

# **Branch News – May, 2007.**

## ***Executive Musings***

The dust has mostly settled on the ASM (although some sedimentation may still be occurring) and life has returned to normal. The lead up to the meeting generates a considerable amount of work for all that go; however the post-meeting activity is also high. For a number of ANZSRS committees it is the only face-to-face meeting that occurs and therefore there is usually significant progress in Society activities in the period immediately after the meeting.

This was certainly true following the Auckland meeting and we will be seeing a number of issues reaching implementation stage. The Executive would encourage all members to speak to their State representatives about changes that may be happening. You can also find out the progress of major issues from the minutes of the AGM.

A number of individuals have resigned from ANZSRS committees and the Executive is calling for expressions of interest from those members wishing to be involved in the Societies activities. The Society relies on members volunteering their time to ensure the various activities we undertake can be maintained.

We are seeking members interested in participating in the following committees:

- ANZSRS representative on the TSANZ Clinical Care & Resources Subcommittee
- Member at large on the Science and Conference committee
- Three (3) vacancies exist on the Spirometry Training committee

Please contact Robert Tagliaferri by email if you are interested in being involved in any of these groups.

Following the approval of the Governance model by the members at the AGM the Board will now move forward with changes in the Board structure and ultimately a re-write of the constitution. In line with the proposed Governance model the Executive has resigned from the Board effective immediately. We will of course continue to work with the Board to ensure the Societies strategic plans are implemented.

The Executive has also informed the Board of our intention to resign from our Executive positions effective at the 2008 AGM in Melbourne. I would encourage anyone interested in being involved in this exciting period of the Societies growth by being a member of the Executive team to contact your local Board member or any of the Executive for information on what this role entails.

Finally ANZSRS is heavily involved in the organisation of the physiology aspects of [APSR](#). We would encourage all members to consider attending the conference which is being held on the Gold Coast in late November early December. A number of travel grants will be available, both from APSR and ANZSRS. Details of ANZSRS grants can be found in the awards section of the website

***Graham, Rob and Derek***

Graham Hall, President  
[Graham.hall@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:Graham.hall@health.wa.gov.au)

Robert Tagliaferri , Secretary  
[Robert.tagliaferri@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:Robert.tagliaferri@health.wa.gov.au)

Derek Figurski, Treasurer  
[Derek.Figurski@act.gov.au](mailto:Derek.Figurski@act.gov.au)

## ***New South Wales***

News!

Welcome to our newest members for 2007. Catherine Walsh, Michael Panagopoulos, Phillipa Yabsley, Bianca Preo and Ellen O'Connor.

The next NSW branch meeting is at POW in Randwick on Wednesday 23rd of May at 5pm, thanks to Sandra Jeffreys and team. The topic is a review of the ARS/ERS Task Force on TL,CO so get your hands on a copy and come along for some neuron-snapping insights as well as a good feed!

Trevor Borgas has moved from Newcastle to Gosford/Wyong lab, welcome to Trevor.

Look forward to seeing you all there!

## ***Alison & Debbie***

Alison Boynton  
[alison.boynton@swsahs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:alison.boynton@swsahs.nsw.gov.au)  
Debbie Burton, CRFS  
[dburton@csu.edu.au](mailto:dburton@csu.edu.au)

## ***New Zealand***

Nothing received

Lauren Wallace CRFS  
[lauren.wallace@cdhb.govt.nz](mailto:lauren.wallace@cdhb.govt.nz)  
David Robiony-Rogers CRFS  
[David.Robiony-Rogers@ccdhb.org.nz](mailto:David.Robiony-Rogers@ccdhb.org.nz)

## ***Queensland***

Nothing received

Leanne Rodwell and Pauline Lynn  
[Leanne\\_rodwell@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:Leanne_rodwell@health.qld.gov.au)  
[Pauline\\_Lynn@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:Pauline_Lynn@health.qld.gov.au)

## ***South Australia***

Nothing received

Donna Keatley  
[donna.keatley@nwahs.sa.gov.au](mailto:donna.keatley@nwahs.sa.gov.au)

Sharla Anderson

## **Tasmania**

Nothing received.

David Johns, CRFS  
[david.johns@utas.edu.au](mailto:david.johns@utas.edu.au)

## **Victoria**

Nothing received.

Faizel Hartley, CRFS  
[f.hartley@alfred.org.au](mailto:f.hartley@alfred.org.au)

Paul Guy, CRFS  
[pguy@respiratoryservice.com](mailto:pguy@respiratoryservice.com)

## **Western Australia**

### **Clinical Presentation Meeting**

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

This was an excellent presentation on results of a Perth community based birth cohort study – The Childhood Asthma Study – which has been running for 10years. Results from the first five years were presented. Merci covered: Background on the current hypotheses for the increase in atopic diseases observed in the developed countries e.g. The Hygiene Hypothesis; The role antibiotic use during the first year of life on the development of subsequent atopic disease: An assessment of the role of early life atopic markers such as serum IgE and skin prick tests in predicting future atopic disease: The role of early life viral wheezing lower illness in the development of subsequent atopic disease: An assessment of the importance of Rhinovirus as a cause of lower respiratory illness – a significant world first finding. In addition to study results, Merci also introduced the meeting to a new statistical technique – Propensity Scoring – and the concept of reverse causation.

### **Sponsorship**

Grant Vincent, representing Mayo Healthcare, attended the meeting. Mayo Healthcare has confirmed their ongoing generous sponsorship of the clinical presentation meetings. The members present thanked Grant Vincent for the ongoing commitment and support of Mayo Healthcare for ANZSRS-WA activities.

### **Auckland ASM**

Those who attended the Auckland ASM expressed the opinion that the meeting was interesting and successful. The issue of Governance as voted on at the AGM was reviewed by CN. CN also advised that the Governance Sub-Committee has been dissolved as it has met the designated terms of reference. At the Board meeting Kevin Gain and Paul Guy volunteered to develop the Governance implementation terms of reference and a new Governance sub-committee was formed. Both CN and SY are members of the new sub-committee.

### **Professional Registration**

Kevin Gain was invited to present information on the development and implementation of professional registration for respiratory scientists in New Zealand and the potential

implications for adoption of this model in Australia. The members have asked for the Regional Representatives to lodge a request with the Executive Committee seeking a planning statement for registration in Australia. The members also requested a Branch meeting specifically devoted to discussing professional registration with invitations being extended to Gary Nolan and Graham Hall to attend and present. This meeting is scheduled for May 23, at PMH.

### **TSANZ-WA Associates Committee Representation**

Sina Panic reported that planning is underway for the 2006 meeting and that full details of the local asm will be circulated shortly. Prof. Gary Anderson has been confirmed as the TSANZ-WA Keynote speaker.

### **ANZSRS-WA Respiratory Symposium 2007**

As for previous years, the Symposium will follow-on from the Combined Society ASM weekend and will be held on the afternoon of Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> October at the Telethon Institute on Child Health Research. The local Branch is fortunate this year to be able to invite two guest interstate respiratory scientists to attend the Symposium. This has been made possible due to collaboration with TSANZ-WA and ANZSRS-WA specific financial sponsorship from Pharmaxis. Prof. Gary Anderson has accepted our invitation to be the Invited Speaker at the Symposium.

Due to sponsorship from Pharmaxis, we have been able to again offer the 'ANZSRS-WA Visiting Respiratory Scientist Grant'. This sponsorship success has enabled the local Branch to invite a second interstate respiratory scientist to attend both the Symposium and the Combined Society ASM. We are very pleased to be announce that the 2007 recipient of this grant is Paul Guy.

The local Branch is looking forward to hosting and meeting with both Prof Gary Anderson and Paul Guy. The Symposium theme and local presenters will be advertised at a later date.

### **TSANZ-WA Lung Club**

A new initiative for 2007 was the opportunity for respiratory scientists to attend the TSANZ Lung Club Dinner Meetings. The first of these meetings was held on Tuesday 24th April, 7pm at 'La Vigna'. Dr. Andrew Wilson gave a very interesting presentation on 'Familial Interstitial Lung Disease' – more food for thought for the adult respiratory world from our paediatric colleagues. There was an excellent turnout of respiratory scientists and the feedback indicated that the presentation, wine tasting session (how about that 1927 Sherry!!!! – was there anyone in the room who wasn't begging for more??) and dinner was enjoyed immensely. We hope for a similar level of support for the next meeting.

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.

### **CRFS**

Chris Nathan advised that as of 2008 the CRFS content will be expanded to include exercise testing, challenge testing, skin prick allergen testing, MIPS/MEPS, and expansion of the ABG material. Members considering taking the CRFS may wish to form either a study group, as was done in 2006, or a CRFS mentor can be arranged. For further information contact: Christine Nathan or Sally Young.

### **ACOSH**

Mari Noffsinger advised that current activities of ACOSH include: smoking ban for alfresco dining areas; Federal election lobbying planning on the following issues – plain cigarette pack

packaging, smoking in movies, smoking in television shows, taxation, and marketing of cigarettes.

### **Next Clinical Presentation Meeting**

Wednesday 13th June, 2007 to be held by Dept Respiratory Medicine, Royal Perth Hospital. Dr Grant Waterer will be presenting on "Bioterrorism".

### **News From Around Town**

Farewell and all the very best from the WA-Branch to Catherine Delury of Pharmaxis. The local branch would like to take this opportunity to thank Catherine for her friendly professionalism and enthusiastic support of and participation in ANZSRS-WA activities. Jo Prior, (National Marketing Manager), also well known to the local branch, will now be the contact person for Pharmaxis for WA.

### ***Diary Reminders***

May 23: Registration presentation, PMH  
Presenters: Graham Hall, Gary Nolan

June 13: Clinical presentation session, Seminar room RPH  
"Bioterrorism" – Dr Grant Waterer.

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

- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June has been changed to Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June.
- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November has been changed to Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November

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

That's this month's news from WA.

### ***Chris & Sally***

Christine Nathan, CRFS (RPH)  
Sally Young, PhD (SCGH)  
[Christine.nathan@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:Christine.nathan@health.wa.gov.au)  
[Sally.young@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:Sally.young@health.wa.gov.au)