

Branch News – June 2005.

Executive Musings

One of the most important jobs in the ANZSRS is that of the Publications Editor. Through the editor and the web site, our voice is heard throughout the ether. Over the last few years this job has been filled (overfilled!) by Kevin Gain. He has done an absolutely magnificent job and I do not envy the person who follows as they have some big shoes to fill. But we must find someone to fill those shoes. It would be unreasonable, and unfair, to expect Kevin to continue forever. The recent call by the Executive for the Publications Editor and Assistant Editors has, unfortunately, been very disappointing with a complete lack of interest shown.

The only nomination received was for Kevin Gain, and his appointment has been ratified by the Board. This is a vital role, since without the Publications Editor the website ceases to exist and the communication between the Executive, Board and Members will be diminished. The Society's website has been growing exponentially in recent years. Thanks solely to the excellent job Kevin has been doing. The job of managing the Society's Publications (website, position papers and corporate style) is a critical role that is too large for one person to do justice to alone. Hence the creation of the Assistant Editors. If there are any members that are interested in helping their Society and not sure how, then please put up your hand. We need your help.

Congratulations to the latest successful candidates sitting CRFS:

Kyle Reid from Wellington Hospital, Wellington, N.Z.

Cameron Stewart from St Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne

One final note. Not all members are currently financial for 2005 (and another handful still owe for 2004!). Apart from the ASM, the only income the Society generates is from membership fees. A lot of time is taken up in chasing people for fees. If you have not paid for 2005, or are not sure if you have, then please check with Rob or Derek before you get a reminder letter/email next month. Thanks.

Graham, Rob and Derek.

Graham Hall, President

Graham.hall@health.wa.gov.au

Robert Tagliaferri, Secretary

Robert.tagliaferri@health.wa.gov.au

Derek Figurski, Treasurer

Derek.Figurski@rgh.sa.gov.au

New South Wales

All has been fairly quiet this month at least until last Friday when NSW members met in Gosford!

Thank you Gary and team for a great meeting! There was a good show of support for our first 2005 NSW Branch meeting and we all enjoyed a good catch-up after Perth. Thank you to RJ and VK Bird and company for much appreciated sustenance after the Friday rush to get out of Sydney! I have to say that catching the train was a very relaxing experience with beautiful views of the Hawkesbury. The meeting was held in the new conference facilities and Gary shared some very interesting insights into methods for detecting COPD earlier and the

possible long-term outcomes of this. I think we all left feeling inspired by the progress that Gary and the IT team up there have made, supplying departments and outreach teams with very efficient access to reporting. We also gained some very handy advice on how to approach related departments and encourage a more positive approach to lung function through support and positive feedback. I think that is about all for now.

The next branch meeting is to be held on Friday 29th July at Nepean Hospital and will be hosted by Merylese Mercieca and Chris O'Dea. The theme will be lab accreditation and general practitioners' and spirometry. See you at Nepean in July!

Alison and Debbie

Alison Boynton
BoyntonA@sesahs.nsw.gov.au

Debbie Burton, CRFS
dburton@csu.edu.au

New Zealand

Well it's that time of the month again! Not too much exciting stuff has been happening here in NZ, well at least not that I've heard about anyway. Not one NZ ANZSRS member had any exciting gossip for me this month so my report will be short and sweet.

A small meeting has been organised to be held on the 5th July to discuss the ongoing goal of voluntary professional registration for NZ Respiratory Scientists / Technologists / Technicians. There is an opportunity for NZ members to apply for voluntary registration with the NZ Society of Cardiopulmonary Technology Registration Board (SCTRB). The move to voluntary registration with the SCTRFB is seen as a first step towards full registration for all NZ members, and is in no way designed to separate us from the ongoing development of full professional registration and recognition through ANZSRS. The two NZ Board Reps plus one representative from Auckland, Wellington, Dunedin and Christchurch, will participate in this meeting to discuss and define the registration requirements for SCTRFB voluntary registration for ANZSRS NZ members.

The joint ANZSRS/TSANZ NZ Branch ASM is to be held in Wellington this year. The meeting is still in the planning stages at present, so we will have to update you further next time. Just remember that we welcome all members to these meetings so if you feel like a trip to NZ this year, keep the ASM in mind!

Lauren & David

Lauren Wallace
lauren.wallace@cdhb.govt.nz
David Robiony-Rogers CRFS
David.Robiony-Rogers@ccdhb.org.nz

Queensland

Welcome back Pauline!

There is little other news to share from QLD respiratory land this month. Everyone must be quietly going about their work.....or outside enjoying the fabulous autumn weather on offer. As for society news, don't forget the TSANZ advanced course on the physiology of exercise in health and disease coming up later in the month. This will be a great weekend at the Royal Prince Alfred and as early bird registration has closed, be sure to get your registration sent off soon.

The next QLD branch meeting will be held on the last Wednesday in June (29th). We are still awaiting confirmation from our invited speaker, so look out for an email from us to confirm the topic of discussion.

Leanne Rodwell and Skye McLennan
Leanne_rodwell@health.qld.gov.au
Skye_McLennan@health.qld.gov.au

South Australia

Nothing received
Donna and Sharla

Donna Keatley
donna.keatley@nwahs.sa.gov.au

Sharla Anderson
lfunit@burnsidehospital.asn.au

Tasmania

Nothing received.

David Johns, CRFS
david.johns@utas.edu.au

Victoria

This past month we have had one member sit the CRFS exam. Haven't heard back how it went, but regardless of the outcome well done for having a go! Time for all those who keep saying that they'll sit the next one to stop procrastinating, register and hit the books!

Having sat and passed the CRFS ten years ago now after one year's experience in a respiratory laboratory, I wonder how much of the knowledge I acquired, to pass the exam, I still use on a daily basis in the workplace now. Having flicked through the practice paper, I realise that there is not much that I don't use. The study you do will not be wasted – so have a go!

Brigitte

We must thank members from the Austin for their hospitality at our May Branch Meeting. Thanks also to MedTechnica for providing supper. The evening consisted of feedback to the membership from the Board and Annual General Meetings, a presentation by Danny on radio-ablation of airway smooth muscle and some interesting cases.

For our next meeting planned for July 5th we are hoping to secure the services of a member of the Hyperbaric Medicine Service here at The Alfred. We will let you know as soon as we have confirmation.

Regards,

Bruce and Brigitte

Bruce Thompson, CRFS, and Brigitte Borg, CRFS
b.thompson@alfred.org.au
b.borg@alfred.org.au

Western Australia

Fairly quiet on the western front for the last month, although there was a bit of a data frenzy in preparation for ATS.

CRFS Workshops

In early May, Kevin Gain circulated a questionnaire aimed at assessing the needs and wants of those wishing to pursue ongoing education workshops and the CRFS. Thanks to those who responded to Kevin's request for info and thanks to Kevin for undertaking this information gathering task. Those that responded to the questionnaire met on Thursday 26th May and planned the format and time of the workshops. Bill Noffsinger has volunteered to be the session co-ordinator.

Workshops will be held for one hour on the fourth Thursday of every month at 8.15 for an 8.30am start – 9.30am. The first session will be on Thursday 23rd June at the Department of Pulmonary Physiology, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital (room to be advised). The topic is 'Instrumentation Used to Measure Flow and Volume'. Coffee, tea and muffins will be available.

The workshops are open to all local members interested in ongoing ed, however, the content and emphasis of the workshops will be directly aimed at the CRFS. If anyone requires more information, please contact Bill Noffsinger, Chris Nathan, or Sally Young.

Preliminary Notice of TSANZ-WA Associates & ANZSRS-WA Annual Scientific Meeting*

When: 22rd/23th October 2005

Where: The Atrium, Mandurah

Theme: Breathing Under Extreme Conditions

Key Note Speaker: Dr Sandy Anderson, University of Sydney

There will be a call for abstracts, nominations for awards and registration closer to the meeting. So start thinking about this now!

Details of Registration and Program to be announced....

★Sponsored by Allen & Hanburys, Pfizer Pty Ltd and Boehringer Ingelheim Pty Ltd

Local Research Award

A new initiative for this year is the inclusion of ANZSRS (WA) into the TSANZ - WA Associates Annual Scientific Meeting. As part of this, a new award is in

the process of being created. The Award will be for the best research poster presentation by an ANZSRS (WA) member at the weekend ASM. More details of this award (e.g. entry criteria, prize) will be circulated shortly.

As the Award requires a name, all WA members are invited to put their thinking caps on and get creative to come up with an appropriate name for the Award.

Considerations for the Award name should include:

- the professional importance of a research award
- the endeavour of research
- the area of respiratory/pulmonary physiology

recognition of the regionality of the Award

The aim is to have an enduring annual Award that highlights the research of local respiratory scientists. The suggested Award names will be open to a local member vote. So, have a think and forward your ideas to either Sally Young or Chris Nathan.

Closing Date: Wednesday June 15th.

June Diary Reminders

Clinical Meeting

Wednesday 15th June 5pm at Princess Margaret Hospital for Children

Topic: 'The Effect of Postnatal Lung Growth on Adult Respiratory Function'

Invited Speaker: Dr Andrew Wilson Consultant Paediatrician (Sleep & Respiratory Medicine)

CRFS Workshop

Thursday 23rd June, 8.30 - 9.30am

The Department of Pulmonary Physiology, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital

Topic: 'Instrumentation Used to Measure Flow and Volume'

Amanda Rowe awaits . . .

Our best wishes to Amanda who is about to commence maternity leave from Lung Function Services at The Mount Hospital. We hope to keep in contact with Amanda, even though she won't be in the lab for a while, and look forward to hearing about the new arrival.

. . . and that's the WA news for May.

Chris & Sally

Christine Nathan, CRFS, and Sally Young

Christine.nathan@health.wa.gov.au

Sally.young@health.wa.gov.au

CRFS news

During May another round of CRFS exams was held at both Australian and New Zealand locations. As a consequence of their success at these exams, it's my pleasure to announce that the latest members of the society to gain the CRFS credential are Kyle Reid from Wellington Hospital, N.Z. and Cameron Stewart from St Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne. Congratulations to Kyle and Cameron. Thanks also to Brigitte Borg, Kevin Ellyett, David Robiony-Rogers and Graham Simpson for supervising the exams. The number of certified respiratory function scientists is now 73.

The next scheduled round of CRFS exams is scheduled for 25 November 2005. Closing date for applications is 28 October. If the scheduled date is inconvenient alternatives can be arranged by contacting me.

Stephen West, CRFS
CRFS Coordinator
Stephen_west@wsahs.nsw.gov.au