

Branch News – July, 2007.

Executive Musings

End of the financial year is upon us and the Treasurer would like to take this opportunity to remind unfinancial members that their membership fees are now overdue! If you need further time please forward enquiries to Festival City Conventions (FCC) via the email address anzsrs@fcconventions.com.au. Please note it's also very important to update your membership details either via the web-site or through FCC.

The APSR meeting is fast approaching and there is still limited time (Deadline of **6th July**) to apply for a travel grant. Please refer to the ANZSRS website for application forms. This is an ideal opportunity for members to present research at an international meeting and allow promotion of the Society into the Asia Pacific region.

As you already know the current Executive is officially standing down at the completion of the 2008 ASM in Melbourne. The Executive at present is looking for inspiring members who want to build on the society's vision to make themselves known. As a precursor the Executive is seeking potential candidates to temporarily fill in the positions of Secretary and Treasurer starting in August until late October as both Rob & Derek will be away during this period. This will be an ideal opportunity for anyone considering the next Executive to gain familiarity in the roles.

LAPTOP for sale: As the Society laptop was recently updated, the former laptop, which is no longer an asset, is for sale to any currently financial member. Cost is A\$350 plus freight. This is an 'as is' price and be advised that the battery life is only 5-10 minutes. For this you get a Toshiba Satellite 1900 laptop (P4 1.6GHz CPU, 256MB RAM, 30GB HDD, CD-RW, 3 USB ports, LAN, modem, 14" monitor), Win XP SP2, Office XP, AC adaptor, optical mouse & carry bag. If you are interested, then contact Rob (Robert.tagliaferri@health.wa.gov.au) by **Friday 21st July**. A ballot will be held if more than one person applies.

Graham, Rob and Derek

Graham Hall, President

Graham.hall@health.wa.gov.au

Robert Tagliaferri, Secretary

Robert.tagliaferri@health.wa.gov.au

Derek Figurski, Treasurer

Derek.Figurski@act.gov.au

New South Wales

Greetings from NSW where winter has set in and we have had some great rain....too much in some areas!

Alison is on leave and enjoying herself somewhere in the US at the moment and we wish her all the best for a well earned break.

The following news is the result of canvassing the NSW members by email to see what was happening in their labs. Hearty thanks go to all who responded for allowing us all to keep up to date with your activities.

Respiratory Scientists moving and joining NSW laboratories:

Clinton Jarman has moved from the Northern Sydney and Central Coast AHS (NSCCAHS) to the Dust Diseases Board.

The Respiratory Lab at Nepean Hospital welcomes Lynne Fraser to the laboratory staff. Lynne has recently joined the lab after many years in sleep medicine in Brisbane.

Research news:

The Royal Prince Alfred Lab research team had a paper published in the first edition of The Clinical Respiratory Journal. The review article is entitled 'Monitoring asthma therapy using indirect bronchial provocation tests' 2007, Vol1 Number 1 and the authors are John D. Brannan, Heikki Koskela and Sandra D. Anderson.

It is also noteworthy that Aridol is now registered in 14 countries in Europe. Sandy was keen to point out that it was ANZSRS members who did the study that was submitted for the European registration (A 301-) to allow the registration process to be successful and to thank those who participated in the study. (Here is the reference if you would like to read the study..... 'The safety and efficacy of inhaled dry powder mannitol as a bronchial provocation test for airway hyperresponsiveness: a phase 3 comparison study with hypertonic (4.5%) saline', Respiratory Research 2005, 6:144). Four members of the society are authors and many more are acknowledged for their involvement in the study and are named at the end of this paper. Hopefully those involved are including this on their CV. i.e. Took part in successful Phase 3 trial that resulted in registration of Aridol in Australia and Europe.

We will hold the next branch meeting in August/September and will notify you of the details soon. I hope to see you there.

That's all the news for now and thanks to all the contributors!

Cheers,

Debbie and Alison

Alison Boynton

alison.boynton@swsahs.nsw.gov.au

Debbie Burton, CRFS

dburton@csu.edu.au

New Zealand

Nothing to report.

Lauren Wallace CRFS

lauren.wallace@cdhb.govt.nz

David Robiony-Rogers CRFS

David.Robiony-Rogers@cdhb.org.nz

Queensland

The QLD branch has been busy with the CRFS study group. We had a great turn up at the first meeting where Mike Brown lead the discussion on instrumentation and

equipment. This topic created much discussion and it was decided that we would continue with this area at our next meeting, Saturday 7th July at The Mater Children's Hospital, South Brisbane. Once again thanks goes to Niche Medical for supporting our monthly Saturday CRFS study group.

At our well attended bimonthly meeting, Helen Petsky from the Royal Children's Hospital, Brisbane, presented her research on the "Clinical Utility of exhaled Nitric Oxide". Helen's presentation and research generated much interest and discussion from the group.

Mike Brown gave an update on the recent round of Enterprise Bargaining talks with Queensland Health. We would like to thank Mike Brown & Andrew Coates for all their hard work in negotiating with QLD Health entitlements for Clinical Measurement Scientists. They have spent many hours in preparing for and negotiating with Queensland Health to secure these entitlements for Respiratory Scientists.

Thanks also to GSK for supporting these bi-monthly meetings.

Cheers for now from the Queensland group.

Pauline & Leanne

Leanne Rodwell and Pauline Lynn

Leanne_rodwell@health.qld.gov.au

Pauline_Lynn@health.qld.gov.au

South Australia

Nothing received

Donna Keatley

donna.keatley@nwahs.sa.gov.au

Sharla Anderson

lfunit@burnsidehospital.asn.au

Tasmania

Nothing received.

David Johns, CRFS

david.johns@utas.edu.au

Victoria

Nothing received.

Faizel Hartley, CRFS

f.hartley@alfred.org.au

Paul Guy, CRFS

pguy@respiratoryservice.com

Western Australia

Clinical Presentation Meeting

'Bioterrorism: is this the end of the world as we know it?'

Presented by Assoc Prof. Grant Waterer. This was an excellent comprehensive presentation which covered:

- the history of bioterrorism;
- lessons learnt from bioterrorist attacks;
- commonly perceived threats (anthrax, plague, tularaemia, smallpox, haemorrhagic diseases, ricin, bacterial toxins);
- hitech bioterrorism;
- health system responses to a bioterrorist attack;
- possible scenarios for bioterrorism; how likely is a bioterrorist attack in reality.

This presentation was quite enthralling if not somewhat anxiety provoking, particularly as the answer to the question 'How likely is a bioterrorist attack?' is: 'Not if but when.'

Sponsorship: Grant Vincent, representing Mayo Healthcare, attended the meeting, supplying delicious finger food and refreshments.

TSANZ-WA Lung Club

'Chronic cough with a surprising result'

Presented by Dr Justin Waring – Respiratory Physician, Royal Perth Hospital. A fascinating case where a gentleman of advanced years was diagnosed with CF. The diagnosis of this particular patient was definitely not straight forward and management was, and currently remains a challenge. There was considerable discussion and clinical input into further management for this gentleman to maximise his quality of life. The venue for this meeting was Galileo's in Shenton Park and the profiteroles were the world's best. Pity we had all had elegant sufficiency to do justice to the desert, although Sally and Chris certainly gave their best effort in that regard. The TSANZ-WA Lung Club is generously sponsored by Astra Zeneca.

The Combined TSANZ/ANZSRS (WA branch) Annual Scientific Meeting

When: 20th - 21st October 2007

Where: The Vines Resort and Country Club

Theme: *Environmental and Occupational Lung Disease*

Keynote Speaker: Prof. Gary Anderson

Professor Gary Anderson is Head of the Lung Disease Research Laboratory, Departments of Medicine and Pharmacology at the University of Melbourne. Prof. Anderson's major research interests are the mechanisms and treatment of asthma, COPD and other lung diseases. Prof. Anderson was the recipient of the TSANZ Research Medal in 2006.

Prizes: There will be prizes presented for:

- Best Oral Presentation (Young Investigator)
- Janine Panizza Award
- Best Poster Presentation
- Travel Award
- Respiratory Science Travel Award (ANZSRS-WA) (Sponsored by Mayo Healthcare)

Paul Guy has accepted the invitation as the 'Visiting Respiratory Scientist' for this year and he

will have his work cut out for him with presentations on both Governance and Registration - HOT topics for the society as a whole. This session will be run concurrently with the poster viewing and question time for the joint meeting, but in case there is the fear of not enough viewing time for ANZSRS members - don't despair, plenty of time has been set aside.

ANZSRS-WA Respiratory Symposium 2007

Planning is furiously underway for the Respiratory Symposium, with speakers being approached and (some of them) accepting the challenge of the task presented. Gary Anderson will also be having a busy time of it as he is also the keynote speaker at this meeting. Theme and programme will be circulated shortly.

News From Around Town

Three welcomes:

- Julie Rosser has joined the Dept Pulmonary Physiology, SCGH, as a part-time respiratory scientist.
- Bibbi Guilliame has commenced as Senior Respiratory Scientist at St John of God Hospital, Subiaco.
- Druimé Nolan has joined the Royal Perth Team for 12 months.

Diary Reminders

- August 15th: Clinical Presentation meeting, Dept Pulmonary Physiology, SCGH
- October 20th, 21st: Combined Society ASM
- October 22nd: ANZSRS-WA Respiratory Symposium
- Wednesday 21st November clinical meeting has been changed to Wednesday 28th November

That's the news from WA for July.

Chris & Sally

Christine Nathan, CRFS (RPH)

Sally Young, PhD (SCGH)

Christine.nathan@health.wa.gov.au

Sally.young@health.wa.gov.au