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From: Daniel Fernandez [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 16 December 2016 6:37 p.m.
To: Inquiries
Cc: Consultations
Subject: Consultation

Dear DC Committee Members

Consultation on the 2017/18 draft budgets, APC fees and disciplinary levies and other fees

The oral health department from the Auckland University of Technology (AUT) acknowledges the Dental Council's efforts to review and change the APC fees and disciplinary levies for dental practitioners. The department agrees with the proposed change to the dental therapy fees for 2017.

At the University, we are fortunate and grateful that the University reimburses the APC costs for all dental practitioners employed by the department in the same way DHBs do for their dental therapists. However, this is an extra expense for the university when APC fees are increased.

The department is of the opinion that if the fees have to be paid by the practitioners themselves, with no reimbursement, this could be an ongoing expense for the practitioner that would not be relative to their salaries. The salaries for dental therapists and dental hygienists are far less than other dental professionals and specialists.

A concern from the department is that future increases of APC fees would affect new graduates. New graduates pay for the scopes they want to be registered in whether they get a job or not. This is a huge expense for them on top of their student loans and no income for the last three years.

The department would like these opinions to be considered by the council and thanks the Dental Council for the work it has done on this matter. Not at easy task.

Regards

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