

Branch News – October 2004.

Executive Musings.

This month brings us, the Executive, closer to the 'business end' of our term. Our duties have kept us busy throughout the last 18 months but we have an even busier 6 months ahead.

As well as the issues that are raised on the website or are brought to the attention of members via email, many hours are spent in the day-to-day running of the Society. Currently we are preparing for next year's Board Meeting, Friday 18th March, 2005, 13:30 and Annual General Meeting, Saturday 19th March, 2005, 16:30. Both meetings will be held at the Perth Convention Centre during the ASM. Any items for the agenda of either meeting should be brought to the attention of your Local Board representative or can be directly sent to the Secretary. The meetings are an integral part of our Society and input from the broader membership is paramount to continuing the Society's development and growth.

The Executive and Board are also conducting a review of the Society position descriptions and Guideline papers to ensure that they adequately reflect the continued requirements of the Society.

Other ongoing tasks for the Executive include working with

- The Registration subcommittee, and NZ members, on the issue of Registration.
- The Governance review committee
- The Spirometry Buyers guide Project team
- The Perth LOC
- The TSANZ on joint issues
- The many outside organizations and individuals that make contact with ANZSRS for advice

We would like to thank everyone that is involved in Society activities, as it is your help that makes the Society stronger.

NAC

The National Asthma Council has initiated a proposal to provide, in conjunction with ANZSRS, a National Spirometry Training course aimed specifically at General Practitioners. Preliminary talks have begun and a meeting with representatives from the NAC, ANZSRS and GP's will be held shortly.

ALF

You may also be aware that the Australian Lung Foundation is calling on Respiratory Scientists to Support World COPD day on the 17th November 2004. The ALF can provide support material for members that are interested in participating. For more

information, please contact The Australian Lung Foundation on 1800 654-301, or email enquiries@lungnet.com.au or visit their website on www.lungnet.com.au If your laboratory is planning to be involved then please write to the Website editor detailing your location and plans for the day and we will post these on the website. This will not only raise the profile of COPD but will also raise the profile of our profession.

As a last reminder for this month, please contact us if you have any concerns, questions or suggestions. We are always happy to hear from you.

David Schembri, President

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Michelle Rozee, Secretary

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Glenn Thomas, Treasurer

lfu@acha.org.au

Perth 2005 Local Organising Committee

The call for abstracts has been posted on the web-site. Make sure you note the earlier than usual closing date and get those abstracts underway. The Perth meeting promises to be an exciting meeting from the formal presentations perspective so let's make sure we have lots of free presentations as well. Don't forget there are some generous prizes on offer for both posters and oral presentations so get to work on your abstract NOW.

Graham Hall

Chair, Perth 2005 LOC

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New South Wales

The NSW Branch of ANZSRS had a very successful mini seminar on the weekend of 11th and 12th September at CSU in Wagga. There were about 20 participants in all, including some postgraduate Respiratory Science students who are studying at the university. It was very good to see student interest and participation.

Gary Nolan attended the COPD4 forum in Birmingham UK in June and gave an excellent update on the disease. It's incredible to realise that the majority of patients who suffer from COPD have never heard the name of their disease. Even more incredible is the thought that when someone presents to a GP with dyspnoea, the ordering of spirometry comes a poor fourth after a chest X-ray, ECG and full blood counts.

Debbie Burton gave an update as to where the Society is at as regards the preparation of the Spirometry Guide. There has been an enormous amount of hard work from the panel that won the tender on behalf of ANZSRS, and progress is impressive.

Dana Anquetil gave an account of her reasons why she became a Respiratory Scientist, and two students, Chris and Clinton, told their stories about the work experience placements that they'd had.

The question of the expected role(s) of a Respiratory Scientist was examined and put back to back with what we actually do.

By popular demand, we finished up with some CRFS questions.

Those who attended felt well rewarded for making the trip to Wagga.

The Saturday night dinner was held at the Royal Garden Chinese Restaurant in Wagga. We are very grateful to Air Liquide for sponsoring the dinner, and to Craig Abud of Niche Medical for supplying some excellent wines.

An excellent time was had by all, and plans are underway for the next meeting at the end of the year.

Gary Nolan & Jacqui Furler

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New Zealand

Nothing received

Josh Stanton CRFS

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Lauren Wallace CRFS

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Queensland

Nothing received

Debbie Murray and Skye McLennan

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South Australia

Nothing received

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Tasmania

Nothing received.

David Johns

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Victoria

Everybody should have recently received a call for nominations for local board members. We encourage people to give some thought to this process and become involved in the Society by putting their hands up to be a board member. It is certainly a worthwhile experience that gives members the opportunity to work behind the scenes in the Society and have a say in how things are done.

Our last Victorian Branch meeting was held at Monash which included a very interesting presentation from Brigitte Borg about interpretation of lung function. It certainly generated some good discussion amongst the small but vocal crowd. Thanks to Medtechnica for supplying nibbles and drinks.

The final Victorian Branch meeting is tentatively planned for December 1st at St Vincents Hospital, so keep that date clear.

Danny Brazzale and Brigitte Borg
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Western Australia

Our last branch meeting at Royal Perth Hospital was lucky to enough to have Dr Mike Musk present an overview of lung transplant practices and an update of the development of the transplant unit at Royal Perth Hospital which is due to open it's doors later this year. Special thanks to David McKinnie of Medtechnia for providing drinks and nibbles.

Brief discussions were held about the upcoming nominations of Board reps with WA requiring two new volunteers to step into the breach with both Graham and Rob moving to the Exec in 2004. Also highlighted was the need to generate abstracts in the very near future with the closing date moved forward to allow for publication of the ANZSRS abstracts for the first time.

Also looming in our calendar is the annual TSANZ WA branch meeting with several ANZSRS members making the effort to attend every year. This year's invited speaker, Prof. Peter Gibson, promises to reward all members who make the trip to Mandurah for the meeting.

Graham Hall & Robert Tagliaferri

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CRFS news

The next round of CRFS exams is scheduled for November 2004. Applications should reach me before 25 October.

This month's CRFS questions are on Spirometry. These questions, and the answers to last month's questions, may be accessed from the Members Only Area of the web-site.

Stephen West, CRFS

CRFS Coordinator

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