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Mission

“We lead, support and enable all health workers and researchers to prevent, cure and relieve disability from lung disease.”

The Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand is a company limited by guarantee established to improve the knowledge and understanding of lung diseases, to prevent respiratory illness through research and health promotion, and to improve health care for people with respiratory disorders.

To achieve these aims, the Society promotes the:

- Highest quality and standards of patient care
- Development and application of knowledge about respiratory disease
- Collaboration between all national organisations whose objects are to improve the well-being of individuals with lung disease and to promote better lung health for the community.
- Professional and collegiate needs of the membership
- Highest quality air standards including a tobacco smoke free society and effective regulation of novel nicotine delivery systems.

2018 HIGHLIGHTS

Launched the TSANZ Webinar Series

Over 43 branch events and approximately ~1,900 participants

~1,900 reached members

SOCIAL MEDIA

TSANZ - Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand

The Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ)

@tsanz_thoracic
2018 President’s Report

It gives me great pleasure to provide the President’s yearly report in what has been a most active and influential time of growth for your society ably led by a committed team working together in your interest. As you will know from the Treasurer’s report, 2018 was another sound financial year for the TSANZ. In fact, while we had anticipated a deficit budget, we have actually achieved a small surplus which will allow us to meet the costs of a number of activities already scheduled for 2019, including the much-anticipated Asia Pacific Congress for Bronchology and Interventional Pulmonology, to be held immediately before the Annual Scientific Meeting at the Gold Coast.

The TSANZ remains extremely involved in advocacy work, with a number of critical policy submissions this year. We have continued our work in the MBS review, e-cigarettes and vaping, research funding, and most importantly occupational lung diseases. I would like to pay special tribute to the members of the OELD SIG who worked tirelessly with the Board and the Central Office to bring about a steep change in Australia with respect to accelerated silicosis, in particular, and our national vision regarding the importance of occupationally acquired lung disease.

The TSANZ has published another suite of clinical documents this year including “State of the Art Paper on Sarcoidosis: An Educational Resource provided by the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand” and “Work environment risks for healthcare workers with cystic fibrosis (and other suppurrative lung disease)”. Building on the success of our courses and workshops last year, the TSANZ held a number of educational courses in 2018 including the Occupational and Environmental Lung Disease Short Course 2018 and the Paediatric Respiratory Short Course 2018. We continued to utilise live streaming of courses, where possible, which has seen a strong uptake from members. The 2018 TSANZ Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) was another great success, and with 1274 attendees it was close to the best attended to date.

Once again, the Branches have held over 40 branch events this year, with approximately 1900 participants. The TSANZ acknowledges the work of our Branch Executive teams and SIG convenors. These are the people at the coal face who respond to and manage the needs of members in our society, give of their time and expertise freely and to whom we all owe a debt of gratitude.

On the Research and Awards front, the TSANZ dispersed over $1 million worth of award funding in 2018. For the 2018 awards round, about 150 award applications were received and reviewed by the tireless Research Sub-Committee. Our thanks go to all members and assessors. The strength of the TSANZ members’ research was also strongly reflected internationally this year with TSANZ members taking home major research awards from both the American Thoracic Society and the European Respiratory Society Congresses.

There are currently 43 TSANZ accredited laboratories. The Laboratory Accreditation Program has expanded to include more assessors and, once again, the Board would like to thank all the members of the Professional Standards Subcommittee (PSS) and the Laboratory Accreditation Committee. In 2018, the Laboratory Accreditation Committee was reconstituted as an operational working group separate to the PSS. The newly formed Laboratory Accreditation and Quality Committee assumed responsibility for all TSANZ quality assurance activities including the provision of spirometry audit services to the Queensland Department of Mines and Natural Resources.

The TSANZ membership has continued to grow with 1601 members in 2018. Thank you for your ongoing support of the TSANZ. Do continue to actively seek out potential new members from diverse groups in your sphere of influence so we can continue to grow the edge of the diaspora and remember that by encouraging students and scientists we may excite the best young minds to solve the challenges of the future with a sound evidence-based approach.

The staff in the Central Office have had a busy year and a number of new staff have joined the team. We welcome our new staff members and thank those who left for their dedication and service, including our Finance Manager Mr Shen Kasayan.

Five of our Board members have completed their terms and nominations for Board positions opened in late 2018. I would like to thank our outgoing Board members for their wisdom, humour, insight and commitment to the TSANZ as demonstrated by their attendance at Board meetings, multiple teleconferences and innumerable emails, many of which needed a short time frame response. It has been an abiding pleasure to work with such a responsive and collegial group.

As I finish my second year as President of the TSANZ, I would like to offer my deep appreciation to all of our members for their dedication to the work of respiratory health and research. Together we can do great things to improve respiratory health. The TSANZ has a building role within the community and government due to the experience, drive and vision of our members. We have won some battles but the war to enable better respiratory health for all Australians and all New Zealanders continues.
Professor Allan R Glanville
President, Chair of the Executive Sub-Committee
Prof Glanville is Conjoint Professor of Medicine UNSW and holds current positions on the Editorial Board of the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine, American Journal of Transplantation, the Journal of Heart and Lung Transplantation and Seminars in Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine. Former positions include Past President of the International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation and Chair of the European and Australian Investigators in Lung Transplantation. His research interests include chronic lung allograft dysfunction and translational aspects of the respiratory virome.

Professor Bruce Thompson
President Elect
Prof Thompson is Head of the Physiology Service within the Department of Allergy, Immunology and Respiratory Medicine, Alfred Hospital and Central Clinical School Monash University. His research interest centres on the structure and function of the small airways in a range of respiratory conditions. He is a member of the Global Lung Initiative TLCO taskforce and currently on the international committee rewriting the TLCO guidelines. His contribution to respiratory research and laboratory measurement was recognised in 2011 when he was awarded the ANZSRS research medal (Fellowship) and again in 2018 when he was recognised as a Fellow of the TSANZ (F Thor Soc).

Professor Hubertus Jersmann
Director, Secretary, TSANZ Board Representative on RACP Specialty Training Committee, RACP Education Liaison
Prof Jersmann is coordinator of clinical teaching, years 4-6, at the University of Adelaide Medical School. He introduced the theme Climate Change and Health in both Adelaide University and Flinders University of South Australia. He is an examiner for the RACP and a member of the Specialist Training Committee (STC) Respiratory & Sleep. Hubertus practices Respiratory & Sleep Medicine at the Royal Adelaide and Alice Springs Hospitals. His special interest is interventional pulmonology. His research interests are in the immunopathology of lung macrophages and epithelia in COPD and lung cancer. Hubertus is passionate about the impact of air quality on health and would like to see the TSANZ partner with other organisations to help establish a national framework.

Professor Sandra Hodge
Director, Treasurer, Co-Chair of the Research Sub-Committee
Prof Hodge is a University of Adelaide Beacon Research Fellow and Head of the Chronic Inflammatory Lung Disease Research Lab at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and University of Adelaide. Her research interests include macrophage-targeted therapeutic approaches for chronic lung diseases including COPD, steroid-resistant asthma and childhood bronchiectasis. She has previously served as a member of the TSANZ Research Committee for five years and as Convenor of the Immunology and Cell Biology SIG.

Dr Stuart Jones
Director, Assistant Treasurer, NZ Branch President
Dr Jones is a full-time clinical respiratory and sleep physician. He works at Middlemore Hospital, Auckland, as Clinical Lead of Sleep Medicine and has a particular interest in neuromuscular ventilation. Over the years he has been highly involved in physician training and was the Director of Physician Education at Middlemore Hospital for 8 years. He is currently also Medical Director of the New Zealand Asthma and Respiratory Foundation. He has a research background with an interest in airways diseases and is currently involved in local research projects in bronchiectasis and asthma.

Dr Ingrid Laing
Director of Branches for Australia and New Zealand
Dr Laing is a Senior Research Fellow at the University of Western Australia and an Honorary Research Fellow at the Telethon Kids Institute. Dr Laing leads research in the areas of childhood wheeze and asthma, genetics of complex diseases and respiratory virology. Her experience has also included coordinating cohort studies and clinical trials. Dr Laing has served the TSANZ in several capacities within the state branch and with two TSANZ ASM local organising committees.
the Clinical Chair in Physiotherapy at Alfred Health in Melbourne, a joint appointment with La Trobe University. Prof Holland leads a research program that investigates new models of pulmonary rehabilitation to improve access and uptake, including use of novel technologies and the expansion of rehabilitation to new patient groups. She has a strong interest in translation of research findings into practice and has chaired a number of national and international clinical guideline committees.

Centre for Inflammation and the Centenary Institute and University of Technology Sydney. He is a conjoint Professor in the Priority Research Centre for Healthy Lungs, Hunter Medical Research Institute and University of Newcastle. He is also an NHMRC Principal Research Fellow. He has established internationally recognised research programs in studies of asthma, COPD, infections and recently lung cancer. He has a substantial funding record of obtaining nationally competitive grants that support his group. He is an active advocate for respiratory research in lobby groups and is regularly in the press promoting research and funding.

Clinical Associate Professor Peter Middleton

Director, Chair of the Education and Training Sub-Committee

Clinical Prof Middleton is a Senior Staff Specialist in Respiratory & Sleep Medicine and CF Centre Director at Westmead Hospital, and Clinical Associate Professor at Sydney Medical School. He runs a large clinic caring for patients with CF and non-CF bronchiectasis, and is involved in scientific and clinical studies of new treatments. He leads the only diagnostic service in Australia which provides nasal potential difference and mucociliary clearance testing for assessment of patients with bronchiectasis. He is a member of the European CF Society Diagnostic Network and is also the European Respiratory Society delegate for Australia.

Staff Specialist in Respiratory Medicine at St Vincent’s Hospital and Clinical Associate Professor, UNSW, Sydney. Her clinical and research expertise includes obstructive lung disorders, occupational lung diseases (particularly asbestos-related disorders and pneumoconiosis), and rare lung diseases including lymphangioleiomyomatosis (LAM). She also has a longstanding interest in exhaled breath analysis including fractional exhaled nitric oxide (F, NO) and volatile organic compound breath profiling. She has always been firmly committed to medical education and post-graduate training, and to the participation of women and minority groups throughout the full spectrum of medical activities. She serves on the RACP Specialist Training Committee and the RACP Adult Medicine Division Committee and Executive Committee.

Dr Andrew Tai

Director, Board Representative on the TSANZSRS Conference Committee

Dr Tai is the Chief Sleep Scientist at the Department of Respiratory and Sleep Medicine at Eastern Health, Victoria and an Adjunct Senior Research Fellow at Monash University. She has previously served as a member of the TSANZ Research Sub-Committee for five years, disbursing grants and fellowships including the annual YIA. She is a strong advocate for early and mid-career research funding and clinical education for Respiratory & Sleep Advanced Trainees. Her main research interests are in the cardio-metabolic consequences of sleep disordered breathing. Dr O’Driscoll has worked in the field of Respiratory and Sleep Medicine for 20 years.
Chief Executive Officer’s Report

Once again, the TSANZ members have worked tirelessly to achieve the best possible outcomes for Australians and New Zealanders living with respiratory illness. On behalf of the Central Office, I would like to thank each and every member who has volunteered their time as a branch executive, SIG convenor, laboratory assessor, working party member, reviewer for research awards, subcommittee member, training organising committee or faculty. Our members are actively engaged in delivering the strategic goals of the TSANZ through their voluntary work and we thank each of you for your commitment, professionalism and desire to achieve improved health for all.

The TSANZ has six strategic pillars and, in this report, I want to acknowledge the hard work of our members in each of these.

1. Expert Advice and Advocacy

During the year, the TSANZ contributed to a significant number of government and non-government advocacy programs. Full details of our advocacy work is on page 8. In this report, I would like to pay tribute to the members who have taken the time to review each of these consultation reports and to provide feedback and advice so that the TSANZ can respond with the voice of our members. Significant programs in this pillar during the year included:

MBS review: this has, of course, been in progress since 2016 but became operational on 1 November 2018. There remains more work to do in this space as the TSANZ works with Australasian Sleep Association to address access to overnight oximetry and seeks to address the items relating to interventional work.

Australian National Lung Action Plan: New Zealand achieved their national respiratory strategy which was supported by the TSANZ in 2015. For the last several years, both the TSANZ and Lung Foundation Australia have been advocating for a national strategy to address lung health in Australia. In 2018, LFA were successful in obtaining a modest funding pot for the development of a National Lung Action Plan. The TSANZ was a member of the Plan development steering group. It is envisaged the Plan will be launched in Canberra in early 2019. Congratulations to our colleagues at LFA who developed the Plan, in a highly consultative process, under incredible time constraints and thank you to our members who engaged in the development of the Plan.

National Register for Occupationally Acquired Lung Disease: after several years of significant lobbying, we were delighted to see the issue of occupationally acquired lung disease placed on the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Health Minister’s agenda. The OELD SIG have championed this work and have been tireless in their multi-pronged approach to addressing workplace dust diseases including Coal Workers Pneumoconiosis (CWP) and silicosis.

2. Clinical best practice

The development of clinical guidelines and position papers continues to be a key activity of the TSANZ members. Over the last few years the TSANZ has been refining a dissemination plan for these documents and has pursued a policy of open access publication for guidelines that are approved by the Board. This policy approach to dissemination has resulted in TSANZ documents enjoying over 30,000 downloads from Respirology and additional downloads from the TSANZ site, demonstrating that the TSANZ publications are highly valued and sought after. The workload to develop these documents is high and I thank the working parties who have been so successful in researching and producing them, also the Clinical Care and Resources Sub-Committee who provide valuable governance oversight and considerable skill and expertise in guidelines development.

3. Accreditation and Quality Assurance

During the year, a significant restructure of the management of the laboratory accreditation program took place. A newly formed Laboratory Accreditation and Quality Committee was formed to oversee both the TSANZ laboratory accreditation program and the new program of spirometry audits for the Qld Government.

There are over 70 volunteer laboratory accreditation assessors who make it possible for the TSANZ to deliver this program. Thank you to each of you for your ongoing support of the program and to your laboratory colleagues as we work to enhance best practice.
4. Meeting members’ professional and educational needs

In 2018, the TSANZ branches ran some 40+ events across Australia and New Zealand. That is an incredible effort from our Branch executives who are all volunteers. Please do take the time to review the branch reports on page 14.

The SIGs also ran short courses and delivered webinars as part of the newly launched webinar series. The faculty and organising committee for the short courses were volunteers as are the webinar presenters and this work is supported and reviewed by the Education and Training Sub-Committee.

The IP SIG competency program continues to develop with the grandfathering period for ultrasound coming to a close in early 2019 and three new competency programs due to be launched. This work has been the result of significant effort from a large number of IP specialists and has been a highly collaborative process.

5. Research

The Research Sub-Committee continues to oversee the growing work of research awards. Indeed, the work has become so significant that the Sub-Committee also relies upon additional volunteer reviewers, including those members who have gained the FThorSoc.

In 2018, the Registries and Clinical Trials Sub-Committee was established to oversee the TSANZ’s steps into clinical trial and registry work. The Severe Asthma Registry transitioned across to the TSANZ in 2018 and will further develop into a Clinical Quality Registry. The CF Clinical Trials Network framework was commenced, and further work will continue in 2019.

6. Good governance

The Board of the TSANZ deserves special recognition, in addition to attending more than six face-to-face meetings with up to 600 pages of reading per meeting, the Board members chair the sub-committees and ensure that the TSANZ is meeting its Mission. Over the last two years, the Board has had a focus on supporting diversity and the results of this work are evident in our branches, SIGs, training courses, awards and working parties. They are tireless advocates for lung health, passionate believers in the power of the society to achieve great outcomes and robust and considered in their discussions.

As you can see from the above, the TSANZ really is the product of its members. The Central Office is honoured and grateful to be able to work alongside you to achieve these outstanding results. We are a small team and there are now over 1,600 members in the TSANZ. Our team in the office is one of the most energetic, high performing teams I have had the privilege of working with. They champion the work of the TSANZ at every turn, regularly put in extra time and give of their personal time to support the TSANZ to achieve our goals. As 2018 draws to a close and another busy year awaits us in 2019 with the TSANZ hosting the Asia Pacific Congress on Bronchology & Interventional Pulmonology, I would like to assure you of our continued commitment to our members and to ensuring that the TSANZ continues to be recognised as the “Leaders in Lung Health”.

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THE THORACIC SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND LTD
- FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

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Categories (membership)

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Total Members

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Partner Organisation Memberships

- **European Respiratory Society (ERS)**: 575 members
- **Lung Foundation Australia (LFA)**: 139 members
- **World Association of Bronchology & Interventional Pulmonology (WABIP)**: 120 members
Advocacy Report

18 Submissions for 2018

- **February 2018**
  - MSAC 1530 - Targeted consultation regarding Purified human alpha1-proteinase inhibitor (A1-PI) for the treatment of alpha1-proteinase inhibitor deficiency, leading to chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
  - PBAC asthma monoclonals
  - PHARMAC Montelukast consultation
  - MBS Review items for thoracic medicine
- **March 2018**
  - RACP Policy on Electronic Cigarettes
  - RACP Working Party on Medical Assistance in Dying
- **April 2018**
  - MBS Draft Item Descriptors and Explanatory Notes for Thoracic Medicine (Respiratory and Sleep Studies)
  - NSW Health Consultation on Draft Model Scopes of Clinical Practice
- **May 2018**
  - PHARMAC Omalizumab consultation
  - MRFF Consultation
  - Ministerial Brief on Lung Conditions in Australia
  - MSAC 1540 Targeted consultation regarding Vigilance testing for the assessment of excessive daytime sleepiness
  - PHARMAC Nintedanib, Pirfenidone, and Tiotropium bromide consultation
- **July 2018**
  - Parliamentary Inquiry into Sleep Health Awareness in Australia
  - Notifiable Dust Lung Disease Consultation
  - Letter of Endorsement to RACP Position Statement and Evidence Review Action to prevent obesity and reduce its impact across the life course
  - 2018 Review of Dust Diseases scheme
- **August 2018**
  - Request for Minister to direct PBAC to remove "a" flagging attached to DuoResp® Spiromax® in the Schedule of Pharmaceutical Benefits
The main objective of the CCRS is to foster best clinical care in thoracic medicine by promoting the use of guidelines and position papers and to provide advice to government, members and interested stakeholders about issues that impact on the practice of thoracic medicine. The CCRS provides oversight for the development of the TSANZ guidelines and position papers, some of which are initiated by members and some commissioned by the CCRS. The contribution of the TSANZ SIGs is critical to ensuring our guidelines and position papers reflect best practice. The CCRS also collaborates with other Australian, New Zealand and international professional bodies to produce documents which guide practice, research, education and policy. Many of our guidelines and position papers are published Open Access in Respirology, and all are available on our website.

Major achievements in 2018 were the publication of

- “State of the art paper on sarcoidosis: An Educational Resource provided by The Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand”, which is available on the Educational Resources Centre section of the TSANZ website;
- “Work environment risks for healthcare workers with cystic fibrosis”, a joint TSANZ and Australasian Society for Infectious Diseases clinical document, which was published as Open Access in the journal Respirology to facilitate its widespread use.

A significant achievement this year was the provisional endorsement of “Management of Tuberculosis: A guide for clinicians.” The CCRS congratulates and thanks the authors of this document.

The TSANZ is the peak health body representing diverse professions in respiratory health. As such, the CCRS has received a growing number of review requests for guidelines and position papers from a range of professional bodies. This presents an opportunity for the TSANZ to actively take part in realising the aim of promoting the highest quality and standards of patient care.

With the assistance of the TSANZ SIGs, the CCRS consulted on:

- “Management of Tuberculosis: A guide for clinicians”;
- “COPD-X V2.53”;  
- “Summary of Nutrition Guidelines for Cystic Fibrosis in Australia and New Zealand”; and
- “The TSANZ Summary Statement on Sarcoidosis”.

2019 will be another busy year for the CCRS, with a major focus being on supporting the writing of group position papers on:

- “Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency”;
- “Care of the pregnant woman with lung disease”;
- “Connective tissue disease associated interstitial lung disease: guidelines for diagnosis and management”;
- “Electronic Nicotine (and non-nicotine) Delivery Systems (ENDS/ENNDS)”;
- “Ventilatory support at home for children. A consensus statement” in partnership with Australasian Sleep Association; and
- “Work-related Asthma” in partnership with National Asthma Council Australia;

and the guidelines on

- “Acute oxygen review”;
- “Chronic neonatal lung disease Oxygen Statement update”;
- “The COPD-X Plan: Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for the management of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease”; and
- “Training in Bronchoscopic Guideline/Infection control in Endoscopy Guidelines”.

The CCRS will also continue to review all clinical documents and document development processes, to ensure they are kept up to date and reflect current best practice.
2018 has been an important year for the development of the PSS. With the separation of the Laboratory Accreditation & Quality Committee (LAQC) from the sub-committee, this year has been about restructuring and reviewing the importance of the PSS and building upon our portfolio to make sure that we are meeting the professional needs and standards required by our society. This year we made important changes to our sub-committee’s Terms of Reference to reflect the main objective, which is to provide strategic advice to the Board on issues related to professional behaviour in the context of delivering respiratory healthcare in Australia and New Zealand and support workforce planning in respiratory health care for Australia and New Zealand.

We reviewed the FThorSoc nominations for 2019 and were very impressed by the strength and breadth of all nominees. It is a pleasure to see so many members contributing so greatly to the respiratory field, and we are looking forward to strengthening our portfolio of work for 2019. I would like to acknowledge our old and new members who have volunteered their time and expertise to assist in ensuring these needs are met.

In 2019, we hope to work on broad areas in collaboration with other professional groups and in particular on gender and racial equity, work-life balance and workforce planning.

Registries and Clinical Trials Sub-Committee (RCTS)

Main objective of the RCTS: is to provide strategic guidance and advice on the infrastructure and governance for the TSANZ Respiratory Medicine Clinical Trials Network and Quality Registries. Furthermore, the RCTS is responsible for ensuring appropriate review, approvals, and endorsement of registries and clinical trials for the TSANZ Respiratory Network.

Main achievement in 2018: the RCT was established in 2018 and has since prepared the structure and governance of the TSANZ respiratory clinical trials network. The RCTS is currently overseeing the establishment of two projects within the TSANZ:

- **Severe Asthma Registry** is currently being transformed into a clinical quality registry which will support continual clinical improvement and education.
- **Clinical Trials Network** (CTN) is in development. The first CTN to be established will focus on cystic fibrosis.
The main objective of the ETS is to advise the Board on matters concerning education and training and to co-ordinate educational activities to enhance the professional development of all members at different stages of their careers.

The main achievement in 2018 has been the delivery of three highly successful short courses; the 2018 Advanced Trainee Course held at the TSANZSRS 2018 conference in Adelaide, the Occupational and Environmental Lung Disease Short Course held in August in Melbourne, and the Paediatric Respiratory Short Course held in October in Queensland. Catering to a variety of professional groups, all three courses received extremely positive feedback from their attendees. Due to the success experienced last year, the option of live-streaming was again offered, this time for the Occupational and Environmental Lung Disease Short Course. This proved to be extremely popular with registration well exceeding expectations and 90% of registrants logging on for the day’s proceedings. Other highlights of the year include the delivery of three Post-Graduate Workshops also held at TSANZSRS 2018 in Adelaide, two of which were held at the conference venue and one held offsite. In all instances, the Course Convenors are commended for their time and efforts in organising such well-attended and successful courses.

TSANZ has also experienced great success with the launch of the Webinar Series. Beginning in August with a presentation by Nurse Practitioner Sally Powell, the series has steadily grown in monthly viewership, the highlight thus far being a webcast on Accelerated Silicosis with Dr Ryan Hoy and Dr Graeme Edwards which garnered tremendous interest from both the TSANZ members and non-members alike.

Finally, there are plenty of exciting activities planned for 2019 – with the ongoing organisation of the Post-Graduate Workshop at the upcoming ASM 2019, the COPD Short Course and the New Zealand Lung Cancer Conference 2019. The TSANZ will also be preparing for the launch of three new competency programmes for bronchoscopy, EBUS and ICC and continuing to offer monthly webcasts as part of the ongoing “TSANZ Webinar Series”.

Finally, we would all like to thank the TSANZ Officers - Nicole Hatten and Chantale Dorrington for their tireless help running the ETS and arranging all the meetings and teleconferences.

2018 Webinars

**August**
- 6th: “NIV Therapy - viewed via a community lens” with Sally Powell
- 29th: “The Human Respiratory Virome” with Professor Allan Glanville

**October**
- 11th: “Accelerated Silicosis, kitchen benchtops and the emerging epidemic” with Dr Ryan Hoy & Dr Graeme Edwards
- 11th: “Research Techniques To Study Respiratory Diseases” with Professor Phil Hansbro

**November**
- 27th: “What’s in a cough? Implications for the care of people with flu and MROs” with Professor Scott Bell

**December**
- 11th: “Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia: Common symptoms from an uncommon condition” with Associate Professor Phil Robinson
### Professional Development Outcomes

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
<th>Streaming</th>
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<tr>
<td>Paediatric Respiratory Short Course, 16th October 2018, Lady Cilento Children’s Hospital, Brisbane</td>
<td>89% YES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Occupational &amp; Environmental Lung Disease Short Course, 18th August 2018, Pullman Hotel, Melbourne</td>
<td>81% YES</td>
<td>100% YES</td>
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<td>Advanced Trainee Course, 23 - 24 March 2018, Adelaide Convention Centre, Adelaide</td>
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<td>83% VERY LIKELY</td>
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- **Do you feel the information learned from the course will better assist you in the treatment of patients?**
  - Paediatric Respiratory Short Course: 89% said YES
  - Occupational & Environmental Lung Disease Short Course: 81% said YES
  - Advanced Trainee Course: 100% said YES
- **How likely are you to implement the teachings from this course?**
  - Paediatric Respiratory Short Course: 83% said VERY LIKELY
  - Occupational & Environmental Lung Disease Short Course: 95% said VERY LIKELY
  - Advanced Trainee Course: 100% said VERY LIKELY
- **How likely are you to attend this course again?**
  - Paediatric Respiratory Short Course: 94% said THEY WOULD ATTEND AGAIN
  - Occupational & Environmental Lung Disease Short Course: 67% said THEY WOULD ATTEND AGAIN
  - Advanced Trainee Course: 78% said THEY WOULD ATTEND AGAIN
- **Would you recommend this course to a colleague?**
  - Paediatric Respiratory Short Course: 94% said YES
  - Occupational & Environmental Lung Disease Short Course: 100% said YES
  - Advanced Trainee Course: 100% said YES
Research Sub-Committee (RSC)

Main objective of the RSC: is to advise and support the TSANZ Board on the strategic directions the society should take to support and promote research amongst its members. This includes a critical role in the adjudication of grants, fellowships and awards that ensure a high standard and transparent and equitable processes are followed.

Main achievement in 2018: the TSANZ has continued to be a leading provider of research grants and awards, administering over $1 million in grants in 2018.

In 2018, we changed the way we presented our awards, consolidating all presentations and recognition into one prestigious event to mark the opening of our national ASM. This proved to be a successful, standing-room only event in partnership with other respiratory organisations including Cystic Fibrosis Australia, Lung Foundation Australia and National Asthma Council Australia. Photos and slides from this event were broadcast digitally throughout the Adelaide Convention Centre and social media.

Work continues as we strive to improve the respiratory research landscape. 2018 statistics showed the NHMRC success rate for respiratory disease grants was 20.8%, which is well above the national average of 16.2% funding success. This means we have an extremely high-quality respiratory workforce conducting research, we just don’t have enough grants being submitted. The RSC will continue to advocate for increased respiratory research funds to support research positions, encouraging gifts in wills and continuing to work with sponsors and donors to fund pilot research and pursue research partnerships.

Have you considered leaving a gift for research in your will?

For more information, visit our website:

Members:
Philip Hansbro
(Co-Chair and basic, clinical and translational research)
Sandra Hodge
(Co-Chair and basic, clinical and translational research)
Graham Hall
(Clinical and translational research)
Anthony Kicic
(Basic science research)
Graeme Zosky
(Basic science research)
Sandra Orgeig
(Basic science research)
Anne Chang
(Clinical and translational research)
Darryl Knight
(Basic and translational research)
Deborah Yates
(Clinical and translational research)
Rebecca Disler
(Clinical research)
Kylie Johnstone
(Clinical research)
Sukhwinder Sohal
(Basic science and translational research)

Step off at 2018 ASM:
Li Ping Chung
(Clinical and translational research)
Greg King
(Clinical and translational research)
Christian Osadnik
(Clinical research)
Ross Vlahos
(Basic science research)

2018 invited reviewers:
Jay Horvat
Ryan Hoy
Hubertus Jersmann
Sonja Klebe
Alexander Lacombe
YC Gary Lee
Yuben Moodley
Sarath Ranganathan
Kate Sutherland
Jonathan Williamson
Ian Yang
The TSANZ Branch Achievements

New South Wales / Australian Capital Territory (NSW/ACT)

Activities and Highlights in 2018:

The NSW/ACT branch had another busy and productive year of organizing, educating, updating and networking with all our members.

Our local branch meetings have continued to bring us together in Leichhardt on a Tuesday night. We’ve enjoyed Scottish wit and charm from James Chalmers about steroids and airways diseases, and an update on sarcoidosis from Marshall Plit. Emily Stone polished our understanding of screening for lung cancer and Allan Glanville got us thinking about “why we do what we do”.

The Advanced Trainee weekend at Terrigal was, again, a great success. This year it was orchestrated by the wonderful Koliarne Tong. The focus of the weekend included clinical updates as well as professional development and career planning for the largest cohort of Respiratory ATs in the country.

The Respiratory Nurses Interest Group (RNIG) in conjunction with the NSW/ACT TSANZ Branch ran a combined ASM and clinical update meeting in November. This year the meeting was held in the Concord Clinical School and attracted record numbers of clinicians, nurses and scientists to a terrific day of collegiate multidisciplinary cross pollination. The Tracey Robinson Prize for the best presentation by an Advanced Trainee was awarded to Dr Harshini Sivaramakrishnan for her prospective Randomized Controlled Trial of Automatic Positive Airway Pressure in severe Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA). Prizes were also awarded for best oral presentation in the airways session – Yifan Chen and Diren Reddy; parenchymal lung disease – Adelle Jee; sleep medicine – Hanna Hensen. All prize winners were respiratory scientists and clinicians in training, in keeping with our mission to teach and train our upcoming generations of colleagues.

Behind the scenes, the executive worked with the TSANZ, the RACP and other stakeholders on issues of access to support for younger patients with chronic lung disease under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), access to high cost medicines for Nontuberculous mycobacteria (NTM) pulmonary infections and streamlining the recruitment and allocation of ATs.

Leading the executive in 2018 was a treat. I was brilliantly supported by Kols Tong (secretary), Alistair Abbott, Mary Roberts, Jonathan Rutland, Mark Benzimra, Anna Hudson, Steve Cala, Monique Malouf, Smitha Shah, Anthony Byrne, Brian Oliver and Bud Nanayakkara.
New Zealand (NZ)

Activities and Highlights in 2018:

What a busy year it has been for the New Zealand Branch.

In December, we ran our second Bronchoscopy and Pleural Ultrasound Course, this time over an extended 2.5 days. This course was aimed at those wanting to learn the basics of bronchoscopy and pleural ultrasound. The course was full to capacity and allowed for plenty of hands on experience for the delegates. In March, in conjunction with the World Association of Bronchology and Interventional Pulmonology (WABIP) we hosted the Train the Trainer Bronchoscopy course led by Professor Henri Colt. This again was a great success.

One of the key goals of the NZ executive is to encourage diversity to try and get away from physician dominated discussion. We now have two nurse representatives and a well-established link with the scientist community. This year saw a substantial step forward with the co-opting of our first physiotherapist, David Chen, as an Executive Member. This has been important in raising the profile of this important health professional group within our branch. It has helped pave the way for greater involvement of physiotherapists in our ASM.

Our annual NZ ASM in Queenstown was, once again, a great success. This conference continues to grow each year. During the main sessions of the conference, we focused on Interstitial Lung Disease (ILD), and were fortunate to have fantastic local and international speakers lead us through many areas of ILD diagnosis and management.

Over the course of the year, we have strengthened a working relationship with the Asthma and Respiratory Foundation NZ. It was decided that the two groups were philosophically aligned and committed to working together to raise the profile and management of respiratory health in NZ. We have put in place a working Memoranda of Understanding outlining our co-operation. This has been a very useful relationship as we have provided a common voice to the e-cigarette concerns and we are looking at working together on a number of national initiatives. We have also developed an improved working relationship with Pharmac providing collated feedback on consultation documents.

This coming year promises to be a busy one as we have a number of events and projects to roll out. We will be running an ultrasound competency day, in February, with the aim of getting ultrasound competent physicians throughout the NZ centres. We will run our Annual NZ ASM in Queenstown in August where we will be focusing on COPD and the airways, and later in the year we will help support the NZ Lung Cancer Conference. In addition, we hope to launch a Spirometry Competency Program in conjunction with ANZSRS, and develop a national audit platform to help us easily assess key areas of respiratory health and look for ways of improving respiratory care.
Queensland (QLD)

Activities and Highlights in 2018:

The Queensland branch of the TSANZ has been busy this year. We were very lucky to expand our Executive membership to include three Advanced Trainees (Benjamin Gerhardy, Liam Krebs and Daniel Henderson) as well as a Nursing representative (Rebecca Keating), a Physiotherapy representative (Matthew Hutchins) and a Paediatrics representative (Sadasivam Suresh) along with Secretary and Treasurer Michael Fanning and Simon Bowler. This has enabled us to represent a larger proportion of the Queensland branch. As host state for the 2019 TSANZSRS the TSANZ QLD branch also formed the local organising committee for the conference. We hope you enjoy the meeting.

This year we moved the QLD Winter Meeting back to Brisbane and held a one-day event rather than the traditional two days. The theme was “Stepping out of the Lung” and involved a number of high quality speakers from related disciplines such as cardiology, ENT, intensive care, palliative care, immunology, infectious diseases and endocrinology. The day was well attended and the one-day event was well received. We were also able to offer several travel bursaries for our regional colleagues which were well taken up. Next year, the theme will be “Environmental and Occupational Lung Disease” and will be held in Brisbane again.

The branch ASM was held at the Mater/UQ clinical school and was also well attended. We heard some outstanding research presentations from Queensland Advanced Trainees and allied health members. The overall winner was Dr Chinthaka Samaranayake for his excellent presentation on the PESI score, with the runner up being Dr Malcolm Wilson – isoniazid resistant TB. This year we were able to offer an allied health specific prize, with Claire Hackett (physiotherapist) winning the best presentation in that group.

The physiology day theme and guest speaker was determined this year by the TSANZ QLD Executive Advanced Trainees. The theme was “sleep physiology” and was mentored by Professor Danny Eckert. Different to previous years, speakers included both adult and paediatric trainees. The quality of the speakers was outstanding and we are very grateful to Danny for his excellent mentorship throughout the day. The winner of the best presentation this year was Dr Thomas Skinner for his presentation on the neurophysiology of sleep.

Most importantly, the Queensland branch, led by Dr Simon Bowler, has driven significant action on the silicosis problem. In October, we arranged a meeting to inform, educate and advise on the most appropriate management of the emerging silicosis problem. This meeting was well attended by both respiratory and occupational physicians and led to the development of a proceedings document which was presented to Work Cover and will be further developed by the TSANZ members. Thank you to everyone who participated, particularly Dr Simon Bowler for driving the organisation of the event and Dr Benjamin Gerhardy for compiling the document.

Finally, TSANZ QLD has developed a Cystic Fibrosis Sub-Committee who will oversee twice yearly state CF educational meetings – watch this space!
South Australia / Northern Territory (SA/NT)

Activities and Highlights in 2018:

The SA/NT Branch in 2018 has enjoyed another productive year. It was an honour for Adelaide to host the national TSANZ ASM. The meeting was a huge success, with positive feedback received from delegates, presenters and sponsors. Thanks must go to the local organising committee and the SIG convenors who worked tirelessly to put together an amazing program.

The extensive education events established by former branch executives members has continued. The theme of this year’s Branch ASM was orphan lung, transplant, interstitial and pulmonary vascular disease. It was very well attended. We welcomed Dr Nicole Goh as our plenary speaker who spoke on IPF research and the establishment of the IPF registry. For the first time we ran “Pitch it in 3” where presenters were asked to present a compelling oration of their research in just 3 minutes. The winner, as decided by the judging panel, was Andrew Fon with a tie for the People’s Choice Award, Gennaro D’Elia and Shok-Yin Lee. Other local winners included Suzanne Maiolo for New Investigator Award and Ram Ghimire for the Advanced Trainee Presentation. All of our meetings have been well attended with representation from all related disciplines.

I would very much like to extend my gratitude to Past President, Phan Nguyen, former executive members Sarah Madigan and Katherine Bassett as well as current Treasurer, James Geake and Secretary, Debra Reynolds-Sandford and Executive Committee members Kristin Carson-Chahhoud, Aaron Oh and Marie Williams. I would like to welcome to the Executive Judith Morton, Kylie Johnston, Karen Royals, Shanka Karunarathne and Georgina Paterson.

I look forward to an exciting year of Respiratory Education in the SA/NT Branch for 2019.
**Tasmania (TAS)**

**Activities and Highlights in 2018:**

The TAS Branch held its ASM on 10th November 2018 in Hobart at the Royal Hobart Hospital (RHH). The meeting featured Associate Professor Brendon Yee from the Royal Prince Alfred, NSW as a guest speaker. Major topics included “Hypercapnic COPD: Can we do better?” and “Obesity hypoventilation syndrome: Which PAP therapy?”. A range of topics from basic science to clinical medicine were also covered, including a detailed clinical audit of infective COPD inpatient management. There have been major shifts in the Tasmanian Health System with changes back to local governance, the major re-development of the RHH — completion due October 2019. Prospects for further Tasmanian clinicians providing respiratory and sleep medicine are positive for 2020 onwards.

**Nicholas Harkness**

*President*

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**Branch Events - Overall Attendees**

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<tr>
<th>State</th>
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Victoria (VIC)

Activities and Highlights in 2018:

2018 has been yet another fantastic year for the Victorian Branch. The branch executive has worked extremely hard in further developing the vision of diversifying our memberships as well as our meetings.

We have had excellent attendances at all our events. The year kicked off with a brilliant night of networking amongst our female respiratory colleagues in the Women in Respiratory Health dinner, hosted by Natasha Smallwood, Sakhee Kotecha and Megan Rees. Attendees have provided great feedback and the event will hopefully continue to evolve in future years.

Next was a Professional Development Workshop, organized by Jane Bourke and Jai Vazirani, for early career researchers. This was such a great idea for clinicians, allied health professionals and scientists to get together and collaborate. A fantastic initiative and one we will hopefully continue in the year ahead.

This year was also a first for a combined gathering of thoracic radiologists and the VIC Branch members. This event produced rave reviews and requests for annual dinners such as this. It was a great learning and collaborative experience.

Finally, we have continued to support registrar educations with quarterly dinners which have been coordinated with thanks by Jai Vazirani, our AT rep. Speaking of Advanced Trainees, Jyoti Prasad has once again, conducted a successful and efficient AT match. As she will be stepping down, we thank her for her years of dedication to this role.

The 2018 AGM again had excellent attendance with a new format allowing for poster presentations. Our keynote speakers Jenny Philip and Jo Douglass summarized highly complex topics into extremely digestible presentations. We thank Mark Hew, David Cunnington on interesting updates in the field of Sleep Medicine and Asthma respectively. We also thank Christian Osadnik on an inspiring summary on how to approach a Cochrane review.

We have continued our quarterly VIC Branch dinners with great success and presentations from most hospitals. Given the diversification of the TSANZ membership, our vision for 2019 is to continue high level presentations in symposium style formats with invited speakers. We also look forward to a busy 2019 helping the TSANZ Local Organizing Committee who will create the TSANZSRS annual scientific meeting program, which will be proudly hosted in Melbourne in 2020.
Western Australia (WA)

Activities and Highlights in 2018:

The WA Branch had an inspiring year in 2018 with three Lung Club dinners and a dinner for Advanced Trainee’s to present their research, in addition to the Annual Scientific Meeting in July.

The Lung Club dinners were, as usual, very well attended with local and interstate speakers discussing a wide range of topics of interest to clinicians and scientists.

The Annual Scientific Meeting was held at the AIM facility, with exceedingly good numbers of attendees with good representation from all the craft groups. Our guest speaker was Jane Bourke who updated us on the potential applications of her precision cut lung slice technique to study small airways, as well as presenting an overview of how the TSANZ has grown to become leaders in lung health. Our President Elect, Bruce Thompson, attended the meeting and presented a talk on Thunderstorm Asthma. The meeting was well supported by local speakers as well as the invited speakers and, as always, our generous sponsors. Feedback has been very good and we intend to use the same venue and timing in 2019.

Once again the New Investigator Award was fiercely competitive with excellent talks. Jesse Armitage won the prize this year with an impressive presentation of his multi-faceted study on mononuclear cells in patients with COPD.

The AGM elected new members of the Executive, including President Elect Christopher Kosky. The retiring members of the TSANZ WA Branch Executive were thanked for their service. An outline of what had been achieved in 2017/8 as well as the plans for 2018/9 were presented.

At the end of 2017, we approached our sponsors with a suite of ideas that we wished to pursue in 2018, such as continued Lung Club dinners and ASM, a Perfect your Pitch training workshop, as well as the Advanced Trainee presentation dinner. These were all well received and well supported this year.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all the Executive and other members of the Branch who contributed so willingly to making 2018 a productive year. Hopefully 2019 will be even better. I would also like to acknowledge the unstinting support of Tanya Buchanan and her team in the Central Office.
Thank You

The TSANZ thanks the following members for their time and commitment to the branches across Australia and New Zealand:

### NSW/ACT Branch

**President**
Lucy Morgan

**Past President until Nov 2018**
Alistair Abbott

**President Elect from Nov 2018**
Brian Oliver

**Secretary until Nov 2018**
Koliarne Tong

**Executive member, then Secretary from Nov 2018**
Anthony Byrne

**Executive members**
Mark Benzimra
Stephen Cala
Anna Hudson
Monique Malouf
Mary Roberts
Jonathan Rutland (*until Nov 2018*)
Smita Shah
Budhima Nanayakkara

### NZ Branch

**President**
Stuart Jones

**Past President until Aug 2018**
Richard Laing

**Treasurer until Aug 2018, then as President Elect**
Elaine Yap

**Executive member, then treasurer from Aug 2018**
James Fingleton

**Executive member, then secretary from Aug 2018**
Nikola Ncube

**Executive members**
Christine Bradley (*from Aug 2018*)
William Good
Roland Meyer (*from Aug 2018*)
David Chen
Deborah Box (*until Aug 2018*)
Asad Khan (*until Aug 2018*)
Maureen Swanney (*until Aug 2018*)
Susan Alexander (*from Aug 2018*)
Paul Kelly (*from Aug 2018*)

### QLD Branch

**President**
Lucy Burr

**President Elect from July 2018**
Simon Bowler

**Treasurer**
Matthew Hutchins

**Secretary**
Michael Fanning

**Executive members**
Benjamin Gerhardy
Daniel Henderson
Rebecca Keating
Liam Krebs
Sadasivam Suresh (*from July 2018*)
Henry Marshall (*until July 2018*)

### VIC Branch

**President**
Naghmeh Radhakrishna

**Executive member, then President Elect from Nov 2018**
Natasha Smallwood

**Past President until Nov 2018**
Eli Dabscheck
Treasurer until Nov 2018
Ryan Hoy
Secretary
Yet Khor
Executive members
Christopher Daley
Rebecca Disler
Anna Ridgers (from Nov 2018)
John Taverner (from Nov 2018)
Tracy Leong (from Nov 2018)
Yvonne Ng (from Nov 2018)
Barton Jennings (until Nov 2018)
Christian Osadnik
Jane Bourke (until Nov 2018)
Mark Lavercombe (until Nov 2018)
Megan Rees (until Nov 2018)
Sakhee Kotecha (until Nov 2018)
Jaideep Vazirani (until Nov 2018)

WA Branch
President
Ingrid Laing
Executive member, then President Elect from July 2018
Christopher Kosky
Past President until July 2018
John McLachlan
Treasurer
Vinicius Cavalheri
Assistant treasurer
Kelly Martinovich
Executive members
Michael Beaven
Li Ping Chung
Rachel Foong (from July 2018)
Sharon Lawrence
Shannon Simpson
Tim Whitmore
Anne O’Donnell (from July 2018)
Adelaide Withers (secretary until July 2018)
Rhea Urs (from Dec 2018)

SA/NT Branch
President
Simone Barry
President until Sept 2018, then as Past President
Phan Nguyen
Treasurer
James Geake
Secretary
Debra Reynolds-Sandford
Executive members
Kristin Carson-Chahhoud
Marie Williams
Judith Morton (from Sept 2018)
Kylie Johnston (from Sept 2018)
Aaron Oh
Karen Royals (from Sept 2018)
Shanka Karunarathne (from Sept 2018)
Georgina Paterson (from Sept 2018)
Katherine Bassett (until Sept 2018)
Sarah Madigan (until Sept 2018)

TAS Branch
President
Nicholas Harkness
Secretary & treasurer
Emma Ball
MEMBERS BY BRANCH

2018 SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP MEMBERS*

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* Reported as at October 2018
The TSANZ Special Interest Groups

Asthma and Allergy

Convenors:
Jay Horvat and Louisa Owens

Deputy Convenors:
Michael Fricker and Stephen Oo

Activities and Highlights in 2018:

Thank you to the organisers of the 2018 TSANZ ASM in Adelaide.

The Asthma and Allergy SIG, the largest of all the TSANZ SIGs, enjoyed a very busy conference. Louisa Owens and Jay Horvat took over as SIG Convenors, with two new Deputy Convenors, Michael Fricker and Stephen Oo, elected.

Given the huge number of abstract submissions for the SIG, we had four oral presentation sessions, three poster sessions, two symposia and a joint plenary on the Heterogeneity of Severe Asthma and COPD.

We had a very successful conference with numerous awards and grants received by very worthy researchers, reflective of the world-class asthma and allergy research which is ongoing in Australia. We had two winners of Lungs for Life Research Grants, Dr Malcolm Starkey and Dr Megan Jensen, both looking at different aspects of early life lung development and the subsequent development of asthma. Dr Kevin Looi was awarded an AstraZeneca Early Careers Fellowship for his work on epithelial cells following viral infection. Dr Hayley Scott was awarded a TSANZ/NAC Asthma and Airways Fellowship looking at diet and obesity in asthma. Dr Rachel Foong was awarded the TSANZ Rob Pierce Grant-in-aid for her work on asthma amongst Indigenous populations in Australia. Drs Thomas Iosifidis and James Fingleton both received Janet Elder Travel Awards for their Early-Career projects on the asthma epithelium and treatable traits, respectively. The winners of our TSANZ Asthma and Allergy SIG awards were Stephanie Byrne and Meina Li, sponsored by the National Asthma Council and Asthma Australia.

Congratulations to all the winners!

We look forward to seeing you next year on the Gold Coast, for just as successful a conference.
Activities and Highlights in 2018:

We reflect on 2018 which has been another busy year for the CIMBL SIG. As part of the reinvigoration efforts to increase engagement, strategic discussions were had on ways to promote the profile of the SIG. A decision was then made to concentrate initial efforts on raising awareness of the SIG at the Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM), especially given our name change to “Cell, Immunology and Molecular Biology of the Lung” from “Cell Biology and Immunology”. We believe we achieved this by successfully running two concurrent symposium sessions, three oral SIG sessions and two poster discussion sessions at the ASM.

This year, as a first for the SIG, we included a new debate style symposium that argued the pros and cons of human vs animal respiratory models. Our invited national and international speakers engaged in a spirited manner on the merits of both models with team human being victorious according to audience vote. Our second symposium focussed on the translational challenges of basic research into the clinical sessions. These symposiums were attended at near capacity, attesting to the overall interest we had generated with the scientific community. We would like to extend our congratulations to Su-Ling Loo and Jessica Hillas for being awarded the overall best oral and poster for the SIG.

We ran a successful AGM which was well attended and received constructive feedback on ways to increase profile membership as well as ways to continue to improve the profile of the SIG into the future. We also successfully organised an informal networking session during the AGM. It was well attended for its inaugural event by approximately 30 members and there was support for it to be continued at future ASMs.

In 2019 Anthony Kicic will hand over the reins of the Convenor position to the current Deputy Co-Convenor, Miranda Ween. I look forward to her continued efforts in reinvigorating the SIG with new initiatives. We look forward to seeing our members at the SIG AGM where we will discuss strategies for the CIMBL SIG moving forward.
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

Activities and Highlights in 2018:

The COPD SIG had another successful year in 2018. We received 42 abstracts to review and allocate for the 2018 TSANZSRS conference. The program was finalised with three oral sessions of 18 presentations, two poster discussion sessions of 20 posters as well as three thematic posters. Presentations covered content ranging from examination of the use of oxygen supplementation during exercise training in COPD to whether guidelines were being followed for management of acute exacerbations of COPD. Two symposia were also run on “New Horizons in clinical and therapeutic management of COPD” and “Optimising wellness in COPD – managing comorbidities”. The COPD SIG would like to thank all speakers and chairs for these sessions which ensured a smooth running of the presentations.

Congratulations to Ross Vlahos for the COPD SIG Award; Sukhwinder Sohal for the Boehringer Ingelheim (BI) COPD Research Award for investigating epithelial mesenchymal transition as a novel therapeutic target in COPD; Michael Fricker for the AstraZeneca Fellowship for investigating sputum mast cells as biomarkers for COPD; Jennifer Perret for the BI COPD Travel Award; Anna Hudson for the Janet Elder Travel Award in COPD; Rebecca Disler for the Maurice Blackburn Award in COPD; Richard Kim for the Lung Foundation Australia (LFA) and BI COPD Research Fellowship for investigating microRNAs; Fiona Coll and Zoe McKeough for the LFA PhD Scholarship Award for COPD; Angela Burge for the LFA/Cochrane Airways Scholarship in COPD.

Another primary activity for the SIG was to provide feedback on the latest version of the COPD-X guidelines – the SIG reviewed and endorsed the guidelines. The COPD SIG is also supporting the TSANZ Research Sub-Committee and Education and Training Sub-Committee with various activities.

We would finally like to thank Peter Wark for his contributions to the COPD SIG over the last four years and offer a warm welcome to Ross Vlahos as one of our new Deputy Convenors. We look forward to seeing all members at the 2019 TSANZSRS on the Gold Coast.

Convenors:
Sukhwinder Sohal and Christopher Worsnop

Deputy Convenors:
Zoe McKeough and Ross Vlahos
Evidence-based Medicine & Practice

Convenor:
Ghulam Sarwar

Deputy Convenor:
Rebecca Disler

Activities and Highlights in 2018:

There were several highlights for the EBMP SIG from the 2018 TSANZ ASM.

Like previous years, the EBMP SIG had an oral and a poster session during the TSANZ 2018 ASM in Adelaide with excellent presentations and attendance. Dr Rebecca Normansell, Joint Co-ordinating Editor of the Cochrane Airways Group, from the Population Health Research Institute, St George’s University of London, presented “Evidence insights from Cochrane Reviews of magnesium in acute asthma”. This attracted a huge audience and very productive discussion. It was followed by a session of oral presentations and we also had separate poster presentation sessions.

The annual Cochrane Postgraduate Workshop was organized during the TSANZ 2018 ASM in collaboration with Cochrane Australia and led by Dr Julie Walters. Dr Normansell discussed Network Meta-analysis, Bias and Diagnostic Tests accuracy and Dr Osadnik discussed “Common errors in review production”. Cochrane Airways Group has organized a Postgraduate Workshop for the 2019 ASM (Saturday, 30 March 2019). All members and trainees who are undertaking or plan to do a systematic review should attend this useful course that provides group training and one to one discussion.

After completing a two-year term as convenor, Ghulam Sarwar will step down after the 2019 ASM in Gold Coast. Rebecca Disler will resume the role of Convener. We invite people to consider taking a two-year role as deputy convenor starting from 2019. It is an exciting role and an opportunity to be involved with the TSANZ on a higher level. If someone is interested in taking this role, please do contact Ghulam or Rebecca as we are happy to discuss this further. Best wishes for 2019 and looking forward to seeing you all at the TSANZ ASM on the Gold Coast.

Cystic Fibrosis

Convenors

Peter Middleton – Adult
Catherine Byrnes – Paediatric

Activities and Highlights in 2018:

The CF SIG has had another important year in 2018. The new document entitled Work environment risks for health care workers with cystic fibrosis has been published in Respiratory. Scott Bell hosted a webinar on What’s in a cough? Implications for the care of people with flu and MROs, and the CF Clinical Trials Network of Australia and New Zealand is slowly progressing.

At the Annual Scientific Meeting there was a large increase in research submissions with two oral, one poster and one joint symposium with CF as the theme.

The CF SIG works closely with CF Australia through the CF Centre Directors Group and was involved in ongoing discussions about cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) modulators with the second Therapeutic Goods Administration-listed modulator approved for use in nearly half of the CF patients in Australia. In New Zealand, there is a demand from CF healthcare workers and the CF community for continued dialogue between the pharmaceutical company and Pharmac for agreement on funding of Ivacaftor. The CF Youth Clinical Network under the auspices of the NZ Paediatric Society will complete updated guidelines for CF care in early 2019.

We look forward to the Gold Coast Conference in 2019 with a theme of respiratory infections with a CF paediatrician as one of the international guest speakers.
Activities and Highlights in 2018:

The IP SIG has had another busy and productive year in 2018. The ASM in Adelaide in March included a post graduate workshop on endoscopic therapies for advanced COPD led by Dr Karin Kloosterman and Dr Dirk Jan Slebos. This was very well attended and generated some excellent discussion surrounding the place such therapies have in the management of patients with end stage COPD. The follow up symposium at the ASM proper then added in the merits of pharmacotherapy, pulmonary rehabilitation and lung transplantation.

This year saw two more Train the Trainer workshops, in Auckland and Melbourne in February this year. These workshops were ably facilitated by both local (Elaine Yap and Daniel Steinfort) and international (Henri Colt) speakers and ably assisted by a faculty from around the country. The goal is to continue running these workshops across different capital cities to provide the best skills and resources for IP trainers and assessors to train our up and coming IP clinicians.

The remainder of the year concentrated on the landmark TSANZ Recognition of Competence Guidelines for standard bronchoscopy, intercostal catheter insertion and endobronchial ultrasound procedures. The face-to-face meeting at the ASM in Adelaide as well as several teleconferences have allowed significant progress to be made on these important documents and the aim will be to finalise and introduce them at the 2019 ASM on the Gold Coast. We encourage all IP SIG members to attend the meeting.

We must also make mention of the Asia Pacific Congress of Bronchology immediately preceding the TSANZ ASM from 28 March 2019. The local organising committee, chaired by Associate Professor David Fielding, has been busy preparing an excellent program with many international experts in attendance. It is not to be missed both for consultants and registrars in training.

Finally, as deputy convenor, I must congratulate Associate Professor Jonathan Williamson on the fantastic job he has done as convenor of our SIG during his tenure. His leadership and productivity in the role are very much admired and will be a hard act to follow. As always it is great to work with him and share ideas. Over the next two years, Jonathan will be continuing implementation of the recognition of competence documents to ensure their adoption and success in years to come.
Lung Cancer

Convenor:  
David Manners

Deputy Convenor:  
Tracy Leong

Activities and Highlights in 2018:

The Lung Cancer SIG was involved in presenting a well-received symposium at the TSANZSRS 2018 ASM in Adelaide discussing challenging situations in the multi-disciplinary management of lung cancer that are not well supported by high-quality evidence. Discussion involved tri-modality therapy for resectable IIIa non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) and the role of resection for oligometastatic disease.

Members of the SIG continue to wait for full publication of two important and potentially practice changing studies presented in oral abstract form at international conferences. The results of the French IFCT-0302 randomised study comparing minimal versus CT-based follow-up for resected NSCLC, presented at the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) 2017, may challenge existing follow-up guidelines. The results of the Dutch-Belgium NELSON lung cancer screening study, presented at the recent World Conference on Lung Cancer (WCLC) in Toronto, replicate the U.S. based National Lung Screening Trial (NLST) study showing that screening high-risk individuals with CT reduces lung cancer mortality. The SIG eagerly awaits full publication of these pivotal studies.

In 2019, we look forward to a unique symposium with the COPD SIG at the 2019 TSANZSRS as well as interesting results from national researchers.

Nutrition

Convenor:  
Hayley Scott

Deputy Convenor:  
Megan Jensen

Activities and Highlights in 2018:

The Nutrition SIG is excited to have been formed in 2018 with 39 members and we look forward to welcoming more members in 2019. Establishing a dedicated Nutrition SIG within the TSANZ is a positive step towards raising awareness of nutrition in respiratory health and advancing nutrition and respiratory research. Our first activity was to review and provide feedback to the TSANZ Board on the Royal Australian College of Physicians (RACP) Position Statement and Evidence Review — Action to prevent obesity and reduce its impact across the life course. The consensus from our members was to endorse the document and we provided some recommendations.

After considering the responses from our members, the TSANZ has provided a letter of endorsement to the RACP while noting some of our concerns, notably a lack of emphasis on asthma as a key disease that can develop and worsen with obesity. We also received our first abstract submission for the 2019 ASM and hope to receive more in the future. We look forward to engaging with researchers, clinicians and allied health practitioners interested in the role of nutrition in respiratory health in the coming year.
Activities and Highlights in 2018:

2018 has been a busy year for the OELD SIG. This has been primarily driven by the resurgence of multiple preventable occupational lung diseases in recent years; including Coal Workers’ Pneumoconiosis (CWP) in coal mine workers, and the worryingly high proportion of artificial stone benchtop workers with evidence of silicosis and progressive massive fibrosis (PMF).

In response to these public health tragedies, members of the SIG have called for the establishment of a national occupational lung disease registry, which has been endorsed by the TSANZ. We have also been instrumental in raising awareness of these issues to other health care professionals through our contribution to a TSANZ Webinar (“Accelerated Silicosis kitchen benchtops and the emerging epidemic”) and Short Course (“Occupational and Environmental Lung Disease Short Course 2018”). Members of the SIG also published a case series of artificial stone-related silicosis in benchtop workers in *Occupational and Environmental Medicine* and recently wrote an open letter to MJA Insight outlining a call to action to manage existing cases and prevent further cases from emerging in the industry.

The OELD SIG is currently working on position papers related to Work-related Asthma and a follow up to our 2016 publication on Coal Workers’ Pneumoconiosis. We look forward to contributing further to these discussions with the TSANZ community at the 2019 ASM through the COPD SIG co-sponsored symposium on coal mine dust related lung disease, titled “Down-under in the coal mines”.

Convenor: Graeme Zosky
Deputy Convenor: Jennifer Perret
**Orphan Lung Diseases, Lung Transplant, Interstitial Lung Diseases & Pulmonary Vascular Disease (OLIV)**

**Activities and Highlights in 2018:**

2018 was another productive year in the OLIV arena. At the TSANZ ASM in Adelaide, the OLIV SIG provided a large contribution including one plenary and two symposia. The plenary session focussed on interstitial lung disease and introduced two TSANZ/LFA position statements: (i) The Interstitial Lung Disease Multidisciplinary Meeting; and (ii) Treatment of Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis in Australia and New Zealand. Of the two symposia sessions, one was dedicated to pulmonary hypertension, whilst the other was a State of the Art session in interstitial lung disease. We were once again fortunate to have fantastic international guest speakers, Professor Vincent Cottin from Lyon, France and Professor Mary Strek from Chicago, USA. We can be proud of our hosting skills with both presenters thoroughly enjoying their time in Australia. Our international speakers were well supported with excellent local presentations across the plenary, symposia, oral abstracts and poster presentations. The winner of the best OLIV oral presentation was Rebecca Harper for her work on Exosomes and Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension: the Role of Cellular Communication. Andrew Woods won the best OLIV poster award for his work on Antifibrotics for IPF in the Real World: a Single Centre Experience.

In late February 2018, the Sixth World Symposium on Pulmonary Hypertension took place in Nice, France. This pivotal five-yearly meeting challenged existing Pulmonary Hypertension (PH) definitions and created robust debate amongst local and international PH experts. Once published, the outcomes of this meeting will continue to be a source of hot discussion for years to come.

In 2018, the OLIV SIG continued their participation in the Post-Market Review of Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension (PAH) Medicines in Australia that was conducted at the request of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC). The PBAC announced their recommendations in November 2018, that will hopefully pave the way for improved health care delivery to patients with PAH.

In other developments, the Centre of Research Excellence for Pulmonary Fibrosis (CRE-PF) continues to foster collaborations across Australia and the development of important infrastructure vital for the support and management of ILD patients across Australia.

2019 also promises to be fruitful for the OLIV SIG. At the TSANZ ASM on the Gold Coast there are two scheduled OLIV symposia including an update in PH that will follow publications from the Sixth World Symposium on Pulmonary Hypertension. The second symposium will focus on interstitial lung disease. In addition, on the Friday prior to the ASM, there is a full-day post graduate workshop on Holistic Care in Interstitial Lung Disease that promises broad appeal, from ILD experts wanting an update to health professionals new to the area. Later in 2019, LFA and the TSANZ will host the fourth biennial Australian Rare Lung Disease Short Course scheduled for Melbourne in August. This promises to be another great event on the OLIV SIG calendar.

We expect the OLIV SIG to continue to grow and be actively engaged in clinical care, training and research.

**Convenor:** Jeremy Wrobel

**Deputy Convenor:** Gregory Keir
Physiotherapy

Convenor:
Angela Burge

Co-Convenor:
Tanja Effing

Activities and Highlights in 2018:

2018 has been a very busy and successful year for the Physiotherapy SIG. We are thankful to Vinicius Cavalheri for his leadership in recent years and are thrilled to welcome Tanja Effing as deputy convenor.

At the time of the AGM at the ASM in March, we had a record 98 members from a diverse range of disciplines. Our members’ abstracts were disseminated amongst nine different SIGs for 13 oral presentations and 12 poster presentations. Nine Physiotherapy SIG members were invited to deliver talks at the ASM and we were delighted to co-host three joint symposia and a post-graduate workshop. The Physiotherapy SIG was very well represented amongst the award recipients at the inaugural ‘Respiratory Research Excellence Reception’.

We also had prize winners announced at the Gala Dinner and were awarded the best poster selections in six different sessions and as well as overall winner of TSANZ best poster!

We are very grateful for the ongoing involvement of our SIG members who continue to participate in a range of TSANZ activities, including a range of Sub-Committees and in the State branches.

Finally, our SIG is looking forward to co-hosting a joint symposium and a breakfast session at the upcoming ASM. We are excited to continue working with the other SIGs and our members in 2019.

Paediatric

Convenor:
Adelaide Withers

Deputy Convenor:
Danielle Wurzel

Activities and Highlights in 2018:

The Paediatric SIG had another very productive year with several notable highlights. The ASM in Adelaide was a huge success with a strong Paediatric focus. Two paediatric symposiums were held: “Paediatrics – Clinical and Research Challenges in Paediatric Respiratory Disorders” and “Can We Stop the Wheeze – the Paediatric Wheeze Symposium” with several notable international and local speakers drawing a large audience. A total of six paediatric oral and ten poster presentations were presented on a range of paediatric topics highlighting the high calibre of paediatric research across Australia and New Zealand.

During the ASM, the Paediatric SIG met to discuss the EVOLVE recommendations for the Paediatric Respiratory Group. The recommendations were agreed upon and recently published online (www.evolve.edu.au). These highlighted the “Top 5 Low-value practices and interventions”. Evolve is an initiative led by physicians and the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) and aims to minimize low-value care and improve decision-making amongst physicians, a very worthwhile and important initiative.

With the support of the TSANZ, members of our SIG were actively involved in coordinating the successful “Paediatric Respiratory Short Course” in Brisbane, QLD, a full-day update on paediatric respiratory medicine with speakers from across Australia, New Zealand and international speaker Prof Anita Simonds from Royal Brompton, UK.
Primary Care

Convenor:
Smita Shah

Deputy Convenor:
Sinthia Bosnic-Anticevich

Activities and Highlights in 2018:

Working with Sinthia Bosnic-Anticevic has been especially rewarding this year. We collaborated with the Palliative Care and Tobacco SIGs in providing the TSANZ delegates with an excellent oral session. The breadth of presentations led to a very stimulating question and discussion time. The opportunity to collaborate with other SIGs not only highlighted the breadth of the Primary Care SIG and its ability to breach across SIGs, but also drew out attention to the need to focus on strengthening this SIG as we move forward.

There is much enthusiasm and energy across the respiratory research, practice and partnership world to engage more heavily with primary care. Therefore, it is an exciting time for the Primary Care SIG. It provides us with an opportunity to really evolve this SIG over the coming years.

We need to increase SIG membership both in the research and practice community. Consolidation and harnessing of the best possible researchers, in the area of primary care research continues to be needed. So the question is how do we better engage with practising primary health care providers? One suggestion is to liaise with Primary Health Networks, in order to bring general practitioners, pharmacists, nurses, allied health and other primary care providers to future conferences. It is important that we raise our profile and offer education sessions that will enhance their practice, and engage them with their local respiratory research community. In 2019 we are offering an exciting breakfast session on teaching patients the correct use of respiratory devices at the ASM in March. We look forward to seeing and hearing from our members about other ideas and suggestions.

Pulmonary Physiology & Sleep

Convenor:
Norman Morris

Deputy Convenor:
Katrina Tonga

Activities and Highlights in 2018:

The Physiology & Sleep SIG has over 400 TSANZ members and is one of the largest in the society. We would like to acknowledge the great service of the outgoing SIG Convenor, Alan Young, the Director of Sleep Services at Eastern Health.

At this year’s ASM in Adelaide the SIG hosted a Symposium (Sleep physiology – the benefits of using positive pressure in the acute hospital setting) and co-hosted the ANZSRS masterclass (Hypoxia in chronic lung disease – from pulmonary physiology to patient care). The SIG hosted two oral presentations along with a thematic poster session. The quality of the research presented at these meetings continues to be strong. The oral presentation winner was David Chapman from the University of Technology Sydney and Woolcock Institute, Sydney. The poster prize was awarded to Kris Nilsen from the Alfred Hospital, Melbourne.

On the international front, we would like to acknowledge that two of the members of the Pulmonary Physiology & Sleep SIG were recognised by the Respiratory Structure and Function Assembly of the ATS for their outstanding research. David Chapman was awarded the Anne Woolcock Memorial award for outstanding young researcher and Gregory King from the Woolcock Institute and Royal North Shore Hospital, Sydney was awarded the Robert Crapo Memorial Lifetime Achievement Award in pulmonary diagnostics.

For the 2019 TSANZ ASM, to be held on the Gold Coast, the Pulmonary Physiology & Sleep SIG will co-host a Symposium with the ANZSRS on Predicting and Phenotyping COPD exacerbations on Monday with Professor Mike Polkey presenting. We are also co-hosting the ANZSRS Masterclass that will examine the impact of Neuromuscular Disease on respiratory muscle function with Professor Polkey again presenting. The SIG will also host two oral presentation sessions and a Poster Thematic Poster session at the ASM. So we are looking forward to seeing you at the Gold Coast – should be a cracker of a meeting.
Respiratory Infectious Diseases (RID)

Convenor:
Geriant Rogers

Deputy Convenor:
Lucy Burr

Activities and Highlights in 2018:

The RID SIG had a particularly busy 2018. We were proud to host two symposia at the 2018 TSANZSRS in Adelaide, focusing on the growing threat of nontuberculous mycobacterial infection and the challenges of preventing and managing influenza. The second of these sessions included a presentation by the esteemed international speaker Professor David Hui from the Chinese University of Hong Kong. The RID SIG also hosted well-attended oral and poster presentation sessions that covered topics ranging from antibiotic resistance to respiratory infection control.

Beyond the congress, the RID SIG provided ongoing assistance to the Clinical Care and Resources Sub-Committee by reviewing the currency of guidelines and position papers, including those relating to the treatment and prevention of influenza H1N1, and the Respiratory Infectious Disease Burden in Australia Case Statement. We also continued to support the Australian Bronchiectasis Consortium, which has now recruited more than 1000 patients to their rapidly growing registry.

We are very much looking forward 2019, which looks set to again be a busy year for the RID SIG. The upcoming 2019 TSANZSRS in the Gold Coast is themed “Respiratory Infections — Bugs and Beyond”, and we are proud to be joined by two outstanding international speakers: Lucas Hoffman from Seattle Children’s Hospital and Eva Polverino from the Hospital Clinic Barcelona. In addition to a programme that sees respiratory infections very much to the fore, the conference dinner will be themed “Super Heroes vs Super Bugs” – we look forward to seeing you all there!
Activities and Highlights in 2018:

The Respiratory Nurses SIG had another successful year. The 2018 ASM Respiratory Nurses SIG symposium was very well received with attendees enjoying the mix of scientific and clinical presentations, along with educational development sessions. We were fortunate to have two international speakers; Professor DorAnne Donesky (USA) who spoke on developing and integrating palliative care and pulmonary rehabilitation, as well as her journey as a Nurse Practitioner, clinician and academic within respiratory health care. Professor Janelle Yorke (UK) presented her work in developing the Respiratory Distress Symptom Inventory for lung cancer and during the session launching the Severe Asthma Toolkit. The nursing abstract presentations were of a high standard; offering inspiration and useful take home messages to apply to patient care and service development. The presentations showcased the amazing work and research our colleagues are doing throughout Australia and New Zealand. In addition to the nursing sessions, the Respiratory Nurses SIG joined with the Symptom Support & Palliative Care SIG for combined symposia with the focus on management of severe breathlessness.

We are very pleased to announce that our international speaker for the 2019 ASM is Dr Lynn Reinke, Clinical Associate Professor from the University of Washington’s School of Nursing. Her research focuses on improving delivery of end-of-life care for respiratory patients and we look forward to her sharing her knowledge. We are extremely appreciative of the ongoing support provided by Maurice Blackburn who will again support the nurse symposium at the ASM. Planned joint symposiums for 2019 see the Respiratory Nurses SIG combine with the Symptom Support & Palliative Care SIG on “Advance care planning – what is stopping us?” and “Preparing for the Voluntary Assisted Dying Act in Victoria” and with the Physiotherapy SIG and COPD SIG on “Home management and use of COPD exacerbation action plans”.

In addition to the ASM, the Respiratory Nurses SIG organised a webinar presentation in 2018. Sally Powell, Nurse Practitioner (New Zealand), presented on Non-Invasive Ventilation entitled “NIV therapy – viewed via a community lens”, which was very well received. Topics are in direct response to the results from our member survey conducted in 2017. Webinars offer a supportive platform for nurses to share their research, knowledge and initiatives with other members. Planning is under way to offer more webinars in 2019.

The NZ and Australian convenor/co-convenor team look forward to working together in 2019 to continue professional development for its SIG members and to raise the profile of nurses within the TSANZ.
Symptom Support and Palliative Care (SSPC)

Convenor:
Natasha Smallwood

Deputy Convenors:
Mary Roberts and Jennifer Phillip

Activities and Highlights in 2018:

The SSPC SIG was established in 2017 and brings together a multidisciplinary group of clinicians, academics and educators. The SIG aims to enhance and expand the delivery of high-quality, symptom palliation and palliative care for all people with advanced respiratory disease.

Together with the Respiratory Nurses SIG, we hosted a symposium at the TSANZSRS 2018 on the topic of managing refractory breathlessness, Symptom support – insights into managing severe breathlessness", which was both well attended and well received. Additionally, the SSPC SIG themed oral and poster research sessions at the TSANZSRS 2018 enabled Australian and New Zealand researchers to present high quality studies and initiatives regarding many aspects of symptom management and palliative care to their peers.

Excitingly, the SSPC SIG will be co-hosting a symposium on “Preparing for the Voluntary Assisted Dying Act in Victoria” with the Respiratory Nurses SIG. This symposium has been selected to be one of the two themed symposia on the first day of the TSANZSRS 2019 conference. Additionally several colleagues will be presenting their research (as orals or posters) at the meeting regarding palliative care for people with advanced respiratory disease.

In 2019 the Convenor, Natasha Smallwood and Deputy Convenor, Mary Roberts, will be stepping down from their roles having completed their two-year terms. A new Convenor will be sought to join Jennifer Phillip, who will continue her role as deputy convenor. We look forward to much activity and engagement over the coming year.

Tobacco & Related Substances

Convenor:
Johnson George

Deputy Convenor:
Henry Marshall

Activities and Highlights in 2018:

The Tobacco & Related Substances SIG had a successful year in 2018. At the TSANZSRS in Adelaide, the group had joint oral and poster presentation sessions with the Primary Care SIG and the Symptom Support and Palliative Care SIG, which were well attended and received. We wish to continue our collaborations with the other TSANZ SIGs. We received abstracts from both clinical sciences and laboratory-based researchers for the 2019 ASM at the Gold Coast, which will become part of joint oral and poster sessions.

We thank Brian Smith for his contributions to the Tobacco & Related Substances SIG and offer a warm welcome to Henry Marshall, our new Deputy Convenor. The Tobacco & Related Substances SIG has been invited to contribute to the TSANZ Position Paper on e-cigarettes through membership of the writing group as well as review of the draft paper. We are looking forward to the upcoming 2019 ASM at the Gold Coast. Our proposal has been accepted for a symposium entitled “Tobacco Control - Tobacco endgame - trusted tactics and new players” at the 2019 ASM. The symposium will have discussion of tobacco endgame interventions in Australia and New Zealand from political, public health, clinical, social perspectives. This will involve speakers from both Australia and New Zealand. It will also feature an update from the Chairs of the TSANZ e-cigarette position paper working group.
New Members 2018
Total 191 new members

Ordinary
Abdullah Tarique, QLD
Aleisha Nielsen, WA
Alen Faiz, NSW/ACT
Alex Chapman, QLD
Anna Dunn, VIC
Belinda Thomas, VIC
Blake Handley, NSW/ACT
Carolyn McIntyre, WA
Charlotte Burr, WA
Chee (Keith) Ooi, NSW/ACT
Christine Bradley, NZ
Clinton Jarman, NSW/ACT
Colleen McGoldrick, QLD
Daniel Garner, NZ
Dion Grosser, SA/NT
Dominic Keating, VIC
Elena Schneider, VIC
Elizabeth Webb, VIC
Elizabeth Smith, WA
Emma De Jong, WA
Eunice To, VIC
Fiona Horwood, NZ
Jemma Seyfang, SA/NT
John Harrington, NSW/ACT
John Blakey, WA
Jonathan Banks, QLD
Jonathan McQualter, VIC
Kin Keung Kwong, SA/NT
Laura Ploen, NZ
Laura Sadler, SA/NT
Leanne Ross, WA
Leona Dowman, VIC
Louise Roddam, TAS
Madhu Chandra, VIC
Marina Hoffman, VIC
Meena Li, VIC
Michael Hlavac, NZ
Miriam Bennett, NZ
Montaha, Al-Iede, NSW/ACT
Paul Kelly, NZ
Phil Stumbles, WA
Rivindi Watthayalage, NSW/ACT
Russell Wong, WA
Saleela Ruwanpura, VIC
Sankaran Kannamangalam
Ramakrishnan, NZ
Sarah Hiles, NSW/ACT
Stanley Chan, VIC
Susana Mu, VIC
Suzanne Maiolo, SA/NT

Associate
Alexander Gordon, NSW/ACT
Alexandra Whelan, WA
Alice Crawford, SA/NT
Annie Walker, VIC
Anton Antonov, VIC
Antonia Chan, SA/NT
Archit Chawla, NSW/ACT
Atiqah Abdul Latiff, NZ
Benjamin Aw-Yeong, QLD
Brendon Sanders, NZ
Britt Clynick, WA
Carrie-Anne Wagner, VIC
Charlotte Chen, NZ
Christiaan Yu, VIC
Christopher Chew, VIC
Christopher Price, NSW/ACT
Christopher Padgham, WA
Claire Hackett, QLD
Craig Schofield, WA
Daniel Wang, NSW/ACT
Darran Treanor, VIC
David Mackintosh, QLD
Debbie Hall, WA
Deirdre Fitzgerald, WA
Denby Evans, WA
Dugal Smith, QLD
Duncan Sweeney, TAS
Emily Lawton, SA
Eric Douglas, NSW/ACT
Erica Jan Cassim, NSW/ACT
Fiona McLeod, VIC
Freya Berenyi, VIC
Golsa Adabi, VIC
Hannah Smeele, NZ
Hao Wang, VIC
Henry Ainge-Allen, NSW/ACT
Hiep Pham, VIC
Hugh Buzacott, VIC
Ingrid Cox-Pierre, TAS
Jade Larsson, WA
Jane Tjahjadi, QLD
Jennifer Krummenacher, WA
Jenny Hauser, TAS
Jia Ying Isaac Tay, TAS
Jo Smiley, NZ
Jonathan Pham, TAS
Julia Lachowicz, TAS
Kataryna Duszyk, NSW/ACT
Khine Khine Yin Mon, NSW/ACT
Kimberly Voon, WA
Kristian Brooks, NZ
Kyi Kyi Zaw, SA/NT
Lachlan Stranks, SA/NT
Laura Glenn, NSW/ACT
Lauren Ng, VIC
Lauren Kelley, VIC
Lauren Ross, VIC
Leon Yu-An Huang, NZ
Madeline Gaynor, WA
Marianne Turner, NSW/ACT
Matthew Macowan, SA/NT
Michael Brown, SA/NT
Michelle O'Brien, QLD
Muhammad Ali Tahir, NSW
Nat Eiffer, WA
Oliver Howlett, NZ
Phoebe Waters, SA/NT
Ram Ghimire, SA/NT
Raymond Blackbeard, NZ
Reece Jefferyes, WA
Reza Pazhang, VIC
Risa Fukusho, VIC
Robert Carroll, QLD
Sahan Bandaralage, QLD
Sally McCappin, WA
Samantha McLean, WA
Samuel Dalton, VIC
Sandra Schilling, QLD
Sheetal Deshpande, VIC
Sherlynn Ang, WA
Shervin Amirmalek, NSW
Shiva Subramanyam, NSW/ACT
Simon Slader, QLD
Simon Proctor, SA/NT
Sowmya Krishnan, SA
Stephen Tan, NSW/ACT
Su Wei Khung, VIC
Susan Alexander, NZ
Thomas Saunders, VIC
Thomas Skinner, QLD
Tom Hills, NZ
Toni Hall, VIC
Wafa Khan, NZ

Student
Alarmelu Ram, SA/NT
Alexis Moran, NSW/ACT
Becky Burgess, SA/NT
Cherry Thompson, NSW/ACT
Claire Smart, NSW/ACT
Daniel Laucirica, WA
Fiona Coll, WA
Flynn Slattery, SA/NT
Gennaro D’Elia, SA/NT
Hanna Hensen, NSW/ACT
Hannah O’Farrell, QLD
Henry Gomez, NSW/ACT
Himanish Panda, NSW/ACT
Howard Vindin, NSW/ACT
Ie Lien Romero, WA
Jiayin Diao, VIC
Joe Yasa, WA
Jonathan Erlich, VIC
Karosham Reddy, NSW/ACT
Kris Nilsen, VIC
Melissa Aji, NSW/ACT
Morgan Hepburn-Brown, VIC
Nicholas Mattock, WA

Nisreen Al Saedi, NSW/ACT
Patrick Asare, SA/NT
Prabuddha Pathinayake, NSW/ACT
Rebecca Hii, WA
Rebecca Stockwell, QLD
Rhys Hamon, SA/NT
Richard Lobb, QLD
Sally Yunsun Kim, NSW/ACT
Sonia Cheng, NSW/ACT
Soraih Harvey, NSW/ACT
Steven Taylor, SA/NT
Thomas Moran, VIC
Thomas Goddard, SA
Tylah Miles, WA
Xin Dai, VIC
Yifan Chen, NSW/ACT
Yoshua Selvadurai, NSW/ACT

Corporate
Alana Westover, VIC
Erin O’Callaghan, SA/NT
Ghassan Maghzal, WA
Ingrid Sand, VIC
Megan Grace, QLD

Overseas
Anil Kadam
G. Kim Prisk
Marko Topalovic
Fellows of the TSANZ have been nominated by their peers, recommended to the Board by the Professional Standards Sub-Committee and formally recognised by the Board for their exceptional contributions to respiratory health in Australia and New Zealand.

### Inaugural Fellow of the TSANZ (FThorSoc) 2013
Robert Edwards

### Fellows of the TSANZ (FThorSoc) 2014
- Anthony Breslin
- Christine Jenkins
- David Langton
- David Serisier
- Gary Anderson
- Graham Simpson
- Jo Douglass
- John Armstrong
- Martin Phillips
- Paul Reynolds
- Peter Frith
- Peter Sly
- Peter Van Asperen
- Philip Thompson

### Fellows of the TSANZ (FThorSoc) 2015
- Adam Jaffe
- Anne Chang
- Graham Hall
- Haydn Walters
- Ian Yang
- Jennifer Alison
- John Upham
- Peter Gibson
- Peter Middleton
- Robyn O’Hehir

### Fellows of the TSANZ (FThorSoc) 2016
- Christine McDonald
- Kwun Fong

### Fellows of the TSANZ (FThorSoc) 2017
- Abe Rubinfeld
- David Fielding
- Hubertus Jersmann
- Matthew Peters
- Peter Wark
- Philip Hansbro
- Scott Bell
- Vanessa McDonald

### Fellows of the TSANZ (FThorSoc) 2018
- Bruce Thompson
- Christopher Worsnop
- Jodie Simpson
- John Kolbe
- Louis Irving
- Maureen Swanney
- Simon Bowler
The TSANZ Awards
Research and Fellowships

ANN WOOLCOCK NEW INVESTIGATOR AWARD

The Ann Woolcock New Investigator Award is presented at the TSANZ Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) to acknowledge excellence in the conduct and presentation of scientific research.

The recipient of this award will attend and present their original high-quality research to the next ASM of the Asia-Pacific Society of Respirology (APSR). This award furthers one of Professor Ann Woolcock’s goals of fostering research ties between the TSANZ and the APSR.

Recipient: Eunice To
“ENDOSOMAL NOX2 OXIDASE INHIBITOR PROTECTS AGAINST HIGHLY PATHOGENIC INFLUENZA VIRUS MORBIDITY”

The Ann Woolcock New Investigator Award has provided me with a fantastic opportunity to disseminate my research for the first time, at both the TSANZ and APSR conference. I would like to thank the organising committee for giving me the opportunity to attend these insightful meetings that have given me an enormous amount of insight into clinical respiratory health and allowed me to expand my network on a national and international level. My area of research has unravelled that endosomal reactive oxygen species (ROS) are essential negative regulators of a fundamental molecular mechanism of viral pathogenicity that impacts on antiviral immunity and the capacity of the host to fight and clear viral infections. Specifically targeting this pathogenic process with a spatially targeted endosome ROS inhibitor alleviated influenza virus pathogenicity. This provides a potential target for antiviral therapy for a range of viruses that cause significant morbidity and mortality worldwide.

5 FINALISTS:

Steven McKinstry
“RCT OF NHF THERAPY COMPARED WITH NIV IN HYPERCAPNIC COPD”

Martin MacDonald
“MULTIDIMENSIONAL AETIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT IDENTIFIES CLINICAL PHENOTYPES AMONGST HOSPITALIZED ACUTE EXACERBATIONS OF COPD”

Maggie Lam
“RELAXIN POTENTIATES SALBUTAMOL-MEDIATED AIRWAY RELAXATION IN MULTIPLE SPECIES”

Vikas Goyal
“AMOXYCILLIN-CLAVULANATE VS AZITHROMYCIN FOR RESPIRATORY EXACERBATIONS OF BRONCHIECTASIS IN CHILDREN: A MULTI-CENTRE DOUBLE BLIND NON-INFERIORITY RCT”

Katrina Tonga
“LUNG ELASTIC RECOIL, INFLAMMATION AND PERSISTENT AIRFLOW LIMITATION IN ASTHMA”
TSANZ AND NATIONAL ASTHMA COUNCIL AUSTRALIA ASTHMA AND AIRWAYS FELLOWSHIP

This award is granted to facilitate the establishment of mid-career investigators as independent, self-directed researchers and to foster the development of high-quality research in respiratory medicine in Australia and New Zealand.

Recipient: Hayley Scott  
Institution: University of Newcastle & Hunter Medical Research Institute

“EXERCISE, DIET AND OBESITY FOR ASTHMA MANAGEMENT: IT’S TIME TO WEIGH UP OUR OPTIONS”

As the TSANZ and National Asthma Council Australia Asthma and Airways Fellow, I am conducting three stand-alone research studies examining the influence of exercise, diet and obesity on asthma outcomes, all planned for completion in early 2019. Study 1 is examining associations between clinical asthma status, and airway and systemic inflammation, in physically active versus physically inactive adults with asthma. Study 2 measured dietary intake two hours post-acute exercise, finding consumption of an anti-inflammatory meal post-exercise augments the acute anti-inflammatory effects of exercise in adults with asthma. Study 3 is a systematic review investigating the role of inflammation in obese adults with asthma, with data extraction currently underway. The influence of exercise, diet and obesity in people with asthma is poorly understood. The findings of my research will contribute to the development of clinical recommendations in this area, and thus improved clinical management.

ASTRAZENECA RESPIRATORY FELLOWSHIP – MID-CAREER RESEARCHER

The purpose of this fellowship is to foster the development of research careers in respiratory medicine in Australia and New Zealand.

Recipient: Michael Fricker  
Institution: University of Newcastle & Hunter Medical Research Institute

“SPUTUM MAST CELLS AS BIOMARKERS OF CLINICAL PHENOTYPE AND TREATMENT RESPONSE IN COPD”

Mast cells (MCs) are innate immune cells present in the airways that are long recognized as playing important pathogenic roles in atopic asthma. Their potential pathogenic roles in COPD are less well understood. In asthma, we have demonstrated that measurement of sputum MCs by a PCR-based approach provides a reliable and useful means to identify patients at risk of frequent exacerbations and those that will respond favourably to corticosteroid (CS) therapy.

In this study we will examine, for the first time, the relationship between airway MCs and inflammatory and clinical phenotypes in PCR-based sputum biomarkers of MC activity in COPD and we will test their potential clinical use as predictors of inflammatory and exacerbation phenotypes and responsiveness to CS therapy. This study will provide new mechanistic insight into COPD, and provide novel clinically-relevant biomarkers to improve COPD phenotyping and treatment.

ASTRAZENECA RESPIRATORY FELLOWSHIP – EARLY CAREER RESEARCHER

The purpose of this fellowship is to foster the development of research careers in respiratory medicine in Australia and New Zealand.

Recipient: Kevin Looi  
Institution: University of Western Australia & Telethon Kids Institute

“UNDERSTANDING CHANGES TO AIRWAY EPITHELIAL JUNCTIONS FOLLOWING REPEATED VIRAL INFECTION”

Asthma is a lifelong illness affecting the respiratory airways and poses a significant burden in Australia. The airway epithelium lines the respiratory tract to create a protective barrier from foreign pathogens, such as viruses, and plays an essential role in the state of health or disease. My research has shown that these airway epithelial cells are inherently altered in children with asthma compared to children without asthma and that the protective barrier provided by these cells are further affected after a common-cold infection. Given that there is a relationship between the cell lining and the reaction to virus infection in asthma, my current research will provide greater understanding of the barrier role of the airways. This will allow me to investigate alternative therapeutic strategies for alleviating asthma exacerbations in early life due to respiratory virus infections by strengthening the barrier provided by these airway cells.
BOEHRINGER INGELHEIM COPD RESEARCH AWARD

This award builds capacity and fosters the development of research in the area of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease through the support of pilot studies, proof of concept and feasibility studies.

Recipient: Sukhwinder Sohal
Institution: University of Tasmania
“EPITHELIAL MESENCHYMAL TRANSITION (EMT): A NOVEL THERAPEUTIC TARGET IN COPD”

Our work over several years has been on the novel observations we made early this decade that active epithelial-mesenchymal transition (EMT) is a prominent feature in the airways of smokers and COPD and provides a unified understanding of the drivers of these core airway pathologies that includes airway fibrosis obstruction and even cancer. Targeting this underlying process will thus offer an innovative and novel potential therapeutic opportunity that will be effective against both primary and secondary outcomes of COPD. Boehringer Ingelheim COPD Research Award led us to make significant progress on these novel observations in smoking related COPD. We confirmed significant increase in EMT originated myofibroblast numbers in small airways of COPD patients with direct association with airway wall thickness and decrease in lung function. Changes in myofibroblast populations directly impacted pathological changes in extracellular matrix proteins collagen-1 and fibronectin. With support from Prof Phil Hansbro, we were able to test EMT markers in a smoking mouse model and lung adenocarcinoma model from his lab. These models will be very helpful for EMT targeted drug testing. These observations will have huge implications for therapeutic management of COPD.

MAURICE BLACKBURN RESEARCH AWARD FOR OCCUPATIONAL LUNG DISEASE

This award is given to foster the development of research in the area of occupational and environmental lung disease, with preference being given to studies on asbestos-related diseases.

Recipient: Peter Franklin
Institution: University of Western Australia
“LONGITUDINAL LUNG FUNCTION CHANGES IN A CONTEMPORARY COHORT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIAN MINERS”

Occupational respiratory diseases and impaired pulmonary function resulting from mining exposures have been well documented. Although, mining practices and exposure standards have improved over time, Australian miners are still exposed to dusts, gases and fumes in the workplace. We assessed changes in lung function in over 30,000 miners who had worked in Western Australian (WA) mines between 1996 and 2013. Compared to the reference population, miners experienced small but significantly greater annual declines in FEV1 and FEV1/FVC. Although the long-term clinical implications of these changes are uncertain, they are consistent with the development of an obstructive lung function pattern. These data are of interest to the WA Department of Mines and mining companies who are responsible for the health of their workforce and will be used in a NHMRC Partnership grant application for a prospective lung function study.
TSANZ ROB PIERCE GRANT-IN-AID FOR INDIGENOUS LUNG HEALTH

This grant-in-aid, in honour of the late Professor Rob Pierce, is awarded to a member of the TSANZ for a project focused on understanding and improving the lung health of Indigenous people in Australia and/or New Zealand. This grant supports a project relevant to the lung health of Indigenous people and must contribute to the delivery of better health care and/or to the professional development of the winner.

Recipient: Rachel Foong
Institution: University of Western Australia & Telethon Kids Institute

“DEVELOPING A CONSULTATION PROCESS TO UNDERSTAND ASTHMA IN ABORIGINAL POPULATIONS IN URBAN REGIONAL AND REMOTE ABORIGINAL POPULATIONS”

This funding has allowed for engagement with Aboriginal community members in Broome, Western Australia to set up a community reference group. This reference group, known as the Broome Aboriginal Lung Health Governance Group, comprises of a local Yawuru Elder, two Aboriginal Health Practitioners from the Broome Regional Aboriginal Medical Services, two teachers from primary and secondary schools, the CEO of a local youth sporting group, Aboriginal researchers from the Telethon Kids Institute, as well as lung health researchers. The group was set up to provide advice on conducting research projects into improving lung health in Aboriginal Australians in the Kimberley, by improving understanding and management of asthma. Data shows that the prevalence of asthma is almost twice as high in Aboriginal Australians compared with non-Aboriginal Australians. Members have expressed appreciation on the value of the project and have contributed to research methodology and continued advice on ensuring health translation.

TSANZ PETER PHELAN RESEARCH AWARD

The TSANZ Peter Phelan Research Award aims to support research and development in paediatric and early life research. This award recognises the contributions made by Professor Peter Phelan who was instrumental in helping establish paediatric respiratory medicine as a subspecialty in Australia. Prof. Phelan was awarded the Research medal in 1996 at the 8th TSANZ AGM in Perth, and this grant in his name was first awarded in 1999 at the 11th TSANZ AGM in Canberra.

Recipient: Kevin Looi
Institution: University of Western Australia & Telethon Kids Institute

“SCREENING FOR RARE CFTR GENE MUTATIONS USING 3D-SPHERE TISSUE CULTURE SYSTEMS”

Cystic fibrosis (CF) is a genetic disease and remains a life-threatening disease despite advances in medical sciences. Current medicines only target 2 CFTR mutations which account for about 93% of children with CF, however the remaining 7% of rare mutations miss out on access to potential treatments. There is an urgent need to develop a feasible medicine screening platform to target these rare mutations. Current methods for measuring CFTR function uses human airway cells grown in traditional cell culture. However, these cells are not suitable for long-term growth, so measuring CFTR function and large-scale medicine screening is impractical. Recently, human intestinal cells were used to create 3D-spheres, which change in size depending on CFTR function. My research will determine whether these size changes truly represent what happens in the airways with the eventual aim of establishing a rapid screening platform to address the needs of people with rare CF mutations.
Collaborative Research Awards

LUNGS FOR LIFE RESEARCH AWARDS

Lungs for Life is a strategic collaboration between the TSANZ and LFA to address the underfunding of respiratory research in Australia.

This Research Award aims to provide seed funding for critical and impactful areas of respiratory research. Preference will be given to research proposals in the priority areas of early lung development, infection, and lung cancer.

Recipient: Philip Hansbro
Institution: University of Newcastle & Hunter Medical Research Institute

“CELL FREE MICRORNA: POTENTIAL BIOMARKERS FOR THE EARLY DETECTION OF LUNG CANCER”

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer-associated death and has one of the worst prognoses. This is because of a lack of effective diagnostic methods, and treatments for 70-80% of patients. We are developing a new model of tobacco-carcinogen/cigarette smoke-induced lung cancer in wild-type mice. We are maximizing the input from the smoking signal. MicroRNAs are differentially expressed in mouse and human cancers and control cell and pathologic processes that drive tumorigenesis. Cell free (cf)-miRNAs are stable markers that can be detected in easily accessible tissues. We have profiled the expression of miRNAs in our novel model. We found several that occur early and late during tumour development. We are also assessing if they are expressed in blood or bronchoalveolar lavage cells. We are also obtaining human tumour and blood samples to examine miRNA expression in those samples. Defining the cf-miRNAs that occur in the blood or sputum of patients may provide new ways of diagnosing lung cancer early and improving treatment efficacy.

Recipient: Malcolm Starkey
Institution: University of Newcastle & Hunter Medical Research Institute

“UNDERSTANDING HOW GROUP 2 INNATE LYMPHOID CELLS IN EARLY-LIFE REGULATE POSTNATAL LUNG DEVELOPMENT AND SUSCEPTIBILITY TO CHRONIC LUNG DISEASES”

The neonatal lung is constantly exposed to countless environmental challenges, including bacterial and viral infections. Our lungs have evolved immune responses that protect it against these infections. This is particularly important in early-life when the lung and immune system are still developing and acts to limit tissue damage. However, infection with specific respiratory pathogens in early-life may result in long-term aberrant changes that underpin the development of chronic lung diseases (e.g. asthma). Our research aims to characterise new immune processes that are involved in lung development and how they may be altered by early-life infections to promote susceptibility to chronic lung diseases.

We have discovered that specific respiratory infections in early-life decrease the number of type 2 innate lymphoid cells (ILC2s) in the lung and result in a concomitant loss of stem cells, which we propose leads to abnormal lung development. This project will provide new mechanistic insights into how ILC2s and stem cells interact to promote healthy lung development. The exploitation of processes that promote normal healthy lung development may lead to new therapeutic strategies for the prevention and treatment of respiratory diseases.

Recipient: Megan Jensen
Institution: University of Newcastle & Hunter Medical Research Institute

“MATERNAL AND EARLY LIFE VITAMIN D EXPOSURE AND ASTHMA RISK IN HIGH RISK INFANTS”

Children born to parents with asthma are at high risk of developing asthma themselves, the most chronic disease in childhood; yet to date, there are no prevention strategies to reduce the risk of this adverse respiratory outcome. Maternal nutritional deficits, such as Vitamin D insufficiency, are a significant modifiable risk factor that can be targeted to reduce the risk of wheeze and asthma in the offspring. Our previous work in women with asthma has demonstrated that serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D (25OHD) levels ≥75 nmol/L during pregnancy were associated with a significantly lower proportion of infants with parent-reported ‘wheeze ever’ at 12 months of age, compared with maternal vitamin D <75 nmol/L (43% vs. 71%, p=0.04). This difference was also evident for infant health care utilisation and medication use. These data highlight the importance of maternal nutritional status during gestation upon early development of lung health. Our current project extends this work to obtain essential information for a clinical trial. In a large cohort of pregnant women with asthma, we will establish the level and timing of vitamin D exposure that are associated with improved infant respiratory health. This information will contribute to the design of a targeted intervention trial in this high-risk group with the aim of improving infant health outcomes and quality of life, and reducing carer and healthcare burden. This research project will significantly advance knowledge in the field of nutrition and paediatric respiratory health and address a major health issue for Australians.
CSL BEHRING TSANZ/LFA ALPHA-1 ANTI-TRYPSIN DEFICIENCY RESEARCH AWARD

This research award will support medical research projects to build capacity and foster the development of research in the area of alpha-1 anti-trypsin deficiency (AATD) through the support of pilot studies, proof of concept and feasibility studies. The goal of this award is to improve outcomes and quality of life for individuals with AATD, and will therefore focus on research into AATD relating to lung disease, with encouragement (without exclusion) of research into the specific areas of:

- AATD epidemiology
- AATD allied health interventions that support patients & Quality of Life
- AATD and transplantation

Recipient: David Chapman
Institution: University of Technology, Sydney & Woolcock Institute of Medical Research

“The Role of Cryptic Antigens in Alpha-1 Anti-Trypsin Deficiency”

Over the initial period of the grant, we have mainly focused on the collection of high quality samples for our study and identification of patients with Alpha-1 Anti-trypsin Deficiency in our longitudinal serum biobank. We are also pleased to report that we have leveraged the CSL Behring TSANZ / LFA Alpha-1 Anti-trypsin Deficiency Research Award and have received funding from UTS which now will allow us to employ a post-doctoral scientist for the whole of 2019 to complete the planned experiments.
Travel Awards

**VERTEX CYSTIC FIBROSIS RESEARCH AWARD**

This award aims to foster ongoing original cystic fibrosis research and its communication internationally.

The winners of the awards will receive a travel fellowship to present their research at the European Cystic Fibrosis Society Annual Meeting or the North American Cystic Fibrosis Conference.

**Abstracts which focus on the following research areas are encouraged to apply:**
- CFTR gene and protein (biomarkers and function)
- Functional implication of different mutations
- Relationship between genotype and phenotype
- Mechanisms of action
- Implications of CFTR in the body

**Emerging treatment, including:**
- Patient-reported outcomes
- Treatment options
- Personalised medicine
- Lung function testing

**Recipient: Dr Elena Schneider**
**Institution: University of Melbourne**
“THE POTENTIALLY BENEFICIAL CNS-ACTIVITY PROFILE OF IVACAFTOR”

**Conference: European Cystic Fibrosis Society Annual Meeting**

By winning the Vertex Cystic Fibrosis Research Award I was able to attend the largest European meeting on cystic fibrosis (CF) in Belgrade in June 2018. During the ECFS conference I was able to hear about recent unpublished results in the field of clinical and basic science in CF, present my own work to experts in the field and engage in discussions in an interactive environment. Most importantly, I was able to engage with medical CF researchers to implement my current assay (projects are currently ongoing) as well as establish new collaborations e.g. with Prof Isabelle Sermet-Gaudelus which resulted in a high impact manuscript in JCF in Dec 2018, on the predictive biomarkers of CF therapy. This will further help me for my current work, where I am developing a PKPD model on CFTR modulator therapy. I am confident that by receiving the Vertex Cystic Fibrosis Research Award and attending ECFS 2018 I was able to bring back additional inspiration and new collaborations to help patients that suffer from CF.

**Recipient: Ms Rebecca Stockwell**
**Institution: QIMR Berghofer Institute**
“POTABLE WATER AS A POSSIBLE SOURCE OF MYCOBACTERIUM ABSCESSUS COMPLEX INFECTION IN PEOPLE WITH CYSTIC FIBROSIS”

**Conference: North America Cystic Fibrosis Conference**

People with cystic fibrosis (CF) can acquire chronic bacterial respiratory infections that are a significant cause of morbidity and mortality. Despite the use of strict infection control practices in CF centres, there is evidence of ongoing person-to-person transmission in people with CF. My PhD has aimed to: 1) investigate the transmission routes and acquisition sources of an emerging respiratory pathogen, Mycobacterium abscessus group in people with CF and 2) investigate preventative strategies and infection control practices for people with CF.

The travel grant enabled me to meet and discuss my projects with key researchers at National Jewish Health including Associate Professor Jerry Nick (Director, Colorado Adult CF Program), Dr Jennifer Honda (Mycobacterial Researcher), Associate Professor Michael Strong (Genomics Researcher) and Dr Rebecca Davidson (Genomics Researcher). I then attended the North American CF Conference where I presented the outcomes of three of my PhD projects (two posters; one oral) to international leaders and healthcare professionals working in CF.

**RESPIRATORY NURSE CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARD FOR INDIGENOUS RESEARCH**

This award aims to increase the number of respiratory nurses participating in the TSANZ ASM, foster networking opportunities, and support research into indigenous health.

The TSANZ aims to support an applicant who:
- works in respiratory health;
- has demonstrated their interest and commitment to nursing and indigenous health;
- aims to strengthen their respiratory health nursing capacity; and
- contributes to the provision of, or research in, respiratory health nursing in Indigenous communities in New Zealand or Australia.

**Recipient: Gabrielle McCallum**
**Institution: Menzies School of Health Research**
“CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN WITH CHRONIC SUPPURATIVE LUNG DISEASE (CSLD): A PROSPECTIVE 10-YEAR STUDY”

As part of the Indigenous Respiratory Nursing Award, I presented preliminary data from my post-doctoral studies in the Paediatric SIG. This was a 10-year prospective study on the characteristics of Indigenous children with chronic suppurative lung disease (CSLD) from Australia, New Zealand and Alaska. In this study, we found that most children were stable or improved by adolescence. However, as many children still experienced ongoing respiratory symptoms and demonstrate impaired lung function, clinical follow-up is recommended to optimise clinical management. This is the first long-term prospective study of Indigenous children with CSLD, and will provide new data to broaden our understanding on clinical predictors on lung health that will help direct future interventions and management pathways.
MAURICE BLACKBURN ASM TRAVEL AWARD
These travel awards are made available to encourage eligible TSANZ members to attend and enrich the TSANZ ASM through discussion of their work and participation in the meeting. This award is available to nurses, physiotherapists and other allied health practitioners, with applications from early to mid-career professionals strongly encouraged.

Recipient: Rebecca Disler
Institution: The University of Melbourne
“NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL IMPAIRMENT IN COPD: IMPACT ON MANAGEMENT”

My research has specialised in improving health service delivery and care models and for patients with respiratory disease. In particular, I have sought to address: influences on health behaviours, including cognitive impairment; innovative approaches to early detection and tailoring of care; and supportive and end-stage care. My work on patient access led to my recent appointment as Senior Research Fellow in Rural Chronic Disease. I have also been successful in obtaining funding to pilot a healthy brain ageing program to address cognitive impairment in the management of respiratory disease, with the intention of leveraging this into scalable eHealth intervention in the future. This year I was also successful securing funding to explore access to end-stage disease support for chronic disease in rural Victoria, and will map services in this region through 2019.

It was fantastic to receive support from Maurice Blackburn to attend the 2018 TSANZ conference in Adelaide and present on cognitive impairment impact in COPD. Attending the leading Australasian conference in respiratory disease offered me unequalled opportunities for networking with leaders in respiratory disease and to access the most up to date clinical and research advances in my field. Connections made through the TSANZ conference have led to further collaborations and opportunities for the future.

JAPANESE RESPIRATORY SOCIETY (JRS) EARLY CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARD
This early career development award is designed to reward, encourage and provide international exposure to promising recent Advanced Trainees/higher degree graduates. The recipient of this award will attend and present at the ASM of the JRS in the following year.

Recipient: Rachel Foong
Institution: University of Western Australia & Telethon Kids Institute
“DEVELOPING A CONSULTATION PROCESS TO UNDERSTAND ASTHMA IN ABORIGINAL POPULATIONS IN URBAN REGIONAL AND REMOTE ABORIGINAL POPULATIONS”

JRS ABSTRACT TITLE: ‘THE UTILITY OF THE LUNG CLEARANCE INDEX TO MONITOR PROGRESSION OF EARLY LUNG DISEASE IN YOUNG CHILDREN WITH CYSTIC FIBROSIS’.

This Early Career Development Award allows me to increase my international reputation and engage with other researchers in the Asia-Pacific region by presenting at the Japanese Respiratory Society meeting in Tokyo. I will be presenting findings from my research into determining if the multiple breath washout test is sensitive to monitor the progression of early lung disease in preschool aged children with cystic fibrosis. The results of my study show that multiple breath washout outcomes are associated with lung structural abnormalities measured by chest CT, pulmonary inflammation as well as respiratory symptoms and recent pulmonary exacerbations. This data will contribute to estimating the minimal clinically important difference of multiple breath washout test outcomes in children with cystic fibrosis. I have also been invited to chair the English Poster Discussion session for the meeting and I look forward to being able to actively participate in this meeting in April next year.

BOEHRINGER INGELHEIM COPD TRAVEL AWARD
This travel award is designed to reward, encourage and provide international exposure for Advanced Trainees in respiratory medicine and junior respiratory physicians whose work focus is in COPD. The recipient of this award will attend and present an abstract at the next meeting of the American College of Chest Physicians (ACCP) in North America.

Recipient: Jennifer Perret
Institution: The University of Melbourne
“NITROGEN DIOXIDE IS ADVERSELY ASSOCIATED WITH TRANSFER FACTOR OF CARBON MONOXIDE IN A DOSE-RESPONSE MANNER”

The Boehringer Ingelheim COPD Travel Award allowed me to present my novel air pollution research at the European Respiratory Society conference in September 2018. The findings I presented extended beyond the abstract title, “Nitrogen dioxide is adversely associated with transfer factor of carbon monoxide in a dose-response manner” to include pollution-related interactions with smoking and influences on static lung volumes. My work was of particular interest to the peer community as Australia has relatively low pollution levels compared with many other parts of the world. For the first time, I was able to personally meet several collaborators from the Ageing Lungs in European Cohorts (ALEC) and European Community Respiratory Health Survey (ECRHS) which was a valuable additional benefit from attending the conference.
THE JANET ELDER INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AWARDS

These awards will be made to three respiratory scientists or clinicians based on the scientific merit of their submitted abstract to the TSANZ ASM to support their professional development in respiratory research. There are two awards for early career researchers and one award for a mid-career researcher. Recipients of these awards will be able to attend and present an abstract at an international scientific meeting of the recipient’s choice within the following year. These awards are made in the memory of Dr Janet Elder, one of the pioneers of respiratory medicine in Western Australia.

Recipient for Early Career Researcher: Thomas Iosifidis
Institution: University of Western Australia & Telethon Kids Institute
“DYSREGULATED NOTCH SIGNALLING DURING ASTHMATIC AIRWAY EPITHELIAL REPAIR”

The award of the Janet Elder International Travel Award by the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand in 2018 has been a great honour and privilege. Most of all, it is motivating early career researchers to pursue their research goals with a sense of devotion and selfless service for the people in need, as Dr Janet Elder would have done. Personally, this award has allowed me to present some of my research on the mechanisms regulating airway epithelial repair and receive mentorship from international leaders in my research field at the Mucociliary Interactions Gordon Research Conference in Tuscany, 2019.

Recent findings from my research with the Airway Epithelial Cell (EpiC) research group at the Telethon Kids Institute, Perth has resulted in expanding our understanding of the key pathways that regulate airway epithelial cell repair. In fact, this work has identified dysregulated epithelial responses to wounding to associate strongly with wheeze and wheeze recurrence in young children. Excitedly, we have now identified an FDA-approved compound used as an analgesic and anti-inflammatory drug in children and adults, to accelerate repair in healthy and asthmatic airway epithelia. Current efforts are focused on translating these observations to a clinical trial with the primary goals being to delay time to next exacerbation and reduce the number of exacerbations in children.

Recipient for Early Career Researcher: James Fingleton
Institution: Medical Research Institute of New Zealand
“PREVALENCE OF DIFFERENT TREATABLE TRAITS IN SYMPTOMATIC AIRWAYS DISEASE”

Receiving the Janet Elder award gave me a fantastic opportunity to present my ideas at the European Respiratory Society conference and test them in discussion with a large number of researchers interested in a similar field. The abstract I presented was a development of the ideas I first presented at the TSANZ ASM and was allocated an oral presentation in the “Notable Abstracts in Asthma”. As a result of the collaborations that have developed out of this work I am now running a feasibility study testing a treatable traits based management strategy as well as other studies in the same field. Some of these projects involve collaborations with European partners that were assisted by my travel to the ERS. I wish to thank everyone involved with the Janet Elder award for giving me this opportunity.

Recipient for Mid-Career Researcher: Anna Hudson
Institution: Neuroscience Research Australia
“CORTICAL CONTRIBUTION TO QUIET BREATHING IN COPD IS ASSOCIATED WITH AGEING”

I investigate the neural control of the respiratory muscles in health, healthy ageing and disease. Here, I used electroencephalography (i.e. recordings of brain activity) to detect brain activity related to movement controlled by the motor cortical areas, i.e. a ‘cortical contribution’. A cortical contribution is typically associated with voluntary movement and should be absent during resting breathing if automatic respiratory centres alone activate the respiratory muscles for breathing.

The results indicate that a cortical contribution during resting breathing in people with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease can be accounted for by their age and not the COPD condition itself. The findings indicate that there are age-related changes in the way that the brain controls breathing. As a cortical contribution has been linked to the sensation of breathlessness, new studies are underway in my lab to investigate further the mechanisms of breathlessness in COPD and ageing.
**The TSANZ Awards**

**Awards by Nomination**

**President’s Award**

The TSANZ President’s Award is a prestigious award for an individual who has significantly contributed to promoting respiratory health in the community, particularly in the area of tobacco control, either in Australia or New Zealand.

**Candidates**

To be eligible for this award, the nominee will have a strong track record in promoting respiratory health in the community. Eligible candidates may have contributed through scientific research, community action, health promotion or advocacy. Preference will be given to nominees whose contribution has been in the area of tobacco control.

**Nomination Process**

The proposed recipients of the President’s Award are put forward by the current TSANZ President to the TSANZ Board. Determination of the appropriateness of the recipient will be made by the TSANZ Board. The final decision on the recipient will be made by the TSANZ President. This award will not be presented if there is no suitable candidate.

**Recipient: Matthew Peters**

Matthew has made outstanding contributions to advocacy and professional standards, clinical practice and education. He is an established clinician with notable experience and interest in the area of tobacco control and better care of patients with lung cancer. His leadership in the tobacco control area is demonstrated through his position as Chair of the Global Lung Cancer Coalition 2005-2017, Chair of Action on Smoking and Health 2001-2013, Advisor for the National Tobacco Campaign, and Contributor to *Tobacco in Australia*. He has published over 100 Publications and initiated the Kylie Johnston Lung Cancer Network (now the Lung Cancer Patient Network). Matthew’s contributions to the TSANZ have been immeasurable: past SIG Co-Convenor of the Tobacco and Related Substances SIG, NSW/ACT Branch Secretary, NSW/ACT Branch President, member of the TSANZ Board (2000-2004), and TSANZ President (2013-2014). He was admitted as an FThorSoc in 2017.

**Society Medal**

The Society Medal was conceived as an acknowledgement of excellence in fields other than research. In other words, it is for the advancement of the practice of thoracic medicine in its widest sense by outstanding teaching or advocacy.

The inaugural Society Medal was presented at the annual dinner in Canberra in 1992 to Dr Maurice Joseph, who ably embodied the qualities envisaged by this senior prestigious award.

**Candidates**

The Society Medal is open to all financial members of the TSANZ including associate members. Candidates for this medal are put forward by nomination only.

**Recipient: Paul Reynolds**

Paul has demonstrated clinical and academic research leadership roles in South Australia through his positions as Clinical Director of Medical Specialists of the Central Adelaide Health Network, Professor of Medicine at the University of Adelaide and Director of the Lung Research Laboratory of the Hanson Institute. Paul has served on various NHMRC Grant review committees and was made an NHMRC Practitioner Fellow from 2005-16. Paul’s long-term dedication to the LSANZ can be outlined through his tenure as TSANZ President (2011-2012), member of the TSANZ Board (2004-13), Chairman to the Central Programming Committee (2004-2008), establishment of the Lung Health Alliance, TSANZ Fellow as of 2014. Paul served on the national Thoracic Curriculum Committee for the RACP and chaired the National Training Committee for Thoracic and Sleep Medicine of the RACP as TSANZ rep from 2007-2009. He was appointed co-editor in chief of *Respirology* in 2017, the official journal of the APSR.

**Research Medal**

The Research Medal is awarded each year in recognition of outstanding contributions to the advancement of knowledge in respiratory medicine or science carried out primarily in Australia or New Zealand. The award recognises an individual who has demonstrated sustained excellence in their field of research.

**Candidates**

The Research Medal is open to all financial members of the TSANZ including associate members. Candidates for this medal are put forward by nomination only.

**Recipient: Peter Le Souef**

Peter has made major contributions to paediatrics and paediatric respiratory medicine in Western Australia through research leadership roles at Princess Margaret Hospital and the School of Paediatrics and Child Health at the University of Western Australia. He is recognised as a leading international expert in paediatric respiratory research. Peter has been awarded 64 peer-reviewed research grants, and has raised funds in grants of over $30 million. As at 2018, he had published 263 papers in peer-reviewed journals and 27 book chapters. He established the Department of Respiratory Medicine at Princess Margaret Hospital for Children and was department head from 1984-1998. During that time, the department became recognised internationally for clinical and research excellence. Peter has held executive positions in the International Society of Aerosols in Medicine, Royal Australasian College of Medicine and the Australian Council on Smoking and Health. He established new infant respiratory function techniques that have allowed many subsequent successful clinical trials and the clinical use of infant lung function to improve therapy.
In 2018, the TSANZ dispersed $1,031,000 worth of award funding. During 2018, the research portfolio has grown to over $1 million, leveraging an estimated minimum of $400,000 in addition for research and career development in 2019.

**Special Interest Group Awards**

- Asthma & Allergy (supported by Asthma Australia) **presented to Meina Li**
- Asthma & Allergy (supported by National Asthma Council) **presented to Stephanie Byrne**
- Pulmonary Physiology & Sleep, John Reid Prize (supported by Lung Foundation Australia) **presented to David Chapman**
- David Serisier Memorial Award for Translational Research in Bronchiectasis (supported by Lung Foundation Australia) **presented to Narelle Cox**
- Cystic Fibrosis (supported by Cystic Fibrosis Australia) **presented by Bernadette Prentice**
- Lung Cancer (supported by Maurice Blackburn) **presented to Carolyn Peddle-McIntyre**
- Occupational & Environmental Lung Disease / Population Health (supported by Maurice Blackburn) **presented to Edward Harris**
- Symptom Support & Palliative Care (supported by Maurice Blackburn) **presented to Lauren Ross**
- Interventional Pulmonology / Bronchoscopy (supported by Carroll & O’Dea) **presented to David Langton**
- Cell, Immunology & Molecular Biology of the Lung (supported by TSANZ) **presented to Su-Ling Loo**
- Evidence-Based Medicine & Practice (supported by TSANZ) **presented to Anthony Byrne**
- Peter van Asperen Paediatric (supported by TSANZ) **presented to Himanish Panda**
- Physiotherapy (supported by TSANZ) **presented to Benjamin Tarrant**
- Respiratory Infectious Diseases (supported by TSANZ) **presented to Natalia Popowicz**
- Tobacco & Related Substances (supported by TSANZ) **presented to Emily Chivers**
- Orphan Lung Diseases, Lung Transplant, Interstitial Lung Disease and Pulmonary Vascular Disease (OLIV) (supported by Boehringer Ingelheim) **presented to Rebecca Harper**
- Primary Care (Supported by Boehringer Ingelheim) **presented to Jenifer Liang**
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (supported by Boehringer Ingelheim) **presented to Ross Vlahos**
- Respiratory Nurses (supported by Boehringer Ingelheim) **presented to Vinita Swami**
- TSANZ Best Poster (supported by Boehringer Ingelheim) **presented to Hayley Rice, Kylie Hill, Robin Fowler, Carol Watson, Grant Waterer and Meg Harold**

**2018 diversity in recipients**

15 17

1 The TSANZ recognises the support of associated organisations: Asian Pacific Society of Respirology; Asthma Australia; Cystic Fibrosis Australia; Lung Foundation Australia; National Asthma Council Australia; the Japanese Respiratory Society; and sponsors, donors and bequests in funding research.

2 Including administration of Lung Foundation Australia and Cystic Fibrosis Australia Awards
# Respiratory Function Laboratory Accreditation Program

**Accredited labs as at Dec 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Lab Name</th>
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**Active panels in 2018**

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<th>Number</th>
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**Labs in progress for accreditations pending in 2019**

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**Respiratory Laboratories where accreditation was granted during 2018**

1. Fiona Stanley Hospital
2. Royal Children’s Hospital, Melbourne
3. Greenlane Clinical Centre
4. Royal Melbourne Hospital
5. Frankston Hospital and branch site — Rosebud Hospital
6. Logan Hospital

**Respiratory Laboratories progressing in the accreditation review cycle (as at December 2018)**

1. Royal Prince Alfred Hospital
2. Dunedin Hospital
3. Flinders Medical Centre
4. Cairns Hospital
5. Counties Manukau Health
6. Sutherland Hospital
7. Monash Health
8. The Prince Charles Hospital
9. Christchurch Hospital
10. Maroondah Hospital (Branch Site of Eastern Health)
11. Western Health
12. Mater Health Services
13. Nepean Lung and Sleep
14. Sydney Children’s Hospital

**Volunteer Accreditation Assessors**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>David Armstrong</td>
<td>Eleonora Del Colle</td>
<td>Carol Huang</td>
<td>Philip Masel</td>
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<td>David Barnes</td>
<td>Annette Dent</td>
<td>Craig Hukins</td>
<td>John McLachlan</td>
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<td>Brigitte Borg</td>
<td>James Douglas</td>
<td>Mark Hurwitz</td>
<td>Lucy Morgan</td>
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<td>Jeffery Bowden</td>
<td>Matthew Ellis</td>
<td>Sandra Jeffery</td>
<td>Phillip Munoz</td>
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<td>Sue Brenton</td>
<td>Michael Epton</td>
<td>Sonya Johnston</td>
<td>Matthew Naughton</td>
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<td>Peter Briffa</td>
<td>Michael Fanning</td>
<td>Mark Jurisevic</td>
<td>Andrew Ng</td>
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<td>Michael Brown</td>
<td>Kevin Finucane</td>
<td>Brendan Kennedy</td>
<td>William Noffsinger</td>
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<td>David Bucens</td>
<td>Greg Frazer</td>
<td>Gregory King</td>
<td>Christopher O’Dea</td>
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<td>Lachlan Buddle</td>
<td>Leanne Gauld</td>
<td>Paul King</td>
<td>Philip Robinson</td>
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<td>Keith Burgess</td>
<td>Hugh Greville</td>
<td>Sharon Lagan</td>
<td>Peter Rochford</td>
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<td>Lucy Burr</td>
<td>Graham Hall</td>
<td>Clair Lake</td>
<td>Peter Rogers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alan Crockett</td>
<td>Faizel Hartley</td>
<td>Edmund Lau</td>
<td>Elizabeth Salamon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark Davis</td>
<td>David Hillman</td>
<td>Pam Liakakos</td>
<td>David Schembri</td>
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<td>Robin Schoeffel</td>
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**Completed Lab Accreditations in 2018**

<table>
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<th>Number</th>
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**Labs with accreditation expiring in 2019**

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**Labs expressing interest in the process**

<table>
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<th>Number</th>
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The Laboratory Accreditation and Quality Committee would like to sincerely thank all our assessors for freely contributing their time and expertise to the TSANZ accreditation process – it is greatly appreciated. Without their dedication and skill, this world leading laboratory accreditation program would not be possible.

Mark Jurisevic  
*Chair of the Laboratory Accreditation and Quality Committee*
Laboratory Accreditation and Quality Committee (LAQC)

The main objective of the LAQC is to develop and manage the TSANZ Respiratory Function Laboratory Accreditation Program along with other quality related activities on behalf of the TSANZ.

The key achievements for 2018 include the establishment of the new LAQC as well as the ongoing management of the Laboratory Accreditation Program with the committee overseeing the progress of the 14 labs that are currently undergoing accreditation or re-accreditation. Fiona Stanley Hospital was accredited for the first time this year and a further three labs are progressing towards first time accreditation. This year also saw the establishment of the TSANZ Accredited Respiratory Function Laboratory logo that is to be distributed to all TSANZ accredited laboratories.

There are plenty of exciting activities planned for 2019 – including a review and update of the Respiratory Function Laboratory Accreditation Program manual, another Assessor Training Course being delivered at the 2019 ASM and development of the new Spirometry Clinical Audit Program.

Members:
- Mark Jurisevic (Chair and Scientific Representative)
- John Wheatley (Deputy Chair and Medical Representative)
- Sonya Johnston (Scientific Representative)
- Hiran Selvadurai (Paediatric Representative)
- John McLachlan (Medical Representative)
- Jarrod Warner (Scientific Representative)
- Clair King (Co-opted Early Career Representative)
- Tanya Buchanan (CEO)

Mark Jurisevic
CHAIR AND SCIENTIFIC REPRESENTATIVE
The theme for the 2018 ASM was "Clinical and Research Challenges", with over 100 invited international and Australasian speakers contributing to a broad program catering for the interests of all the TSANZ and ANZSRS members. Its goes without saying that after another successful year, the TSANZSRS ASM has gone from strength to strength, having developed a strong international profile.

Keynote speakers included

- David Hui, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
- Don Sin, University of British Columbia, Canada
- DorAnne Donesky, University of California, USA
- Francine Ducharme, University of Montreal, Canada
- Karin Klooster, University Medical Center Groningen, The Netherlands
- Dirk-Jan Slebos, University Medical Center Groningen, The Netherlands
- Mary Strek, University of Chicago, USA
- Janelle Yorke, University of Manchester, UK
- Jean Bourbeau, McGill University, Canada

Wunderly Orator

His Excellency The Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, Governor of South Australia

Highlights from the ASM held in Adelaide included plenaries and symposia addressing “Asthma – Understanding the Heterogeneity of Severe Asthma and COPD”, “The Benefits of Positive Pressure in the Acute Hospital Setting” and “New Horizons in Clinical and Therapeutic Management of COPD”, as well as a State of the Art session launching two TSANZ/LFA position statements for the diagnosis and treatment of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. Our continued collaboration with ANZSRS led to the joint plenary exploring “Chronic Breathlessness and Chronic Pain” and the joint Masterclass on “Hypoxia in Chronic Lung Disease”. Overall, the ASM delivered an exciting and diverse scientific program representing all active SIGs as well as the diversity of our membership base, concluding with the Masquerade-themed TSANZ Gala Dinner at The Adelaide Oval.

Initiatives for 2018 included:

- The Inaugural Respiratory Research Excellence Awards Reception: A dedicated reception to recognise excellence in respiratory research and congratulate award winners.
- Dedicated Late Breaking Abstract Session: A large number of submissions were received for this tightly contested session held immediately after the Wunderly Oration.
- Post-graduate Courses: Three well-attended post-graduate workshops were held immediately prior to the official ASM opening — a mix of basic science and clinical research.
The 2018 ASM would not have been possible without the efforts and significant contributions of a large team. I am indebted to the Local Organising Committee (chaired by Phan Nguyen), The Conference Company Team, SIG Convenors, and especially Tanya Buchanan and all the TSANZ Central Office staff.

Planning for the next TSANZSRS ASM is well underway (Gold Coast, March 29 – April 2, 2019) with the theme of “Respiratory Infections”. The Wunderly Oration will be delivered by Professor Anne Kelso AO, Chief Executive Officer of the National Health and Medical Research Council. Excitingly, immediately prior we will also co-host the 8th Congress of the APCB (Asian Pacific Congress on Bronchology and Interventional Pulmonology), 28 – 30 March 2019. The 2019 ASM is fast shaping up to be yet another world-class respiratory conference.

Background to the TSANZSRS Conference Committee

The TSANZSRS Conference Committee was established in 2014, and is responsible for organizing the ASM, a joint meeting of the TSANZ and ANZSRS. The Committee comprises representatives from both societies, including a member from each of the TSANZ and ANZSRS Boards who chair the Committee in turn on a 2-year rotation. The ASM provides opportunities for members of both the TSANZ and ANZSRS to hear and present the latest in clinical, multidisciplinary and basic scientific research across multiple special interest groups, as well as network with their colleagues.

**The TSANZ Local Organising Committee (LOC) for the ASM**

Denise O’Driscoll

2018 TSANZ LOC Chair:  
*Phan Nguyen (SA/NT)*

2019 TSANZ LOC Chair:  
*Lucy Burr (Qld)*

2018 & 2019 TSANZSRS Conference Committee Chair:  
*Denise O’Driscoll*
SIG ABSTRACTS 2018

- Asthma & Allergy: 61
- Cell, Immunology & Molecular Biology of the Lung: 44
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease: 30
- Cystic Fibrosis: 23
- Evidence-Based Medicine & Practice: 12
- Interventional Pulmonology / Bronchology: 24
- Lung Cancer: 18
- Occupational & Environmental Lung Disease / Population Health: 19
- Orphan Lung Diseases, Lung Transplant, Interstitial Lung Disease and Pulmonary Vascular Disease: 25
- Paediatric: 19
- Physiotherapy: 24
- Primary Care: 5
- Pulmonary Physiology & Sleep: 24
- Respiratory Infectious Diseases: 16
- Respiratory Nurses: 7
- System Support & Palliative Care: 6
- Tobacco & Related Substances: 6
- Late breaking: 16

**TOTAL 379**
REGISTRATIONS

TSANZ and ANZSRS delegates by country

1143 Australia
37 Canada
3 Switzerland
37 each

3 each

No data in country field

58 New Zealand
7 United States of America
2 France
2 Belgium
4 each

1 each

No data in country field

Canada
France
Belgium
Netherlands
Philippines
United Kingdom

Qatar
Hong Kong
Finland
Ireland
Germany
Japan
South Korea

INVITED SPEAKERS

INTERNATIONAL

TSANZ

3 Canada
2 United States of America
2 Netherlands
1 United Kingdom
1 Hong Kong

TOTAL 9

ANZSRS

1 United Kingdom
1 United States of America

TOTAL 2

AUSTRALASIAN

84 Australia

TOTAL 84

GALA DINNER

373 Gala Dinner Attendees

EXHIBITORS

31 Companies

includes ANZSRS and TSANZ exhibitors

118 Exhibition Personnel
The 2018 financial year was yet another busy year for the TSANZ, resulting in a $2 million turnover.

A breakdown of the total 2018 revenue is as follows:
• 50% of total turnover is due to the national ASM as well as revenue for the 2019 Asia Pacific Congress of Bronchology and Interventional Pulmonology (revenue recognised on a stage of completion basis);
• membership subscriptions represents 15% of total revenue;
• 32% pertains to grants, branch events, sponsorship of various projects and events, registration fees, contract work with the Queensland Government regarding spirometry, laboratory accreditation fees; and
• the remaining 3% consists of investment income including dividends, interest and donations.

In comparison to 2017, the differential in revenue from 2017 to 2018 is due to TSANZ hosting the APSR in 2017, which contributed over $1.8 million in revenue.

TSANZ continued to diversify income streams in 2018. Diversification of income was a direct result of:
• the adoption of the Severe Asthma Web Database;
• post-graduate workshops, including the Occupational and Environmental Lung Disease Short Course and the Paediatric Short Course in October 2018;
• the introduction of the TSANZ Webinar Series; and
• continuing work with the Queensland Government.

Similar to 2017, the TSANZ Board decided to offer 2019 TSANZ membership at the 2018 price for renewals that occurred before 31 December 2018.

As at 31 December 2018, the TSANZ’s net assets amounted to $4.472 million. Of this amount, $1.5 million is ringfenced for specific purposes and awards and cannot be used for other purposes, including Asthma and Airways awards, Peter Phelan awards and the Janet Elder awards. Of the total $4.4 million net assets, the TSANZ property in Sydney is $732,626 of this total and $2 million is managed by Morgan Stanley. In reviewing the financial viability, the TSANZ board ensures that there are enough financial reserves held to achieve one year of operating costs as well as the ability to cover the costs should the ASM incur a loss.

The figures below provide a breakdown of income and expenditure for the 2018 financial year.
I would like to thank the Central Office and in particular Shen Kasayan who left the TSANZ in August 2018 after four years of service. Shen contributed greatly to the society and I wish him all the best in his future endeavours. We welcomed Nicole Hatten into the role in August. Further, I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to the audit team at Grant Thornton, led by James Winter and Shirley Huang, and the financial advisers at Morgan Stanley, Patrick Regan, Bernadette Connolly and their team, for all the dedication and hard work in safeguarding the integrity of the TSANZ’s assets.

The TSANZ is a Registered Charity. For our full financial statements, please visit https://www.acnc.gov.au/.
Corporate Information

CORPORATE INFORMATION
The Directors (Responsible Entities) present their report on The Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand Limited (the “Company”) for the year ended 31 December 2018.

DIRECTORS (RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES)
The following Responsible Entities were in office at the date of this report.

- Allan Glanville MBBS, MD, FRACP
- Bruce Thompson, BAppSc, CRFS, FANZRS, PhD
- Philip Michael Hansbro PhD
- Hubertus Jersmann MBBS, MD, FRACP, PhD
- Anne Holland BAppSc (Physiotherapy), PhD
- Peter Middleton MBBS (Hons), BSc(Med)(Hons), PhD, FRACP, FThorSoc
- Denise Marie O'Driscoll BAppSc (Hons), RPSGT, PhD
- Sandra Hodge MSc, PhD
- Stuart Jones MBChB FRACP PhD
- Ingrid Laing BSc. PhD.
- Deborah Yates MA, MB BChir, MSc,AFOEM (UK), Dip Occ Med, MD (Cantab) FRCP, FRACP
- Andrew Tai MBBS, FRACP, PhD

Company Secretary
Tanya Buchanan

Registered charity street address and principal place of business
Suite 405, Level 4
5 Hunter St
Sydney NSW 2000

Auditor
Grant Thornton Audit Pty Ltd

ABN
17 057 925 836