

Branch News – February, 2009.

Executive Musings.....

We hope you have all had a restful Christmas and New Year break and that 2009 brings you good health and new ventures.

The Darwin meeting organisation is progressing well under the guidance of Sonya Johnston and the Scientific and Conference Committee (SCC) has been very busy reviewing a record number of abstracts for both oral and poster sessions. There will be concurrent sessions due to the number of members wanting to present their work to their colleagues. This is a sign of the good health of the ANZSRS and thanks go to all who have submitted abstracts and to the SCC for providing feedback on abstracts.

Criteria for education courses that can be funded under the Ascencia Education Scholarship have been broadened so attendance at professional education programs provided by ERS and ATS can also be funded as well as tertiary education courses. Please consider applying for this Scholarship if you are planning to undertake any continuing professional education in 2009.

Membership fees will increase to \$110 per year in 2009 in keeping with a guidelines developed by the Board in 2005. At this time it was agreed that there would be a review of membership fees every 3 years based on changes in the CPI. Members who join 6 months into the year will pay fees on a pro rata basis. Additionally, members will have the ability to suspend their membership for periods of extended leave, due to maternity leave or ill health.

Organisation of the ANZSRS/APSR Physiology Roadshow concept is progressing well with planning for up to four workshops underway. There is strong interest in hosting the 2 day Physiology Roadshow from respiratory societies in Japan, China, Vietnam and Korea. The success of the Roadshow concept is important in furthering collaboration with respiratory health professionals in the Asia Pacific region. Organisation is being undertaken jointly by Jeff Pretto, Chair of the SCC and the Executive as this is one of the major visionary tasks set by the Board for 2008-9. The presenting team for the initial Roadshows will include those with experience in presenting at joint ANZSRS/TSANZ physiology master classes. However, it won't be long until we are calling for interest from members to be mentored into the respiratory physiology presenter role, so that we can build capacity within ANZSRS members and ensure the continuity of the Roadshow concept.

We hope to see most of you at the Annual Scientific Meeting in Darwin!

Kind regards,

Leigh, Danny and Debbie

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Annual Scientific Meeting News

Darwin 2009
TSANZ & ANZSRS Annual Scientific Meetings



3-6 April

Sonya

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New South Wales / ACT

Well for those who could not make it to the end of 2008 gig, it was a very relaxed get together of approx 15 loyal ANZSRS'ers gathering at James Squire BrewHouse. Thanks go out again to Cardinal Health, particularly Todd and Matt, for the support that they showed once again to better our society, ensuring we celebrated in style with delicious food and a few drinks on the house. Was another good evening to remember!

Hope everyone is well rested now after their Christmas - New Year break, and the Australia Day long weekend. Happy 2009! And in the blink of an eye, or so it feels, we're now well and truly into the year which means a few things.....

Our first bi-monthly 09 meeting will be held on Thursday 5th March at Sydney Children's Hospital Randwick (meaning a bit of a well deserved rest for you guys on the other side of town!). Plan is the same, that being to meet at 5.00pm for a little social banter, and follow with the usual lab tour/ speaker/ presentation/ discussion from 5.30pm-6.30pm. Additionally, as final preparations for the ASM in Darwin (April) should be well underway, thought it would be appropriate to invite those individuals set to be giving either oral or poster presentations the chance to practice to a friendly audience, and obtain some constructive feedback, suggestions and ideas from colleagues. Please make email contact with me if you would like to take this opportunity and I can then arrange to have all necessary equipment that you may require available. The more the merrier. Who knows your work and involvement may inspire others to embark on their own research project! The exact details planned for the meeting will follow in a specific member email very soon. To get the ball rolling for 2009, hope to have another big turn out for the first get together of the year, and see you all soon for a catch up.

Attendance at meetings is a great opportunity to meet other scientists who work in respiratory medicine and I would like to encourage as many of our newer members to attend as possible. On behalf of the NSW branch, I wish to welcome two new

members, Mrs Deepali Mudholkar from Coffs Harbour Chest & Sleep Clinic, and Ms Brooke Fallon from Nepean Hospital Sydney. Welcome aboard!

Please also remember the upcoming course on Friday 29th May 2009 at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick – "Update in Paediatric Respiratory Medicine". Should be a good day's learning, so get in touch with Georgina.Papaioannou@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au

Additionally I'd love to hear from our "out-of-Sydney" members as to what ideas/suggestions you may have for 2009 meetings. Please always feel free to contact me and let me know your thoughts. If there are any areas of interest members would like especially to cover within our bi-monthly meetings, just drop me a line and I shall do my best to arrange things.

Until next month.....

Dana

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New Zealand

2009 is flying right past us already, with some busy bees here in New Zealand working on their presentations for the ASM in Darwin

Ilaise Totua-Clarke has moved from her role at Middlemore hospital and has taken up an exciting challenge at Whangarei Base Hospital. Ilaise is involved in setting up the Non-invasive ventilation service as well as providing respiratory function measurement for the Northland Region. We wish Ilaise well in this new role.

The Christchurch Hospital Respiratory Physiology Laboratory is pleased to welcome Chris O'Dea as a permanent member of their staff. Chris had been on a 12-month contract but is looking forward to continuing on.

Christchurch is also pleased that Lauren Wallace and Kathryn Wilson have joined the team on a casual basis, both are experienced Scientists and will be valuable members to the team.

That is all for a brief branch news this month, I hope all the New Zealand members have a wonderful Waitangi Day and that the run of warm weather continues.

Cheers,

Chris

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Queensland

Nothing received

Andrew and Debbie

Andrew Coates
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Debbie Zagami

South Australia

The SA ANZSRS program starts on Monday 2nd March, 600pm at the RAH Chest Clinic. As yet no one has come forward to participate in the pre-conference meeting that was planned in November. Please contact me ASAP if you wish to practice your Conference presentation. This meeting has a twofold purpose in that the presenters have an opportunity to ensure they are prepared and members that are not attending the ASM get an opportunity to hear the presentations. The meeting will also be an opportunity to discuss ANZSRS plans for 2009.

With the ASM in mind, no doubt everyone is aware but as a reminder Early Bird registrations close on 21st February. The Conference organising committee, chaired by Sonya Johnston on behalf of South Australia have done a fantastic job in bringing together an exiting program on the theme, *Lung Function Beyond the Laboratory*. I would encourage everyone to attend if possible.

January has been exciting and hectic with the Tour Down Under (lots of cyclist having provocation tests) and the start of February HOT in South Australia. I hope everyone stays cool and let look forward to a productive ANZSRS year.

Michelle

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Victoria / Tasmania

Nothing received

Faizel

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Western Australia

Greetings from WA! We hope you all enjoyed the festive season. The WA branch concluded its activities for 2008 at the 'Mela' Restaurant where members and partners enjoyed a superb Indian banquet.

With summer holidays quickly coming to an end it's time to get back to the grindstone. Our first meeting for the year will be held on the 19th of February at Royal Perth Hospital. The Darwin ASM is fast approaching and we are giving those presenting an opportunity to practice their presentation by having another meeting on the 25th of March.

For the Diary

February 18th	Closure of Early Bird Registration	Darwin ASM
February 19th	ANZSRS-WA Branch Clinical Meeting	RPH
March 25th	Clinical Meeting: Practice session for Darwin	TBA
April 3 rd - 6th	ANZSRS Annual Scientific Meeting	Darwin

Sina and Sharon

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Governance & Vision Sub-committee Report

A teleconference between the Board, Executive and Governance Committee took place on 23rd January. The purpose of the teleconference was to bring the three parties up to speed with current status of governance changes. The Board agreed that all three groups should combine to form the Governance Committee, with myself remaining as chair for the time being.

The Board has invited Jenny Robertson from Board Matters to speak to the membership at the AGM in Darwin, regarding some important changes to the governance structure, including changing our status from an incorporated association to a company limited by guarantee and changes to the structure and constitution as a result of this change.

At present, the Committee is reviewing the first draft of the proposed constitution and are also formulating an education package for the website for members. We expect that the education package will be available prior to the AGM for the membership to peruse.

Brigitte

Brigitte Borg
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