

Convention Update

25 February 2008

2008 Convention - Torch Relay and Ideas Olympics

Today GPET is launching a 2008 Convention **Virtual Torch Relay** from Brisbane to Wollongong – from last year's convention host CSQTC to this year's CCC, and all regions in between – in the lead-up to the General Practice Education and Training Convention in August. Based on your feedback, the Organising Committee has planned a convention that will be more engaging and educationally effective than ever before.

This year's convention, entitled 'Further, Higher, Stronger – Achieving a personal best through teamwork', will have an overriding theme based on the spirit of the Olympic Games.

In keeping with our Olympics theme, today we are also launching an **Ideas Olympics**, in which each regional training provider (RTP) or 'nation' will be asked to carry their own 'flag' and submit an idea – an issue related to general practice training they'd like to put under the spotlight.

The **Ideas Olympics** (IO) will be held as a plenary session on Day 2 of the convention. IO Conveners (IOCs) Dr John Buckley and Dr Nick Cooling will call for ideas at the start of the session, asking each RTP to come to the stage with a 'national' flag and an idea. Convention delegates will be invited to join a 'national' team, depending on the idea that interests them. The 21 groups will then be marched off the stage by convention marshals to debate or discuss their idea and create a compelling statement or solution related to their idea. Convention runners will take these back to Drs Cooling and Buckley who will put together an **Ideas Olympics** vision and outcomes summary based on the collective ideas of all 'nations'.

Details of how to submit entries to the **Ideas Olympics** will be given to RTPs closer to the big day – but in the meantime – put your thinking (or running, cycling, riding, diving, swimming) caps on!

To see the **Virtual Torch** as it begins its epic journey on CSQTC's website today, go to www.csqtc.qld.edu.au. Click on the torch to link through to the 2008 Convention site, including the **Torch Relay route**. You can also submit papers for workshops and/or symposia via the **Call for Abstracts**.