

A first for Medunsa



Family Practice recently interviewed Professor Sam Fehrsen of the Department of Family Medicine at Medunsa, about a unique full time post-graduate vocational training course in Primary Care which is now under way at the University. We asked him for his comments and his hopes for the future — this course being the first of its kind in South Africa.

A unique post-graduate vocational training course in Primary Care which is said to bridge the gap between hospital orientated training and general practice environment is underway at Medunsa.

And, with the first successful year completed, course head, Professor Sam Fehrsen is now looking towards next year's intake which could be more than double that of the initial course.

At present four full time post graduates are undertaking the two-year course studying different GP and Primary Care disciplines on a three-month rotational basis, while continuing with their Masters degree in General Practice.

Part-time attendees currently total 20, but said Professor Fehrsen, talking to Family Practice, the Medunsa programme should aim at attracting full-time post graduates.

Unique

One of the unique aspects of the course is that rural doctors can receive training from GP's and specialists, in disciplines in which they have had no previous experience. Also, the two year course is devised in such a way that every three months doctors can move on to study different programmes such as surgery, ENT and medicine.

'What we are hoping to achieve' said Professor Fehrsen, 'is for each person to con-



Professor Sam Fehrsen talking to Kerileng Moloan-toa, a person who is very much influencing the thought behind the course.