

The Creation of JCU Technical Lab Manuals

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Introduction

Laboratory Technicians in the JCU Department of Anatomy and Pathology have multidisciplinary tasks to accomplish daily. Aside from academic responsibilities, they assist in research and extracurricular activities to promote the department to the medical community and general public.

To record these 101+ jobs and show what an Anatomy Technician work entails, these 10 technical books were written. These are intended as guides for others who work in the same field and adaptable to changes in new technology, perspectives and management. The information in these manuals is the result of practical experience and knowledge gained from 2005 to mid-2012.

Methods

- Each Manual was written as per function of the Anatomy Lab.
- Human Bequest donors and their families were asked for their consent for their tissues to be used for medical teaching and research.
- Persons whose photos were included were asked for permission for their images to be used in the Manuals.
- Memorable quotes by Staff and students which produced both laughter and bewilderment when heard for the first time in the Lab were included.



Results

Eleven technical books detailing the daily anatomy and pathology laboratory procedures and numerous tasks of running the practical laboratory classes at JCU were produced. These are:

- 1 Standard Operating Procedures
- 2 Use of Mortuary Equipment and Chemicals
- 3 Anatomy Tutor Training
- 4 Pathology Laboratory Procedures and Management
- 5 Human Bequest Program
- 6 Volunteer Prosector Program
- 7 Medical Spanish for Beginners
- 8 Anatomy Dissection I
- 9 Anatomy Dissection II
- 10 Pathology Dissection
- 11 Anatomy Laboratory Safety Manual-Online

The 11th manual was created online for students to read before undertaking practical classes in the JCU Anatomy Lab. Weblinks:

<http://www.jcu.edu.au/smd/safety/index.htm>
http://www.jcu.edu.au/smd/public/groups/everyone/documents/information_about/jcuprd1_057181.pdf

Future Directions

These comprehensive anatomy and pathology manuals are the first of their kind to be written and published by technical staff. The next step is to turn these into digitised books for wider release and easier access.

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