



**nzmsa**

New Zealand Medical Students' Association

## NZMSA Monthly Update - April

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[www.nzmsa.com](http://www.nzmsa.com)

## ENGAGEMENT

**NEW MEMBERS** The Engagement Working Group welcomed two new members this month (Tony and Brian) to complete the team of six. The working group met twice during April to organise NZMSA events for the remainder of 2023.

**CLINICAL LEADERSHIP FORUM** The Clinical Leadership Forum is planned to occur on the 28 to 30 July 2023 at the Hunter Centre in Dunedin. A schedule of events has been drafted including PIHPSA running a workshop. Other speakers are also currently being planned. A booking has been made to stay at Arai Te Uru Marae.

**STUDENT RESEARCH FORUM** The Student Research Forum is planned to occur on the 8 to 9 September 2023 in Christchurch. A memorandum of understanding has been signed with NZMSJ which has set the groundwork for collaboration on this event. Bookings in Christchurch are still being finalised.

**MENTORING PROGRAMME** This is an ongoing project. Mentors and mentees will fill out a 'check-in' around the end of May 2023.

## WORKFORCE

**GUIDE TO GRADUATION** Last month the first instalment of the Guide to Graduation series 'Guide to Workforce' was published. The working group has received positive feedback from both sponsors and students regarding this document. Work on the next Guide to Grad document will begin in June.

**BEYOND THE MED SCHOOL GATES** This event will be held from 30 May to 1 June 2023. The working group is now organising specific logistical details to ensure each evening event runs smoothly.

**ADVOCACY** Olivia (VP-Workforce) attended the first ACE RMO reference group meeting of the year at the beginning of April. The group were receptive to student feedback regarding current difficulties obtaining references as well as suggestions to help make sign ups to RMO webinars easier. The group will provide updates on these action points at the next meeting on 28 June.

## ADVOCACY

**PGY1 PLACES** A letter has been sent to Dr Ayesha Verrall regarding the issue. The letter is also being circulated through contacts at Te Whatu Ora and a blog post on the issue has been submitted to the NZMSJ.

**FINANCIAL HARDSHIP** A plan has been confirmed to address TI grant needs going forward. As part of this, the advocacy working group has started drafting a letter to the Minister of Education and TEC requesting:

- 1) The TI grant to be available as a lump sum for all students,
- 2) The TI grant to be no longer considered 'income' by Studylink and WINZ, and
- 3) Commit to a review of the TI grant with a view to increase with inflation.

**OUTREACH** Indira presented at the ECCO conference in Dunedin on the advocacy work occurring by NZMSA.

**MAHURU MĀORI** Preparation is underway with planning commenced with consultation from Te Oranga.

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## UPCOMING MEETINGS

- NZMSA Executive Meeting: 18 May 2023
- NZMSA Directors Meeting: 25 May 2023
- NZMSA Conference GROW: 26 to 28 May 2023
- NZMSA Steering Committee Meeting: 1 June 2023