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“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; and
- highest quality air standards including a tobacco smoke free society and effective regulation of novel nicotine delivery systems.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- Over 37 branch events and more than 1,600 participants
- Reached over 1,700 members
- ASAR launched

SOCIAL MEDIA

TSANZ - Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand
The Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ)
@tsanz_thoracic
I am humbled by the energy and passion of the Society's members and I would like to share with you some of the exceptional achievements of our members and the Society over 2019.

Advocacy has been a key area for the Society. In 2016, the OELD SIG flagged concerns around accelerated silicosis. This, on the back of the coal workers’ pneumoconiosis situation in Queensland, prompted the Board to make the delivery of a national approach to managing occupationally acquired dust diseases a priority project for advocacy. Our members and the Central Office have worked tirelessly on this initiative and we were delighted to see the formation of the Australian National Dust Diseases Task Force in 2019.

At roughly the same time, the New Zealand response to the silicosis situation resulted in the formation of a taskforce that is well engaged with the work of the Society. This work has brought positive and effective working relationships between the TSANZ and the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP), the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR), the Australian and New Zealand Society of Occupational Medicine Inc (ANZSOM) and the Australian Institute of Occupational Hygienists (AIOH) as well as a host of other organisations.

In Australia, we continue to work together with Lung Foundation Australia to bring to fruition key priority areas in the National Lung Action Plan, which was launched in Federal Parliament in February. We have represented our members to state and federal governments, and a working party of members has been formed to progress an application to MSAC for overnight oximetry, in partnership with the Australasian Sleep Association (ASA).

In New Zealand, our TSANZ Executive have signed an MoU with the NZ Asthma and Respiratory Foundation to advance lung health in New Zealand. The New Zealand Branch is also revisiting standards of care for the Society. This work has happened in the advocacy space with multiple government and other agency submissions. As we move into 2020, we will continue to advocate to government for improved funding and recognition of the importance of respiratory health in Australia and New Zealand.

We continued to run education events throughout the year in response to member requests. These events have again been well received and sold out well ahead of time. These continuing education opportunities are just part of the Society’s commitment to meeting our members’ educational needs. Our branch executives deserve special mention and thanks, as they play a significant role in meeting our members’ education and networking needs. Thank you to our Education and Training Sub-committee and our Branch Executives, supported by our Central Office for all the work they do.

The Board considers meeting our members’ needs to be a strategic priority. Over the last few years we have had an active focus on ensuring diversity and inclusion in everything we do – so much so that this item forms part of the Board decision making criteria. We are focused on ensuring that the TSANZ supports inclusion and diversity of gender, craft groups, career stages, geography and the adult and paediatric communities in a way that is financially sustainable. This commitment is a constant work in progress, but we were heartened by the work of TSANZ members Mayuripriya Raviskanthan, Megan Rees, Jo Douglass and Natasha Smallwood who demonstrated that TSANZSRS is one of the most gender diverse respiratory meetings internationally.

For our 2020 TSANZSRS, we have made diversity and inclusion a key consideration in our selection of speakers and panel development. We will also be offering for the first time, a modest fund to support carers’ grants.

The 2020 ASM, to be held in Melbourne, has been smashing records already with more applications to run post-graduate courses, symposiums and plenaries than any other ASM and, on top of that, we have had a record number of abstract submissions.

When we benchmark against other specialty societies, it is fair to say that the TSANZ is a leader in providing member education, training and networking opportunities, and we do so in a way that supports all health professional and researchers in the field. We aim to do this even better in 2020.

We have 45 accredited laboratories and more in progress. Thank you to the hardworking laboratory staff, and our volunteer assessors. This year we also started an audit program for spirometry with the Queensland Government. Our Laboratory Accreditation and Quality Committee work tirelessly to coordinate the laboratory and spirometry programs.

We launched the Australian Severe Asthma Registry and have been active in the development of a suite of position papers and guidelines and continued to support a very impressive research awards program.

Our membership has continued to grow and we closed out our membership year in 2019 just over 1700 members.

In December 2019, the TSANZ issued a Declaration on Climate Change, joining other national and health organisations in calling climate change a medical emergency. We will continue to work with both the Federal and State Health Ministers regarding key issues for the Society.

I wish to thank all our members for an inspiring (and tiring!) but outstanding year. Without you, our achievements would not be possible. It has been an absolute pleasure to work alongside you and I am excited by what 2020 has in store.
Treasurer’s Report

What a year! 2019 was yet another busy year for the TSANZ, resulting in a turnover of more than $3.5 million.

Financial highlights of the 2019 year include:

- record attendance at the TSANZSRS meeting on the Gold Coast, including a sold out ILD Post-Graduate Workshop;
- sold out New Zealand Annual Scientific Meeting held in August 2019;
- hosting the Asian Pacific Congress of Bronchology and Interventional Pulmonology (APCB) (held immediately prior to the ASM);
- successful running of the New Zealand Lung Cancer Conference held in Christchurch in October 2019;
- further increase in membership subscriptions resulting in TSANZ membership reaching over 1,700 members;
- successful running of the Laboratory Accreditation program; and
- increase in the scope of operations of the business and diversification of income streams, including:
  - record number of TSANZ events held in 2019 including Branch Events;
  - record number of Webinars held;
  - spirometry-based contract with the Queensland Government Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (DNMRE); and
  - continual work of the Australasian Severe Asthma Registry (ASAR).

Similar to previous years, the TSANZ Board offered 2019 TSANZ membership at the 2018 price for renewals that occurred before 31 December 2018. Given how well received this Board initiative was in 2019, the TSANZ Board will ensure this initiative is kept in mind for the 2020 year.

TSANZ net assets increased 9% to $4.87 million as at 31 December 2019. The increase in the TSANZ’s net assets is predominantly due to the safeguarding of the company’s financial assets, including TSANZ’s sound investment policy. Of the total net assets, just over $1.5 million is ring-fenced 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 $4.87 million net assets, the TSANZ property in Sydney is $732,626 of this total and $2.62 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.

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, Charlie Cropper 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/
The TSANZ mission is to lead, support and enable all health workers and researchers to prevent, cure and relieve disability from lung disease. As the leaders in lung health, we are the only professional body that represents all respiratory health professionals and researchers across Australia and New Zealand. And in 2019 our members most definitely led the charge in improving respiratory health across the region and internationally.

2019 was an incredible year in which our members were at the forefront of driving change to achieve better outcomes in respiratory health.

Some highlights include the:

- formation of the National Dust Diseases Taskforce, after many years of sustained advocacy in the wake of coal workers pneumoconiosis and then silicosis;
- declaration that climate change is a medical emergency;
- launch of the National Lung Action Plan which was facilitated by LFA with the support and engagement of the TSANZ and our members;
- engagement of the TSANZ in the development of the next round of the National Preventive Health Strategy;
- work on tobacco control including ongoing e-cigarette advocacy as well as tobacco advertising; and
- ongoing engagement with the Department of Health over changes to the MBS item numbers.

In addition to advocacy, our members were also at the forefront of developing and disseminating best practice in respiratory care. For the first time, the TSANZ and ERS joined forces to develop a Statement on the Management of Reproduction and Pregnancy in Women with Airways Diseases. The TSANZ also developed Diagnosis and treatment of lung disease associated with Alpha One-Antitrypsin Deficiency Position Statement. Both papers have been a greatly anticipated and were endorsed by the TSANZ. We look forward to sharing them with you in 2020. Our papers are always in high demand by respiratory health professionals and researchers, as shown by the Respirology download figures on p 10.

Our branches, ably led by the outstanding Volunteer Branch Executive committees once again outdid themselves in producing 37 events with more than 1600 registrations across the year. When you add in the short courses, webinars, ASM and associated post graduate courses in 2019, the TSANZ members were able to access an outstanding array of member events. This enormous effort is due to the volunteer efforts of Branch Executive members, Course Faculty, ASM LOC and Committee members. On behalf of the Central Office and all our members, I extend our sincerest appreciation and thanks to all our members who have made the Society such a vibrant, supportive and engaging professional community.

Work also continued apace in the research area with the Australasian Severe Asthma Registry up and running in 2019 and the Research Sub-Committee reviewing an overwhelming number of award applications. Out thanks go to all the research award reviewers.

The laboratory accreditation program and spirometry audit programs are continuing to support and recognise the highest standards of care in respiratory lung function testing.

2019 saw the TSANZ welcome more than 200 new members and deliver both our ASM and the Asia Pacific Congress for Bronchology and Interventional Pulmonology. As a small office team we often need to get our skates on to keep up with the energy, drive and passion of the TSANZ members. You are an inspiration to the Central Office team and we thank each and every one of you for your commitment and drive. We look forward to seeing you in person in Melbourne at the 2020 ASM.
Professor Gary Anderson  
**Board Secretary**  
Prof Anderson is Director of the Lung Health Research Centre and Professor in the Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics School of Biomedical Sciences in Faculty Medicine, Dentistry & Health Sciences at The University of Melbourne. His research specialises in combining molecular genetic disease models with clinical translations studies to find new modes of treatment for serious lung diseases, mostly severe asthma, COPD and its comorbidities, IPF and lung cancer. He is widely published and originated the endotype concept of asthma. He is a Fellow of the European Respiratory Society (FERS), American Thoracic Society (ATSF) and TSANZ (FThorSoc) and the 2006 recipient of the TSANZ Research Medal.

Professor Allan R Glanville  
**Past President**  
Prof Glanville is Clinical Professor of Medicine UNSW and holds current positions on the Editorial Boards of the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine, American Journal of Transplantation, the Journal of Heart and Lung Transplantation, Chest and Seminars in Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine. Former positions include 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**  
Prof Thompson is Dean of the School of Health Sciences at Swinburne University of Technology. His research interests centre on the structure and function of the small airways in a range of respiratory conditions. He has been an active member of numerous joint ATS/ERS task forces in relation to pulmonary function testing including the Global Lung Initiative and is currently co-chair of the ATS/ERS taskforce writing the Interpretation of Lung Function Tests document. His contribution to respiratory research and laboratory measurement has been recognised by being awarded the ANZSRS research medal (Fellowship), Fellow of the TSANZ (FThorSoc) and Fellow of the APSR.

Dr Lucy Burr  
**Director of Branches Australia New Zealand**  
Dr Burr is the Cystic Fibrosis Centre Director at the Mater Hospital, Brisbane, where she practices as a full-time respiratory and sleep physician. She is also a Senior Lecturer at the University of Queensland where she completed her PhD investigating the role of macrolide in bronchiectasis. Dr Burr leads the Cystic Fibrosis Research group in the Mater Respiratory, Infectious Diseases and Thoracic Oncology (RIO) Research unit, with a team of 11 clinical and scientific researchers.

Dr Stuart Jones  
**Treasurer, President NZ Branch Inc.**  
Dr Jones is a full-time clinical respiratory and sleep physician. He works at Middlemore Hospital, Auckland, as Clinical Head of Respiratory and Sleep Medicine and has a particular interest in home ventilation. Over the years he has been highly involved in physician training and was the Director of Physician Education at Middlemore Hospital for eight 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.

Associate Professor Kristin Carson-Chahhoud  
**Deputy Treasurer**  
A/Prof Carson-Chahhoud is an Associate Research Professor, NHMRC Fellow and lead of the Translational Medicine and Technology Group within the University of South Australia. She is also an Associate Professor with the University of Adelaide and Research Fellow with the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute. A/Prof Carson-Chahhoud is experienced in conducting randomised controlled trials, qualitative research and systematic reviews. Her broad research interests include: translational health research; evidence-based medicine; applications of novel technologies such as augmented reality; holographic technology and virtual reality; asthma; COPD; Aboriginal health; tobacco avoidance; and public policy.
Dr Ingrid Laing  
**Director, Clinical Care and Resources Sub-Committee Chair**

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 Western Australia Branch and with two TSANZ ASM local organising committees.

Dr Sukhwinder Singh Sohal  
**Director, Education and Training Sub-Committee Chair**

Dr Sohal is Head of the Respiratory Translational Research Group and Senior Lecturer at School of Health Sciences, University of Tasmania, Launceston. His research group investigates cellular and molecular mechanisms underlying chronic lung diseases such as COPD, lung cancer, Asthma-COPD Overlap Syndrome (ACOS), asthma, pulmonary hypertension, idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis and lymphangioleiomyomatosis (LAM). His lab is also home to investigations looking at effects of electronic smoking devices on lung health such as e-cigarettes and heat-not-burn devices. Dr Sohal has served in different roles such as convenor of the COPD SIG, member of the TSANZ Education and Training Sub-Committee, and convenor for the TSANZ Advanced Trainee Course, Specialty Training Committee (STC) of the RACP, Clinical Committee of the ASA, Medical and Scientific Committee Chair of the Asthma Foundation of South Australia.

He has been a recipient of the TSANZ Allen and Hanbury Paediatric Career Development Award as well as the Best Paediatric Abstract at the American Thoracic Society for his PhD study exploring the long-term outcome of childhood asthma into adult life. His research interests lie in the fields of clinical and epidemiology of asthma and use of iHealth technology for translational care. Dr Tai will be providing oversight for the TSANZ ASM moving forwards and is keen to see all SIGs go from strength to strength into the future.

Professor Sandra Hodge  
**Director, Research Sub-Committee Chair**

Prof Hodge is a University of Adelaide Beacon Research Fellow and Head of the Chronic Inflammatory Lung Disease Research Unit 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.

Associate Professor Deborah Yates  
**Director, Professional Standards Sub-Committee Chair, TSANZ Board Representative on RACP STC**

A/Prof Deborah Yates is a Senior Staff Specialist in Respiratory Medicine at St Vincent's Hospital and Clinical Associate Professor, UNSW. Her clinical and research expertise includes obstructive lung disorders, occupational lung diseases (particularly asbestos-related disorders and pneumoconiosis), and rare lung diseases including LAM. She also has a longstanding interest in exhaled breath analysis including fractional exhaled nitric oxide (FENO) 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 also serves on the RACP STC and the RACP Adult Medicine Division Committee and Executive Committee.

Professor Hubertus Jersmann  
**Director, Registries and Clinical Trials Sub-Committee Chair, RACP Education Liaison**

Prof Jersmann co-ordinates most of the clinical teaching at the University of Adelaide Medical School including the final Objective Structured Clinical Examination. He introduced the theme Climate Change and Health in both, Adelaide University and Flinders University of South Australia. He frequently teaches at GP education events and is also an examiner for the RACP. As a co-opted former member of the STC Respiratory & Sleep he conducts training accreditation visits. Prof Jersmann 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. Prof Jersmann is passionate about the impact of air quality on health and would like to see the establishment of a national framework.
Advocacy Report

23 Submissions for 2019

- **JANUARY**
  - Thematic Review of Tobacco Control Legislation

- **FEBRUARY**
  - PBAC submission re "A" flagging

- **MARCH**
  - MSAC Overnight Oximetry

- **APRIL**
  - Medical Benefits schedule

- **JUNE**
  - Managing Respirable Crystalline Silica Dust Exposure in the Stone Benchtop Industry

- **JULY**
  - National Strategic Action Plan for Lung Conditions
  - Response to Consultation on the 1 November 2018 Changes to the MBS for Thoracic Medicine
  - Draft National Clinical Quality Registry Strategy Consultation

- **AUGUST**
  - The National Strategic Action Plan for Lung Conditions
  - Consultation on Peripheral Venous Access
  - RANZCR Consultation for Imaging in occupational lung disease due to exposure to dust from engineered stone
  - Mobile health service for Queensland mine workers
  - PHARMAC Consultation on proposal of funding for oncology, multiple sclerosis and respiratory treatments
  - Alpha 1 Registry Proposal

- **SEPTEMBER**
  - Paediatric Respiratory and Sleep Medicine Advance Trainees Benchmarking Summary

- **NOVEMBER**
  - Smoke-free Environments (Vaping) Amendment Bill
  - Evidence report for the investigating symptoms of lung cancer guide for health professionals

- **DECEMBER**
  - Peak lung health body declares climate change a medical emergency
  - Proposed Changes to Medical CPD from the Medical Board of Australia consultation
  - Application for authorisation issued by Australian Engineered Stone Advisory Group
  - Registration Standard: Continuing Professional Development
  - Funding Mepolizumab
  - Response to Proposed Amendments to Respiratory and Sleep Items
  - Victorian State Government – *Health Legislation Amendment and Repeal Bill 2019*
Meet the Staff

Ms Tanya Buchanan
Chief Executive Officer

Ms Nicole Hatten
Finance and Business Development Manager

Dr Hayley See
Research and Policy Manager

Dr Ezinne Igwe
Clinical Research Analyst

Ms Jacqueline Dawkins
Continuing Education Co-ordinator

Ms Lauren Coulson
Program Officer (Best Practice) and ASAR Project Officer

Ms Ivana Garner
Clinical Administration Officer

Ms Sara Wooding-Page
Membership Co-ordinator

Mr Max Campbell
Support Officer (Research)

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Clinical Care and Resources Sub-Committee (CCRS)

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 2019 were the development of:

- “Respiratory Management of Infants with Chronic Neonatal Lung Disease”; and
- “Diagnosis and management of connective tissue disease associated interstitial lung disease (CTD-ILD) in Australia and New Zealand”;

and the endorsement of:

- “Diagnosis and treatment of lung disease associated with Alpha One-Antitrypsin Deficiency”.

For the first time ever, the ERS and TSANZ collaborated to produce a “Statement on the Management of Reproduction and Pregnancy in Women with Airways Diseases”. This was a highly successful venture which was endorsed by both parties.

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:

- Lung Foundation Australia's "COPD-X V2.58".

The CCRS also reviewed and recommended Board endorsement of external papers:

- Cancer Australia's "Investigating symptoms of lung cancer: a guide for GPs"; and
- National Asthma Council's "Australian Asthma Handbook V2.0".

2020 will be another busy year for the CCRS, with a major focus being on supporting the writing of position papers on:

- “Data-driven improvements in care: Towards a lung cancer clinical quality registry”;
- “Electronic cigarettes Position Paper”;
- “Respiratory surveillance for coal mine dust and silica-exposed workers in Australia”;
- “Stewardship of Oral Corticosteroid treatment in Asthma”;
- “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

- “Guidelines for Acute Oxygen Use in Adults” review;
- “Adult Domiciliary Therapy Guidelines” review;
- “The COPD-X Plan: Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for the management of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease 2017”; 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.
TSANZ documents published by *Respirology*:

As the leaders in lung health, our commitment to ensuring our guidelines are freely accessible in Respirology has been supported by the high download rates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Document Description</th>
<th>Download Count in 2019</th>
<th>Total Downloads Since Publication</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Australian standards of care for cystic fibrosis-related diabetes:</td>
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<td>Clinical use of pulse oximetry: Official guidelines from the Thoracic Society of</td>
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<td>Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand oxygen guidelines for acute oxygen</td>
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<td>use in adults: ‘Swimming between the flags’</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Physiotherapy for cystic fibrosis in Australia and New Zealand: A clinical practice</td>
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<td></td>
<td>guideline:</td>
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<td>Thoracic ultrasound recognition of competence: A position paper of the Thoracic</td>
<td>523</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Society of Australia and New Zealand</td>
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<td>Australian and New Zealand Pulmonary Rehabilitation Guidelines</td>
<td>4,769</td>
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<td>The interstitial lung disease multidisciplinary meeting: A position statement from</td>
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<td>the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand and the Lung Foundation Australia</td>
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<td>statement from the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand and the Lung</td>
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<td>Foundation Australia:</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Work environment risks for health care workers with cystic fibrosis</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>814</td>
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</table>
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 2019 was the delivery of three highly successful short courses over the past year: the Asian Pacific Congress on Bronchology (APCB) held before TSANZSRS 2019 on the Gold Coast; the New Zealand Lung Cancer Conference held in October in Christchurch; and the Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) Short Course held in November in Brisbane. All three educational events received extremely positive feedback from their attendees and featured fantastic programs, all of which focused on catering to a variety of professional groups. Once again, live-streaming was offered for the COPD Short Course to enable access to delegates who could not attend on the day and it was extremely well received, with 90% of registrants logging on for the course on the day. We also had a sold-out Post-Graduate Course held at TSANZSRS 2019, entitled \textit{Interstitial Lung Disease: Holistic Care in 2019}. This course also featured a world-class faculty and program, and on the day there was standing room only, with live-streaming also available. On behalf of the ETS I would like to thank all the Course Convenors for their time and efforts in organising such outstanding courses.

The TSANZ Webinar Series has been very successful throughout 2019, with 7 presentations and over 300 viewers of both the live and on-demand recordings. The ETS is excited to continue to oversee the series moving forward and would like to encourage members to suggest any options they think would be exciting to present. The series has continued to grow, and we have had some great presentations throughout the year.

2019 has been a busy year for the ongoing processing of applications for the Recognition of Competency in Thoracic Ultrasound program, with an overwhelming amount of applications from members throughout the closing of the grandfathering period. Three new competency programs were launched for Bronchoscopy, Endobronchial ultrasound (EBUS) and intercostal catheter (ICC), which received a steady number of applications throughout the year. It is encouraging to see so many members interested in the available competency programs and we would like to thank the IP SIG for their hard work getting them off the ground.

There are plenty of exciting activities planned for 2020 – currently there is the ongoing organisation of: the Post-Graduate Workshops for the upcoming ASM 2020; the OELD Short Course in Brisbane; the New Zealand Pleural Procedures and Bronchoscopy Workshop in Auckland; and the Thoracic Ultrasound and Bronchoscopy Workshop in Sydney. The TSANZ will also continue preparing for the upcoming webcasts as part of the ongoing TSANZ Webinar Series.

Finally, we would all like to thank the TSANZ Central Office for their tireless help running the ETS and arranging all the meetings and teleconferences.
### Professional Development Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
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<td><strong>TSANZRS 2019 Post-Graduate Workshop</strong></td>
<td>96% said <strong>YES</strong></td>
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<td>29th March 2019</td>
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<td>– Interstitial Lung Disease:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holistic Care in 2019</td>
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<td><strong>New Zealand Lung Cancer Conference</strong></td>
<td>90% said <strong>YES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>17th-18th October 2019</td>
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<td>– The Piano: Centre for Arts and Music,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christchurch</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease</strong></td>
<td>91% said <strong>YES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Short Course</td>
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<td>2nd November 2019</td>
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<td>– The Mater Hospital, Brisbane</td>
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**IN PERSON ATTENDANCE AND LIVE STREAMING**

Do you feel the information learned from the course will better assist you in the treatment of patients?

- **96%** said **YES**

How likely are you to implement the teachings from this course?

- **87%** said **VERY LIKELY**

How likely are you to attend this course again?

- **98%** said **THEY WOULD ATTEND AGAIN**

Would you recommend this course to a colleague?

- **100%** said **YES**

Would you feel the information learned from the course will better assist you in the treatment of patients?

- **90%** said **YES**

How likely are you to implement the teachings from this course?

- **89%** said **VERY LIKELY**

How likely are you to attend this course again?

- **100%** said **THEY WOULD ATTEND AGAIN**

Would you recommend this course to a colleague?

- **97%** said **YES**

How likely are you to implement the teachings from this course?

- **98%** said **VERY LIKELY**

How likely are you to attend this course again?

- **84%** said **THEY WOULD ATTEND AGAIN**

Would you recommend this course to a colleague?

- **95%** said **YES**
Professional Standards Sub-Committee (PSS)

2019 has yet again been an exciting year for the development of the PSS. We built upon our portfolio to ensure that we are meeting the professional needs and standards required by our Society. The sub-committee is currently involved in an ongoing review of the Code of Conduct. Work is always ongoing to support our sub-committee’s 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 to support workforce planning in respiratory healthcare for Australia and New Zealand.

We reviewed the FThorSoc nominations for 2020 and were very impressed by the strength and breadth of all nominations. 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 2020. 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.

Moving forward into 2020, we hope to continue working on broad areas in collaboration with other professional groups and, in particular, on inclusion and diversity, work-life balance and workforce planning.

Registries and Clinical Trials Sub-Committee (RCTS)

Main objective of the RCTS: is to provide governance for registry and clinical trials activities.

Main achievement in 2019: established in 2018, the RCTS has been in existence for over a year. In this time, the RCTS has prepared the structure and governance of the TSANZ Respiratory Registries and Clinical Trials Network.

In 2019, the RCTS oversaw the transition of the Australasian Severe Asthma Web Database (SAWD) to a clinical quality registry – the Australasian Severe Asthma Registry (ASAR), which will support continual clinical improvement and education. In the course of the year, Singapore was approached by the International Severe Asthma Registry (ISAR) to set up an independent Singaporean severe asthma registry. As a result, the Singaporean patients have been excluded from our database and ASAR is now made up of Australia and New Zealand only. ASAR is currently enrolling severe asthma patients.

As an add-on module of ASAR, a benralizumab registry (ABenRA) was also set up under the governance of the RCTS. ABenRA collects and reports on data from severe asthma patients who receive benralizumab medication to manage their severe asthma. Patient enrolment is currently ongoing in the ABenRA registry.
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 achievements in 2019: One of the most important activities of the Research Sub-Committee is the adjudication of research and fellowship awards, with assistance in matters of research and policy advocacy. The growing Research Management portfolio resulted in the RSC reviewing over 190 competitive and high quality research applications from Australia and New Zealand in 2019, an increase of approximately 50% from 2018.

This year the Research Sub-Committee comprised 12 members from across the country with gender diversity and expertise that encompassed the various domains of basic, applied, clinical and translational medical research, ensuring the highest quality review processes. This was further enhanced by the contribution of FThorSoc Fellows to peer reviews. All should be acknowledged for their hard work, dedication and commitment to supporting the Society’s vision of fostering high quality research.

In 2019, we continued our successful award presentation event at the ASM; again this was a popular event in partnership with other respiratory organisations including Lung Foundation Australia, Cystic Fibrosis Australia, and National Asthma Council Australia.

An ongoing focus of the Research Sub-Committee is to improve the respiratory research landscape. The comparative NHMRC success rate for respiratory disease grants under the new ‘Ideas’ and ‘Investigator’ Grant Schemes is not yet available but likely to be lower than for previous schemes. The Research Sub-Committee 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.

2019 diversity in research award recipients

41% 59%

Sandra Hodge

2019 Members:
Sandra Hodge  
(Chair and basic, clinical and translational research)
Graham Hall  
(Clinical and translational research)
Sandra Orgeig  
(Basic science research)
Anne Chang  
(Clinical and translational research)
Deborah Yates  
(Clinical and translational research)
Rebecca Disler  
(Clinical research)
Kylie Johnston  
(Clinical research)
Sukhwinder Sohal  
(Basic science and translational research)
Ross Vlahos  
(Basic science research)
Lisa Wood  
(Clinical and translational research)
Patricia Agudelo-Romero  
(Basic science research)
Pawan Sharma  
(Basic science and translational research)

Stepped off at 2019 ASM:
Philip Hansbro  
(Co-Chair and basic, clinical and translational research)
Anthony Kicic  
(Basic science research)
Graeme Zosky  
(Basic science research)
Darryl Knight  
(Basic and translational research)
New South Wales / Australian Capital Territory (NSW/ACT)

Activities and Highlights in 2019:

The NSW/ACT Branch had another busy year of supporting our members in their delivery of high calibre clinical work, riveting research, excellence in education and training, and fond fellowship. We welcomed new Fellows and new babies. Some dear friends have been unwell this year and some have retired. Our membership continues to grow and expand as a multidisciplinary group of clinicians and scientists committed to excellence in all aspects of lung health in NSW/ACT. We welcomed our paediatric lung health colleagues back to the fold with a new position on the Branch Executive (held in 2019 by Paul Robinson) and a commitment to inclusion of topics that are relevant to all of us with an ongoing theme of “it’s a long lung life” for our ASM. We continued our commitment to gender equality in executive positions and thought hard about how to support our colleagues in rural and regional NSW.

The provision of a fair and transparent system for interview and allocation of the nation’s largest number of Advanced Trainees in Respiratory Medicine continues to be a major activity of the NSW/ACT Branch members. Enormous thanks go to Tara MacKenzie who has been instrumental in establishing this system and steps down after more than 10 years of chairing this process.

The formal activities of the Branch focused on four dinner meetings, our AT training weekend and the Annual Scientific Meeting and Clinical Update. The dinner meetings continued the theme of clinician as more than just prescriber. We had timely and thought provoking presentations including: Two hot issues in smoking: Nicotine exposure in childhood & e-cigarettes (Renee Bittoun and Susan Towns); Refugee Health and Issues (David Isaacs); Respiratory infections in the age of biological therapy (Brad Frankum); and Air pollution: a silent killer (Bin Jalaludin).

Our AT training weekend in Terrigal, organised by Yasmeen Al-Hindawi and Bristi Roy, was a great success.

The ASM was a showcase of our States' best and brightest and we are proud to have awarded prizes in the following categories:

Tracey Robinson Award (for best AT project)

1st James Di Michiel
2nd Samantha Ennis

(James Di Michiel, Brian Oliver, Lucy Morgan, Samantha Ennis)
Our members have published widely and collaboratively and been recognised for their commitment to the wider community as scholars, leaders, advocates.

As the year ends, I hand over the reigns of Branch President to Brian Oliver. I am incredibly grateful for the support of the TSANZ Central Office, our industry sponsors and the most organised, motivated and generally gorgeous Branch Executive. It’s been a blast.
Activities and Highlights in 2019:

The New Zealand Branch has enjoyed another busy and productive year. A big thanks to the executive and Society members who have worked very hard and contributed to the many successful activities throughout the year.

This year, we hosted two national meetings: the NZ Annual Scientific Meeting in Queenstown and the biennial NZ Lung Cancer Conference in Christchurch. The ASM was fully booked out months before registration closed, reflecting the popularity of this meeting. Attendance from the scientists were at a record high, followed closely by nurses and allied health. The diversity of the audience and speakers is heart-warming as it reflects a close-knit society coming together to promote respiratory health within NZ. Superb quality presentations were delivered by international and local speakers to the theme of COPD and airways disease. Next year, the ASM will be moving to another fantastic NZ destination, Rotorua, to the theme of “Aotearoa – Our Home, Our Lungs”. Congratulations and thank you to the organising committee who have worked tirelessly and are already well underway with their planning for 2020.

The biennial NZ Lung Cancer Conference brought together a team of respiratory physicians and nurses, oncologists and cardiothoracic surgeons. A variety of hot topics were presented including screening, tobacco control and e-cigarettes, faster cancer treatment pathways and barriers to access. Audience participation was excellent and the structure of the program enabled plenty of networking and discussion. A big thanks to the organising team, led by Greg Frazer, for a successful conference.

Two pleural ultrasound competency assessment days were held in Auckland and Wellington by Elaine Yap and Nicola Smith. Following excellent participation across the country, we are proud to announce there is now at least one TSANZ competent pleural ultrasound assessor in almost every District Health Board in NZ. This is a significant step forward in ensuring the longevity of the competency program. Behind the scenes, work is continuing with the bronchoscopy and chest drain competency programs.

This year also saw the launch of the National Asthma Audit by James Fingleton. This represents important work investigating not only the state of acute asthma management within NZ hospitals, but also the construction of a national audit platform to allow future such audits to be built on. Also, in the pipeline is the State of the Nation survey of Respiratory services in NZ led by Roland Meyer. We look forward to the results which will be very informative around key areas to focus on.

Members and the executives have continued to build on and strengthen our relationships with Pharmac and other professional bodies. These relationships are crucial in ensuring effective advocacy and provision of a collective voice on matters such as medication access and e-cigarettes.

Finally, I would like to extend my gratitude to Past President, Stuart Jones, and former executive members: William Good and David Chen. It has been my pleasure working with them, and I welcome on board new executive members: Paul Dawkins and Atiqah Abdul Latiff.
Queensland (QLD)

Activities and Highlights in 2019:

The QLD branch took on the local organising committee responsibility for the 2019 TSANZ/SRS ASM on the Gold Coast and thoroughly enjoyed the event. It was fun theming the Gala Dinner and it was great to see so many people really stepping up to the “Super Heroes Vs Super Bugs” theme. I would particularly like to thank Simon Bowler, Michael Fanning, Rebecca Keating, Liam Krebs, Benjamin Gerhardy and Daniel Henderson for their help with the balloons.

We have been very active this year again in the educational space. Our Winter meeting had the highest attendance ever for this event and was well received by all. The theme was “Occupational and Environmental Lung Disease” and covered the very topical silicosis epidemic as well as asbestos, occupational asthma and coal workers’ pneumoconiosis.

The annual scientific meeting was again well attended, showcasing the great scientific research coming out of our QLD trainees and allied health teams. Congratulations to Malcolm Wilson and Adrian Barnett who won the best presentation and runner up respectively.

The physiology day had the theme of “Physiology of the Extremes” and we were delighted to host Prof Kim Prisk from the University of California (San Diego) as Mentor for the day. Prof Prisk entertained us with fantastic anecdotes and extreme physiology as he took us to the moon. Congratulations to Hervey Lau and Celine Goffinet for the best presentations.

This is my last year as President of the QLD branch. I leave the branch in the very capable hands of Simon Bowler and the new team which includes: Rebecca Keating (nurse), Matthew Hutchins (physio), Ismail Sebina (basic science), Kiara Scip (respiratory science), Michael Putt, Graham Simpson, Sadasivam Suresh (paed), Benjamin Gerhardy (AT), Liam Krebs (AT) and Adeline Lim (paed AT).
South Australia / Northern Territory (SA/NT)

**Activities and Highlights in 2019:**

The SA/NT Branch in 2019 enjoyed another busy and productive year. The extensive education events established by former branch executives have continued.

The theme of this year’s Branch ASM was “Transitions”. It was very well attended. We welcomed Professor Gary Anderson as our plenary speaker. His talk titled *How can we enable the discovery and development of cures for common lung diseases?* delved into the complexities of translating research into clinical practice. For the first time, we offered a travel scholarship specifically aimed at making our ASM more accessible for those living in regional SA or the NT. The winner for the travel scholarship was Adrienne Mackenzie. Other local winners included Steven Taylor for the New Investigator Award and Teng Yuan Kang 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 Debra Reynolds-Sandford, who was recently appointed to the position of President-Elect, Jeff Bowden, our newly appointed Treasurer, Karen Royals, our new Secretary and Thomas Crowhurst, our newly appointed advanced trainee representative. Members continuing on the Executive Committee include Kristin Carson-Chahhoud, Marie Williams, Kylie Johnston, Shanka Karunarathne and Georgina Paterson. We welcome Eugene Roscioli, Hubertus Jersmann and Adrienne Mackenzie to the Executive Committee. Thanks also to former Executive Committee members, James Geake, Phan Nguyen, Aaron Oh and Judith Morton.
Tasmania (TAS)

Activities and Highlights in 2019:

The TAS Branch held its ASM on 16 November in Launceston with the meeting featuring guest speaker Keith Burgess. Many thanks to Emma Ball who, as Branch Secretary, toiled in organising this event.

Continued re-development continues at the Royal Hobart Hospital and a respiratory function unit at the North West Regional Hospital is under development.

A major initiative led by James Markos, supported by branch members, lobbied for potential state legislation to change the legal age for tobacco purchase to 21.

Numerous consultant staff changes have and will occur over this 12-month period. Special mention needs to be made of Hugh Mestitz’s retirement in June. Hugh Mestitz has worked clinically for over 30 years in Respiratory and Sleep Medicine, providing high quality sleep medicine for the south of the State and post-lung transplant care for Tasmanians for over 15 years. The Society wishes him luck and fortune in retirement. All the best for 2020.

Nicholas Harkness
President

Branch Events - Overall Attendees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Attendees</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WA</td>
<td>172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSW/ACT</td>
<td>342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NZ</td>
<td>128</td>
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<tr>
<td>VIC</td>
<td>395</td>
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<tr>
<td>TAS</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SA/NT</td>
<td>237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QLD</td>
<td>331</td>
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Victoria (VIC)

Activities and Highlights in 2019:

2019 was yet another successful year for us. The VIC Branch committee worked hard on producing a range of events appealing to a diverse group of our TSANZ members.

Our attendance reached full capacity at nearly every event. Once again we had our four branch dinners with speakers from all professions of respiratory health including doctors, physiotherapists, nurses, scientists and colleagues from other fields such as oncology.

The Women in Respiratory Health event was a great success once again. It is in its fourth year and continues to provide a fabulous opportunity for networking and empowerment for our female colleagues. A great thanks goes to the organisers Sakhee Kotecha, Nicole Gaffney, Miranda Paraskeva, Tracy Leong, Asha Bonney and Angela Burge.

After rave reviews last year following a combined meeting with our radiology colleagues, we decided to host another combined event. This year, Anna Ridgers, our Advanced Trainee Representative organised an evening with our ICU colleagues. This combined educational evening saw speakers such as A/Prof Andrew Hilton, an intensivist, present on respiratory failure and extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO). Our very own Mark Howard spoke on ventilation weaning and on post intensive care syndrome. A big thank you to Anna who has done this in addition to all the quarterly educational dinners organised for our advanced trainees.

Also, given the success of last year’s Professional Development Workshop, we decided to host another event aimed towards anyone particularly interested in research. The night provided an opportunity for networking and listening to highly respected speakers such as Anne Holland and Prof David Veale.

Finally, the 2019 AGM once again had an outstanding turnout. This is thanks to our keynote speakers Christine McDonald who spoke on the controversial topic of e-cigarettes, Sarath Ranganathan who discussed the gut microbiome and its relation to lung disease, and a big thanks to our Year in Review speakers Ana Hutchinson, Narelle Cox and Simon Joosten. Thanks also to Karen Willis who gave a very interesting talk on qualitative research.

Most importantly, I want to thank the 2019 committee for all their hard work. A big thanks to Yet Khor, Anna Ridgers and Christian Osadnik who are stepping down and a warm welcome to Alistair Miller, Belinda Liu and Angela Burge, the new committee members.

We ended 2018 with a vision to provide symposium style events with invited speakers and ensuring that we had a diverse group of speakers with gender equality. I am happy to say that we have fulfilled that vision. I am proud to have been part of this committee for so many years but it’s time for me to step down in my role as president and hand over to Natasha Smallwood. It has been a pleasure to have served my community and I will continue to support TSANZ as past president in 2020.
Western Australia (WA)

Activities and Highlights in 2019:

It has been another fabulous year for the Western Australian Branch of the TSANZ. We hosted a fantastic one and half day ASM. The keynote speaker was Anne Holland. Her talk was on *Pulmonary rehabilitation-time for a change?* Our president, Bruce Thompson, gave a great talk on imaging how the lung is functioning with pictures of ventilation in the small airways. The other highlights were sessions on Aboriginal Lung Health and *Ahead of the game for 2019* with a taster of the amazing respiratory research going on around the state.

This year the WA Branch held three lung clubs with speakers from overseas and interstate including Dr Sanja Stanojevic, Lisa Wood and Nicole Goh. They partnered with some excellent local speakers: John Blakey, Andre Schultz and Justin Waring. The branch also hosted a *Perfect Your Pitch* night to help train researchers and trainees in succinct, clear and punchy presentation skills. This was followed by an advanced trainee presentation night. The WA Branch also sponsored two poster prizes for the Institute of Respiratory Health 20th anniversary symposium.

I would like to thank the WA Branch Executive members, which represents the diverse craft groups within the TSANZ. I would particularly like to thank the recent past-president Ingrid Lang who has worked tirelessly. I would like to welcome the newly elected member of the Executive, Kimberley Wang. I would also like to thank the TSANZ Central Office their work and help. Lastly our sponsors, who without their assistance we could not provide the quality of education.

We are excited about 2020 and are preparing a great program for the ASM on 14-15 August 2020 at the Australian Institute of Management in Floreat. Throughout 2020, the WA Branch will host several Lung Club Dinners, a *Perfect Your Pitch* night and an Advanced Trainee dinner. We also hope to support rural and remote members in WA to attend these educational sessions.
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 until Nov 2019, then Past President**
Lucy Morgan

**President Elect until Nov 2019, then President**
Brian Oliver

**Secretary**
Anthony Byrne

**Executive Members**
- Anna Hudson (until Nov 2019)
- Stephen Cala (until Nov 2019)
- Monique Malouf (until Nov 2019)
- Mary Roberts (until Nov 2019)
- Smita Shah
- Archit Chawla
- Tara Mackenzie

**NZ Branch**

**President until August 2019, then Past President**
Stuart Jones

**President Elect until August 2019, then President**
Elaine Yap

**Treasurer**
James Fingleton

**Secretary**
Nikola Ncube

**Executive Members**
- Christine Bradley
- David Chen (until August 2019)
- Paul Dawkins (from August 2019)
- William Good (until August 2019)
- Paul Kelly
- Atiqah Abdul Latiff (from August 2019)
- Roland Meyer
- Donna Thomson (from August 2019)
- Sarah Rhodes (from August 2019)

**QLD Branch**

**President until Nov 2019, then Past President**
Lucy Burr

**President Elect until Nov 2019, then President**
Simon Bowler

**Treasurer**
Matthew Hutchins

**Secretary until Nov 2019**
Michael Fanning

**Executive members**
- Benjamin Gerhardt
- Daniel Henderson (until Nov 2019)
- Rebecca Keating
- Liam Krebs
- Adeline Lim (from Nov 2019)
- Michael Putt (from Nov 2019)
- Kiara Sclip (from Nov 2019)
- Ismail Sebina (from Nov 2019)
- Graham Simpson (from Nov 2019)
- Sadasivam Suresh

**VIC Branch**

**President until Nov 2019, then Past President**
Naghmeh Radhakrishna

**President Elect until Nov 2019, then President**
Natasha Smallwood

**Secretary**
John Taverner

**Executive Members**
- Tracy Leong
- Christopher Daley
- Angela Burge
- Belinda Liu
- Alistair Miller
- Yvonne Ng
- Christian Osadnik (until Nov 2019)
- Anna Ridgers (until Nov 2019)
- Yet Khor (until Nov 2019)
- Rebecca Disler
SA/NT Branch

**President**
Simone Barry

**President elect** *from Sept 2019*
Debra Sandford

**Past President** *until Sept 2019*
Phan Nguyen

**Treasurer** *until Sept 2019*
James Geake

**Executive Members**
- Jeff Bowden *(from Sept 2019)*
- Kristin Carson-Chahhoud
- Thomas Crowhurst *(from Sept 2019)*
- Hubertus Jersmann *(from Sept 2019)*
- Kylie Johnston
- Shanka Karunarathne
- Adrienne Mackenzie *(from Sept 2019)*
- Judith Morton *(until Sept 2019)*
- Aaron Oh *(until Sept 2019)*
- Georgina Paterson
- Eugene Roscioli *(from Sept 2019)*
- Karen Royals
- Marie Williams *(until Sept 2019)*

WA Branch

**President** *until July 2019, then Past President*
Ingrid Laing

**President Elect** *until July 2019, then President*
Christopher Kosky

**Treasurer**
Vinicius Cavalheri

**Executive members**
- Michael Beaven
- Li Chung *(until Jul 2019)*
- Rachel Foong
- Sharon Lawrence
- Kelly Martinovich *(until Jul 2019)*
- Anne O’Donnell
- Shannon Simpson
- Rhea Urs
- Kimberley Wang *(from July 2019)*
- Tim Whitmore

TAS Branch

**President**
Nicholas Harkness

**Secretary & Treasurer**
Emma Ball
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 2019:

The 2019 TSANZ ASM was held on the Gold Coast. The ASM was a busy one for our SIG, with involvement in three research symposia covering infections and microbiomes, bronchial thermoplasty, and breathing dysfunction and complex breathlessness. Our three SIG oral presentation sessions also reflected the broad range of research interests of our large membership, covering characterisation of and therapeutic options for severe asthma; paediatric asthma and asthma during pregnancy; and detailed molecular and cellular characterisation of novel pathways involved in asthma pathogenesis in clinical and pre-clinical studies. A further two poster sessions topped off a great showcase of the high-quality work undertaken by our members.

Asthma and Allergy SIG members from across all career stages were recipients of awards at the 2019 ASM. Our two SIG-specific awards, generously supported by Asthma Australia and the National Asthma Council, were awarded to Teresa Williams (epithelial antiviral immune responses) and Cherry Thompson (effect of macronutrients on bronchodilator response in obese asthma). Congratulations also to Kimberley Wang who received the TSANZ/National Asthma Council Australia Asthma and Airways Fellowship for The effect of maternal hypoxia-induced intrauterine growth restriction on diaphragm function in adult mice. Kimberley also received a Janet Elder International Travel Award for Thickening of the airway smooth muscle from late gestation to childhood is facilitated by increased mean cell volume. Katrina Tonga received a Lung Foundation Australia/Ludwig Engel Grant-In-Aid for Physiological research which will support her work on fixed airway obstruction in asthma. Helen Reddel's outstanding contributions were honoured through award of the Society Medal, and congratulations to Philip Hansbro who was recipient of the Research Medal.

In 2020, our current co-convenors Louisa Owens and Jay Horvat will hand over to the current deputy co-convenors, Stephen Oo and Michael Fricker. Two new deputy co-convenors will be elected at the 2020 AGM SIG meeting. In addition, SIG members also have the opportunity to discuss and shape the future direction of the SIG as well as put forward suggestions for symposia and themes for the TSANZ 2021 AGM, so please come along and say hi.
Activities and Highlights in 2019:

The CIMBL SIG had an important year in 2019. At the ASM, we had two oral and one poster session. Furthermore, we continued our tradition of presenting the debate style plenary that argued the pros and cons “Battle of the bugs - respiratory viruses vs bacteria – which is worse?”, and are hoping to run another battle at TSANZ 2020. We would like to extend our congratulations to Dhammika Leshan Wannigama for being presented with the CIMBL SIG award.

In moving with the times CIMBL will be promoting bioinformatics skills and analysis techniques next year and will be offering an online workshop on Bioinformatics for Beginners.

We would like to thank Anthony Kicic for his 4 years of contribution to the SIG who this year handed over the reins of the Convenor position to the current Deputy Convenor, Miranda Ween. We would also like to welcome Alen Faiz who has recently returned to Australia from an international post-doctorate and will be taking up the position of Deputy Convenor. We look forward to seeing our members at the SIG AGM next year in Melbourne, where we will discuss strategies for the CIMBL SIG moving forward.

CIMBL represents all aspects of respiratory research, regardless of the disease being studied, as long as it involves a cellular, immunological, or molecular aspect, and we hope to see increased interaction with the disease specific SIGs as we move forward. We believe CIMBL also encompasses molecular big data and bioinformatics, an area of research our new Deputy Convenor is passionate about. CIMBL hopes to provide the opportunity for some basic training in this area in some format in the next year to keep its members on the cutting edge of research.

If you have any ideas for workshops or symposia, do not hesitate to email Miranda and Alen with your ideas.
Convenors:
Zoe McKeough and Christopher Worsnop

Deputy Convenors:
Ross Vlahos and Natasha Smallwood

Activities and Highlights in 2019:

The COPD SIG had another busy and productive year in 2019. We received 50 abstracts to review and allocate for the 2019 TSANZRS conference which was an increase from 2018. The program was finalised with four oral sessions of 24 presentations as well as two poster sessions of 23 posters. Presentations covered content across COPD diagnosis and management including the basic sciences, medical management, inter-disciplinary care, smoking cessation and pulmonary rehabilitation. Two symposiums were also run with other SIG groups: “Management of COPD exacerbations and beyond” with the Physiotherapy and Nursing SIGs; and “Lung cancer - new mechanisms and therapeutic advances” with the Lung Cancer SIG. The COPD SIG would like to thank all speakers and chairs for these sessions who ensured a smooth running of the presentations. Congratulations to Sonia Cheng for the COPD SIG Award for her presentation on “Characteristics of sedentary behaviour in people with COPD”; Tatt Jhong Haw for the Boehringer Ingelheim (BI) COPD Research Award; as well as Alen Faiz and Eskandarain Shafuddin for the TSANZ/BI COPD travel awards.

Another primary activity for the SIG in 2019 was to provide feedback on the latest version of the COPD-X guidelines – the SIG reviewed and endorsed the updated guidelines. The COPD SIG also ran a short course in Brisbane on 2 November titled “Getting to the ‘heart’ of COPD management: Time for personalisation”. Presentations varied from managing pulmonary hypertension in COPD to an overview of new inhaler medications. Again, thank you to all the presenters who contributed their time and expertise to this important forum.

We would finally like to thank Sukhwinder Sohal for his valuable contributions to the COPD SIG over the last four years and to also offer a warm welcome to Natasha Smallwood as one of our new Deputy Convenors. We look forward to seeing all members at the 2020 TSANZRS in Melbourne from 27 March to 31 March 2020. The theme will be “Transformative Strategies for Promoting Global Lung Health”.

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)
**Cystic Fibrosis**

**Convenors**

Peter Middleton – Adult

Tonia Douglas – Paediatric

**Activities and Highlights in 2019:**

2019 was a big year for Cystic Fibrosis and the CF SIG. With a successful ASM at the Gold Coast the CF SIG had one oral, two poster and one joint symposium. Congratulations to the winners of the Australian Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust Innovation Grant: Gerard Kaiko, Peter Wark, Shafagh Water, and Adam Jaffe. Elena Schneider-Futschik was the winner of the CF SIG prize and the TSANZ Peter Phelan Research Award and shared the Vertex Cystic Fibrosis Research Award with Rebecca Stockwell. Elena also received the Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists (ASCEPT) Early Achievement Award for Women! Congratulations Elena!

In August there was a successful Australasian CF conference in Perth, chaired by Andre Schultz.

Finally, the publication of the new triple therapy for CF was achieved in November with many Australian sites involved in this important therapeutic advance.

We thank Catherine Byrnes for her help Co-Chairing the CF SIG and welcome Tonia Douglas as the new Paediatric Co-Chair.

In 2020 at the Melbourne ASM, we will be having two oral sessions (one co-badged with the Physiotherapy SIG), one poster session and a new session – a clinical update aimed for non-CF physicians, Advanced Trainees, nurses, physiotherapists and scientists to understand where CF care is up to in 2020.

Please encourage the wider members of the Society to attend if they want an update in this fast-moving area. The CF SIG will continue to work closely with CF Australia through the Centre Directors Group to assist in ongoing discussions about PBS listing of the new CFTR modulators in Australia.

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**Evidence-Based Medicine & Practice**

**Convenor:**

Rebecca Disler

**Deputy Convenor:**

Sameh Samuel

**Activities and Highlights in 2019:**

There were several highlights for the EBPM SIG from the 2019 TSANZ ASM. As in previous years, the EBPM SIG had an oral and a poster session during the TSANZ 2019 ASM on the Gold Coast with excellent presentations and attendance. Dr Christopher Cates, St George’s University of London, presented “Antibiotic use in chronic respiratory disease: Cochrane evidence, knowledge gaps and research challenges”. This attracted great interest and inspired a very productive discussion. It was followed by a session of oral presentations and we had separate poster presentation session.

The annual Cochrane Postgraduate Workshop was organized during TSANZ 2019 ASM in collaboration with Cochrane Australia. Christopher Cates was again well received in these sessions, as well as A/Prof William Levack from New Zealand talking about his experience conducting qualitative Cochrane Reviews. Plans are in place for a further Cochrane Postgraduate Workshop for the 2020 ASM. All members and trainees who are undertaking or plan to do a systematic review are recommended to attend this useful course that provides group training and one to one discussion.

Congratulations to the award recipients for the 2019 ASM: Yet Hong Khor, best oral speaker award EBPM SIG Symposium; and Jenifer Liang, Lung Foundation Australia/ Cochrane Airways Australia award for her Cochrane Review entitled Educational interventions for health professionals managing COPD in primary care.

There has been a great response with 14 abstracts submitted to the EBPM SIG for the 2020 ASM, illustrating the excellent work that is being done within this area. We look forward to another excellent year in the EBMP SIG.
Activities and Highlights in 2019:

The IP SIG had one of its busiest years in memory. David Fielding was congress chair and organiser for the Asia Pacific Congress on Bronchology, held just prior to the TSANZ ASM on the Gold Coast. An all-star faculty from Australia and around the world gathered together to teach several IP sessions in a format that maximised participant involvement. We thank David’s drive, but also the many TSANZ IP SIG members who donated their time and expertise.

The ASM itself saw the release of competency based assessment modules for pleural and bronchoscopic procedures. These will form a component of respiratory training in the future and are a testament to the hard work of several IP SIG members over the past 5-10 years. A grandfathering period will also apply to these procedures for TSANZ members who wish to obtain their certificates of competency. This follows on from the initial success of the US pleural guidelines which reached the end of their grandfathering period just after the ASM. The IP SIG successfully ran a solid session of US competency assessments during the conference to allow members to obtain UG-STAT certificates.

I welcome Matthew Salamonsen on as deputy convenor of the SIG. I’m sure his ideas and experience will be invaluable as we move forward. Looking ahead, we will aim to have further train the trainer sessions in Perth and Adelaide and three solid symposium sessions at the 2020 ASM with our usual abstract presentations. We look forward to catching up and working with our friends and colleagues during the next calendar year.

2019 SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP MEMBERS*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>761</th>
<th>Asthma &amp; Allergy</th>
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<td>Cell Biology &amp; Immunology</td>
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<td>214</td>
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* Reported as at October 2019
**Nutrition**

**Convenor:**
Hayley Scott

**Deputy Convenor:**
Megan Jensen

**Activities and Highlights in 2019:**

The Nutrition SIG has grown from 39 members since our establishment in 2018, to 53 members and we look forward to welcoming more members in 2020. We received our first ever abstract submission for the 2019 ASM and hope to receive more submissions in 2020. We look forward to the 2020 ASM in Melbourne and the opportunity to engage with researchers, clinicians and allied health practitioners and advocate for the role of nutrition in respiratory health.

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**Lung Cancer**

**Convenor:**
David Manners

**Deputy Convenor:**
Tracy Leong

**Activities and Highlights in 2019:**

The Lung Cancer SIG had another exciting year.

We held a joint Lung Cancer and COPD SIG symposium at the TSANZSRS ASM on the Gold Coast entitled New Mechanisms and therapeutic advancements. A working party was formed to develop a position statement regarding a lung cancer clinical quality registry.

Some Lung Cancer SIG members signed up to be Lung Foundation Australia lung care advocates. They lobbied their local federal parliamentarians to address current inequalities of federal funding for lung cancer nursing and lung cancer research.

Members of the Lung Cancer SIG reviewed Cancer Australia’s updated Investigating Symptoms of lung cancer: a guide for GPs, which was subsequently endorsed by the TSANZ Board.

As we look forward to 2020, keep an eye out for ongoing progress of the lung cancer clinical quality registry position statement, two unique symposiums at the upcoming TSANZSRS ASM in Melbourne and the SIG providing comment on Cancer Australia’s inquiry into the feasibility of LDCT lung cancer screening in Australia (https://consultations.health.gov.au/cancer-care/cancer-australia-lung-cancer-screening-enquiry/). Please be in touch if you want to assist in any of these endeavours.
Activities and Highlights in 2019:

As the incoming SIG Convenor after the 2019 ASM, I would like to thank Graeme Zosky for his guidance and support in this role. I would also like to welcome Susan Miles who has taken the role of Deputy Convenor. Susan is ideally suited given her enthusiasm and leadership skills. She brings extensive clinical experience and has established networks within the field of occupational lung diseases.

Like last year, 2019 continues to be a busy time for the OELD SIG. The TSANZ, RACP and AFOEM lobbied for the establishment of a Dust Diseases Taskforce to lead and coordinate the national response to the current outbreak of accelerated silicosis, often affecting young adults during their productive working years. Although outside the expertise of the TSANZ, OELD SIG members welcomed the review by Safe Work Australia on Workplace Exposure Standards for Airborne Contaminants. The creation of a national dust diseases registry is now the priority, as the accurate documentation of occupationally-acquired lung diseases which are identified through active screening can facilitate optimal management of affected workers and improve the health of the working population.

In addition to artificial stone-associated silicosis, the OELD SIG continued to review the periodic health surveillance of coal miners following the re-emergence of ‘black lung’ and the overhaul of the surveillance system especially in Queensland. These issues were highlighted to the TSANZ community at the 2019 ASM through the OELD/COPD SIG co-sponsored symposium on coal mine dust related lung disease titled, Down-under in the coal mines which was well received.

Members of the OELD SIG with expertise on environmental issues have responded to the National Environment Protection Measure for Ambient Air Quality (AAQ) impact statement regarding a review of the Australian regulated thresholds for common outdoor air pollutants to inform advocacy to improve the health of the general Australian public.

OELD SIG members have also actively participated in educational activities supported by Safe Work NSW and Worksafe Victoria.

A Plenary on Silicosis will be part of the upcoming 2020 TSANZ ASM in Melbourne.
An Ode to OLIV for 2019

Another full year of OLIV activities
And here we do report
Of some of the highlights of the TSANZ
And others within our court.

The ASM on the Gold Coast
Brought everyone to town
Our “Holistic Care” workshop on ILD
Helped OLIV take the crown.

Raghu, Jenkins, Lee and Wijsenbeek
Were our four international guests
We had a “Meet the expert session”
And didn't let them rest.

Troy v Grainge, Michail v Rhodes
These were our great debates!
They fought, they taught, they teased each other
We all became good mates.

Poster sessions and oral abstracts
Jemma Seyfang won the prize
We thank our many contributors
We were sad to say our goodbyes.

On other fronts, the CRE in pulmonary fibrosis
Continues to take big strides
“CREATE” provides the advanced training environment
With publications on the rise.

There’s registries and research, network and training
“TEDS” and “PACT” support translation
Biobanking is also growing
And this all guides innovation!

The 4th Biennial Rare Lung Disease Short Course supported by the TSANZ/LFA
Was another sell-out success
International experts Brown, Rosas and Desai
Were all there to help impress.

The PBAC post-market review of PH medicines
Is drawing to an end
Hopefully dual therapy will be funded soon
It’s what we recommend!

Next year will see Melbourne host the 2020 ASM
With four OLIV symposia on display
Along with dedicated ILD and PE sessions
A transplant update is on the way.

We thank the many wonderful people
In OLIV streams across the lands
Academics, allied health, admin and clinical staff
We appreciate the many hands.
Convenor: Angela Burge
Co-Convenor: Katrina Li

Activities and Highlights in 2019:

2019 has been a very busy and successful year for the Physiotherapy SIG. We are thankful to Tanja Effing for all of her efforts in the Deputy Convenor role and are thrilled to welcome Katrina Li as our new Deputy Convenor.

For the 2019 ASM, our members had 24 abstracts which were disseminated across a range of SIGs. We were delighted to co-host a breakfast session with the OLIV and Paediatric SIGs as well as a symposium with the COPD SIG. Some of our members were invited speakers in a post graduate course, a joint masterclass and a symposium. We congratulated Anne Holland on becoming a new TSANZ Fellow and we won a range of SIG prizes. We are eagerly anticipating the 2020 ASM where we will be co-hosting a pre-conference post-graduate course and two symposia.

Following the AGM, our SIG committed to seek a more inclusive name for our group, to reflect the diversity of our membership. The process of compiling a short list of nominated options is underway prior to seeking the views of our members.

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. We are excited to continue working with the other SIGs and our members in 2020.

Convenor: Adelaide Withers
Deputy Convenor: Danielle Wurzel

Activities and Highlights in 2019:

2019 has been another busy year for the Paediatric SIG. The TSANZ ASM on the sunny Gold Coast included some excellent paediatric speakers, a highlight of which was hearing Associate Professor Lucas Hoffman discussing his ground-breaking research into the microbiome in non-CF bronchiectasis.

The Paediatric SIG is gearing up for the TSANZ 2020 annual scientific meeting and we are thrilled to announce we have had a record number of paediatric symposium submissions all seven of which were selected. There was also a record number of paediatric abstracts submitted. We are really looking forward to an exciting meeting with a strong paediatric presence and focus.

We are very pleased to be in the final stages of reviewing the Chronic Neonatal Lung Disease guideline. This evidence based guideline is essential for the management of one of our most common paediatric respiratory conditions, and will be published in the near future.

The recent release of the new GINA guidelines has stimulated lots of discussion within our group, as have changes to the PBS listing of certain inhaled corticosteroid/LABA combinations. The recent publication in the New England Journal of Medicine of a trial suggesting that treatment with short-acting beta agonists was inferior to inhaled corticosteroid/LABA for the prevention of asthma exacerbations has caused robust discussion within the group, particularly given media attention to these findings using headlines such as ‘Stop Using the Killer Blue Inhaler’. There will be several paediatric focused sessions at the TSANZ 2020 ASM in Melbourne where these hot topics will be discussed in detail.
Activities and Highlights in 2019:

At this year’s ASM on the Gold Coast, we once again collaborated with the SSPC and Tobacco SIGs in providing the TSANZ members with an excellent oral and poster sessions. We had a range of topics from breathlessness in cardiorespiratory diseases, to smoking cessation brief intervention made easy. The presenters engaged the audience and we had stimulating question and discussion time after each of the presentations.

We also hosted a very successful Primary Care Breakfast Symposium with 53 attendees on *Nuts and bolts of aerosol delivery: Theory guideline and practice*. In the session we addressed practical aspects of aerosol delivery, including factors influencing inhaler use and where aerosols inhaled from the various types of delivery devices deposit in the lungs. We discussed the various types of devices used for aerosol therapy, considerations when prescribing a device for a particular patient, device inter-changeability, and appropriate use in different patient groups and common errors in using the various devices. The focus was on skill development through a practical session on how to teach patients the correct use of inhaler devices. Each participant received a bag with all placebo devices and related education materials.

With evolving concepts such as medical home, patient centred care, integrated health care, there is an interest across the respiratory research, practice and partnership world to engage more heavily with primary care.

For the 2020 TSANZ ASM in Melbourne, we are hosting an exciting symposium that will explore opportunities to address the respiratory care of adolescents and ways to introduce adolescent friendly strategies to improve the quality of care. It will describe a set of principles for the management of adolescents in the community and hospitals. The symposium will provide us with an opportunity to engage with the Primary Health Networks (PHNs) in order to bring general practitioners, pharmacists, nurses, allied health and other primary care providers to the conference. 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. We are excited about what the 2020 TSANZ ASM will offer those interested in primary care, as this year we experienced an increase in scientific abstracts. We are looking forward to seeing you in Melbourne.
Activities and Highlights in 2019:

With over 500 members, the Pulmonary Physiology and Sleep SIG is one of the largest in the society. The SIG encompasses a broad range of research related to lung physiology and sleep medicine and includes basic scientists, clinicians and researchers. The majority of members also belong to other SIGs with interests in a range of lung diseases and conditions including asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, cystic fibrosis, lung cancer, orphan lung diseases, lung transplantation and of course, sleep medicine.

The current SIG convenor is Norman Morris from Griffith University and The Prince Charles Hospital, QLD. Katrina Tonga from St Vincent’s Hospital, the University of Sydney and New South Wales and Woolcock Institute, NSW is the Deputy Convenor.

At this year’s ASM on the Gold Coast, the Pulmonary Physiology and Sleep SIG contributed to the planning and presentation of the ANZSRS/TSANZ joint masterclass entitled *Breathing under pressure*. The SIG also assisted the local organising committee in planning the Joint ANZSRS/TSANZ Plenary session titled *Predicting and phenotyping COPD exacerbations: Should we attempt to understand exacerbations in a different way?* This plenary session covered a wide range of innovative and emerging physiological, imaging and transcriptomic biomarkers for the assessment of COPD associated respiratory failure and exacerbations. The SIG hosted two oral presentations along with a thematic poster session at the ASM. The quality of the research presented at the meeting continues to be strong with the Pulmonary Physiology and Sleep SIG John Reid Prize awarded to Graeme Zosky and TSANZ Best Poster awarded to Kris Nilsen. Congratulations should also go to Katrina Tonga for the Lung Foundation Australia/Ludwig Engel Grant-in-Aid for Physiological Research.

A number of our members presented their research at international meetings, including the American Thoracic Society (ATS) annual meeting, held this year in Dallas, Texas, USA in May and the European Respiratory Society (ERS) International Congress in Madrid, Spain. We would like to acknowledge that one of the members of the Pulmonary Physiology and Sleep SIG, Cindy Thamrin, was elected by the Respiratory Structure and Function Assembly at ATS to be the Program Committee Chair. Congratulations Cindy!

In 2020, our SIG convenor Norman will hand over the reins to our co-convenor Katrina. We are keen to engage as many members with the SIG, particularly early career and emerging researchers that may be interested in being involved with upcoming meetings and workshops. We look forward to another successful ASM in Melbourne in 2020 where the Physiology and Sleep SIG has again worked with local organising committee to organise the joint TSANZ/ANZSRS Joint Masterclass and Symposium. In addition the Physiology and Sleep SIG will host a symposium *Pulmonary Physiology and Sleep: From the cradle to the grave.*
Respiratory Infectious Diseases (RID)

Convenor:
Lucy Burr

Deputy Convenor:
Megan Rees

Activities and Highlights in 2019:

What a year we have had in the RID SIG. The main event for us this year was the 2019 TSANZ ASM which featured Respiratory Infections “Bugs and Beyond” as the main theme. As expected, this was a fantastic conference covering the many diverse aspects of respiratory infection. We were particularly enthralled by the keynote speakers A/Prof Lucas Hoffman, University of Washington, and Dr Eva Polverino, Vall D’Hebron Istituit de Recerca, and their insights on bronchiectasis, the microbiome and the gut.

In 2020 we are looking forwards to hosting four symposia at the ASM including innovative clinical trials, NTM case studies, influenza and fungal disease.

We would like to thank our outgoing Convenor Geraint Rogers for four years of service to the RID SIG and welcome Megan Rees as Deputy Convenor.

“Bugs and Beyond” Gala Dinner
Respiratory Nurses

Australian Convenor: Rebecca Disler
New Zealand Convenor: Jane Cotter
Australian Deputy Convenor: Jenny McWha
New Zealand Deputy Convenor: Betty Poot

Activities and Highlights in 2019:

The 2019 ASM Respiratory Nurses’ symposium kicked off another successful year for our SIG and carried on the focus of promoting nursing research. Our international speaker Associate Professor Lynn Reinke a Nurse Practitioner from the School of Nursing at the University of Washington presented on nurse-led palliative care interventions for those with advanced lung disease. Other invited speakers included Dr Andrea Marshall, speaking on advancing nursing practice through research and publication, and Enna Stroil-Salama on the Australian Bronchiectasis Registry. In addition, the Respiratory Nurses SIG combined symposiums with the SSPC SIG, with Dr Reinke presenting on advance care planning and on COPD management with the Physiotherapy SIG and COPD SIG.

A large number of quality nursing abstracts were received this year, enabling the Respiratory Nurses SIG the opportunity to have both oral and poster presentations. The presentation of nursing research is an area that the Respiratory Nurses SIG has been promoting over recent ASMs. Feedback from members was very positive; enjoying the mix of oral and poster presentations alongside the informative sessions from the key speakers.

We are very pleased to announce our 2020 ASM international speaker Dr Carol Kelly. Dr Kelly is a Reader in Respiratory Care and Head of Applied Health & Social Care in the Faculty of Health & Social Care at Edge Hill University, Lancashire, UK. She is a keen advocate for patient centred research by respiratory nurses. Her current research projects include models of self-management and identification of national research priorities for respiratory nursing.

Other activities during 2019 included a webinar presentation on *Tracheostomy tubes and principles of management* by Gavin Fahey, Senior Respiratory Clinical Nurse Consultant, Australia. This session was very well received, and more webinars are planned for 2020.

The New Zealand and Australian convenor/co-convenor team look forward to working together in 2020 to continue to provide professional development for its SIG members and to raise the profile of nurses within TSANZ.
Activities and Highlights in 2019:

2019 has been a very successful year for the Symptom Support and Palliative Care SIG. Highlights included our leading symposium on *Advance care planning and assisted dying - changing laws and responsibilities*. This was run in conjunction with the Respiratory Nurses SIG on the much sought after Saturday afternoon session. The symposium was very well received and attended, again showing how important this area is across the TSANZ membership. Speakers in the symposium included Dr Lynn Reinke from Washington University, who presented on *Advance Care Planning – what is stopping us?*, Ben White from QU spoke on *Medical treatment and planning – the legal considerations*, and our own Jennifer Philip spoke on *Preparing for the Voluntary Assisted Dying Act in Victoria*. SSPC SIG orals were also run on the Sunday of the ASM in conjunction with Primary Care and Tobacco SIGs – again well received and fantastic work being done.

We led and have had accepted a symposium for the 2020 ASM, *Advanced Lung cancer – current approaches in management and support*, which is being run in conjunction with the Respiratory Nurses and Lung Cancer SIGs. Speakers will include: patient advocate, Dr Venessa Chin from the Garvan Institute; Mary Duffy, a Clinical Nurse Consultant from Peter MacCullum; and Prof Peter Martin, Prof of Clinical Communication and End of Life at Deakin University.

There has been a great response with abstracts submitted to the SSPC SIG for the 2020 ASM illustrating the excellent work that is being done within this area. These are currently being collated and arranged into oral sessions in preparation for the ASM in March in Melbourne. We look forward to another excellent year in the SSPC SIG.
Activities and Highlights in 2019:

The Tobacco & Related Substances SIG had a great year, starting with the Gold Coast ASM. We had standing room only for our Symposium Tobacco endgame – trusted tactics and new players with four thought-provoking talks discussing Australian and New Zealand tobacco end game perspectives (Matthew Peters, NSW, and Richard Edwards, NZ), newer strategies for indigenous populations and patients with mental health illness (Billie Bonevski, NSW) and the TSANZ Position Paper on E-cigarettes (Christine McDonald, VIC). The position paper received some excellent feedback and is very close to publication. TSANZ's conservative stance seems vindicated by worrying reports from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on vaping-associated pulmonary illness (VAPI) causing severe lung injury amongst vapers in the USA (over 2000 VAPI cases and 47 deaths to date). An update on e-cigarettes in the age of VAPI and the Philip Morris Foundation for a Smoke-Free World (Emily Stone, NSW) was also the subject of one of two tobacco themed TSANZ webinars this year, the other being an update on How respiratory specialists can best assist smoking patients to quit (Renee Bittoun, NSW).

Once again, we combined with the Primary Care and Palliative Care SIGs for our oral and poster sessions. The presentations were excellent and followed by very stimulating discussions. We congratulate Henry Gomez for best oral presentation.

Other news items highlighted by the Tobacco & Related Substances SIG to the wider TSANZ community included a warning about funding support from the Foundation for a Smoke-Free World, an organisation set up and supported by Philip Morris International, one of the world's largest tobacco companies. Our SIG circulated two important opportunities for members to comment on Federal policy, firstly the Thematic Review of Tobacco Control Legislation, covering tobacco advertising and plain packaging legislation, to which the TSANZ and the Lung Foundation Australia made a joint submission, and secondly, an opportunity to comment on the draft Terms of Reference for the upcoming Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme Public consultation on the post-market review of medicines for smoking cessation.

2020 promises to be busy for tobacco control with public consultation on the draft National Preventive Health Strategy expected in the first half of the year and release of the updated version of The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners’ Supporting smoking cessation: a guide for health professionals.

Thank you to the SIG members who attended the 2019 AGM and provided great ideas and feedback for future activities. I would like to sincerely thank Johnson George, VIC, who stepped down as SIG Convenor at the close of the 2019 ASM, and welcome Pawan Sharma, NSW, as the new Deputy Convenor. We look forward to the 2020 ASM in Melbourne where we have joined forces with the CIMBL SIG for a symposium on e-cigarettes and a dedicated tobacco control plenary session with some exciting speakers – details to be announced nearer the time!
General Membership Statistics

Gender

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Total Members

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Partner Organisation Memberships

- **European Respiratory Society (ERS):** 642
- **Lung Foundation Australia (LFA):** 181
- **World Association of Bronchology & Interventional Pulmonology (WABIP):** 159
## New Members 2019

Total 211 new members

### Ordinary
- Adrian Abdo, SA/NT
- Alexandra Brown, NSW/ACT
- Alyssa Arnold, NSW/ACT
- Amal Osman, SA/NT
- Amelia Parker, NSW/ACT
- Andrew Deane, QLD
- Annalicia Vaughan, QLD
- Bandana Saini, NSW/ACT
- Barbara Hannon, VIC
- Brendan Dougherty, SA/NT
- Brigitte Borg, VIC
- Bronwyn Brew Haasdyk, NSW/ACT
- Claire Shackleton, QLD
- David Kilner, QLD
- Dennis Thomas, NSW/ACT
- Garrick Don, NSW/ACT
- Girish Patel, NSW/ACT
- Huang Lee, QLD
- Joel Ma, NSW/ACT
- Juliette Delhove, SA/NT
- Keith Adam, QLD
- Kiara Scip, QLD
- Laurence Ruane, VIC
- Louis Kirton, NZ
- Mai Altous, VIC
- Maliheh Ghadir, NSW/ACT
- Manita Singh, NSW/ACT
- Maria Davies, NSW/ACT
- Matthew Morten, NSW/ACT
- Matthew Parker, NSW/ACT
- Nader Fayazi, VIC
- Nathan Rout-Pitt, SA/NT
- Neil Archer, QLD
- Nicole Sheers, VIC
- Paris Papagianis, VIC
- Patricia Agudelo Romero, WA
- Penelope Dalla, NSW/ACT
- Peter Marantos, NSW/ACT
- Richard Budd, SA/NT
- Sally Powell, NZ
- Sarah Buckley, NSW/ACT
- Shafagh Waters, NSW/ACT
- Sheikh Alif, VIC
- Simone De Luca, VIC
- Tanya Badal, NSW/ACT
- Veenu Mubarak, QLD
- Wenyining Lu, TAS
- Dilm Jayasimhan, NZ
- Dima Hamed, NSW/ACT
- Donna Mason, QLD
- Edward Lee, WA
- Emily Kemp, NSW/ACT
- Fariha Alam, QLD
- Felicia Ton, NSW/ACT
- Grace Pettigrew, WA
- Hervey Lau, QLD
- Hollie Ellis, NZ
- Imran Haque, NSW/ACT
- Jack Callum, QLD
- Jane Neill, QLD
- Jayne Roberts, VIC
- Jenny Lam, WA
- Jenny Sharpe, QLD
- Jin Lin Tan, SA/NT
- Joanna Huang, VIC
- Johnny Siu, NSW/ACT
- Joshua Sansom, VIC
- Julie Depiazzi, WA
- Julien Robinson, VIC
- Kang Lim, NSW/ACT
- Karrinda Kenny, NSW/ACT
- Kate Gonski, NSW/ACT
- Kate Thornton, NSW/ACT
- Katherine Lavrencic, SA/NT
- Keshav Raj Paudel, NSW/ACT
- Kim Cameron, VIC
- Kirsten Bennett, WA
- Lara Edbrooke, VIC
- Lenore Irvine, QLD
- Liam Dwyer, NSW/ACT
- Libby Nixon, QLD
- Lili Tang, QLD
- Lisa Franks, QLD
- Marg Gordon, VIC
- Mark Roll, QLD

### Associate
- Adeline Lim, QLD
- Adrienne Mackenzie, SA/NT
- Alan Shaw, NZ
- Alexander Brennan, NSW/ACT
- Alexandra Dollman, NSW/ACT
- Alon Barns, QLD
- Andrew Cepak, NSW/ACT
- Anurag Arora, NSW/ACT
- Ashleigh Cruickshank, QLD
- Ashley Fraser, NZ
- Ayan Sabih, NZ
- Benjamin Diggins, NZ
- Ben Nguyen, NSW/ACT
- Bree-Anne Gadsby, QLD
- Celine Goffinet, QLD
- Ceri Banks, VIC
- Chantal Grimwood, VIC
- Christina Naidoo, NSW/ACT
- Christopher Le, SA/NT
- Christopher Lim, VIC
- Christopher Lyne, VIC
- Crystal Bourke, WA
- Daniel Niewodowski, VIC
- David Ching, WA
- Dianna Luong, QLD
Matthew Barr, NSW/ACT
Matthew Gibney, VIC
Matthew Ing, NSW/ACT
Matthew Wong, QLD
Maye Hamed, NZ
Megan Frohlich, NSW/ACT
Melanie Harris, QLD
Melinda Bree, QLD
Michael Plunkett, NZ
Michael Sawyer, QLD
Moayed Alawami, QLD
Mohammed Al Harrasi, VIC
Moira Haycock, NZ
Mudar Zand Irani, NSW/ACT
Na Young Kim, NSW/ACT
Nadia Hawker, QLD
Natale Snape, QLD
Nikkola Sergeant, QLD
Norris Si Hao Lan, WA
Paul Meatcher, NSW/ACT
Pei-Ying (Emily) Chiang, VIC
Phoebe Brownell, WA
Prarthana Abeyweera, WA
Rebecca Dingle, SA/NT
Ridzuan Mohsin, VIC
Ron Cheah, VIC
Saad Alshareef, VIC
Samantha Ennis, NSW/ACT
Samuel Moore, QLD
Samuel Wells, NSW/ACT
Shakti Dabhokar, NSW/ACT
Shaun Kang, QLD
Steven James Lindstrom, VIC
Tania Clifton-Smith, NZ
Tiffany Hoang, QLD
Toby Fothergill, VIC
Victor Duong, VIC
Vikram Palit, VIC
Wendy Fergusson, NZ
Yashneel Prasad, NSW/ACT
Yong Sul Kim, NSW/ACT

**Student**
Archana Gaikwad, TAS
Atqiya Aishah, NSW/ACT
Ayaho Yamamoto, QLD
Christina Seow, NSW/ACT
Claudia Sim, VIC
Dythea McLaren, QLD
Eleanor Majellano, NSW/ACT
Elisio Pereira Neto, SA/NT
Elizabeth Azzi, NSW/ACT
Emily Sneath, QLD
Francesca Sanna, WA
Isabelle McKay, NSW/ACT
James Ramsahai, NSW/ACT
Julia Chitty, VIC
Kantha Swaroop Vanka, NSW/ACT
Laith Harb, WA
Lakshanie Wickramasinghe, VIC
Lan Wei, NSW/ACT
Lee Liao, NSW/ACT
Lin Tong, NSW/ACT
Matthew Rahimi, SA/NT
Menolly Lee, NSW/ACT
Michelle Schwager, WA
Michelle Stubbs, NSW/ACT
Mohamed Saad, VIC
Mohammed Morshed, QLD
Naomi Chapman, WA
Natalie Niessen, NSW/ACT
Natasha Sluiter, NSW/ACT
Nia Luxton, NSW/ACT
Pamela Laird, WA
Prem Bhagat Bhoey, NSW/ACT
Rebecca Vanders, NSW/ACT

Rebecca Watkinson, WA
Renee Ng, WA
Riva Shirol, NSW/ACT
Rosie McClure, WA
Rubi Ni Chin, WA
Saima Firdous Rehman, NSW/ACT
Sarah Fairweather, NZ
Teresa Williams, NSW/ACT
Tharushi De Silva, QLD
Thomas Bradbury, NSW/ACT
Tricia Chiu, NSW/ACT
Vinod Kumar, NSW/ACT
WeiYi Mao, VIC
Xian (Tony) Zhang, NZ
Xiaofan Tu, NSW/ACT
Xinye Chen, VIC
Yiming Wang, SA/NT
Yulia Bogdanova, NSW/ACT

**Corporate**
Meherin Rahman, QLD
Omar Hassanzai, NSW/ACT
Simone Elvidge, NSW/ACT

**Overseas**
Dhammika Leshan Wannigama
Eun-Kee Park
Himanshu Garg
Lutz Wollin
Majd Mouded
Robert Cohen
Fellows of the TSANZ (2013-2019)

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

Fellows of the TSANZ (FThorSoc)  
2019  
Anne Holland  
Denise O’Driscoll  
Jane Bourke  
Jeff Garrett  
Paul Foster  
Peter Eastwood  
Sandra Hodge
ANN WOOLCOCK NEW INVESTIGATOR AWARD

The Anne 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: Jesse Armitage
Institution: University of Western Australia
“TRANSCRIPTOMIC ANALYSIS OF PERIPHERAL BLOOD MONONUCLEAR CELLS FROM STABLE COPD PATIENTS REVEALS IMPORTANT IMMUNOMODULATORY CHANGES IN RESPONSE TO MESENCHYMAL STROMAL CELL INFUSION”

As the recipient of the 2019 Ann Woolcock New Investigator Award, it has been a privilege to present my work to respiratory researchers both nationally during the TSANZ annual meeting, and internationally at this year’s APSR congress in Vietnam. Thank you to the TSANZ for facilitating this award and your continued partnership with APSR that has helped me connect with the international respiratory research community. My research focuses on developing novel stem cell-based modalities for the treatment of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). By harnessing the anti-inflammatory effects of mesenchymal stromal cells (MSC), I have demonstrated that MSC therapy may be a useful immunomodulator that can target critical immunopathogenic mechanisms that drive the progression of COPD. These findings suggest that MSC-based therapy may be a useful alternative for patients that continue to respond poorly to modern medications.

5 FINALISTS:

Vikas Goyal
“EFFICACY OF ORAL ANTIBIOTICS FOR NON-SEVERE EXACERBATIONS OF BRONCHIECTASIS IN CHILDREN”

Alicia Mitchell
“DETERMINING THE IMPACT OF RESPIRATORY VIRUSES ON AT RISK PATIENT POPULATIONS”

Steven Taylor
“The IMPACT OF AZITHROMYCIN THERAPY ON THE LUNG MICROBIOTA AND RESISTOME IN THE AMAZES TRIAL COHORT”

Jamie Wood
“A SMARTPHONE APPLICATION FOR REPORTING SYMPTOMS IN ADULTS WITH CYSTIC FIBROSIS IMPROVES THE DETECTION OF RESPIRATORY EXACERBATIONS”

Sabine Zimmerman
“TEMPORAL VARIABILITY OF FORCED OSCILLATION MECHANICS FROM HOME TELEMONITORING IS RELATED TO SYMPTOMS AND QUALITY OF LIFE AND CHANGES BEFORE ACUTE EXACERBATIONS IN COPD”
**TSANZ/NATIONAL ASTHMA COUNCIL 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:** Kimberley Wang  
**Institution:** University of Western Australia  
**“THE EFFECT OF INTRAUTERINE GROWTH RESTRICTION ON ALLERGY-INDUCED AIRWAY HYPERRESPONSIVENESS”**

Global epidemiological studies have repeatedly shown that intrauterine growth restriction (IUGR) or low birth weight individuals have hyper-reactive airways with increased risk of asthma during childhood and adulthood. My research program has focused on identifying structural and functional changes to the airway wall due to disrupted development in utero and how these may contribute to increased risk of asthma development. In view that allergy which remains the strongest risk factor for asthma, the TSANZ and National Asthma Council Australia Asthma and Airways Fellowship allows me to conduct a study to investigate the separate and combined effect of IUGR and allergy on airway responsiveness. The significance of this research relates to the manner in which disease is treated. Separating inflammatory and non-inflammatory causes of airway disease will direct physician recommendation to those specific targets ie, anti-inflammatorities or approaches that are directed at tissue structure, best exemplified by bronchothermoplasty, although pharmacological approaches are now feasible. Research is currently ongoing.

**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:** Tatt Jhong Haw  
**Institution:** The University of Newcastle & Hunter Medical Research Institute  
**“TO EVALUATE THE THERAPEUTIC EFFECTS OF METFORMIN/2DG TREATMENTS IN EXPERIMENTAL COPD”**

COPD is a debilitating lung disease that imposes a significant burden on healthcare and economy. Patients with COPD experience a progressive decline in their condition with worsening inflammation, emphysema, and breathlessness. There are no effective treatments for COPD. Thus, there is an urgent need for the development of effective therapies for COPD. Recent studies implicated premature acceleration of lung aging (senescence) may play a role in COPD. However, the mechanisms of lung senescence in driving the induction and progression of COPD remains poorly understood.

The Boehringer Ingelheim COPD Research Award provided us the opportunity to investigate the role of lung senescence in COPD by performing integrated and complementary studies using our unique established mouse model of experimental COPD in vivo and primary human cells ex vivo. The aims of this research are to 1) characterise senescence and evaluate the therapeutic potential of senescence-targeting treatments (metformin and 2DG) in an established experimental model of COPD in mice; 2) identify the types of cells that are senescent for future therapeutic targeting studies; and 3) validate experimental findings in relevant primary human cells ex vivo. This study will therefore determine how senescence drives COPD and identify senescent cells. This will provide new insights into the mechanisms involved in disease development. Importantly, we will identify new avenues for therapy and assess the therapeutic potential of senescence-targeting metformin/2DG treatments for this currently untreatable disease.
MAURICE BLACKBURN GRANT-IN-AID 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.

**Recipients:** Jane Bourke and Ryan Hoy  
**Institution:** Monash University  
“TARGETING FIBROSIS WITH RELAXIN – A NEW THERAPEUTIC STRATEGY FOR SILICOSIS”

Silica dust has recently emerged as the “new asbestos” in Australia, with occupational exposures in the dry cutting of engineered stone leading to lung inflammation and fibrosis. There are no effective therapies available to limit silica-induced symptoms or to halt the progressive loss of lung function due to silicosis. This pilot grant was awarded to examine the therapeutic potential of Serelaxin, a recombinant human form of the hormone relaxin, to determine if its established anti-fibrotic effects in numerous experimental models of lung disease extend to silicosis. Data from these cell-based studies will comprehensively define the capacity of relaxin relative to existing therapy to limit key pathophysiological changes relevant to silicosis and form the basis of an NHMRC Ideas grant application.

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:** Gabrielle McCallum  
**Institution:** Menzies School of Health Research  
“IMPROVING BRONCHIECTASIS EDUCATION FOR INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS THROUGH A MULTI-LINGUAL CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE MOBILE APPLICATION”

This funding has greatly assisted in the development of a culture-specific multi-lingual mobile app for Indigenous children with bronchiectasis. While this has taken longer than we originally anticipated, we have been working closely with an experienced app developer in Darwin to design, develop and test features of the app prior to commencing the evaluation. We have also been working simultaneously with the Aboriginal Interpreter Service in Darwin to rescript the bronchiectasis storyboard with culturally-appropriate terminology for voice recordings in seven main language groups across the Northern Territory. Forward and back translation of the voice recordings is currently underway to ensure accuracy prior to embedding the audio in the app. We anticipate the app will be finalised soon with evaluation to commence with Indigenous families shortly thereafter.

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:** Elena Schneider-Futschik  
**Institution:** University of Melbourne  
“How the Cystic Fibrosis Modulator Drugs IVACAFTOR AND LUMACAFTOR (ORKAMBI) MOVE (PHARMACOKINETICS) AND WORK (PHARMACODYNAMICS) IN THE HUMAN BODY”

My research directly addresses cystic fibrosis which is the most common, genetically acquired, life-shortening chronic illness affecting young Australians today. The Peter Phelan Research Award has provided me with a fantastic opportunity to move my study on the pharmacokinetics of cystic fibrosis modulators forward (with a manuscript currently in preparation). Furthermore, I was able to give a mini-talk about my research at the European Conference Cystic Fibrosis 2019 in Liverpool and bring back additional inspiration and new collaborations to help patients that suffer from cystic fibrosis.
TSANZ/BOSTON SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AWARD FOR INTERNATIONAL PULMONOLOGY

This award is given to build capacity and foster the development of research in the area of Interventional Pulmonology through the sport of pilot studies, proof of concept and feasibility studies.

Recipient: Sanjeevan Muruganandan
Institution: University of Western Australia

“PLEURAL EFFUSION AND SYMPTOM EVALUATION (PLEASE) – 2 STUDY: ULTRASOUND TO QUANTIFY DIAPHRAGM FUNCTION IN PATIENTS WITH PLEURAL EFFUSION”

Pleural effusion affects about 60,000 Australians annually. Breathlessness is the most common symptom; it is often distressing, initiates frequent interventions and hospitalisation, and reduces quality-of-life (QoL). Drainage to evacuate pleural fluid is often performed to relieve breathlessness. It has long been recognised that only some, not all, patients have symptom benefit from pleural drainage. This unnecessarily places the patient at risk of complications, which further impacts their QoL. A reliable method of identifying the patients likely to improve from pleural drainage will help reduce unnecessary hospital admissions, potentially risky pleural procedures and their associated morbidity/mortality risks, and healthcare costs.

The Pleural Effusion and Symptom Evaluation (PLEASE) - 2 study: Ultrasound to quantify diaphragm function in patients with pleural effusion, aims to assess diaphragm function using ultrasound pre- and post-drainage of pleural effusion and to correlate measurements to clinically important outcomes (breathlessness and functional capacity). This study will be the most comprehensive study to quantify the role of the diaphragm in pleural effusion related breathlessness. Our data will provide an algorithm incorporating clinical, radiological and physiological parameters to best predict the likelihood of symptomatic benefits from pleural fluid drainage. The ability to select only patients who will have symptomatic relief from pleural fluid drainage will reduce unnecessary drainages, patient morbidity and healthcare costs. This will represent a significant advance in clinical care.

Collaborative Research Awards

TSANZ/LFA/CSL BEHRING RESEARCH AWARD FOR ALPHA-1 ANTI-TRYPSIN DEFICIENCY

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: Gang Liu
Institution: University of Technology Sydney (UTS) and Centenary Institute

“TARGETING LONG NON-CODING RNAs AS A NOVEL THERAPY FOR ALPHA-1 ANTI-TRYPSIN DEFICIENCY”

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), also known as emphysema, is currently the third leading cause of illness and death in the world. A group of proteins called proteases in the lungs are important for normal function because they clear debris, infections and damaged tissues. The activity of these proteases is controlled by an anti-protease which is called alpha-1 anti-trypsin (A1AT). There is a substantial group of patients that are pre-disposed to COPD because they have a genetic deficiency in A1AT and who develop early onset emphysema. Long non-coding RNA (LncRNAs) bind to genes and stop them from being converted into proteins. In this study, we will develop inhibitors of LncRNAs that induce the expression of the A1AT gene.

During the initial period of the grant, we have mainly focused on samples collection and primary epithelial cell isolation from patients with A1AT deficiency and healthy controls. We have already designed three LncRNAs to activate A1AT gene expression and will validate their functions using human epithelial cell line. This will be used for human primary cells later. We now have a research assistant from the Centre for Inflammation in UTS and Centenary Institute to help complete the planned experiments in 2020.
Travel Awards

JAPANESE RESPIRATORY SOCIETY EARLY CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARD

**Recipient:** Jemma Savaglia (nee Seyfang)
**Institution:** University of Adelaide

"PULMONARY ARTERIAL HYPERTENSION PATIENT AND CONTROL OUTGROWTH ENDOTHELIAL CELL EXOSOMES CAUSE DIFFERENT PROTEIN CHANGES TO SMOOTH MUSCLE CELLS IN VITRO"

The JRS conference will be taking place in April 2020, Tokyo. This Early Career Development Award is an exciting opportunity for me to extend my collaborations and discuss my research on an international level. The research I will be presenting is following on from the TSANZ conference 2019, where I discussed the differences in exosome protein profiles from outgrowth endothelial cells from Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension (PAH) patients compared to healthy controls. Now we have discovered that using exosomes from PAH patients and controls as treatments on smooth muscle cells causes differential changes in protein expression of the smooth muscle cells, furthering the feasibility of using an exosome treatment to correct smooth muscle cell function in PAH patients.

TSANZ INDIGENOUS RESPIRATORY NURSING AWARD

**Recipient:** Christine Sullivan
**Institution:** New South Wales Health

Thank you for the TSANZ scholarship support provided under the Indigenous Respiratory Nursing Award for attending the TSANZ 2019 Gold coast conference in April this year.

The content of the conference was inspiring and will continue to support my nursing practice in minimising and/or eliminating the risk for respiratory disease affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the rural remote community where I most recently worked in Bega Valley, NSW.

To have promised support of paid conference fees along with accommodation and/or airfares enabled me to attend the beautiful Gold Coast conference location. The highlights were realising that the lung is not a sterile environment, along with superb bronchiectasis presentations interspersed with new understandings for the impact of infections and microbiomes influencing respiratory disease; the impact of antibiotic use and recognising the changes towards exacerbation with a watch this space for “FOT is HOT”; and of course the nicotine presentations and Tobacco SIG meeting was of great educational benefit.

I am now taking this wealth of new learnings back into the workplace and beyond to promote indigenous health and wish to once again extend a heartfelt thank you for encouraging improved health in our most vulnerable populations. I have been able to use this wealth of knowledge gained from the TSANZ conference to commence a new career where I can approve, at a Regional Manager level, the much needed services and support of care improving lung health and roll out initiatives under the National Strategic Action Plan. The many benefits of sponsors attending the conference and networking with peers.

TSANZ INDIGENOUS RESPIRATORY NURSING AWARD

**Recipient:** Betty Poot
**Institution:** Hutt Hospital

The TSANZ Indigenous Respiratory Nursing Award enabled me to attend the TSANZ conference, including the Respiratory Nurses SIG symposium. Attending this meeting has given me the opportunity to access the most up to date clinical and research advances in respiratory disease and network with colleagues working throughout New Zealand and Australia. These connections made through the TSANZ conference will enable collaboration and opportunities for future research.
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: Vikas Goyal
Institution: Queensland Children’s Hospital
“EFFICACY OF ORAL ANTIBIOTICS FOR NON-SEVERE EXACERBATIONS OF BRONCHIECTASIS IN CHILDREN: A MULTI-CENTRE, DOUBLE-BLIND, DOUBLE-DUMMY, RANDOMISED PLACEBO-CONTROLLED TRIAL”

I would like to thank the TSANZ for the Janet Elder International Travel Award. I used this award to present my paper in the European Respiratory Society Congress in Madrid in October. I presented the findings of our RCT to the ERS in a special session for RCTs. The session was aptly called Abstracts leading to evolution in Respiratory Medicine trials: Intensive care and infection. I also took this opportunity at the ERS to meet other researchers in paediatric respiratory medicine, especially with a research interest in paediatric cough and bronchiectasis. My presentation on Efficacy of oral amoxicillin-clavulanate or azithromycin for non-severe respiratory exacerbations in children with bronchiectasis (BEST-1): a multicentre, three-arm, double-blind, randomised placebo-controlled trial was well received.

The results of this multi-centre, double-blind, double-dummy trial showed that antibiotics are indeed superior to placebo at achieving symptom resolution by day 14 when treating non-severe exacerbations in children. Amoxicillin-clavulanate was significantly superior to placebo while azithromycin though superior, had a p value outside our a priori defined value. The study was part of my PhD and has been well received worldwide. This study will likely be incorporated in national and international guidelines. Thanks again for this generous international travel grant. It is motivating for clinician-researchers like myself to pursue our research goals.

Recipient for Early Career Researcher: Yet Hong Khor
Institution: Austin Health
“A PILOT RANDOMISED CONTROLLED TRIAL OF AMBULATORY OXYGEN VERSUS AIR VIA PORTABLE CONCENTRATOR IN FIBROTIC INTERSTITIAL LUNG DISEASE”

It is my great honour to receive the Janet Elder International Travel Award, giving me the opportunity to present my research at the 2019 American Thoracic Society International Conference. I presented my study, A Pilot Randomised Controlled Trial of Ambulatory Oxygen versus Air via Portable Concentrator in Fibrotic Interstitial Lung Disease. During the conference, I had the opportunity to meet and engage with international leaders in my field. I have subsequently established an international collaborative network with researchers from Canada, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the USA to study the epidemiology of hypoxaemia in interstitial lung disease. I would like to thank the Janet Elder International Travel Award and the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand for this valuable opportunity.

Recipient for Mid-Career Researcher: Kimberley Wang
University of Western Australia
“THICKENING OF THE AIRWAY SMOOTH MUSCLE LAYER FROM LATE GESTATION TO CHILDHOOD IS FACILITATED BY INCREASED MEAN CELL VOLUME”

The Janet Elder International Travel Award will allow me to attend the American Thoracic Society (ATS) 2020 International Conference to be held in Philadelphia, USA in May 2020. I have submitted an abstract titled In low birth infants, the airway smooth muscle layer comprises an increased number of smaller cells and proportionally greater extracellular matrix. We found that in low birth weight infants, the airway smooth muscle layer is abnormal, characterised by an increased number of smaller ASM cells and proportionally greater extracellular matrix. We propose that such structural abnormalities contribute to functional impairment observed in later life.

Besides presenting my data, I am a program committee member of the ATS Assembly of Respiratory Structure and Function. Therefore during the conference, I will also be attending the assembly’s meeting where we meet to review the assembly’s program for this year, and to discuss the assembly’s program for the following year.
BOEHRINGER INGELHEIM COPD AUSTRALIA TRAVEL GRANTS

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: Alen Faiz
Institution: University of Technology
"UNDERSTANDING CORTICOSTEROID BIOLOGY USING TRANSCRIPTIONAL PROFILING OF BRONCHIAL BIOPSIES AND CRISPR-CAS9 KO MODELS"

The TSANZ Boehringer Ingelheim COPD Australia Travel Grant provided me with the opportunity to travel to the 2019 European Respiratory Society conference in Madrid, Spain and present my work focusing on the Longitudinal effects of smoking cessation on DNA methylation in bronchial biopsies of COPD and asymptomatic smokers. My work was of particular interest as many other methylation studies have focused on cross-sectional cohorts in whole blood. Having recently returned to Australia from an international Postdoctoral in Europe, I was also able to meet with colleagues from my previous institute and set up/reinforce further collaborations, which will continue with my new position in Australia. Finally, I had the chance to go to the Human Cell Atlas Symposium focusing on single cell sequencing, a technique that I am currently developing for my research into the pathogenesis of COPD and response to corticosteroids.

BOEHRINGER INGELHEIM COPD NEW ZEALAND TRAVEL GRANT

Recipient: Eskandarain Shafuddin
Institution: Waikato Hospital
"CARDIAC FUNCTION DURING COPD EXACERBATIONS ASSESSED BY CARDIAC MRI"

The TSANZ Boehringer Ingelheim COPD New Zealand Travel Grant allowed me to present to the ERS congress audience the findings of two of my studies looking at acute cardiac dysfunction occurring during exacerbations of COPD: Cardiac function during COPD exacerbation assessed by cardiac MRI, which is a novel study of using advanced cardiac imaging in the setting of COPD exacerbations; and Cardiac biomarkers and outcomes of COPD exacerbations which looked at one year mortality and re-admission for COPD and cardiac diseases according to cardiac biomarker status. These studies gained attention as there is an increasing awareness of acute cardiac complications during exacerbations but there is lack of treatment available. Hopefully my research will promote global research into the treatment of cardiac dysfunction in COPD. Attending the congress also allowed me to improve my knowledge in respiratory medicine and network with future research collaborators.
2019 Awards awarded after the ASM

TSANZ/ASTRAZENECA RESPIRATORY RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

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

Recipient of Early-Career Researcher: Steven Taylor
Institution: South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute
“TOWARDS PRECISION TREATMENT OF SEVERE ASTHMA: DEFINING THE IMPACT OF AIRWAY-MICROBIOME INTERACTIONS”

Asthma is now recognised as a heterogenous disease made up of multiple subtypes. Tailoring treatment based on specific subtypes is essential to better manage the disease. My research investigates individuals whose asthma symptoms remain uncontrolled despite receiving maintenance treatment such as inhaled corticosteroids and long-acting bronchodilators. I have shown that these patients have a complex lower airway bacterial community (microbiota), which differs depending on the type of airway inflammation patients exhibit. Specific bacterial communities can contribute to airway inflammation, asthma attacks, and corticosteroid responsiveness. I will investigate the interactions between the respiratory microbiota and host inflammation using patient samples. This research will provide new knowledge around the underlying mechanisms that manifest in uncontrolled asthma. This has applications for predicting uncontrolled asthma, identifying ways to improve existing maintenance therapy effectiveness, and informing the efficacy of alternative therapies, such as biologics and azithromycin.

Recipient of Mid-Career Researcher: Hayley Scott
Institution: The University of Newcastle
“UNDERSTANDING FEMALE SEX HORMONES IN ASTHMA”

Evidence suggests that asthma control is worse in females during the late luteal phase of the menstrual cycle, suggesting hormonal fluctuations impact asthma. My research has shown that oral contraceptive pill (OCP) use is associated with better asthma control, less inhaled corticosteroid use and lower levels of sputum neutrophils.

During the tenure of this fellowship, I will characterise the impact of menstrual cycle stage, OCP use and sex hormone levels on asthma control, lung function and airway inflammation. Pre-menopausal women (using vs not using the OCP) will be assessed for each of these outcomes at various points of their menstrual cycle, including the late luteal phase when asthma appears to worsen. This study will provide the first comprehensive characterisation of female sex hormones and OCP use in female asthma throughout the menstrual cycle, and may help to identify hormone-based strategies that assist with managing asthma in pre-menopausal females.

TSANZ / VERTEX CYSTIC FIBROSIS AWARDS

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 of Adult award: Sandra Hodge
Institution: The University of Adelaide
“PULMONARY HYPERTENSION AND ITS THERAPEUTIC TARGETING IN CYSTIC FIBROSIS (CF)”

Pulmonary hypertension is becoming increasingly common in CF patients as greater numbers of individuals survive into adulthood. It has also been shown to be an indicator of poor prognosis and progression of the lung disease. Alveolar hypoxia is thought to be the main cause; however, the mechanisms underlying endothelial dysfunction and how this pathology becomes promoted in these patients are incompletely understood.

Based on our investigations in cardiovascular disease and COPD, the primary purpose of this collaborative study is to characterise the vascular zinc (Zn) signalling pathway, its link to nitric oxide (NO) and endothelin (ET) (both important regulatory molecules for vascular function), and their disruption in CF. We will use primary cells from sputum and blood, explanted lungs from patients with severe disease undergoing lung transplantation, and established CF rat models to provide new mechanistic insights into CF and to identify new therapeutic targets.

Recipient of Paediatric award: Shafagh Waters
Institution: The University of New South Wales
“AN NOVEL COMPOUND FOR CYSTIC FIBROSIS THERAPY, TARGETING PROTEOSTASIS NETWORK”

In this study we continue evaluating our candidate proteostasis compound, γ-glutamylcysteine (GGC), a natural supplement that results in increased intracellular glutathione levels and lowering oxidative stress. Our preliminary assessment of GGC in vitro – in airway 3D cell models and gut organoids of CF patients – suggests that GGC has potential as both a prophylactic and therapeutic treatment against lipopolysaccharide (LPS), one of Pseudomonas aeruginosa major virulence factors. The combination of GGC with currently available CFTR modulators had an amplifying effect. This suggests that co-therapy may permit enhanced CFTR activity and its co-administration, could result in better clinical outcome.

We hope to identify a potential novel therapy for CF that could not only mitigate the incidence and severity of the symptoms suffered by CF patients during Pseudomonas aeruginosa infection but also enhance CFTR activity.
Special Interest Group Awards

- Asthma & Allergy (Supported by Asthma Australia): **Teresa Williams**
- Asthma & Allergy (Supported by National Asthma Council): **Cherry Thompson**
- Cell, Immunology and Molecular Biology (Supported by TSANZ): **Dhammika Leshan**
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (Supported by Boehringer Ingelheim): **Sonia Cheng**
- Cystic Fibrosis (Cystic Fibrosis Australia): **Elena Schneider-Futschik**
- David Serisier Memorial Award for Translational Research in Bronchiectasis (supported by Lung Foundation Australia): **Su Wei Khung**
- Evidence-based Medicine and Practice (supported by TSANZ): **Yet Hong Khor**
- Interventional Pulmonology and Bronchoscopy (supported by Carroll & O’Dea): **Deirdre Fitzgerald**
- Lung Cancer (Supported by Maurice Blackburn): **Lara Edbrooke**
- Occupational & Environmental Lung Disease/Population Health (Supported by Maurice Blackburn): **Edward Harris**
- Orphan Lung Diseases, Lung Transplant, Interstitial Lung Disease and Pulmonary Vascular Disease (Supported by Boehringer Ingelheim): **Jemma Seyfang**
- Palliative Care and Symptom Support (Supported by Maurice Blackburn): **Thomas Moran**
- Peter van Asperen Paediatric (Supported by TSANZ): **Kiara Sclip**
- Physiotherapy (Supported by TSANZ): **Jamie Wood**
- Primary Care (Supported by Boehringer Ingelheim): **Mary Roberts**
- Pulmonary Physiology and Sleep, John Reid Prize (supported by Lung Foundation Australia): **Graeme Zosky**
- Respiratory Infectious Disease (Supported by TSANZ): **Benjamin Diggins**
- Respiratory Nurses (Supported by Boehringer Ingelheim): **Jane Neil**
- Tobacco (Supported by TSANZ): **Henry Gomez**
- TSANZ Best Poster (Supported by Boehringer Ingelheim): **Kris Nilsen: A new tool to monitor disease in IPF**

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

For more information, visit our website: https://www.thoracic.org.au/about-us/leave-a-bequest
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: Aspire 2025**

ASPIRE 2025 was launched in 2011 as a partnership between the leading tobacco control research groups in New Zealand to assist in the New Zealand Government’s goal of a tobacco-free Aotearoa by 2025. The membership of ASPIRE 2025 currently includes: University of Otago Wellington and Dunedin (Marketing and Cancer Society Social and Behavioural Research Unit), Massey University (Research Centre for Maori Health and Development), and Whakauae Research for Maori Health and Development. Co-Directors: Richard Edwards, Janet Hoek, and Andrew Waa. The important collaboration of major tobacco-control researchers and health service groups has allowed ASPIRE 2025 to focus their areas of research on issues including smoking cessation support, policy and regulatory research, smoking among young people, smoke free communications, Maori health and tobacco use, Pasifika tobacco use, and research capacity development. Their focus on the main aspects of tobacco control activity is developed through a translational approach to directly contribute their work to reductions in smoking prevalence, ensuring that their findings from clinical trials are effectively linked to end-users. Their sustained and outstanding service to tobacco control in Aotearoa is inspiring, as ASPIRE 2025 is currently strengthening existing collaborations between leading tobacco-free researchers and health service groups in New Zealand to achieve a smoke-free Aotearoa.

**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: Philip Hansbro**

Philip Hansbro is a Professor and Director of the 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 and is also an NHMRC Principal Research Fellow. Philip is a distinguished leader in his field, having published over 223 articles, with over 50% being first or senior author. His contribution to the respiratory field has been invaluable through his establishment of internationally recognised research programs in studies of asthma, COPD, infections and recently lung cancer. Most notably, his research using mouse models has identified an emerging role of infections in the pathogenesis of severe asthma which has paved the way for the development of new treatments targeting such infections in this disease. Philip 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. He is a Principal Researcher and Deputy Director of the world-renowned Priority Research Centre for Healthy Lungs at the University of Newcastle which is internationally renowned for its significant contributions in the study of the interaction of infections, immune functions and obstructive airway diseases.
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 present 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: Helen Reddel
Helen Reddel is a prominent figure in international respiratory medicine through her sustained and significant contribution in the area of respiratory disease management guidelines. Helen has been involved in numerous noteworthy research projects throughout her career that have advanced our understanding of respiratory disease, particularly asthma and COPD, as well as understanding the challenges of diagnosis and management. She has held the position of Research Leader of the Clinical Management Group at the Woolcock Institute of Medical Research for over 10 years and has been the Chair of the Science Committee of the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) since 2012. Throughout her career, Helen has been a global face for lung health, as shown through her contributions to organisations such as GINA, National Asthma Council (NAC), Asthma Australia, Lung Foundation Australia (LFA), National Prescribing Service (NPS) and the NHMRC as a Chief Investigator. She was also Chair of ATS/ERS Task Force on Standardised Assessment of Asthma Control, Severity and Exacerbations from 2004-2009. Her outstanding record of plenary and symposia presentations stretches from Australian scientific meetings to international respiratory medicine societies. Helen's substantial research portfolio has enabled the translation of her findings to achieve optimal health outcomes, while simultaneously improving lines of communication between patients and health professionals.
Since 2006, she has received 17 grants and has been awarded the likes of the Asthma Australia Research Excellence Award “in recognition of exceptional service to the asthma community”, as well as having published approximately 159 peer-reviewed publications as at 2018.
Respiratory Function Laboratory Accreditation Program

Accredited labs as at Dec 2019: 45
Active panels in 2019: 19
Labs in progress for accreditations pending in 2020: 13

Respiratory Laboratories where accreditation was granted during 2019
1. Cairns Hospital (QLD)
2. Christchurch Hospital (NZ)
3. Counties Manukau Health (NZ)
4. Dunedin Hospital (NZ)
5. Flinders Medical Centre (SA)
6. Maroondah Hospital (Branch Site of Eastern Health, VIC)
7. Mater Health Services (QLD)
8. Nepean Lung and Sleep (NSW)

Respiratory Laboratories progressing in the accreditation review cycle (as at December 2019)
1. Gosford Hospital (including Wyong Hospital Branch Site, NSW)
2. Hutt Valley (NZ)
3. Lyell McEwin Hospital (SA)
4. Monash Health (VIC)
5. Palmerston North Hospital (NZ)
6. Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (NSW)
7. Sutherland Hospital (NSW)
8. Sydney Children’s Hospital (NSW)
9. The Prince Charles Hospital (QLD)
10. The Queen Elizabeth Hospital (SA)
11. Western Health (VIC)
12. Westmead Hospital (NSW)
13. Women’s and Children’s Hospital (SA)

Volunteer Accreditation Assessors who served as Panel Chairs in 2019
Brigitte Borg
James Douglas
Leanne Gauld
Hugh Greville
Sonia Johnston
Matthew Naughton
William Noffsinger
David Schembri
Anne Marie Southcott
Jarrod Warner
Liam Welsh
John Wheatley
Kenneth Whyte
Richard Wood-Baker
Iven Young

Volunteer Accreditation Assessors who served as Panel Members in 2019
David Armstrong
Brigitte Borg
Sue Brenton
Peter Briffa
Lachlan Buddle
Keith Burgess
Annette Dent
Matthew Ellis
Greg Frazer
Hugh Greville
Faizel Hartley
Carol Huang
Craig Hukins
Mark Hurwitz
Mark Jurisevic
Paul King
Clair Lake
Pam Liakakos
John McLachlan
Christopher O’Dea
Peter Rogers
Robin Schoeffel
Hiran Selvadurai
Daniel Smith
Justin Travers
Elizabeth Veitch
Liam Welsh
John Wheatley
Ken Whyte
Brendon Yee
Theresa Yong

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 and the Spirometry Clinical Audit Program along with other quality related activities on behalf of the Society.

The key achievements for 2019 include the establishment of a partnership with the Queensland Government Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (DNRME) for the Spirometry Clinical Audit Program. This program was initiated this year to carry out clinical audits of spirometry reports from providers across Queensland. The audit program is being undertaken as part of the Coal Mine Workers’ Health Scheme in response to the 2015 re-identification of Coal Workers’ Pneumoconiosis. The LAQC has overseen the selection and recruitment of assessors that are ready to begin conducting audits in the new year.

The LAQC has also monitored the progress of the Laboratory Accreditation Program with the committee overseeing the progress of the laboratories that are currently undergoing accreditation or re-accreditation. Nepean Lung and Sleep (NSW) and Counties Manukau Health (NZ) were accredited for the first time this year and a further four laboratories are progressing towards first time accreditation. 2019 also saw a review of the Respiratory Function Laboratory Accreditation Program Manual. An updated version of the Program Manual is expected to be released in 2020.

There are plenty of exciting activities planned for 2020 – including further development and implementation of the Spirometry Clinical Audit Program, another Assessor Training Workshop to be held at the TSANZSRS ASM in Melbourne, and release of the updated Respiratory Function Laboratory Accreditation Program Manual.

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
(Early Career Representative)
The TSANZSRS Annual Scientific Meeting 2019
Gold Coast, 29 March – 2 April 2019

The TSANZSRS Annual Scientific Meeting is the premier respiratory conference in the region. The theme for the 2019 ASM was Respiratory Infections “Bugs and Beyond”, with over 90 invited international and Australasian speakers contributing to a broad program catering for the interests of all TSANZ and ANZSRS members. This highly successful meeting held on the Gold Coast attracted over 1450 attendees from 24 countries, confirming its strong international profile.

**Keynote speakers included**
- Michael Polkey, Bristol University, UK
- Sanja Stanojevic, Hospital for Sick Children, Canada
- Nicole Beydon, Hôpitaux Universitaires Est Parisien, France
- Lucas Hoffman, University of Washington, USA
- Eva Polverino, Vall D’Hebron Institutut de Recerca, Spain
- Henri Colt, University of California, USA
- Gisli Jenkins, University of Nottingham, UK
- Joyce Lee, University of Colorado, USA
- Lynn Reinke, University of Washington, USA

**Wunderly Orator**
- Professor Anne Kelso, Chief Executive Officer of the National Health and Medical Research Council

A total of 354 abstracts representing all 18 Special Interest Groups were presented including the hotly contested Late Breaking Abstracts session, highlighting the diversity of the scientific program and craft groups within our membership base.

Highlights from the ASM scientific program included plenaries and symposia addressing *Battle of the bugs – respiratory viruses vs bacteria – which is worse?*, *Advance care planning and assisted dying – changing laws and responsibilities*, as well as the highly topical *Tobacco endgame – trusted tactics and new players*. Our joint ventures with ANZSRS would not be complete without the joint plenary aptly titled *Bugs behaving badly* and the Joint Masterclass *Breathing Under Pressure*. The Respiratory Infections theme culminated with a highly entertaining *Superbugs versus Superheroes Gala Dinner* – and the Superheroes definitely won the day!
The 2019 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 Lucy Burr), The Conference Company Team, SIG Convenors, and especially Tanya Buchanan and all the staff at the TSANZ Central Office. The 2019 ASM was my last as Conference Chair during my tenure as a TSANZ Board Director. It has been an honour to serve in this role, and I am grateful to many members that supported me.

I am confident that the TSANZSRS ASM will continue to grow and go from strength to strength as I hand the mantle over to Andrew Tai. Planning for the next TSANZSRS ASM is well underway (Melbourne, March 27 – 31, 2020) with the theme of “Transformative Strategies for Improving Global Lung Health”.

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

2019 TSANZ LOC Chair:
Lucy Burr (Qld)

2020 TSANZ LOC Joint Chairs:
Jyotika Prasad (Melbourne)
Gary Anderson (Melbourne)

2019 TSANZSRS Conference Committee Chair:
Denise O’Driscoll
APCB Convenor’s Report

The Asia Pacific Congress of Bronchology was successfully held on the Gold Coast. The meeting was held with the great support of the TSANZ, including the organizational support of The Conference Company.

It was held immediately prior to the TSANZ Annual Scientific Meeting, at the time usually reserved for the Advanced Trainees training days. As such, there was excellent attendance by Thoracic Medicine Trainees. The course was held with the support of a range of medical instrument companies, who provided vital equipment for demonstrations, as well as companies involved more broadly in Thoracic Medicine.

The conference was run with a novel format which worked well in emphasizing the theme of the congress, “Case Based Training – Practice and Theory”, which focused on hands-on training in procedural Thoracic Medicine. This built on a format previously used in part by Chest International congresses. Usually hands-on courses are run as satellite symposia at meetings, however on this occasion the body of the meeting was hands-on. This provided attendees an unparalleled opportunity to learn not only the indications and drawbacks of procedures as they relate to managing Thoracic conditions but also, and most importantly, to receive hands-on training from world leaders in procedural Thoracic Medicine.

The levels of content choice for attendees have never been offered before. The novel nature of the course design was welcomed by attendees, faculty and sponsors alike. Included in the body of the session choices was a hands-on “Step by Step Bronchoscopy Training” half day course, complete with a hands-on individual feedback assessment given to all attendees.

In addition, there was a dedicated e-Poster session with over 40 posters submitted, with a poster prize awarded with funds from AstraZeneca. Also, dedicated lectures on Advanced Bronchoscopic anatomy as well as Multidisciplinary Case discussions were attended by the whole congress.

The Congress was a success only because of the hard work of a large faculty, comprising Course designers (TSANZ), Local Assistant Faculty, and International Faculty. It was also a novel design which included a range of new aspects for liaison with attendees which were well handled by The Conference Company. I hope that this kind of congress becomes a template, at least in part, for further TSANZ conferences as well as procedural conferences around the world.
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**REGISTRATIONS**

TSANZ and ANZSRS delegates by country

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**TOTAL 1454**

**INVITED SPEAKERS**

**INTERNATIONAL**

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**TOTAL 1**

**TOTAL 86**

**AUSTRALASIAN**

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**GALA DINNER**

- Gala Dinner Attendees: 354

**EXHIBITORS**

- Companies: 14
- Exhibition Personnel: 149

includes ANZSRS and TSANZ exhibitors
### APCB 2019

#### REGISTRATIONS

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**Total: 392**

#### INVITED SPEAKERS

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#### EXHIBITORS

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