

NZMSA MES (Medical Education Summit)

What is the purpose of MES?

The NZMSA Medical Education Summit is an annual event that brings together student representatives and students interested in medical education from around New Zealand. The primary purpose of MES is to facilitate connections between delegates, and to enhance collaboration between representatives from the Auckland and Otago medical schools.

As part of MES, delegates gain a better understanding of issues in medical education – past, present, and future. Collaboration between delegates will also help generate ideas as to how medical education could be improved at the Auckland and Otago medical schools.

Promoting effective advocacy is also an important part of MES. During MES, delegates will have the opportunity to interact with student representatives from all year levels of medical school, sharing advocacy experiences and forging important relationships to help amplify the student voice. Student representatives will have the opportunity to learn from those who came before them in their roles, enabling them to become more familiar and effective with their role.

Who is invited to participate in MES?

Anyone who has a student representative role related to education is eligible to participate in MES. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Education representatives
- Class representatives
- Site representatives
- Regional Education Officers
- Regional Presidents
- Vice-Presidents of Education
- NZMSJ officers

MES is run by the NZMSA Education Officer, with support from the NZMSA Events Officers, and NZMSA Vice-Presidents Internal and External.

Depending on budgetary constraints, it may be possible some years for MES to be opened up to students with an interest in medical education.

What activities does MES involve?

MES consists of several activities, ranging from keynote speakers to breakout discussion sessions, to hackathon challenges. Previous speakers have included current and former faculty staff at the medical schools, junior doctors with particular interests in medical education, and

student speakers with experience in medical education advocacy. MES also has a focus on networking. Most years, MES includes at least one social event – often a BYO event. NZMSA has a memorandum of understanding with the New Zealand Medical Students’ Journal (NZMSJ), and every year NZMSJ presents a session on how medical education representatives can help promote research.

In recent years, MES has had a theme that drives discussions and speaker panels. Previous themes have ranged from social accountability, to adaptability, to the future of medical education.

When is MES typically held?

MES is usually held in the first half of the year, between March and June. This is so that student representatives have the opportunity and time to put into practice the things they learn at the Medical Education Summit. MES takes place over the course of a weekend, with delegates flying in on Friday night or Saturday morning, and leaving after midday on Sunday.

History of MES Events

There have been 10 Medical Education Summits since the inception of the event in 2013. The themes, venues, and responsible Education Officers are listed below.

Year	Venue	Theme	Education Officer
2022	Te Kohinga Mārama Marae, The University of Waikato, Hamilton	The Future of Medical Education	Christopher Mayo
2021	The University of Otago Campus, Christchurch	Facing Change	Nicole Withers
2020	Zoom	Adaptability	Rebecca Gandhi
2019	Grafton Campus, The University of Auckland, Auckland	Social Accountability of our Medical Schools	Logan Williams
2018	The University of Otago Campus, Christchurch	Social Accountability	Roshit Bothara
2017	The University of Otago Campus, Christchurch	Positive Learning Environments	Sami Swadi
2016	Grafton Campus, The University of Auckland, Auckland		Uddaka Wijesinghe
2015	Grafton Campus, The University of Auckland, Auckland		Natalie Ron

2014	Grafton Campus, The University of Auckland, Auckland (combined event with CLF)		Cathy Zhong
2013	Grafton Campus, The University of Auckland, Auckland		Tom Wilkinson