

Branch News – May, 2009.

Executive Musings.....

Hi All,

It was fantastic to meet up with many of you at the Darwin conference!

Congratulations to the Scientific and Conference Committee and the Local Organising Committee who designed and saw through to completion a great scientific and social program. Thanks to all our sponsors who supported the social events, the educational scholarship and the awards for best oral and best poster presentations as well as the Young Investigator Award. Believe it or not, the Brisbane LOC is already well underway with the planning of our 30th Annual Scientific Meeting. This is a big one to celebrate so it is time to start planning the work you will be presenting, so you don't miss out.

The AGM saw a presentation by Ms Jenny Robertson from Board Matters, the company contracted by ANZSRS in 2008 to provide advice on constitutional changes. Board Matters suggest a transition of the ANZSRS from an Incorporated Association in SA (State Legislation) to a Company Limited by Guarantee (National/International body covered by Federal Legislation) for the legal protection of the society and its members. There is currently information on the web-site that members should read that provides a summary of activity in this area over the past 12 months and more information will be provided shortly so that all members are able to cast their postal vote with full understanding of the proposed changes later in the year.

Planning for the ANZSRS Physiology Roadshow to be held in Hong Kong in October is progressing under the leadership of the Scientific and Conference Committee and there is an Expression of Interest form on the website for those who would like to be involved in presenting at this exciting forum.

The success rate for those sitting the CRFS exam is continually increasing and provides testament to the hard work of the members who study for the exam and the CRFS team, who presented a very informative workshop again at this year's ASM. Stephen West has stepped down after many years as Chair of the CRFS Review Committee and we are keen to hear from volunteers who may be able to take on this important role.

Hope you are all ready for the onslaught of the flu season....and hopefully swine flu ends up being of little additional load to us in Australia.

Kind regards,

Danny, Leigh, and Debbie

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Danny Brazzale, Treasurer

Annual Scientific Meeting News

Darwin 2009
TSANZ & ANZSRS Annual Scientific Meetings



3-6 April

Thanks to all those who attended the Darwin meeting and a special thanks to those who took the time to submit an evaluation form. These forms play an important role in the development and planning of future meetings. The evaluation results for the Darwin meeting have been collated and will be posted in the members only area of the website.

In addition to the evaluation, the CRFS and Research workshop presentations will also be available in the CRFS area of the website.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Executive and the SCC for their support and sage advice throughout the planning of the meeting, Kevin and Kustas for keeping the information on the website up to date and of course, the team who made it all happen; the Local Organising Committee and Festival City Conventions. Organising a meeting is a lot of hard work and I would like to sincerely thank all those who took part. With a sigh of relief I can now hand over to the Brisbane LOC who will keep you all abreast of the plans for the 2010 meeting. From what I've heard so far, it should be a great meeting!

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New South Wales / ACT

Nothing received

Dana

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New Zealand

Well winter has finally started to set in here in NZ with those of us further south battling the dark to get up, and now with snow falling on the passes it is a sign that the

ski season is not far away for us. Hopefully I will be able to get back on the slopes without injury this year.

ASM feedback

It was wonderful to see such a large number of NZ members making the trip across to Darwin for what was a very interesting meeting. The LOC did a wonderful job and from the NZ feedback the meeting will be remembered.

We had 4 members from Auckland and members from Hamilton, Hawkes Bay, Wellington and Christchurch all attending the meeting. Hopefully all the enthusiasm that was collected at the ASM will feedback to some wonderful developments for the NZ labs this year.

Lab Profile

This month our lab profile is coming from the North Island paradise of Palmerston North. Thanks to Gav and Cath for volunteering this month.

The Palmerston North Respiratory Lab was initially set-up in 1980 and has been lead by Dr Alistair Watson since 1989.

The Respiratory Service includes two Respiratory Physicians Dr Alistair Watson and Dr Karsten Fritsch

There are two full time technicians employed in the Respiratory labs performing a range of respiratory functions tests over two labs. These are Jacqueline Ross and Gavin Starling, and also Cath Corble who works in Respiratory 1 day per week.

The main laboratory offers spirometry and bronchodilator response, plethysmography, and respiratory muscle strength (maximum inspiratory and expiratory pressures and maximum voluntary ventilation), Exercise challenge testing (Submaximal and CPET), DLCO, sputum induction and bronchoprovocation testing (Using hypertonic saline and less frequently Methacholine)

The main lab uses a Sormedics V6200 Autobox and Vmax 229 (Of which another three are situated within the Children's, Emergency and Respiratory wards) and Sormedics Ergometric 800. The smaller of the two labs is used to perform spirometry and bronchodilator response (A hive of activity during clinic times!)

We are in the process of rolling out the PHO Community Spirometry. EasyOne Spirometers are used as apart of the PHO community spirometry program and 'off-site' clinics offered by the Respiratory Service are held by the Nurse Practitioners.

Palmerston North Sleep service incorporates both the hospital service and the GP lead "integrated" sleep service, we perform a variety of investigations including Overnight Oximetry, full and limited Polysomnography and CPAP titrations, we also provide a CPAP follow up outpatient service. It is currently staffed with a combination of full and part time FTE with the staff working in

other services including Respiratory and Neurology, sleep staff include Cath Corble, Anthony Porter, Roy Sweeney and Jon Whittington.

Also working within the respiratory services we have 2 Nurse Practitioners, 3.5 Clinic Nurse Specialists and a clinic nurse.

One small yet interesting fact about Palmerston North is that over half of the city's population is under the age of 25!

Hope that gives everyone a small glimpse into the respiratory and sleep labs here at Palmerston North Hospital

Thanks again to Gavin from Palmerston North for putting that together, with such a young population I am surprised they get any work done and are not partying most of the time!

Well that is it for a quite month here in New Zealand that was dominated by the ASM and our planning for the possible pandemic.

Until Next Month

Chris

Christopher O'Dea

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Queensland

Our bimonthly meeting held on April 29th saw a great turnout of members again. Professor Lidia Morawska, Director of the International Laboratory for Air Quality and Health, Queensland University of Technology presented her work on nanoparticles or ultrafine particles in air. She kept us attentive for over an hour on what particulates constitute the air that we breathe. We were perturbed to hear of the risk to our health posed by the laser printers in many of our work places. And we heard of the ILAQH proposed study to evaluate the effect of internal and external air quality on child health.

The topic of the Swine Flu pandemic was raised in the context of Lidia's nanoparticle talk, but that could have been another talk altogether, so we didn't go too far into that. Influenza particles are currently being researched at Lidia's Institute. Bob Bird who was present assured us that the HpyerGard® "TEC 200gm" material will provide adequate protection from viral particles for our patients. We were so fortunate to have Lidia, an eminent scientist present to us, and she has promised to come back to our group with further findings from their studies.

Thanks also to Debbie for giving us a summary of the Darwin ASM. Those of us who were unable to attend the Darwin ASM really appreciated it. Thanks Debbie.

BirdHealthCare together with MDSA P/Ltd have joined GSK is sponsoring our meetings and we are very thankful to the support given. And it was great to have Bob Bird of MDSA join us for this meeting. We video-recorded the meeting on the

suggestion of a regional member and those who have contacted me in our state will receive the dvd shortly.

We have our next meeting on Wednesday 24th June 5:00-7:00pm at the Trout Conference Room Level 8 Arnold Jansen Centre Brisbane Private Hospital Wickham Terrace. Other meetings for the year are Wednesday 19th August and Wednesday 21st October.

Last month, three of our Qld members sat for the CRFS exam which was great to see. We all hope you have done well.

STOP PRESS

*******MEETING NOTICE*******

The following is an invitation to the Winter TSANZ Qld Branch meeting to be held on July 18-19th at O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat.

Queensland Winter Meeting

July 18-19, 2009

Immunology and the Lung

Aims:

- Interaction between metropolitan and non-metropolitan TSANZ/TSQ members and other interested groups
- Develop educational, research and career opportunities for Advanced Trainees

Date: Saturday July 18 & Sunday July 19, 2009



**RAINFOREST RETREAT, VILLAS
& LOST WORLD SPA**

Venue:

**Guest Speaker: Dr Margaret Wilsher
Thoracic Physician
Green Lane Respiratory Services
Auckland City Hospital
New Zealand**

South Australia

Since the last report, a few things have happened in SA to remind us of how fast time passes. The cold weather has really set in - it's even rained, the ASM is over, Port Power won the first Showdown of 2009 and one of our long standing members, David Schembri has turned 50!

Congratulations to all of the 2009 ASM LOC for a fantastic meeting. The meeting in Darwin was extremely successful in all respects. The scientific sessions were interesting, stimulating and even fun, whilst the Welcome Reception, Dinner and Trade Exhibition were all great with good company, food and wine. As a South Australian who had absolutely no input into the organisation of the meeting (but has done so in the past), I can appreciate the effort that goes into the planning and staging of the ASM and sincerely thank Sonya, Donna, Nicole, Cathy, Lucy, David and Andrew for all their hard work.

I would also like to mention and congratulate Ana, Nicole, Rebecca, Melanie and Glenn on their presentations at the meeting. Everyone did really well, with their hard work being reflected in the quality of their presentations.

ASM's are a great opportunity to catch up with colleagues and it was great to meet Ahmed Badawy in Darwin. Ahmed previously worked at Burnside Respiratory Centre, and is now head of the Cardiopulmonary Department, King Abdulaziz Medical City, Jeddah Saudi Arabia. Ahmed has maintained his ties with ANZSRS and attends meetings when possible. He asked to be remembered and would love to hear from anyone who would like to contact him.

Attendance thus far at this years branch meetings has been excellent, future meetings are scheduled for the 4th May and June 29th, hope to see you there.

Michelle

Michelle Rozzee
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Victoria / Tasmania

The 2009 annual scientific meeting has come and gone. It was fantastic to catch up with colleagues from around the country and find out the musings from their side of the country.

The quantity and quality of the presentations at this years meeting was fantastic. Congratulation to all those who presented their work at the meeting and special congratulations to the awards winners. We now look forward to Brisbane 2010.

Next on the agenda for Victoria is our next branch meeting which is scheduled for the 19th of May. The speaker and venue for this meeting are still to be finalised so keep and eye out for the invitation in the coming weeks.

Lastly a special thanks to Brigitte Borg for all her work on a fantastic case of the month. I am sure you will all find the case as intriguing as I did.

Regards
Faizel

Faizel Hartley, CRFS
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Western Australia

The buzz this last month has been the Darwin ASM. Many thanks to Sonya and her committee on organizing an interesting and informative meeting. It was great to catch up with our colleagues from the other side of the Nullabor and at the same time meet some new faces.

The concurrent sessions for the oral and for the posters certainly kept everyone on their toes and ensured that all tastes were catered for.

Best Poster ASM

Congratulations to Karla Logie (PMH) on winning the poster prize and we wish her well with her PhD studies.

CRFS

Congratulations also go to Elizabeth Salamon on receiving her CRFS and best wishes to all those attempting to sit the CRFS this year.

Annual Local ASM

WA is busying planning its local joint TSANZ/ANZSRS ASM for October 17th /18th. The theme this year is Clinical Trials. It will be held in Mandurah, an easy hour's drive from Perth and a lovely place for a holiday/conference. A Respiratory Symposium follows on from the ASM and will be held on Monday 19th back in Perth.

We would like to extend an invitation to all Respiratory Scientists to join us. If you are interested, drop us an e-mail (address below) and we will keep you updated.

News Around Town

Ray Davey sadly has left SCGH to take up a research post with UWA/ICHR. We wish Ray well in his new position.

Diary reminders

4 June 2009	ANZSRS-WA Branch Meeting	SCGH
22 July 2009	ANZSRS-WA Branch Meeting	TBA
12 th - 16 th September 2009	ERS	Vienna, Austria
17 th - 18 th October 2009	WA TSANZ/ANZSRS ASM	Mandurah
19 th October 2009	Respiratory Symposium	Perth
19 th - 24 th March 2010	TSANZ/ANZSRS ASM	Brisbane
1 st - 6 th April 2011	ANSRS/TSANZ ASM	Perth

Sharon and Sina

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Governance & Vision Sub-committee Report

Nothing to report. Awaiting instruction from the Board and feedback from Board Matters

Brigitte

Brigitte Borg
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