



Thoracic Society News

Volume 20, Issue 4, December 2010

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TSANZ 50th Anniversary Celebrations Project
Spotlight: Asthma Australia
Ann Woolcock Young Investigator Award Representative
5th Australian Health & Medical Research Congress
2011 Annual Scientific Meeting Update
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New Zealand Respiratory Knowledge & Skills Framework

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The Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand Inc Newsletter

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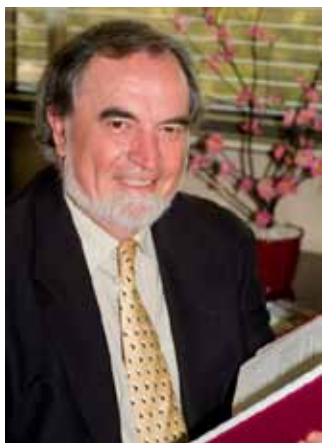
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Message from the President, Professor Philip J Thompson



Phil Thompson

Thank you for your overwhelming support for the change to a company structure and for our new proposed constitution. It is much appreciated. The Special Meeting on 2 December unanimously supported the proposal. It will take approximately six weeks for Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC), and the Minister to approve this change. This will then usher in a new era of professionalism for the Society, with national standards in accounting and how we do business imposed on us.

As part of our ongoing review of the Society and how it is functioning, we have significantly upgraded our insurance and now anyone who is undertaking voluntary work for the Society is covered appropriately, and this includes Branches and SIGs.

We are aware that the website is far from ideal and needs urgent attention, along with a need to modernise the way we manage our data systems, which are currently highly inefficient. As part of this, we have appointed a new staff

member, Jo Healy-North, to replace Jenny and take on this role, and to also provide membership support. Please let Rita or myself know of any issues you would like us to address.

The new office has been subject to significant redesigning of its internal layout to ensure it will serve us well over the next decade. The plans are now approved and the construction will start in early February and hopefully be completed within four weeks. We look forward to celebrating this with you and we appreciate the support and input we have had from Paynter Dixon with this.

We are planning to revamp the Newsletter in 2011 and make it a little more concise and targeted, please let the office know if you have any suggestions to make.

We are exploring the concept of having a postnominal awarded by the Society to qualified respiratory physicians who are members of the Society (FTSANZ). The Executive is supportive of this but I would welcome any comments you may have.

The Society has entered into an arrangement with the Shangri-La Hotel in Sydney for corporate rates for any member of the Society wishing to stay there. This provides significant savings at a major hotel in the Sydney CBD. If you wish to avail yourself of this facility please contact the office to learn how this can be effected.

The year is drawing to a close and it has been an extremely busy year for the Society with many changes which should provide long term benefits for us all. This has required a lot of work from many and I would very much like to express my appreciation to all concerned. Rita our new Executive Officer has inherited an enormous number of tasks and issues and discovered a few more along the way and has coped extraordinarily well in such a complex and tumultuous period. She deserves our appreciation as well.

I trust you all will have some special time with friends and family over the Christmas and New Year period and that it is a time for relaxation and appreciation of those who are important to you. Please enjoy the break and I look forward to working with you in 2011.

Phil Thompson



Executive Committee Report

Since the last newsletter, there have been two Executive Committee meetings – one in October and the other in December.

The main issues addressed during these two meetings were as follows:

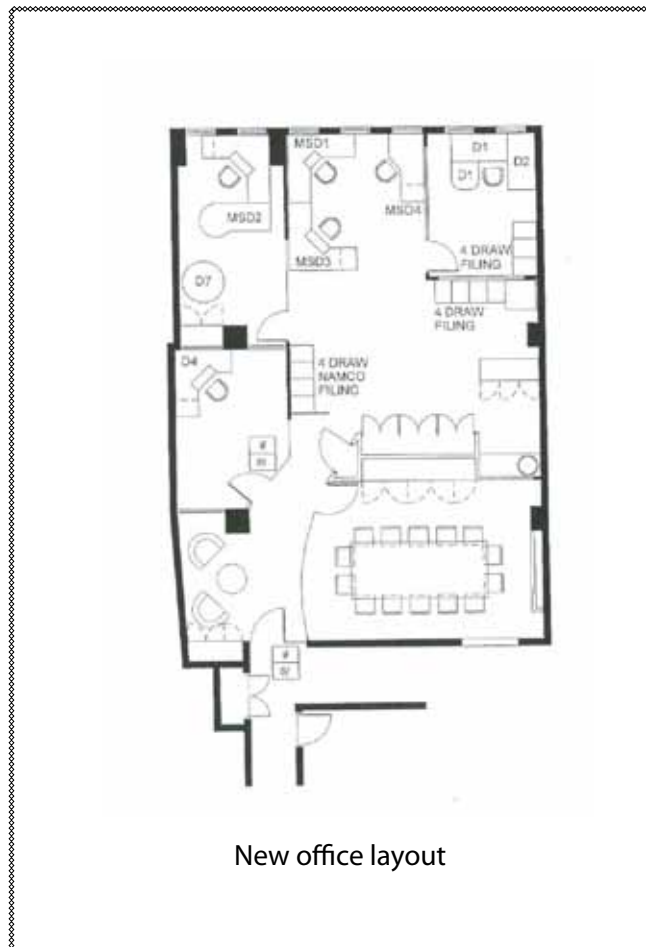
1. The setting up of the TSANZ budget for 2011, and the beginning of developing the finance system with the appropriate reporting requirements.
2. The establishment of the risk management system, including the endorsement of a risk management policy as well as five risk management action plans that cover the areas of:
 - Governance
 - Finances
 - Legal Liability
 - Management
 - Reputation and Image
3. Reviewing and renewing the insurance policies for TSANZ.
4. Finalising the refit of the new office. The renovations were endorsed at the December meeting and will now start in February 2011. It is hoped that the office can move into its new home late February or early March 2011. A diagram of the new office layout is provided on the next page.
5. The planning of the 2011 ASM is progressing well, and the program and sponsors are almost finalised.
6. The Sub-Committee Terms of Reference are being reviewed in preparation for the commencement of the new Board structure and constitution.

The Executive Committee also had a guest presentation from David Macintosh, who is the President of the Australian Respiratory Council (ARC) at their December meeting. The possibility of partnering with the ARC on operatic projects is being explored. Other issues that were covered include:

- The possibility of establishing a Teaching and Training Subcommittee
- Conflict of Interest procedures
- 50th Anniversary activities
- Interactions with the RACP about Continuing Professional Development (CPD), certification and on research funding
- Status of awards and fellowships, and funding
- Website and issues relating to this
- Advertising in Respiriology

- Polices and procedures framework, including delegations
- Formation of Company structure and implications
- TSANZ representative to the American Thoracic Society (ATS), in paediatrics
- Medicines of Australia Code of Conduct Committee
- Inviting the Japanese Respiratory Society (JRS), to send a young investigator to the TSANZ ASM
- Welcome packs for advanced trainees
- Review of all position papers
- Issues surrounding drug company seminars at the ASM
- Accreditation Template for reports on respiratory laboratory sites
- Reimbursement for Spirometry
- Paediatric SIG representation
- NZ proposals for enhancing member interaction
- Improvements to the newsletter

Phil Thompson





TSANZ 50th Anniversary Celebrations Project

In 2011 the Society is celebrating its 50th Anniversary. A number of activities are planned throughout the year to celebrate this key milestone in the Society's life. The aims of the celebrations are to:

- a) Increase the profile of the Society among members and key partners
- b) Celebrate what the Society stands for and has achieved
- c) Provide a platform to increase revenue through targeted fundraising and other income development strategies.

A small task group of members has been formed and their main tasks will be to assist in:

- Planning the agreed-to ideas
- Coordinating the roll-out of the tasks
- Monitoring that the tasks are within budget
- Keeping the Executive and TSANZ members informed about the project and the events.

The Executive Officer will be the Chair of the task group, and the project leader.

Following are some of the ideas that the Society plans to implement for next year.

CELEBRATORY LOGO

The Executive have selected a logo to commemorate the 50th Anniversary. This logo will be used throughout the year at key events including the ASM, on stationery and other products. It is currently being finalised and will be 'unveiled' early in 2011.

NEW OFFICE OPENING – May 2011

A cocktail party will be held to celebrate the opening of the new office. A plaque commemorating the new TSANZ office and the 50th Anniversary could be unveiled by a high profile guest.

POSTAGE STAMP

Australia Post provides a service where personalised stamps can be produced and ordered online. A photo of the 'celebration logo' will be used to produce the stamps. Once available, sheets of the stamps will be sent to Branches for their use. The New Zealand Branch will also produce the stamps through their postal service.

PRODUCTS WITH CELEBRATORY LOGO

A range of products will be made available with the celebratory logo. The pens and other products used at the ASM will have the logo. Other possibilities are:

TSANZ 50th Anniversary Celebrations Project

- Envelopes
- Note Pads
- And ties – both standard and bow tie.

The products could be sold as merchandise. Costings are still being sourced to assess cost-effectiveness of their production.

ASM – 1-6 April 2011

- Introduction of the new 50th Anniversary Award
A new award will be announced at the 2011 ASM, and the first award will be issued in 2012. The criteria of the award and other details are currently being developed by the Education and Research Sub-Committee
- The Society's History
There are a number of photos available at the central office as well as the 25th Anniversary History by Michael Burns. A talk highlighting the key successes of the Society will be presented at the ASM.
- Honour roll of past Presidents for the last 50 years with acknowledgement of key events

A WRITTEN HISTORY

As mentioned above, there exists a 25 year history of the Society written by Michael Burns. It is worth considering that the history be updated to cover 50 years, and be interspersed with photographs. If nicely produced, it could be a new product for the Society to give to new members. There could even be the opportunity to sell the booklet at key events, even overseas, and recoup some of its production costs.

TSANZ NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter design and look will be revamped, and the 50th Anniversary celebration logo included. An issue is planned to be dedicated to the 50th Anniversary, and articles could have a focus on a particular achievements over the 50 years.

More updates will be provided in the coming months.

Membership Renewal and Fees for 2011

In conjunction with changes to the Society's constitution, the current membership categories have been reviewed. And in a bid to simplify the renewal and payment process, a new online membership function is scheduled to be on the TSANZ website in February 2011.

Both the new fees and the new categories will be promoted as soon as they have been finalised and endorsed by the Executive. In the meantime, feel free to email members@thoracic.org.au for more information, or if you have any questions.

Executive Officer's Report



Rita Perkons

This is my first official report as Executive Officer. I have been on board now for three months and there are a few developments to report.

The Executive Officer's role was reviewed by the President of TSANZ and the Executive to make sure that the required skills, experience and knowledge were secured to support the Society evolve into a company limited by guarantee that is compliant to legislation, and has clear governance and operational responsibilities. One of my key challenges is to put in place the systems and processes that will support this transition into a new level of accountability and compliance.

At the same time, I need to make sure that members of the Society continue to get the right support, information and professional guidance that has been available for the past 50 years. Overall, I aim to help the organisation grow into a larger, more successful and financially sustainable operation, and help promote the organisation to the community, private sector and government.

Over the next 12 months I will be writing many policies that will document the Society's way of managing its finances, its risks, its privacy, its human resources and other key functions. I will be fine tuning office systems and supporting the President and Executive in their roles. I will also be networking with other respiratory organisations to strengthen relationships and explore opportunities for any partnership projects.

Some of my current projects include:

- The 50th anniversary celebrations
- Developing an online membership renewal and application process on the website
- Assisting the Education and Research Sub-Committee in doing the awards assessment
- Reviewing the finance management system to support required monitoring and reporting against budget, and other requirements as needed by a company limited by guarantee.

There have also been some staff changes in the Society office. Jenny Bridge has left the organisation due to family commitments. Jenny assisted in re-designing the website and maintaining the member data bases. I extend a warm thank you to Jenny for her involvement with the Society and for her contribution over the past year and a half.

The role was reshaped into a Member Services and Web Coordinator position. Jenny's replacement started on 13 December. She will be working three days a week. Her first tasks will be to review the website and see what changes need to be made to increase its usefulness for members, develop a single member database to improve accuracy and access to information, and help with the design of the online membership renewal function. She comes from a members-based association and understands what is needed to provide an efficient and appropriate service.

I invite you all to get in touch with us at any time, to share your ideas on how we can improve our services to you. We welcome constructive feedback as this helps in shaping a more appropriate service for members.

Wishing you a very peaceful and relaxing holiday break and a wonderful New Year's! The TSANZ office will only be closed between the Christmas and New Year break. I will be back at my desk on 4 January 2011, looking forward to a challenging but exciting year ahead.

Rita Perkons
Executive Officer

Executive Officer's Report

TSANZ Staff – contact details and availability

Name and Role	Available	Contact Details
Rita Perkons Executive Officer	Monday to Friday	rita.perkons@thoracic.org.au 02-9256 5447
Edwina Tohi Finance and Admin Officer	Monday to Friday	edwina.tohi@thoracic.org.au 02-9256 5441
Member Services and Web Coordinator	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday	members@thoracic.org.au admin@thoracic.org.au 02-9256 5436
Heather Hunter Administrative Officer (Respiratory Clinic Accreditation Program and TSANZ Newsletter)	Monday to Friday	heather.hunter@thoracic.org.au 02-9256 5457 (main number)

Christmas Break availability

Name and Role	Available	Contact Details
Rita Perkons Executive Officer	Works to and including 24 December, returns on Tuesday 4 January 2011.	rita.perkons@thoracic.org.au 02-9256 5447
Edwina Tohi Finance and Admin Officer	Works to and including 24 December and returns on Tuesday 25 January 2011.	edwina.tohi@thoracic.org.au 02-9256 5441
Member Services and Web Coordinator	Works to and including 24 December, returns on Tuesday 4 January 2011.	members@thoracic.org.au admin@thoracic.org.au 02-9256 5436
Heather Hunter Administrative Officer (Respiratory Clinic Accreditation Program and TSANZ Newsletter)	Works to and including 24 December, returns on Monday 10 January 2011.	heather.hunter@thoracic.org.au 02-9256 5457 (main number)

Christmas Wishes

TSANZ would like to wish our members a very happy
Christmas and New Year.



Spotlight: Asthma Australia



Online support for young people with severe asthma

Asthma Australia and Livewire have joined forces to safely connect young people with asthma to online support networks. Providers of respiratory care and their staff are invited to learn about how this service can support young people with severe asthma and their parents and carers.

Livewire is a free and safe online peer support community where young people with a serious illness, chronic health condition or disability can share experiences, express themselves and connect and gain support from others who understand. This has proved to be empowering for young people and helps them to take control.

In 2009 Murdoch University conducted a nine month research study, finding that:

“...Livewire members report that Livewire is a space in which they not only have fun but also make important life decisions in a supported environment. Livewire friendships balance members’ needs to ‘be a normal kid’ with their need to interact with other young people who can relate to their circumstances.”

During National Asthma Week (1-7 September 2010), a survey on the Asthma Australia and Livewire initiative was distributed to health professionals. Responses identified the need for information to be widely accessible. As a result, the next step in this partnership is the provision of an online training package for health professionals who work with young people with severe asthma. This package is accessible through the internet, and includes information about Livewire, research findings and instructions on how to incorporate Livewire registration as part of your consultation. The package takes around 40 minutes to complete, including a virtual tour of the website.

Livewire’s Head of Outreach, Rosa Gangemi, has seen first-hand how young people with asthma have found support from their peers in Livewire.

“We have found that our members with severe asthma use Livewire to swap stories and seek advice about managing their asthma. Members have even blogged about the moment when they realised the severity of their condition and the importance of getting treatment early. Our members with asthma have really supported and educated each other which is wonderful to see,” said Ms Gangemi.

President-Elect of the TSANZ, Prof Paul Reynolds commented that “the respiratory community is aware of the excellent outcomes for young people through the Livewire website. We fully support the opportunity for young patients to safely connect with others who are also coming to terms with their severe asthma.”

Safety for users is paramount on the Livewire website as demonstrated in the package.

Go to the Livewire website for information about this online training package, www.livewire.org.au. For information about asthma and linked conditions go to the Asthma Australia website, www.asthmaaustralia.org.au



Spotlight: Asthma Australia



Asthma Australia Update

Asthma Australia comprises the Asthma Foundations of each State and Territory, and is the recognised national community voice of Australians with asthma and linked conditions, and their carers. The Foundations bring nearly half a century of stories, skills and experiences working with communities to help people to breathe better.



Communities give consistent feedback that the work of the Foundations is valued:

"I've learnt more at this one hour asthma training session than I have in 24 years of raising children with asthma" School staff member

"My daughter has never been so well – and active. Life's so much better. I am going to join the Foundation to support your great work." Caller assisted via the Foundation Information Line

"I've been a community nurse for 15 years and always use your resources" Aboriginal Health Service

While the Foundations are very focused on working locally in communities, they are committed to working together as a national team in order to:

- get the best services to the most people for the least cost
- ensure respiratory health remains at the forefront of public policy and health service planning
- continue to promote and support research to free the community of asthma.

During the past year, the Foundations have identified those areas where national activity will ensure better outcomes for people with asthma. The resultant National Strategic Directions 2010-2013 identify five national priority goals in the areas of education and training; community information; social inclusion; research; and strategic partnerships. A copy of the strategic directions and Asthma Australia's Annual report for 2009-2010 are available at www.asthmaaustralia.org.au or by emailing debra.kay@asthmaaustralia.org.au

With our national priorities and programs now well defined, Asthma Australia looks forward to working more strategically with TSANZ and our other respiratory, community and corporate partners to improve health and quality of life outcomes for people with asthma and linked conditions, and the people who care for them.

Debra Kay
CEO, Asthma Australia

Asthma First Aid

- 1 Sit the person upright**
— Be calm and reassuring
— Do not leave them alone



- 2 Give medication**
— Shake the blue reliever puffer*
— Use a spacer if you have one
— **Give 4 separate puffs into the spacer**
— **Take 4 breaths from the spacer after each puff**



*You can use a Bricanyl Turbuhaler if you do not have access to a puffer and spacer
Giving blue reliever medication to someone who doesn't have asthma is unlikely to harm them

- 3 Wait 4 minutes**
— **If there is no improvement, repeat step 2**



- 4 If there is still no improvement call emergency assistance (DIAL 000)**
— Tell the operator the person is having an asthma attack
— Keep giving 4 puffs every 4 minutes while you wait for emergency assistance



Call emergency assistance immediately (DIAL 000) if the person's asthma suddenly becomes worse

To find out more contact your local Asthma Foundation:

1800 645 130

asthmaaustralia.org.au

Translating and Interpreting

Service: 131 450

© Asthma Australia September 2010



Supported by the Australian Government

Asthma Australia has commenced a process of clinical and community review of our resources. Our updated first aid plan includes icons for international application

Ann Woolcock Young Investigator Award Representative Balarka Banerjee attends the APSR Congress

Being asked to attend the 15th Congress of the Asia Pacific Society of Respiriology (APSR) in order to present my paper entitled "Lung Allograft Small Airway is More Susceptible to Epithelial-Mesenchymal Transition (EMT)" came as a surprise, but turned out to be a highly rewarding and enriching experience. The Congress was held in Manila, Philippines on 22-25 November, and was hosted by the Philippines College of Chest Physicians (PCCP). TSANZ kindly arranged for my travel and the APSR very generously provided me with excellent accommodation in one of Manila's premium luxury hotels.



The conference was held in the grand Philippines International Conference and Convention Centre.

The sessions were organised in a very logical and systematic manner. The first day was reserved for "Postgraduate Courses" whereby participants could update and advance their education and training. The conference proper started on 23 November. In the early morning there were "Meet the Experts" sessions, in which renowned international invited speakers held hour-long sessions, with an emphasis on discussion and interaction. It gave a wonderful opportunity to students and younger scientists and clinicians to have a rare opportunity to interact with some of the best known names in respiriology. These sessions were followed by theme symposia, where speakers spoke for half an hour each on various topics based on the central theme, and served to bring the listeners up to date on the latest breakthroughs and developments. The symposia were followed by oral and poster presentation sessions, also on the same theme thus providing a very comprehensive overview of the topic. There were also lunch time symposia on specific clinical and scientific topics, organised by the various sponsors. Another highlight was the Harasawa and Woolcock memorial lectures, presented by Dr Mary Ip and Dr Richard Beasley respectively. In the sessions I attended, I was impressed by the large turnout of eager listeners. This led to a great deal of stimulating discussion after each talk. The quality of the work presented was universally of a very high standard and personally, it was a fascinating experience to be exposed to the diverse topics of research being carried out in different countries, from Iran to Indonesia. I also relished the opportunity to learn about conditions we are less familiar with in Australia, such as Tuberculosis (TB), severe industrial pollution or even parasitic leeches in the airways.

I left Manila having broadened my knowledge on aspects of respiriology I have not been exposed to before. My own presentation was well received and generated some interesting questions and comments from others, which I have taken on board to improve my work further.

I would like to thank TSANZ for supporting me in attending the meeting. Most of all I would like to thank the APSR for inviting me and for their generosity and warmth. I would also like to congratulate them on the successful organisation and execution of the meeting which I am sure has provided all the delegates with truly wonderful and memorable experience.

Balarka Banerjee

5th Australian Health & Medical Research Congress



Presenters in the Pulmonary Hypertension symposium

Left to right: Anne Reynolds, Trevor Williams, Olivier Sitbon, Tamera Corte, Robin Fowler

TSANZ recently participated in the 5th Australian Health and Medical Research Congress (AHMRC), holding a one-day meeting on Monday 15 November, at the Melbourne Convention Centre. The AHMRC meeting brings together more than 20 scientific societies and organisations, providing a unique forum for interdisciplinary interaction across a broad range of scientific endeavours.

The TSANZ program comprised two scientific symposia as well as poster presentations and a free oral session. The first session, sponsored by Pfizer, was on Pulmonary Hypertension, chaired by Trevor Williams and featuring Prof Olivier Sitbon from University of Paris-Sud, who spoke on treat-to-target strategies in pulmonary arterial hypertension, providing insights into the European experience with combination therapy. The remaining local speakers outlined characteristics and treatment of patients with unexplained dyspnoea (Robin Fowler, WA) and interstitial lung disease (Tamera Corte, NSW), while the final presentation

focused on animal models and the therapeutic potential of bone morphogenetic protein receptor type 2 (Anne Reynolds, SA).

The second symposium on Stem/Progenitor Cells in Lung Development and Disease, was a joint session between TSANZ and the Australasian Society for Stem Cell Research, featuring Prof Brigid Hogan from Duke University, who expanded on her plenary lecture on the role of epithelial progenitor cells in lung development, maintenance and repair. Topics included the use of macrophages derived from embryonic stem cells as gene delivery vehicles in experimental lung injury (Andrew Lilja, VIC), insights into the organisation of stem cells in the adult lung (Jonathan McQualter, VIC) and an overview of cellular therapies for lung disease (Yuben Moodley, WA).

The oral and poster presentations from TSANZ early career investigators and students were of high quality, covering diverse topics from spirometry reference equations in elderly Australians (Sultana Syeda, NSW) to influences of intrauterine inflammation, preterm birth, exposure to hyperoxia and allergens on lung structure and function in mouse and sheep models (Anzari Atik, A Samarasinghe, Megan O'Reilly, Noreen Ishak, Nadine Brew, Jo-anne Van der Velden, Donna Barker). The TSANZ / Australian Lung Foundation (ALF) prize for the best presentation was awarded to Robert O'Donoghue from the Ludwig Institute, for his talk entitled "Dysregulated Stat3 and Smad4 signalling link inflammation to chronic lung disease in mice".

The best of the TSANZ student posters were selected for inclusion in the judging of the AHMRC Best of the Best Student Poster Award, with one poster shortlisted from each of numerous participating societies. James Esposito (Pharmacology, University of Melbourne) was awarded this prestigious prize for his poster entitled "Rosiglitazone inhibits airway contraction and calcium signalling in mouse lung slices." This travel award sponsored by the Contributing to Australian Scholarship and Science (CASS) Foundation is valued at \$5,000 and will enable James to present his work at the American Thoracic Society Meeting in Denver in May 2011.

Jane Bourke
Convenor, TSANZ at AHMRC 2010



Presentation of the Best-of-the-Best Student Poster Award
AHMRC Convenor Rosemary Keogh presents the award to James Esposito, University of Melbourne

Central Programme Subcommittee

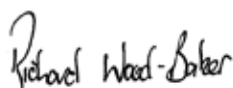


The Central Programme Subcommittee (CPS) is responsible for organising national educational activities of the Society, in particular the Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) each year, but also other academic activities that occur from time to time. The Subcommittee comprises a Chair, the

Chair of the Education and Research Subcommittee (ERS) and the Chair of the Local Organising Committee (LOC) for the forthcoming ASM. The Subcommittee works in conjunction with local members, the ERS and our professional conference organisers (Festival City Conventions) to arrange venues, programs, sponsorship and social activities. As the ASM contributes to the income of the Society, its continued success is vital to the health of organisation.

Planning for each Annual Scientific Meeting begins several years in advance, with selection of the venue and dates. Some 18 months prior to the meeting, a Chair of the LOC is identified and invited to assemble a cadre of willing volunteers to assist in organisation. Over the next few months, the LOC will decide on the international invited speakers and the overall theme for the conference, while the CPS Chair, in conjunction with the conference organisers, arranges contracts with the venue and prepares a budget. By the time of the preceding conference the plenary speakers, conference venue and program outline will have been completed, enabling attention to turn to more detailed organisational activities. This includes generation of the sponsorship brochure, releasing a call for abstracts, advertising the conference and distributing the registration brochure. Each year the final months are characterised by feverish activity as abstracts are reviewed, accepted (or otherwise) and arranged into themes by the SIGs. This allows the CPS to put together a detailed program which is despatched to the printers, while the abstracts go to Respiratory for inclusion in a supplement. The committee then has a period of anxiety, fretting over details as the members excitement over the annual meeting build to a climax. The ASM is spent in a frenzy of troubleshooting, followed by debriefing, collation of feedback and into the cycle of planning for next year's event.

Plans for Perth in 2011 are well advanced, with a fantastic line-up of international speakers, outstanding venue and a high level of interest (judged by the number of abstracts submitted, some of which are introduced on the following page). 2011 also sees the bi-annual advanced courses scheduled. The last advanced course, held at Cradle Mountain on statistical methodology, was attended by a small hardcore group of members who braved arctic conditions and were rewarded by spending a week in a Winter wonderland. Any suggestions on venue or topic for 2011 would be gratefully received.



Richard Wood-Baker
Chair



2011 Wunderly Orator



Professor Ian Frazer, FAA, QLD

Ian Frazer trained as a renal physician in Edinburgh, Scotland, and emigrated to Australia in 1981. After four years at the Walter and Eliza Hall institute, he moved to the University of Queensland where he is Director of the University of Queensland Diamantina Institute, a translational medical research institute. He is currently the inaugural holder of the Queensland government Smart State Premier's Fellowship, and President of the Cancer Council Australia. He was named Australian of the Year in 2006.



Keynote Speakers



Felix Herth, Germany

Felix Herth is Chief Physician at the Thoraxklinik, Heidelberg University, Germany. He has been at the forefront of many of the developments in interventional pulmonology, and has published widely in the areas of Transbronchial Needle Aspiration (TBNA), Endobronchial Ultrasound (EBUS), Electromagnetic Navigation and Airway Stenting.



Daniel H. Sterman, USA

Daniel H. Sterman is Chief, Section of Interventional Pulmonology and Thoracic Oncology, Division of Pulmonary, Allergy & Critical Care Medicine, University of Pennsylvania Medical Center and Associate Professor of Medicine in Surgery, Department of Surgery, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. He has particular interests in interventional therapies for pulmonary malignant disease, particularly malignant mesothelioma, including the use of gene transfer therapies.



Professor Harm Tiddens, The Netherlands

Harm Tiddens is Professor and pediatric pulmonary specialist at Erasmus MC Sophia Children's Hospital, Netherlands. The Erasmus CF Centre treats two thirds of all Dutch patients, and participates in the European Clinical Trial Network that was established in 2008. He has a particular interest in the early assessment of cystic fibrosis through the use of novel imaging and physiology techniques.

See the ASM website at www.fcconventions.com.au/TSANZ2011/ for more information.





TSANZ Annual Scientific Meeting

2 – 6 April 2011

**Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre
Perth, Western Australia**

Invited Speakers

- **Professor Felix Herth**, Thoraxklinik, Heidelberg, Germany
- **A/Professor Daniel Sterman**, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, USA
- **Professor Harm Tiddens**, Erasmus MC-Sophia Children's Hospital, The Netherlands

Register online at:

www.fcconventions.com.au/TSANZ2011/asm2011registration.html

Early Bird registration: until 18 February 2011



Further information:

Festival City Conventions
PO Box 949 Kent Town
South Australia 5071

P +61 8 8363 1307 (Int.)
08 8363 1307 (Aust.)

F +61 8 8363 1604 (Int.)
08 8363 1604 (Aust.)

E tsanz@fcconventions.com.au

<http://www.thoracic.org.au>

2010 has been an exciting year for the NSW Branch. The year began with three new members joining the Executive Committee - Prof Christine Jenkins, A/Prof Tara Mackenzie (the elected President), and Dr Alistair Abbott (representing the advanced trainees).



Tara Mackenzie

We also changed the venue for our Branch meetings to make it more accessible for members. We have had three exciting speakers so far this year: A/Prof Brendon Yee on the management of the sleepy driver, Dr Hazel Goldberg on the relevance of drug-resistant Tuberculosis (TB) and Prof Michael Boyer giving an update on lung cancer. We now look forward to a very special Summer Branch Meeting, which will celebrate the contributions made by Prof Iven Young to respiratory medicine.

Our education calendar was also buzzing with activity, with the four National Lung School Program sessions being broadcast out of the Sydney RACP office to various centres in Australia and New Zealand, and our 6th Annual Combined TSANZ/Respiratory Nurses Interest Group (RNIG) Educational Meeting in October. This year, we are also honoured by the presence of scientists in the Combined Educational Meeting, with the involvement of the Australian & New Zealand Society of Respiratory Science (ANZSRS). We would like to take this opportunity to thank the various esteemed speakers for giving up their time in sharing their knowledge and experience with our trainees and members.

We look forward to developing and implementing new educational events for our members, as well as continuing to promote public health messages in 2011.

A/Prof Tara Mackenzie, President TSANZ (NSW)
Dr Ben Kwan, Secretary TSANZ (NSW)



Accreditation Update

Congratulations to the following laboratories for receiving accreditation:

Gold Coast Hospital Lung Foundation Laboratory, QLD
John Hunter Children's Hospital, NSW
Cairns Base Hospital, QLD

The Executive Committee has agreed to endorse accreditation for Gold Coast Hospital, John Hunter Children's Hospital and Cairns Hospital. The Assessment Panel would like to congratulate the labs on the high standards of their applications and the quality provided to their clients.

TSANZ would also like to thank the following accreditation panel members for the significant time and expertise they have provided in these applications:

A/Prof Keith Burgess
Mr Stephen West
Ms Annette Dent

A/Prof Hiran Selvadurai
A/Prof Adam Jaffe
Ms Barbara O'Donovan

Dr Andrew Thornton
Dr David Serisier
Dr James Douglas

New Zealand Branch Update



Greetings from New Zealand.

Since the last Newsletter update, the city of Christchurch was rocked by a 7.1 magnitude earthquake at 4.35am on Saturday 4 September – some photos from newspaper websites are on this page. Although nobody was killed, the impact on the city has been enormous and aftershocks have continued to shake the city on a regular basis. One aftershock

made an appearance during the Australian Sleep Association (ASA) meeting held there in October, startling delegates from outside of Canterbury.

The new Executive appointed at the ASM has held their first teleconference and plan to move on with the establishment of regional HUBS. A HUB leader has been appointed for three regions around NZ, with an aim to hold two meetings a year for local members of TSANZ. Richard Laing agreed to host the SI (or Mainland) HUB, while Justin Travers will co-ordinate the Wellington region.



Chris Lewis has been co-opted to run the Auckland area HUB in the absence of other willing volunteers. A list of Branch members has been or will be circulated to the HUB co-ordinators. The Auckland Regional HUB has the opportunity to host Dan Sterman, an invited speaker at TSANZ in Perth,

who is making a one day stop-over on his way home to the USA. We hope to hold an afternoon meeting on Saturday 9 April 2011 for all local and regional members of TSANZ.



Tanya McWilliams
Hon Secretary

The New Zealand Respiratory Knowledge and Skills Framework 2010

Registered nurses in New Zealand are required to prove their competence within the requirements of their practicing certificate. The Respiratory Knowledge and Skills Framework, which was developed by a team of senior nurses led by Respiratory Nurse Practitioners Marina Lambert and Victoria Perry, will provide a measurable means of evaluating practice, guide the development of individual nurses, enhance the quality of nursing care and positively impact on outcomes for people with respiratory conditions.

In 2005, following a conference of TSANZ, the Nurses Special Interest Group New Zealand identified that there was not a nationally defined respiratory knowledge and skills framework for registered nurses (RN) in New Zealand. In 2006, the TSANZ (NZ Branch), funded a meeting for respiratory nurses representing the TSANZ Nurses Special Interest Group NZ and the New Zealand Nurses Organisation (NZNO), Respiratory Nurses Section to develop this further, and a memorandum of understanding was agreed between these two key nursing groups to develop a knowledge and skills framework. The Respiratory Knowledge and Skills Framework is focusing on registered nurses providing care to people with respiratory conditions. It has been developed following an extensive search of the literature and draws on frameworks currently in use in the UK, Australia and the USA.

The framework includes the commonly experienced respiratory conditions in the adult population, with the focus including asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, bronchiectasis and pneumonia. The magnitude of the gap between recommended best practice and actual current practice in respiratory nursing care in New Zealand is unknown. However, current local and national patient clinical indicator data demonstrate respiratory care could be significantly improved. Additionally, a person's response to their condition is influenced by knowledge, cultural and social influences and their level of self-efficacy. As nurses are the largest health workforce group, they play an important role in the clinical management of people with respiratory conditions.

A major prerequisite of care delivery is for nurses to provide contemporary respiratory care and education wherever they practice, and demonstrate a fundamental level of knowledge, competence and confidence supported by a knowledge and skills framework. The use of this framework will promote the provision of consistent evidence based practice to improve health outcomes. The framework describes the respiratory knowledge and skills that registered nurses require to practice. The New Zealand Respiratory Knowledge and Skills Framework encourages the identification of the minimum knowledge and skills that registered nurses need for nursing, within a speciality of respiratory adult care. It also sets out guidelines for achieving competent, proficient or expert levels in adult respiratory care. It does not cover paediatrics. It is cross-referenced to the Nursing Council of New Zealand's competency domains for the registered nurse (RN) scope of practice. The framework promotes best practice, and is linked to national and international guidelines and the National Standards of Practice for Respiratory Nursing, New Zealand Nurses' Organisation (NZNO), (2010). The framework can also provide a means for employers who wish to employ nurses with respiratory nursing, to check their level of skills.

Diana E Hart N.P.

Co-Convenor TSANZ Nurses SIG



World Spirometry Day 2010

The Australian Lung Foundation (ALF), is thrilled to announce that World Spirometry Day (re-branded Test your Lungs Day) was promoted on 14 October around the country, with free spirometry testing events held in each capital city and over a dozen smaller regional locations.



The promotion of these events via our website, local print media, radio and television assisted with ensuring thousands of members of the general public took advantage of this awareness raising event, and kept all our event staff very busy throughout the day. The national

spirometry testing tally stands at 3942.

Special thanks to our industry partners who supported The Australian Lung Foundation to ensure the success of the various Test your Lungs Day events. These include Eli Lilly, Niche Medical, CareFusion along with Air Liquide, Boehringer Ingelheim, Pfizer, GlaxoSmithKline, Nycomed and Pharmacy Guild of Australia.



Please visit The Australian Lung Foundation website www.lungfoundation.com.au and click on the Test your Lungs Days link (found on the homepage) which will take you to the Event Outline, Tally breakdown and Photo Gallery. If you have any enquiries, please contact Karen Wright on 07 3251 3637 or projects@lungfoundation.com.au.



"When you can't breathe...
nothing else matters"™

The Australian Lung Foundation Update

Membership Drive

Following the suggestion of the TSANZ Executive Committee, The Australian Lung Foundation has merged its 2011 membership drive with TSANZ. You will soon receive a membership renewal notification from TSANZ, encouraging those who have yet to become financial members of The Australian Lung Foundation to sign up now. For those who need to renew their 2010 subscription before it expires at the end of the year, please complete this form and return it to The Australian Lung Foundation as soon as possible.

ASX Thomson Reuters Charity Foundation

The Australian Lung Foundation is delighted to be selected as a charity of choice by the ASX Thomson Reuters Charity Foundation. We have been included under the annual Art Union draw. This year there are three major prizes with a total value of \$75,000! First prize is a luxurious Lexus IS Prestige Automatic! Go to www.lungfoundation.com.au to purchase your tickets. Good luck!

General Practice Toolkit

We are currently piloting the General Practice Toolkit through our COPD National Programme. We plan to include a redesign of the COPD Checklist and a number of interactive and electronic tools to assist GPs as part of this new toolkit.

World Spirometry Day

The Australian Lung Foundation, in collaboration with many other like-minded organisations across the country, hosted World Spirometry Day on 14 October (rebranded **Test your Lungs Day**). There were free spirometry testing events held in each capital city, and at numerous smaller regional locations. The promotion of these events via our website and local media (print, radio and television) ensured thousands of Australians took advantage of this awareness-raising event and had their lungs tested. 3,942 spirometry tests were performed throughout Australia on World Spirometry Day. The Australian Lung Foundation would like to thank all the health professionals, physicians, respiratory scientists, nurses, physiotherapists and others who volunteered their time to help make these events a huge success.



L to R ... with Norman Swann (journalist) and Craig Silvey (author)

Changes to the Lung Foundation Constitution

The Australian Lung Foundation National Council is currently developing resolutions that will both change and update the 20-year-old organisational constitution. It is planned that these resolutions will be put to members at the 2011 Annual General

Meeting to be held in Perth on Friday 1 April 2011. Following the next National Council meeting, we hope to upload a draft copy of the proposed new constitution – together with an executive summary – to our new website (www.lungfoundation.com.au) so our members and stakeholders can review our suggestions and make comment.

New Patient Resources

The Australian Lung Foundation has published the following two new patient resources since the TSANZ News September edition:

- **"Save your breath" (for people recently diagnosed with COPD); and**
- **"Getting started on Home oxygen"**

Both these excellent publications are available through The Australian Lung Foundation website.



Australian Lung Cancer Conference

The Third ALCC was held in October in Melbourne and judged by all as an outstanding success! The organising committee synthesised the program brilliantly, with lots of new science and international perspectives from overseas speakers. More than 400 attended the conference – that's a 30 per cent increase on the previous ALCC.

New and Improved Lung Foundation Website

The Australian Lung Foundation launched its new website on 1 November to coincide with Lung Health Awareness Month. The new Joomla platform will allow us to update the website quickly and easily to ensure it always contains the very latest information on lung health. Any feedback from TSANZ News readers will be much appreciated.

Season's Greetings from everyone at The Australian Lung Foundation

The Australian Lung Foundation wishes all TSANZ News readers and their families all the very best for the Christmas Season, and a prosperous and healthy 2011. Thank you also to the TSANZ Secretariat and TSANZ members for the incredible amount of help you have given our organisation throughout 2010 – your ongoing help and support is greatly appreciated. Without your continued efforts and generosity, The Australian Lung Foundation would not be able to continue working towards our mission – to be the only charity dedicated to serving all Australians burdened by lung disease. Thank you and best wishes!

TSANZ Members

New Members

The Executive Committee would like to welcome the following new members, who were elected at the Executive Committee meeting on 1 October 2010.

Associate

Rathnini Jayasuriya, NSW

Hari Adoni, WA

Mark Tan, WA

Dodda Hulikunte, NZ

Thomas Reid, NZ

Aisha Qi, VIC

Shannon Simpson, WA

Student

Megan Jensen, NSW

Scott Sands, VIC

Faang Cheah, WA

Li Liew, WA

Kevin Lool, WA

2011 American Thoracic Society (ATS) International Conference

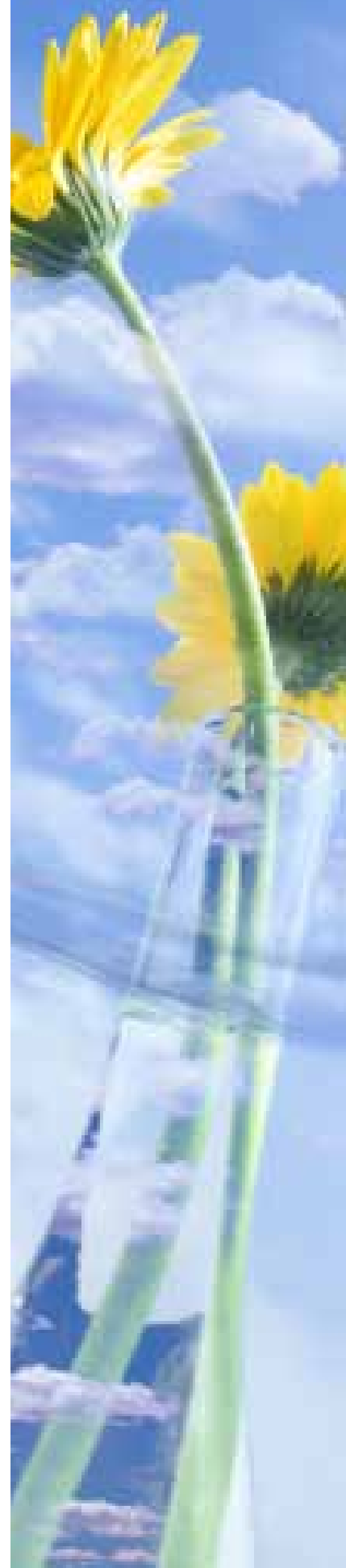
13-18 May 2011

Denver, Colorado, USA

At ATS 2011 in Denver, more than 400 sessions will provide a comprehensive review of the latest information on the diagnosis and treatment of respiratory diseases, critical illnesses and sleep disorders. In addition, more than 5,500 scientific research abstracts and clinical case reports will be presented, giving attendees new perspectives on the clinical, basic science and translational discoveries that will shape the future of adult and paediatric respiratory care. Among the many topics to be covered are asthma, COPD, lung cancer, obstructive sleep apnoea, pulmonary hypertension, cystic fibrosis, ARDS, and sarcoidosis. The Advance Program (with registration form), will be available in January 2011 at www.thoracic.org. For more information, please contact the ATS International Conference Department on Ph (212) 315-8652 or email conference@thoracic.org

Calendar of Events

February	7-8 February 2011 Antimicrobial Resistance Summit Sydney, NSW www.antimicrobialsymmit.com.au
April	2-6 April 2011 TSANZ ASM Perth, WA www.thoracic.org.au
April	22-24 April 2011 Japanese Respiratory Congress Tokyo, Japan www.jrs.or.jp/jrs51/index_e.html
May	13-18 May 2011 American Thoracic Society International Conference Denver, Colorado, USA www.thoracic.org
September	22-25 May 2011 RACP Congress Darwin, NT http://www.racpcongress2011.com
September	24-28 September 2011 European Respiratory Society Congress 2011 Amsterdam, The Netherlands http://www.ersnet.org/index.php/congresses/amsterdam-2011.html
October	22-27 October 2011 Chest 2011 Hawaii, USA www.chestnet.org/accp/chest/chest-annual-meeting





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PBS Information: Restricted benefit. Long-term maintenance treatment of bronchospasm and dyspnoea associated with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

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SPIRIVA is not indicated or PBS listed for the treatment of asthma in the absence of co-existing COPD. **Indications:** Long-term maintenance treatment of bronchospasm and dyspnoea associated with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Prevention of COPD exacerbations. **Contraindications:** Hypersensitivity to atropine or its derivatives, or to any component of SPIRIVA. **Precautions:** Acute bronchospasm, immediate hypersensitivity reactions, renal impairment, hepatic impairment, narrow-angle glaucoma, prostatic hyperplasia, bladder-neck obstruction, micturition difficulty, urinary retention, children, pregnancy, lactation. Avoid powder entering eyes. **Interactions:** Co-administration with anticholinergic drugs. **Adverse Reactions:** Dry mouth, urinary difficulty, urinary retention, constipation, throat irritation, paradoxical bronchospasm. **Dosage:** Inhale the contents of one capsule, once daily using the HandiHaler[®] device, at the same time each day. **Presentation:** Cartons containing blister packs of 30 capsules. For expert medical information on SPIRIVA call 1800 116 113. Minimum Product Information prepared December 2008. PBS dispensed price: \$76.89. **References:** 1. SPIRIVA Approved Product Information. 2. Tonnel A-B, et al. Int J Chronic Obstruct Pulm Dis 2008;3(2):301-310. 3. Barr RG, et al. Thorax 2006;61:854-862. Boehringer Ingelheim Pty Ltd, ABN 52 000 452 308. 78 Waterloo Road, North Ryde NSW 2113. Pfizer Australia Pty Ltd, ABN 50 008 422 348, 38-42 Wharf Road, West Ryde NSW 2114. Spiriva[®] was developed by Boehringer Ingelheim and is being co-promoted by Boehringer Ingelheim and Pfizer Australia. ©Registered trademark Boehringer Ingelheim. 04/10 B0E0574/CJB

