

## *Branch News – August, 2006.*

### **Executive Musings**

As usual, winter is the busiest time for all of us. However, several items rear their ugly head at this time of the year. A second round of reminders for payment of 2006 fees have been sent out and Derek & Rob thank those members who have since paid. If you still have not paid your 2006 fees, then it is not too late - contact Rob or Derek to arrange payment. Payment of fees should be a lot more streamlined from 2007 with payment due in the first 2 months of the year, but also payment of ANZSRS fees as part of the ASM registration will be available a lot sooner than it was this year, so we hope that most members will be able to make use of this facility.

The Board terms will expire at the end of this year, so nominations for regional representatives will be called for in a couple of months. However, with the current Governance review taking place, the next term of the Board is likely to be a short 'interim' term. Both the Executive and Governance subcommittee will be encouraging the existing Board to re-nominate to retain as much understanding of the review process that has occurred to date. If you have any queries about Governance, please do not hesitate to contact our regional representative or the Governance members (contact details are on the ANZSRS web site).

One of the highlights of the ASM is the Annual Dinner, and the Executive are pleased to announce the continuing sponsorship of the ANZSRS Annual Dinner by Mayo Healthcare. Our thanks to Matthew Sanger (Product Manager - Respiratory Diagnostics) and Mayo Healthcare for signing on for a further 3 years.

*Graham, Rob and Derek.*

Graham Hall, President

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Derek Figurski, Treasurer

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### **New South Wales**

August already!

The last meeting of the NSW branch was held at The Prince of Wales Hospital in Randwick. Thanks to the organisation and kind hospitality of Sandra Jeffrey and team, over 20 people attended to hear Assoc Prof Paul Thomas present on “Nitric Oxide: The new respiratory function test”. Dr Thomas gave a brief overview of the history of NO as a measurement tool in the assessment of airway inflammation before discussing the validity of NO in respiratory function measurements. The presentation was well received with a lively question time and a lot of positive feedback from members attending.

Thank you again to Mayo Healthcare for kindly sponsoring this meeting and our thanks also to Dr Thomas for a stimulating presentation.

There was also a recent gathering at COHIBAR at Darling Harbour to farewell “our” Gary Nolan. Gary is taking the opportunity to spend some time working with the team at Princess

Margaret in Perth and although we are sad lose such a valuable team player, we are happy to “share” Gary, as long as it is only for a short time GRAHAM!

Congratulations Dana Anquetil in gaining the CRFS, well done!

Our next branch meeting is as yet to be decided. Are there any labs out there that are overcome with the desire to host us all? If so, let Debbie or Alison know and we will be happy organise with you.

*Alison and Debbie*

Alison Boynton  
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Debbie Burton, CRFS  
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## ***New Zealand***

The NZ Branch would like to welcome Andrew Morley from Glasgow, Scotland, as a new member to ANZSRS. The NZ Branch now has 45 members and growing!

Palmerston North Hospital is in the process of getting a new integrated Sleep Service up and running. The team is keen to present some sleep-related information/research at future meetings.

In regards to the annual local meeting we usually run in conjunction with the TSANZ, this year the meeting is going to be held in Auckland on the 13th October 2006. The NZ Lung Cancer Group have organised a one-day meeting and are happy to run this in conjunction with the TSANZ and ANZSRS. Their primary aim is to develop NZ guidelines for management of lung cancer. We are looking to include, in a breakout session, 1-2 talks on pre-op lung function testing, and the presentation of original research. For those members looking to present at the 2007 ASM in Auckland, this is an ideal meeting to practice presentations and get some valuable feedback. We will circulate further meeting details as they arise. These local meetings are currently the only chance the NZ Branch members have to come together to meet, present and discuss our work, so we welcome any suggestions for this, or future meetings.

*Lauren & David*

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David Robiony-Rogers CRFS  
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## ***Queensland***

Nothing received

*Leanne & Skye*

Leanne Rodwell and Skye McLennan  
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## ***South Australia***

Nothing received

*Donna and Sharla*

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Sharla Anderson  
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## **Tasmania**

Nothing received.

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## **Victoria**

The next branch meeting, to be held at Monash Medical centre on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September, follows the theme of thoracic anatomy. More details to follow in an invitation shortly....

A little discussion has ensued following our last branch news that commented on and raised questions regarding the latest ATS/ERS guidelines for lung function testing and interpretation. In particular, regarding the following question:

- When monitoring lung function (eg clinical notes state “CF for review”), do we need to report spirometry – “there is an obstructive ventilatory defect”, or should we be just comparing results to previous – “ In comparison to previous results, there has been a decline in FEV<sub>1</sub>.”

Conversations around this have led us to the conclusion that a report needs to stand on it’s own, even if it is being used for monitoring – so we should report the findings from the test as well as a comparison. Additionally, if the subject slips from normal to abnormal between visits, this may be missed, if only comparisons are made. We’re interested in others takes on this.

The Victorian membership has been asked to form a Local Organising Committee for the 2008 ASM in Melbourne. The following members have volunteered to participate:

Brigitte Borg (Chair)  
Danny Brazzale  
Bruce Thompson  
Sue Brenton  
Lorraine Leversha  
Pam Liakakos  
Matthew Ellis

Some correspondence has already taken place regarding the theme for the meeting. We hope to get together in the next month or so, to finalise the theme and begin planning for guest speakers, the structure of the meeting and, of course, the dinner!

Finally, a call to all members out there travelling to the ERS Congress in Munich at the end of the month. Is anyone interested in making plans to catch up over there as a group? Email Brigitte if you are.

Regards,

*Bruce and Brigitte*

Bruce Thompson, CRFS  
Brigitte Borg, CRFS

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## **Western Australia**

### **Clinical Presentation Meeting**

The next clinical presentation will be given by Bill Smith, Respiratory Scientist, Fremantle Hospital and will be held at the PMH campus.

**“Science isn’t scary – having to tell an audience what I’ve been doing *is* scary!”  
Tips to Reduce the Fear**

Bill is a highly experienced, industry recognised professional public speaker and earlier this year, he spoke on the principles of public speaking. There was an overwhelming request for an encore. A flyer has been circulated which includes the pre-meeting homework tasks! This promises to be a very interesting and educational workshop session with a key emphasis on participation. Everyone who attends this session will be asked to either present or ‘mini-chair’.

### **CRFS Study Group**

The July sessions were hosted by Robert Tagliaferri and Bill Noffsinger. The study group will now go into recess. Amanda has circulated the CRFS examination application form and has offered to lodge the applications on behalf of study group members. Applications must be submitted one month prior to the exam dates. Information regarding exam dates, start times, and venue has been circulated. For further information contact: Amanda Piper (Study Group Co-ordinator), Christine Nathan or Sally Young. The WA-Branch would like to take this opportunity to thank Amanda Piper for her efforts as the study group co-ordinator for 2006 and all the session hosts for sharing the workload.

*All the best to everyone taking the CRFS exam in the coming months!*

### **TSANZ-WA/ANZSRS-WA ASM**

The organisation for this meeting continues. Registration, abstract submission information, and program details will be available shortly. Full details for accommodation options have been circulated. As for previous years, we strongly recommend booking your accommodation early, due to the high demand for that weekend.

Remember to apply for:

(1) **Respiratory Scientist Education Grant:** created to support ongoing professional educational activity. The Grant may be used towards: course registration/enrolment, conference attendance (presentation), research project funding contribution, conference attendance (non-presenting). The Grant is open to all members of the WA Branch (senior, junior, ordinary, associate) and will be adjudicated by an independent-of-ANZSRS panel. The Grant is generously sponsored by Mayo Healthcare.

(2) **Accommodation Subsidies:** for the Combined TSANZ-WA/ANZSRS-WA ASM. Open to all local members registering for the full weekend meeting, including the Saturday night ASM dinner and overnight stay the Swan Valley.

AND/OR nominate a worthy recipient for:

(3) **The Janine Panizza Award:** in recognition of an individual who has made a substantial contribution to respiratory physiology.

So lots of opportunity for involvement of all members on the Combined meeting front. Full details on all of the above will be circulated shortly. For information regarding the Combined Meeting or any of the awards on offer, contact Christine Nathan or Sally Young.

### **ACOSH**

Mari Noffsinger reports that ACOSH is holding a special event at 'The Vic' Hotel on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July to celebrate the end of smoking in West Australian hotels, clubs, and nightclubs. For more information about ACOSH activities please contact Sunalene Devadason or Mari Noffsinger.

### **Book Group**

The monthly order for July has been placed – those who have placed an order will be notified as soon as the books arrive. Closing date for next ordering cycle is Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August. Please forward orders to either Sally Young or Christine Nathan.

### **Social Activities**

*Film Night:* Come & join us for an evening at the movies to see a film on a subject close to the heart of all respiratory physiologists - and you don't come across that very often. Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September, Luna at Leederville – session time to be confirmed closer to date.

#### **'Thankyou for Smoking'.**

“Based on Christopher Buckley's acclaimed 1994 novel of the same title and adapted for the screen by Jason Reitman, THANK YOU FOR SMOKING is a fiercely satirical look at today's "culture of spin.”

For more information contact Christine Nathan or Sally Young.

### **News From Around Town**

A new respiratory and sleep laboratory service will commence operation at Joondalup Health Campus from August 7<sup>th</sup>: 'The Joondalup Sleep & Respiratory Service'. Dr's Scott Claxton and Helen Bell are the Medical Directors, with Christine Nathan managing the respiratory function laboratory. Chris will be part-time at both Joondalup and Dept Respiratory Medicine, Royal Perth. All the best to everyone involved with the Joondalup endeavour.

Chris was particularly taken with her first DLCO gas mixture delivery for the 'Joondalup Service':

Ne: 0.51%, CO 20.9%, O2 0.30%, N2 Bal

Everyone pick the problem? What a doozy – how would you like a suck of that mix!!

### **Diary Reminders**

- **August 16th:** Clinical Presentation Session (Princess Margaret Hospital)
- **September 6<sup>th</sup>:** Social Activity: Film Night
- **October 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup>:** TSANZ-WA/ANZSRS-WA Local ASM, The Vines, Swan Valley
- **October 30<sup>th</sup>:** WA Respiratory Symposium (3 – 5.30pm), Telethon Institute for Child Health Research.

That's the news from WA for August.

*Chris & Sally*

Christine Nathan, CRFS (RPH)

Sally Young, PhD (SCGH)

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## **CRFS**

There was increased CRFS activity in July with 9 candidates attempting the exam in 5 cities (Dunedin and Invercargill N.Z., Brisbane, Sydney and Rockhampton Aus.).

Congratulations are extended to the following society members for gaining CRFS status:

Dana ANQUETIL

Penelope FAULKNER

Dale GWYNNE

Carla SHAW

Avis WILLIAMSON

There are now 85 Certified Respiratory Function Scientists.

The CRFS Working Party has recommended that the content included in the CRFS exam is expanded to include all commonly performed respiratory function tests. Therefore, it's likely that from 2008 the exam will include questions relating to broncho-provocation, respiratory muscle strength, cardio-pulmonary exercise and arterial blood gases. If you have any comments please discuss with your peers, board representatives or myself.

**Stephen West**

**CRFS Coordinator**

**1/8/2006.**