

Branch News – July 2004.

Executive Musings.

This month the Executive musings consists of several reminders.

The 2004 ASM is only just behind us but already plans for the 2005 ASM are well underway. The Perth LOC has drafted an innovative, program that will interest all members. It is well worth considering planning for abstracts/presentations, travel arrangements and accommodation at this early stage. The LOC plan to conduct several workshops on the Monday morning following the meeting and, remember, Perth is a great destination for a holiday!

Membership fees for 2004 are now due, fees reminders have recently been sent. Prompt payment helps to run the Society efficiently. Members with outstanding 2003 fees are reminded that members' privileges have now been revoked until 2003 fees are remitted. We would also encourage all members to ensure that the contact details they have provided to the Society are current. If necessary, details can be changed via the Membership Directory or by emailing the Society Secretary.

The ANZSRS/TSANZ position paper on [Spirometry Training Courses](#) along with the [Application for Endorsement of Spirometry Training](#) courses is now available on both the ANZSRS & TSANZ websites. We would encourage all members involved in spirometry training to review the position paper and apply for course endorsement.

Regional board representative positions will be renewed in November this year. Nominations for the positions will be called for in September. Now is the time to read up on the [Regional Board Representative Responsibilities](#) and consider representing your region.

These positions are extremely important and the roles played by the people filling them should not be underestimated. Previously, some may have argued that there was little for Regional Board Representatives to do. Perhaps organise a few branch meetings through the year, attend the Annual Board Meeting but not much more.

Happily this perception is changing as our Society develops and evolves into a truly professional organization. Regional Board Representatives undertake a multitude of tasks and responsibilities including governing responsibility, participation in development of position statements, contribution towards committee functions, leadership roles, act as communication portals between grass roots membership and the Society management and Board and probably a few more functions.

This is not said with a view to discouraging any members from putting themselves forward to serve the Society. To the contrary, the purpose of stating these functions is to emphasise the importance of the role. A prospective Regional Board Representative needs a simple commitment and desire to contribute positively towards a professional Society for the benefit of all members. Extensive experience is not required.

Whilst it is not an onerous burden and there may be additional work from time to time it will provide challenges and learning opportunities. Being an active and vocal Regional Board Representative is to make an important contribution towards your

Society. If you believe you can meet some of these challenges then your Society needs you.

David Schembri, President

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Perth 2005 Local Organising Committee



ANZSRS Annual Scientific Meeting Perth 18 – 21 March 2005

The 2005 ANZSRS ASM will be held at the Perth Convention Exhibition Centre located on the banks of the Swan River. The Convention Centre, due for completion in July 2004, has state of the art facilities and a stunning view over the river and the Perth city skyline.

Perth, Australia's western gateway, fronts the widest stretch of the meandering Swan River, the city and river make a stunning contrast, especially when the skies and river are a perfect Perth blue. Perth offers an easy-going lifestyle – the beautiful Swan River and inner city parks like Kings Park add to the relaxed, natural feel. There is much to see and do in this part of the State, from swimming in crystal clear ocean waters to enjoying a sunny afternoon sipping a cold beer at an open-air pub.

If you're planning on staying on after the conference, from the city, head to the South-West for world class wineries, luxury accommodation and forests of tall trees. These taper off to a ribbon of coastal hinterlands of sheltered bays and rivers, often lined with massive granite boulders and stunning outlooks.

In 2005 ANZSRS has an exciting program planned with some new features to broaden the scope of activities and opportunities available to delegates attending the meeting. The major theme for 2005 is "Testing your ability to exercise" and we are very pleased to announce that Professor Jerome Dempsey will be our invited speaker for 2005. Professor Dempsey has extensive experience in pulmonary and more recently cardiopulmonary physiology with specific applications to the effects of sleep, exercise, hypoxia, acid-base disturbances and heart failure. ANZSRS is also very fortunate to be able to once again host Professor Robert Crapo and Associate Professor Robert Jensen.

In addition to the usual program of invited presentations and show casing the excellent scientific research being conducted by ANZSRS members, the Perth ASM will for the first time include workshops on CRFS and Laboratory Accreditation. Also for the first time there will be a series of parallel workshops focussing on providing delegates with more detailed

information on exercise testing and it's pitfalls and well as aerosol medicine and infection control. The Perth local organising committee, in conjunction with the Executive, is working to allow ANZSRS abstracts to be published in the Respirology Supplement. As a result abstract submissions will be brought forward to early December so start your planning now.

We look forward to seeing you all in Perth in 2005.

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New South Wales

Nothing Received

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New Zealand

Just a quick reminder to all to check out the NZ meeting info on the website <http://www.anzsrs.org.au/meetings.html>. The early bird registration closes on the 1st of July.

Congratulations to Ian Martin from Wellington who has recently achieved CRFS. Well done and all the best to those who are in the process of studying.

And a big get well to Josh Stanton who snapped his Achilles tendon a couple of weeks ago. Ouch! Lets hope he has a speedy recovery.

I'm afraid that's all for this month, but heads up, we're half way through winter and the days are only going to get longer warmer from here on :)

Couch-bound Josh Stanton CRFS

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Lauren Wallace CRFS

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Queensland

The highlight of the month has been the TSQ winter meeting held over the June long weekend. Thanks to Pauline Lynn and Darren Smith from The Prince Charles Hospital for sharing the events of the weekend with us below.

On Friday 11th June, The Prince Charles Hospital hosted the Advanced Trainee Meeting for TSANZ.

Dr Renata Riha chaired an excellent day entitled "The Physiology and Radiology of Restrictive Lung Disorders". Dr Margaret Wilsher from Green Lane Hospital was the invited guest speaker.

Dr Scott Brown presented an overview on Sarcoidosis and Dr Sean Tolhurst spoke on Radiation-Induced interstitial lung disease. "Pneumoconioses" was the title of the presentation by Dr Megan France in which she discussed EAA and Silicosis. Dr Geoff Eather and Rob Nickels discussed neuromuscular restriction and Dr Deanne Curtin presented the physiology of diaphragmatic weakness and paralysis. The use of compliance studies to help with the diagnosis was discussed. Chest wall restriction and the effect of obesity and kyphoscoliosis were further investigated in a presentation by Dr Chris Zappala.

Annette Dent presented a talk on the issues in laboratory testing for restrictive lung disease. The effect of extremes in height, weight, and predicted ranges provided interesting insight into various aspects of performing and interpreting the results.

The meeting was well attended and by the day's end, there was a general consensus that the day was very successful and an excellent chance for the advanced trainees and others who were able to attend to gain valuable insight from the experiences of the expert panel and guest speaker. Thank you to the TSANZ for inviting ANZSRS members to be involved in this excellent educational format.

The winter meeting at Noosa was a great success. Lots of faces to catch up with and a few job offers to match. The meeting was well attended with lots of goodies from the product reps. The topic of the weekend was ILD and the talks were both very interesting and educational. The weird and wonderful was the order of the day with Hut lung and Histiocytosis X plus many more. During the quiet moments we had the tantric yoga class next door to listen in to. The food was to die for, the highlight being the Saturday night diner at Bernardos, Hastings St. I thoroughly enjoyed oysters, scallops and Barramundi.

The program for the June branch meeting has undergone some last minute changes with our intended speaker unavailable due to unfortunate circumstances. Many thanks to Brenton Eckert who has kindly stepped forward at short notice to share his knowledge of pursed lip breathing with the group. With the remaining meetings for the year organised, we are left with the highlight of our job as board representatives – organising the Christmas party!

Debbie Murray and Skye McLennan

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South Australia

SA Branch News

Derek Figurski and David Sharp

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Tasmania

Nothing received.

David Johns

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Victoria

Upcoming Events:

Tuesday 6th July 2004 – **Victorian Branch Meeting** – The Austin, 6pm, Level 1 Bowen Centre.

Topic: Chest Radiology and Case Presentations with guest presenters Ms Angela Chan and Dr Nick Antoniadis

Saturday 10th July 2004 – **CRFS Workshop** – The Alfred, 9am.

Topics: Pulmonary anatomy and Physiology, Body Plethysmography, Respiratory Pharmacology, Arterial Blood Gases, Neural Pathways.

The Victorian membership has been asked by the Society Executive to chair and be members of the local organising committee for the 2006 ASM in Canberra. The Society is eager to get started with the organisation of the 2006 ASM and hence we are eager for interested members to put their hands up for the job!!! Details will be discussed at the branch meeting on 6th July.

Bye from a wild and windy Melbourne,

Danny Brazzale and Brigitte Borg

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Western Australia

After a short break in meetings associated with illness, workload and maybe just a touch of apathy the WA branch met at Royal Perth Hospital for an update of Chris Nathan's trip to ATS and the RPH approach to EIA testing.

Chris gave a brief run down on what happened at ATS with some interesting information on the current American view of fitness to fly testing. It seems that everyone does the tests and prescribes the oxygen, but maybe (just maybe) the patients don't use it. Could it be that they have realised that we aren't sure of the value of the test? An interesting discussion ensued, with no satisfactory answers.

Kevin Gain gave a short presentation of the protocol their lab uses for EIA. Overall most of use we pleased to find we pretty much all do the same thing, and even more pleasing was that it seems to conform with ATS and ERS guidelines. But Perth being Perth we had to disagree about something, so the use of cold air inhalation challenges was debated and it's pros and cons. The end conclusion was predictable in that no one changed his or her mind or opinion.

Many thanks to Richard Janerka and Rob Coopes for their presentation on the Masimo SaO₂ monitor and for providing nutritional encouragement.

Graham Hall & Robert Tagliaferri

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CRFS news

The latest member of the society to gain the CRFS credential is Andrew Southwell from the Queensland Respiratory Laboratory. Congratulations to Andrew and thanks to Mike Brown for supervising the exam. Andrew's success brings the number of certified respiratory function scientists to 68.

The next round of CRFS exams is scheduled for 26 November. Closing date for applications is 25 October 2004. Remember that if the scheduled date is inconvenient, alternatives can be accommodated by contacting the Certification Coordinator.

Stephen West

25/6/2004.

Stephen West, CRFS

CRFS Coordinator

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