

## THE EXPANDING OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS TEAM

Dr Matthew Miles' development and external relations team is now moving forward with the arrival of Brooke Thornberry, Erica Ford and Maria Backlund. Situated on the 2nd Floor AGSM building, the team are assisting Matthew with raising funds, external relations, alumni engagement, faculty events and raising the general profile of the Faculty of Medicine at UNSW.

Brooke Thornberry is our Administration Officer and provides administrative support to Matthew and the team. She also takes care of general office administrative tasks, ensuring that the day-to-day running of the newly established team is a smooth one. Brooke comes from a health science background and is an alumnus of UNSW, so working in the Faculty of Medicine is quite fitting. Previously she worked as a project & administrative officer within the corporate health area, organising numerous events & health professionals to conduct health & wellbeing services in the workplace. Her planning and organisational skills will bring great assistance to the rest of the Team.

Erica Ford has joined as the Alumni and Events Officer. She will be responsible for developing stronger relationships with the Faculty of Medicine's Alumni, by reconnecting with them, updating their details on file and organising a variety of events for them to attend. The longer term objective is to have an Alumni program that members are proud to be associated with. She will also be responsible for organising a guest speaker for graduation ceremonies and organising the Dean's lecture series. Erica comes from a UK based hospitality and events background and has been in Australia since June 2008. Since arriving in Sydney she has had temporary event management positions at the Property Council of Australia and UBS Investment Bank. Her creative events and database management experience will be beneficial for the Faculty of Medicine. She graduated from the University of Central England in Birmingham in 1998 with a BA (Hons) in Hospitality Management.

Maria Backlund is Team Leader in Communications and Marketing and will be managing the faculty's critical marketing and communication activities. Maria will be instrumental in communicating our key strengths and our successes to all our major stakeholders through our written, verbal and E-based channels. Maria brings a wealth of experience from senior marketing and communications roles within iconic organisations such as Qantas, Telstra & Mallesons Stephen Jaques. Maria is also an alumnus of UNSW having completed her Graduate Management Qualification here at the AGSM and her undergraduate degree in Social Science from University of Newcastle.

The team is looking forward to working with you.