

Branch News – November, 2006.

Executive Musings

The ASM brochure is now up on the ANZSRS web site with online registration opening mid-November. Please note that the ASM now includes an extra session, held in conjunction with the TSANZ, on Monday afternoon that is included in the registration. This year's joint ANZSRS/TSANZ session will discuss the future of lung imaging and modelling as well as a DLCO Physiology Masterclass. The research and CRFS workshops will still be held on Monday morning, but this year at no cost - though places are strictly limited. Please keep the extended meeting in mind when making your travel plans for the ASM. We hope to see all members attend the ASM (wouldn't that be a great meeting!).

Don't forget, the closing date for the abstract submission and the travel grant application is Friday 24th November. Application forms and guidelines are available from the ANZSRS web site.

While nominations for regional representatives close today (Friday 10th November), we have decided to extend the deadline to Monday morning to give some regions an extra weekend to 'convince' members in their area what a great and worthwhile experience it is to sit on the ANZSRS Board, not to mention the extra kudos with our fellow respiratory scientists and it looks good on the CV! So email your nomination to Rob ASAP.

Finally, there are still 20 or so members with outstanding fees for 2006. Please contact Derek to arrange payment ASAP if you wish to avoid an even bigger invoice in the New Year. Remember, fees are due at the start of the calendar year, regardless of the time of year you joined.

Graham, Rob and Derek.

Graham Hall, President

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Robert Tagliaferri, Secretary

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Derek Figurski, Treasurer

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New South Wales

Well, we seem to have had a very productive year with 8 new members signing on, so welcome to;

John Camps, Lauren Sturgess, Bianca Preo, Camilla Hoyos, Clinton Jarman, Carol Maxim, Matt Sanger and Professor Norbert Berend.

Auckland ANZSRS

The last call for abstracts has gone out so I hope you are planning for the trip to New Zealand. Bookings are going fast so best to get in early for accommodation and early bird sign ups to save those extra dollars for seeing a little more of New Zealand.

State Representatives

As the issue of reviewing the governance of the ANZSRS which involves review of the roles of the Board and the Executive is still in progress Debbie and I and other state representatives have been encouraged to stay on as regional representatives to see this through to its completion. It is likely that this will be for a shorter term than normal and then we will be looking for new representatives to add fresh perspectives to the organisation.

Our last meeting will be held on **Friday 15th December** 2006 at **The Sydney Aquarium** from **5.00pm** so arrange to get away from work early! We are aiming to meet at the Aquarium at 5.00 so we can then walk through the Aquarium to be educated and entertained by a guest speaker who knows things about aquatic respiratory physiology that I am not sure any man should know.

Then we will head over to Jackson's on George (Jackson 's is located in the CBD on George St only a few minutes walk from the Rocks) for a short meeting followed by dinner at about 7.30pm.

Proposed changes to governance structure

The focus of our meeting is on the proposed changes to the governance structure of the Society – an important issue for all members, so please make the effort to come. Don't forget to let Debbie or myself know if you are intending to come as we need catering numbers by 1st of December.

We would also like to thank **RK & VK Bird Healthcare** along with **NicheMedical** for such generous support to make this last meeting of the year another one to remember!

See you all soon.

Alison and Debbie

Alison Boynton

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New Zealand

The Annual NZ Branch Meeting was held at the Fisher and Paykel Education Centre, Auckland Hospital, on Friday the 13th October. This meeting was held in conjunction with the New Zealand Lung Cancer Group and the TSANZ. The morning session was primarily based around lung cancer management and then the ANZSRS members broke off for the afternoon session. The afternoon speakers included:

- Dr Andy Veale (Mercy Specialist Centre, Auckland): Physiological Assessment for Lung Cancer Resection
- Dr John McLachlan (Waikato Hospital, Hamilton): Lung Function Testing in Cancer Management & Chemotherapy Toxicity
- Kyle Reid (Wellington Hospital): Case presentation – Bleomycin Lung
- Kathryn Wilson (Christchurch Hospital): Asthma and Diving
- Lauren Wallace (Christchurch Hospital): The effect on VA when reducing the time between single-breath diffusing capacity measurements
- Josh Stanton (Christchurch Hospital): Biological QC

Presentations were followed by the ANZSRS AGM where the main discussion points included Voluntary Registration of NZ respiratory physiologists, and the Governance restructure proposal. A verbal vote was taken regarding agreement to move ahead with NZ voluntary registration of the respiratory scientists and the consensus was in agreement with moving forward with this. A summary presentation of the Governance Subcommittee's Governance proposal document was given during the meeting to make members aware of the changes taking place within the Society. This presentation and a supporting document were then circulated to all NZ members post meeting.

The meeting was capped off by a fantastic dinner at Number 5 Restaurant. A big thanks to the NZ Lung Cancer Group and TSANZ for funding this excellent day

Lauren & David

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Queensland

As I prepare to hang up my boots as QLD boardie, I decided to put fingers to the keyboard and complete my final official duty. After 3 years it's about time I did some work anyway! Thanks to those who have held my hand during this time and helped me out with the challenges this job occasionally throws at you.

Unfortunately the last branch meeting for the year which was to be held at the end of October had to be cancelled due to recent traffic chaos in Brisbane. Thanks to Brenton Eckert who volunteered to present on short notice, I'm sure he will be called on next year to make up for missing out this time around! Thank you also to the other presenters who have given up their time to share a wealth of knowledge and hard work with us this year. On behalf of the ANZSRS, we extend another huge thanks to Sean Rafferty and Miranda Angell from GSK who have very generously sponsored

our branch meetings for another year and shown great support by attending and participating when they can.

Before we close the book on 2006, an end of year Christmas function has been arranged for Friday December 1st. A dinner will be held at Decks restaurant in Southbank, please be sure to forward your responses to Skye or Leanne to confirm your place as numbers need to be finalised. Partners are welcome to attend and feel free to contact us if you would like any more information about the evening.

Leanne & Skye

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South Australia

Hi there SA members,

Just a short piece of news (which is more than usual from me!!):

CRFS Lecture Series:

We have now started the CRFS lectures – consisting of 10 full-blast lectures. We have a variety of lecturers presenting the topics according to the CRFS guidelines. (Please check the ANZSRS web site for a copy of the guidelines.) The first lecture was Monday 30th October – which you should all be aware of from my e-mails. If I missed you somehow or you just didn't get the message, please contact me and let me know how to get future information to you. My apologies (in advance).

We meet every second Monday, 4:30 – 6:00pm, at the Adelaide Chest Clinic (conference room), off Frome Rd and North Tce – which is the same location as our ANZSRS meetings. The start time is specifically made this early do that it becomes / is recognised as part of your professional development – and not just an extra out-of-work-hours task. Please let your supervisors / lab directors know that this is important for your development and for the service you are wanting to provide for your patients and work colleagues.

For further details (ie the DATES) please contact me as below.

Thanks. And don't forget – our LAST ANZSRS meeting is on MONDAY (not Tuesday) December 11th, immediately after the CRFS lecture, at 6pm. We will be reviewing the Interlab biocontrols as presented by Toby Hunt (RGH).

All the best for the Christmas season, and I look forward to seeing you all before the year is through!

Sincerely,

Donna and Sharla

Donna Keatley
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Sharla Anderson
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Tasmania

Nothing received.

David Johns

David Johns, CRFS

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Victoria

Hasn't this year flown by?! It seems only yesterday, that I was sending out emails to members asking them to host meetings for 2006 and now I'm writing about our last meeting for the year!

Our last meeting will be held on 22nd November 2006 at St Vincent's Hospital from 6.15pm. The focus of our meeting is on the proposed changes to the governance structure of the Society – an important issue for all members, so please make the effort to come. We are aiming for the meeting to be short, so we can then stroll down the street for dinner at the Pumphouse about 7.30pm. Invitations with details were email on 6/11 – so if you haven't received yours – please contact me.

From Brigitte:

I will not be renominating as a regional representative for the Board. Having already undertaken two terms in the role, it is time to pass the reins to someone else and bring a different perspective to the organisation. I have really enjoyed my time as a regional representative and my knowledge of governance of organisations has exponentially increased! I feel that I have made worthwhile contributions to the Society and will continue to support its goals and vision in my role as the LOC Chair for the ASM in 2008 and also by remaining on the Governance Subcommittee. Thankyou to the Victorian members for allowing me to represent you, I hope that I've met your expectations. I urge any members with an interest in governance and strategic planning to seriously consider nominating as a regional representative. I am more than happy to provide adequate handover to help you move into the role as painlessly as possible!

'Til December,

Bruce and Brigitte

Bruce Thompson, CRFS

Brigitte Borg, CRFS

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Western Australia

Clinical Presentation Meeting

No clinical meeting was held for October, as both the Local Combined asm and the ANZSRS Respiratory Symposium were held this month. The next clinical presentation session will be held 5pm Wednesday 22nd November, Dept Pulmonary Physiology, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital. The invited speaker will be Dr. Jeanie Leong (Respiratory Advanced Trainee) presenting on pulmonary hypertension. This meeting will be sponsored by Mayo Healthcare.

CRFS

CONGRATULATIONS to Sina Panic and Michelle Peters (both of Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital), for CRFS success. Well done to both and thanks to Graham Hall for liaising with Stephen West on behalf of the CRFS Study Group and organising the venue as well as being exam supervisor.

Amanda remains happy to lodge applications on behalf of study group members still planning to sit the CRFS in 2006. For further information contact: Amanda Piper (CRFS Study Group Co-coordinator), Christine Nathan or Sally Young.

Best of luck to everyone taking the CRFS exam over the remainder of 2006.

TSANZ-WA/ANZSRS-WA Asm

The theme of this year's meeting was: 'Genomics: A Revolution to What Resolution?' There was a big crowd for the meeting with 85 asm registrations and 100 at the dinner. Of this total, 20 of the 26 ANZSRS-WA members attended – another great effort by the local branch in supporting this meeting.

Programme highlights included:

Being totally blown away by the '**Genomes R Us**' and '**Genomics – Hype or Hope?**' presentations by Dr Kwun Fong (TSANZ Keynote speaker).

Synchrotron images - need we say more – as presented in 'Bedside to Synchrotron' by Bruce Thompson (ANZSRS Keynote speaker).

The fascinating story of the establishment of a genetic screening programme for thalassemia in the Maldives in: 'Genetic Revolution in a Developing Country' by Dr Carolyn Williams (AARI).

The ever popular and entertaining **Sunday morning debate** topic was: 'Lung Cancer: we are failing our patients.' Dr. Martin Phillips was for the affirmative and Dr. Kwun Fong was handed the poison chalice of the negative. Prior to the debate the audience was polled and the majority vote was that 'we are failing our lung cancer patients'. After well constructed and good argument from both debaters, the audience was re-polled and despite Kwun Fong slipping in a distracting photo of Martin Phillips as a schoolboy, the majority support remained with the affirmative.

ANZSRS-WA Education Support Grant

This was announced at the Combined Society ASM dinner and congratulations to Jan Oostryck (Princess Margaret Hospital) who is the successful recipient of this award (\$500). Jan will be using the grant to assist with attendance at the 2007 ANZSRS ASM, Auckland. Thanks to the judges - Dr. Justin Waring, Dr. Peter Eastwood, and Dr. Bruce Thompson. The award is generously sponsored by Mayo Healthcare. Matthew Sanger represented Mayo Healthcare at the weekend meeting and presented Jan with her award.

Accommodation Awards for Local ASM

And the congrats continue; this time to the successful recipients of this subsidy - Sharon Lagan, Sina Panic, Michelle Peters, and Robert Tagliaferri.

Respiratory Symposium - 'Peripheral Vision'

This meeting followed-on from the weekend local Combined Society ASM. An audience of 53 attended the afternoon symposium on peripheral airway function – a terrific turnout once again given that a considerable number of the audience had also been at the weekend meeting.

Session One started with Graham Hall reviewing the peripheral airway survey that was circulated prior to the meeting. The results showed that there was a general misunderstanding and confusion over just what was a test of small airway function. Bruce Thompson continued on this theme by challenging the group to think about why we think we are (or aren't) measuring small airway function. Bruce also presented 'Tuning into the periphery: what the small airways can tell us.' Graham Hall rounded off this session with: 'Forced Oscillations: do they have a role in clinics?'

Session Two saw Bruce taking to the floor again to present the respiratory scientist perspective on 'What does TLCO mean to you? – physiology, measurement, pitfalls and problems'. This was followed by Dr. Justin Waring (Respiratory Consultant, Royal Perth Hospital) who gave an excellent presentation on the physician perspective on interpreting DLCO – what happens with the numbers when they leave the lab. Both presenters left the group with a lot of food for thought on what happens in the lab and at the bedside/physician's rooms.

Bruce Thompson was the inaugural recipient of the ANZSRS-WA Visiting Respiratory Scientist Grant. Thanks to Pharmaxis for their generous support and sponsorship of both the Grant and the Respiratory Symposium.

Many thanks to Bruce for his contributions at both the Combined Society ASM and the Respiratory Symposium. Just to ensure that Bruce wouldn't forget his visit to Perth he discovered the joy of flying in light aircraft – Sally's recollection of this flight (straight and level in light breezy conditions) is a little different than that of Bruce's (Hurricane Katrina) – take your pick!

ANZSRS 2007 ASM

There is great interest in the 2007 ASM in New Zealand, with airfares and accommodation already being booked. All labs are attempting to get as many WA members to Auckland as possible, as well as encouraging Abstract submission.

Book Group

The monthly order for October has been placed – those who ordered will be notified as soon as the books arrive. Closing date for next ordering cycle is Friday 24th November. Please forward orders to either Sally Young or Christine Nathan.

Social Activities

Christmas/ End-of Year Function: A lunchtime picnic will be held at the Perth Zoo on Sunday 10th December. ANZSRS-WA have a reserved picnic/bbq area (10.30am – 3.30pm). The final Branch meeting for 2006 will be held at 12 noon for an expected 10 minutes and the rest of the time is end-of-year social get-together. There will be

plenty for the kids to get involved with, as the Zoo will be running 'Kids Christmas Capers' on this day.

Information has been circulated for this function. Please note that this is an RSVP event and the closing date for rsvps, zoo entry ticket orders and icecream voucher orders is Wednesday 22nd November. Please forward your orders to either Chris or Sally.

Thanks to Niche Medical (Mr. Kevin Hick) for generous support and sponsorship of this function.

News from Around Town

Welcome home to Kevin Gain and we look forward to hearing about his Tuscan adventures.

Diary Reminders

November 22nd: Clinical presentation session – 5pm, Dept Pulmonary Physiology, SCGH

December 10th: Final Branch meeting and Social Activity: Perth Zoo picnic (10.30 – 3.30pm)

That's the news from WA.

Chris & Sally

Christine Nathan, CRFS (RPH)

Sally Young, PhD (SCGH)

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CRFS

Stephen West

CRFS Coordinator

1/8/2006.