



ANZBMS

ANNUAL REPORT 2024



**Australian and New Zealand
Bone and Mineral Society**

ANZBMS

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Aims & Goals

The aims and goals of the Society are to:

- act as the principal professional body for scientists and clinicians involved in research and management of patients in the field of metabolic bone disease and mineral metabolism in Australia and New Zealand;
- act as the premier forum for the presentation of research and debate about clinical and metabolic bone disease in Australia and New Zealand; and
- advance the education of clinicians, allied health professionals and the public in the nature of and management of diseases impacting upon the skeleton.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As I come to the end of my first year as President, it is with great pleasure that I share a summary of the Society's key activities, milestones, and achievements over the last twelve months.

ANZBMS has continued to strengthen its role as the leader in bone research, education, and clinical practice, reflecting our commitment to improving patient outcomes in osteoporosis and other bone and mineral disorders. We have endeavoured to support our early career investigators, our research community in general, and our clinical members.

We have undertaken a comprehensive survey of our members and are acting on these results. This report outlines some of the Society's most significant activities and developments over the last year. This is not intended to be exhaustive and reflects some of my biases. A fuller overview of our activities should come through with reading the detail of all the other committee reports.

Meetings

Our Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) remains the most anticipated event on the calendar, and this year's meeting looks fantastic, again combining with ESA and SRB. I applaud the efforts of our POC leads, Agnes Arthur and Kirtan Ganda, the Meetings Committee Chair, Michelle

They have put together a well-balanced program with cutting-edge research presentations and interactive topics ranging from bone disease pathogenesis to innovative therapeutic approaches. I am also impressed by the researcher focussed sessions that have appealed so well to members of all three societies. Our commitment to supporting the career development of our junior researchers has also been strong and is hopefully an example to our ESA and SRB colleagues.

ANZBMS has also hosted a range of other meetings over the last year. These include the Advanced Clinical Postgraduate Course which is proving an excellent update for both trainees and seasoned practitioners. In addition, the CPC has organised a series of excellent webinars covering a diverse range of clinical areas. I thank Christian Girgis, the members of the CPC Committee and the faculty of these meetings for such a comprehensive and stimulating program. Our Clinical Imaging Committee has also held 2 bone densitometry courses. These continue to be the flagship densitometry courses nationally. Thanks Nick Pocock and the team for continuing to lead these courses.

We also look forward to how we can further enhance our meetings profile and add value for our members. I will leave it to the Meetings Committee report to update you on these exciting developments.

Research Grants and Fellowships:

ANZBMS continues to be committed to supporting the next generation of researchers in the field of bone and mineral metabolism. This is through a range of opportunities including presentations and awards at the ASM and mentorship and grant writing support. More of this will be detailed through the ECIC and Research Committee reports. Traditionally, ANZBMS has not been in a position to directly fund research grants. However, in recent years we have had a fruitful collaboration with the Bone Health Foundation (BHF) to co-fund a range of grants. These include Health Innovation, Interdisciplinary Collaborative, and Grand-in-Aid grants. BHF also generously supported the Christine and T. Jack Martin Travel Award in 2023.

We are continuing to look at ways we can fund research jointly, addressing aspects of the missions of both societies where they overlap. I personally thank the effort the BHF board has made to work between our societies despite some of the differences in the way we are set up. It is really good that at this meeting we will be celebrating our collaborative outputs with BHF in a special session packed with awardees and high-profile international speakers.

Advocacy for Bone Health:

As I know the membership desires, ANZBMS remains an advocate for policies that prioritize bone health at both the state and national governmental levels. This year, we continued our advocacy efforts to increase funding for musculoskeletal research and improve access to new bone disease diagnostic tests and treatments. Much of this advocacy is done quietly but effectively through our Clinical Practice and Therapeutics Committees or in association with partners such as Healthy Bones Australia.

Two examples of significant successes in terms of advocacy include supporting the PBS listing of romosozumab as a first line agent in people with osteoporosis at high risk of fracture and petitioning MSAC to provide funding for FGF23 testing in people likely to have genetic causes of hypophosphataemia who might be eligible for burosumab. The development and validation of an online calculator to determine TmP/GFR which is now hosted on the ANZBMS website (under the resources tab) has been a wonderful addition. This is now being heavily used in the evaluation of people with possible phosphate wasting and again reduces barriers to the use of medications such as barosumab.

Although the work of many I'd like to single out Cherie Chiang and Richard Prince for their energy and expertise in getting this sorted out. On the same topic of hypophosphataemia, the Australian experience of these disorders is currently being written up in a series of articles to be published in JBMR+ thanks to a generous grant from Kyowa Kirin.

Society Governance, Feedback and Sustainability:

My predecessors have ensured that ANZBMS has robust processes and governance which makes the President role easier and more enjoyable. We have as a committee made some changes to some aspects of how we work and these can be discussed at the AGM as needed. We also have reports from a member survey that will be discussed in more depth. More importantly, I would like to thank all members of Council and the chairs and members of all of our committees. There is no way I can name you all personally but you collectively have demonstrated extremely high congeniality and professionalism. There are however 3 officers of the Society that have to be mentioned. ANZBMS should recognise the boundless energy of Michelle McDonald in her role as President-Elect. She also brings an international strategic perspective that will ensure ANZBMS maintains its role as a leader in the global bone field.

I'd like to thank Mark Forwood as immediate Past-President. Not only did Mark manage the society for several weeks of my term while I dealt with some family emergencies but he has continued to be a sounding board and source of advice and wisdom for me and the Council. Last, but not least, Rachel Davey in her role of treasurer has overseen a program of financial management that has not only ensured our financial viability (despite declining funding from companies) but has established a foundation for prudent investment in our members interests over the next few years.

On a final note it has become apparent that there is a personal cost, in terms of time and energy, for our members that take roles on Council or ANZBMS committees. At some times of the year this can be considerable. I am keen that we don't end up burning out, or otherwise disadvantaging, our members that volunteer for these critical positions. As such, I would ask you as members to also recognise these contributions where you can. Despite COVID not being so prominent I don't recommend you hugging every Committee member you meet (at least not without their consent) but the odd expression of thanks or constructive positive feedback would be very much appreciated and would help our society run.

Please enjoy the Annual Meeting and catch up with me if you have any suggestions regarding improving our society.



Professor Mark Cooper
President



On behalf of the Program Organising Committee and the Council of ANZBMS, I would like to invite you to the 35th ANZBMS Annual Scientific Meeting taking place in Cairns. We are putting together an outstanding scientific program across basic, clinical and allied health topics. There will also be plentiful opportunities for scientific networking.

Whether you are an early or mid-career investigator, clinician, basic scientist, or allied health professional, the meeting will allow you to reconnect with peers, drive new collaborations and learn from the exciting program of cutting-edge musculoskeletal science.

Registrations and abstract submissions will open in early 2025.

Professor Mark Cooper
President of ANZBMS



TREASURER'S REPORT

Finance Committee

Rachel Davey (Chair)
Allison Pettit
Mark Cooper
Jill Cornish
Mark Forwood
Ivone Johnson

General Financial Result 2023-2024 Financial Year

2024 Member's funds on 30
June 2024 = \$1,294,113 (2023 =
\$1,109,992)

Overall Profit

\$ 184,121* Profit (2023 =
\$110,818 Profit)

**Nb. Includes sponsorship of
\$34,000 from Kyowa Kirin for
publication of clinical cases in
Hypophosphataemic Bone
Disorders in JBMRPlus.*

The Society remains in sound
financial position. With the
sustained rise in interest rates
(interest rates 2024 =
4.95-5.35% vs 2023 =
3.95-4.9%), there has been an
increase in income generated
from the society's term deposits
of \$10,320. Returns from the
managed fund (HUB 24) has
remained stable (6% return in
2024 vs 8.91% in 2023).
Revenue from our scientific and
satellite meetings continues to
be strong and the Society
thanks all members involved for
their significant contributions.

Income

Our society income increased for
the 2023-2024 period:

Investment income (HUB24) –
\$15,499 (2023 = \$11,874)

Market value movement on
investments (HUB24) - \$19,927
(2023 = \$28,297)

Interest from term deposits –
\$18,507 (2023 = \$8,187)

*Meeting proceeds – \$357,465
(2023 = \$230,501)

Densitometry/Dexa courses –
\$75,905 (2023 = \$64,496)

Advanced Clinical Postgraduate
Meeting – \$28,500 (2023 =
\$23,000)

Osteoporosis Webinar - \$4,636
(2023 = \$4,455)

Sponsorship – \$56,209 (2023 =
\$22,364)

Membership and Subscriptions –
\$63,509 (2023 = \$70,100, 280
members). Total Members (as of
November) = 308.

**Following Australian accounting
standards, the Auditor assigns
ASM revenues to the year
received, and expenditure to the
year when committed.
Consequently, the gross income
and gross expenditure in respect
of each ASM will be reflected in
the profit and loss account, as
they occur, rather than simply
recognising a 'net profit' of each
individual meeting.*

Expenses

Our society expenses increased
for the 2023-2024 period:

#Meetings – \$283,659 (2023 =
\$212,728)

Awards – \$54,670 (2023 =
\$30,213)

Travel Grants - \$8,240 (2023 =
\$9,898)

Office (i.e. rent, secretariat,
office expenses, website) –
\$79,541 (2023 = \$69,579)

Audit/Accounting – \$5,668
(2023 = \$5268)

Miscellaneous – \$26,714 (2023
= \$26,212)

Investments (as of November 2024)

Commonwealth Bank

Balance in Premium Business
Cheque Account \$170,049.25

Balance in Business online
saver \$658.22

ING Term Deposit

Invested on: 18th October 2024

Maturity date: 18th October
2025

Interest rate: 5.03% p.a.
(Compounded at maturity)

\$432,000 (included in HUB 24
managed fund figure below)

ANZ Bank

Invested on: 5th July 2024

Maturity date: 5th January 2025

Interest rate: 5.35% p.a.
(Compounded at maturity)

\$140,000 (included in HUB 24
managed fund figure below)

HUB 24 managed fund (as at
7/11/24) \$1,095,874.00

Total Accumulated Funds

\$1,266,581.47

Key Outcomes

Optional discounted 2- and 3-year memberships were introduced to ANZBMS full members in January 2023. In 2024, an increased number of members renewed their memberships for more than one year with 10 members currently subscribed until 2026 and 41 members until 2025. 237 members have subscribed for 2024.

On behalf of the Society, I would like to thank the following members for their donations in the 2023-2024 financial year; Mark Cooper, Terrence Diamond, Mark Forwood, Ali Ghasem-Zadeh, Matthew Gillespie, Katherine Griffin, Hanh Nguyen, Allison Pettit, Alexander Rodriguez, and Daniel Westood in addition to those members who wish to remain anonymous.

The Society invests surplus funds raised from these 2- and 3- year memberships and donations to generate further income to continue to give back to our membership in the form of grants and training courses in accordance with the Society's strategic objectives.

The profits raised in the previous 2022-2023 financial year funded two new grant initiatives in partnership with the Bone Health Foundation (BHF) in 2024; the ANZBMS BHF Interdisciplinary Collaborative Grant and ANZBMS Health Innovation Grant. The profits from this 2023-2024 financial year will be used to continue this partnership with the BHF in 2025 with grant initiatives for our members to be announced in the coming months.

In addition, profits from this financial year will be used to support the IFMRS Herbert Fleisch Workshop: Asia Pacific 2025 to be held in Cairns after the 2025 ANZBMS annual scientific meeting (12th to the 14th of November 2025), a workshop designed to bring together international investigators and young and mid-career scientists working in musculoskeletal research for a few days of learning, discussion and networking.

I would like to offer my thanks to members of the Finance Committee, Ivone Johnson and Melissa Douglas for their guidance and support. Thank you also to Rod Laws of Tinworth & Co Chartered Accounts for auditing the accounts and to Jason Dix from Carrington Financial Services for managing our HUB24 Portfolio and Term Deposits.



**Associate Professor
Rachel Davey
Treasurer**

THERAPEUTICS COMMITTEE

There is much for ANZBMS to celebrate from 2024 in the area of therapeutics. I would like to highlight two important endeavours:

(1) Professor Richard Prince submitted an application to MSAC for measurement of serum/plasma FGF23 to be reimbursed through MBS, an initiative which would support access to burosumab for patients with suspected X-linked hypophosphataemic rickets;

(2) A/Prof Cherie Chang working with Dr Ee mun Lim successfully launched the online ANZBMS TmP/GFR calculator (<https://www.anzbms.org.au/tmpgfr/>), which will support accurate diagnosis of renal phosphate wasting. Both outcomes speak volumes for the initiative and enterprise of ANZBMS members and shine credit on our society.

On 1st November, romosozumab was listed on PBS as a first-line therapy following fracture as per clinical criteria on pbs.gov.au. Our ability to access osteo-anabolic therapy as first-line therapy will improve care for patients at very high risk of fracture. ANZBMS should lead efforts to educate our colleagues in primary care about the place of osteo-anabolic therapy in the landscape of treatments for osteoporosis

The Therapeutic Committee has recommended the following projects for the future:

- Publication of a guideline for diagnosis and management of hypophosphataemia
- Position Statement or guideline on management of atypical femur fractures
- brief report to supplement recent RACGP guidelines to update position on osteo-anabolic therapy.



Professor Roderick Clifton-Bligh
Chair Therapeutics Committee

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Current members

Rebecca Mason
Rob Blank
Dana Bliuc
Nicolas Hart
Natalie Hyde
Lieke Scheepers
Marc Sim
Paul Anderson
John Kemp
Michael Thompson
Lucy Collins
Thach Tran
Fran Milat

Chairs report

It has certainly been a busy 12 months for the research committee. A huge thank you to Professor Rebecca Mason for all the help and guidance coming up to speed as chair of the research committee. I would also like to thank all the committee members for being fantastic to work with on all the awards and grants this year.

Welcoming new committee members: We welcome John Kemp, Thach Tran, Fran Milat, Lucy Collins & Michael Thompson who have all agreed to join the research committee.

Thanking committee members stepping off the committee: Thank you to Brya Mathews and Belinda Beck for their considerable contributions to the ANZBMS research committee.

Activities:

1. Refreshed the research committee, mapped expertise & skillsets and increased the number of clinical members.
2. Developed research committee run sheets (specific awards, dates and tasks) and scoring sheets for all awards that are consistent with the website.
3. Undertook COIs and scoring of awards decided before the annual scientific meeting.

Large number of applications (see details below).

- Sol Posen Award had 7 applications vs 2 in 2023.
 - Kaye Ibbertson applications had 8 applications vs 2 in 2023.
 - TJ Martin 2 applications vs 6 in 2023.
4. Undertook COIs and scoring of awards decided at the annual scientific meeting.
 - Christopher and Margie Nordin Young Investigator Poster Award
 - Roger Melick Young Investigator Award
 5. Worked with the Bone Health Foundation on the ANZBMS-BHF Health Innovation Grants (details below).

Details of activities:

- **Sol Posen Research Award:** The award is based on the best paper published in the 18 months prior to the closing date of the award by an applicant who must be undertaking a higher degree or be within 5 years full-time equivalent of obtaining their higher degree (PhD, Masters, FRACP or equivalent). This year, we received 7 applications for the Sol Posen Award. Assessment is based on 4 criteria (scientific rigor, innovation, significance, and interest). Thank you to the research committee for their time assessing this award.
- **ANZBMS Kaye Ibbertson Award for Bone and Mineral Medicine:** The award is open to applicants with a higher degree (PhD or equivalent) completed within the past 15 years and at least 2 years as ANZBMS member, and is based on the productivity of the applicant, in terms of published clinical and/or basic research, in the field of metabolic bone disease. The award is based on the applicant's best 5 papers, of which the applicant is an author, in the last 8 years. There were 8 applicants for this award, of whom 7 were eligible. The assessment is based on 4 criteria: innovation / significance, author's contribution, journal prestige and citations.

This year and in future, we asked applicants to submit the papers for this award and the Sol Posen award to facilitate review by the RC. Thank you to the research committee for their time assessing this award.

- Christine & T. Jack Martin Research Travel Grant. Two applicants this year.
- 2024 ANZBMS-BHF Health Innovation Grants. Closed, shortlisted from 21 to 10 with one award provided in 2024. Thank you to Linda Stanton & Jo Cook from the BHF for leading the process & all the reviewers of the grants.
- Professor Philip Sambrook Award. This award is co-organized by Healthy Bones Australia and ANZBMS and is open to applicants who have received their higher degree (PhD, FRACP) within the past 5 years and have at least 2 years as ANZBMS or ARA member.
- The Roger Mellick Young Investigator Award and the Christopher and Margie Nordin Young Investigator Poster Award finalists have been/will be chosen by the ASM Program Committee. The awards will be judged at the ASM and awardees announced at the conference dinner.



**Professor Rebecca Mason and
Associate Professor Josh Lewis
Co-Chairs Research Committee**

CLINICAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE

Current members

Jasna Aleksova (Chair)
 Christian Girgis (Past-Chair)
 Jacqueline Center
 Cherie Chiang
 Mark Cooper (ANZBMS President)
 Mark Forwood (Past-President)
 Madhuni Herath
 Grahame Elder
 Michael Bennet
 Sunita Paul
 Michelle McDonald (President-elect)

Membership: In 2024, the committee welcomed, Michael Bennet, Jasna Aleksova and Sunita Paul. Dr Sunita Paul is from Middlemore Hospital will be representing New Zealand. As of September 1, Jasna Aleksova took over the chair role. Jasna was previously an inaugural member of the ECIC and has been involved in undergraduate and post-graduate education through the RACP.

We would like to thank David Kim for his commitment and contribution to the committee as he steps down.

Strategic Objectives: In 2024, the committee has dedicated its commitment

- 1) to represent and engage with clinicians amongst the society's broad membership
- 2) to promote educational activities, contributing to continuing professional development of society's members and
- 3) regularly appraise new guidelines and practice-changing publications,

Engagement with NGOs and professional groups:

The CPC continued to build strong links with Healthy Bones Australia and the RACP, through Mark Cooper and Cherie Chiang's representation on the RACP Advanced Training Committee (ATC), and David Kim with Bone Health NZ. Members of the Committee represented the society on IOF webinars dealing with IOF activities and projects.

Invited review of the AHPRA consultation on health checks for late-stage career doctors. The CPC was invited to provide feedback on recommendations from the RACP relating to AHPRA's proposed introduction of health checks for late-stage career medical practitioners, which it defines in age as being 70 or more years. The subject concerned a proposed regulatory change with flow-on effects for AHPRA compliance requirements for medical professionals, potential workforce supply, distribution interface, and central intersection with efforts to promote patient and public safety. The CPC supported the RACP in making careful considerations to including health professionals' own GPs with long standing rapport, the work-flow issues relating to the occupational physicians proposed to regulate these health checks and the implications for rural communities that often rely on single doctors supporting the district.

Our advice was in acknowledgement of a balance between public safety and unnecessary removal of experienced practitioners in our workforce and ensuring a clear pathway to dispute an undesirable outcome.

Addressing reduced access to intravenous zoledronic acid following the closure of a major private infusion provider in Australia in December 2022: This emerged as a significant concern amongst clinicians in early 2023. The committee reached out to the manufacturers of Aclasta, Novartis and Sandoz, to assist in the development of practical resources to assist primary care providers in the IV administration of ZOL. The committee published available private infusion centres throughout Australia and has continued to update this list as new providers have been made available.

ANZBMS 4-part osteoporosis webinar: In 2024, the committee hosted a webinar series that ran over four separate evenings, which expanding on the success of the 3-part seminar held in 2023. The format included short lecture style presentations followed by case presentations and lively question and answer time with audience participation.

CLINICAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE

This was highly successful with 157 registrants and recordings remain available to those who registered. The committee sincerely thanks the chairs, speakers and expert panel members for the topics covered 'Osteoporosis therapies and Cardiovascular Risk, with a focus on sclerostin inhibitors (June 12), 'The role and evidence behind exercise, nutrition and lifestyle intervention in osteoporosis (August 20), 'Skeletal health in transgender people (September 1) and 'Managing skeletal disorders during growth and transition to adulthood (October 11).

These webinars brought together a wide faculty of senior clinicians and basic scientists, as well as early and mid-career clinicians amongst the society's broad membership. We'd also like to particularly acknowledge Cat Shore-Lorenti for supporting technical aspects of these meetings and ensuring the smooth running and recording of these zoom webinars.

ANZBMS Clinical Postgraduate Meeting: The annual virtual clinical postgraduate meeting will be returning was not held in 2024 as it was held late in 2023 (December).

It was felt an 18–24-month schedule would be more appropriate and relevant for updates in the bone field whilst also allowing all endocrine advanced trainees to meet the compulsory attendance during their 2 years of core-training. The committee has already drawn up an exciting 2-day program for 2025 which will be delivered through a virtual platform in March 2025. Following feedback from 2023, it was decided to maintain the virtual platform allowing greater access and flexibility to registrants Australia-wide and also to our wide range of speakers from across the nation.

We want to hear from you. The CPC is constantly looking for ways to better engage the society's clinical members. Please feel to reach out to us with any suggestions on ways we can engage with you on clinical matters, concerns or challenges in the practice of bone and mineral medicine. Please feel free to contact any of the committee's members or the chair Jasna Aleksova on jasna.aleksova@hudson.org.au.



Dr Jasna Aleksova
Chair Clinical Practice
Committee

PROGRAMME ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Programme organising committee

The 2024 ANZBMS POC comprised of Agnes Arthur (Basic Science Co-Chair, SA), Kirtan Ganda (Clinical Co-Chair, NSW); Albert Kim (NSW), Natalie Hyde (Vic), Kai Chen (WA), Ryan Chai (NSW), Lucy Collins (Vic), Michelle McDonald (President Elect, NSW), Ayse Zengin (post POC Co-Chair, Vic), Bridie Mulholland (ECIC, QLD), David Jesudason (LOC, Clinical, SA) and Dzenita Muratovic (LOC, Basic Science, SA). They have worked together to create a diverse, stimulating and engaging program for this year's ASM.

Program Overview:

With the support of ASN events, our committee have developed a program, with the aim to bring our members together to share recent research. The final program offers a variety of innovative science, with a balance of basic, clinical and translational research, while also preserving gender diversity. We are looking forward to an exciting program of excellent presentations from both national and international researchers. The ANZBMS POC are excited to announce the ANZBMS clinical plenary speaker, **Prof Heide Siggelkow, Endokrinologikum, Germany.**

Prof Siggelkow will be speaking about calcium disorders, including management of hypoparathyroidism. While the ANZBMS science plenary speakers discussing stem cells and their application will be **Prof Matthew Greenblatt** (Weil Cornell Medicine, USA).

The ESA-SRB-ANZBMS joint Plenary speaker, **Prof Irina Larina** (Bayer College of Medicine, USA) will discuss the utilisation of optical coherence tomography (OCT).

Moreover, broad themes for the meeting include:

· Stem cells and pre-clinical application/regeneration and the immune response: **Prof Allison Pettit** (University of Queensland).

· Macro- and Microscopic Imaging in Bone Health: **A/Prof Kathryn Stok** (University of Melbourne); **Karl Lewis** (Cornell University, USA)

· Secondary Fracture Prevention: **A/Prof Paul Mitchell** (Synthesis Medical, NZ).

· Bone Health in Chronic Kidney Disease: **Prof Grahame Elder** (University of Notre Dame)

· Multidisciplinary care in Bone Health: **Dr Jakub Mesinovic** (Deakin University)

· Immune cell behaviour: **Prof Christopher Little** (University of Sydney)

· Bone Health and Cancer Management: **Dr Melissa Cantley** (University of Adelaide); **Dr Peter Wong** (Westmead Hospital); **Mr Will McDonald** (9News Adelaide Presenter).

ANZBMS POC have partnered with the **Bone Health Foundation** (BHF) to present the inaugural **BHF symposium**. Speakers include **A/Prof Paul Anderson** (University of South Australia), and previous ANZBMS/ BHF grant awardees **Dr Jiao Jiao Li** (University of Technology Sydney), **A/Prof Fran Milat** (Monash Health), **Dr Sandra Iuliano** (Austin Health). **Prof Mary Bouxsein** from Harvard University has also accepted an invitation to speak about the effects of space flight on bone health.

The **ESA Scientific Strengthening Committee** will conduct a morning session to highlight collaboration between basic science and clinical researchers. Senior members of each society, the ESA, SRB and ANZBMS will present, with **A/Prof Michelle McDonald** representing the ANZBMS.

The ANZBMS **Early Career Investigator Committee** have again organised exciting events for this year's meeting, including the Bones and Brews event. As part of the The Bridging Overseas Networking and Exchange (B.O.N.E) Program, there are 2 exchange speakers: From ECTS, we have **Dr Katharina Jähn-Rickert** from **University Medical Centre Hamburg, Germany** presenting on the "amazing" osteocyte and its lacuno-canalicular network in relation to disease states such as diabetic bone disease.

PROGRAMME ORGANISING COMMITTEE

The speaker from ASBMR will be **Dr Andrea Cowan the University of Western Ontario, Canada** who will be talking about a tool for fracture prediction in patients receiving maintenance dialysis.

Delegates: We are delighted that 953 delegates have registered for this year's meeting, including sponsors, exhibitors and invited speakers. Of those, 147 stated that ANZBMS best aligns with their research, of whom 55 were PhD or Masters students or < 3 years post-doc.

Out of the 138 ANZBMS abstracts that were submitted (42 basic, 80 clinical, 16 clinical case studies), 34 were accepted for oral presentations, including 3 outstanding abstracts (including top student abstract, all supported exclusively by ANZBMS), 8 finalists for the Roger Melick Young Investigator award, 10 Christopher and Margie Nordin Young Investigator Poster Prize award finalists, and 10 accepted as plenary posters.

We had sponsored sessions over lunch at this year's meeting, including:

- Recognise & Replace: Preparing for the arrival of PTH replacement therapy for Australian patients with hypoparathyroidism (Specialised Therapeutics)
- The Real World use of Burosumab for XLH in Australia (Kyowa Kirin)
- Build Bone First - Optimizing Osteoanabolic Treatment in Severe

This year ANZBMS are collaborating with SRB and ESA to deliver a stimulating and timely debate topic entitled "Utilizing Artificial Intelligence Regularly in Medical Research and Clinical Practice Will Result in More Benefits Than Drawbacks", chaired by Prof Mark Forwood. Our debaters for the motion include **A/Prof Kathryn Stok** (University of Melbourne) and **Prof Ralph Müller** (ETH Zurich). The team against the motion are **Dr Jodie Avery** (University of Adelaide), and **Prof Chris Gilfillan** (Eastern Health).

We are very grateful for the generous support from industry, our Diamond sponsor Kyowa Kirin, Gold sponsor Specialised Therapeutics and other sponsors (exhibitors). Without their support, this meeting would not be possible.

We would like to thank all the members of the ANZBMS POC for their outstanding contributions, the session chairs, all members of the ECIC, Ivone Johnson and all others who have contributed to the meeting. In particular, we would like to thank Jim Fawcett and the team from ASN events who have worked tirelessly with us to create a great meeting.



**Dr Agners Arthur &
Dr Kirtan Ganda
Co-Chairs Programme
Organising Committee**

MEETINGS COMMITTEE

The role of the ANZBMS meetings committee is to plan meetings for our members including the annual scientific meeting, the clinical densitometry meeting, joint society meetings, Advanced Clinical Postgraduate Meeting, member webinars and educational meetings in collaboration with our society sub committees (2024/2025 ASM program organizing committee, clinical practice committee and ECIC and sister societies ANZORS, IFMRS, JSBMR etc)

Members

Michelle McDonald (Chair)

Mark Copper

Mark Forwood

Natalie Sims

Eugenie Macfarlane

Jasna Aleksova

Ayse Zengin

Agnes Arthur

Kirtan Ganda

Rachel Davey

The committee have met in January, May and November in 2024 and plan to meet again 3-4 times in 2025. We have been working on the below components of meetings across various communities in our membership:

- CPC webinars - the CPC have been very active in this space under the leadership of Chrisitan Girgis and more recently Jasna Aleksova. They have held 3-4 very well attended webinars in 2024 as outlined in the CPC report. They plan to hold topic focused webinars again in 2025 and are planning post graduate Advanced Clinical Postgrad Meeting in 2025 which will be advertised at the ASM in November 2024.
- The ANZBMS POC have been working very hard to drive a fantastic program for the combined ESA/SRB/ANZBMS 2024 meeting next week in Adelaide. They will provide an overview in their annual report.
- The IFMRS Herbert Fleisch Workshop: Asia Pacific 2025 will go ahead 12-14th November after the 2025 ANZBMS. Natalie Sim and Michelle McDonald have been working with Yumie Rhee (KSBMR) and Yuuki Imai (JSBMR) as the steering committee and should have an MOU in place soon - we aim to have a POC finalised and up and running on planning this event by mid December 2024. This will be advertised at the ANZBMS ASM 2024.

- The 2026 ANZBMS has been confirmed to be taking place in Auckland September 7-10th 2026

- The ECIC have held a number of webinars and have played a key role in organising events at the 2024 meeting with the SRB and ESA ECIC committees – see ECIC annual report for details

- Clinical densitometry meeting update will be provided as part of the clinical imaging committee



**Associate Professor
Michelle McDonald**

**Chair Meetings
Committee**

CLINICAL IMAGING COMMITTEE

Membership

The current membership of the CIC is unchanged, but it is proposed to invite additional members primarily focusing on non DXA modalities as well as AI and its role in image processing and fracture risk prediction.

Densitometry Course

An online course was held on 13th-14 th April and a face to face course was held successfully in Melbourne on 19th and 20th October. The courses overall ran well but there were fewer registrations than previously at the Melbourne course. This may have been due to the Menopause congress on the same weekend.

Special thanks is due to Chris Schultz and Julie Briody for their ongoing work to facilitate the online courses.

Further online courses have been put on hold pending confirmation of the regulatory approval by the NSW EPA.

The structure of the course is being reviewed with a likely split into two courses: A Technologist Course and an online only Doctors course.

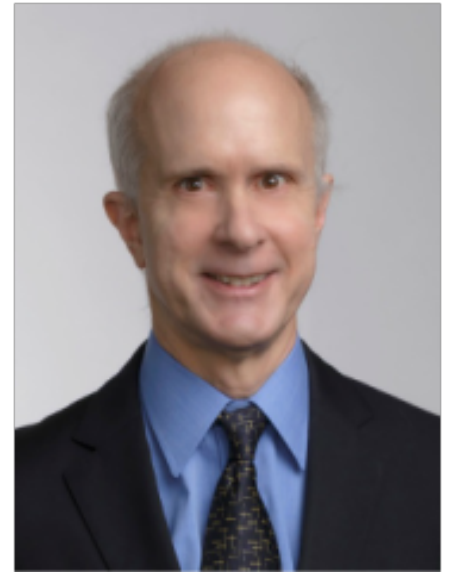
MSAC

There has been no further progress or communication from MSAC this year in relation to Medicare funding for bone density in women with breast cancer on Aromatase inhibitors. This issue has been unresolved for 10 years.

The previous MSAC submission (source unknown) to expand the existing Medicare Item numbers 12320 and 12322 from age 70 and above to age 60 and above was rejected.

Densitometry Accreditation Guidelines

The guidelines for Densitometry laboratories previously developed in 2003 under the auspices of the ANZBMS, AANMS, RACR and ACPSEM, have been updated due largely to the work of Prof Roger Price. This has been accepted by the Council of ANZBMS and will shortly be disseminated to the other bodies for their ratification.



**Associate Professor
Nicholas Pocock**
**Chair Clinical Imaging
Committee**

EARLY CAREER INVESTIGATOR COMMITTEE

2023-2024 ECIC Committee Report

Madhuni Herath, and Kara Anderson (Acting Co-Chair)
- ECIC Co-Chairs

The specific objectives of ECIC are to:

1. To act in collaboration with the ANZBMS senior committee and foster active engagement of early career investigators within the ANZBMS.
2. To promote activities that engage early career investigators and senior members in open dialogue and collaborative initiatives.
3. To increase early career investigator awareness of research trends and application of new technologies in bone and mineral research.
4. To increase engagement of clinical trainees and improve training in bone and mineral metabolism.
5. Involvement in scientific and social programs at the ANZBMS Annual Scientific Meeting.
6. To foster science communication and engagement with the public.
7. To facilitate translation of scientific findings to industry and government.

2021-2022 ECIC Committee

Co-Chairs

Dr. Bridie Mulholland (NSW)
Dr. Cassandra Smith (WA; On leave)
Dr. Kara Anderson (Acting Co-Chair)

Members

Dr. Kara Anderson (VIC)
Dr Mícheál Ó Breasail (VIC)
Dr. Amy Harding (QLD)
Dr Shejil Kumar (NSW)
Dr. Jason Talevski (VIC)
Dr. Bridie Mulholland (QLD)
Dr. Eugenie McFarlane (NSW)
Dr. Abadi Gebre (WA)
Dr. Micaela Quinn (SA)
Dr. Angela Sheu (NSW)

Subcommittee team leaders were nominated by members of each subcommittee.

- Dr. Kara Anderson: Communications
- Dr. Abadi Gebre: Career Development
- Dr. Jason Talevski: Events
- Dr. Shejil Kumar: Clinical

Nomination of New ANZBMS ECIC Members for 2023-2024

Expressions of interest to join the ECIC were advertised on 20th of August 2024 and closed on the 18 September 2024. In total, 7 applications were received

from VIC, QLD, WA and Japan. Scoring of the applications by the current ECIC closed on 9 October 2024. Council ratified the successful nominees and the following ECIs will commence their term with the ANZBMS ECIC from late November 2024:

Basic Scientists

Dr. Martha Blank (NSW)
Dr. Kai Chen (WA)

Clinical

Dr Lucy Collins (VIC)
Dr Gabrielle Stokes (VIC)

Objective 1: To act in collaboration with the ANZBMS senior committee and foster active engagement of early career investigators within the ANZBMS

The ANZBMS and the ANZBMS ECIC continue to work in partnership to increase engagement and improve support and exposure for the ECIs. For 2024, representatives of the ANZBMS ECIC are now involved in 4 subcommittees of the ANZBMS (POC, Communications, Clinical Practice Committee and Events) and the Co-Chairs also attend the ANZBMS Council meetings as ex-officio members.

There has also been demonstrable interest in encouraging and promoting ECIs to be involved in ANZBMS subcommittees as well as other ANZBMS initiatives. ECIs are also given the opportunity to chair various sessions at the 2024 ANZBMS, alongside senior members.

ECI Representatives in ANZBMS Subcommittees

Communications Committee

Dr. Melissa Cantley, Dr. Kara Anderson, Dr. Sarah Hosking, Dr. Renee Ormsby, Dr. Jiao Jiao Li, Rouha Granfar, Dr. Martha Blank

Clinical Imaging Committee

Dr. Weiwen Chen

Editorial Board

Dr Martha Blank (EiC), Dr Pholpat Durongbhan, Dr Mícheál Ó Breasail, Dr Michelle Maugham-Macan, Dr Jakub Mesinovic, Dr Lucy Collins, Dr Shejil Kumar and Jacob Harland.

Outgoing members: Emma Cheney, Dr Lena Batoon, Dr Shanal Kumar

Meetings Committee

Eugenie McFarlane, Dr Jasna Aleksova

Research Committee

A/Prof Nicolas Hart, Dr Natalie Hyde, Dr Lieke Scheepers, Dr Marc Sim, Dr Michael Thompson, Dr Lucy Collins

Therapeutics Committee

Dr Hanh Nguyen and Dr Weiwen Chen

Objective 2: To promote activities that engage early career investigators and senior members in open dialogue and collaborative initiatives

ECIC Engage Series

In 2024, the ECI Engage Series was continued due to its success in 2023. Speakers and topics are listed below:

1. Research without Borders: Dr Ayse Zengin, Dr Ahmed Al Saedi, Dr Lena Batoon
2. SEED to Success: The Power of SEED Grants for Enhancing your Research Impact. A/Prof Joshua Lewis, A/Prof David Scott, Dr Shejil Kumar

Fellowship-Coaching Program

For the third consecutive year, the ANZBMS ECIC conducted the Fellowship Coaching Program which has been very well received in its prior two years.

This initiative supports ECIs with their NHMRC Investigator Grant applications and focuses on the research impact and leadership sections of applications. Two ECIs applied and one completed the program.

We are grateful to the MCI coaches and senior panel members that have been involved in the 2024 program to date. They are:

MCI Coaches

- Associate Professor Christian Girgis
- Associate Professor Joshua Lewis
- Associate Professor David Scott

- Dr Sandra Iuliano

Senior Panel Members

- Associate Professor Nathan Pavlos
- Associate Professor Rachel Davey

The ANZBMS Facebook Group

The ANZBMS Facebook Group is an initiative of the ANZBMS ECIC, led by the clinical subcommittee with support from the Communications subcommittee. The aim of this initiative is to improve

accessibility and therefore engagement of ECIs, particularly those from clinical backgrounds, geographically under-represented areas and otherwise disadvantaged groups and advertise news and opportunities. We also hope through this initiative to improve interaction between ECRs and more senior members of ANZBMS.

Objective 3: To increase early career investigator awareness of research trends and application of new technologies in bone and mineral research

The Bridging Overseas Networking and Exchange (B.O.N.E) Program

B.O.N.E Program is an ANZBMS Early Career Investigator Committee (ECIC) initiative, established in 2018, to address the limited opportunity and funds for invited presentations for early career investigators (ECI) in the musculoskeletal field. The B.O.N.E program has been extremely successful thus far, with successful applicants from ANZBMS offered the opportunity to present at international conferences and co-host a relevant session, and overseas ECRs offered the opportunity to share their research at the ANZBMS ASM.

Dr Ben Kirk was the successful ANZBMS winner of the B.O.N.E Award and represented

ANZBMS at ASBMR 2024. His presentation focused on 'Interactions between bone and muscle quality on mortality risk in 1,353 men (aged 77-101) over 6 years: A prospective cohort study utilising high-resolution bone imaging and stable muscle isotopes'. Ms Andrea Cowan will present at the ANZBMS ASM on 'fracture prediction in patients receiving maintenance dialysis: a simple tool'.

The European Calcified Tissue Society has also shown significant interest in fostering a mutually beneficial relationship with ANZBMS ECIC and have actively sought out opportunities for ECI exchange. In 2024, Dr Katharina Jähn-Rickert present at the ANZBMS ASM on her research centred around the "amazing" osteocyte and its lacuno-canalicular network in relation to disease states such as diabetic bone disease. A/Prof Christian Girgis represented ANZBMS at ECTS 2024.

The ECIC are looking towards renewing the existing MOU with ASBMR to continue this exchange in future years.

ECTS Academy Webinar

Dr Lena Batoon was invited by the ECTS to speak on her work, Induction of osteoblast apoptosis and bone turnover at the ECTS Webinar.

ANZBMS-KSBMR Joint Webinar

ANZBMS ECIC hosted the ANZBMS-KSBMR inaugural joint webinar 'IFMRS Future Global Leaders in Musculoskeletal Research Webinar Series' on 30th November. A/Prof Nathan Pavlos was the keynote speaker and was accompanied by ANZBMS ECIs Dr Ayse Zengin and Dr Amy Harding as ECI presenters. KSBMR was represented by ECIs Dr Kim Kyoung Min and Dr Okhee Jeon.

The 2nd webinar, hosted by KSBMR is planned for December 2024 and ANZBMS ECIC are awaiting confirmation of speakers.

Objective 4: To foster science communication and engagement with the public

The ECIC utilises the following avenues towards improving communication both within the scientific community and the public:

- ANZBMS Website
- The ANZBMS Newsletter with its ECI-specific section
- ANZBMS ECIC LinkedIn Group
- The ANZBMS X Account

The ANZBMS Early Career Investigator LinkedIn Group is a new initiative of our communications subcommittee

for 2024. This was created in response to changes in engagement and utility of social media platforms and we hope to maintain and encourage renewed interest in bone research through the use of its promotional capabilities. We encourage members of all levels to join the LinkedIn, and invite ECIs to share their work and achievements on the page.

The ANZBMS ECIC X account promotes upcoming opportunities and events relevant to ANZBMS ECIs and is also a vehicle for promoting ECI research and publications.

We aim to engage and inform the public through informative interactions using these platforms, particularly in alignment with campaigns such as the IOF World Osteoporosis Day.

Objective 5: To increase engagement of clinical trainees and improve training in bone and mineral metabolism.

Clinical Cases in Metabolic Bone Disease Seminar

In 2024, given the Annual Scientific Meeting is co-convened with the Endocrine Society of Australia, the *Clinical Cases in Metabolic Bone Disease Seminar* was incorporated into the *Clinical Weekend*, a two-day meeting held the weekend leading into the ASM and is the annual meeting for presentation and discussion of challenging endocrine clinical

cases, targeted at Endocrine Advanced Trainees, similar to the *Metabolic Bone Diseases Seminar*. Dr Shejil Kumar, lead of the clinical subcommittee of ANZBMS ECIC was co-convenor, representing ANZBMS. Dr Joy Wu and Prof Bu Yeap are plenary speakers for this event.

The ANZBMS ECIC expects to revert to the original structure of the *Clinical Cases in Metabolic Bone Disease Seminar* for 2025.

RACP Webinar Series

This webinar is part of the Specialty Society Webinar Service that is being undertaken by the RACP in partnership with its affiliated specialty societies. Six webinars were organised by the ANZBMS ECIC for 2024.

We thank all presenters for their contributions.

The ANZBMS-JBMRPlus-Kyowa Kirin Hypophosphataemic Bone Disorders Special Issue

This is an ongoing initiative from 2023. Twenty abstracts were received for this special issue which was funded through an independent medical education grant from Kyowa Kirin. The ANZBMS ECIC Clinical Subcommittee has been responsible for administering this initiative with guidance from ANZBMS Council and specifically, past and current Presidents of ANZBMS. All manuscripts have been submitted to JBMRPlus and authors as well as the guest

| Speaker(s) | Webinar topic | Webinar date |
|-------------------------|--|--------------|
| Dr Angela Sheu | Bone health in patients with diabetes | 17.07.2024 |
| Professor Emma Duncan | Genetic causes of bone fragility | 29.07.2024 |
| Professor Ian Reid | Acute phase reactions with zoledronic acid | 26.08.2024 |
| A/Professor David Scott | Sarcopenic obesity & bone/muscle health following weight loss treatments | 23.09.2024 |
| Professor Belinda Beck | Exercise in the management of osteoporosis | 21.10.2024 |
| Professor Peter Ebeling | Cardiovascular safety with osteoporosis pharmacotherapy | 18.11.2024 |

editorial committee formed by ANZBMS (Prof Richard Prince, A/Prof Craig Munns, Dr Albert Kim (ECI) and Dr Madhuni Herath (ECI)) are awaiting final decisions from JBMRPlus.

Objective 6: Involvement in scientific and social programs at the ANZBMS Annual

Scientific Meeting.

The ANZBMS ECIC will co-host 4 events at the 2024 ANZBMS ASM:

The Science at Speed Networking Session: Sunday 10th November 2:30pm - 3:30pm

An opportunity for ECIs to meet and network with other ECIs from all three societies, ANZBMS, ESA and SRB.

The ECIC Breakfast: Monday 10th November 2024

B.O.N.E Award winners from ASBMR and ECTS as well as current and incoming ANZBMS ECIC members are invited to network, meet each other in person and plan for the upcoming year.

Meeting of Minds/Bones & Brews Network Function: Monday 11th November 2024

A paid event for attendees from all three societies to come together casually

Joint ESA-SRB-ANZBMS ECR Career Development Workshop

ECIC Career Development Breakfast: Tuesday 12th November 2024 12:30pm - 1:30pm

A lunchtime workshop targeted at improving verbal and written communication skills for ECIs.

Concluding Remarks

We would like to thank all ECIs for their engagement and contributions.



**Dr Madhuni Herath & Dr Kara Anderson
Co-Chairs Early Career Investigator Committee**



ANZBMS ECIC LinkedIn

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The role of the Communications Committee is to oversee the delivery of information among members of the ANZBMS and between ANZBMS council and members of the society by a number of activities.

Communications Committee Membership

Melissa Cantley (Chair)

Kara Anderson (Acting Chair until August 2024, general communications, ECIC Representative)

Sarah Hosking (social media editor)

Renee Ormsby (website)

Jiao Jiao Li (website)

Rouha Granfar (social media editor)

Mark Cooper (ANZBMS Honorary Secretary and Clinical Practice Representative)

Ivone Johnson (ANZBMS Secretariat)

Martha Blank (ANZBMS Newsletter Co-Editor in Chief)

Weiwen Chen (Densitometry Committee Representative)

Research Committee Representative – new representative is needed,

Richard Prince (Therapeutics Committee Representative, new representative is now needed)

Kara Anderson acted in the Communications Chair role until August 2024 whilst Melissa Cantley was on maternity leave

ANZBMS Newsletter

The Newsletter is one of our main forms of communication with our members providing updates on ANZBMS activities, highlighting member achievements and publications, and disseminating information on events including the ANZBMS Annual Scientific Meeting, webinars and other opportunities.

Current ANZBMS Editorial Board Members

Martha Blank (Editor in Chief), Dr Pholpat Durongbhan, Dr Haniyeh Hemmatian, Dr Mícheál Ó Breasail, Jacob Harland, Dr Michelle MaughanMacan, Dr Jakub Mesinovic, Dr Lucy Collins, Dr Shejil Kumar.

Thank you to outgoing members: Emma Cheney, Dr Lena Batoon and Dr Shanal Kumar.

Check out past issues of the newsletter:

<https://www.anzbms.org.au/newsletters.asp>

ANZBMS eNews

The eNews template has continued to be utilised to communicate news and information to members. This is compiled and sent out by Ivone Johnson in consultation with

ANZBMS President Professor Mark Cooper.

Website

Renee Ormsby and Jiao Jiao Li along with Ivone Johnson are responsible for updates and changes to the website.

Social media

Sarah Hosking and Rouha Granfar are the joint Social Media Editors looking after the ANZBMS X account (@ANBZMSoc). Sarah and Rouha regularly retweet all relevant information on webinars from other societies along with papers, awards for ANZBMS members. Given changes with X we are now exploring other options such as a LinkedIn profile.

ANZBMS Videos

Three videos are being created (one in conjunction with the ECIC), with the aim to encourage membership, provide an engaging form of information sharing about the committee and have the capacity to be used on our website, social media and more broadly. They have been designed for longevity, and will hopefully be of use for many years to come. These videos are in the final stages of production.

IFMRS newsletter updates

We continue to provide updates

for each of the IFMRS newsletters including details about the ANZBMS, webinars, Annual Scientific Meeting and the B.O.N.E program.

General Communications

Kara Anderson regularly designs flyers and save the dates for society webinars and training courses.

Membership Survey.

In 2024 we completed a member survey was conducted to ensure that we have an accurate understanding of the needs and aspirations of our Society members. The last survey was conducted back in 2019, so it was timely to obtain an update from the people ANZBMS strives to represent and support.

5 members who completed the survey were randomly selected as winners of the gift cards (5x \$100). Congratulations to the winners.

We thank all members who completed the survey.

A summary of the survey results is provided below:

Part 1 – n=64 respondents

Respondents included a range of members – allied health, ECRs, MECs, clinicians, senior researchers, research students across clinical, translational and basic research areas.

89.3% of respondents were

satisfied with what ANZBMS offers its members. Areas to improve: education events, webinars and professional development opportunities.

Is ANZBMS meeting the society aims (% strongly agree or agree)

- Facilitating translation of bone research into healthcare and clinical practice – 76.6%
- Supporting development of early-career individuals – 84.4%
- Providing grants and awards to members – 73.4%
- Organising high quality ASMs – 89.1%
- Providing opportunities to interact with others in the bone field – 85.7%
- Shaping research and health policy – 54.7%
- Promoting equity and diversity in the bone field – 57.8%
- **88.2% of respondents were satisfied with Annual Scientific meeting**

Part 2 of survey n=50 respondents

Society Satisfaction (% very or fairly satisfied)

• Efforts to integrate basic and clinical science? 74%

• support of early career researchers – 77.5%

• support of mid-career researchers? – 44.9%

• support of early-career clinicians? – 49%

• support of mid-career clinicians – 29.8%

• breadth and extent of activities undertaken to support early- and mid-career researchers and clinicians – 75% said appropriate number of activities are undertaken.

Areas to improve: mid career researchers and early/mid career clinicians.

Annual Scientific Meeting (% strongly agree or agree)

- disseminates high quality clinical research in the field – 77.6%
- disseminates high quality basic research in the field – 81.6%
- sufficient opportunities for members to showcase their research – 87.6%
- provides relevant content and sufficient opportunities for discussion of clinical challenges faced by clinicians – 53.2%
- sufficient networking opportunities for researchers – 77.5%

- sufficient networking opportunities for clinicians – 51%
- sufficient opportunities for recognition of early- and mid-career individuals – 77.5%
- fosters and inclusive environment that is supportive of diversity – 73.5%

Society Engagement

Improvements needed with industry and funding bodies and government

Shaping policy (% very or fairly satisfied)

efforts to shape health and therapeutics policies – 48%

Communications (% highly or somewhat effective)

e-bulletins – 98%

Newsletter – 86% Newsletter is read by 92% of respondents

Social media – 30%

Website – 58%

Information about funding opportunities – 66%

Information about awards – 76%

Information about the ASM – 92%

Information about other meetings – 62%

Professional updates – 64%
Information about awards – 76%

Information about the ASM – 92%

Information about other meetings – 62%

Professional updates – 64%

Key themes and gaps to address from survey:

- Mid-career support; keeping researchers in the field
- Collaboration opportunities
- Shaping policy
- Equity & diversity
- Supporting clinician-researchers
- Interdisciplinary activities
- Grants and grant support



Melissa Cantley

ANZBMS 2024 AWARD WINNERS

CHRISTINE AND T. JACK MARTIN RESEARCH TRAVEL GRANT 2024 FOR 2025

This grant is offered by the ANZBMS in memory of Christine Martin and to honour the outstanding and major scientific contributions of Professor T Jack Martin to bone and mineral research and his contributions to associates and trainees in teaching, research, and administration.

Haniyeh Hemmatian

St. Vincent's Institute of
Medical Research



Prof. Jack Martin, Dr Haniyeh Hemmatian, Prof Natalie Sims

PHILIP SAMBROOK YOUNG INVESTIGATOR TRAVEL AWARD

The Professor Philip Sambrook Award is presented annually to an outstanding early career researcher and is announced at the annual Australia and New Zealand Bone and Mineral Annual Scientific Meeting. The 2024 Travel Grant was awarded to research on how circadian rhythm disruptions, like shift work, may raise osteoarthritis risk by interfering with cortisol signals in cartilage cells.

Eugenie Macfarlane

University of Sydney



ANZBMS 2024 AWARD WINNERS

KAYE IBBERTSON AWARD FOR BONE AND MINERAL RESEARCH

The award is based on the productivity of the applicant, in terms of published clinical and/or basic research, in the field of metabolic bone disease. The award is based on the applicant's best 5 papers, of which the applicant is an author, in the last 8 years.

There were three applicants for this award. The assessment was based on four criteria: innovation/significance, author's contribution, journal prestige and citations. Based on these criteria, the winners were Lena Batoon and Yinghong Zhou.

Lena Batoon

Mater Research Institute,
The University of Queensland



Yinghong Zhou

The University of Queensland



ANZBMS 2024 AWARD WINNERS

ANZBMS SOL POSEN AWARD

The award is based on the best paper published in the 18 months prior to the closing date of the award. This year, we received 2 applications for the Sol Posen Award. Based on 4 criteria (scientific rigor, innovation, significance, and interest), all assessors were unanimous that the award should be given to Eugenie MacFarlane and Thach Tran.

Eugenie MacFarlane

ANZAC Research Institute,
The University of Sydney



Thach Tran

University of Technology, Sydney



ANZBMS 2024 AWARD WINNERS

ROGER MELICK YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD

This award is presented to commemorate the contribution of Dr Roger Aziz Melick to endocrinology and student education.

Roger Melick died in November 1986 after a long battle with cancer. He trained in endocrinology with Fuller Albright, in Boston, and joined The Royal Melbourne Hospital as the third member of the foundation Department of Medicine. He was appointed Head of the Clinical School in April 1979 and he was forced to retire because of his illness during 1986. Roger Melick was particularly known for his kindness, consideration and empathy for both patients and students. The prize is awarded annually to young members of the Society working towards a higher degree (including FRACP).

Lucy Collins

Monash University



CLINICAL CASES IN METABOLIC BONE DISEASE SEMINAR AWARD

The Clinical Cases in Metabolic Bone Disease Seminar was established in 2018 to encourage clinical interest in metabolic bone research in junior clinicians. This seminar provides an opportunity for physician trainees to present their case and literature reviews to a national scientific audience. It is anticipated that each case will spark lively discussion regarding complex areas of metabolic bone disease, engaging both clinicians and scientists. The clinical cases session aims to foster interest in the bone field amongst advanced trainees and senior clinicians and hopes to engage them into the wider clinician-research network.

Sarah Dixon

Princess Alexandra Hospital, Brisbane



ANZBMS 2024 AWARD WINNERS

CHRISTOPHER AND MARGIE NORDIN YOUNG INVESTIGATOR POSTER AWARD

This award is named in honour of the outstanding and major clinical investigations into disorders of bone and mineral metabolism made by Professor Christopher Nordin and his contributions to the ANZBMS. Professor B.E Christopher Nordin was a senior specialist at the Insitute of Medical and Veterinary Science in Adelaide, and the man credited with drawing the medical community's attention back to the link between calcium deficiency and osteoporosis (brittle bones).

Prof Nordin did his medical training at University College Hospital in London, graduating in 1950. In 1952, he went to Hammersmith Hospital, the postgraduate medical school, where he developed an interest in the link between calcium and bone strength. After more than 20 years in Britain, many as director of the Medical Research Council's Mineral Metabolism Unit in Leeds, Prof Nordin moved to Adelaide in 1981 to take up a position at Royal Adelaide Hospital where, instead of retirement, he wanted the excitement of setting up a new osteoporosis research group.

Professor Nordin was also the World Health Organisation's calcium expert, a visiting professor of medicine and pathology at the University of Adelaide and an emeritus specialist in endocrinology at Royal Adelaide HOsital. Prof B.E.C Nordin's work was honoured by the American Society of Bone and Mineral Research by the Frederick Bartter award in 1998.

Micaela Quinn

University of Adelaide



ANZBMS 2024 AWARD WINNERS

ANZBMS OUTSTANDING CLINICAL AWARD

Mike Lin

Royal Prince Alfred Hospital



ANZBMS HIGHEST RATED STUDENT ABSTRACT

Natalie Koh

St. Vincent's Institute of Medical Research



BASIC SCIENCE AWARD

Kaitlyn A Flynn

The University of Queensland



ANZBMS 2024 AWARD WINNERS

BRIDGING OVERSEAS NETWORKING AND EXCHANGE (B.O.N.E) PROGRAM

The Bridging Overseas Networking and Exchange (B.O.N.E) Program is an ANZBMS Early Career Investigator Committee (ECIC) initiative, established in 2018, to address the limited opportunity and funds for invited presentations for early career investigators (ECI) in the musculoskeletal field. This program will boost ECIs track records, increase their exposure, provide travel support, and facilitate international networking and collaboration - together enabling more competitive track records for future funding opportunities.

This years recipients were:

Katharina Jähn-Rickert

ECTS



Andrea Cowan

ASBMR



Christian Girgis

attended ECTS



Ben Kirk

attended ECTS



ANZBMS 2024 AWARD WINNERS

ANZBMS BONE HEALTH FOUNDATION HEALTH INNOVATION GRANT

The purpose of this grant is to deliver funding to test the feasibility of innovative concepts to improve musculoskeletal health. The scope of projects includes clinical, public health and/or health services (including clinical service delivery) or biomedical research that may lead to larger, more rigorous studies and or nationally competitive grant funding.

Dr Marc Sim

Edith Cowan University
Western Australia



ANZBMS-BHF COLLABORATIVE INTERDISCIPLINARY GRANT

Bone Health Foundation (BHF/Foundation) is a not-for-profit organisation that raises money for research and education into bone health and musculoskeletal conditions that affect Australians of all ages. The Foundation receives no government funding and relies solely on support from public and private individuals and organisations. The ANZBMS represents a research community that has a proven track record of producing internationally competitive research outcomes which have a meaningful impact on individuals with poor bone health. The bone and mineral research sector is currently experiencing unprecedented challenges and historic low funding rates in major and international funding schemes. The ANZBMS and BHF have aligned purposes to enable rigorous research, advocacy and education focused on reducing the burden of bone disease. Together they are committed to ensuring this track record of excellence and impact, continues and thrives in the current climate of complex national funding conditions.

Dr Jessica Sandy

Edith Cowan University
Western Australia



ANZBMS MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

KING'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

Melbourne Anglican and paediatric endocrinologist Christine Rodda has been made a Member of the Order of Australia. Associate Professor Rodda was recognised in the King's Birthday Honours for her significant service to paediatric endocrinology, to medical research and to tertiary education.

Christine Rodda

Paediatric Clinical Associate Professor
The University of Melbourne



AUSTRALIA'S TOP 250 RESEARCHERS IN 2025

The Australian's 2025 Research magazine names the top researcher and top research institution in each of 250 fields of research, based on the quality and impact of their work. Congratulations to ANZBMS members Prof Peter Ebeling and Prof Jiake Xu being named as leaders in the fields of endocrinology and physiology.



Peter Ebeling (Endocrinology)
Monash University



Jiake Xu (Physiology)
University of Western Australia

ANZBMS MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

Rebecca L Cooper Medical Research Foundation AI & Val Rosenstrauss Fellowship

Jiao Jiao Li

University of Technology Sydney



NHMRC IDEAS GRANT 2024

Kai Chen

The University of Western Australia



CANCER COUNCIL WA PROJECT GRANT

Kai Chen

The University of Western Australia



ANZBMS MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

Dr. Harry K Genant ISCD Researcher of the Year Award

Nicholas Pocock

St Vincent's Hospital



Robert Greenblatt Award at the International Menopause Society World Congress

Mícheál Ó Breasail

Monash University



ANZBMS MEMBER PASSING

Associate Professor Jane Moseley - 24.06.1946 - 22.04.2024

It is with great sadness that we share with the ANZBMS membership the notification of the death of Jane Moseley on 22nd April. May we take this opportunity to celebrate her immense contribution to bone and mineral research over so many years, and her support of all the researchers and students, who were enriched not only by her fierce and discerning intellect, but by her kindness, generosity and loyalty shown to all she worked with in the laboratory.

Following graduating in Science at the University of London, Jane undertook a PhD supervised by Iain MacIntyre at the Hammersmith Hospital, Royal Postgraduate Medical School, graduating in 1972 after contributing much to the early research on calcitonin, including establishing the ultimobranchial origin of calcitonin. It was during this time as fellow PhD students at the Hammersmith, that Jane and Carrie Hillyard became lifelong friends.



Jane made the decision to migrate to Australia, and in 1973 joined the bone group then at the Austin and Royal Melbourne Departments of Medicine. When that group dispersed, Jane worked as a post-doc in immunology with J.J. Marchalonis at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, until in 1978, when the bone group had assembled again, she joined with Jack Martin, David Findlay and others at the Department of Medicine, Repatriation General Hospital, Heidelberg.

For more than 30 years, Jane Moseley made outstanding contributions to the research of that group. Her first work was on the calcitonin receptor in cancer cells and in osteoclasts, but she rapidly became conversant with the cell biology of osteoclasts especially, and how they were influenced by osteoblasts. She published extensively throughout those years, with much original work, beginning first as an NHMRC post-doc, then a Senior Research Fellow, and for many years a Principal Research Fellow of the NHMRC.

When the group began in the early 1980's to aim at identifying the cause of the humoral hypercalcemia of malignancy, Jane made good use of her protein chemistry background and skills in cell biology, and led the efforts in the laboratory that resulted in the isolation, purification and sequencing of PTHrP, in collaboration with Dick Wettenhall and PhD student Larry Suva, that led to the cloning of PTHrP with Bill Wood (Genentech).

In collaboration with Bruce Kemp, whose laboratory prepared synthetic peptides based on that sequence, Jane carried out the first evaluations of the biological activity of PTHrP in activating adenylate cyclase in target cells, and showed also that aminoterminal PTH and PTHrP could readily be distinguished immunologically.

Throughout those years Jane continued with productive work on the regulation of osteoclast formation and on PTHrP action and production, working much with Matthew Gillespie and Janine Danks on the production of PTHrP by normal keratinocytes, cancer cells, osteoblasts and non-mammalian species. A major role of PTHrP to which Jane contributed in those years, was the effect of promoting calcium transport across the placenta, this in collaboration with Tony Care and Ivan Caple, and Christine Rodda and John Heath as PhD students, in addition to her supervision of Vivian Grill investigating the role of PTHrP in breast milk.

ANZBMS MEMBER PASSING

Jane Moseley's list of published papers, reviews and chapters is indeed an impressive one, but what does not come out through those is the immense contribution she made over almost four decades to the work of others around her. These generous contributions were made at all levels, but Jane was especially helpful with the initiation into the laboratory and the further work of research students. Of particular note were the laboratory and interpersonal skills she brought into play in incorporating new medical graduates into that research environment. Jane seemed to know better than anyone else that without any laboratory experience at all, they would have been particularly lost. Jane welcomed them, trained them, criticised them kindly and with gentle humour but firmly enough, that they went on to successful PhD's and careers.

In addition to Jane's immense contribution to calcitonin and PTHrP work, in her spare time she also loved exploring the Australian bush and became an Australian "birdo". Jane would also be regularly seen at symphony concerts and the opera, which she enjoyed immensely. As a testament to Jane's critical mind, excellent communication skills and personal integrity, following her retirement from the laboratory, she served for some years on the Ethics Committee at St Vincent's Hospital. When Jane fully retired, she thoroughly enjoyed her relaxed retirement, with regular trips back to the UK to visit family. Around a year before her death Jane learnt that she had developed an incurable malignancy, and in her wonderful practical way she continued to make the most of the time she had with friends and family.

On a personal note, I (Christine Rodda) had the privilege of re-establishing contact with Jane in recent months, sharing a cup of tea and a chat, just as we used to do with Jane as my supervisor and me as her PhD student, like she did so generously with all her students over the years. It was wonderful to reminisce together about all the research and the people that she guided over so many years, and for me to consider how in just a few years, nearly forty years ago, Jane represented such an inspirational role model, and the wider lessons she taught me about scientific integrity.

Jane is survived by her brother, nieces and nephews, and great nieces and nephews, all of whom she adored. Jane will be sadly missed, but we are all grateful for the many and varied ways that she touched our lives along the way.

T. John Martin AO FAA FRS

Emeritus Professor of Medicine
Jack Holt Fellow

Christine P. Rodda PhD, FRACP, MBBS

Associate Professor Paediatrics

ANZBMS MEMBER PASSING

Ann Robinson

After 6 months battling with glioblastoma multiform, Ann Robinson, passed away peacefully.

Ann has been a pillar of strength for the endocrine nurse community world-wide, a leader in Australia and an inspiration to all of us. She was the first endocrine nurse endorsed as a nurse practitioner in Australia. Ann started her career as a nurse midwife and became involved in paediatric diabetes nurse and became a diabetes nurse educator. She was an active and progressive patient and nursing advocate representing nursing in the Australian legislator. Her interest in endocrine care subsequently extended to bone fragility and she established a nurse led fragility clinic on the Gold Coast of Australia.

Ann was a founding member of F.I.N.E, an active board member and participant since our inception. She has presented at national and international nursing and advocacy meetings (including ICE) worldwide. She was the president of ENSA and has continued to take an active part in conference planning even through the onset of her health issues.

Ann was an amazing colleague, a model nurse and educator, and a beautiful friend. Saying goodbye is hard, but her legacy will continue to remind us to strive for more knowledge and excellence in our care.





Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Program Organising Committee and the Council of ANZBMS, I would like to invite you to the 35th ANZBMS Annual Scientific Meeting taking place in Cairns. We are putting together an outstanding scientific program across basic, clinical and allied health topics. There will also be plentiful opportunities for scientific networking.

Whether you are an early or mid-career investigator, clinician, basic scientist, or allied health professional, the meeting will allow you to reconnect with peers, drive new collaborations and learn from the exciting program of cutting-edge musculoskeletal science.

Registrations and abstract submissions will open soon.



Professor Mark Cooper
President of ANZBMS



Welcome to the IFMRS Herbert Fleisch Workshop: Asia Pacific

The IFMRS Herbert Fleisch Workshop: Asia Pacific is a 3-day residential workshop designed to bring together international investigators and early and mid-career researchers working in musculoskeletal research for a few days of learning, discussion and networking, with the hands-on participation and on-going interactions with selected top scientists in the field.

This event will be held in the Asia Pacific region for the first time, offering investigators from the region easier access to this globally renowned workshop. In the spirit of the late Herbert Fleisch, the workshop offers an informal and relaxed atmosphere which encourages engagement, curiosity and collegiality, fostering the development of scientific ideas and career growth for EMCRS in the MSK field.

We look forward to welcoming you to this workshop set in the beautiful coastal city of Cairns in Northern Queensland, where attendees will also experience the beauty of Australian beaches and local wildlife.



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Steering Committee
ANZBMS



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