



President's Report

Professor Peter R Schofield, April 2002

ASMR
Medical
Research
Week^(R)
2002

ASMR
Medallist
2002

Australian
Health
and
Medical
Research
Congress
2002

Australian
Health
Ethics
Committee

Research
Careers

Awards

The ASMR's mission is *"to foster excellence in Australian health and medical research, and to promote community understanding and support for health and medical research in Australia"*. We achieve this through public, political and scientific advocacy and this report again highlights how the Directors and members of the ASMR are working to achieve these goals.

Honouring the Achievements of Medical Scientists

Five Australian scientists changed the world through lifesaving discoveries in microbiology, immunology, child and indigenous health and have been honoured in the 2002 Australian Legends postage stamp series. The five scientists include Sir Gustav Nossal, Prof Nancy Millis, Prof Peter Doherty, Prof Fiona Stanley and Prof Don Metcalf. ASMR is delighted to see the public recognition of these outstanding medical researchers. Gus Nossal is a life member and patron of the ASMR Research Fund, Peter Doherty is a life member and was the first ASMR Medallist and Fiona Stanley is a member and friend of ASMR.

It is wonderful to see recognition of the achievements of medical researchers and outcomes of their research. In particular, however, ASMR is pleased to support and promote awards that recognise and help to develop the career of young medical researchers, including the Quantum Scientific Australian Life Science Research Award for post doctoral researchers valued at \$3,000; the AMGEN Award for Research Excellence valued at \$5,000 which emphasizes research conducted over the last 2 years with evidence of translation from bench to potential for application; and the Commonwealth Health Minister's Award for Excellence in Health and Medical Research valued at \$50,000.

Both the AMGEN and Minister's awards

are presented during ASMR Medical Research Week^(R).

ASMR Medical Research Week^(R)

The organisation and co-ordination of this, our premier public advocacy activity, continues to develop with the enthusiastic support of local



Prof. Peter Schofield

committees across the country. Planning for 2002 is now well advanced and being co-ordinated nationally under the capable leadership of Joe Simonetta, Moira Clay and Alaina Ammit. The second year of our sponsorship agreement with the Department of Health and Ageing has been crucial to the extended public outreach of ASMR Medical Research Week^(R). The public Expo program will build on its national launch last year in which 59 organisations mounted exhibits in addition to the ASMR core display. This year promotional brochures will be distributed to all GPs surgeries and further development of the Expo concept will be undertaken.

We have obtained extensive media coverage from ASMR Medical Research Week^(R) over the years, with 36 television, radio or press items in 2001. To further enhance the capacity of this event to gain media profile, we have appointed Anne Hayward of Investor Relations Strategies to co-ordinate and manage the media communications plan for 2002.

In 2002 the ASMR Medallist will be Prof Leon Rosenberg, President and CEO of Funding First. Funding First is an initiative for medical research sponsored by the Lasker Foundation. Dr Rosenberg is a member of the US National Academy of Sciences and of the Institute of Medicine and has previously served as Dean of the

Yale University School of Medicine and as President of the Bristol Myers Squibb Pharmaceutical Research Institute. The theme for Prof Rosenberg's tour will be "What is Life Worth?" Securing long-term sponsorship continues to be a priority for the development of ASMR Medical Research Week[®]. However, the continued expansion of this highly successful event provides the greatest opportunity for future support.

Political Advocacy

The return of the Howard Liberal Government at last November's Federal Election has resulted in a number of changes in Ministerial portfolios and appointments. We have been warmly welcomed by the new Minister for Health and Ageing, Senator Kay Patterson and the new Minister for Industry, Science and Training, Dr Brendan Nelson who met with us over the holiday period to discuss areas of mutual interest and selected issues. Two areas in which we, working together with AAMRI and their President, Prof Bob Williamson, have made specific representations have been the inconsistent implementation of Project-specific Infrastructure

and the Federation Fellowships. Both were outcomes of the Backing Australia's Ability Innovation Statement, which ASMR applauds. The Prime Minister stated "to provide the infrastructure needed to support project-funded research, the Government will provide more than \$337 million towards increased project-specific infrastructure over the next five years (to) support ARC and NHMRC grants". However, implementation of this initiative has led to all funds being directed to university infrastructure. Likewise, while strongly endorsing the establishment of Federation Fellowships which have been designed to attract and retain leading researchers, ASMR has been dismayed that carriage of this scheme by ARC has resulted in health and medical researchers being ineligible to hold these prestigious awards.

NHMRC & Performance Indicators

The Wills Review made a compelling argument for an increased investment in health and medical research but did so on the basis that the returns would be quantifiable and would justify the investment and future investments. However, to date, little progress has been made by any agency in collection of the data indicated by the Wills Implementation Committee. ASMR has been concerned about the slow progress of redefinition of the performance measures and collection of data since the case for consideration of the worth of increased investment in H&MR would need to be made in 2003 for action in 2004. We have raised this matter with Prof Allan Pettigrew, CEO of NHMRC and are pleased that NHMRC has now formalised its performance

indicator measures. *ASMR has offered to assist in this process.* While detailed data collection is beyond our scope and resources, we would be able to provide a number of new, well documented, case studies to demonstrate the value of investment in health and medical research in leading to improvements in the health, social and economic status of Australians. This is an area in which input and detailed knowledge from our members and affiliate societies will be invaluable. I wish to thank those who have already provided examples and urge you to suggest further examples for case study development.

Human Embryonic Stem Cell Research

To quote the Hon Kevin Andrews, "we are confronted with profound issues that require ongoing attention and discussion". ASMR has made representations to ensure that a rational and sensible approach to the use of human embryonic stem cells is reached. We have urged the Prime Minister, who now has carriage of this matter in Cabinet, and all Parliamentarians to provide a strong regulatory environment to provide both scientific and public scrutiny but to avoid widespread bans or moratoriums. Specifically, we have recommended the continued use of existing cell lines and the ability to use surplus IVF embryos for stem cell research. This position is the majority view reached by the Andrews' Committee, and also matches the Canadian decision, reached in early March. Finally, we have drawn attention to the fact that a blanket ban on embryonic stem cell research, the minority view reached by the Andrews' Committee, would be inconsistent with

Events

ComBio 2002

September 29 - October 3
[www.asbmb.org.au/
combio2002](http://www.asbmb.org.au/combio2002)

Australian Health & Medical Research Congress

Melbourne, November 25 - 29
www.ahmrccongress2002.conf.au
Email: congress@asnevents.net.au

existing government policy and expenditure as outlined in Backing Australia's Ability and the Designated Priority Areas of Research.

Issues Paper on Protection of Human Genetic Information

The discussion document, produced by the Australian Law Reform Commission and the Australian Health Ethics Committee, has raised considerable concerns in the scientific community. Many see that one outcome of this paper could be the extensive legislative regulation of genetic information such that the progress of medical research would be severely constrained. ASMR and many other organisations have made submissions and we will be further highlighting these issues to members and affiliates when the draft report is released in August.

FASTS

In February, I represented ASMR in the launch and presentation of a FASTS Occasional Paper titled "An investment in Human and Animal Health: Parasitology in Australia" to the Minister for Science, the Hon Peter McGauran. This report by our

ASMR congratulates the nine Australian medical researchers recognised in the Australia Day Honours list, including Professors Paxinos, Sutherland, Maddocks, Papadimitriou, Broughton, Bridges-Webb, Associate Professor Reilly and Dr Tiedemann.

newest affiliate member, the Australian Society for Parasitology highlighted the benefits that Australians enjoy as a result of our past investments in parasitology research and warned of the dangers and costs of reducing this investment. Importantly, this joint launch has provided a platform by which several of the peak scientific lobby groups including the Academy of Science, FASTS and ASMR are able to work together in support of science and technology in Australia. We look forward to developing these initiatives.

Research Priorities

ASMR noted with dismay the last minute announcement of four Designated Research Priority Areas for the ARC. Minister McGaurin has indicated that research priorities are high on the government's agenda in all areas of science and technology and accordingly, this is an area which ASMR will closely monitor. ASMR believes that research priorities are needed and to this end fully supports those recommendations made in the Wills Review. However, what we need to remember is that the review concluded that "*Curiosity driven, investigator initiated, peer-reviewed fundamental research is the foundation of our current success and it must remain so.*"

Where the Wills review recommended strategic research initiatives was in areas that "*address local issues that are unique, significantly over-represented or more severe, and yet under-researched in Australia.*" We have been pleased to see the progress made by the NHMRC Strategic Research and Development Committee and look towards the

expansion of the rigorous evaluation procedures that it has established and the further investment of new funds into strategic research. Redirecting existing funding increases away from already well developed plans for expenditure will not help fundamental or strategic research in health.

AHMRC 2002

The Congress, to be held from 25-29th November this year now has 8 societies holding full meetings and a further 17 societies participating in selected symposia. Programming of symposia is well advanced and sponsorship of symposia is progressing well. The Congress promises to bring the health and medical research community together in a fashion that has not previously occurred in Australia and to showcase the very best in health and medical research. We have been delighted by the support of all participating societies and thank the Congress Convenor Bronwyn Kingwell and her Organising and Program Committees. Based on our expectations of the Congress proving to be a highly successful model for meeting the needs of Australian researchers, we have proposed that the second Congress should be held in Brisbane in 2004.

In closing, I would like to thank each of you for your support of the ASMR and look forward to your involvement in the activities of ASMR Medical Research Week^(R) in June and meeting with you at the inaugural Australian Health and Medical Research Congress in November.

*Professor Peter R Schofield
President, ASMR
April, 2002*



ASMR Medallist 2002 Professor Leon E Rosenberg MD



Leon E Rosenberg, M.D. has faculty appointments in the Department of Molecular Biology, as well as the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs.

His career experiences reflect involvement with government, academia, and industry. In 1959 he began a six-year association as an investigator with the metabolism service of the National Cancer Institute. In 1965, he was appointed assistant professor of Medicine at Yale. He was named professor of Human Genetics, Pediatrics, and Medicine in 1972, the same year he helped establish the Department of Human Genetics at Yale and became its first chairman. Dr. Rosenberg was the dean of the Yale University School of Medicine from 1984 to 1991. Between 1991 and 1998 he worked for the Bristol-Myers Squibb Company as President of the Pharmaceutical Research Institute and as Senior Vice President to Scientific Affairs.

He currently serves on the Boards of Directors of the Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute, Research!America, the Association for Patient-Oriented Research, Karo Bio AB, Pharmaceutix, Ltd., and Medicines for Malaria Venture Cellular Genomic, Inc. He recently chaired a congressionally-mandated committee of the Institute of Medicine charged with assessing research priority-seeking at the National Institutes of Health ("NIH"). On October 26, 1998, Dr. Rosenberg presented the second annual Shannon Lecture at the NIH.

A specialist in inherited metabolic disorders in children, Dr. Rosenberg and his colleagues conducted pioneering laboratory investigations into the molecular basis of several inherited disorders of amino acid and organic acid metabolism.

ASMR Medical Research Week ^(R) 2002 features -

- **Tour by the ASMR Medallist**
Professor Rosenberg will speak at dinners in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth
Presentation of the ASMR Medal prior to the televised address at the National Press Club, Canberra.
- **Medical Research Week Expositions**
Brisbane, Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne, Hobart, Adelaide and Perth
- **Scientific Meetings**
Brisbane, Sydney, Adelaide
- **Victorian Premier's Award**
- **AMGEN Medical Researcher Award Luncheon**
Victoria
- **Public Lectures and Symposium**
Melbourne, Sydney, Perth
- **Schools Activities and Careers Information**
All states
- **Media Skills Workshop**
Victoria
- **Presentation of the Commonwealth Health Minister's Award for Excellence in Health and Medical Research (\$50,000)**
Victoria
- **Hospital Displays**

Research Stars/Breakthroughs and Start - Up Companies

Chief investigators:

Prof Grant Sutherland, A/Pr David Callen, A/Pr John Mulley, Dr Jozef Gecz, Dr Robyn Wallace, and Dr Gabriel Kremmidiotis

The NHMRC Program Grant “*Understanding the Human Genome: Molecular Mechanisms of Genetic Disease.*” was first funded for the five-year period 1994-1998. Since then it was renewed twice, in 1998 (period 1998-2002) and again in 2002 as a new style program grant (for period 2002-2006; \$ 7.7 million/5 years). As part of this Program Grant we aim to achieve internationally competitive research outcomes leading to an understanding of the mechanisms of human genetic diseases, particularly intellectual disability, epilepsy and breast cancer. Since the Program was first funded in 1994 the group has published more than 200 papers with 9 in Nature Genetics, two each in Nature and Cell and one in Science.

We lead the world in the identification of genes for idiopathic epilepsy and intellectual disability. Each of these conditions is estimated to affect up to 2% of the population. Five of the 10 genes currently known to cause idiopathic epilepsy were identified in Adelaide, including the first gene, the neuronal nicotinic acetylcholine receptor alpha 4 subunit, identified in 1995.

Since the discovery of the FMR1 gene in 1991 several other intellectual disability genes have been identified. Among these there was the first gene for non-specific mental retardation (MRX), FMR2, in 1996. From the 10 known MRX genes 5 were discovered as part of these program grants. Interestingly, the last one on the list, the Aristaless-related homeobox gene, ARX, is unique in causing epilepsy, or syndromic and non-syndromic intellectual disability with or without epilepsy.

Not only do these outcomes significantly advance basic science, they have immediate applications to clinical practice via the availability of direct and accurate diagnostic tests. This facilitates management and prevention of these often debilitating disorders. Understanding their genetic basis offers hope for future development of specific therapeutic strategies and personalised treatment.

The breast cancer project has evolved from a long-standing interest in the physical and genetic mapping of human chromosome 16. The mapping of locations of breast cancer tumour suppressor

genes was completed by the analysis of 712 breast tumours. The analysis of all the transcripts at 16q24.3 has been achieved and a candidate suppressor gene identified. This gene is now the subject of intensive study.

Through funding of this Program Australia has also made its only significant contribution to the sequencing of the Human Genome by generating a detailed physical map of human chromosome 16 and producing at least 2Mb of high quality genomic sequence.



Dr Josef Gecz and Ms Marie Mangelsdorf

Research arising from the program has contributed to the formation

of a biotechnology company Bionomics Ltd. The company's

first projects involved the discovery of genes associated with epilepsy and breast cancer. These areas have been developed further by a Federal Government R&D Start Grant for the epilepsy project and a Biotechnology Innovation Fund grant for the breast cancer project. Bionomics now occupies new research laboratories and administrative offices at the Adelaide bioscience precinct at Thebarton.

Dr Josef Gecz

Performance Indicators

ASMR is collecting examples of current and recent NHMRC funded research projects which have led to significant outcomes in either basic, clinical or public health or in terms of IP and commercial development (to support the current increased investment in HMR and to develop a case for increased HMR funding) We also aim to develop more detailed cost-benefit analyses of the economic, health and social benefits of health and medical research.

Send your information to asmr@world.net



Melbourne Convention Centre
25th-29th November 2002
www.ahmrcongress2002.conf.au

The Australian Health and Medical Research Congress sets a new benchmark for scientific dialogue in Australia.
50 major symposia, 30 invited international speakers, 25 participating societies

Registrations and abstract submissions are now being received.

Monday 12th August

- **Abstract submission deadline**
- **Earlybird registration**

Friday 13th September

- **Abstract submission deadline for Honours students (posters only)**

AHMRC Participating Societies

Australian Physiological & Pharmacological Society
 Australasian Research Management Society
 Australasian Society of Clinical & Experimental Pharmacologists & Toxicologists
 Australian Society for Medical Research
 Australasian Society for the Study of Obesity
 High Blood Pressure Research Council of Australia
 National Association of Research Fellows
 Victorian Breast Cancer Research Consortium
 Australian Atherosclerosis Society
 Australian Diabetes Society
 ANZ Society of Nephrology
 Australian Rheumatology Association
 Australian Society for HIV Medicine Inc
 Australasian Society for Infectious Disease
 Australian Society for Parasitology
 Australian Vascular Biology Society
 Cardiac Society of ANZ
 Fertility Society of Australia
 Human Genetics Society of Australasia
 International Society for Heart Research
 Matrix Biology Society of ANZ
 Perinatal Society of ANZ
 Society for Reproductive Biology
 Thoracic Society of ANZ
 Transplantation Society of ANZ

Invited Plenary speakers are:



- ***Michel Bouvier, University of Montreal, Canada***

Dr. Michel Bouvier was appointed the Hans-Selye chair of Cell Biology in the Université de Montréal and recently became the holder of a Canada Research Chair in Molecular Pharmacology and cell signalling. Professor Bouvier will speak to “*Oligomeric Assembly of G Protein-coupled Receptors: Roles in Trafficking and Signalling*”.

- ***Ele Ferrannini, CNR Institute of Clinical Physiology, Italy***

Currently, Professor Ferrannini is Professor of Internal Medicine at the University of Pisa School of Medicine and Chief of the Metabolism Unit of the National Research Council Institute of Clinical Physiology in Pisa, Italy. Professor Ferrannini will speak to “*Obesity-Related Hypertension: The Challenges*”.



- ***Gema Frühbeck, Clinical University of Navarra, Spain.***

Dr Gema Frühbeck (R Nutr, MD, PhD), Head of the Metabolic Research Laboratory in the Department of Endocrinology at the Clínica Universitaria de Navarra, Pamplona, Spain. Dr Frühbeck will speak to “*The adipocyte: rediscovering a pivotal node in endocrine and energy metabolism control*”.



- ***Ed Harlow, Department of Biological Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology Harvard Medical School. Boston MA, USA.***

Professor Harlow is Chair and Professor of Biological Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology at Harvard Medical School and Scientific Director of the Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Centre. Professor Harlow will speak on “*DNA tumour viruses and cancer*”.



- ***Bertil Hille, University of Washington, USA***

Professor Bertil Hille has been at the department of Physiology and Biophysics of the University of Washington since 1968. He is an accomplished cell physiologist and membrane biophysicist. Professor Hille will speak to “*How do G-Protein coupled receptors rule the mind?*”

*Dr Bronwyn Kingwell
AHMRC Convenor
ASMR Director*

Human Research Ethics Handbook now available

On 8 March 2002 the Minister for Health and Ageing, the Hon. Senator Kay Patterson, launched the *Human Research Ethics Handbook*. The Handbook was developed by the Australian Health Ethics Committee (AHEC) of NHMRC as part of its commitment to supporting researchers and human research ethics committees.

The Handbook is structured in several parts to make information easy to find. The first part is a commentary on the *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Research Involving Humans*. The Commentary does not take the place of the National Statement - rather it contains information and explanation to assist researchers and human research ethics committees. The National Statement remains as the primary and definitive source of ethical principles governing the conduct and review of research involving humans.

The Handbook contains two resource collections - the Research Ethics Collection and the Research Law Collection. Each of these contains essays/monographs/information on a range of topics such as clinical trials, research involving unconscious patients, genetic research and so on.

The Handbook also contains a publication from the Therapeutic Goods Administration entitled *Human Research Ethics Committees and the Therapeutic Goods Legislation*. This publication is essential reading for researchers and ethics committees intending to undertake or consider applications for clinical trials.

The Handbook has been made available in PDF and HTML formats on the web at <http://www.nhmrc.gov.au> or can be purchased through Government Info Shops. Contact: Anne-Louise Liebeck on 02 6289 9519.

2002 National Workshop Series on Privacy

AHEC is again conducting workshops for HREC members and others in all capital cities and some regional centres. In 2002 the focus of the Workshops is privacy. This is very topical because of the introduction of the *Privacy (Private Sector) Amendment Act 2000*. This Act extended the coverage of the *Commonwealth Privacy Act 1988* to the private sector and included provision for the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) to issue guidelines for the protection of privacy in research and the compilation and analysis of statistics in the interests of public health and public safety, and for the management of health services.

AHEC developed these guidelines, entitled *Guidelines approved under Section 95A of the Privacy Act 1988*, and they were subsequently accepted by NHMRC and approved by the Federal Privacy Commissioner. The Guidelines can be accessed on the web at <http://www.nhmrc.gov.au>.

The 2002 Workshops will provide information and opportunities for discussion around the Section 95 and Section 95A privacy guidelines, as well as relevant State and Territory legislation. The format will be a mixture of presentations and case study discussions and will be relevant to researchers, research administrators, human research ethics committee members and personnel in health authorities and health service organisations. The Workshops commenced in Hobart in March and will then be held in Brisbane, Townsville, Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne, Albury, Adelaide, Perth and Darwin between 29 April and 24 May 2002. Full information including a registration form can be found on the web at <http://www.nhmrc.gov.au>. Contact: Francine Kelly on 02 6289 9801.

NSC 2001

The 2001 ASMR NSC was held at the Marriott Hotel on the Gold Coast. The conference was well attended by ASMR members from around Australia and a number of significant Biotechnology researchers and officials. The NSC included stimulating addresses by Prof. Edison Liu, head of the new Singapore Genomics Institute and Prof. Peter Andrews from the Institute of Molecular Biosciences at the University of Queensland. In addition, Robin Williams was a welcome guest speaker at the conference dinner.



*Lyn Griffiths & Edison Liu
at the Conference Dinner*

The conference provided many chances for innovative scientific and social interactions.

*Professor Lyn Griffiths
Genomics Rsh.Centre, Griffiths University*

AHEC News continued

Xenotransplantation draft guidelines released soon

The NHMRC working party, which is developing a discussion paper and draft guidelines on xenotransplantation, plans to release the draft for wide public consultation in the near future.

The discussion paper will cover ethical, scientific and technical issues relating to xenotransplantation and propose options for a regulatory regime in Australia. The draft guidelines will outline the conditions which must be met if xenotransplantation research involving humans is to proceed.

AHEC would like to encourage researchers to comment on the draft guidelines. A copy of the guidelines will be available on the web at <http://www.nhmrc.gov.au> or copies can be obtained by telephoning Milly Betteridge 02 6289 9806.

Congratulations

Award Winners

at the ASMR NSC 2001

Medibank Private Young Medical Researchers Awards



Emma Baker (left),

Peter MacCallum Cancer Institute

Vanessa Murphy,

Mothers & Babies Research Centre,
University of Newcastle

Marina Tchavtchitch (right)

Queensland Institute of Medical Research

Campion Ma Playoust Award 2001



Aiden Marshall

Department of Pathology & Immunology,
Monash University

NARF Post-doctoral Award 2001

Dr Stephen Nutt

Walter and Eliza Hall Institute

NHMRC Career Development Awards

In the first year of the new scheme 15 Biomedical, 5 Clinical and 6 Population Health awards were made and details appear on the NHMRC website. New features of 2002 application forms for funding in 2003 which include: specific details on how applications will be assessed in term of the inclusion of a "scoring matrix of 50 points" which is broken down into 30pts for track record, 5 pts for career potential, 5pts for career development opportunity, 5pts for research proposal (taking into consideration goals of the scheme), 5 pts for quality of research environment. Applications are due April 26th 2002 and full details are now available from the NHMRC website:

<http://www.health.gov.au/nhmrc/funding/careerdev.htm>

The restructuring of Research Institutes

It is evident that the future careers of research officers and fellows are/will be effected as a result of the de-blocking of funding from Research Institutes. The ASMR is planning a series of modules, which will be designed to be used in a workshop-setting, to assist researchers in developing a skill-base that will enable them to manage and direct their own careers.

Further updates on this initiative will be available from the ASMR website.



*Dr Catherine Coulter, Convenor
Research Careers Committee*

ASMR Submissions on behalf of Health and Medical Reserach 2001 - 2002

- Review of the NSW Cancer Council Act
- Inquiry into matters arising from the Post Mortem and Anatomical Examination Practices of the Institute of Forensic Medicine, NSW
- Child Health Research Institute SA
- Women's and Children's Hospital, SA
- Proposed Guidelines for Laboratory Containment of Pathogenic Microorganisms
- Human Reproductive Cloning and the Trans-Species Fertilisation Bills, NSW
- Protection of Human Genetics Information Issues Paper
- Human Embryonic Stem Cells

**These documents may be viewed at the
ASMR Website**

<http://www.asmr.org.au/news/submissions>

ASMR Board meets in ACT

The Board of Directors of ASMR met in Canberra last month. Meetings held over two days at the John Curtin School of Medical Research, Australian National University, allowed the Board to meet with representatives of ASMR's Affiliate Member Societies and entertain guests at a Reception attended by His Excellency the Right Reverend Dr Peter Hollingworth AC OBE, Governor General of Australia and Her Excellency Mrs Ann Hollingworth. The Reception provided an informal opportunity to discuss issues of critical importance to Health and Medical Research in Australia with federal politicians, officials and the local scientific community.

Professor Judith Whitworth, Director of the John Curtin School of Medical Research, kindly made available the facilities of the School to host the ASMR Board Meeting and associated events

The Governor General and Mrs Hollingworth arrive at JCSMR greeted by Dr Moira Clay (ASMR President-elect) and Professor Peter Schofield (President)



Prof J Hearn, Dep. Vice Chancellor (Research) ANU (right), Professor Alan Pettigrew, CEO NHMRC, Dr Hollingworth and Prof. Peter Schofield, President ASMR.



Dr Hollingworth addresses Guests at the Reception

*Photos by
Mark Fenning,
John Curtin
School of Medical
Research
Photography*

\$5000.00

ASMR Research Award 2002

This Award will support a postgraduate student member nearing completion of their studies or a recently graduated postdoctoral ASMR member to undertake research in laboratories outside their home city.

The Award specifically excludes support for conference attendance.

Applications close at 5:00pm on Friday 30th September, 2002

Full details from:
www.asmr.org.au/resfund/intro.html

TOXICITY TESTING

Pharmatox is a well established toxicology laboratory working to international guidelines of the OECD and is a GLP and GMP registered laboratory, specialising in pre-clinical toxicology including pharmacokinetics, toxicokinetics and a wide range of pharmacopoeal tests.

Pharmatox

For further information contact:
Dr A. G. Bolt

Tel: (02) 9654 1623 Fax: (02) 9654 1754

Commonwealth Health Minister's Award for Excellence in Health and Medical Research

Senator the Hon Kay Patterson has called for nominations for the Commonwealth Health Minister's Award for Excellence in Health and Medical Research for the year 2002.

The Annual Award is now in its third year and consists of \$50,000 and presentation medal.

**Nominations for the year 2002 Award close
5pm Tuesday 30th April, 2002.**

Enquiries:

elizabeth.hoole@nhmrc.gov.au

or

wendy.fahy@nhmrc.gov.au



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Email arcwa@arcwa.wa.gov.au Web Site www.arcwa.wa.gov.au

*AMGEN Medical
Researcher Award
2002*

*An Award for Research
Excellence*

a function of
the Australian Society for
Medical Research

*AMGEN Australia Pty Ltd
are continuing their support
of Australian research
through The AMGEN
Medical Researcher Award
which will be presented
during ASMR Medical
Research Week^(R)*

The Winner of the Award will receive a plaque and the reasonable costs (up to \$5000) for travel, accommodation expenses and registration at an international meeting of their choice.

**Applications must be postmarked
no later than May 3rd 2002.**

Full information from:

<http://www.asmr.org.au/mrw>

ASMR Directors 2002

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