

Reflection and engagement



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Welcome to the September issue of *Spectrum*. This September marks the exact half way mark of my Presidency of the Society. It's that point where I can look back at what we have achieved – and look forward to what is still to come. Reviewing and embarking on the change to the advisory structure of ASMIRT has been a major undertaking and one which is still in progress. I would like to thank all those who have put their names forward for the Lead Committees and Reference Groups, including many who have

not had formal involvement in the Society before. The knowledge and expertise of the Lead Committees and Reference Groups is essential to ensure that responses provided to state and federal governments, practitioners and consumers are current and reflect best practice across Australia. Positioning ASMIRT to be an agile, responsive organisation is an enervating and exciting process and I look forward to the time when all the building blocks are in place.

At the time of writing I have just returned from the Tasmanian Branch Winter Weekend in Launceston. It's always an honour to attend the state events as President, and no more so than in my home state. The involvement and engagement of our members across the country is just so impressive, and the Person Centred Care workshop that was run for all delegates in Launceston was inspiring (see the review on page 39). I was wheeled at speed around the venue (Hotel Grand Chancellor) and put my faith and trust in Dave Gratton to lead me around the obstacles in the room when I was blindfolded... all a great education around the patient perspective.

I am looking forward to attending other state education events that are coming up in the next couple of months and hope to see and talk to as many members as possible at these events.

In this issue of *Spectrum* we focus on our students – the future of our professions. Articles include Spectrum Q&A, in which students

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from Monash and RMIT universities interview their educators; a timely piece about managing stress around exam time; and a story about a remarkable invention – ‘SMART Armour’ – by then 16-year-old Macinley Butson, designed to protect the healthy contralateral breast from excess radiation during cancer treatment.

In other offerings, we hear from the Townsville Cancer Centre about their acquisition of the first Elekta Unity MR-linac accelerator in the southern hemisphere; Nigel Anderson (Chair of our Research Lead Committee) reflects on being a clinician researcher; Steve Lacey takes us to Mongolia as part of a surveillance project; and Michael Fuller considers 10 bespoke techniques for specific pathologies in his trauma radiography series. I hope you enjoy reading this issue of *Spectrum*.



Being led by Dave Gratton in the Person Centred Care workshop at Tasmania Winter Weekend