

# **Branch News – March, 2008.**

## ***Executive Musings***

Officially this is the outgoing Executive's last musings after three years! As Hon. Treasurer, I was delegated this task by Graham's subtle encouragement. Our President, in our musings of April 2005, was philosophical in describing the "coming out of the forest" before taking on the Executive role. I don't know what new analogy or proverb our President will use to describe his time over the last three years, but certainly at times a bushfire might be more appropriate to deal with the looming forest!

Now down to business...

The Annual Scientific Meeting is just around the corner and members should refer online (<http://www.anzsrs.org.au/asm2008.html>) for the programme and oral and poster abstracts. Over the last month details from the Governance Committee have been made available via the Member's only section of the ANZSRS website. Please be aware that the 2008 AGM will include a Special Resolution to accept the Proposed Constitution. 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 email to Hon. Secretary ([Robert.Tagliaferri@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:Robert.Tagliaferri@health.wa.gov.au)) by Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> of March.

The Executive is calling for nominations for three Board Members along with State representatives for SA, NSW, TAS, QLD and NZ. Members interested in these positions should contact Graham Hall ([Graham.Hall@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:Graham.Hall@health.wa.gov.au)).

All Members should have received their 2008 Membership renewal. Please remember that payment is due by 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2008. Members with outstanding fees from 2007 will not receive a reminder and need to reapply for membership. Please contact Hon. Treasurer ([Derek.Figurski@act.gov.au](mailto:Derek.Figurski@act.gov.au)) regarding payment options or lodge membership fees with Festival City Conventions.

Reflection.....

The Executive would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for the opportunity of serving the Society over the last three years. The Executive have certainly, on an individual and collective, level developed skills and experiences that will be valuable in our future endeavours.

The Executive has numerous individuals to thank in allowing us to meet the demands and challenges that were faced over the last three years. This includes not just members within the Society, but work colleagues and most importantly family and our partners. The Society is growing in recognition and in number, but the Society still displays the attributes of being an extended family and fostering support. During our time on the Executive, this idealism has been illustrated time and time again. This support and encouragement has allowed the Executive to meet the challenges or, in Graham's case, meet the forest head on.....

## **Graham, Rob and Derek**

Graham Hall, President  
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Robert Tagliaferri , Secretary  
[Robert.tagliaferri@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:Robert.tagliaferri@health.wa.gov.au)

Derek Figurski, Treasurer  
[Derek.Figurski@act.gov.au](mailto:Derek.Figurski@act.gov.au)

## **Annual Scientific Meeting News**

With less than a month to go before the ASM, many aspects of the LOC's duties are done and the meeting is now "on show" for all to see.

We would like to acknowledge the outstanding assistance from the conference secretariat, Festival City Conventions, and, in particular Elisabeth Eaton, who has made this LOC's (and particularly, the LOC Chair's) job a lot easier.

We are expecting a fantastic trade exhibit this year and encourage all delegates to take advantage of the access to multiple equipment and pharmaceutical companies in the one location over the ASM period.

### **ASM Web-site:**

The link to the ASM web-site can be found on the ANZSRS homepage. Includes:

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

### **Important Dates to remember:**

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

### **Program:**

Please note that the Monday morning workshops are now fully subscribed.

### **Social Functions:**

Both social venues are within walking distance from the Convention Centre this year, which makes for easy access.



Wear a hat, wear a hat, wear a **HAT!** The LOC has decided to do something a little different this year and have introduced a theme for the conference dinner. We chose something that would not require too much extra luggage and invite you to wear your favourite or most outrageous hat to dinner. So join us with your beanie, Stetson or fascinator at the conference dinner on Saturday 29th March.

Looking forward to seeing many of you in four weeks time!!

Brigitte, on behalf of the 2008 LOC.

### ***Brigitte***

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

### ***New South Wales***

Nothing received

### ***Alison and Debbie***

Alison Boynton  
[alison.boynton@swsahs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:alison.boynton@swsahs.nsw.gov.au)  
Debbie Burton, CRFS  
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### ***New Zealand***

Nothing received

### ***David***

David Robiony-Rogers CRFS  
[David.Robiony-Rogers@ccdhb.org.nz](mailto:David.Robiony-Rogers@ccdhb.org.nz)

## **Queensland**

The year started with a great turn out at our first bi-monthly meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> February at the Brisbane Private Hospital. A special welcome to the many new people who attended the meeting and to the big group who attended from the Gold Coast. It was great to catch up with everyone!

At this meeting members who will be presenting either oral or poster presentations at the Melbourne ASM had the opportunity to present their research to the QLD group for feedback. Also discussed were Society matters including nominations for both the Board and State Representative positions and, as Queensland is hosting the 2010 ASM, members were asked to consider how they could contribute to the organisation of this meeting. Also a chairperson for the 2010 Brisbane meeting needs to be nominated at the Melbourne AGM. If you are interested in this position then please contact Pauline or Leanne to discuss the details.

Queensland members interested in running or participating in a CRFS study group in the lead up to the CRFS exams should also contact either Pauline or Leanne to register your interest. The next CRFS exam will be held on 18<sup>th</sup> April with the application deadline being 21<sup>st</sup> March 2008.

Finally thank you to GlaxoSmithKlein for agreeing to sponsor our 2008 bi-monthly meetings at The Brisbane Private Hospital. We usually meet at 5.00pm for drinks, nibbles & a chat prior to the guest speaker (5.30pm-6.30pm). All are welcome to attend.

If we don't see you in Melbourne at the ASM then we will see you at our next meeting which will be held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April at The Brisbane Private Hospital, Wickham Terrace, Spring Hill, Brisbane.

Cheers

## **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  
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## **Tasmania**

Nothing received.

David Johns, CRFS  
[david.johns@utas.edu.au](mailto:david.johns@utas.edu.au)

## **Victoria**

Nothing received.

Faizel Hartley, CRFS  
[f.hartley@alfred.org.au](mailto:f.hartley@alfred.org.au)

## **Western Australia**

### **Clinical Presentation Meeting**

The Western Australia Branch had its first Bimonthly Clinical Meeting for 2008 on the 20<sup>th</sup> of February. The new Regional Reps, Sharon and Sina, survived the experience. Thanks to Dr. Sally Young for an interesting and informative session on the contentious issue of Informed Consent.

Sally's talk covered the definition of consent and the administering of consent in a clinical setting. It also looked at the effects of trust and inducements in a prospective patient's ability to make an autonomous decision concerning participation. These aspects are summarised in the NHMRC statement that includes the principles of integrity, respect, beneficence and justice. Sally also looked at the history of medical experimentation on people that has led to formation of our current ethical reasoning behind obtaining consent. This included the use of prisoners, forced personnel and the infirm or dying. With the concept of consent appearing around 1830 it took until 1964, with the Declaration of Helsinki, for guidelines concerning consent to be written into law. This declaration was ratified in Australia the same year. The talk also touched upon the legal ratifications of consent in respect to children, adults and research versus clinical testing. The implication for respiratory laboratories is that administering consent forms for clinical testing is not enshrined in law but ethically, it is 'doing the right thing'.

Mayo Healthcare, represented by Grant Vincent, generously sponsored the meeting.

We are having another meeting in March to give those presenting at the Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) in Melbourne (28<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> March) an opportunity to present their poster or oral presentation to the WA group and obtain feedback.

### **Melbourne ASM AGM**

The AGM is to be held at 15:30 on the Sunday afternoon (30<sup>th</sup> March) of the ASM and we wish to encourage those members who will not be attending, to lodge a proxy vote, and all members at the ASM to attend the AGM. For details on lodging your proxy, please contact Robert Tagliaferri: [Robert.tagliaferri@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:Robert.tagliaferri@health.wa.gov.au)

We recommend the lodging of a proxy to ensure that you, as an individual member, have a vote at the AGM. This is especially important this year where the future direction and structure of the society is being decided. Key items to be placed before the membership include voting on Special Resolution for the Proposed Constitution.

An agenda for the AGM has been posted in the member's section on the web-site.

### **ANZSRS-WA/TSANZ-WA ASM**

Planning has started for the local combined meeting to be held on the weekend of the 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> October 2008 in Mandurah. As in previous years the ASM will be followed by a Respiratory Symposium on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> of October. Keep these dates free. More details over the coming months.

### **ACOSH**

Mari Noffsinger reported that ACOSH was continuing their 'End Game' programme to help implement smoking bans. Politicians will be petitioned as part of the advocacy action plan. Education campuses and correctional facilities are two future targets for smoking bans. After

an approach by the Prison Guard Union, a smoking cessation programme is to be trialled at Greenough Prison. Smoking at the Domestic airport was discussed and ACOSH are looking into it.

### **ANZSRS Governance SubCommittee**

SP reported for CN. The latest governance documents are still with the lawyers and advised that members could review the recently updated governance documents on the Society website.

### **TSANZ WA-Branch Executive Committee:**

SY advised that the Lung Club will again extend an invitation to Respiratory Scientists to attend their dinner meetings throughout the year. Also a reminder that SY represents all respiratory scientists, so all issues not just ANZSRS business can be raised at this meeting.

### **Diary Reminders**

March 20th	Next Clinical Presentation Session(PMH)
March 30th	AGM – Melbourne
October 25th&26th	TSANZ-WA/ANZSRS-WA Local ASM
October 27th	WA Respiratory Symposium

Sina and Sharon

Sina Panic BSc,CRFS  
Sharon Lagan BSc,CRFS  
[anzsrswa@yahoo.com.au](mailto:anzsrswa@yahoo.com.au)

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

Since our last update, the Board and Governance Committee have received some legal advice regarding our proposed constitution and a proposal for the way to move forward. A copy of the advice from Board Matters can be found in the members' only area of the website under Governance. Please take the time to read it and feedback to your Board member/State representative or via the Governance questions area on the web-site.

The Board and the Executive Committee will determine the way to proceed based on the legal advice provided.

There will still be vote for a change of Society Rules (constitution) at the AGM, to allow the Society to operate in its new governance structure – but it is likely that this constitution may be simplified somewhat over the following months and another vote for change may be required.

As mentioned in last month's news, it is important for ALL members to read the proposed constitution and make a well considered decision about the direction of their vote, knowing the consequence of voting in the affirmative or negative.

If you are not able to attend the AGM in Melbourne, you can arrange a proxy so your view can be counted. Contact the Secretary ([robert.tagliaferri@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:robert.tagliaferri@health.wa.gov.au)) to provide notification of your proxy.

Regards,

**Brigitte**

Brigitte Borg  
Chair, Governance and Vision Subcommittee  
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