On the brink of announcements from the NHMRC this year on research funding, it seems timely to discuss the cardiology clinical research environment in Australia and New Zealand.

While many cardiology trainees receive high level training in research during their training programs and many go on to higher degrees, the prospects of clinical cardiologists to pursue international or even nationally competitive clinical research is uncertain. Though the demands of a clinical career may dissuade some from being interested in clinical research, certainly many remain interested and enthusiastic about combining a clinical career with a research career. However despite this enthusiasm there seem to be relatively few that are able to successfully combine a productive clinical research career with clinical practice.

Funding of research is certainly a barrier for all researchers in Australia and New Zealand, and the funding streams for cardiology clinical researchers have particularly dwindled. While NHMRC funding has always been highly competitive, it is becoming increasingly so. There are less public funds available and few prospects of growth in government funding with the shelving, at least for the time being, of the Medical research future fund. There are also increasing demands on hospital employed staff to provide service and a de-emphasis on academic productivity and with pressure also on university budgets fewer University funded clinical academic positions.

Australia also has become a very expensive place to conduct research, the costs of staff, infrastructure compounded by increasing regulation of research and inefficiency of processes adding to research staff tasks and time are not helping. Australia is not the place of choice for large patient recruitment for large scale pharma trials and there has been a general plateauing in the conduct of large-scale cardiovascular clinical trials globally.

So what is the future of clinical cardiology research in Australia and New Zealand? Should we be more engaged in the process of improving research infrastructure and efficiency of processes? Should we be exploring alternative funding models? Should we be better engaging with aligned organisations such as the Heart Foundation? Perhaps it is time to open this for more wide discussion.
Other short news items from recent Board meetings:

- CSANZ is working with the Heart Foundation on the development of new guidelines in Acute Coronary Syndromes (ACS).
- There will be some increases in the fellow annual subscription for next year to support the further development of core projects including the Continuing Medical Education (CME) portal and Australasian Cardiac Outcomes Registry (ACOR) projects.
- The scientific committee is meeting regularly to develop the program for CSANZ ASM 2015.
- The Continuing Education and Recertification Committee (CERC) has been working to review a number of new position statements on Performance and Support facilities for Primary PCI service, Competency in PCI and Clinical Exercise Stress testing in Adults.
- The Professional and Ethical Standards Committee continues to do important work in reviewing and maintaining ethical standards.
- ACOR has been awarded the Cardiac Devices Register tender by the Commonwealth Government.
- CSANZ has been exploring relationships with the American College of Cardiology and the European Society of Cardiology to bring additional benefits to CSANZ through combined memberships.

Editorial by Dr Clara Chow

Updated Policy Documents

The following Policy Documents have been updated on the CSANZ website.

- **CSANZ Endorsement of External Scientific Meetings**
  Click here to view this document

- **Policies & Protocols for running an Annual Scientific Meeting**
  Click here to view this document
New and Updated Position Statements

The following new Position Statement has been uploaded to the CSANZ website.

Performance of Investigations and Procedures:
- Sedation for Cardiovascular Procedures
  [Click here to view this document]

The following Position Statements have been updated on the CSANZ website.

Performance of Investigations and Procedures:
- Clinical Exercise Stress Testing in Adults
  [Click here to view this document]

- Performance of and Support Facilities for a Primary Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI)
  [Click here to view this document]

Training and Competence:
- Competency in Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI)
  [Click here to view this document]

Training and Certification:
Lead Extraction Certification
- Certification and Recertification Criteria
  [Click here to view this updated document]
CSANZ 2015
63RD ANNUAL
SCIENTIFIC MEETING OF
THE CARDIAC SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA &
NEW ZEALAND
HOSTED BY CSANZ NSW

13 – 16 AUGUST 2015 | MELBOURNE CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE

www.csanz.edu.au

Key Dates

Abstract submission opens  Registration opens
22 November 2014  18 March 2015

Abstract submission closes  Earlybird registrations closes
7 March 2015  22 June 2015

www.anzet.com.au
ANZET14 Highlights

Welcome to Country

Opening of ANZET14 - Andrew Maclsaac and Jim Stewart

Jeffrey J Popma delivers the Louis Bernstein Lecture

Live Case from MonashHeart, Melbourne, VIC
ANZET14 Highlights

Update: Australasian Cardiac Outcomes Registry (ACOR) by David Brieger

Registries: What is the way forward?

ANZET Fellows’ Prize presented to Roshan Prakash by Jeffrey J Popma

Gala Dinner—Shanghai Nights

Ian Meredith and Andrew MacIsaac
Gala Dinner
HeartOne is the CSANZ CPD program and has been available to Members as an early release since the beginning of 2014.

There are currently over 250 CPD modules and more than 1400 resources in the library, including video and audio lectures, online books and journals, including Heart Lung and Circulation, as well as access to the Clinical Key search engine.

HeartOne has two web sites - a public site for general information about the program, and a Member-only site for access to the CPD material and other resources.

Public web site:  
http://www.heartone.com.au

Member site:  
https://heartone.com.au

Access to HeartOne is available for all CSANZ Members.

Suggestions, feedback and questions are welcome, please email education@csanz.edu.au
Membership Changes and Additions

The following changes and new admissions to Membership which occurred from May 2014 to the current time. The Society extends a warm welcome to all.

Affiliate Members
Dr A Al-Kaisey, Mr M E Arrowsmith, Mrs F Athari, Dr N Berry, Mrs A Biju, Miss K Bowdler, Ms J E Brown, Mr M Campbell, Mrs S Cartledge, Ms C Challinor, Dr S Chan, Ms W F Corkill, Mrs V Coupland, Ms T Darrell, Ms L Direrova, Miss R Haig, Mrs J A Hannah, Mrs T E Harrison, Miss K Hyun, Mrs J Inglis, Miss K Janssens, Mr E Kooijman, Dr T Kyaw, Miss D Martin, Mr G Martis, Dr A P Maurice, Mrs A M Murphy, Ms M J Nederlof, Ms J Parkinson, Mrs R E Ramm, Mrs S Renfrey, Ms E Rogerson, Ms S G Rumgay, Mrs E A Russell, Ms M Somers-Robinson, Mrs R Taylor, Mr S D Webb, Dr R Webster, Mrs K Wechkunanukul, Mr S Woodruffe and Ms J Wroth.

Associate Members
Dr H Adams, Dr A Camuglia, Dr B T Costello, Dr A Davies, Dr M Fryer, Dr S J Gutman, Dr D Harrop, Dr M Hayat, Dr C Nalliah, Dr E L D Ooi, Dr C Seaman, Dr J Shah, Dr K Stanton, Dr S Weerasooriya, and Dr M Wolbinski.

FCSANZ Members
Dr J Amin, Dr A Chong, Dr T J Glenie, Dr A Keren, Dr A La Gerche, Dr M Leung, Dr K Milburn, Dr R D Perel, Dr R S Poulter, Dr A M Ranchord, Dr P Roy, Dr A S Sasse, Dr A Scott, Dr A W-M Teh, Dr V C Venkatachalam, Prof L J Worrall-Carter and Dr D Zentner.

Heartbeat
Launch of the secondary prevention report to target cardiovascular disease

The World Heart Federation has launched secondary cardiovascular disease prevention and control, a global report which provides an overview of the global policy framework around non communicable diseases and cardiovascular disease prevention.

Click here to read more
CSANZ Board

President:
Andrew MacIsaac

Past President:
Richmond Jeremy

Elected Board Members:
David Brieger, NSW
John Atherton, QLD
Stephen Nicholls, SA
Joseph Hung, WA
Ian Meredith, VIC
Luke Galligan, TAS
Mark Webster, NZ

Affiliate Representatives:
Robyn Gallagher (Nursing)
Julie Redfern (Allied Health)

Chair, Scientific Committee:
Jonathan Kalman

Paediatric Representative:
Robert Justo

Surgical Representative:
Paul Bannon

National Heart Foundation of Australia:
Ian Meredith

Chair, New Zealand Regional Committee:
Mark Simmonds

Editor, Heart Lung and Circulation:
Robert Denniss

Honorary Secretary:
Aravinda Thiagalingam

Hon Asst Sec/Treasurer:
Clara Chow

Chair, Australasian Cardiac Outcomes Registry Steering Committee:
David Brieger

Chair, CSANZ Cardiac Imaging Council:
David Prior

Chair, CSANZ Electrophysiology & Pacing Council:
Andrew McGavigan

Chair, CSANZ Interventional Council:
Jim Stewart

Clinical Practice Adviser:
John O’Shea

Chair, STC:
Peter Steele

Chief Executive Officer:
Lynne Portelli

CSANZ Staff:
Christine Boyle
Michael Donnici
Anne Mar

On the pulse

For information regarding submissions for On the pulse please email info@csanz.edu.au Views expressed in On the pulse are not necessarily the views of the Cardiac Society or its Board.

Regional Committees

New Zealand:
Mark Simmonds, Chair
Harvey White, Secretary

New South Wales:
Roger Allan, Chair
Nigel Jepson, Secretary

Victoria:
Omar Farouque, Chair
Bill van Gaal, Secretary

Queensland:
Karam Kostner, Chair
Sudhir Wahi, Secretary

South Australia:
Margaret Arstall, Chair
Sharmalar Rajendran, Secretary

Western Australia:
Rukshen Weerasooriya, Chair
Darshan Kothari, Secretary

Tasmania:
Don McTaggart, Chair
Philip Roberts-Thomson, Secretary
Forthcoming Meetings

**NORTH AMERICA**

AHA2014
15 - 19 November, 2014
Chicago, Illinois
www.scientificsessions.americanheart.org/

ACC15
15 - 16 March, 2015
San Diego, California
www.cardiosource.org/acc

**EUROPE**

ESC Congress 2015
29 August - 2 September 2015
London, UK
www.escardio.org

**ASIA PACIFIC**

CSANZ New Zealand Annual Scientific Meeting
4 – 6 June 2015
Auckland, New Zealand

Contact details:
The Conference Company
Phone: 64 9 360 1240
www.csanz.edu.au

CSANZ2015
13 - 16 August, 2015
Melbourne, Australia
Contact details:
The Conference Company
Phone: 64 9 360 1240
www.csanz.edu.au

ANZET15
11 - 13 August, 2015
Melbourne, Australia
Contact details:
The Conference Company
Phone: 64 9 360 1240
www.csanz.edu.au

A more comprehensive list of meetings and events can be viewed on the Society’s website
www.csanz.edu.au