

Branch News – February, 2008.

Executive Musings

Welcome all to 2008! The Annual Society Meeting in Melbourne is rapidly approaching with the early bird registration closing on 18th February. As with 2007, the ASM will continue through until Monday and include morning workshops and joint ANZSRS/TSANZ symposium in the afternoon. Please refer to the registration brochure and program for further details (<http://www.anzsrs.org.au/asm2008.html>).

The call for nominations for the position of President, Secretary and Treasurer closed on Friday 18th January 2008. Only one nomination was received, so it is with great pleasure that we announce that Dr Debbie Burton (President), Leigh Seccombe (Secretary) and Danny Brazzale (Treasurer) are the new Executive, effective from the Melbourne AGM on Sunday 30th March 2008. We wish Debbie, Leigh and Danny all the best and will ensure a smooth transition at the ASM.

As members are aware the Governance committee has been working on the new constitution and governance model that will take the Society forward. Details of the changes and how it will affect your Society can be found in the Members (<http://www.anzsrs.org.au/membersgovernance.php>). All members should regularly check this area for updates. Please be aware that the AGM at the 2008 ANZSRS conference will include a Special Resolution to accept the Proposed Constitution (Society Rules) drafted by the Governance and Vision Subcommittee and approved by the Board. All financial members eligible to vote are entitled to appoint a proxy should they not be attending the AGM. Details of proxies should be forwarded by e-mail to the ANZSRS Secretary (Robert.tagliaferri@health.wa.gov.au) by Thursday 20 March. Full details of the AGM agenda will be announced separately. As per the approved transition plan for the Governance model the structure and roles of the Board and State representatives will change should new constitution be approved. The Executive is calling for nominations for 3 Board members and State representatives for SA, NSW, TAS, QLD and NZ. Members interested in these positions should contact Graham Hall by e-mail for further details. Further details of nomination requirements will be sent to members separately.

It is with great pleasure that we can announce that Medtechnica will be sponsoring the Welcome Reception at the 2008 annual scientific meeting. The Executive would like to thank Peter Taylor and Medtechnica and hope that this will be the start of a productive relationship between the Society and Medtechnica.

It is with great pleasure that we can also announce that Ascencia will be sponsoring the ANZSRS Education Scholarship from 2008 for the next three years. The Executive would like to thank Tim Gresham and Michael Panagopoulos at Ascencia and hope that this will be the start of a productive relationship between the Society and Ascencia.

The Ascencia Education Scholarship is intended to support members of the Society undertaking relevant tertiary education in Respiratory Science by providing funds to be used towards tuition costs. One or more scholarships may be awarded each year.

Each Scholarship is to a **maximum value of \$3,000 or 50% of tuition costs** (whichever is the lesser). Applications close **28th February** and must be sent to the Secretary with supporting documentations. The successful applicant(s) shall be announced at the ANZSRS Annual Scientific Meeting. Guidelines and application form can be found on the ANZSRS web site (<http://www.anzsrs.org.au/awards.html>).

Finally, you should have received your 2008 Membership renewal. Please remember that payment is due by **31st March 2008**. Members with outstanding fees from 2007 will not receive a reminder and will need to re-apply for membership. If you suspect that you may not have paid for 2007, then please contact Derek or Rob ASAP. Payment options for Australian members are EFT (please contact Derek Figurski for details), cheque or credit card. Unfortunately, EFT and credit card options are NOT available for NZ members, so please forward your membership renewals as usual to Maureen Swanney.

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

Annual Scientific Meeting News

This year's ASM in Melbourne incorporates many facets of the fields of respiratory science - clinical, research, adult, paediatrics, ICU and laboratory. With less than two months to go, we urge all members to review the program, available on the website, and register to take up the opportunity to witness many local and international experts speaking around the theme of restriction.

Important Dates to remember:

ASM Early Bird Registration closes 18th February 2008

ASM accommodation bookings through FCC close 18th February 2008

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday 30th March at 3.30pm this year. Please consider this when making your travel plans.

ASM Website:

The link to the ASM webpage can be found on the ANZSRS homepage. Includes:

- Registration forms -can be done on-line or by fax/mail
- Program details
- Guest speaker biographies

ASM Abstract Submissions:

All submitting authors should have received confirmation of acceptance of submission and notification of presentation type and time. Any Authors who have not received this information are requested to contact Brigitte as soon as possible.

Program:

The final program has now been posted on the ASM webpage.

Items on the Monday program are included in registration this year (except for ANZSRS hosted Breakfast Session). We would encourage all to take a look and see what's on offer. Please note that places are limited for the morning workshops, so book early to reserve your seat.

Social Functions:

Some say, the most important part of the ASM - where the networking and real work gets done; for most, a time to catch up with colleagues and friends from across Australasia.

Although included in the registration fee, those wishing to attend must indicate their intention on the registration form as entry will be strictly be ticket only to both the Welcome Drinks and Conference Dinner (don't forget your hat!).

Until the next instalment,

Brigitte

Brigitte Borg
Chair Melbourne 2008 LOC
b.borg@alfred.org.au

**Alison and Debbie
Deb and Alison**

Alison Boynton
alison.boynton@swsahs.nsw.gov.au
Debbie Burton, CRFS
dburton@csu.edu.au

New Zealand

Nothing received

David

David Robiony-Rogers CRFS
David.Robiony-Rogers@ccdhb.org.nz

Queensland

Welcome to 2008. We hope you all had a great break over Christmas & New Year and that you're all fired up for 2008.

Firstly congratulations to Rosemary Hawken, Andrea Miller & Leanne Rodwell who passed their November 2007 CRFS exam. Once again thanks to Craig Abud from Niche Medical for sponsoring our 2007 QLD CRFS workshops and to Andrew Coates & Mike Brown for their support. Congratulations also go to Brenton Eckert and his team at the Princess Alexandra Hospital, Woolloongabba who achieved their Respiratory Laboratory accreditation in 2007.

We commence our bi-monthly meetings this month. Please note that the first meeting is set for **Thursday 28th February**. Subsequent meetings will be on Wednesdays as follows: 30th April, 25th June, 27th August & 29th October. So please put these dates in your diary. The **first meeting** which is on a **Thursday**, will give those who are presenting at the Annual Scientific Meeting(ASM) in Melbourne (28th to 31st March) an opportunity to present their poster or oral presentation to the group for feedback. So please contact either Pauline or Leanne prior to the meeting if you are interested in presenting your work. Once again Sean Rafferty on behalf of GlaxoSmithKline has agreed to sponsor our bi-monthly meetings for 2008.

Thank you Chipps!! Don't forget Early Bird registration for the ASM closes on 18th February.

Both Pauline & Leanne will be retiring as QLD representatives at the end of this term. Therefore if you are interested in becoming the QLD representative then please contact either Pauline or Leanne. We would be very happy to discuss with you what the position requires. Also don't forget to be nominated if your interested in applying for a board position.

See you all at the Thursday meeting. Bye for now.

Leanne & Pauline

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

Hi all. Hope you all survived the festive season and had some to relax and recuperate. The new Regional Representatives Sina Panic and Sharon Lagan were announced on the 12th of December 2007 at the end of year dinner. Thanks to Sally and Chris for organizing a wonderful evening with superb banquet at **Dusit Thai** Restaurant and for all their hard work and dedication over the last three years.

TSANZ – WA Associates Committee

Michelle Peters from SCGH has been elected as ANZSRS Representative and shall be keeping us informed on the TSANZ/ANZSRS (WA) Annual Scientific Meeting to be held later in 2008.

ANZSRS Governance

Members are able to keep up to date on Governance issues via the society website.

Diary Reminders:

February 20th: ANZSRS Clinical Presentation Meeting SCGH

Look forward to seeing you all at our first meeting.

Sina and Sharon

Sina Panic BSc,CRFS
Sharon Lagan BSc,CRFS
anzsrsa@yahoo.com.au

Governance & Vision Sub-committee Report

Welcome to a New Year that is gearing up to be a time of significant change for the Society.

In December, the Board gave approval to the proposed Society Rules (Constitution) drafted by the Governance and Vision Subcommittee. These have now been referred for legal opinion and we are currently waiting feedback.

The Executive sent out notification last week informing members that a special resolution was to be called at the AGM with respect to these proposed rules.

The proposed rules will be available for viewing in members only area of the website by the 11th February (see open letter to ANZSRS members under Governance on website { <http://www.anzsrs.org.au/membersgovernance.php> for explanation) and it's important that all members take the time to read these rules. The reason being is that if the resolution is passed, and the Office of Business and Consumer Affairs, SA accepts them (this is where the Society is registered as an Incorporated Body), all members will be bound to these new rules as if they have signed them personally.

It is important to consider the consequences of voting both Yes and No.

Voting 'Yes' provides the Society with the opportunity to move forward towards it's vision of 'leading respiratory science through the 21st century' by allowing the structure to change to separate governance from management to allow the Board more time for strategic planning. Voting 'yes' however will only mean the start of the change process and over the next couple of years there will be significant work to do in drafting of by-laws, policy documents, position descriptions, education and training packages for positions of office, to name just a few. But, hopefully, we should have a well set up Society and will continue to grow and expand within the Asia-Pacific region in years to come.

The membership has already given approval for a change in governance structure (AGM 2007). By failing to vote 'yes' to the proposed rules, The Society ends up at an impasse as the approved structure is unable to be implemented because the current rules do not provide for the new structure. Additionally, the Society does not come into line with the SA Incorporations Act, which we are endeavouring to rectify with the proposed rules.

So, the Governance and Vision Subcommittee requests that all members take the time to give considered thought to the proposed Society Rules and feel free to ask questions via the Governance area of the Website { <http://www.anzsrs.org.au/membersgovernance.php> }. This is a chance to have a say in the future of your Society. If you are not able to attend the AGM in Melbourne, you can arrange a proxy { e-mail Rob Tagliaferri, Secretary, at Robert.tagliaferri@health.wa.gov.au) and still be involved.

Regards,

Brigitte

Brigitte Borg
Chair, Governance and Vision Subcommittee
b.borg@alfred.org.au