

Mid- Year Report

July, 2006

RUSTICA Executive and General Committee

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Vice-President	Kaylee Nash-Rawnsley
Treasurer	Andrew Tierney
Secretary	Juliana Ahmad
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ATSI Rep	Marion Davies
NRHN Junior Rep	Mathew Van Zetten
Societies Rep	Sandra Zammit
Media and Publications	Simon Vun
RHSV Rep	Rebekah Short
Pharmacy Rep	Anita Thomas
Newnham Rep	Samantha Drake
Launceston Reps	Alice Downie & Caroline Mooney
North-West Rep	Melanie Wuttke
Scholarships Rep	Arella Kier
First Year Reps	Vic Trubody & John Hosford

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Member Demographics

Gender Distribution

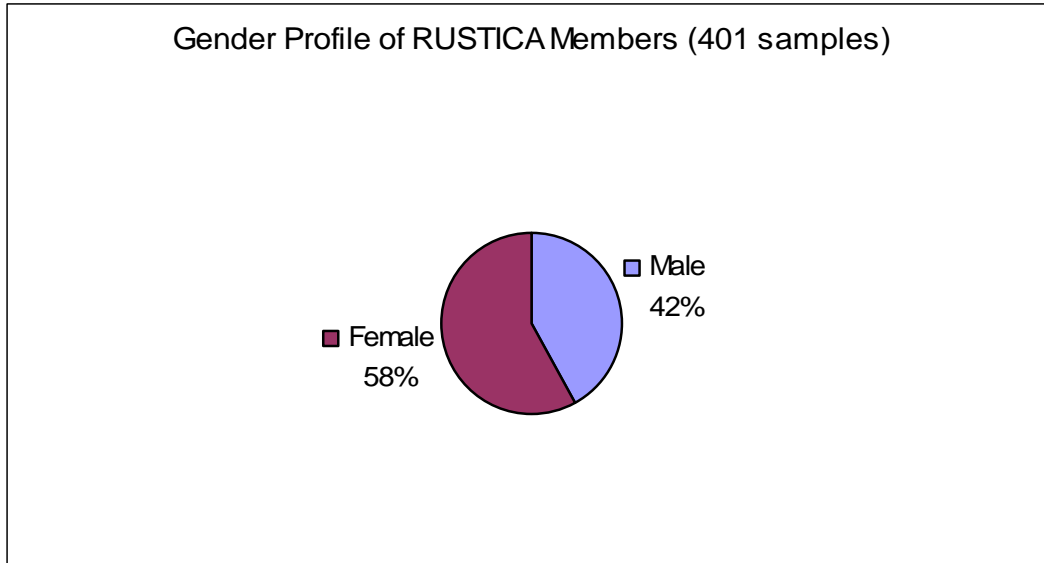


Chart 1: Pie Chart showing the gender distribution (where disclosed) of members in 2006.

Distribution of Members by Course

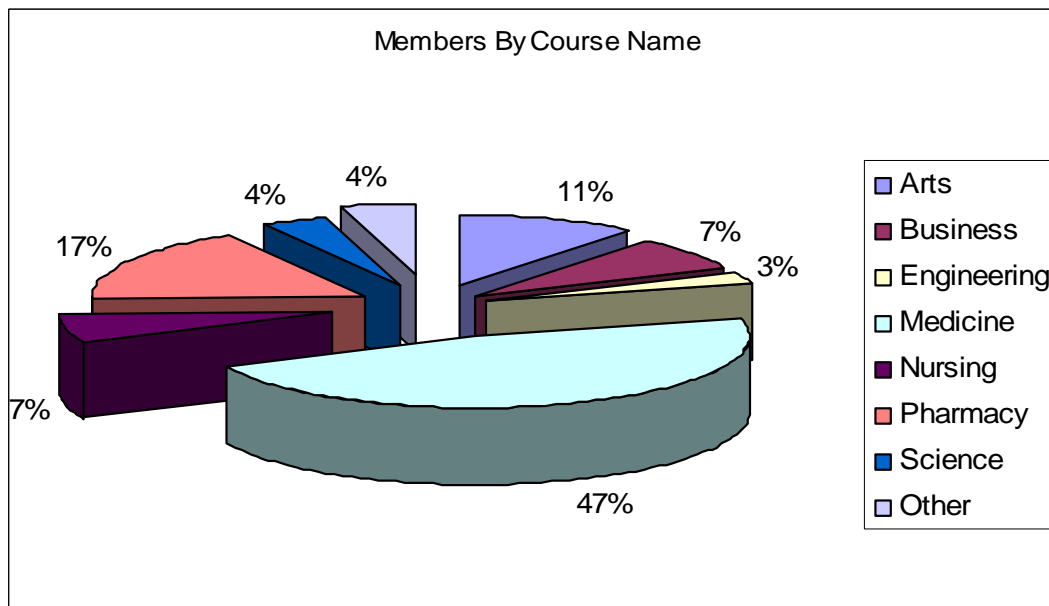


Chart 2: Pie chart showing the faculties RUSTICA members study within, note that almost $\frac{3}{4}$ of members study within Medicine, Nursing and Pharmacy.

Scholarship Holders

Table 1: Current scholarship holding members by scholarship type and frequency. The five most common scholarships are, Medical Rural Bonded, RAMUS, Commonwealth Learning, John Flynn & University of Tas Scholarship (Med) and Commonwealth Accommodation respectively. However there are 24 different scholarships represented by 101 individuals.

Scholarship Type	No. of Members Holding
Aged Care Nursing	3
Australian Education	1
Botswana Scholarship	1
Commonwealth Education Costs	1
Commonwealth Accommodation	5
Commonwealth Learning	11
Defense Force	1
Harold Carroll Memorial	1
John Flynn	6
Local Government Bursary	1
Medical Rural Bonded	25
Medical Rural Bonded and John Flynn	1
Nursing	2
Peg Walsh	1
Premier Of Tasmania	3
Premiers North West	1
Rural Australia Medical Undergraduate Scheme (RAMUS)	20
RAMUS and JFSS	3
RCNA -Rural Aged Care	1
Reece London Pharmacy Bursary	1
Rural & Remote Undergraduate (Pharm)	2
Tas Uni	1
Tasmanian	1
Undergraduate National	1
UTAS Scholarship (Medicine)	6
UTAS Undergraduate	1
Total	101

Distribution of Scholarship Supported Members

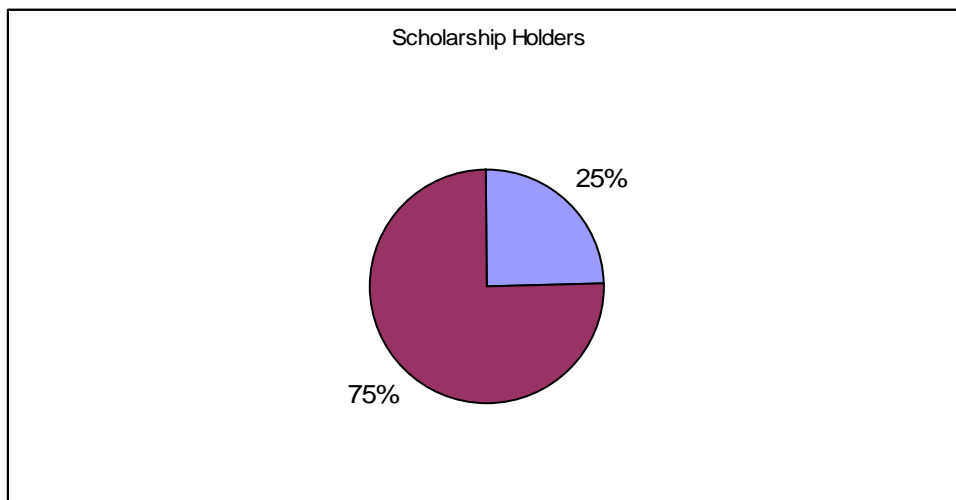


Chart 3: Pie Chart showing that exactly a quarter of all Rustica members (101) have obtained a scholarship.

Distribution of Member Origin

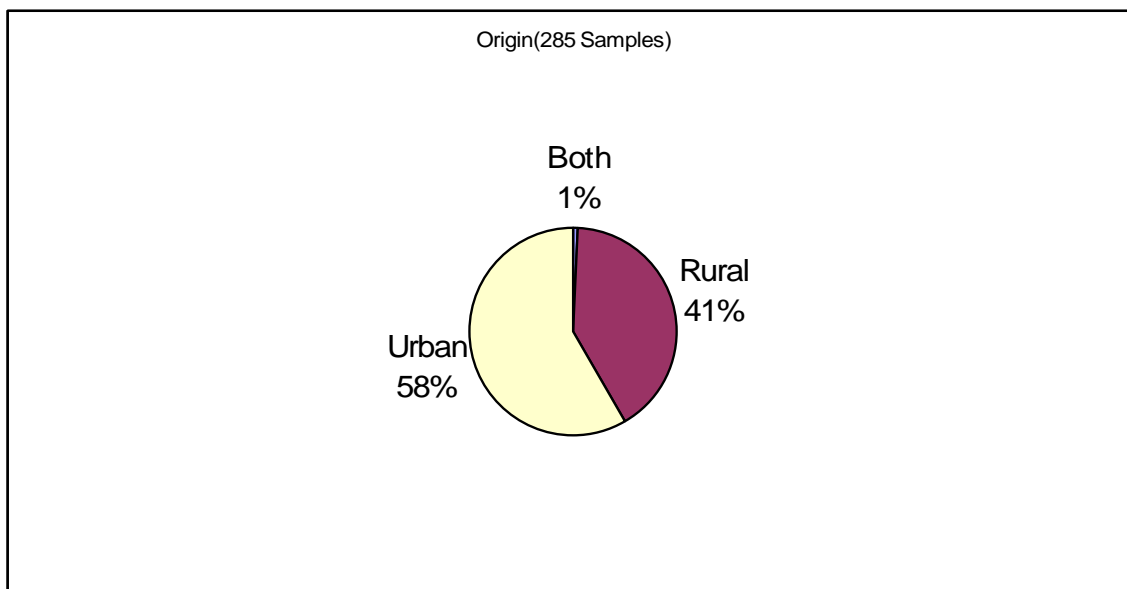


Chart 4: Pie chart showing the distribution of members originating from Rural and Urban background, from the 285 responses 2 members reflected dual origin.

Distribution of Intended Career Location

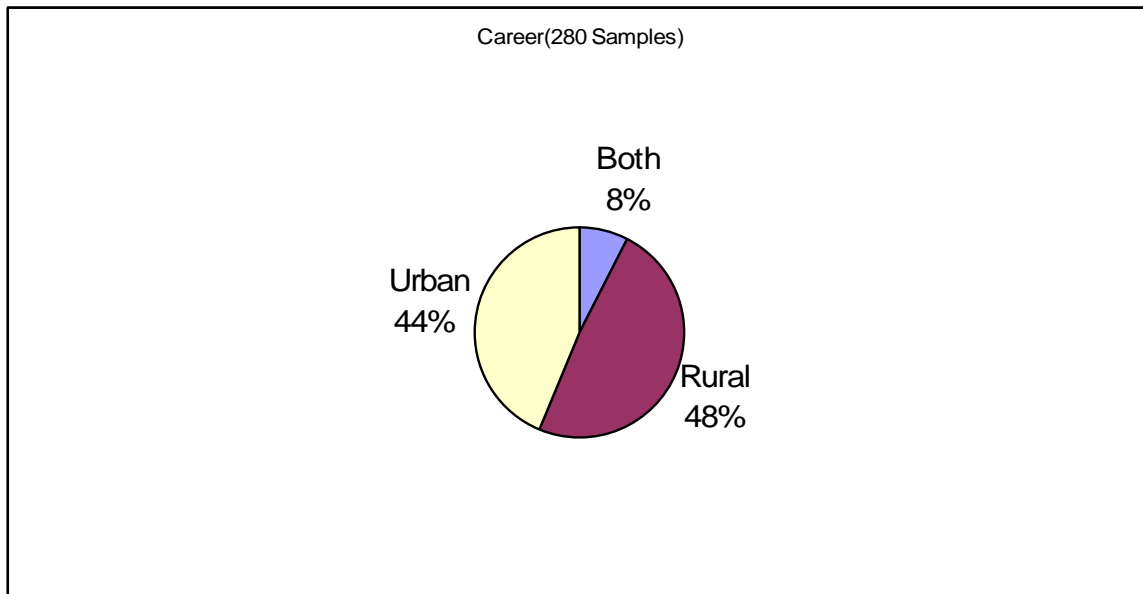


Chart 5: Pie chart showing the distribution of members planning on working in Rural or Urban environments as well as those undecided.

Distribution of Membership by Branch

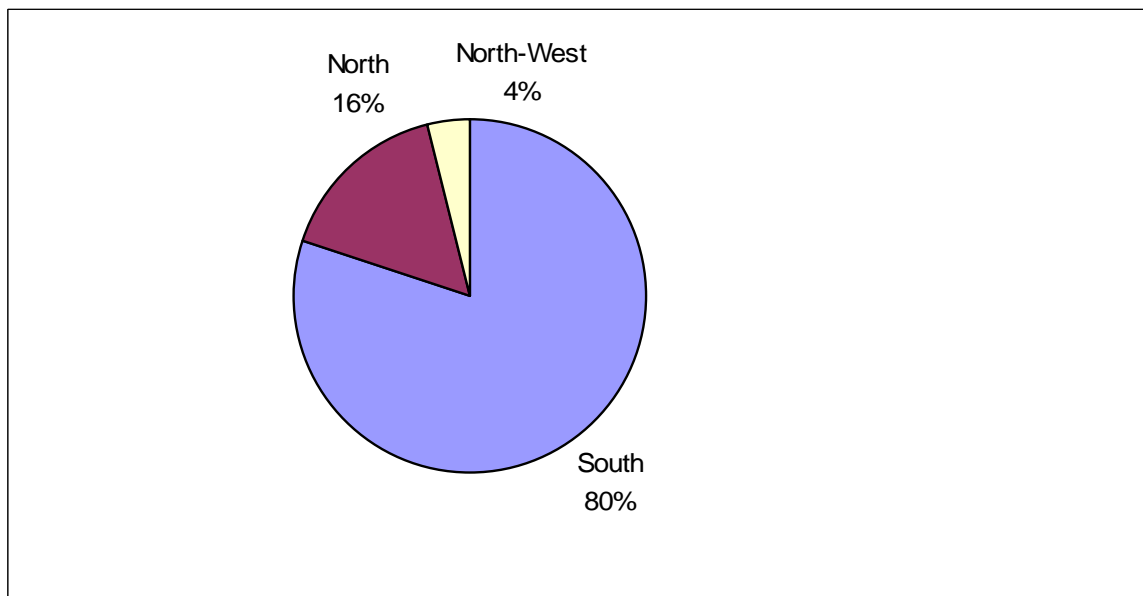
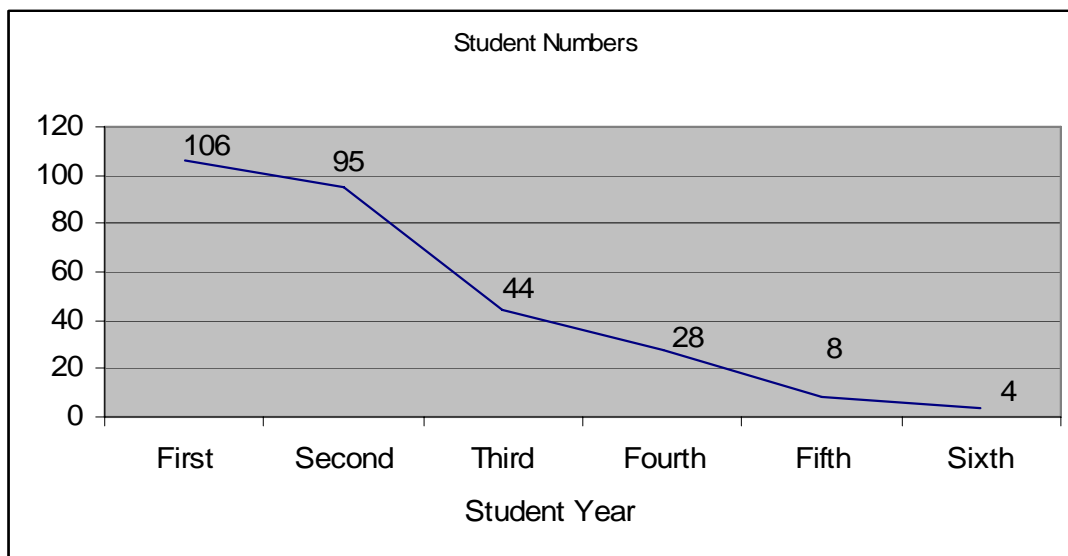


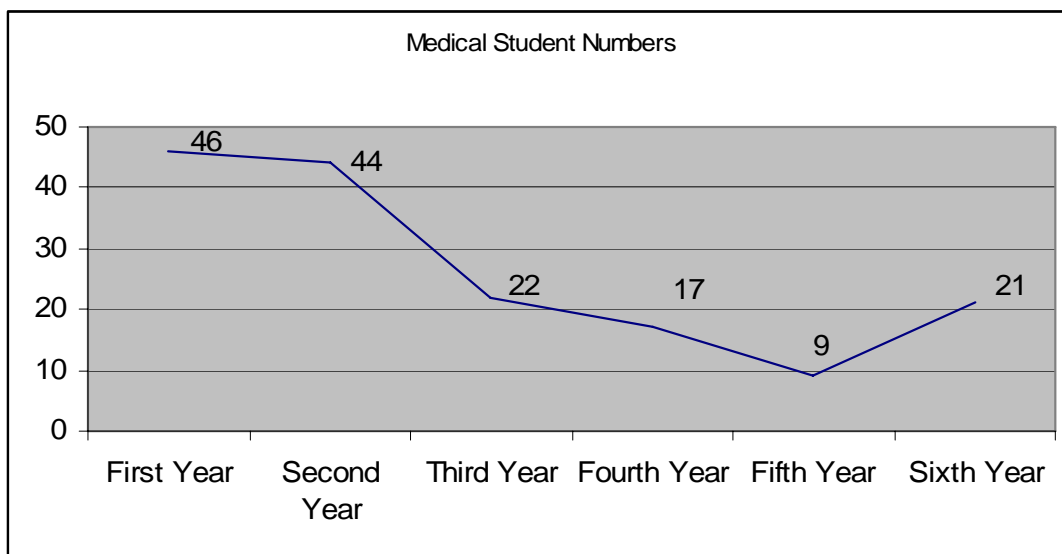
Chart 6: This graph shows that 1/5th of Rustica members are not based at the Hobart branch.

Membership Duration



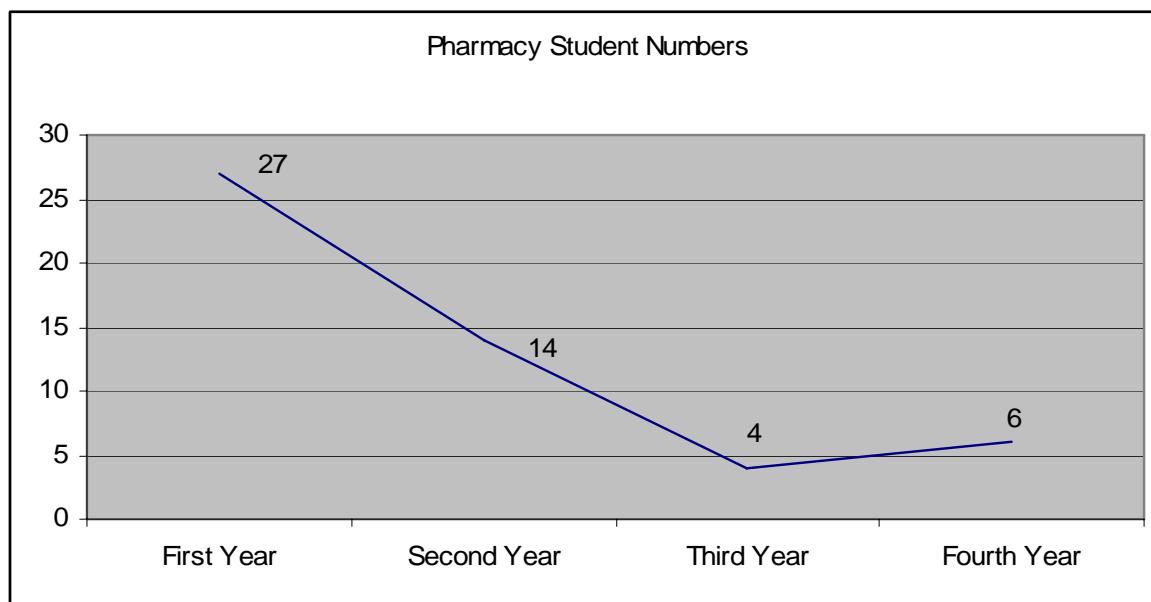
Graph 1: Line graph shows that for 106 students who originally joined, 4 are now current members, the trend indicating that a student is significantly less likely to join from the third year onwards.

Year of Study for Medical Students



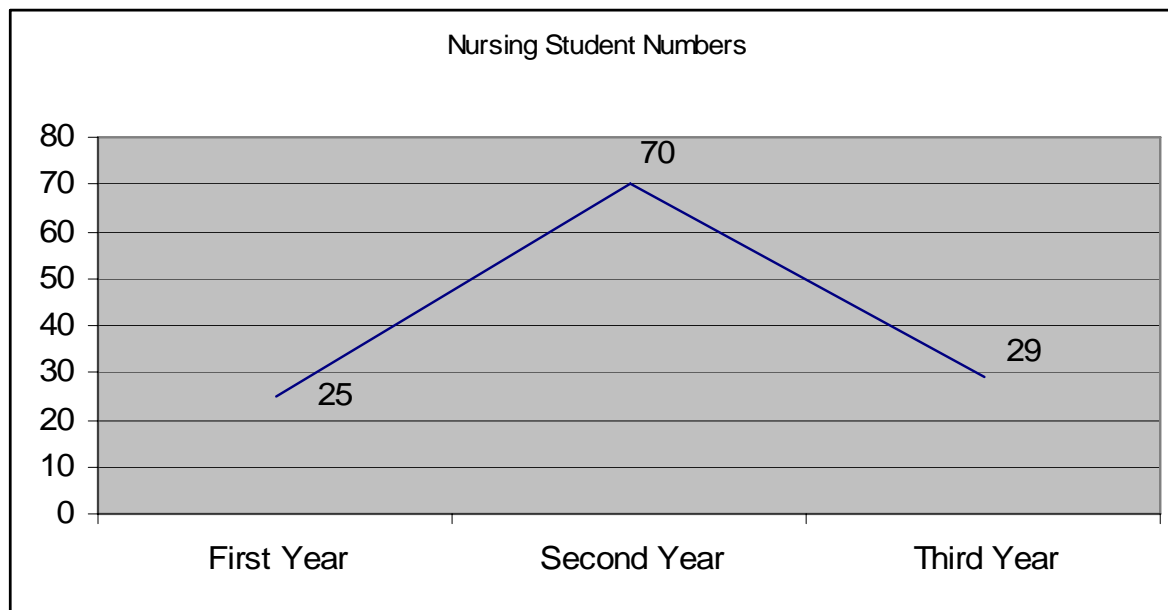
Graph 2: Line graph showing the decline in medical student member numbers with increasing years of study, with a trend-breaking spike in first time 6th year members.

Year of Study for Pharmacy Students



Graph 3: Line graph showing that membership among Pharmacy students declines as year of study progresses.

Year of Study for Nursing Students



Graph 4: Showing membership among nursing members is currently stronger in their second year.

Activities Summary Semester 1, 2006

Welcome Party

The annual Welcome Party was held at the Hobart Clinical School in Club Med on the 10th March. Approximately 50 people showed up and all had a good time. It was a mixed disciplinary event, with the medicine and pharmacy students all socializing with each other and getting along well. Dinner and nibbles were provided as well as cheap beverages.

Societies Day

The annual Tasmanian University Union society's day was held on Wednesday 1st of March. Rustica had a perfectly positioned stall, right near the refectory steps, and hundreds of people walked past and checked out what we had to offer. 4th/5th/6th year members were entitled to a free RUSTICA T-shirt, and for an extra \$1, students could have a RUSTICA drink cooler. We had showbags and a calendar of events, so students could see what events were coming up over the next year. We had lots of interest from people and it ended in a fun successful day.

Scholarships Night Report

On Thursday 23rd of March 2006, RUSTICA held its annual Scholarships Night at the Clinical School presenting a wealth of information on scholarships currently available to students studying in the health science areas. From 6.30 – 8.00pm attending members heard from the following speakers:

- RUSTICA Bursaries: Alannah Smith
- Tasmania University Scholarships: Owen Green
- Australian Defence Force: Ryan & Paul
- MRBS Support Services: Naomi Jeram
- RAMUS: Kaylee Nash-Rawnsley
- JFSS: Wendy Henderson & Chris Garwood
- RAHUS & HECs Re-imburement Scheme: Wendy Henderson
- QLD Health Scholarship: Lenore Van Der Merwe
- ATSI Scholarships: Marion Davies

Following the presentations, everyone gathered in Club Med upstairs to have some quality Subway tucker, a few drinks and browse the extensive brochure collection RUSTICA has acquired. About 20 people attended and we would like to thank all those who came, our inspiring speakers and helpers for giving up their time. Rustica now has a designated Scholarships Representative; Arella Keir (1st Yr Med) whose portfolio will cover administering information on rural

health scholarships and developing ways RUSTICA can better support these scholar's support and exposure to rural health.

Opening of Tasman Rural Health Teaching Site

On 17th May Alannah Smith was invited to attend the opening of the new rural health teaching site at Nubeena. This was a site that is designed to accommodate health science students (medicine, nursing and pharmacy) whilst they are on placement in the Tasman Peninsula. The house was very well decorated, practical and had a comfortable, homely feel to it – a very important feature for any student on placement. It was found to be a very positive development by the University Department of Rural Health, not only for students whilst on placement, but also for the Tasman Peninsula community. The opening of the accommodation was followed by some light lunch.

Electives night report

Rustica had their electives night on Thursday 27 April. The electives night provided an opportunity for students to talk about their experiences whilst on elective placements; also for pre-clinical students to start thinking and exploring ideas for their future placements as well as providing for an opportunity to establish contacts. Featured were a wide variety of speakers on various placement and opportunities, including Guatemala, Vietnam, India, Fiji, Kenya, nursing in a prison and a presentation by the IFMSA. We were also pleased to have been sponsored by MDA National, which presented on the important issues of Medical indemnity insurance and MDA National's The Electives Network (TEN). There was a good turnout on the night with around 35 people, with mainly third year medical students. The nibbles and the sushi was a huge hit too! A huge thank you for all the speakers and MDA National for sponsoring the night.

Clinical Skills Night

The first Clinical skills night held in 2006 was held on the 4th of May at the Clinical School on Collins Street. 55 members attended Skills Night. There were 9 new signups. The activities that were held included Resuscitation and Intubation, Venepuncture, Strapping, Suturing and a talk by Aboriginal Health Workers.

A general raffle was held for all those people who attended skills night. Thanks to our wonderful sponsor Boags for giving us all our prizes which were given away for the raffle. Another raffle was held just for those who attended the talk by the Aboriginal Health Workers. The prize for this was an Aboriginal music CD. Gifts in the form of chocolates and wine were given out to those who volunteered their time and effort to teach these activities. One of the most popular events of the year.

RHSV Training Session

The 2006 Rural High School visit training was held on the 27th April. Rosalie Maynard from UDRH conducted the session which included a mix of both pharmacy and medical students from a variety of years. The evening was filled with enthusiastic discussions reflecting the days of career choices, university applications, scholarships and early Uni life. Students revealed personal challenges they faced as they embarked on entering Uni life and ways that they can help other students with information and the transition.

Rustica are now proudly working along side Student Recruitment in visiting schools and talking with students. The first visit for the year is was held at Newstead College in Launceston on 18/5.

Thanks to all that attended and UDRH for providing the evening. We look forward to many school/student visits throughout the year. A perfect chance to enlighten students on the opportunities that lie ahead of them.

ATSI Portfolio - Semester One 2006

- Rustica Website- inclusion of databases of grants and scholarships for indigenous students and indigenous projects.
- Scholarships Night Presentation – information presented on 3 scholarships available for ATSI students.
- Skills night 4th May- TAC: Dr Maureen Davey (GP) and Mrs June Sculthorpe (AHW).
- Meetings with Robin Bowden (Indigenous Coordination Centre) and Debra Reid (OATSIH).
- >20% Rustica Bursaries committed to ATSI projects.
- Reconciliation Week 27th May- lunches at Collins St, Sandy Bay and Burnie Campuses (total of 150 students attended). Information posters about Reconciliation Week and ATSI placed around all campuses.
- New ATSI resources for library purchased- “The Aboriginal Tasmanians”, “When Warriors Lay Down and Die”, Lonely Planet’s “Aboriginal Australia”.
- Koori Mail subscription continued and distributed fortnightly to the student common rooms at Hobart (Medicine), Sandy Bay (Medicine, Pharmacy), Launceston (Medicine), Newnham (Nursing) and Burnie (Medicine) campuses.
- ATSI Issues poster-board set up at Collins St Clinical School- monthly change of recent relevant newspaper articles, scholarships, cultural events...

Wine Tour & Sign up

This was the first northern Rustica event of the year. We decided to have a tour of the Tamar Valley Vineyards. We hired a bus and visited six vineyards. These included Strathlyn, Rosevears Estate, Bay of Fires, Dalrymple, Janz, and the

Providence. We had lunch at the Bay of Fires. Great fun was had by all. There were about 20 new members who signed up, and about 18 people came on the tour.

Health Careers Camp

During semester break and early July the 2006 Health Careers camp was held for year ten students across the state. The students came, from rural high schools in particular, to learn more about the health courses offered at the University of Tasmania and general university life.

Rustica was fortunate enough to be able to send 10 of its members to help in the organisation and running of the camps. Members from a range of disciplines including medicine, pharmacy and nursing were also involved as team leaders. These team leaders were role models and many had come from rural high schools themselves. This gave the students the chance to ask questions and get first hand information with open and informal discussions. A perfect opportunity for students to relate their situation and seek some inspiration. Feedback has indicated that the camp was very successful and many students have opened their minds to a health career possibility. They are also now equipped with the right information to help guide them in them in the right direction.

Not only did the students benefit from this informative and fun camp but the leaders themselves had a fantastic time sharing the highs and lows of the transition between school and university. A very worthwhile experience for all. Students and Rustica members alike are looking forward to the 2007 Health Careers Camp.

Newstead Rural High School Visit

During first Semester 2006, Kaylee Nash and Rebekah Short were invited to talk to year 11 and 12 students at Newstead College. Our presentation was focused on scholarships available to all areas of the health field as well as including some information on general life at university. It is vital for students who are considering going to university to hear others talk about their experiences as this allows them to gain insight into how the University works due to common misperceptions in relation to scholarships many students who would be eligible fail to apply. Our presentation was aimed at encouraging them to apply and to be proactive. Feedback from the careers counsellor at Newstead said that students thoroughly enjoyed the presentation and are now far more enthusiastic about pursuing a university degree.

Profit and Loss Statement

Income and Spending	
Between 1/01/2006 and 30/06/2006	
Category	Cost
Electives Night Income	511.75
Funding	14000.00
Investment Income	12.32
Miscellaneous Memberships	33.00
Scholarships Night Income	40.50
Skills Night Incomes	51.00
Societies Day Income	1448.95
Welcome Income	148.00
Total Income Categories	16245.52
Expense Categories	
Administrator Pay	1824.00
ATSI	303.00
ATSI Camp	50.00
Bills	120.00
Burnie Ten	151.00
Bursary	2000.00
Computer	1059.98
Conferences	1500.00
CPD Weekend	435.88
Electives Night Expenses	741.18
Equipment	224.05
Launceston	580.00
Med Camp Expense	268.33
Meeting Food	173.32
Office Supplies	498.15
Orientation Day Expense	122.85
Photo Comp Prizes	23.00
Photocopy Charges	160.10
Promotion	2149.13
Publications	276.85
Reconciliation Week	358.82
Scholarships Night Expenses	364.78
Skills Night Expenses	269.55
Societies Day Expenses	802.20
Sponsorship	250.00
Taxi	6.00
Welcome Expenses	604.90
Total Expense Categories	15317.07
Grand Total	928.50

Proposed Activities for Semester 2, 2006

Date	Event
11 th October	AGM
22 nd August	Skills Night
August 11 th -13 th	Adventure Camp
TBA	BBQ Luncheon
17-19 August	First Aid Course
20 th September	Quiz Night
More Rural High School Visits	
August	New Norfolk, Glenora and Ouse High
September	St Marys, Scotch Grammer and St Patricks
October	Collection of Channel District Schools

Alannah Smith
(RUSTICA President)

Kaylee Nash
(RUSTICA Vice President)