

Regional News – October, 2009.

Executive Musings.....

It's that time of year again to start preparing your travel plans for the ASM in Brisbane next March, which will be a special one, with the Society celebrating its 30th year. To support your attendance, the ANZSRS travel grants have just been posted on the website so please take advantage of these. Following on from last year, the Christene McLachlan Travel grant is again available to our NZ members.

Also posted on the website this month are the guidelines for the "Robert Jensen Excellence in Respiratory Measurement Award" to be awarded from the abstracts presented in Brisbane in addition to "Best Oral", "Best Poster Presentation" and "Young Investigator". Professor Jensen (Honorary ANZSRS member) is internationally highly regarded in our field and while attending the Darwin meeting, was so impressed with the quality of work presented, that he wanted to support our society in this way. The award, valued at \$US2,000.00 encourages the recipient to present their work at an Overseas meeting; such as the ATS in New Orleans, USA or the ERS in Barcelona, Spain next year. Presenting at an International meeting is a fantastic opportunity to meet the scientists/physicians that you often reference in your papers and the feedback that you receive definitely strengthens your work. Prof Jensen hopes to attend the Brisbane meeting where he can present this very generous and exciting award to the recipient.

The Executive have been "tag-teaming" with Annual Leave over the last few months, but now we are all back on board, refreshed (?) and ready to face the busy times ahead in the lead up to our 30th meeting.

Danny, Leigh, and Debbie

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Board Happenings

Nothing received

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Annual Scientific Meeting News

Brisbane2010 

ANZSR
Annual Scientific Meeting



Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre
19-22 March 2010




The Australian and New Zealand Society of Respiratory Intensive Care

Call for Abstracts

The call for abstracts has been made and the closing date for submission is 20th November 2009. Time to get going on them!

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New South Wales / ACT

Nothing received

Dana

New Zealand

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Well after gaining some skills on the rugby field, the All Blacks lost them again only to find them... at least the Black Caps started to play ok!!

Branch meeting

October finds the NZ branch madly rushing for the once a year get together known as the Branch meeting. This year we are pleased to be heading north and hitting Auckland (for those of you on the other side of the ditch that is the largest city in NZ up near the pointy end... yes where ANZSRS held the 2007 ASM). By now all NZ members have been invited to attend the meeting on **Friday October 30**, an official registration will be sent out soon as well as a final program. The meeting is being held at the Villa Maria winery a perfect venue for this wine loving scientist!!!

This year we will be joining the TSANZ meeting to discuss the devolution of care, and the ANZSRS meeting will include education sessions on some of our common tests as well as a discussion about the role of research in the laboratory and how we can make it part of our everyday practice (*summary for the web-site please Chris. Ed*)

So, come and join us as this truly will be ***"A super meeting in the super city"***

New Appointments

Whangarei Hospital is pleased to have Cath Corble taking up a temporary role and continuing the development of the service. Cath has had extensive experience in the Palmerston North Lab and I am sure she is looking forward to the wonderful sub-tropics of Northland.

That is all for a very brief branch news this month, I look forward to catching up with the NZ branch in Auckland for a well-earned glass or 2 or ... of red after (?) the meeting, it is a perfect venue for a few.

Until Auckland,

Chris

Christopher O'Dea

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Queensland

If you are feeling fit, then think about joining our fun run team. Having won the Corporate Team first place last year in the inaugural ALF Corporate River Run as the Spirojets, we have again been invited to enter a team. The date is Thursday 26th November 5:30 pm approx! You can register at <http://www.lungfoundation.com.au/content/view/238/266/> and there is a 5k or 10k event again. We did the 5 k last year I think?! Let me know soon if you are interested. We can do it again!

It's exam time again! CRFS exam workshops have been planned for Saturday afternoons, 2-5 pm on the 3rd Oct, 10th and 17th. These will be held at the Mater Childrens Hospital, and are planned to be open discussion sessions. Please RSVP your attendance to me by phone 31638146 and for the details of how to get there. Andrew Coates and Mike Brown will run the sessions and any other offers of assistance welcome.

Newsworthy was a recent newspaper article of Debbie Zagami's Lab at the Gold Coast Hospital. It was really good to see. If you'd like to see it and perhaps promote your own service doing something similar get in touch with Debbie!

The Queensland lab profile for this month is from Princess Alexandra in Brisbane.

Respiratory Laboratory – Department of Sleep & Respiratory Medicine, Princess Alexandra Hospital. Brisbane.

The Princess Alexandra Hospital is the largest teaching hospital in Brisbane's Metro South Health Area. The Department of Sleep & Respiratory Medicine is comprised of a speciality respiratory ward of 28 beds (including a respiratory high dependency unit), respiratory outpatients, bronchoscopy service, pulmonary rehabilitation program, lung cancer coordinator and both sleep and respiratory laboratories.

The Respiratory Laboratory performs a wide array of tests including:

- Spirometry
- Lung Volumes (body plethysmography & N₂ washout)
- CO Diffusion
- Respiratory Muscle Strength (MIPs, MEPs, SNIPs, Ptdi)
- Challenge Tests (Methacholine & Mannitol)
- Skin Prick Testing
- FeNO
- Cardio-pulmonary exercise testing
- Lung Mechanics
- Nasal Resistance Measurements
- Pulmonary shunt studies
- HAST studies
- Ventilatory Response (O₂ & CO₂)

The instrumentation used in the laboratory is primarily Sensormedics (Viasys/Cardinal Health/CareFusion) with a plethysmograph, and 2 Encore systems on which most of the laboratory testing is performed. Other equipment includes a PowerLab system (Nasal resistance, lung mechanics, Ptdi) & the Sievers 280i NO analyser. The laboratory also dabbles in the measurement of ambulatory lung function – particularly in the setting of occupational asthma – and uses the Micromedical DiaryCard. We are also in the process of putting ward spirometry “on-line” by using the Micromedical Spida system then exporting that data to the Sensormedics database used by the laboratory. The Respiratory Laboratory received Category 4 TSANZ Accreditation in 2007. The Laboratory is staffed by Brenton Eckert, Skye McLennan, Linda Ruedinger, Jarrod Warner, Lauren Hughes & Sharna Wilkinson. Skye commenced working in the Respiratory Lab in 2001, and has (very) recently given birth to child no. 2 (Grace Chanel), and is currently “relaxing” on maternity leave. Her position is currently being backfilled by Lauren & Sharna. Lauren is a bright eyed recent graduate from Sunshine Coast University who reminds the “oldies” in the lab what fun it is to be a 21 year old. Sharna is a wonderful locum who has had previous stints in the laboratory (and at both Logan and Mater Private Hospitals). She is busily preparing for both her wedding and sitting the CRFS – we're not sure which is worrying her more! Linda has worked part-time in the Lab since 2002. In fact, Linda has worked part-time in some capacity in virtually all labs in Brisbane over the years and remains a much sought after locum. Her capacity to bounce from system to system and hospital to hospital is amazing. She is spending all January touring NZ – so if any Lab “across the ditch” requires a locum – give Linda a call. Jarrod commenced at the PA Hospital in April this year, moving from the Gold Coast and bringing a much needed Y chromosome! Unfortunately the “blokey” Monday morning football chats are usually monopolised with Jarrod insisting his Melbourne Demons were again

“robbed”. He is also a non-drinker of coffee – prompting a review of the Laboratory recruitment & interview process. Finally, Brenton, who spends his days crouched over a computer drinking endless cups of coffee, stopping occasionally to entertain the troops with old “war” stories relating to respiratory testing in the previous century (usually with some reference to an oesophageal balloon!).

The PAH Respiratory Laboratory door is always open to any ANZSRS member who would like to visit, whether it be local, interstate or overseas. Just give us a call.



Jarrold, Linda & Sharna



Lauren & Brenton

For the Diaries

And lastly make sure you have in your diaries our next meeting in Brisbane, at the Brisbane Private Hospital, Oct 21st, with our invited speaker David Johns. David will cover his current research interests in anatomical dead space flow dependence and intelligent software. It should be good so don't miss it!

You Regional Rep.. Andrew

Andrew Coates
ably assisted by **Debbie Zagami**

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South Australia

Nothing received
Michelle

Michelle Rozzee
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Victoria / Tasmania

Another month has gone and only 3 left for 09. We had a very successful branch meeting on the 1st of September which had the highest attendance for the year. Congratulations to all those who made the extra effort. Thanks also to Bruce and Nory for their presentations which generated plenty of discussion.

Our next event is the joint ANZSRS/TSANZ meeting to be held on the 24th of October. The abstract submission deadline for the meeting has been moved to the 16th of October which should ease the pressure on those submitting. Once again I encourage any members who have data worth presenting to submit an abstract. There are plenty of prizes to be won and the meeting is well sponsored.

Until next time

Faizel

Faizel Hartley, CRFS
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Western Australia

WA is getting its share of cold weather and rain this year. We are all looking forward to Spring finally arriving.

The month kicked off with an early Branch meeting on the 2nd of September so we could farewell those off to the ERS.

Karla Logie presented her research looking at exhaled breath temperature (EBT) and its association with pulmonary vascular function. EBT is a non invasive technique and it is suggested that it reflects respiratory inflammation, remodelling and vascularity. The aim of the study was to investigate influence of BPD on EBT in children. Her hypothesis was that the EBT end expiratory plateau, as an indicator of abnormal pulmonary vascular function, would be reduced in children with BPD. Results found reduced EBT in children with BPD suggesting difference in distal airspace anatomy/physiology which may be caused by abnormal pulmonary vascular function, reduced cooling of distal air and larger simplified alveolar structure.

Associate Prof Graham Hall, Senior Respiratory Scientist at PMH, presented his study looking at whether structural damage in the lung influenced gas distribution. Ventilation Distribution Index (VDI) is abnormal in early CF disease. Infants underwent lung function testing under sedation and a MBW was performed. They had a chest CT a few days later under anaesthesia. This was reported by a paediatric respiratory radiologist for presence or absence of bronchiectasis, airway wall thickening and air trapping. Conclusion: there was no association between VDI and extent of bronchiectasis thus indices of ventilation distribution assessed by MBW were not influenced by the presence of structural lung disease

TSANZ/ANZSRS WA ASM

This will take place on the weekend of 17 and 18 October at the seaside locality of Mandurah, an hour's drive from Perth. The theme this year is Clinical Trials. One of the highlights of this event is the Debate on the Sunday Morning which this year is entitled: 'The practice of medicine is still more influenced by trends and fashion than evidence'.

Guest speakers for the ASM will be Prof Craig Mellis from the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Sydney, NSW and A/Prof Peter Catcheside from the Adelaide Institute of Sleep Health at the Repatriation General Hospital, SA.

Once again there will be a Travel Award generously sponsored by BirdHealthcare.

We wish to extend an invitation to all those to the East, including NZ, to join us for what will be an educational and fun ASM.

The Respiratory Symposium will follow on the Monday, back in Perth.

Respiratory Symposium

The theme this year is:

The Unconscious Lung: *Respiratory sensations and effects you may not be aware of.*

It will be held at the Main Seminar Room, Telethon Institute for Child Health Research, Subiaco at 1.30 – 5.00pm, Monday October 19th.

News around Town

Not much this month!

Diary reminders

2	October	2009	Deadline for CRFS Applications	
17 – 18	October	2009	WA TSANZ/ANZSRS ASM	Mandurah, WA
19	October	2009	ANZSRS Respiratory Symposium	Perth, WA
30	October	2009	CRFS Exam	Perth, WA
14 – 18	November	2009	APSR 14 th Congress	Seoul, Korea
20	November	2009	Abstract Deadline Brisbane ASM 2010	
19 – 24	March	2010	TSANZ/ANZSRS ASM	Brisbane, QLD
1 – 6	April	2011	ANZSRS/TSANZ ASM	Perth, WA

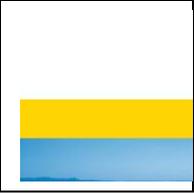
Sina and Sharon

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Sharon Lagan BSc, CRFS
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Governance Sub-committee Report

The Governance Subcommittee has delivered its report to the Board outlining suggested changes to the 2nd Draft of the proposed Constitution and the associated bylaws, annexures and guidelines as per our Terms of Reference.

I would like to personally thank the members of the committee and Michelle Rozee for their dedication and cooperation at our recent face to face meeting. It was highly productive and the outcomes are included in the documents sent to the Board.



Our understanding is that the Board will review and approve these documents; the changes to the constitution will be sent to Board Matters for re-drafting, and then will be released on the website for membership viewing and comment.

Brigitte

Brigitte Borg
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