



# ANZBMS



# 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND BONE AND MINERAL SOCIETY

## AIMS AND 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.

## REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

The ANZBMS membership enjoyed yet another terrific Annual Scientific Meeting in Queenstown, New Zealand, from 7-10 September 2014.

The feedback from the 254 delegates was overwhelmingly positive and the weather and snow were fantastic. A total of 30 invited lectures, including those by our international guests and friends, Sarah Dallas and Per Apsenbergs, together with 38 oral and 89 poster presentations made this ASM a first class event in keeping with the tradition of our society. On behalf of ANZBMS, I thank Ian Reid, Jill Corsnish and all members of the 2014 POC and LOC who generously gave their time and contributed so much to the success of the meeting.

I would also like to thank previous and current members of ANZBMS Council, Matthew Gillespie (Immediate Past President), Rebecca Mason (Past President), Gethin Thomas, Gerald Atkins, Natalie Sims, Elaine Dennison, Nick Pocock, Nathan Pavlos, Mark Bolland and Charles Inderjeeth for their commitment, leadership and hard work over the past few years. Without their continuous input our Society would not be what it is. My special thanks go to Matt Gillespie and Ivone Johnson for their continuous support.

The ANZBMS is in good shape both scientifically and financially. Our finances are in good order thanks to the sharp eye of Gethin Thomas and Ivone Johnson, and I draw your attention to Gethin's finance report further below. As agreed several years ago, our membership fees have increased stepwise over recent years from \$133.00 in 2011 to \$196 in 2014 for full members, and from \$46.00 to \$60.50 for students. These fees are still low compared to many other societies but are an essential part of our financial position. We are also grateful to MSD Sharp and Dohme Australia for becoming a corporate sponsor of ANZBMS in financially challenging times.

The ANZBMS constitution, which had remained essentially unchanged since 1999, has seen an extensive revision in 2014. This overhaul was overdue to reflect changes and developments in ANZBMS practice, and to consolidate the previous amendments. I would like to thank members of the 'Constitution Review Committee' for their time and skilful advice, namely Mark Kotowicz, Rob Daly, Matt Gillespie and Ivone Johnson - it was a pleasure working with you on this somewhat dry task. The recommended changes to our society's constitution have been accepted by the membership during the 2014 AGM.

Council is also working to update the 'ANZBMS Strategic Plan', with the intention to focus the society's activities on those aspects deemed most relevant by the membership. I therefore ask you to review the current ANZBMS Strategic Plan ([www.anzbms.org.au/about/ANZBMS\\_Strategic\\_Plan\\_2010-2013.pdf](http://www.anzbms.org.au/about/ANZBMS_Strategic_Plan_2010-2013.pdf)) and let Council know where you think our society should be in 3 to 5 years.

ANZBMS recognises the need for stronger links with other learned societies and organisations, and Council is pursuing this aim at various levels. Last year, ANZBMS became a partner society of the International Bone & Mineral Society (IBMS), and our members have benefited from this partnership in many ways. Also, ANZBMS is a founding member of the International Federation of Musculoskeletal Research Societies (IFMRS), with Rebecca Mason, Craig Munns and I having represented our Society at a number of IFMRS meetings. The aim of the Federation is to enhance research into musculoskeletal disorders at a global level. As a first step, IFMRS has created a "Big Data Website Inventory" (<http://www.ifmrs.org/ifmrs-big-data-website-inventory>) to assist members in accessing and utilizing existing data bases for musculoskeletal research.

CONTINUED



# REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

Within Australia and New Zealand we are forging closer relationships with both basic and clinical groups with an interest in musculoskeletal research and related areas. Thus, the next ANZBMS Annual Scientific Meeting will be held in Hobart from 1 – 4 November 2015, together with the Molecular and Experimental Pathology Society of Australasia (MEPSA) and the Matrix Biology Society (MBSANZ). This should be an exciting meeting with ample opportunity for cross-fertilisation and collaboration. We are also in contact with ANZORS and the ESA to arrange a similar joint meeting in 2016. Finally, we are trying to engage with our clinically oriented colleagues (e.g. Geriatricians, Orthopaedic Surgeons or Rheumatologists) through active involvement in our educational events such as the ANZBMS Advanced Clinical Postgraduate Course in Bone Disease (aka ‘Registrar Meeting’). In 2015, the Postgraduate Course will be held in Adelaide and Perth under the leadership of Gerald Atkins and Nathan Pavlos, respectively.

Osteoporosis Australia and ANZBMS continue to enjoy a productive partnership. The AO/ANZBMS Research Fund includes the Amgen/GSK Clinical Grant Programme, and the Sambrook Award honours the legacy of the late Philip Sambrook. ANZBMS and OA will continue their collaboration to argue the case for support of fracture prevention initiatives and better patient outcomes. I draw your attention to the new OA website at [www.osteoporosis.org.au](http://www.osteoporosis.org.au) which provides excellent information for consumers, important resources and online education for health professionals and of course Research Fund information.

This year has also seen a revamp of our own website, which now has a much improved design. From 1 January to 31 July 2014 we had nearly 30,000 page views from over 4,300 users around the world. A big ‘Thank-you’ goes to Ivone Johnson and Anthony Malloy for maintaining our face to the internet – not an easy task. Similar things can be said about the ANZBMS eNews, which are collated by Matt and Ivone and distributed to our members on a regular basis.

Since June 2014, ANZBMS is also represented with a full-length article in Wikipedia ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian\\_and\\_New\\_Zealand\\_Bone\\_and\\_Mineral\\_Society](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_and_New_Zealand_Bone_and_Mineral_Society)). This new entry complements our website and appears second to it when searching “ANZBMS” in Google. In addition, ANZBMS is now also on Facebook and those of you who enjoy these social media are encouraged to visit and “like” us.

Emma Duncan has been chairing the Therapeutics Committee, supported by a team of experts from different specialities, and I draw your attention to her report further below. As of September 2014, Mark Kotowicz has taken over the chair of this important committee, and I thank both Emma and Mark for their commitment.

The Densitometry Committee, chaired by Nick Pocock, continues running the ANZBMS Training Course in Osteodensitometry. With 82 attendees, the Sydney course last May had the largest number of participants so far. The Committee, together with the Councils of ANZBMS and other societies are also in discussion with the DOH in regards to a recent, somewhat problematic interpretation of several Medicare item numbers related to osteodensitometry. While some progress has been made in obtaining clarification, many questions are still open. Updates on further developments in this area will be available in the eNews.

In 2014, ANZBMS has introduced two new awards:

- The '**ANZBMS International Award**' supports younger members of our society in attending international meetings and training courses. This year's recipients were Ashika Channa, Tara Brennan-Speranza and Christina Vrahnas, who attended the IBMS Herbert Fleisch Workshop in Belgium. Their reports are included in this report.
- The '**ANZBMS Career Achievement Award**' is given to established (not necessarily older!) members of our society and recognises outstanding contributions to the bone and mineral field. Congratulations to the inaugural winners of this new esteem award, Jill Cornish and Ego Seeman!

Special thanks are owed to Allison Pettit and the members of the Research Committee for organising the logistics around our many awards. Please see below for Allison’s detailed report.

Over the past 3 years, Australian researchers have become increasingly frustrated over the NHMRC’s practice to lump applications for musculoskeletal research together with ‘left-over’ applications for completely unrelated areas (e.g. dermatology, psychiatry, emergency medicine etc.). While the NHMRC justified the formation of such ‘hodgepodge GRPs’ by the slightly lower number of project grant applications in our field of research, these GRPs featured a glaring lack of specific competence. Together with ESA, ANZBMS ‘persuaded’ the NHMRC to move “Musculoskeletal Research” back into a GRP with Endocrinology and Diabetes.



## REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

Having served on both the old and (in 2014) the 'new' GRPs, I can assure you that the current arrangements have improved the situation considerably. While still not ideal, the Endocrinology/ Diabetes/ MSK panels provide more expertise (and hence interest) in judging our applications. However, we all need to work on increasing the number of competitive project grant applications in musculoskeletal research, so that specific GRPs for MSK research can be formed again in the future. Along those lines, I would like to remind you that the default time span for NHMRC project grant applications is now considered to be 5 years.

On behalf of ANZBMS, I'd like to congratulate Jill Cornish as this year's recipient of the ASBMR Paula Stern Achievement Award, which recognises colleagues who have promoted the professional development and advancement of women in the field. Jill was presented with the award at the ASBMR 2014 Annual Meeting in Houston, Texas. I would further like to congratulate Holly Brennan from the St. Vincent's Institute, Melbourne, and Holger Henneicke from the ANZAC Institute, Sydney, for receiving a Young Investigator Award at this year's ASM of the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research.

I would like to end my report by personally thanking Ivone Johnson and Melissa Dupavillon for their continuing support and organisational foresight. The last year has seen a number of new and often time-consuming and complicated initiatives. Without Ivone and Melissa's assistance, many of the Society's tasks would have been impossible to achieve.

**Professor Markus Seibel**



*Professor Markus Seibel  
President*

# TREASURER'S REPORT

DR GETHIN THOMAS, ANZBMS TREASURER

## The Society remains in a strong financial position.

2014 Member's funds = \$1,078,785  
 2013 Member's funds = \$1,035,744

The Society remains in a strong financial position, aided by significant profits from previous meetings that have been conservatively invested rather than spent. The current financial environment is making it increasingly difficult to secure the previously generous support we have enjoyed from pharmaceutical companies. This is reflected in the smaller profit from the last 2 scientific meetings and the expected break-even situation of the immediate future meetings.

### Overall Profit

\$43,041 profit (2013 = \$18,374;  
 2012 = \$112,331 profit)

Compared to some previous years we have made a small profit, however with the continuing tough financial climate for raising sponsorship from Pharma I expect small profits to be the norm from now on. Previously we have made significant profits (up to \$100K) from our annual meetings, however we now are doing well to break even or make a small profit. Credit must go to the Programme Organising Committees (POCs) and Professional Conference Organisers (PCOs) for squeezing out small profits while still providing excellent (and well-catered) Scientific Meetings.

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 recognizing a 'net profit' of each individual meeting.

### Investments

\$966,493

Currently we have >\$100,000 in our current account and once all the ASM finances are complete we will look to increase our term-deposit holdings.

We will continue to exercise a conservative investment approach. Term deposits are yielding ~ 3.5% and with the current volatility in the share markets this seems to be a prudent course. This yielded ~ \$37,000 in 2013.

### Expenses

We have some reduced expenses this year and this is reflected in our lower running cost for 2014.

Excluding conference expenses the society costs ~ \$100,000/year to run

This includes;

Office - \$57,000 (Rent + salaries + minor extras)

Audit - \$4,700

IBMS associate membership - \$13,000

Council meeting costs - \$3,000

Awards - \$24,000 (Christine & T Jack Martin Research Travel Grant (\$15,000 - Amgen funded), Amgen-ANZBMS Outstanding Abstract award (x5, \$1,000 each - Amgen funded), Roger Mellick and Chris & Margie Nordin Young Investigator Awards, Kaye Ibbertson Award, Sol Posen Award (all \$1,000))

Journal/Society subscriptions - \$3,500

Website maintenance - \$1,300

One-off expenses

New website - \$5,000

# TREASURER'S REPORT

DR GETHIN THOMAS, ANZBMS TREASURER

## The Society remains in a strong financial position.

### Income

2013 Meeting profit – \$9,000  
 Amgen donation - \$20,000 (covers Christine & T Jack Martin Research Travel Grant (\$15,000) and 5 Amgen-ANZBMS Outstanding Abstract awards (\$1,000 each))  
 ANZBMS satellite meetings (post graduate trainee meetings + densitometry) - \$9,000  
 Subscriptions - \$67,000  
 Interest from term deposits - \$37,000

Subscriptions increased \$25,000 in 2014 due to a review of unfinancial members who were encouraged to renew. Many thanks to Ivone for managing this. The Society should acknowledge the contributions of Natalie Sims for leading the 2013 ASM POC in Melbourne and Nick Pocock for overseeing the Densitometry Courses and Markus Seibel for his efforts for the postgraduate training meetings.

### Future directions

For 2014 we did not encounter any significant financial demands on the Society and were able to slightly increase our overall profit. Our current outgoings are likely to be fairly stable for the next few years with just minor increases to match cost-of-living expenses. Assuming moderate profits from meetings we should continue to realise a small profit every year. Additionally MSD have now offered to sponsor the Society for 2014-2015 for \$10,000 and we are hopeful this may continue.

I would like to offer my thanks to Ivone Johnson and Melissa Dupavillon who have provided excellent support to me as usual and Rod Laws of Tinworth & Co Chartered Accounts who has done a fantastic job on the accounts and patiently explained them to me.



*Dr Gethin Thomas,  
ANZBMS Treasurer*

## ANZBMS

# CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE

The ANZBMS Constitution states at Item 51.

### **"Amendment of these Articles of Association.**

A notice of motion for amendment of these Articles of Association must be signed by the proposer and five other members and sent to the Secretary of Council. A ballot of members of the Association will be carried out as described in Article 23 and the motion is approved if supported by a majority of two-thirds or more of all the votes validly cast."

ANZBMS Council has reviewed and endorsed the proposed changes and amendments of the Articles of Association to a new Constitution and advised the Secretary of Council to the effect.

The special resolution to be considered at the 2014 Annual General Meeting of the Society has been circulated not less than thirty days prior to the AGM with an explanatory Memorandum.

### **Modification to Articles of Association of the ANZBMS**

The Articles of Association of the ANZBMS was last amended in 2009, and previously in 1999. It is proposed that the Articles of Association be updated to reflect recent changes and developments in ANZBMS practice, and to consolidate the previous amendments into a new Constitution.

A lawyer has reviewed the proposed amendments to the Articles of Association and the provision to replace these with a Constitution, and it was noted that Article 51 provided for adoption amendments of the articles, that none of the proposed amendments appear to breach any law, and are matters strictly for the interests and benefit of the Society.

Summary of the key changes proposed:

- Definition of Student Member (Article 2).
- Modernisation of the form for appointment of Proxy.
- Recognition and definition of the Treasurer and their appointment to Council (Article 15).
- Defining process for a Circulating Resolution.
- Recognition of electronic media for communication.
- Incorporate changes as proposed in amendments of 1999 and 2009.

A copy of the Constitution that replaced the amended Articles of Association of the ANZBMS (marked up to show the proposed changes) is available on the ANZBMS website at [www.anzbms.org.au](http://www.anzbms.org.au).

Copies may be obtained by emailing the ANZBMS ([ijohnson@anzbms.org.au](mailto:ijohnson@anzbms.org.au)).

### **Adoption of Constitution and replacement of the Articles of Association of the ANZBMS - Resolution**

To consider and if thought fit to pass as a special resolution:

That the Constitution of the ANZBMS, replacing the Articles of Association of the ANZBMS, tabled at the Annual General Meeting and signed by the Chair of the Meeting for the purpose of identification be approved and adopted as the Constitution of the ANZBMS, in place of the current Articles of Association.

**The Council recommends that you vote in favour of the special resolution.**

**CARRIED.**

### **Action**

Subsequent to the position of the Members to endorse the adoption of the new Constitution of the ANZBMS, these will not come into effect until such time that they have been approved the Australian Securities Commission. ANZBMS will now seek approval from the Australian Securities Commission.

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# Australian and New Zealand Bone and Mineral Society

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This article may rely excessively on sources too closely associated with the subject, preventing the article from being verifiable and neutral.  
Please help improve it by replacing them with more appropriate citations to reliable, independent, third-party sources. (May 2014)

The Australian and New Zealand Bone and Mineral Society (ANZBMS) is a not-for-profit collegiate organisation and principal professional body for scientists and clinicians involved in bone and mineral metabolism research in Australia and New Zealand.

Since its inception in 1988, the ANZBMS has become one of the premier bone research societies in Australia, with its members recognised for their outstanding contributions made to clinical and biomedical musculoskeletal research. The ANZBMS continues to act as a policy advisor to governments<sup>[1]</sup> and the community<sup>[2][3]</sup> throughout Australasia on issues such as clinical bone disease and funding for musculoskeletal research.

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## Aims and Purpose of the Society

The major goal of the ANZBMS is the nurturing, development and dissemination of new knowledge regarding bone and mineral metabolism, with particular emphasis on issues of clinical relevance. The ANZBMS aims to promote excellence in bone and mineral research, to foster the integration of clinical and basic science, and to facilitate the translation of our science to health care. The society prides itself of its continued and successful activities to advance the education of clinicians, allied health professionals and the public in the nature of and management of diseases impacting upon the skeleton.

# FACEBOOK

**Please visit the ANZBMS Facebook page and "LIKE" us to keep up to date with current news items and upcoming events!**

A screenshot of the Australian and New Zealand Bone and Mineral Society's Facebook page. The page header features the society's logo and name. Below the header, there are several photo albums and a news feed. One post shows a landscape with snow-capped mountains and a lake, with the caption "ANZBMS Annual Scientific Meeting". Another post shows a person using a microscope, with the caption "Australian and New Zealand Bone and Mineral Society (changed their cover photo)". The sidebar on the left lists sections like People, About, Photos, and Events.

# OUR MEMBERS

## INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION OF ANZBMS MEMBERS

### Young Investigator Awards at this year's ASBMR meeting

**Holly Brennan** from St. Vincent's Institute, University of Melbourne and **Holger Henneicke** from the ANZAC Institute, University of Sydney.



*Holly Brennan & Holger Henneicke*

### ASBMR Paula Stern Achievement Awardee

This award recognizes a woman in the bone field who has promoted the professional development and advancement of women in the field.



*Jillian Cornish*

## ANZBMS MEMBERS PASSING

### Professor BE Christopher Nordin AO: MD (London), FRCP (London), FRACP (Sydney), DSc (London and Adelaide)

It is with considerable sadness that I inform you of the death of Prof BEC (Chris) Nordin, a remarkable man and a pioneer in the field of bone and calcium metabolism, on October 27, 2014, at the age of 94 years.

Chris was a highly idiosyncratic enthusiast and possessed an extraordinary, broad-based, intellect. In a research career extending over some 60 years he was responsible for insights fundamental to an understanding of the pathogenesis and rational management of osteoporosis. In 1981 Chris resigned as Head of the MRC Mineral Metabolism Unit in Leeds to take up a position as Senior Research Fellow at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. The UK's loss was very much Australia's gain.

Chris continued to be alert and active in research until just prior to his death—often quoting Noel Coward: 'Work is more fun than fun.'

He will be missed greatly.

**Michael Horowitz**



*Christopher Nordin*

Professor Nordin had a long and distinguished career in the field of bone and calcium metabolism and his work reaches through the whole clinical and research bone endeavour today.

His contributions to our understanding of osteoporosis have continued unabated for decades, publishing widely, debating it, treating it, preventing it, caring for its victims, educating about it. His influence is discovered by chatting to the large number of people he has mentored (whether willingly or not on their part!), assisted, taught, debated with, cared for, worked with, celebrated with and shared knowledge with in the old-fashioned way. Those of us who knew Chris well are proud to have been his friends and colleagues. May we strive to be worthy successors to this wonderful, larger than life true academic.

**David M. Findlay** (in a letter to the School of Medicine, University of Adelaide).

# OUR MEMBERS

## ANZBMS MEMBERS PASSING

### Jian Sheng (Charles) Chen

It was with great sadness that we heard of the death of Jian Sheng (Charles) Chen on 23rd October 2014. Charles died unexpectedly whilst travelling overseas in Taiwan. Charles was a much valued member of the Kolling Institute and significantly contributed to the success of both the Bone and Joint, and Perinatal Research Teams. The day before his death we heard of his successful academic promotion to Level C. Charles was a warm, understated man who had great biostatistical expertise. He was a true gentleman who was considerate and selfless. Charles has been a loyal and exceptionally productive member of the Department of Rheumatology and Institute of Bone and Joint Research for

the past 14 years. He began as a research officer in 2001, progressed to gain his Masters in Biostatistics and then a PhD, quietly accruing more and more expertise to become the lead statistical advisor in every project that our staff and students were involved in, and more. His generosity of spirit touched all our lives. He contributed to the analyses of complexly linked population health datasets for mothers and babies, and to the large clinical trials run by the Perinatal Group. Charles was a Chief Investigator on two of our successful NHMRC Project Grant applications to commence in 2015. He held the Rolf-Edgar Lake Fellowship from the University of Sydney in 2014 and planned to be an inaugural MD supervisor for

the clinical school. The Kolling community is diminished as a result of his passing.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Lisa, son Alex (11years) and all his family at this most difficult time.



*Jian Sheng Chen*

### DENSITOMETRY COURSE

The ANZBMS course was run successfully in May Sydney in with the largest enrolment to date with 82 attendees. The course was in the new format which worked well. Further fine tuning of the new format will continue as we get more feedback.

The next course will be held in Adelaide on 18th and 19th October 2014. The subsequent course will be in Melbourne on 28 February – 1 March 2015.

### ADVANCED CLINICAL POSTGRADUATE MEETING IN BONE DISEASE

These meetings will be held in 2015 in Perth and Adelaide. The convenors are Nathan Pavlos and Gerald Atkins.

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## THERAPEUTIC COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee members:  
 Emma Duncan (chair); Mark Kotowitz; Tania Witzenberg; Nicholas Pocock; Rory Clifton-Bligh; Craig Munns; Arthur Conigrave; Geoff Nicholson; Mark Bolland (recently resigned); Nigel Gilchrist; Charles Inderjeeth; Jacqueline Close, Rebecca Mason.  
 I would like to thank my co-members for their engagement.

Remit

There are no current terms of reference for this committee. We will be looking at the TOR for the Medical Affairs Committee of the Endocrine Society of Australia and expect to be able to adapt these for use for this committee also.

Actions 2013-2014

- a) Changes to the Medicare Schedule for bone densitometry – Letter to Department of Health.  
 We reviewed and responded to a letter from A/Prof Nick Pocock with respect to this issue which ended up resolving.
- b) Therapeutics guidelines from Therapeutics Goods Administration  
 The committee was asked to provide endorsement. We felt unable to endorse the document as there were a number of errors in the text but we indicated we'd be happy to provide endorsement if these issues were fixed which the TGA have agreed to consider in their next version.
- c) ANZ Hip fracture registry  
 We were asked to comment on Australian and New Zealand Guideline for Hip Fracture Care Improving Outcomes in Hip Fracture Management Guideline Public Consultation Document October 2013. We reviewed the document and wrote a report with suggestions.
- d) Aromatase inhibitors and bone health  
 We reviewed and responded to the Assessment Report for MSAC Application 1313 - Bone mineral density analyses using Dual Energy X-Ray Absorptiometry (DXA) in breast cancer patients receiving aromatase inhibitor treatment. The committee was overall pleased with the conclusions reached and had a number of relatively minor suggestions for improving the report.
- e) Position statement for fracture liaison service - the therapeutics committee provided comment and feedback regarding this document also.



*Emma Duncan*

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## RESEARCH SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

As chair of the ANZBMS research subcommittee I am responsible for a large portion of the logistics associated with selection of finalists (based on submitted abstract scores and confirmed eligibility) and assigning judging of the various Awards offered by the Society at the ASM. For the Roger Melick and Christopher Nordin Awards judges are generally a mixture of the international/national invited speakers plus esteemed society members. Conflicts of interest are managed appropriately in judge selection and the responsibility is spread across a wide sample of ANZBMS membership. Judging of the Kay Ibbertson and Sol Posen awards is managed through Research Committee members and consequently there is less variability between years in this panel of judges.

However this Committee again has a broad sample of Society membership and conflicts of interest are declared and excluded.

This year award management responsibilities of the Research Committee also included the inaugural ANZBMS International Award. High quality applications were received and the judging process was run similar to the above. Overall, I'm confident the ANZBMS Award review process is appropriate and impartial. As Research Sub-Committee Chair I served as ANZBMS's representative on the AMGEN OA/ANZBMS Clinical Grants scheme. There were many excellent applications submitted to the scheme resulting in strong clinical research projects being funded.

ANZBMS Council has communicated with the NHMRC outlining in clear terms the unsatisfactory grant review panel structure as well as grant assignment and processing that was used for musculoskeletal-focused grant applications since 2011.



*Allison Pettit  
Chair, Research Committee*

## DENSITOMETRY COMMITTEE REPORT

Medicare item numbers.

### 1. Densitometry Medicare benefit:

The ANZBMS, in conjunction with the RANZCR, AANMS and ADIA are in continuing discussions with the DOH relating to the October 2013 edition of Health Professional News which published the following statement:

A Medicare benefit is only payable for referred MBS Bone Densitometry items (12306, 12309, 12312, 12315, 12318, 12321 and 12323) when the specialist or consultant physician attends the patient and personally performs the service." There have been no further significant developments to date.

2. The proposals before MSAC to consider providing Medicare item number for DXA for patients with HIV and those on aromatase inhibitors is still with the DOH.

Similarly, the application to decrease the age (currently 70) for general access to DXA remains with MSAC.

3. The progressive increase in private body composition services performed using whole body DXA, often with multiple measurements, continues. A letter to raise awareness of this issue will be published shortly in the MJA and a position statement

on body composition is being developed. A draft version for comment will be available in the near future.



*Nick Pocock  
Chair, Densitometry Committee*

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## PROGRAMME ORGANISING COMMITTEE 2014

The Programme Organising Committee has worked very efficiently this year, with great support from Ivone Johnson, and our conference organiser, Malcolm Blakey, to produce what we hope will be a stimulating conference programme. We have been fortunate in having Per Aspenberg and Sarah Dallas agree to be our international keynote speakers. More than 140 abstracts were submitted of which 48 have been accepted for oral presentation. The balance will be presented in three poster sessions. We are grateful to the 12 society members who refereed these abstracts. The submitted abstracts are complemented by 30 invited presentations and a suite of Meet the Professor sessions. We have again been well supported by industry, in particular Amgen (platinum sponsor), Merck Sharp and Dohme (gold sponsor), and Sanofi (silver sponsor). As a result, we expect the meeting to run at a small profit. We would like to thank the members of the POC, the LOC and all others who have contributed to this meeting for making it such a success.

**Professor Ian Reid and  
Professor Jillian Cornish**

### Programme Organising Committee 2014

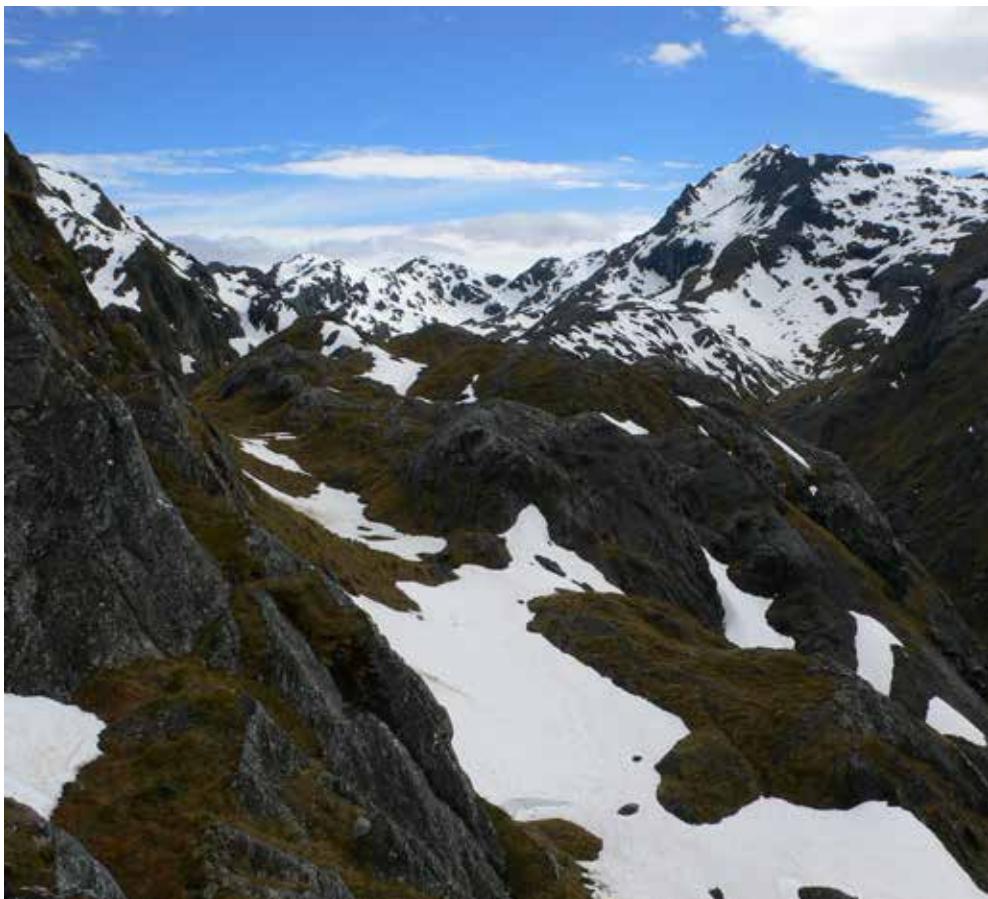
Chair: Ian Reid  
Co-Chair: Jill Cornish

#### Members:

Natalie Sims (VIC)  
DoritNaot (NZ)  
Nathan Pavlos (WA)  
Tim Cundy (NZ)  
Mark Forwood (QLD)  
Hong Zhou (NSW)  
Markus Seibel – ex officio

### Local Organising Committee 2014

Chair: Jill Cornish  
Nigel Gilchrist  
Elaine Dennison  
Karen Callon  
Maureen Watson  
David Musson



# ASM 2014



# ASM 2014





# PARTNERSHIP

## IBMS MEMBERSHIP

Furthering the partnerships of ANZBMS with other societies, last year ANZBMS became an Affiliate Member of the International Bone and Mineral Society. ANZBMS became the third Society member of IBMS. The other societies are The Spanish Society for Bone and Mineral Metabolism Research (SEIOMM) and the Japanese Society for Bone and Mineral Research (JSBMR). The affiliation with IBMS provides financial members of ANZBMS full IBMS membership status, and includes:

1. IBMS full membership status;
2. Free access to BoneKEY Reports via the IBMS website;
3. Access to member only areas of BoneKEY (not provided by institutional library access);
4. Voting and committee rights for IBMS; discounts at IBMS meetings (e.g., annual meetings, Sun Valley and CIBD);
5. Eligibility for IBMS awards – travel, Fellowship (Rodan and Gregory R. Mundy) and IBMS Awards; and
6. Discounts on “open-access” and nature.com.

Furthermore, the ANZBMS will have the opportunity to promote announcements communicated by IBMS, ability to publish meeting content on BoneKEY, receive branding position on the IBMS website, and preferential pricing on some services.

ANZBMS 2014

# AWARD RECIPIENTS

## AMGEN OUTSTANDING ABSTRACT AWARD

### **Dr Allison Pettit**

Mater Research Institute – University of QLD  
Title – Macrophages are a viable therapeutic target to enhance fracture repair via endochondral callus formation.



*Dr Allison Pettit*

### **Dr Paul Baldock**

Garvan Institute of Medical Research, Sydney  
Title – Central regulation of bone mass by SNORD116, a non-translated, imprinted gene: Potential role in skeletal abnormalities in Prader-Willi Syndrome.



*Dr Paul Baldock*

### **Dr Jinwen Tu**

ANZAC Research Institute, Sydney  
Title – Tamoxifen-Induced Deletion of the Glucocorticoid Receptor in Chondrocytes Enhances K/BxN Serum-Induced Arthritis in Mice.



*Dr Jinwen Tu*

### **Dr Roger Zebaze**

Austin Health, Victoria  
Title – Antiresorptive therapy is sometimes 'too late'.



*Dr Roger Zebaze*

### **Dr Kirtan Ganda**

University of Sydney and Concord Hospital, Sydney  
Title – Closing the gap in osteoporosis management: implementation and outcome analysis of Secondary Fracture Prevention Programs.



*Dr Kirtan Ganda*

ANZBMS 2014

# AWARD RECIPIENTS

## KAYE IBBERTSON AWARD

### **Dr Nicole Yu**

Institute: The University of NSW, Graduate School of Biomedical Engineering, Sydney



Nicole Yu

## CHRISTINE AND TJ MARTIN TRAVEL GRANT

### **Dr Michelle McDonald**

Institute: Garvan Institute of Medical Research, Sydney  
 Visiting: Prof Karin Vanderkerken and Prof Els Van Valckenborgh (Vrije Universiteit Brussel), Dr Shelly Lawson (The University of Sheffield) as well as Prof Irene Ghobrial (Harvard Medical School, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute).  
 Project: Sclerostin regulation of wnt signalling to prevent bone loss and alter tumour cell activation in multiple myeloma.



Dr Michelle McDonald

## SOL POSEN AWARD

### **Mr Heath McGowan**

Institute: La Trobe University Victoria  
 Paper Title: Galnon, a galanin receptor agonist, improves intrinsic cortical bone tissue properties but exacerbates bone loss in an ovariectomised rat model.  
 Published in: J Musculoskeletal Neuronal Interact.



Heath McGowan

## ROGER MELICK YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD

### **Mr Hua Ying**

The University of Western Australia  
 Title: A Role For V-Atpase V0 Domain Subunit E1 In Bone Homeostasis.

### **Dr Irina Kulina**

Mater Research Institute - the University of Queensland  
 Title: Neurological Heterotopic Ossification Requires Both Spinal Cord Injury And Macrophage-Dependent Soft Tissue Inflammation.



Mr Hua Ying and Dr Irina Kulina

ANZBMS 2014

# AWARD RECIPIENTS

## NORDIN YOUNG INVESTIGATOR POSTER

**Mr Masato Koike**  
Chiba University Graduate School  
of Medicine, Chiba, Japan  
Title: Chondrocyte-specific  
deletion of Sod2 exacerbates  
age-related cartilage



Masato Koike  
Tokyo, Japan

## MSD-ANZBMS CLINICAL RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

**Dr Masakazu Kogawa**  
IMVS, Adelaide  
Abstract title: The response of  
bone cells to infection following  
total hip replacement.



Masakazu Kogawa  
presented by Elisabeth Smith

## ANZBMS CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

**Prof. Jillian Cornish**  
**Prof. Ego Seeman**



Prof. Jillian Cornish  
Prof. Ego Seeman

ANZBMS 2014

# AWARD RECIPIENTS

## THE PHILIP SAMBROOK AWARD

### **Dr Kirtan Ganda**

Dr Ganda is an endocrinologist at Sydney's Concord General Repatriation Hospital. He has a strong commitment to improving bone health in the community through a combination of patient care, teaching and research. Dr Ganda's research focusses on how best to prevent more fractures occurring in people who have already suffered a minimal trauma fracture due to osteoporosis, and an in-depth analysis of the effectiveness of the Minimal Trauma Fracture Service at Concord Hospital is the focus of his recently completed PhD. This research has been extended to include an analysis of secondary fracture prevention programs throughout Australia and overseas.

Dr Ganda has used his award to present his findings at the Australian and New Zealand Bone and Mineral Society Annual scientific meeting in Queenstown, New Zealand, and at Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research annual meeting in Houston.



*Dr Kirtan Ganda*

## AMGEN/GSK GRANT RECIPIENTS

### **Dr Weiwen Chen -**

Garvan Institute of Medical Research, Sydney - 'Clinical applications of trabecular bone score (TBS) in populations at higher fracture risk' The 'gold standard' for the assessment of bone strength is the measurement of its density – the quantity of bone related to its area. However, researchers have known for some time that measuring the quality of bone may be just as important as determining its density. Dr Chen's research aims to understand how assessing the quality of the underlying 'scaffold' structure of bone might predict fracture risk more accurately than measuring its density alone. This will help

improve the management of bone health in people with chronic diseases, who can be at higher risk of fracture despite often having normal bone density.



*Dr Weiwen Chen*

ANZBMS 2014

# AWARD RECIPIENTS

## AMGEN/GSK GRANT RECIPIENTS

### **Dr Fran Milat -**

Monash Institute of Medical Research - 'The Optimisation of Bone Health in Chronic Neurological Conditions'.

Cerebral palsy and spina bifida are common causes of physical disability in Australian children. Poor bone health is more likely to develop in these conditions, resulting in an increased risk of fractures in adulthood. These can have a devastating impact on already limited mobility. Dr Milat's research will fulfil an unmet need to understand the causes of osteoporosis as well as the optimal treatment and prevention of fractures in adults with these conditions.

Her findings will help in the planning of clinical trials to determine the optimal treatment of osteoporosis in adults with chronic neurological conditions, and contribute to the development of new treatment guidelines.



*Dr Fran Milat*

### **Dr Jian Chen -**

Institute of Bone and Joint Research, University of Sydney - 'Quality use of osteoporosis medication in clinical practice: minimum treatment requirements and therapy guidelines through data linkage'.

Osteoporosis medications are extremely effective, reducing the risk of fracture by up to 50%. Despite this, osteoporosis is still a significant problem in Australia, partly because many patients do not take their osteoporosis medications properly. Knowing the reasons for this is important, but it is also helpful to understand how well osteoporosis medications work in the 'real world' of poor compliance.

The proposed research takes advantage of a unique opportunity to use health data collected over several years from over 266,000 men and women in NSW and will help to understand how the different ways that patients take their medications affects their bone health and risk of fracture over time. The findings will assist consumers, doctors and policy makers to improve the use of osteoporosis medications, reducing the devastating effects of fractures in the community.



*Dr Jian Chen*

ANZBMS 2014

# AWARD RECIPIENTS

## THE ANZBMS INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AWARD

In 2014, the ANZBMS has created a new award to support travel of young investigators to the IBMS Herbert Fleisch Workshop. The inaugural meeting was held in Brugge, Belgium, from 16 to 18 March 2014 (for more information see <http://www.ibmsonline.org/p/cm/ld/fid=202>). The objective of this workshop is to provide a Gordon-conference style forum for students, post-docs and early stage principal investigators to present work in progress, discuss thoroughly and network with peers, and get constructive feedback from

experienced senior scientists. The aim of this award is to facilitate travel to participate in what the ANZBMS believes to be an excellent opportunity for the development of emerging researchers within bone and mineral-related fields. The award is open to research students or early career scientists within five years of obtaining a PhD, Masters or equivalent training. Applicants must be financial members of the ANZBMS with continuous membership for 12 months or more and must have registered for, and submitted an abstract to attend the workshop.

Up to three (3) awards valued at AU\$1,000 (GST inclusive) each will be awarded, based on application merit and applicant track record. All applications will be judged by a panel of experienced scientists and decisions will be based on the merit of the track record of the applicant and the quality of the abstract/ research project. "Applications for next year's awards are expected to open in February 2015."

**Markus Seibel**

## THE ANZBMS INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AWARD 2014 FINAL REPORT

In March 2014, I attended the (hopefully inaugural) Herbert Fleisch Workshop, in Bruges, Belgium. The Herbert Fleisch Workshop was a specialty conference for early career scientific researchers in the field of bone and mineral metabolism. The meeting was named after the late Herbert Fleisch, who was one of the eminent figures in bone and mineral research and was a leading figure in setting up the much-lauded Davos meetings which ran until 2006 in Davos, Switzerland. Just like the Herbert Fleisch Workshop in Bruges, these Davos meetings were relaxed and supportive of early career scientists in the field. Bruges was an idyllic setting for this small meeting, and we were lucky enough to have a local in Roger Bouillon show us the sights and history of the beautiful medieval city.

My reasons for attending the workshop were to present some of my research and receive constructive feedback from both peers and more experienced

senior scientists. I was given advice on my career pathway and my specific research interests. The Workshop, hosted by the IBMS, was one of the most interactive and inspiring international conferences I have been to so far in my career. I met and engaged with some very interesting researchers at all career levels and found myself discussing potential collaborations with scientists I had not met before but who undertake complementary investigations to my own. I was able to interact with researchers who gave me a completely new way to look at my work. The workshop also enabled me to further strengthen my scientific relations with young researchers whom I met during my first postdoc in Switzerland. Although there were some oral presentations, including mine on the effects of circulating osteocalcin on glucose metabolism and on the skeleton, the focus of the workshop was the posters, with plenty of time dedicated to poster viewing and one-on-one discussions with the presenters. This made for easy

dialogue and a relaxed setting to meet all of the investigators that attended the workshop. I am very grateful to the ANZBMS for the generous travel grant awarded to me that enabled me to travel to Belgium and attend this very worthwhile meeting which I hope will be run again sometime in the future.



Tara Brennan-Speranza

## ANZBMS INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AWARD 2014 - FINAL REPORT

Firstly, I would like to thank ANZBMS for awarding me one of the three International Travel Awards, which allowed me to attend the 1st biennial IBMS Herbert Fleisch Workshop In Bruges, Belgium. I am very grateful to ANZBMS for providing funds for my travel.

Attending the first workshop in honour of the late Professor Herbert Fleisch was both a privilege and a highly enjoyable experience. With fewer than 150 delegates and no concurrent sessions, the meeting was very interactive and I was able to meet and discuss my research with many of the other delegates and senior scientists present, which is sometimes more difficult in larger conferences. The scientific content of the meeting was very impressive and there was a wide range of skeletal research topics covered.

The sessions on 'bone repair and regeneration' and 'osteocytes' was particularly relevant to the research I am now conducting back in Auckland. From these sessions and after speaking with other researchers in this field, I have gained insight into novel methods and pathways, which will help me progress our research into joint damage in chronic gout.

There was a heavy focus on posters at this workshop and all young investigators were encouraged to bring a poster and attend the multiple viewing sessions. Our team from the Department of Medicine at the University of Auckland had two poster presentations, including my own, which described the interactions between MSU crystals and tenocytes (cells of the tendon), and how these interactions contribute to the development of tendon damage in gout. There was great interest in my poster presentation and I received very positive feedback from other delegates and the experienced senior scientists present. Discussions around my poster have given me ideas for future work to continue this line of research into tendon damage in gout.

On my return to Auckland, my colleague and I gave a seminar to the Auckland Bone & Joint Research Group, summarising the keynote lectures and some of the interesting research that was presented at the IBMS Herbert Fleisch Workshop. This was followed by much discussion and possible ideas for future research in our lab. Overall I feel this workshop was incredibly valuable to my career as a junior post-doctoral researcher.

I very much appreciate your support that enabled me to travel to the beautiful city of Bruges. Thank you



*Ashika Chhana*

## ANZBMS INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AWARD - FINAL REPORT

The ANZBMS travel grant awarded to me has allowed me to attend the first Herbert Fleisch workshop held in Bruges, Belgium. I was given the opportunity to present my work through an 8 minute oral as well as a poster highlighting the work from the first year of my PhD. The main reasons for attending this workshop were for me to make new connections and collaborations with other junior scientists, learn new ideas and methods and also meet and learn from the leaders in the bone field. I believe all of the above was achieved to help me further my career in research.

The workshop included state of the art lectures by Clifford Rosen, Michaela Kneissel, Jo Price, Brendan Lee and Roland Baron which highlighted the current main focuses in bone research today. It was amazing to hear and learn from people who have been in this field for over 10-20 years and really made me inspired to work towards being like them in the future, full of knowledge and new creative ideas.

Certain young investigators, including myself were given an opportunity to present their work through orals followed by an in depth discussion about what their work meant and how they can improve their findings. Presenting was not only a good learning experience but the discussion also gave me a lot to think about for my PhD thesis and future papers. I was approached by people raising good points about how I can explain my results as well as how to tackle some issues within my project.

Discussions about my project is going to help me think more clearly as to what I should be doing next to further support my findings. Additionally, the poster viewing session not only allowed me to get even more ideas about my project, but it also gave me the courage to interact with other peers and ask about their projects. This was the first time I was able to really go in depth about other people's work without feeling stupid for asking a simple question. The highlights for me were the social events such as the dinner and the reception where the real networking could take place. I was able to meet students and post docs from different countries and research backgrounds, which will be useful for me in the future when I may need to find a post doc position or for help with certain areas of work. I was also able to discuss my work with a postdoc whose work relates closely to mine and this gave me ideas on certain areas of my project which I should explore. A potential collaboration may come from this, therefore making this small and intimate conference a very successful one for me.

This travel grant also allowed me to visit Christa Maes lab in Leuven, Belgium. This was my first lab visit experience and gave me the opportunity to learn about the different work being done in an overseas lab. I also got the opportunity to present my work to her group and get feedback or advice on the next steps for my project. I learned the differences between how students work in Belgium compared to Australia as well as had in depth conversations

with her PhD students' work in progress and their plans after doing a PhD. This experience also helped me to give back to her lab by offering to teach them how to use a measuring technique which I learned off my supervisor and providing helpful tips for them around the lab. I plan to stay in contact with Christa and her students, and this will be another contact I have as a potential collaboration or place to do my post doc in the future.

Overall, I believe my four main goals were achieved. I was able to discuss my work with peers and senior scientists, learn about other students' work which could in turn help my project, network with young investigators from all over the world which involved creating new connections for the opportunity of potential collaborations as well as future post-doc opportunities.

I'd like to thank the ANZBMS team for giving me the opportunity to use the travel grant in order to attend the Herbert Fleisch workshop and to further my career and achieve my goal in becoming a leading researcher in Australia.



*Christina Vrahnas*

# ANZBMS COUNCIL

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## FUTURE ASM'S

JOINT ANZBMS, MEPSA AND MBSANZ ANNUAL  
SCIENTIFIC MEETING  
1-4 NOVEMBER 2015  
HOTEL GRAND CHANCELLOR, HOBART, TASMANIA

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