July 2009

in this issue

President's Report

asmr

Australian

Society for

Medical Research

his year's Federal Budget has recognised the worth of investing in health and medical research in Australia, and has allocated an additional \$430.3 million to build and upgrade infrastructure of some of our nation's health and medical research facilities. This investment is not only nation building but will undoubtedly promote new discoveries. The Rudd Government has also honoured the previous Government's commitment by protecting the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) funding for this year. Protection of the NHMRC budget was particularly important for the maintenance of our workforce: a workforce already under the strain of employment insecurity, lack of financial support and limited career opportunities. Finally, the Rudd Government announced the commissioning of a new Intergenerational Report, a sensible step forward, that will assist in the critical decision making process for future investment across all sectors. This decision making process is of national importance given the economic and societal importance of mounting PBS costs, the rapidly ageing population and turning budget deficit into surplus. The ageing population is one of the greatest challenges the nation faces. Curing the chronic diseases associated with ageing in order to mitigate the economic and poor health impacts is paramount; with the greatest hope being new research and development breakthroughs. To meet the needs of the ageing population and other challenges such as dementia, cancer and diseases in the Aboriginal community, we must lock-in sustainable investment which guarantees the strength and diversity of our world-class research, enabling us to continue to deliver strong economic returns and improved health outcomes. ASMR is actively working to develop a sustainable investment platform to be implemented by 2020, and in the lead up to the election budget in 2010 we are building an evidence-based case to call upon the Government to invest further.

...give early career researchers a fighting chance...

ASMR Medical Research Week[®] in June was a resounding success around the nation, with events highlighting the enormous benefits of health and medical research via public, political and scientific



newsletter

ASMR President, Dr Sarah Meachem with daughter Olive, ASMR's youngest recruit

advocacy. ASMR Medalist, Professor Josef Penninger, presented and celebrated ASMR Medical Research Week[®] at dinners in Brisbane, Adelaide, Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, and a National Press Club address in Canberra. Professor Penninger, a great ambassador of global health and medical research, noted the need for continued government investment in health and medical research and the importance of supporting early career researchers within the sector to "give them a fighting chance". ASMR Medical Research Week® 2009 yet again featured a diverse range of national and state based activities, including scientific meetings, career development programs, schools programs, public outreach events, science in the cinema, and career expos. It was indeed with great pride and pleasure that I represented our Society in five states and the ACT, and talked to more than 1200 supporters, politicians and medical researchers about the value and importance of health and medical research. All of the exciting outreach activities during ASMR Medical Research Week[®] would not have been possible without the support of our members, friends and affiliate supporters, and of course, our tireless ASMR State Committee volunteers. I especially thank ASMR State Convenors and their committees: Dr Roger Yazbek (SA), Dr Daniel Wallace (QLD), Dr Mary Kavurma (NSW), Dr Michelle Gahan (ACT), Dr Ayan Dasvarma (VIC), Dr Shelley Gorman (WA), and Dr Tracy Dickson (TAS), as well as the dedicated Dr Kathy Andrews (ASMR Medical Research Week[®] Convenor), Dr Kristen Nowak (Media Liason), Cath West, and Priscilla Diment (ASMR Executive Office), Maree Overall and Claire Ciantar (ASN Events).

The ASMR is strongly committed to supporting and fostering research excellence and medical research careers. One of the most vulnerable groups within the

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The ASMR Research Awards

Each award (\$5000 international or \$2000 domestic) will support a postgraduate student member of the Society nearing completion of their studies or a recently graduated postdoctoral member to undertake a short period of research in a laboratory outside their home city.

The award *specifically* excludes support for conference attendance and travel for an extended period of postdoctoral studies. Applicants for "The ASMR Research Awards" must have been members of the ASMR for at least 12 months immediately preceding the year in which the Award application is to be considered. Applicants must have conducted no more than 3 years active research post their highest degree (career interruptions will be considered). The Award must be taken up during the first 6 months of the following year. Application forms available from http://www.asmr.org.au/ Researchfund.html

sector is the mid career researcher — a stage often referred to as the "fight or flight" moment. To provide researchers at this stage of their careers with continual support and a 'fighting chance', ASMR is running its annual Professional Development Day and has set up a mentor linkage program specifically designed for this group. The ASMR Professional Development Day is being held in Melbourne (Wednesday 19th August) and I encourage those who do not have a career development mentor to apply for one via the ASMR web-based mentor linkage program — the program is the first of its kind for the sector. Details of each program can be found at the ASMR website.

I urge you to attend the ASMR National Scientific Conference themed 'Neurogenetics' which is to be held in Hobart from 15–17th November. A stellar program of speakers has been assembled and the program will of interest to a broad range of disciplines including new born screening, movement disorders, stem cell therapies, muscle diseases and migraine. Early bird registration closes on 14th August. For more details visit **http://www.asmr-nsc.org.au**

The 5th Australian Health and Medical Research Congress (AHMRC) will be held in Melbourne, November 2010. There has already been strong interest from societies to participate. If you are a member of a specialist society, please encourage your organisation to hold their full meeting within the congress or join as a symposium participant.

NHMRC's invitation to stakeholders to comment on the Consultation Paper on the Research Fellowship scheme



ASMR Medallist, Professor Josef Penninger, flanked by Dr Sarah Meachem and Professor Warwick Anderson (CEO, NHMRC)

closed recently. This consultation was part a funding scheme review by NHMRC's Research Committee and ASMR has submitted its recommendations for refinements and changes. We look forward to discussions on the Research Fellowship scheme later this year at the proposed Forum. In addition, the NHMRC has released a consultation paper setting out a draft national strategy for medical and public health research. This strategy has taken into consideration the international reviews of NHMRC's funding and peer review processes, and the review of public health research in Australia. These reviews and NHMRC's responses to them have also been released. ASMR will be reviewing the draft national strategy and submitting recommendations.

Best Wishes Sarah Meachem, President



The ASMR Professional Development Program

"How to deliver the messages you want to Politicians and Funding Bodies" Wednesday 19th August 2009 Melbourne Rydges

> Target Audience: 5–12 years postdoc Facilitator: Dr. Moira Clay (CCIA) Details at: www.asmr.org.au





ASMR International Research Award 2008 Report

v i s i t e d Dr. Chang-Zheng Chen's Iab (http://ma.stanford.edu/) in Stanford University from late October to early November, 2008. Dr Chen plays a leading role in the study of microRNA (miRNA) function in lymphocyte development and signalling. MiRNAs are a class of small noncoding RNAs of 20-22 nucleotides, shown to bind recognised sequences within the three' untranslated regions of target mRNAs and mediate post-transcriptional repression of gene expression by either translational inhibition or mRNA degradation. Several hundred miRNAs are predicted to regulate about 30% of mammalian protein-encoding mRNAs.

My primary research interests are the molecular mechanisms of the regulation of T-cell–B-cell collaboration during antibody responses and the potential therapeutic targets for autoimmunity and inflammation. One of my major discoveries was to identify that a critical T-cell co-stimulatory receptor, ICOS, is post-transcriptionally regulated by miRNAs and the dysfunction of the process leads to autoimmunity. This is the first evidence to show the direct involvement of miRNA-mediated regulation in autoimmune diseases. The broad aim of my visit was to gain experience of working with miRNA-mediated regulation in the immune system. Much of the time was spent learning about reliable methods to predict genes with putative miRNA pairing sites. Indeed, it was interesting but surprising to know the loop sequence of miRNA precursors has dramatic regulatory activity on miRNA function, which was largely unappreciated but recently discovered by Dr Chen's lab and published only a few weeks after my visit.

The other main achievement of the visit was learning how to analyse miRNA genetically modified mice and how to then relate the animal phenotypes with human diseases.

Since my visit, the collaboration has been extended and another visit has been arranged for later this year. I am sincerely grateful to ASMR for a very valuable and rewarding trip supported by this research award.

Di Yu, Senior Research Officer, Immunology and Inflammation, Garvan Institute of Medical Research

ASMR NSC 2009: Neurogenetics on the Apple Isle

Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart Tasmania November 15-17th

www.asmr-nsc.org.au

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to invite your attendance at the 48th Annual National Scientific Conference of The Australian Society for Medical Research. The theme of the meeting is *"Neurogenetics on the Apple Isle"* and the venue is The Grand Chancellor Hotel, Hobart, November 15–17 2009.

We are assembling an outstanding lineup of speakers including our Firkin Orator, **Professor Jonathan Flint** of the University of Oxford, UK who is investigating the genetic basis of psychiatric disorders and Edwards Orator, **Professor Charles Watson** from Perth.

The program covers diverse topics such as epilepsy, neuromuscular diseases, motor neurone,

schizophrenia, stroke, Huntington's disease, ataxias, Multiple Sclerosis, neuropathies, brain development, mental retardation, Parkinson's disease, bipolar disorder, neurofibromatosis, muscular dystrophy, and other neurological diseases.

Abstract submission and online bookings are now open at: *http://www.asmr-nsc.org.au/*

Submissions for Oral selection will close Friday August 14th 2009. Submissions for Poster-Only selection will close Friday September 25th 2009

Come along and enjoy outstanding science on the enchanting Apple Isle. I look forward to seeing you there.

Associate Professor Martin Delatycki Conference Convenor



Dr Di Yu, Award recipient 2008

ASMR Mentoring Program

Are you a mid-career researcher without a mentor? The Australian Society for Medical Research would like to invite members who are 5-12 years postdoctoral to participate in the ASMR Mentoring Program. This program was initiated as a result of feedback from participants attending the ASMR Professional Development program. Members will be matched with an appropriate Career Development Mentor. For more information and application forms please visit www.asmr.org.au/mento r.html. Please note that applications are accepted all year round and the program is free to ASMR members.

Emma Parkinson Lawrence, ASMR Executive Director





Dr Jane Butler (POWMRI), Winner of the 2009 Amgen Medical Researcher Award

2009 ASMR Medical Research Week®

he 2009 ASMR Medical Research Week® was held between May 29th and June 5th and was a resounding success. ASMR Medical Research Week® is the major public outreach event for the Society and aims to promote health and medical research to the community and to garner support for the sector across Australia.

More than thirty events were held around the country and were attended by medical researchers, benefactors, industry supporters, State and Federal Government representatives and members of the public. Public outreach events included the online

High Schools Science Quiz for Year 7–12 students (VIC, NSW, QLD, SA, and WA), a Medical Trivia at the Pub night in Victoria, Science in the Cinema events in NSW, WA and SA, and High School and Tertiary Student Information sessions in TAS, NSW and VIC.

Scientific Meetings and Young Investigator/Student forums were held in the ACT, NSW, QLD, SA, and WA. These meetings were an excellent chance for ASMR members and researchers to network and showcase their work through oral and poster presentations. In recognition of the outstanding medical research being carried out around the country the ASMR administered many prizes

Congratulations to the Prize Winners from ASMR MRW[®] 2009

ACT

ASMR Award for Oral Presentation

Michelle Pisani (University of New South Wales at ADFA)

Best Oral Presentation Siti Nor Khadijah Addis (John Curtin School of Medical Research. Australian National University)

ASMR Award for Poster Presentation Michelle Nelson (University of Canberra)

Best Poster Presentation Sharon Pok (ANU Medical School at The Canberra Hospital)

'Viewers Choice' Poster Presentation Award Bianca Preo (ANU Medical School at The Canberra Hospital)

NSW

University of Sydney **Medal for Best Overall** Presentation Pei Pei Gan (Children's Cancer

Institute of Australia)

NSW Office of Science and Medical Research Award for Best Postdoctoral Oral **Presentations**

Alister Funnell (University of Svdnev) Eddy Pasquier (Children's Cancer Institute of Australia)



Some of the NSW Awardees. From left to right: Pei Pei Gan, Kathryn Roberts and Eddy Pasquier

ASMR Best Student Oral Presentation Briony Jack (University of Sydney)

ASMR Best Student Poster Presentation Kathryn Roberts (University of



Some of the NSW Committee members at the Conference Dinner

Queensland

ASMR Queensland Premier's Awards

Senior Researcher category Winner: Dr Stuart Macgregor (Queensland Institute of Medical Research)



Dr Stuart Macgregor, Winner of the 2009 ASMR Oueensland Premier's Award (Senior Researcher category)

Runners up: Dr Glen Boyle (Queensland Institute of Medical Research) and Dr Patricia Valery (Queensland Institute of Medical Research)



Mathias, Winner of the 2009 ASMR Queensland Premier's Award (Postdoc category)

Postdoc category Winner: Francois Mathias (Institute for Molecular Bioscience.

University of Queensland) Runners up: Dr Nicole Cloonan (Institute for Molecular Bioscience. University of Queensland)

and Dr Brian McEvoy (Queensland Institute of Medical Research)



Faulkner, Winner of the 2009 ASMR Queensland Premier's Award (Postgraduate category)

Dr Geoffrey

Postgraduate category Winner:

Dr Geoffrey Faulkner (Institute for Molecular Bioscience, University of Oueensland) **Runners up:**

Ms Kate Markey (Queensland Institute of Medical Research) and Dr Henry Tsao (University of Oueensland)

South Australia

Ross Wishart Award Dr Peter Psaltis (University of Adelaide)



Ross Wishart Award Finalists Dr Peter Psaltis and Zlatko Kopecki

Best Oral Presentation of the Day

Jacqueline Noll (Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science, University of Adelaide)

Best Poster Presentation of the Dav King Hwa Ling (Institute of Medical

and Veterinary Science, University of Adelaide)

5 July 2009





Tableau of guests at the NSW ASMR Dinner



Professor Penninger inspires at one of the ASMR Gala Dinners

and awards during the week including the Amgen Medical Researcher Award and the Victorian and Queensland Premiers Awards for Health and Medical Research, sponsored by the Victorian government and Queensland Health, respectively. The prestigious

Federal Health Minister's Award for Excellence in Health and Medical Research was presented to the winner, Professor Melissa Wake, at the Melbourne dinner. Kathy Andrews, **ASMR Director**

Best Early Career Oral Presentation Dr Beverly Muhlhausler (Sansom Institute,

University of South Australia)

Best Early Career Poster Presentation Tanya Day (Dame Roma Mitchell Cancer Research Laboratories, University of Adelaide)

Best Healthy Ageing Oral Presentations

Diana Gentilcore (University of Adelaide) Hilary Jones (University of South Australia)

Best Healthy Ageing Poster Presentation

Nga Lam (Hanson Institute, University of Adelaide)

Best Honours Research Award Oral Presentation Win Hong Chu (The Robinson Institute, University of Adelaide)

Best Honours Research Award Poster Presentation

Himawan Harryanto (The Robinson Institute, University of Adelaide)

Tasmania

Postgraduate Student Award Winner:

Claire Smith (Menzies Research Institute, University of Tasmania) **Runners up:**

Carol Bussey, Dawn Dore and Julie Harris (Menzies Research Institute)



Tasmanian award finalists. From left to right: Dawn Dore, Julia Harris, Carol Bussey and Claire Smith (all from the Menzies Research Institute)

Victoria



Dr Kylie Mason, Winner of the 2009 Victorian Premier's Award for Health & Medical Research

2009 Victorian Premier's Award for Health & Medical Research Winner:

Dr Kylie Mason (Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research and University of Melbourne) **Commended:**

Adrian Cameron (Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute and Monash University) Liyen Loh (University of Melbourne) Dr Anna Proietto (Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research and University of Melbourne)

Western Australia



The WA Symposium Committee

Department of Health. Government of Western Australia Prizes

Amanda Meade (Australian Neuromuscular Research Institute) Mathew Welsh (Telethon Institute for Child Health Research)

City of Perth Prize for Excellence in Medical Research

Elizabeth Thomas (University of Western Australia)

Curtin University and Western Australian **Biomedical Research** Institute Prize Jonathan Williamson (Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital)

Edith Cowan University Award

Ireni Ali Rahman (Lions Eye Institute)

Lung Institute of Western Australia Award Joanne Lisciandro (Telethon Institute for Child Health Research)

University of Western Australia Pro Vice Chancellor Research and Innovation Award Eleanor Woodward (Telethon

Institute for Child Health Research)

Murdoch University Award Alison McDonnell (University of Western Australia)

Telethon Institute for Child **Health Research Award** Richard Maganga (University of Western Australia)

University of Western Australia School of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Award Kate Smith (Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital)

Western Australian **Institute for Medical Research Award** Belinda Brown (University of

Western Australia)

Women's and Infants **Research Foundation** An Qin (University of Western Australia)

Ondek Award Stephan Karl (University of Western Australia)

Australian Neuromuscular Research Institute Award Amanda Cleaver (University of Western Australia)

Orthocell Award

Jane Cross (Centre for Neuromuscular and Neurological Disorders, ANRI)

Correction

The Winner of the Merck Sharp and Dohme Best of the Best Poster Award from last year's AHMRC was Washington Sanchez. His affiliation in the March 2009 newsletter was incorrect. He is from the **Institute** of Health and Biomedical Innovation, OUT.



Reflections on ASMR in the Nineties



1992 ASMR Board.

Back (left to right): Wayne Phillips, Caroline McMillan, Stella Clark, Prue Hart, Maree Smith, Christine Clarke, Wayne Tilley, Greg Woods, Tracey Davis (secretariat), Graham Mann. *Front:* Gary Buffington, Julie Owens, Paul Bates, Kevin Croft

One of my most enduring memories is the organisational skills and friendship of **Mrs Ruth Lilian who** almost singlehandedly organised Society matters and the annual Scientific **Conference from 145** Macquarie St, Sydney. Ruth had been the **Executive Secretary for** the ASMR since the mid-1970s but the workload became so great by 1992 that after receiving **Honorary Life Membership of what** we hope was 'her favourite society', she left to establish her own business as a professional conference organiser. Without Ruth, the ASMR would have achieved less as a professional society and learned society. - Prue Hart

Early '90s

by Prue Hart (ASMR President 1992)

n 1990, John Finlay-Jones from Flinders University was President. The two main focuses for the year were ASMR Medical Research Week® and the Annual Scientific Conference. In addition, all members of the society were being encouraged to visit their local MP to lobby on behalf of medical research in Australia. The President and President-Elect always made a two-day visit to Canberra to speak to Ministers for Health and other politicians with interests associated with research funding. "Solving the Puzzle", a promotional video about the challenges of medical research was commissioned by the ASMR. Research discussions and surf fishing by youthful Professors Warwick Anderson and Jim Angus were featured. John Finlay-Jones is currently Deputy VC, Edith Cowan University, Perth.

In 1991, Michael Field from Concord Hospital was President. In contrast with the previous four presidents, and not again until 1998, Michael was medically-trained (as a Renal Physician). The Federal Minister for Health gave money to underpin the activities of ASMR Medical Research Week® but the expectations for ASMR Medical Research Week® activities were getting enormous. Committees in all states were very active and committee work very fulfilling for many of the young ASMR members. Members nominated for membership of the Board were frequently those who had organised their state activities the year before. The Annual Scientific Conference was held at the new National Convention Centre in Canberra. Michael Field is Associate Dean of the Northern Clinical School in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Sydney, based at the Royal North Shore Hospital. He is also Chair of the Medical School Accreditation Committee of the Australian Medical Council.

Based at Flinders University, I became President in 1992 in what was a very fulfilling year. The energy of all the society members was evident. The acceptance of ASMR in Canberra as a leading and very significant lobbying group for increased funds for research was apparent. However, it was the beginning of a time when we were being asked to justify in dollar terms the benefits of medical research. The Annual Scientific Conference was held in Brisbane. The reins of the Society were handed to Wayne Tilley and Christine Clarke who initiated the momentous expansion of the Society to include Affiliate, Associate and Supporting Members of the ASMR. I am now an NHMRC Principal Research Fellow based at the Telethon Institute for Child Health Research in Perth.

Mid '90s by Stella Clark (ASMR President 1995)

These were exciting times as just prior to the 1993 Federal election the ASMR was able to get a commitment from all political parties to invest 2% of the health budget



Stella Clark, ASMR President 1995

in health and medical research. During my term as President-elect and President we spent much time in Canberra trying to get the Labor government to honour that promise including having the Democrats ask a question in the Senate. Carmen Lawrence who became Health Minister in 1994 told us one of the worst things Paul Keating could have done was to agree to this promise! However, it was also made clear to us that medical research is not an issue over which elections are won or lost, and it's critical to be able to support one's arguments cogently within the prevailing political and social environment.

Michael Wooldridge was the opposition spokesperson on Health and also my local member; he was very supportive and gave ASMR some good political advice.

1994 was a momentous year in ASMR's history as it was the year that Cath West joined the Society as Administrative Secretary, and the Society has received exceptional dedication and service from Cath ever since. What a corporate memory!

Reviews of the NHMRC and/or medical research in

Australia are nothing new and during my time it was the "Bienenstock Review". ASMR was active in responding and following progress on the implementation of the reviews recommendations.

All ASMR directors "adopted" a member of the NHMRC Medical Research Committee, as it was then (chaired by Judy Whitworth), with the goal of making sure they were aware of all the key issues ASMR was considering, especially in relation to career development.

On an overseas scientific trip during my time as President I was able to meet with Mary Woolley, President of Research! America and started an interest that was taken on by others, leading to the formation of Research Australia in 2000.

During 1995, ASMR was also working hard to ensure its finances moved from a slight operating deficit to being in the black; setting up its very first website; and, installing Gus Nossal as a Life Member of the Society.

My time on the ASMR Board literally changed my professional life as I left active bench research after my year as President and went into broader research management and leadership. I always remember walking back from the AGM at Leura after handing over to Graham Mann as 1996 President. These very large automatic glass doors which, up until then, always slid open as I swept by remained closed on this occasion — a message in that for all of us perhaps!

Mid to late '90s

by Kieran Scott (ASMR President 1997)

The nineties saw significant expansion of the structure of the society to better facilitate the advocacy role of ASMR



ASMR President 1997

to Government in putting the case for significantly increased funding for medical research, and importantly to advocate for greater stability of funding for research over time. A framework to facilitate longer term strategic approaches to advocacy that better leveraged the significant anecdotal public support for research was developed and executed over several years.

Structural changes to the Society were made to:

- expand the membership base to include all stakeholders through the establishment of an Affiliate membership status for professional Societies. Strong support of subsequent Boards has seen ASMR affiliates now number well over 100.
- 2. expand the capacity of the ASMR office to document public support for research, monitor

ASMR Presidents, 1990–99

1990 John Finlay-Jones
1991 Michael Field
1992 Prue Hart
1993 Wayne Tilley
1994 Christine Clark
1995 Stella Clark
1996 Graham Mann
1997 Kieran Scott
1998 Steve Wesselingh
1999 Matthew Gillespie

the effectiveness of public campaigns such as ASMR Medical Research Week® and to make formal written representation on behalf of stakeholders in response to public Government enquiries.

These years also saw significant effort in strengthening ASMR's engagement with the political process by taking a whole of government approach to advocacy for health and medical research. Some strategies included expansion of efforts in direct contact with Federal politicians and putting in place measures that would facilitate direct engagement of our membership with politicians using tools such as letter writing campaigns and visits to local members. These tools proved to be extremely important in the prosecution of our efforts to improve the health of funding for medical research, and were also important in representing the views of our constituency on issues such as the use of animals in research and the ethical use of in vitro fertilisation technology to name just two. The State branches assumed an increasingly important role in promoting research through expansion of the organisation and execution of state-based events structured around ASMR Medical Research Week®. Of particular import was the institution of local scientific meetings that served to showcase research to communities and served as a focus for media attention.

The instigation of an annual, country-wide, ASMR medallist lecture tour during ASMR Medical Research Week® created another focus for public attention on research. The constant and seamless effort of many Boards over the period of the nineties bore fruit in the landmark Federal Government commitment to double research funding to the NHMRC. This outcome was due in no small part, as acknowledged at the time, to the efforts of ASMR. The most gratifying thing for me, having been part of that, has been to see the Society make that achievement just one of several bigger and better ones in subsequent years. Long may it continue, because the issues seem to keep on coming!



Conferences

Australian Diabetes Society/Australian Diabetes Educators Association Annual Scientific Meeting August 26–28, 2009 Adelaide Convention Centre

Further information: www.ads-adea.org.au

20th ASM of the Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology September 16-18, 2009

Adelaide Convention Centre Further information: www.ascia2009.com

Australian Atherosclerosis Society Annual Scientific Meeting October 13–16, 2009 St Kilda, Melbourne

Further information: www.athero.org.au/meetin gs.htm

ASMR National Scientific Conference Neurogenetics on the Apple Isle November 15-17, 2009 Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart Tasmania Further information: www.asmr-nsc.org.au

Epigenetics 2009 Australian Scientific Conference December 1–4, 2009 Sebel Albert Park, Melbourne Further information:

www.epialliance.org.au

Australasian Society for Immunology 39th Annual Scientific Meeting

December 6–10, 2009 Conrad Jupiters, Gold Coast

Further information: www.asi2009.org

Australian Health and Medical Research Congress November 14–19, 2010 New Melbourne Convention Centre For further information, email:mo@asnevents.net.au



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ASMR Directors 2009

Executive Directors

Dr Sarah Meachem — President

- Dr Alison Butt President-elect and Honorary Treasurer
- Dr Emma Parkinson-Lawrence Honorary Secretary and Career Development
- Dr Kristen Nowak Media Director

Directors

Dr Kathy Andrews — ASMR Medical Research Week® Convenor and Media Assistant

Assoc. Professor Andrew Brown — Newsletter Editor

Dr Paul Dawson — Membership

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- Dr Rosemary Keogh AHMRC 2010 Convenor
- Dr Andrew Laslett Assistant ASMR Medical Research Week® and Career Development Assistant

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Senior Executive Officer

Catherine West

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- NSW ConvenorDr Mary KavurmaQLD ConvenorDr Daniel WallaceSA ConvenorMr Roger YazbekTas ConvenorDr Tracey DicksonVic ConvenorDr Ayan Dasvarma
- WA Convenor Dr Shelley Gorman

Contact details from www.asmr.org.au/Statebranch.html

Mark your calendars now! 2010 AH&MRC will be held at the new Melbourne Exhibition & Convention Centre from 14–19 November, 2010

Affiliate Members of ASMR

Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes (AAMRI) Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes (AAMRI) Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy Australasian Society for HIV Medicine Inc Australasian Society for Infectious Diseases Australasian Society for Psychiatric Research Australian and New Zealand Society for Cell & Developmental Biology Inc Australian and New Zealand Bone and Mineral Society Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists Australian and New Zealand Obesity Society Australian and New Zealand Society for Blood Transfusion Australian and New Zealand Society of Nephrology Australian Atherosclerosis Society Australian Physiological Society Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists Australasian College for Emergency Medicine Australasian College of Dermatologists Australasian Faculty of Occupational Medicine Australasian Gene Therapy Society Inc Australasian Menopause Society Australasian Sleep Association Inc Australasian Society for Immunology Australian and New Zealand Association of Neurologists Australian Diabetes Society Australian Neuroscience Society Inc Australian Rheumatology Association Australian Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Inc-Australian Society for Parasitology Australian Vascular Biology Society Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand Clinical Oncological Society of Australia Ear Science Institute Australia Endocrine Society of Australia Fertility Society of Australia Haemátology Society of Australia and New Zealand High Blood Pressure Research Council of Australia Human Genetics Society of Australasia Institute of Health and Éiomedical Innovation National Association of Research Fellows Nutrition Society of Australia Inc Paediatric Research Society of Australia and New Zealand Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand Royal ANZ College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists Royal College of Nursing Australia Society for Free Radical Research (Australasia) Society of Obstetric Medicine of Australia and New Zealand The Australian College of Ambulance Professionals The Australian Medical Students' Association Ltd The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists The Royal Australasian College of Physicians The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia The Society for Reproductive Biology Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand Transplantation Society of Australia and New Zealand Western Australia Biomedical Research Institute Associate Members of ASMR

Arthritis Australia

Australian Red Cross Blood Service Australian Red Cross Blood Service Australian Respiratory Council Clifford Craig Medical Research Trust Cystic Fibrosis Australia Incorporated Epilepsy Action Foundation for High Blood Pressure Research Haemophilia Foundation of Australia Juvenile Diabetes Research Fndtn Kidney Health Australia MS Research Australia Muscular Dystrophy Association Inc National Heart Foundation of Australia Scleroderma Association of NSW Inc The Lupus Association of NSW The Ophthalmic Research Institute of Australia

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