

Branch News – April, 2007.

Executive Musings

We hope that everyone has recovered from the Auckland ASM and Easter. Paul Kelly and the LOC are to be congratulated for putting together a very interesting program. Professor Kim Prisk was a highly entertaining presenter, even with the challenge of having almost lost his voice over the weekend! We also welcomed Kim into the Society by presenting him with an Honorary membership. The theme for the ASM was lungs in extremes, which really is about how the lungs change and adapt.

Our Society is also undergoing change with the overwhelming majority of the members at the AGM agreeing to the new Governance model for our Society to adopt. The Executive would like to thank Paul Guy and the Governance subcommittee for all their hard work, especially over the last 12 months. While this committee has now satisfied its Terms of Reference, the work will continue over the next 12 months while we transition into the new structure and the ANZSRS Constitution is rewritten - no easy task and we thank Paul again for taking this on.

The Executive would also like to thank Stephen West for this year as CRFS coordinator, a position he has held since the CRFS was formulated many years ago. The CRFS will play an even bigger role in the Society as registration of respiratory scientists becomes more of an issue, so Peter Rochford, the new CRFS coordinator will have a challenging task ahead of him.

Several Awards were presented at the Auckland ASM, so we would like to congratulate Peter Briffa, Elizabeth Salamon and Elise McKeon who all received the ANZSRS Scholarship (total funds allocated this year was \$3000); Lauren Wallace for Compumedics Best Poster Award and Catherine Walsh for the Technipro Best Oral Award; and finally the following people who successfully attained the CRFS over the last 12 months: Dana Anquetil, Richard Chock, Penelope Faulkner, Dale Gwynne, Graham Hall, Sharon Lagan, Nicola McNaught, Barbara O'Donovan, Sina Panic, Michelle Peters, Amanda Piper, Carla Shaw, Rob Tagliaferri, Avis Williamson, Lisa Wilson, and Sally Young.

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New South Wales

April already! Everyone seems to have head down and tail up since the Auckland ANZSRS meeting. We have had some positive feedback from the research workshop so keep up the good work!

The next NSW branch meeting will be held at POW Hospital in Randwick. We are planning to pursue the research theme as the APSR is coming up in November this year and hopefully we can encourage a few more applications from NSW. Time and topic to be advised.

Alison and Debbie

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New Zealand

New Zealand was proud to host the ANZSRS ASM this year. Well done and a big thanks to the local organising committee for organising such a fantastic program. The guest speakers were brilliant and the topics really interesting. The LOC have received a lot of positive feedback from members who attended this meeting. We strongly encourage all members to formalise their feedback on the Conference Evaluation forms.

Comments will be addressed by the SCC and the next local organising committee so please get them in.

The Christchurch Respiratory Laboratory is running a one-day Spirometry Update Course at The George Hotel on the 5th May, 2007. Places are limited so if anyone is interested, please contact Lauren Wallace (Lauren.wallace@cdhb.govt.nz). A two-day Spirometry Course may be run later in the year depending on interest.

Lauren Wallace CRFS
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David Robiony-Rogers CRFS
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Queensland

Nothing received

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South Australia

Nothing received

Donna Keatley
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Sharla Anderson
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Tasmania

Nothing received.

David Johns, CRFS
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Victoria

Nothing received.

Faizel Hartley, CRFS
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Paul Guy, CRFS
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Western Australia

Clinical Presentation Meeting

The first clinical presentation of the year will be April 18th with Dr Merci Kusel (ICHR) as the invited speaker. Dr. Kusel will be presenting on: 'Acute Respiratory Infections & Wheezing in Pre-School Children: The Role of Rhinoviruses, Antibiotics, & Early Sensitisation.'

Please note the following changes to the clinical presentation meeting schedule:

- Wednesday 20th June has been changed to Wednesday 13th June.
- Wednesday 21st November has been changed to Wednesday 28th November

Suggestions/requests for topics and/or speakers are encouraged. Please contact Chris/Sally if you wish to make a clinical meeting suggestion.

Auckland ASM

Congratulations and thanks to the Local Organising Committee for a highly enjoyable and successful ASM. As usual, the ASM provided an excellent opportunity to catch-up with interstate and inter-Tasman colleagues. Local members are encouraged to take the time to complete the ASM feedback form, as this greatly assists future LOCs.

TSANZ-WA Associates Committee Representation

Sina Panic (SCGH), reports that organising for the Combined Society Local ASM is continuing. The 2007 meeting will be held on the weekend of 20th/21st October and will again be at 'The Vines Resort' located in the lovely Swan Valley. This year's theme is 'Environmental and Occupational Lung Disease' with Professor Gary Anderson as the Keynote Speaker. For further information regarding this meeting please contact Sina. Registration documents will be circulated later in the year.

ANZSRS-WA Respiratory Symposium

The symposium will be held on Monday 22nd October, following on from the Combined Society Local ASM. The 2007 invited speaker is Dr. Gary Anderson, who shall be having a very busy three days as he is also the keynote speaker for the Combined Society weekend meeting. Details of the symposium e.g. theme and local presenters shall be circulated at a later date. Dr. Anderson's visit to Western Australia has been generously sponsored by funding from TSANZ and Pharmaxis.

TSANZ-WA Executive Committee Representation

A new initiative for 2007 is the opportunity for respiratory scientists to attend the TSANZ Lung Club Dinner Meetings. The first evening is to be held on Tuesday 24th April, 7pm at 'La Vigna'. Dr. Andrew Wilson shall be presenting on 'Familial Interstitial Lung Disease'. Invitations have been circulated and if you wish to attend this dinner meeting please complete and forward rsvp to Sally Young.

Attendance at these meetings is limited, with places being made available for respiratory scientists, researchers, and other TSANZ Associate professions. Allocation of attendance will be done on a first in, first going basis and we do ask that if you accept a position that you do ensure attendance at the dinner meeting. Invited speakers and presentation topics will be circulated as confirmed. Future meeting dates are: Wednesday 20th June, Wednesday 12th

September, and Wednesday 21st November. The TSANZ Lung Club is generously sponsored and by Astra Zeneca.

If any ANZSRS-WA /TSANZ member has an issue/query which they wish to raise with the Exec Committee, please contact Sally.

Book Group

The monthly order for March has been placed – those who ordered will be notified as soon as the books arrive. Closing date for next ordering cycle is Monday 30th April. Please forward orders to either Sally Young or Christine Nathan.

News From Around Town

Congratulations to Elise McKeon who recently announced her engagement to Eric.

Amanda Piper, St John of God Hospital, shall shortly be leaving the world of respiratory physiology. We shall be saddened to 'lose' Amanda, however, wish her all the very best in her new endeavours. The excellent CRFS exam preparation of 2006 would not have been possible without Amanda's efforts.

Diary Reminders

April: Wednesday 18th: Clinical presentation session, DPP SCGH
Tuesday 24th: TSANZ-WA Lung Club Dinner Meeting

That's the news from WA.

Chris & Sally

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