

# Branch News – October, 2007.

## *Executive Musings*

I am sure there are numerous announcements that need to be made as we close in on the end of 2007 (where has the year gone). However, without Rob here to keep me on the straight and narrow I am afraid you will have to wait another month.

Some items to note are:

- Abstracts for the 2008 ASM in Melbourne are due Monday 26 November. Full details will be announced as they are available, but start crunching your data now.
- If you are attending the APSR conference and can help staff the ANZSRS booth for 30 minutes please contact Leanne Rodwell (leanne\_rodwell@health.qld.gov.au).
- The Executive is pleased to announce that Sally Young will be replacing David Parsons on the Science and Conference Committee as the member-at-large. We would like to once again thank David for his contribution and thank Sally for contributing to the on-going development of the Society.
- While many of you may be aware that Jacqui Furler has 'retired' from active work you may not know she has remained on the TSANZ Professional Standards subcommittee representing ANZSRS. Jacqui has just stepped down from this role and the Executive, on behalf of the Society, would like to thank Jacqui for all her efforts not only with this group, but her involvement in Society and Respiratory Science over many years.
- 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

**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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## **Annual Scientific Meeting News**

### **ASM Abstract Submission Closing Date**

Well, the countdown to the ASM has begun, with the Abstract Submission closing date having been set for close of business Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2007. Notification of acceptance of abstracts will be provided to submitting authors by 21<sup>st</sup> December 2007. As with this year, abstract submissions will be accepted online only. The Call

for Abstracts notification and submission page will be registered on the website shortly.

### **ASM Travel Grant Applications**

The Society once again has set aside funds to support a number of members in their quest to travel to the ASM. Application forms, available under Forms on the Website, should be sent the Treasurer, Derek Figurski.

Travel Grant applications are due by close of business 26<sup>th</sup> November 2007 and notification of result will be sent by 21<sup>st</sup> December 2007.

### **Program:**

#### **Speakers of the month:**

Dr David Berlowitz is a research physiotherapist at the Institute for Breathing and Sleep and the Victorian Respiratory Support Service at Austin Health in Melbourne. David's current research includes chronic disease management and evaluation, a program of sleep in tetraplegia studies and the use of non-invasive ventilation in both Motor Neurone Disease and Obesity Hypoventilation. David will be sharing with us his knowledge and expertise in the field of assessment, monitoring and non-invasive ventilation in respiratory muscle disorders (particularly motor neurone's disease) in one of the concurrent sessions on the Saturday morning of the ASM.

Prof Martin Tobin originally from Ireland, currently works at the Hines VA Hospital and Loyola University Medical School in Chicago. Prof Tobin has published original research on control of breathing, respiratory muscle function, and mechanical ventilation, and has also published other areas of pulmonary and critical care medicine. In addition, Prof Tobin served as Editor-in-Chief of the *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine* between 1999 and 2004. Prof Tobin will be sharing his knowledge of respiratory muscle pathology in the ICU setting and providing significant input into the Research Workshop on Monday with a 90 minute session on how to write a manuscript.

### **Conference Dinner:**

The Conference dinner will be held at Studio 3 at Crown which is a 5 minute walk from the Melbourne Convention Centre. To add a bit of fun to the evening, the Local Organising Committee has decided on a theme of "Wear a Hat". So start your search for your favourite beanie, stetson, fascinator, or whatever takes your fancy to wear to the conference dinner.

Until the next instalment,

**Brigitte**

Brigitte Borg  
Chair Melbourne 2008 LOC  
[b.borg@alfred.org.au](mailto:b.borg@alfred.org.au)

### **New South Wales**

Nothing recieved

## ***Alison and Debbie***

Alison Boynton  
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Debbie Burton, CRFS  
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## ***New Zealand***

Nothing recieved

## ***Lauren & David***

Lauren Wallace CRFS  
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David Robiony-Rogers CRFS  
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## ***Queensland***

Hi to all QLD members. We are getting closer to the APSR meeting on the Gold Coast (30<sup>th</sup> Nov to 4<sup>th</sup> Dec). As you are probably aware there are also pre-congress courses that would be of interest. On Friday 30<sup>th</sup> Nov there is the Physiology course: "Linking structure to Function" which is being run in conjunction with the ANZSRS. On Sat 1<sup>st</sup> Dec there is also the half day course on "Reference Equations for Pulmonary Function Tests". For further details & registration contact the conference organisers on ph 02 6281 6624.

Also a reminder if you are considering attending the APRS Congress and would like to help manning the ANZSRS booth, even for just one morning tea, afternoon tea or lunch break, then please contact either Leanne Rodwell or Pauline Lynn. We will send out details of what volunteers will do at the booth soon. We would like to have someone at the booth for each break session so as to promote the Society. It is hoped that many visitors from overseas will be interested to find out more about the Society.

Our next CRFS study group will be meeting on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October at 3.00pm. Please note the change of date and time!! These meetings are held at The Mater Children's Hospital, South Brisbane. Please take note that the **closing date** for the final exam of the year is **26<sup>th</sup> October 2007**. The exam date is set for the 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2007. We encourage as many QLD members who do not have their CRFS to register and sit for the exam. Once again thank you to Craig Abud from Niche Medical for their support of the sessions.

Our next bi-monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> October (mark your diary!!). We will have Santi Varimuthu, a PHD student, presenting her research work on "Genetic Markers of COPD Severity." This will also be the last of our more formal meetings for the year. We once again thank Sean Rafferty from GSK for supporting our 2007 bi-monthly meetings. We will also discuss a very important topic at this meeting.....the end of year Christmas dinner!! So be there to have your say!

We look forward to hearing from all those who are attending the APSR and pre-congress courses and would like to help man the ANZSRS booth. We also look forward to seeing you at the CRFS workshop and bi-monthly meeting.

Cheers for now.

**Leanne & Pauline**

Leanne Rodwell and Pauline Lynn

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[Pauline\\_Lynn@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:Pauline_Lynn@health.qld.gov.au)

## **South Australia**

Nothing received

Donna Keatley

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Sharla Anderson

[lfunit@burnsidehospital.asn.au](mailto:lfunit@burnsidehospital.asn.au)

## **Tasmania**

Nothing received.

David Johns, CRFS

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## **Victoria**

Nothing received.

Faizel Hartley, CRFS

[f.hartley@alfred.org.au](mailto:f.hartley@alfred.org.au)

Paul Guy, CRFS

[pguy@respiratoryservice.com](mailto:pguy@respiratoryservice.com)

## **Western Australia**

September has been a very quiet month for the WA branch – the calm before the storm.

Several members attended the ERS and Rob Tagliaferri and Sally Young were both away enjoying long breaks. Work is progressing steadily on the Combined TSANZ/ANZSRS (WA branch) Annual Scientific Meeting and also the Respiratory Symposium.

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

Friday 28 September is the deadline for registration, submission of abstracts and nominations for the various awards and grants. The meeting is to be held at the Vines, in the Swan Valley. Final reminders have been sent.

### ***ANZSRS-WA Respiratory Symposium 2007***

SY reported that the preliminary notice for this meeting has been circulated. Prof Gary Anderson and Paul Guy are the keynote speakers at the meeting. Detailed program and rsvp forms will be circulated closer to the date. This meeting is sponsored by Pharmaxis and Niche Medical.

## **News about town.**

Royal Perth Hospital recently hosted two work experience students from Shenton College. This is the first time we have undertaken this initiative and it proved enormously

successful for all concerned. Hopefully, this will lead to keen young scientists moving into Respiratory Science in the future.

### ***Diary Reminders***

- October **20th**, 21st: Combined Society ASM, The Vines Resort, Swan Valley
- October **22nd**: ANZSRS-WA Respiratory Symposium
- November **28th** clinical meeting. This is a date change from Wednesday November 21st

That's about it for the news from WA this month.

### ***Chris & Sally***

Christine Nathan, CRFS (RPH)  
Sally Young, PhD (SCGH)  
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[Sally.young@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:Sally.young@health.wa.gov.au)

### ***Governance & Vision Sub-committee Report***

Since our September report, the Committee has been working hard to continue moving the change in Society Governance forward.

Under Governance, in the members-only area of the web-site, this month you will find the document "Governance Structure: Strategic Plan and Implementation Paper". This document outlines the timetable and procedure for transition from our previous governance structure to the new one approved at this year's AGM. This paper has been produced to meet the Governance Subcommittee's Terms of Reference Item 3 "Communicate the governance strategic plan and timetable for its implementation to the membership, via the member's area of the Society web-site."

You will also note that, thanks to the efforts of Kevin and Kustas, a governance question and answer section has been added to the Governance page to allow all members to communicate directly with the Governance Subcommittee on any questions, comments or concerns they have regarding the structural and functional changes of the Society's Governance. We welcome and encourage all members to avail themselves of the information we offer and provide feedback via this service.

Regards,

### ***Brigitte***

Brigitte Borg  
Chair, Governance and Vision Subcommittee  
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