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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As incoming President, I would like to express my sincere appreciation and that of the Society to our immediate Past-President, Philip Sambrook for his hard work and strategic leadership of ANZBMS over the past more than 2 years and for the common sense approach he espoused. Thanks are also due to the 3 outgoing Councillors, Mark Kotowicz, Peter Nash and Tim Cundy for their enthusiastic and practical support of the Society. Fortunately, due to the member's approval of the proposed change to the Constitution, Past President is now a Council position, so we will have the benefit of Phil's wisdom and corporate knowledge for another 2 years. I am also happy to announce that Mark and Peter will continue to serve on the Therapeutics Committee and Mark will remain on the Professional Affairs Committee. Councillor Roger Price will continue his tireless efforts as Treasurer, while Nick Fazzalari has agreed to remain Newspaper editor. While maintaining some continuity, it is also a pleasure to welcome fresh faces with new ideas to Council - Markus Seibel, Natalie Sims, Gethin Thomas and Nigel Gilchrist. As many of you will know, Emma Duncan commenced her term as chair of the new Program Organizing Committee earlier this year. It is also a pleasure to welcome Matthew Gillespie as President-Elect. Matt has worked tirelessly for the Society over many years and I look forward to working closely with him.

The Council has developed a series of initiatives for the next couple of years. As far as we can tell, success rates for projects in musculoskeletal disorders are now close to average, from previously low rates, due in part to the establishment of NHMRC Grant Review Panels in Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Disorders from 2007. These were set up thanks to efforts of many ANZBMS members and councillors. There is still a problem relating to fields of research, with Rheumatology and Orthopaedics the closest descriptors to our area. These classifications are from the Australian Bureau of Statistics and the Scientific Committee, under the leadership of Natalie Sims has agreed to work with relevant groups to ensure that appropriate classifications appear in the ABS in the next cycle. There are good reasons for this apart from directing grant applications to useful panels.

Initiatives to raise awareness of bone health are continuing to be developed in conjunction with Osteoporosis Australia, where both Phil Sambrook and I are on the Board and Peter Ebeling, a former ANZBMS President, is chair of the Medical and Scientific Advisory Committee, a committee that has many ANZBMS members. These include projects likely to be funded by the Department of Health and Ageing, clinical update days for health professionals and a new proposal, "healthy bone points", which is under development. ANZBMS is also part of the Bone and Joint Decade, which has undergone something of a resurrection and I have attended a couple of recent meetings. There are preliminary plans to launch an extension of BJD at Parliament House in Canberra around March 2011.

Several ways to attract Clinical Physician Trainees to the field are being tried. The Registrar's weekend will probably be on again in 2010, though format and support are still being discussed. I continue to serve on the Musculo-Skeletal Curriculum Project, led by Mellick Chehadie with the support of the Department of Health and Ageing. This project has nearly completed the development of a musculo-skeletal curriculum for medical students and post-graduate doctors. Mark Kotowicz and others have provided considerable input to the project. When finances improve, we hope to revive the Clinical Fellowships initiative with Osteoporosis Australia. The Programme Organizing Committee is considering proposals to increase the attractiveness of the annual scientific meeting to trainees.

Peter Ebeling will continue as the ANZBMS liaison with the RACP.

Members will be pleased to hear that all the motions put forward for consideration at the recent AGM, were ratified. This includes the award of an Honorary Life Membership to Ailsa Goulding. Ailsa was a member of the inaugural ANZBMS Council and has made major contributions to the field over many years and mentored many researchers in this time.

A review of the Strategic Plan for ANZBMS is likely to take place next May. Members are urged to look at the plan on the ANZBMS website and send any proposals to me and/or Matt before then.

ANZBMS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Ms Nancy Alexander
Mrs Karen Chant
Mr Damien Eeles
Dr Funmilola Komalafe
Mr Joshua Lewis
Ms Ingrid Pocock
Mrs Cathy Wootton



Professor Rebecca S Mason

PRESIDENT'S REPORT *continued*

Our annual scientific meetings are an opportunity to interact and to showcase some of our talented younger researchers. Very favourable comments were received about the joint ANZBMS/IBMS meeting in Sydney in March, though feedback about the lack of abstract books and the positioning of posters was noted. The 2010 ASM will be held at the Adelaide Hilton on September 5-8. Plans for that are well underway and confirmed international speakers include Michaela Kneissel (anabolic control of bone, sclerostin, LRP4, and Wnt signalling), Heike Bischoff-Ferrari (the clinical aspects of vitamin D supplementation) and Ralph Mueller (bone imaging and mechanotransduction). A Densitometry workshop is likely to be held in conjunction with this meeting and possibly an advanced imaging seminar, with Ralph Mueller. ANZBMS will also have a presence at the Australian Health and Medical Research Congress in Melbourne, late November 2010.

We are organizing programs for one day of the Congress and are developing sessions in conjunction with the Mutagenesis and Experimental Pathology Society of Australasia and with the Matrix Biology Society, under the guidance of Natalie Sims. The 2011 meeting is planned for the Gold Coast Convention Centre in early September. ANZBMS has started discussions with the Japanese Bone and

Mineral Society and with researchers from Singapore, with both groups likely to join us. I am pleased to announce that, thanks to Ego Seeman, also a former ANZBMS President, this ASM will now be held in conjunction with the International Osteoporosis Foundation and will be the ANZBMS/Asia-Pacific regional IOF meeting. This is similar to the very successful Port Douglas meeting in 2006.

Many people keep ANZBMS going. Some have already been mentioned, even if not by name. Ivone Johnson, our Executive Officer, and her assistant Melissa Dupavillon, both of whom work part-time, are truly critical to the society and we are very grateful for their efforts and organizing abilities. I would also like to thank many members for their practical support of ANZBMS, through service on committees and working groups. Involvement is what Council is keen to encourage. One very basic way of being involved is to ensure that everyone, lab heads and researchers, keep their membership up to date. This will be even more important in future, as travel scholarships will only be awarded to students who have been members of the society for a year or from near the date of their enrolment. Council's plan is to continue to increase the value ANZBMS adds to the bone and mineral field and hope that all the members will join us in these endeavours.

Professor Rebecca S Mason

CLINICAL BONE DENSITOMETRY COMMITTEE REPORT: NOVEMBER 2009

Sixty-four registrants attended the Clinical Bone Densitometry Course, held at Royal Adelaide Hospital over the weekend of 14-15 November. This number was the largest that can be comfortably managed, but reflects an increasing demand for training. Feedback suggests that the course was successful, with those attending again stressing the importance of the 'hands-on' manufacturer-specific workshops. RAH catering is to be commended for the excellent lunches. Also, much appreciation to Chris Schultz in particular for the organisation - RAH being his 'home turf'.

The next course will be held in Brisbane during the weekend of the 17-18 April, 2010. Another course is planned to coincide with the ANZBMS ASM in Adelaide September 2010. The exact dates of the course are yet to be set, but they will not overlap with the ASM.

The ANZBMS in conjunction with the Irish Osteoporosis Society (IOS) conducted a one day densitometry course in Dublin on the 18th November. The course was based on

the two day ANZBMS course but concentrated on the essential material due to the time constraints. The course consisted of lectures in the morning given by Chris Schultz and Nick Pocock from the ANZBMS as well as by a number of local and English speakers. In the afternoon a Densitometry workshop was conducted with the normal format of demonstrators with a workstation and 6 to 10 registrants. In total there were 33 attendees excluding the faculty. The feedback from the course was very positive from both the attendees and the IOS. The registrants are currently doing an exam online based on the MCQs used by the ANZBMS. Successful candidates will be given a Certificate of Completion under the auspices of the IOS with due acknowledgement to the ANZBMS. The IOS expressed deep thanks to the ANZBMS, in particular to the help from Chris and Nick, and also expressed a keen interest in repeating the course in the future. All costs were borne by the IOS.

**ANZBMS Clinical BMD Committee
Nov. 27, 2009**

PAST PRESIDENTS REPORT

It is with a mixture of both regret and relief that I write this report as the immediate Past President. Two years passes very quickly but it has been a very busy time for the Society and my relief relates to, hopefully, a decrease in Society related work matters, although I think the move to have the immediate Past President stay on Council for the subsequent two years makes perfect sense for the corporate memory of the Society. There have been many good outcomes for the Society over the last two years but perhaps the highlight has been the very well received and successful combined meeting with the International Bone and Mineral Society Sydney earlier this year.

I particularly want to thank outgoing members of Council including Tim Cundy, Mark Kotowicz and Peter Nash for their hard work. Mark Kotowicz took on the busy role of Chairmanship of the Professional Affairs Sub-Committee and Peter Nash served on the Therapeutics Committee. Both also ran the two highly successful Registrars Weekends sponsored by Amgen. Ivone Johnson continues to be the 'mineral' that holds our Society together and her hard work is so important to every President, who after all, are merely 'part-timers'.

A number of challenges remain for the Society. Our initiative to establish Musculoskeletal Panels in their own right as part of the Grant Review Panel process at the NHMRC is working, but not optimally. We need to push up our success rate, especially for clinical grants. Related to this is the problem that although we have a number excellent young basic scientists coming through, there is deficiency of young Clinical Physician trainees in the bone field. This is an ongoing issue we need to address, as clearly the financial basis of our Society depends upon a strong presence in both clinical and basic science.

Finally, although the Society has a healthy bank balance at present, with changes to reimbursement for pharmaceutical drugs we will need to learn to live with less sponsorship for support for our scientific meetings and general running expenses. This will require careful management.

Finally, I want to welcome Rebecca Mason as President. She has been a pleasure to work with over the last few Councils and I have no doubt she will do a very effective and efficient job as President. We are in safe hands.

Professor Philip Sambrook

PROFESSIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Musculoskeletal Curriculum

A framework for the national undergraduate musculoskeletal curriculum has been developed and refined at an AMSEC meeting earlier this year. Curriculum development at the Royal Australasian College of Physicians has gathered pace with a planned implementation deadline for 2011. The Education Deanery is now fleshing out the curriculum outline proposed by the Specialist Advisory Committee in Endocrinology. Methods of assessment of trainees are being developed and it is envisaged that the principal summative assessment will remain the annual supervisors' reports with formative assessment throughout the year in the form of formal case presentations and min-CTx (nothing to do with bone turnover markers) assessments.

The Education Deanery has also approached the society to provide input to identify educational resources that might be used by trainees in the area of bone and mineral disorders.

Dr Rory Clifton-Bligh has been appointed to the chair of the SAC in Endocrinology and my term as ANZBMS representative has expired, leaving a vacancies for two ANZBMS representatives on the Committee.

Professor Mark Kotowicz

ANZBMS
GRATEFULLY
ACKNOWLEDGES:

Amgen

Eli Lilly Australia

Hologic

Immuno

Key Pharmaceuticals

Medtel

Merck Sharp & Dohme
(Australia)

Novartis Pharmaceuticals

Reckitt Benckiser

Sanofi-Aventis

Servier Laboratories

Surgical Synergies

Thompson Scientific
Instruments

Wyeth

ANZBMS TRAVEL GRANTS 2010

The **new** criteria is listed below

Eligibility criteria:

- The applicant must be a financial member of ANZBMS **for the past 12 months (or provide documentary evidence of the commencement date of employment or candidature if this has occurred within the past 12 months)**
- The applicant must have made a substantial contribution to the work and be first and presenting author of the paper to be delivered at the ANZBMS Annual Scientific Meeting.

- The applicant must be employed at a level no higher than lecturer or Institutional Research Fellow.
- **The supervisor must be a financial member of ANZBMS.**

Website:

<http://www.anzbms.org.au/resources/grants/travel.htm>

THE SIXTH CLARE VALLEY BONE MEETING



Clare, South Australia, March 26-29, 2010

The Clare Valley Bone Meeting now has an established place in the Australian meeting calendar, similar to its US counterparts, the Sun Valley Workshop on Skeletal Tissue and the Gordon Research Conference on Bones and Teeth. Planning is well underway for the Sixth Clare Valley Bone Meeting, scheduled to take place next March.

International speakers

- Babul Borah (USA)
- David Ke (USA)
- Jenneke Klein-Nulend (Netherlands)
- Fergal O'Brien (Ireland)
- Francoise Peyrin (France)
- Vicki Rosen (USA)

Confirmed National speakers

- Gerald Atkins
- Mellick Chehade
- Stan Gronthos
- Mark Hoffman
- Dietmar Hutmacher
- Julia Kuliwaba
- Howard Morris
- Tony Pohl
- Bogdan Solomon
- Dominic Thewlis
- Jaike Xu
- Hong Zhou

Convenors: David Findlay, Nick Fazzalari, Tony Pohl

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COMMITTEE STRUCTURES OF ANZBMS

EDUCATION PORTFOLIO

Densitometry Sub-Committee

Nick Pocock
Michael Hooper
Christopher Schultz
Roger Price
Alison Evans
Ben Khoo

Annual Scientific Meeting Local Organising Committee 2010

David Findlay (Chair)

Annual Scientific Meeting Program Organising Committee 2010 - 2012

Emma Duncan
Gethin Thomas
Alison Petit
Mark Forwood
Grahame Jones
Gustavo Duque

Professional Affairs Committee

Mark Kotowicz
Nigel Gilchrist

Paediatric Bone Disease
Chris Cowell

Media (newsletter and website)

Nick Fazzalari (newsletter editor)
Roger Price
Matthew Gillespie
Ivone Johnson
Anne Kovach (Web Designer)

Research Committee

Natalie Sims (Chair)
David Findlay
Emma Duncan
Nick Fazzalari

Sponsorship Committee

Philip Sambrook
Marcus Seibel

Therapeutics Committee

Philip Sambrook (Chair)
Marcus Seibel
Mark Kotowicz
Rebecca Mason
Peter Nash
Ego Seeman

Finance Committee

Rebecca Mason
Matthew Gillespie
Roger Price

College Liaison

Peter Ebeling

PLANNING THE HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH WORKFORCE 2010-2019

ASMR newly released survey "Planning the Health and Medical Research Workforce 2010-2019. Available from: <http://www.asmr.org.au/breakingnews.html>

ASMR commissioned Dr Deborah Schofield, Associate Professor and Director of Research Northern Rivers University Department of Rural Health (NRUDRH), School of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, University of Sydney to conduct the study.

At the launch in Parliament House, ASMR's President Dr Sarah Meachem said, "Australia needs a program which creates a self-sustaining and agile workforce able to meet head on, challenges in indigenous health, the overt diseases associated with the ageing population and the emerging covert health risks associated with climate change. The development, design and implementation of informed, innovative and visionary policy reform is essential to attract and retain our best human capital and to expand international partnerships and collaborations." / Also speaking at the launch, Mr Mark Butler MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Health congratulated the Society on the report and referred to the importance of the study in highlighting the pressures of demographics and workforce retention faced by the sector.

Some key findings are:

- Australia has 15,200 PhD's within a health and medical research workforce of 23,400.
- 6,250 members of the health and medical research workforce will leave the sector by 2019, and of these, 4,000 will hold a PhD or equivalent.
- To maintain current PhD levels as a working population ratio to 2019, we must replace the 4,000 lost and add another 1,700 persons at a cost of around \$810 million.
- Australia would need to expand 2.5 fold to be on par with knowledge-based workforces such as the European workforce.
Australia would require about 5,700 additional health and medical research PhD graduates to be comparable with US levels, about 22,800 to be comparable with German levels and about 38,000 to be equivalent with Switzerland.

ASMR extends particular thanks to those organisations who have given their financial support for this study.

REPORT ON OSTEOPOROSIS AUSTRALIA

This has been a somewhat difficult year for not-for-profit organizations and OA is no exception. Currently, the CEO of OA is Naseema Sparks, who has provided sterling service on the OA Board for many years. At a strategic planning meeting earlier this year, several new initiatives were developed to address the aims of raising awareness of bone and mineral health issues and to help put the funding of OA on a more sustainable footing. These include proper cost estimates for projects funded by the federal government. A new proposal for “healthy bones points”,

encouraging adequate calcium, vitamin D and exercise is being developed by a working group of the Medical and Scientific Advisory Committee of OA.

New moves to increase the profile of OA through community service announcement on osteoporosis have been undertaken. It is likely that the “Generations of Women” lunch near Mother’s Day will be held again in 2010. Clinical Update days are planned for 2010 and will target health professionals.

Professor Rebecca Mason

2010 ANZBMS ASM

Following the success of the 2009 ANZBMS/IBMS 2009 Annual Scientific Meeting was always going to be a challenge – but even at this early stage plans are progressing well for next year’s ANZBMS ASM, to be held in Adelaide at the Hilton Hotel, 5-8 September 2010. The Programme Committee has met several times already in preparation, and next year’s meeting will include talks from speakers of international stature – both from Australia and abroad. Current planned seminars will include:

- Anabolism in bone
- The bone and joint interface
- Osteoimmunology
- Vitamin D: basic science and clinical aspects
- Bone imaging: the state of the art
- Osteocytes: the forgotten mechanostat?
- Cellular crosstalk in bone.

We are delighted to have confirmed as our international guests Dr Michaela Kneissel presenting bone anabolism, sclerostin, and Wnt signaling in bone; Dr Heike Bischoff-Ferrari on the clinical aspects of vitamin D and its canonical and non-canonical roles, and Prof Ralf Mueller, who will be teaching on the bone densitometry course immediately preceding the ASM and continuing on at the main meeting afterwards discussing bone imaging and mechanosensing in bone.

A new feature for this year is a planned “Beginner Bone” afternoon as a pre-conference warm up – basic bone science for clinicians, and basic clinical bone disease for scientists. These seminars are aimed specifically at medical registrars and early researchers

(PhD students and early postdocs), to give them a broader understanding of their complimentary approaches to bone and to provide a non-confrontational and relaxed forum to ask all those burning questions that might seem more daunting in front of a larger audience.

The main meeting will include visiting professor sessions each morning, young investigators presentations, basic and clinical science oral presentations, symposia, poster sessions, career development for junior players - and somehow we will also find adequate time for conversation, collaboration and celebration of all aspects of bone biology. The close proximity of the city to the many famous vineyards of South Australia will not be ignored in the many social events planned for the meeting also!

So put the dates in your diary now - abstract deadline 1 May with ASM 5-8 September. Members, if eligible, should consider applying for any of the society’s many awards - the Roger Melick Young Investigator Award, Christopher & Margie Nordin Young Investigator Poster Award, ANZBMS Outstanding Abstract Award, Christine & T. Jack Martin Research Travel Grant, Kaye Ibbertson Award for Metabolic Bone Disease and the Sol Posen Research Award, and ANZBMS Travel Awards.

The Programme Committee wishes you all the best in your abstract submissions, and looks forwards to seeing you in Adelaide in 2010.

Dr Emma Duncan, POC Chair

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DATES FOR THE DIARY

2010

5-6 March 2010

Osteoporosis Prevention Workshop

Adelaide, South Australia

Contact: Tim Murphy

Email: tim.murphy@adelaide.edu.au

14-19 March 2010

IBMS Davos Workshop

Bone Biology & Therapeutics

International Bone & Mineral Society

Davos, Switzerland

Website: www.ibmsonline.org

26-29 March 2010

The Sixth Clare Valley Bone Meeting

Clare, South Australia

Contact: Lara Birchby

Email: lara@themeetingpeople.com.au

26-30 March 2010

ICE 2010 - International Congress of Endocrinology

Kyoto Japan

Website: www.congre.co.jp/ice2010

24-28 April 2010

12th European Congress of Endocrinology

Czech Republic

Website: http://www.endo-society.org/custom_apps/Events/Event.cfm?EventID=1320

30 April-2 May 2010

ESA Seminar Meeting

Novotel, Wollongong

Website: www.esaseminar.org.au

19-22 June 2010

ENDO

San Diego, California, USA

Website: <http://www.endo-society.org/meetings/Annual/index.cfm>

28-29 August 2010

ESA Clinical Weekend

Sydney

www.esaclinicalweekend.org.au

29 August - 1 September 2010

ESA/SRB Annual Scientific Meeting

Sydney Convention Centre

www.esa-srb.org.au

1-3 September 2010

2010 ADS/ADEA Annual Scientific Meeting

Sydney Convention & Exhibition Centre

Darling Harbour

5-8 September 2010

ANZBMS 20th Annual Scientific Meeting

Adelaide Hilton

Website: www.anzbms.org.au

15-19 October 2010

ASBMR ASM

Toronto, ON, USA

Website: www.asbmr.org

21-24 October 2010

International Conference on Osteoporosis and Bone Research

Shenzhen, China

Website: www.ibms.org

14-19 November 2010

Australian Health and Medical Research Congress

Melbourne

Contact: ASN Events

Email: mo@asnevents.net.au

2-5 December 2010

AOCE 2010 - 14th Asia-Oceania Congress of Endocrinology

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Website: www.aoce2010.com

ANZBMS is a professional medical / scientific society established in 1989 to bring together clinical and experimental scientists and physicians actively involved in the study of bone and mineral metabolism in Australia and New Zealand.