

Branch News – November, 2007.

Executive Musings

Planning for the Melbourne ASM is progressing. As with last year, the ASM has been extended to include a joint ANZSRS/TSANZ session on Monday afternoon, so we encourage all attending members to extend their stay in Melbourne. Don't forget abstracts for the 2008 ASM are due Monday 26 November 2007. Guidelines and the online submission form are available on the web site. The ASM brochure and online registration should also be available soon.

The APSR conference will also be held on the Gold Coast at the end of this month and we hope to see as many members attending as possible. ANZSRS will be staffing a booth throughout the conference so if you can spare some time to man (or woman) the booth, then please contact Leanne Rodwell (leanne_rodwell@health.qld.gov.au).

As mentioned previously, we are still seeking members who are interested in participating in the following committees:

- ANZSRS representative on the TSANZ Clinical Care & Resources Subcommittee
- ANZSRS Spirometry Training committee

Please contact the Executive if you wish to know more about these committees.

And, finally, please give some serious thought to the next Executive for the Society, as the current Executive will not be able to continue after the Melbourne ASM. If we can get the nominations in to Rob by the end of the year, a postal vote will be called so that the handover can occur at the ASM. This is of vital importance to ensure the smooth and continuous management of your society. If anyone is interested or wants more information about the duties involved, then please contact the Executive.

Ciao

Graham, Rob and Derek

PS. As Rob is still on long service leave, he can be contacted on robttag@optusnet.com.au, but only if urgent. He will be back at work, albeit part-time, in December.

Graham Hall, President

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Robert Tagliaferri, Secretary

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Derek Figurski, Treasurer

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Annual Scientific Meeting News

ASM Web-site link

You will all have received notification in the past two weeks regarding the link to the ASM webpage that now appears on the ANZSRS homepage. Please take the time to peruse the site – information is going up on a regular basis – so it's worth visiting every week or so.

ASM Abstract Submission Closing Date

Abstract Submission closing date - close of business Monday 26th November 2007. Abstract submissions will be accepted online only. The Call for Abstract guidelines and submission page is available via the ASM link on the ANZSRS homepage

ASM Travel Grant Applications

Travel Grant applications are due by close of business 26th November 2007 Application forms, available under Forms on the Website, should be sent the Treasurer, Derek Figurski.

Program:**Speakers of the month:**

Chris Zappala, until recently, has worked at the Royal Brompton Hospital, London, in the Interstitial Lung Diseases Unit. Developing an interest in this challenging area of respiratory medicine he has embarked on a body of research examining how change in serial lung function parameters describes disease behaviour and predicts survival. He has worked extensively across the breadth of diffuse parenchymal lung diseases as both clinician and researcher and in so doing has challenged the notion of rigid interpretation of lung function. He is about to embark on collaborative work relating structure to function in hypersensitivity pneumonitis and sarcoidosis. Now back in Brisbane, Chris will be our first keynote speaker in the first session of our ASM. He will present a brief review of ILD and some of his research findings in this field.

Andrew Wilson is a paediatric respiratory physician at Princess Margaret Hospital in Western Australia. He is an active researcher in the fields of paediatric sleep and respiratory medicine and is responsible for the ventilatory support clinical service at Princess Margaret Hospital. He has a strong clinical interest in restrictive lung disease in children, particularly with reference to neuromuscular disease. Andrew will be presenting in the second of the concurrent sessions on Saturday morning, looking at restrictive lung diseases in the paediatric population – a great opportunity for members working in paediatrics to review this area.

Research Workshop (Monday am):

The content for the Research Workshop has been finalised.

Prof Don Campbell, a Respiratory Physician and Professor of Medicine at Monash University will share his vast knowledge in Biostatistics and Prof Martin Tobin, an ICU physician, Chicago, Illinois, will use his knowledge as a past editor of "The Blue Journal" to help us better write a manuscript for publication.

As per previous years, spaces will be limited, so register early to participate in this rare opportunity.

Monday Afternoon:

We have received confirmation in the last month that there will be two combined ANZSRS/TSANZ symposia again in 2008.

Following lunch a session reviewing lung function testing in pre-schoolers will be conducted in conjunction with the TSANZ Paediatric Special Interest Group and following afternoon tea, a master class in static lung volume measurement will provide all with the opportunity to reflect on the principles, methods and interpretation of these tests.

Until the next instalment,

on behalf of the LOC,.

Brigitte

Brigitte Borg
Chair Melbourne 2008 LOC
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New South Wales



We have had a busy month in NSW and a great ANZSRS meeting turnout this week at the Woolcock institute. The topic was exhaled nitric oxide measurement, with a pro's and con's discussion regarding the clinical validity of the test and how far research has come (or not). Sandy Anderson chaired the discussion and we were joined by Sean Holman from Adelaide and Cheryl Salome from the Woolcock Institute who shared their insights into such problems as calibration gas standardisation, recommended flow rates, and general standardisation of the measurement of eNO.

The team from Ascencia sponsored the meeting allowing Sean Holmes to attend as well as supplying much needed nourishment. With nearly 30 attending this was no small effort so thanks to Ascencia for your support and thank you to Sue Downie and the team at Woolcock for hosting the meeting. Also many thanks to Sandy, Cheryl and Sean for all your preparations resulting in a very informative discussion.

We are currently planning the Christmas meeting with Bob Bird so stay tuned for date time and place!

Alison and Debbie

Alison Boynton

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New Zealand

NZ TSANZ/ANZSRS Branch Meeting: This year's branch meeting is going to be held in Hamilton on Friday, 9th November at the Bryant Education Centre, Waikato Hospital in conjunction with the TSANZ. The main theme is Integrated Care with an emphasis on Sleep. The meeting starts at 10:30am and is due to finish about 6pm.

Just a reminder about up-and-coming Spirometry Courses: The next Christchurch Spirometry Course is to be held on the 23rd and 24th November at The George Hotel, Christchurch. This course is full, however we will be running another one early 2008 and are happy to add interested people to our database. These courses are popular and do fill quickly so we encourage people to get in quick! Contact the Christchurch Respiratory Laboratory (03) 364 0874 with enquiries regarding the 2-day Spirometry courses and 1-day Spirometry Update courses.

General News: A belated congratulations to the Wellington Respiratory Laboratory for achieving Accreditation a couple of months ago. Well done guys!

Lauren & David

Lauren Wallace CRFS

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David Robiony-Rogers CRFS

Queensland

We are coming to the end of yet another year and November is shaping up to be very busy!

Last Wednesday (Halloween) at our final bi-monthly for the year we had the pleasure of having Santiyagu Savarimuthu a PhD student at the University of QLD present her research on Genetic Markers of COPD. Santi's presentation was very interesting as she was able to explain quite complex genetic research techniques in a simple manner. We look forward to hearing her present her results in the future. Once again thanks go to Sean Rafferty from GSK for supporting our 2007 meetings. At this meeting we also decided on a tentative date and venue for our Christmas party. It will held on Wednesday 28th November at 6.30pm at Amici's at South Bank. All are welcome. If you would like to come then please let either Leanne or Pauline know by Friday 23rd November.

The last CRFS study group for the year was held on Saturday 3rd November. We have had a number of members attend these meetings. Thank you to Craig Abud from Micro Medical for supporting these meetings. Also thanks go to Andrew Coates from the Mater children's Hospital for providing the venue. Finally, good luck to all QLD members who will be attempting the CRFS exam in November!

The Thoracic Society of Queensland's ASM will be held on Saturday 17th November at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital. It will be in the Conference Room First Floor James Mayne Building, rooms EB1060, EB1061, EB1062. The guest speaker is Professor Lidia Morawska from the School of Physical and Chemical Sciences, Director, International Laboratory for Air Quality and Health, Queensland University of Technology. She will be talking on "Ultrafine particles in the air: characteristics, exposures and health effects." For more information contact Michelle Murphy email: shell70@tpg.com.au.

At the end of November the Asian Pacific Society of Respiriology will be having its annual scientific meeting on the Gold Coast. The ANZSRS Queensland branch has been organising the ANZSRS booth at the conference. A big thank you to all ANZSRS members who have volunteered their time to man the booth during the conference. We will be sending out details to those who have offered their time in early November.

That's all for November. We look forward to seeing you at the APSR.

Cheers

Leanne & Pauline

Leanne Rodwell and Pauline Lynn

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South Australia

Nothing received

Donna Keatley

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Sharla Anderson

Tasmania

Nothing received.

David Johns, CRFS
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Victoria

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Paul Guy, CRFS
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Western Australia

Clinical Presentation Meeting

No clinical presentation session was held in October due to the Combined Society ASM. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 14th November, at the PMH campus. Two presentations will be given: 1) Karla Logie will present her Honours project results on 'Investigating Exhaled Breath Temperature'. Karla is an Honours student under the supervision of Graham Hall. The second presentation is entitled 'ANZSRS-WA: where have we been and where are we going?' and will be delivered by Chris Nathan and Sally Young. As this is the final business meeting for the year, all members are strongly encouraged to attend. A flyer has been circulated.

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

The ASM was held on the weekend of the 20th-21st October at 'The Vines Resort' in the Swan Valley. The theme of the meeting was Environmental and Occupational Lung Disease with the TSANZ-WA Keynote speaker being Prof. Gary Anderson. To use Gary's own words, he delivered two 'brain blowing' presentations. The success of these excellent presentations can be measured by the resulting discussion both during and subsequent to the weekend meeting.

For the first time in the history of the weekend meeting (some 20 years or so), a concurrent session specifically run by ANZSRS-WA was held. The Keynote speaker at the concurrent session was Paul Guy, who presented on 'Good Governance'. Paul gave an information packed and thought provoking presentation which continued to generate questions and queries over the next two days of Paul's visit to Perth.

On behalf of the WA members, Chris and Sally wish to thank Sina Panic for all her hard work as the ANZSRS-WA representative on the Combined Society ASM Organising Committee. Sina faced some rather problematic issues during her time on this Committee and demonstrated calm and reason under fire. Well done Sina, your efforts are appreciated.

ANZSRS-WA Respiratory Symposium 2007

This meeting was held on Monday 22nd October, 2-5pm, at the Telethon Institute for Child Health Research. The theme of this year's meeting was: 'From the Cell to the Community'. The theme focused on the integration of research findings into the clinical world of COPD, lung cancer, and asthma. We had an afternoon of excellent presentations. The Cell was very ably represented by: Prof Alan James - 'The Cell and the Airway'; and The Community was represented by Paul Guy 'Controversies In the Respiratory Lab' and Dr. Helen Bell '... and they will come! - thoughts on what services are needed and how to deliver these services to those with COPD in the community'.

The delicious afternoon tea was sponsored by Niche Medical, represented by Kevin Hick.

Paul Guy was the 2007 recipient of the 'ANZSRS-WA Visiting Respiratory Scientist Travel Grant', generously sponsored by Pharmaxis. This grant allowed Paul to attend and present at both the Combined Society ASM and the Respiratory Symposium. Paul was also an adjudicator for two local awards and visited the respiratory labs at the Sir Charles Gairdner and Princess Margaret Hospitals - so we made sure that he was well occupied during his time in Perth. To ensure that the visit was memorable, Paul also went up for a spell of aerobatics. . . and Sally is pleased to report that he managed to hold onto his lunch . . . which is always a plus in a small light aircraft!

ANZSRS-WA Respiratory Scientist Travel Award

The 2007 recipient is Elizabeth Salamon, Dept Respiratory Medicine, Royal Perth Hospital. The Award is accompanied by a \$500 prize and Liz plans to use the funds to assist with attendance at the 2008 ANZSRS ASM. This award was hotly contended this year with high quality submissions by all - we encourage members to continue applying for this local annual award. The Travel Award is generously sponsored by Mayo Healthcare and was announced and presented at the Combined Society ASM dinner.

TSANZ-WA Lung Club

The next dinner meeting will be held on Wednesday 21st November and will be held at The University Club at UWA. Members are encouraged to attend this dinner meeting as the evening will include the Respiratory Advanced Trainee Young Investigator Award session. Full details will be circulated as they become available. The TSANZ Lung Club is generously sponsored by Astra Zeneca.

ANZSRS-WA End-of-Year-Get-Together

A Thai Banquet Evening is to be held on Wednesday 12th December, 7pm, at the 'Dusit Thai'. All members and their partners are invited to attend what promises to be a very delicious evening. A flyer has been circulated. RSVP to Sally by Friday 7th December.

News From Around Town

Elise McKeon has decided to not attend the end-of-year ANZSRS-WA get-together . . . something about being on a honeymoon . . . well we did say that you could bring partners to the dinner!! Elise shall be getting married on 24 November and both her and Eric have submitted their postal votes. Apparently, they will be too busy doing other things on that day..... From everyone at the WA Branch - have a great day Elise!!

Diary Reminders

- November 14th: Clinical Presentation meeting, CCRF Seminar Room, PMH Campus
- November 21st: TSANZ-WA Lung Club Dinner Meeting & Advanced Trainee YIA session
- December 12th: End-of-Year Get-Together - Thai Banquet at the 'Dusit Thai'

That's the news from WA.

Chris & Sally

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Sally Young, PhD, CRFS (SCGH)
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Governance & Vision Sub-committee Report

Over the last month the Governance Subcommittee has been working on two main areas – the second instalment of the education package for inclusion in the member's only area of the web-site and the draft constitution.

With thanks to Lauren, Chris and Kevin – we hope that the 2nd instalment of the education package will be available on the web-site in the next week.

The draft of the constitution has proven to be a more difficult aspect of our task. We are hoping to have a version to present to the Board in the next week or two. Unfortunately, we are slightly behind our deadline – but hopefully still on track for approval at next year's AGM. Paul Guy is also in the process of seeking out, from an appropriate source, a constitutional lawyer to ensure we comply with the 1985 South Australia Incorporation's Act.

In the following month, we need to carefully review our existing schedules and by-laws and determine what is already covered by the new constitution and what needs re-writing or to be written to ensure the Society maintains efficient and effective governance.

Finally, we have presented documents covering items 1, 2 and 3 of the terms of reference to the Executive Committee and Board (three down, three to go!).

Regards,

Brigitte

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Chair, Governance and Vision Subcommittee
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