

Regional News – March, 2010.

Executive Musings.....

With the Brisbane 2010 ASM only weeks away it's a very exciting time for the ANZSRS. Of course we look forward to seeing and catching up with as many of you as possible at what looks to be a very interesting meeting. The LOC, under the guidance of Brenton Eckert, has done a great job in securing some exciting guest speakers and organising all of the other things that go along with such a large event. The Annual General Meeting at the Brisbane ASM looks to be a pivotal moment in the future of the ANZSRS. The vote about the acceptance of the new constitution will occur at this meeting. I encourage all members to take a real interest in this topic as it is everybody's society.

The end of the Brisbane ASM also signals the end of the current executive's term. The current executive would like to thank all of the ANZSRS members for your help over the last 2 years. In particular the regional representatives, board and sub-committee chairs have been a great help and kept us on our toes at the same time. Elisabeth and Helen at Festival City Conventions have also been a great help in keeping things ticking over for the society. It has been a challenging two years for the executive, but the rewards have also been great. Things like the success of the first Physiology Roadshow and awarding of the first ANZSRS research grant certainly make the job worthwhile. All three of us feel we have a fantastic society and we are all keen to continue to contribute to that. For anybody who hasn't had an official role in the society, our advice would be to strongly consider it. It really does give a new perspective on how much people do for the society and how great it is to be a part of.

Thanks to all and see you in Brisbane,

Danny, Debbie and Leigh.

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Board Happenings

Not long now till we see many of you here at the Annual Scientific Meeting in Brisbane (beautiful one day, perfect the next – except lately when it's been a little damp underfoot!). This promises to be a great meeting, with a program to stimulate and inspire, as well as plenty of opportunity to catch up with friends and colleagues and generally unwind after the scientific sessions.

Of course, with the ASM comes the Annual General Meeting, to be held on Saturday 20th at 4:40pm. All members are very strongly urged to make the effort to attend this year's AGM, in particular to have their say and cast their vote on the proposed constitutional changes for the Society. The Board has been pleased and encouraged by the flurry of questions in the first few days of placing the constitutional changes on the website, and remind anyone who hasn't yet had a look at the changes to do so before the AGM. Remember also, if you can't come to the AGM, submit a proxy so your opinion and vote still count.

The other aspect of the ASM that is particularly relevant for the Board is meetings! Apart from the AGM there's the Board + Executive meeting on the Friday afternoon (1 - 4 pm), and

meetings with the Roadshow group (also Friday afternoon, 4 - 5 pm), the Regional Representatives (Monday 1 - 2 pm), and Sub-Committee Chairs (Monday 2 - 3 pm). Whether the proposed constitutional changes are adopted or not, there will be a lot of work to be done on a number of fronts, so these meetings will be vital in setting the Society agenda for the coming year.

High on the agenda for some of these meetings will be the issue of communications within the Society, at all levels. The need for review has been highlighted to the Board recently during a discussion regarding making the minutes of Board meetings available to the Society membership. As a result of this discussion, the Board is proposing the creation of a 'Board Communiqués' page in the member's area of the Society website, where minutes of Board meetings (including those meetings with other sections of the Society leadership as above) will be posted. Also on this page we're proposing a 'Questions to the Board' forum, to allow any member to initiate a dialogue on issues of interest or concern. We also would welcome any other ideas that will better facilitate our Society communications.

Looking forward to catching up in Brisbane!

Mike

04/03/2010

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The Australian & New Zealand
Society of Respiratory Science Inc




Brisbane2010

**ANZSRS
Annual Scientific Meeting**

Brisbane Convention
& Exhibition Centre
Brisbane, Queensland
Australia

19 – 22 March 2010

The Local Organising Committee has worked tirelessly to provide a great scientific program, matched only by the quality of the social program. Guest overseas speaker, Martin Miller, plus other invited speakers including Paul Older, Sandra Anderson, Peter Franklin, Helen Petsky, Deborah Yates, Hiran Selvadurai & Danny Brazzale contribute to a very educational program covering a range of topics. Alan Crockett & Paul Guy's retrospective look at the past 30 years of the Society should prove educational, entertaining & embarrassing (particularly if any old photographs should emerge!). The meeting also includes the CRFS & Research Workshops, plus Oxygen Symposium to be held on Monday 22nd of March.

The success of the ASM also depends on the involvement of other groups. First – the members of the Society who have taken the step to present their work in front of their peers. Hopefully the abstracts of the 18 oral and 19 poster presentations will shortly be posted on the ASM website (www.anzsrs.org.au/asm2010.html). Second – the sponsors of the ASM. Without the support of Bird Healthcare, Niche, Ascencia, Pharmaxis, Care Fusion, MedGraphics, Compumedics, Air Liquide & Breathe21, the ASM would not achieve the current standard. Finally – our industry colleagues

working within the trade who keep us abreast with emerging technologies. On behalf of the Society, I thank you all & welcome your efforts in making the Brisbane ASM a success.

There is an outstanding social program planned, commencing with the Welcome Reception at the Brisbane Convention Centre's River Room. We're relaxed in Queensland, and so is the dress standard. As long as the thongs (jandals) are matching, entry is assured! The Annual Dinner (and 30th Birthday Party) at the Victoria Park Golf Course on Saturday night should have something for all, including a Swing Band. Dress code – neat and casual, but feel free to dress up. Importantly - bring the dancing shoes.

The AGM will include an important vote concerning the future of the Society. Please visit the Constitutional Reform page on the website to familiarise yourself with this important issue. Make every effort to make the AGM and get involved in your Society.

I'm looking forward to renewing old acquaintances, and meeting new members at the ASM. Come up and say hullo – I'm sure I'll find an LOC job for you!

Brenton

Brenton Eckert
Chair, LOC, Brisbane, 2010
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Our ASM Sponsors for 2010 are:



New South Wales / ACT

The first NSW/ACT Branch meeting was held on Thursday 4th March at Royal North Shore Hospital. Peter Taylor from *Mortara Australia* kindly supplied a small feast, which was enjoyed by all. At this meeting we discussed the implications of the proposed constitution and members were able to comment on and ponder the changes.

April Branch Meeting:

The April NSW/ACT Branch meeting will be held on **Thursday 29th April at Westmead Hospital**. The topic of this meeting is "Reference Values – can NSW/ACT standardise reference sets?"

Welcome:

Welcome to Mr David Chapman, from the Woolcock Institute of Medical Research and Ms Neda Eghani from Westmead Hospital – it is great to have new scientists on board!

ASM Brisbane:

As expected, this will be a very exciting and informative Scientific Meeting. I look forward to the scientific discussion and debate, as well as seeing many NSW/ACT Members presenting!

See you in Brisbane!

Catherine

ably assisted by **Phillip Munoz**

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New Zealand

What a month it has been here in NZ with, finally, a taste of summer and the Black Caps hitting the form required to defeat the Aussie Cricket team in 2 thrilling matches...bring on the remainder of the season.

National manual

Massive work has been taking place around NZ with everyone reviewing and commenting on the Infection Control protocol. I would like to thank everyone who provided valuable and useful feedback.

The updated document based on this feedback will be sent out this week for adoption for the national manual.

Another chapter for review will be sent out shortly.

New Equipment

The Christchurch Laboratory is the proud owner of a new Sensormedics Box. The team are madly working away to commission the box.

A number of other centres around NZ are working hard getting new equipment up and running.... Must be the time for new arrivals!!

2010 NZ Branch Meeting

After much quiet planning in the background I am pleased to announce a very exciting branch meeting. This years meeting will be held overlooking "The snow covered Southern Alps and the foot of the Remarkables on **19 & 20 August 2010 in Queenstown.**

To tie in with the location being the NZ Adventure capital this years meeting will have the theme "Adventure Respiratory Physiology". So please place this in the diary and come along. There should be plenty of snow for the ski bunnies out there, a brilliant scientific program and a picturesque view of Lake Wakatipu and the Southern Alps.

That is all for a brief branch news for NZ with the lead up to the ASM. I look forward to seeing a number of NZ members in Brisbane, and don't forget to attend the AGM or put in a proxy vote.

'til next month (or Brisbane)

Chris

Christopher O'Dea

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Queensland

Members met on the 17th February for our first meeting of 2010. It was a practice run for those presenting at the ANZSRS ASM, and a good opportunity to gauge feedback and seek input for fine-tuning. Many thanks for your good presentations and we wish you well Debbie Jenni and Jarrod and those others presenting later this month. Also many thanks for the continued support of GlaxoSmithKline, BirdHealthCare and MSDA to our local Branch meetings.

The next local meeting is April 21st. Our member Leanne Rodwell has offered to present her work on Hypoxia Altitude Simulation Testing.

Further ideas and suggested speakers for the rest of the year are needed. Please let us know.

Congratulations go to Mr Jarrod Warner for his appointment as our incoming Branch Regional Representative. Many thanks Jarrod, and also a busy year for you with your wedding in June. Congrats again and we wish you well!

Also soon to be married in May is member Sharna Wilkinson, ably assisted again by Deb Z as Sharna's Bridesmaid. We need photos! We wish you well Sharna.

We welcome a number of new Queensland members: Claire Shackleton from WA (at Royal Children's); David Irvin (Greesnlopes Private Hospital); Irene Schneider (The Prince Charles Hospital). Irene is being employed by Queensland Health as a Respiratory Science Educator, for work within the Laboratories of Queensland.

We also welcome to Queensland our President, Deb Burton. We hope your move has gone very well for you Debbie.

Congratulations also to Mark Davis (Royal Brisbane) on the birth of your first child. Well done!

Lab's in Queensland are busy preparing either for the ASM meeting or impending accreditation. The Gold Coast date for site visit is April 21st. Congratulations go to the Mater Children's Lung Function Lab for becoming Paediatric Accredited.

No Lab profile this month. The Royal Hospitals have been both very busy, and we hope to get the Profiles back on track in April.

Yours in respiratory science,

Andrew Coates
ably assisted by **Debbie Zagami**

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South Australia

2010 is off to a great start with a strong attendance at our first meeting on February 23rd. Our thanks go to Daniel Stadler for sharing the findings of his thesis work relation to Obstructive Sleep Apnoea and to Richard Parsons for refreshing us on Lung compliance measurements. Thanks also to our sponsors for the evening, Cathryn Furby and Craig Abud from Niche Medical, who provided refreshments and were able to attend and catch up with everyone.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work by the SA respiratory labs in changing to the standard predicted equation set of NHANES 1999 and ECCS 93. Considerable time and effort has been made by laboratories to meet the change over. As expected some systems/software posed a few challenges that have now been dealt with. We hope that this initiative will help to minimise the differences in interpretation of lung function tests that has previously existed because of the various predicted sets that were in use.

For those travelling to Brisbane for the ASM, remember to VOTE, March 20th is the day of the SA state election!

Lastly please everyone, give your support to Melanie Toomey who is taking over as Regional rep as of the ASM.

Michelle

Michelle Rozzee
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Victoria / Tasmania

The ANZSRS ASM for 2009 is almost upon us. Those presenting work at the meeting will be hard at work fine tuning their talks and posters and making the final adjustments for the conference.

Our first branch meeting for the year is next week, the 9th of March, and it provides those with talks and posters an opportunity to have a dress rehearsal before the meeting in Brisbane. We have seven people presenting at the branch meeting which is an amazing number, so members have clearly been busy.

Look forward to seeing everyone in Brisbane

Faizel

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Western Australia

Hello again, still breathing we hope...

Clinical meeting

We have just survived our first meeting for the year, a practice session for our members that are presenting in Brisbane. Elizabeth Salamon from Royal Perth Hospital presented her work "Multiple Breath Nitrogen Washout: How long must we wait?" and Maureen Verheggen, from Princess Margaret Hospital presented her work "Respiratory symptoms in young children with a history of BPD causes worsening of distal lung function". The meeting was held at Princess Margaret Hospital for Children, and was generously sponsored by Astra-Zeneca. We were very excited to see some new faces at the meeting!!

TSANZ WA Associates meeting

The date has been set for the annual WA joint TSANZ / ANZSRS meeting. It will be held on the 16-17th October at the Sanctuary Golf Resort in Bunbury. So lock these dates in your diary and get your golf skills up to scratch for a fun filled weekend...

QA

Sharon Lagan has been the latest victim for our rigorous QA routine. It is not an easy task, so thanks to Sharon for volunteering her lungs. If you also have a pair of lungs that would like to volunteer, let us know!

Perth ASM

Plans for the National ASM in Perth in 2011 are well and truly underway! The theme for the meeting is "Living, Breathing, Science". The date is 1st-6th April 2011.

Next WA Clinical Meeting



For those who have been driven “around the bend” the next meeting is for you! It will be held on Wednesday 14th April 2010, at Fremantle Hospital, with a tour of the hyperbaric chamber. Other branch meeting dates for this year are the 10th June, 8th September.

The Respiratory Symposium will be held on the 18th October following the joint ANZSRS/TSANZ local meeting in Funbury.

Well, that’s it for now, as we tell our patients, “Keep going, keep going, keep going...” and we’ll see you in Brisbane!

Cheers,
E & E

Elise Chu, BSc, CRFS
Ablly assisted by Elizabeth Salamon, BSc,CRFS
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Governance & Vision Sub-committee Report

Just a quick note to remind you all to read the comprehensive information on the website, provided by the Board, on the changes to the ANZSRS structure and rules which will be voted on, by special resolution, at the AGM in two weeks. If you are a voting member and unable to attend, please complete the proxy form and forward to Leigh, Honorary Secretary, as soon as possible so your voice counts – you may also have it delivered to her prior to the start of the AGM in Brisbane.

If you have questions regarding the material on the website, please use the governance forum to ask so that all members can see the response from the Board. Your question may be one that others are thinking.....

See you in Brisbane!

Brigitte

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