

The University of Sydney

Faculty of Dentistry College of Health Sciences

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5 December 2005

Ms Rachael Simpson
Director
Standing Committee on Social Issues
Legislative Council
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 3000

SOCIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

8 DEC 2005

RECEIVED

Dear Ms Simpson,

INQUIRY INTO DENTAL SERVICES IN NSW

I refer to your letter dated 16 November 2005 and respond to the following questions:

1. Could you please provide information concerning the fees to undertake the various dental and related courses at the University of Sydney.

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

Up-Front Fees

A limited amount of places will be available for students who elect to pay the full course fee up-front. These places will be allocated to students who are Australian citizens or permanant residents and have nominated the full fee paying option on their forms. The full fee amount for the BDent course in 2006 is AU\$28,368 per year, (with fees for 2007 being announced in late December, 2005.) These fees are indexed throughout the duration of the degree.

Student Fees and Subscriptions

The Student Representative Council and the University Union and Sports Union are funded by compulsory student subscriptions. In 2005 these compulsory subscriptions totalled AU\$590 for a full-time student who is new to the University, and AU\$481 for re-enrolling full-time students. These fees make it possible for student organisations to cater for student needs.

Equipment Costs

In the first semester of the BDent, students will be required to purchase an equipment kit in order to carry out the requirements of the course. The combined cost of this kit and other course material incurred in the first semester is estimated to be about AU\$3000. There will be subsequent costs throughout the course.

Fees for International Students

Students who are not Australian citizens or permanent residents, or who are not citizens of New Zealand, are considered international students, and are accepted into the University only on a full-fee basis. These fees are indexed throughout the duration of the degree.

The fee is AU\$34,656 per year for 2006 with about AU\$25,000+ required for living costs. Fees for 2007 will be announced in late December, 2005. Additional to this estimate are equipment costs and compulsory Student Fees and Subscriptions and Overseas Student Health Cover.

POSTGRADUATE COURSES

Master of Dental Science (Oral Medicine & Oral Pathology, Orthodontics, Paediatric Dentistry, Periodontics, Prosthodontics) \$21,120 (Domestic) \$34,800 (International)

Master of Dental Science (Community Oral Health & Epidemiology) \$15,840 (Domestic) \$23,280 (International)

Graduate Diploma in Community Oral Health & Epidemiology \$14,640 (Domestic) \$23,280 (International)

Graduate Diploma in Clinical Dentistry (Oral Implants) \$19,000 (total domestic course fee) \$23,280 (total international course fee)

Graduate Diploma in Clinical Dentistry (Conscious Sedation & Pain Control) \$14,640 (Domestic) \$23,280 (International)

Graduate Diploma in Clinical Dentistry (Restorative) \$21,120 (Domestic) \$34,800 (International)

Graduate Certificate in Clinical Dentistry (Restorative) \$10,560 (Domestic) \$17,560 (International)

Domestic PhD and MSc(Dent) students are covered under the Research Training Scheme (RTS), which is fees and HECS-exempt, provided the student completes the degree within the minimal timeframe. Domestic PhD and MSc(Dent) students will be required to pay the University's student union fees for each year of their enrolment.

International candidates will be required to pay fees. The fee for the PhD in 2006 is \$23,280, payable for each year of enrolment in the program. The fee for the MSc(Dent) for 2006 is \$23,280, payable for each year of enrolment in the program. Note the Faculty and the University reserve the right to increase fees from year to year, and that the above fees may not be fixed for the duration of a student's candidature in the program.

2. The Westmead Centre for Oral Health is one of the two clinical schools for the University's faculty of dentistry:

There are six questions related to this topic. Apart from the first question (a) which refers to a relationship between the University of Sydney and the Westmead Centre for Oral Health, I am in a position to offer an expert opinion. Otherwise, first, I have no authority to speak on behalf of the Westmead Centre for Oral Health, and second, I could give an opinion on these matters but it would not be an informed opinion, and therefore, with respect, I will not comment further on questions (b) to (f).

(a) What services does the Centre provide?

Infrastructure related to the training of dental specialists, dentists, dental therapists, and dental hygienists

- Office space and furnishing for staff of the Faculty of Dentistry
- Library facilities
- Facilities of the Education Block (in common with Medical students)
- IT support
- Common room space and bathroom facilities for students
- Laboratories for student use
- Laboratory technicians who (a) assist with student teaching and (b) construct dental appliances for patients under subscription that students will fit (under supervision).
- Clinical areas and related clinical facilities where students treat public patients under supervision.
- Radiography facilities and radiographers who (a) assist with student teaching and (b) take dental radiographs for the patients of dental students (under prescription) and process the x-ray films.
- Reception and nursing duties in relation to patients treated by dental students.
- The management of the clinical areas where dental students, dental therapy students, and dental hygienist students treat public patients.
- The overall management of public patients treated by the dental students, dental therapy students, and dental hygienist students, including: (a) selection of patients who are suitable for student dental practice, (b) making appointments and recall appointments for such patients, and (c) management of patient files and electronic data entry.
- Supervision of dental students, dental therapy students, and dental hygienist students by hospital funded dentists and dental specialists.

Thank you for the opportunity to present evidence before this inquiry. I would be pleased to be of further assistance should you wish.

I have marked corrections to the uncorrected proof which is attached herewith.

Yours sincerely,

Wendell Evans

Associate Professor and Head

Community Oral Health and Epidemiology

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