

# SEAMO NEWSLETTER

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## Staffing Update

The Faculty Staffing Office informs SEAMO of the following staffing changes, which occurred between September 17 and October 22.

The **Department of Paediatrics** has recruited a new paediatric gastroenterologist, Dr. Christopher Justinich, who will begin 2003 January 1. This is a new GFT position which was funded from the additional funds provided in the new AFP agreement. The position was approved by Governors in 2001. The Department also announced the resignation of an adjunct paediatric endocrinologist effective 2002 December 31. The Department will be seeking a replacement for this position.

The **Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation** has successfully recruited a replacement adjunct, Dr. Eliza Tsang, who began October 1. Although an adjunct position, this is SEAMO-funded within this “fully-converted” department.

With the transfer of programs from the Kingston Psychiatric Hospital to Providence Continuing Care Centre/St. Mary's of the Lake Hospital, several former KPH positions in **Psychiatry** will be transferred from the hospital's global budget to SEAMO. On November 1, a former KPH position in the mood disorders program will become a GFT position in **Psychiatry**.

## Stabilizing Regional Physician Resources

At the request of the Brockville General Hospital and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, SEAMO has participated in discussions regarding the program in Obstetrics at the Brockville General Hospital and the need to ensure adequate obstetrical coverage in order to maintain the program at that hospital.

Several models have been proposed in which SEAMO would play a role in assisting in the recruitment and retention of Brockville-based obstetricians. What these proposals have in common is the intention to make obstetrics in Brockville part of the “fully-converted” Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology within SEAMO while at the same time protecting the Kingston-based tertiary care program. The Brockville General Hospital and its obstetricians continue to discuss these models.

SEAMO has been approached by the region's hospitals with regard to other clinical services and a potential role for SEAMO. In view of the potential role in regional services, both clinically and academically, SEAMO will consider articulating basic principles which will guide the development of such regional arrangements.

## Academic Alternative Funding Arrangements

Interest in Alternative Funding Arrangements in other academic health sciences centres appears to be increasing. Within the next three weeks, representatives of SEAMO will entertain visitors from the Ottawa alternative funding negotiating team and representatives of St. Michael's Hospital and medical staff.

Elsewhere, the Ministry is in negotiations or discussions with a variety of discipline-based academic groups considering alternative funding. These include radiation oncologists, medical oncologists, pediatricians, and family physicians (under the Family Health Network scheme). SEAMO has held the position that centre-wide or hospital-based alternative funding arrangements are preferable as province-wide, discipline-based agreements tend to fracture academic centres and make more difficult the development of coherent, integrated programs.