



**emuws**  
All MedSoc news. All times. All right.



UWSMS GradBall 2013

## President's Farewell

As 2013 comes to a close, we would, first and foremost, like to wish you and your loved ones a safe, happy and healthy holiday and New Year. We look forward to the exciting things to come in 2014, and I have some particularly exciting news for 2014 to announce in our Advocacy Update below.

We would also like to congratulate the Gammas, our 5th years, on graduating on Thursday and are excited to see a fine group of doctors from UWS enter the workforce across Australia in January. They are now recovering after a week of events run by UWSMS and a beautiful GradBall at the Sofitel Wentworth in Sydney on the night of their Graduation Day.

Personally, I'd like to farewell you all (with some sadness) and thank you for making my time here so enjoyable. I have always found that it has been the people at UWS that has made it such a great place to enjoy our studies. Over the last 5 years I have seen UWSMS grow from a fledgling society that ran Careers Night, MedCamp, MedBall and one or two other social and academic events with a newly created GHAWS to a group that runs over 50 events a year between UWSMS, GHAWS and the newly founded SAWS. In 2014, as always, we look forward to your involvement and support to keep UWSMS as vibrant as ever; but we also look forward to your involvement to help us achieve newer heights with advocacy as we continue to strive for the best outcomes for our members.

### Advocacy Update: SSAF Success

As AMSA Rep last year, I began lobbying the university on behalf of UWSMS (you, our members) for changes to the compulsory \$273 annual Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) that is charged to you upfront or added to your HELP debt. We considered this to be inappropriate and highly unfair for clinical students who have minimal access to these services as they spend three weeks or less on campus per year, and this time is often during holidays where services are otherwise decreased or unavailable.

We continued escalating our advocacy throughout this year and **Dean Zinghini** joined me in formally meeting with the Pro-Vice Chancellor to put forward our case. UWSMS then drew up a [proposal](#) that was submitted to the UWS Executive and later, the UWS Board of Trustees.

I am proud to announce that **from 2014, clinical students will pay \$52.50 per annum, saving each student more than \$660 over their clinical years.** Unfortunately, we were unsuccessful in our proposal for Rural Clinical Students to be charged no fee, however they too will pay the reduced rate. First and second years will continue to pay the full fee as UWSMS and the Board of Trustees deemed they have fair access to the services provided by the SSAF.

I would like to call upon all students to get in contact with either the 2014 President, AMSA Rep or Academic Officer with any advocacy issues as UWSMS has strength as a united voice; but we need your input to focus our energies and know where any issues may be. I look forward to seeing UWSMS' Advocacy continue to achieve in the future. We can be easily contacted through our email addresses found [here](#), the [contact us form](#) or any surveys we put out in the future.

**Mitchell Waters**

UWSMS President 2013

[president@uwsms.org](mailto:president@uwsms.org)

## GHAWS Corner

2013 has been a busy year for GHAWS.

More than \$8,000 was raised in GHAWS Auction Night, eighteen hundred birthing kits packed and an innovative student-tutoring component added to the Robert Townson High School Mentoring program. This year also saw the inception of a GHAWS Challenge Day, Global Health Shortcourse and an award winning UWSMS/GHAWWS Blue Week.

We welcomed back twenty-one meddies who embarked on a community outreach trip to Nepal earlier this month. They provided the community with \$5,000 worth of medical equipment and medications to last 7 months, which was generously donated by Professor Janice Reid AM and Professor Anne-Marie Hennessy.

We've also heard of UWS success on the national stage with Nicky Betts (UWS AGH Rep 2013) being elected as the 2014 National Coordinator of the AMSA Global Health's Crossing Borders For Health program.

On behalf of the 2013 GHAWWS team, we'd like to thank everyone who's been involved in giving their time, money and effort over the past year and wish the incoming executive good luck in taking GHAWWS to new heights in 2014.

GHAWWSlove.

**Brian Fernandes**

UWSMS Community and Global Health Officer 2013

[commglob@uwsms.org](mailto:commglob@uwsms.org)

# UWSMS IS PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY



[Like on Facebook](#) | [UWSMS website](#)

**Copyright © University of Western Sydney Medical Society.  
2007-2013. All rights reserved.**

**The eMUWS mailing address is:  
[emuws@uwsms.org](mailto:emuws@uwsms.org)**