

COMMENTS ON MEETING WITH DR. N.A. SAUNDERS, DEAN, FLINDERS
UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA

On 4/1/98 I met with Dr. N.A. Saunders, Dean of the Flinders University School of Medicine in Adelaide, Australia. He is eager to have CWRU students take electives there, and ultimately would like opportunities for his students to take electives at CWRU. Flinders is a fairly new medical school, and in terms of research funding and competitiveness for admission, it is among Australia's best. It has outlying programs in Darwin and Alice Springs.

CWRU students interested in electives there can contact him by email at nick.saunders@flinders.edu.au. Dr. Kingman Strohl (Chief of Pulmonary Division, Dept. of Medicine, VA Hospital) will serve as CWRU faculty sponsor, and students should also contact him.



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NAS:pml:
6 April 1998

Dr T. Daniel, MD
Professor Emeritus of Medicine and
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Dear Tom,

It was so fortunate that I learned of your Center when I arrived at Case and that you were able to see me. Many thanks! I greatly enjoyed talking with you.

Kent Smith and his colleagues in the Curriculum Committee were very supportive of establishing a student elective exchange program so I have my fingers crossed that we may be able to list Flinders electives for your students for 1999. As promised I have enclosed a packet of information about Flinders for your files. I will be drawing up an elective listing for your catalogue with, as you suggested, Kingman listed as the local sponsor. Kent Smith will discuss with your Dean the issue of fees but we are all hopeful that fees can be waived in this exchange program.

I look forward to seeing some Case students in Australia in the near future.

Kindest regards.

Yours sincerely,

N.A. Saunders
Dean
School of Medicine



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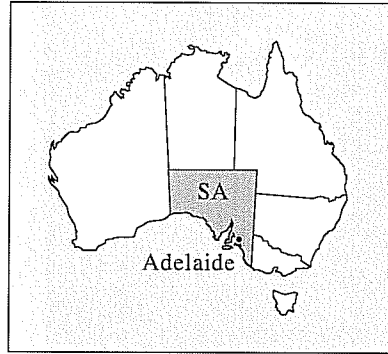


FLINDERS MEDICAL SCHOOL



FLINDERS

FLINDERS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

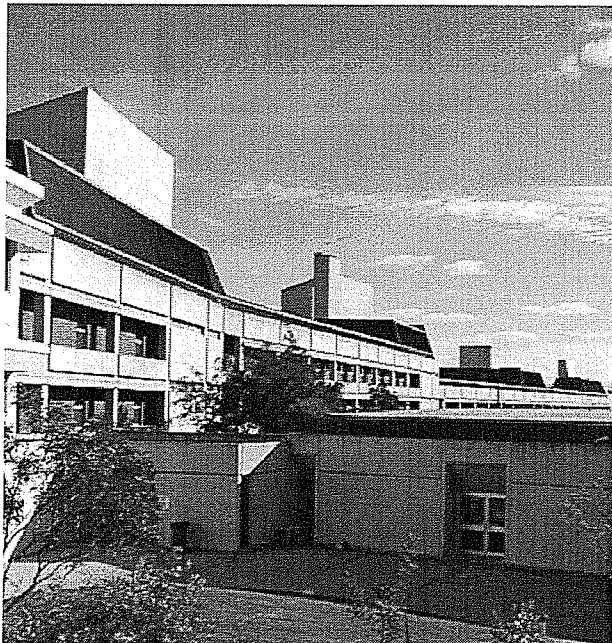


Flinders is a State University and is a fully-accredited teaching and research institution, receiving direct annual funding from the Australian Government as well as other sources. It is an integral part of the nation's tertiary education system. It was the first university in Australia to adopt a North American-style model for medical education.

In 1996 its School of Medicine replaced the traditional six-year undergraduate degree course with an innovative four-year program open only to students who already hold an undergraduate degree. In addition to 58 quota places for Australian residents, up to 25 full-fee places are available annually to international students. Selection is based on performance in a medical schools admission test (MCAT for international students), undergraduate GPA and an interview. The aim is to encourage people from a broader range of ages and backgrounds to become doctors.

The Australian Medical Council, which formally accredits universities to set examinations and graduate students, has praised the "novel and imaginative" Flinders program which, its accreditation team says, may well "act as a blueprint for the future delivery of medical education for years to come".

The structure, content and quality of the course particularly appeal to North American students, who fill the majority of the places available to international students. The degrees they receive - the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery - are equivalent to the MD awarded in the USA. All students of the medical school satisfy eligibility requirements determined by the ECFMG to sit the USMLEs. Some course elective time is devoted to assist them in preparing for these examinations. An ECFMG certified graduate is eligible to apply for a residency position in the USA through the National Resident Matching Program.





FLINDERS



The National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation established by the U.S. Department of Education in 1994 has identified Australia and three other countries (from a total of 30 nations) to have standards comparable with those that apply to medical schools in the U.S. As a result, Flinders is a participating institution in the Title IV Student Financial Aid Programs (Stafford loans) and North American students enrolled in our medical course enjoy similar privileges to those attending first-rate schools in the USA, viz, excellent teaching in both the basic and clinical sciences, similar culture and language, availability of USMLE Subject tests and U.S. federal loans.

Excellence in research

Research is an important component of our work, and academic staff regularly attract a high level of research funding. On a per staff member basis, Flinders has consistently ranked among the top three Australian universities in attracting competitive research grants from Australia's principal funding body in the health sciences, the National Health and Medical Research Council (NH&MRC).

The high impact of Flinders research is indicated by the rate of citation of its research in the scientific literature - the highest for all Australian universities in clinical medicine.

Within Flinders Medical Centre, major research groups work collaboratively through interdisciplinary centres including those for neuroscience; transplantation and transfusion medicine; cancer; liver disease; genetics and molecular medicine; and education and training on addiction.



Flinders Medical Centre is one of South Australia's major public hospitals, with an annual gross operating budget of \$110 million, and operates the State's busiest accident and emergency departments. It offers an extensive range of services in medicine, surgery, obstetrics and gynaecology, psychiatry and paediatrics, as well as specialist programs such as cardiac surgery, liver transplantation, ophthalmology and an eye bank, an invitro-fertilisation unit, psychiatry, geriatrics, medical retrieval services and community out reach programs.

While the Flinders Medical School is known around the world for outstanding clinical and basic research, it is also recognised by the community it serves for combining the benefits of research and technology with an awareness of patient and community needs.