- She thanked David Meredyth from Department for attending.

Business Arising

- **Feedback from DoH**
- **Rural health student clubs**
- David Meredyth (DM) outlined there had been a quick transition round funding and said that the clubs could be a useful vehicle eg; using clubs to visit high schools, meet with students and encourage them to consider a career in medicine
- **Distribution of medical training places in Australia**
- DM said a review is under way including consultation with Deans and Medical Colleges/Schools. Some submissions have been received. It is a sensitive issue and they are putting information together as ministers are interested.
- Currently looking at available evidence including data analysis of placements, physical facilities and intellectual capital.
- It is a large area of work and not known when it will be completed with advice to Government

- **Rural Health Commissioner and rural generalist pathway**
- JG asked about the RHC role
- David Hallinan (DH) and Katy Roberts joined via teleconference and DM updated them with discussion so far.
- DH – said to keep “line open” with Department and the consultation mechanism will depend on his/her preference.
- He believes FRAME will be a key consultative group for RHC
- JG – FRAME are keen to make a positive contribution to the commissioner and thanked DoH for support
- DH thanked FRAME for being open

RHMT program future directions

- Department said communities appreciate RHMT and there is currently a very positive climate for rural workforce policy

Regional Training Hubs

- JG – How will we develop hubs with RCS
Question re Commonwealth and State views of RTH
- DM-re Regional Hubs:
There will be opportunity for partnerships very soon & he suggested try to be as collaborative as possible
Provide local knowledge & perspective
Timing will mean we need to “hit the ground running” and be pro-active and identify the right people to speak with
Must build a good reputation at the start
Department keen to bring FRAME together with colleges in workshops with operational people
Need to build positive reputation within 6 months – Critical Period
DH – Need to identify some locations where it is difficult to do training & where training has not previously occurred (as opposed to large rural locations where it has happened) – look at smaller locations
What should go to a generalist & what is the right balance between a generalist & a specialist?
Need to build capacity for community etc.
Department will look to FRAME for guidance and will be looking for growth in 2018
There will be 50 specialist training positions rolling out & FRAME may be able to be part of this
Need to push investment in that area to some harder to reach areas
Criteria: Department will develop some selection criteria eg; 2/3 training pathway (2/3 time spent in a rural area or across a selection of rural sites)
Need to break reliance on city hospitals for intern training
In future – re hubs – there will be a need to show they work, are successful & give benefit to “all partners”

Meeting closed and Jennene thanked the Department for their time and input as well as FRAME members present