

# **Branch News – June, 2008.**

## ***Executive Musings***

The new Executive is feeling a bit older every day and hopefully a bit wiser...but we had a successful handover meeting with the departing Executive on 28<sup>th</sup> May in Sydney and despite being a little overwhelmed at the volume of files that Rob managed to bring across from Perth we all gained a better understanding of our roles. We also took the opportunity to meet with the Board Chairs, Paul Guy and Alison Boynton, to ensure that we are all communicating appropriately under the new Governance structure.

Sonya Johnston, the chair of our LOC for the Darwin meeting and Mike Brown and Jeff Pretto of the Scientific and Conference Committee have been liaising to develop the draft program. We are making contact with respiratory lab staff and anyone involved in respiratory measurement in Darwin to encourage their involvement and attendance at the 2009 ASM.

ATS has just been completed and the APSR meeting in Bangkok is not far away. The abstract closing date is in July and we encourage all members to consider submitting some work for presentation. The Ascencia and ANZSRS travel grants are available to help ease the financial pain and those presenting should apply for this funding.

Please contact the executive if you have any issues you would like to raise.

Kind regards,

***Debbie, Leigh and Danny***

Debbie Burton, President  
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Leigh Seccombe, Secretary  
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## ***Annual Scientific Meeting News***

**Darwin 2009**  
TSANZ & ANZSRS Annual Scientific Meetings



## **Darwin 3-6 April, 2009**

The scientific program for the 2009 ASM is progressing well. The meeting will be held in Darwin, in the recently constructed Darwin Convention Centre which overlooks the sparkling Arafura Sea. Being located such a long way from the conference site, the Adelaide-based Local Organising Committee settled on a theme for the conference which mirrored the challenges faced by working over distance. The theme, "Lung Function Beyond the

Laboratory" has enabled the Local Organising Committee to prepare a varied program ranging from lung function in Primary Care to Telemedicine. Professor Josep Roca, Director of the Lung Function Unit at the Hospital Clinic, Barcelona, has been secured as the plenary speaker. Prof. Roca has broad interests in respiratory medicine, from gas exchange and development of predicted values, to muscle function and rehabilitation in COPD. His varied knowledge and experience should provide something interesting for all participants.

As a result of the flight schedule out of Darwin, the ANZSRS and TSANZ have agreed to combine some sessions on Sunday to enable the meetings to end earlier in the day to accommodate flights. The integrated program should enable ANZSRS delegates to access one of the TSANZ plenary sessions through their ANZSRS registration. Likewise, the Masterclass session has also been tentatively moved to the Sunday afternoon to ensure ANZSRS delegates can catch flights the following day. The Local Organising Committee has enjoyed the organisation process to date and we welcome any ideas or feedback from ANZSRS membership.

**Sonya**

Sonya Jonhston  
Chair, Darwin 2009 LOC  
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## ***New South Wales / ACT***

Greetings all,

A quick update on happenings.....

Many members have graciously become involved in the NAC / ANZSRS Spirometry Training Course. Good turnout at various locations, and positive feedback coming out of the program. Thanks to all who have put their hand up and become actively involved in sharing knowledge and skills for the greater good. On a lighter note, a presenter at one of these scheduled courses informed me of a funny question they received. On the topic of predicted values and gender, a lady in the audience asked "what about if a woman has had a hysterectomy? I was told that if they've had that done you have to enter them as a male"? This came from a GP nurse who had been performing spirometry for 2 years....

Recently, Debbie, Leigh and Alison attended the Executive/Board handover meeting in late May, and I shall appropriately communicate any relevant progress from this meeting when information comes to hand.

With the process of accreditation fast approaching for many labs, Barbara O'Donovan has suggested a good idea of opening up a discussion board on this topic. I shall be happy to compile a list of interested individuals and help to get the ball rolling before additional discussion at the next branch meeting.

To let you all know what's in the pipeline, the next NSW branch meeting will again conveniently be held at Concord Hospital, with the date set for Thursday the 31<sup>st</sup> July 2008. Planning is currently in progress (tentatively Dr Sandy Anderson to speak on  $\beta_2$  agonist tolerance, Nathan Brown on FOT/compliance, & an ATS/ Niagara Falls report from Leigh Seccombe). I will confirm the final plans via a members email/ flyer as soon as I have confirmation.

Following up on previous plans, Jay Flack has received a few responses to date from people willing to participate in the inter-lab QC project (but it's not too late), and shall progress soon with rounding up a few people to go to the different labs.

Remember that ideas for future meetings, any suggestions/ comments, or news to share from your Lab is always welcome, so please just let me know.

Regards,

**Dana**

Dana Anquetil  
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## ***New Zealand***

Yet another month has progressed and the snow has started falling on the Alps with our ski season off to a good start. All those ski enthusiasts amongst us will no doubt be heading to the slopes in the coming weeks.

2 of our NZ members gained their CRFS in the past month, so a big congratulations to Natalie Dooney and Deborah Taylor. All that hard work has paid off.

Our numbers in the branch continue to keep growing with 3 more members joining us. Theodore Solomon, Mailyn Dimapilis and Cathy Douglas all joined at Starship hospital in Auckland and Elise Pieterse has joined Auckland Physiology. We welcome them and hope that our numbers continue to build.

Until next month

**Chris**

Christopher O'Dea  
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## ***Queensland***

We did not have a meeting in May, as we were in the off-month of our bi-monthly meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June at the Brisbane Private Hospital. We have plans for four presentations by our own members ranging from 6MWD as a predictor of morbidity in COPD, the clinical utility of IOS or FOT, to the usefulness of the MVV measure prior to Respiratory Exercise Testing. So please come along at 1700 to hear more. Subsequent meetings are scheduled for 27<sup>th</sup> August & 29<sup>th</sup> October., We give thanks to GSK for their continued sponsorship of our meetings. Ideas for these future meetings are always invited.

I understand that Brenton Eckert is busy organising the LOC for the 2010 ANZSRS Annual Scientific Meeting in Queensland. If you would like to be involved in then contact Brenton asap.

I am pleased to announce Debbie Zagami is our elected Assistant to the Regional Rep. Debbie is initiating a database of our Labs in Queensland, to serve our communication and networking needs. You will hear more from us soon on this.

Any Queensland members interested in continuing our successful CRFS study group, please let me know of your interest. The next application deadline for the CRFS exam is 19<sup>th</sup> September, with the exam on 17<sup>th</sup> October.

And a reminder again of a great meeting coming up soon. If you need an educational/ social break during the wonderful Queensland Winter, come to the TSANZ Qld Branch Winter Scientific Meeting being held on July 19-20. The theme is Respiratory Infectious Disease. The meeting is being held at the Casuarina Beach Resort. The closing date is upon us soon being Thursday July 10th 2008. Contact me ([Andrew.Coates@mater.org.au](mailto:Andrew.Coates@mater.org.au)) for further registration details.

In relation to the TSANZ Qld winter meeting, if anyone feels they would like to contribute to our own ANZSRS session on any topic, then please contact me ([Andrew.Coates@mater.org.au](mailto:Andrew.Coates@mater.org.au)). If there are enough ANZSRS members going, and they are keen enough, there would be opportunity on the Sunday morning to have our own program.

Yours in Science

**Andrew**

Andrew Coates  
[Andrew.Coates@mater.org.au](mailto:Andrew.Coates@mater.org.au)

## **South Australia**

Unfortunately, due to the necessary change of the date of the May meeting, only a few people were able to attend Associate Professor Hubertus Jersmann's excellent presentation "Interventional Pulmonology - Past, Present and Future". His talk, slides and video of actual procedures were informative and educational and put into perspective some of the challenges faced in dealing with Respiratory disease. I've been told he may be persuaded to repeat his presentation with the promise of more vegetarian pizza and wine! The meeting was kindly sponsored by Air Liquide Healthcare to whom we extend our gratitude.

Recently several Medical Scientist positions in the Public sector have been advertised. Although I have not heard if they have been filled I would encourage members at the respective institutions to inform and invite the successful individuals to ANZSRS. I am happy to contact prospective new members personally, if their details are forwarded to me.

Future meeting dates will be advised on the ANZSRS Calendar page and email.

Hope you all survive the winter ills and stay well,

**Michelle**

Michelle Rozzee  
[respiratorylab@respiratoryspecialists.com.au](mailto:respiratorylab@respiratoryspecialists.com.au)

## **Victoria / Tasmania**

Hi from Victoria,

As we welcome the cold of winter to Victoria and Tasmania we also welcome a new member to the Victorian ranks. Deborah Riley, from the UK, has taken up a research

position at the Austin Hospital and has recently become a member of the Society. We look forward to meeting her at the next branch meeting.

Our last branch meeting, which was held at the Monash Medical Centre, saw a very interesting presentation from Professor Philip Barden on the subject of COPD and the likelihood of a genetic predisposition to developing it. The talk generated some very interesting conversation and we look forward to hearing about any further developments from Professor Bardin's research.

The next branch meeting is scheduled for the 15<sup>th</sup> of July at the Austin Hospital. We look forward to hearing some feedback from those who attended the ATS meeting in Toronto.

Regards,

**Faizel**

Faizel Hartley, CRFS  
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## **Western Australia**

### **May Branch Meeting**

May brought with it a first for WA, with our Clinical meeting being hosted by one of Perth's private laboratories.

We wish to thank Jo-Anne McLaren from St John of God Respiratory and Sleep Centre for making this possible and look forward to many more meetings there.

At the meeting Associate Professor Graham Hall presented his findings on the delivered salbutamol dose from various spacers. These findings indicated: -

- Large volume spacers showed a better particle size and quantity of drug delivery.
- All spacers performed better using a single TLC manoeuvre than with tidal breathing.
- The static properties of the spacers must be taken into consideration, as it has been demonstrated that double the quantity may be delivered when static is minimized.
- To determine which spacer to use, each laboratory should compare the cost of disinfecting and 'detergent dunking' reusable spacers, against the price and convenience of disposable spacers.

A copy of this talk can be found in the member's area of the ANZSRS website under tutorials.

Mayo Healthcare, represented by Grant Vincent, generously sponsored the meeting.

### **Local ASM**

The WA TSANZ/ANZSRS Annual Scientific meeting is fast approaching. The meeting this year is in the lovely seaside city of Mandurah known for its relaxed atmosphere and friendly dolphins. A Respiratory Symposium in Perth on the Monday follows the weekend meeting.

The ANZSRS-WA Invited Respiratory Scientist Grant has been awarded to Jeff Pretto, Scientific Director of the Department of Respiratory and Sleep Medicine at John Hunter Hospital in Newcastle.

Those interested in finding out more about our ASM please contact Sina or Sharon.

### **For the Diary**

July 23rd	ANZSRS-WA Clinical Meeting	RPH
September 18th	ANZSRS-WA Clinical Meeting	PMH
October 25/26th	TSANZ/ANZSRS (WA) Combined ASM	Mandurah
October 27th	Respiratory Symposium	ICHR
November 12th	ANZSRS-WA Clinical Meeting	tba

**Sina and Sharon**  
BSc,CRFS

Sina Panic

Sharon Lagan BSc,CRFS  
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## ***Governance & Vision Sub-committee Report***

***Brigitte***

Brigitte Borg  
Chair, Governance and Vision Subcommittee  
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