This year has kicked off rapidly. There is certainly a hive of activity in the ASM organising team - with virtually all international speakers now locked in and the program taking shape. Each theme leader has been working hard to make content current and relevant.

In addition, a number of new ideas have been introduced to the ASM this year. This includes a specific focus on involving earlier career individuals - aiming to involve early career people as speakers and chair persons in the program, incorporating more slots into the overall program for oral presentations from research abstracts and also some consideration of the content of the program.

We are looking forward to you all attending.

From the first Board meeting this year:

**Deductible Gift Recipients (DGR) Status**

There has been discussion about obtaining DGR status. This may enable tax deductible donations to be made towards educational activities. The Board is exploring the requirements. This has partly arisen due to increasing consciousness by Board members of the increasing work of the CSANZ, particularly with the HeartOne project and ACOR and the increasing operational costs, also the future needs of the Society and the importance to maintain core functions, particularly the Society’s remit to continuing education.

**Governance**

The other major item discussed was that of governance - particularly with articulating how it currently works for the Society and how it could be improved.

The Board is considering a formal review of its governance. We had a visit from a small external group that is known for their interactions with other community and professional organisations. Some items that were raised were Board size, separating out operational issues from organisational planning issues and what things could be delegated.

Many members felt this discussion was important to have, and consideration is being given to further review of our structure and governance.
Dr O B Tofler OAM, MBBS, FRACP, FCSANZ
Born Sydney 1926, died Perth 2014

Ossie, as he was known, had a friendly gentle manner but was a determined innovator and achiever. He graduated at Sydney University and after residency at Sydney Hospital and Royal Newcastle Hospital came to Perth in 1953 and commenced general practice having been appointed an honorary physician at Royal Perth Hospital.

In 1957 he went to the National Heart Hospital in London and trained under the guidance of the Australian, Dr Paul Wood, one of the world’s great, perhaps greatest, cardiologist of the era and was imbued with Wood’s legendary clinical ability, amazing knowledge (exemplified by his cardiology “Bible” of the time “Diseases of the Heart and Circulation”) and his infectious enthusiasm.

After returning to Perth he established cardiac catheterisation units at Royal Perth Hospital and the Princess Margaret Hospital for Children and in 1962 was appointed the founding Head of Cardiology at both where he guided with collegiality rather than as a ruler. The next decade or so saw cardiology being transformed with major advances by physicians and surgeons and Perth was at the forefront of these developments.

Unsurprisingly he introduced a rotating Heads of the Department, mostly with success. Always the innovator in medicine he commenced the mammoth study of alcohol on the heart summarised in his 1985 book “The Heart of the Social Drinker”.

He introduced the concept of quality of life “Qualys” useful particularly when evaluating the time and place for intervention and cardiac surgery.

He is remembered as commencing “Death Review” meetings, photographs of every new patient, the Newsletter of Post-Graduate activities, the initiative of personal invitations to world leaders to visit the Department for a week or so including Dr Hanson from Scandinavia, Professor John Goodwin and J P Shillingford from the United Kingdom, Dr Velva Shirre from South Africa and Dr Eliot Newman from the United States.

He was a councillor of the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand for six years in the 1960s.

On the lighter side he commenced the Christmas Puppet Show which progressed into the “Christmas Quiz” with the junior staff in charge! He was a formidable squash player and I remember that he was never beaten by a colleague. He loved music and played the cello and flute.
The CSANZ has launched its new look website.

CPD resources can be viewed on the “public” side of the site. When you endeavour to access the resource you will be prompted to log into HeartOne. Your Member log in will still work on the new site.

Click \(^{1}\)HeartOne Log In to gain access to the HeartOne site.

All this as well as being a strong family oriented man taking a keen and loving interest in his four children (one teacher, three doctors), their spouses and families.

Ossie was extremely active in the Jewish community being instrumental in re-establis hing the communal Jewish weekly newspaper “The Maccabea n” and being editor-in-chief for 28 years. He was a founder of the Seeligson Kindergarten and the Carmel School and was a Board member of it for 33 years.

After relinquishing his public hospital positions, he continued private practice and in 2000 was awarded the OAM for services to medicine and the Jewish community.

Ossie’s wife, Tamara supported him in his full range of endeavours from being his clinical assistant to his projects in the Jewish community and she was a prominent and active hostess to so many of his colleagues. Ossie died peacefully at home from heart failure aged 87. He is survived by his wife Tamara, his four children and eleven grandchildren.

His funeral, like his life, will never be forgotten because of the sudden torrent of rain drenching his mourners around the grave at Karrakatta.

I am grateful to Dr Geoffrey Tofler and his siblings for many of these details.  

Neil Cumpston

The Society would like to thank Dr Neil Cumpston who has kindly provided this Obituary.
Named Lecturers

RT Hall Lecturer            Silvia Priori
Kempson Maddox Lecturer     John Ormiston
Victor Chang Memorial Lecturer David Taggart
Gaston Bauer Lecturer       Stephen Hunyor
Basic Science Lecturer      Mark Cooper
Cardiovascular Nursing Lecturer David Thompson
Key Dates

- Registrations open: 20 March 2015
- Earlybird registrations close: 12 June 2015
- Fellows’ Prize submissions close: 29 June 2015
- Standard registrations close: 17 July 2015
- ANZET 2015: 11-13 August 2015

www.anzet.com.au
Applications are called for the **CSANZ Travelling Fellowships** for travel grants to enable investigators to attend the **European Society of Cardiology Congress 2015** to be held in London, United Kingdom, from 29 August – 2 September, 2015. The Fellowships are intended to provide an opportunity for investigators in the early stage of their research career, to present at a major international conference. CSANZ wishes to acknowledge and thank the Eastern Heart Clinic and Amgen Australia for providing the funds for the Travelling Fellowships.

The conditions are:

1. The Fellowships are valued at $3,000 each.
2. The top ranked candidate will be awarded the CSANZ McCredie/Wilcken Travelling Fellowship.
3. Applicants must be current financial FCSANZ, Associate Members or Affiliate Members of the Cardiac Society, with preference given to those attending their first meeting.
4. The work must have emanated from Australia or New Zealand.
5. Applicants must have an abstract accepted for presentation at the ESC meeting and must be the first or senior author of the accepted abstract. In some circumstances, consideration may be given to a co-first author or someone who has made a substantial contribution to the work (see Item 6)
6. Applications must be accompanied by a letter from the supervisor or Director of the laboratory or service from which the work has emanated, clearly detailing the specific contribution made by the applicant towards the work being presented.
7. Preference will be given to those who have not previously been awarded CSANZ travelling scholarships.
8. Conditions apply to successful applicants not domiciled in Australia or New Zealand.*
9. Late applications will NOT be considered.

Applications should be emailed to the Honorary Secretary at info@csanz.edu.au and must include:

1. copy of submitted abstract(s) and ESC notification of acceptance
2. brief curriculum vitae (maximum 1 page)
3. supporting letter from the supervisor or Director

**CLOSING DATE**

**22 May, 2015**

Please note: if applicants have not received email confirmation of receipt of their application within 1 week of submission, they should contact the Secretariat at info@csanz.edu.au

*To obtain a copy of the conditions info@csanz.edu.au
Criteria for CSANZ Heart Failure Council travel grant for the
Heart Failure Society of America Conference
26—29 September, 2015
Washington DC

1. **At the time of application**, applicants must be current financial FCSANZ, Associate Members or Affiliate Members of the Cardiac Society, with preference given to early career applicants attending their first meeting.

2. The work must have emanated from Australia or New Zealand.

3. Applicants **must** have an abstract on a topic relevant to Heart Failure, accepted for presentation.

4. Applications must be accompanied by a letter from the supervisor or Director of the laboratory or service from which the work has emanated, clearly detailing the specific contribution made by the applicant towards the work being presented.

5. Preference will be given to those who have not previously been awarded a CSANZ Travelling Scholarship.

6. Conditions apply to successful applicants not domiciled in Australia or New Zealand.*

7. Late applications will **NOT** be considered.

8. The Scholarship is valued at $3,000

9. Successful recipient must agree to present in the next CSANZ Heart Failure Council Programme during the CSANZ Annual Scientific Meeting:
   i. A summary of the highlights of the meeting and an overview of the top 5 Heart Failure papers they attended at the Heart Failure Society of America Meeting
   ii. An oral presentation of their abstract.

10. Successful recipient to email the Heart Failure Council Secretary at info@csanz.edu.au confirming availability to present in the next CSANZ Heart Failure Council Programme (See item 9).

   Applications should be accompanied by:
   a) copy of submitted abstract(s) and official notification of acceptance;
   b) brief curriculum vitae;
   c) supporting letter from the supervisor or Director;

   Applications should be emailed to info@csanz.edu.au

   **CLOSING DATE**
   30 June, 2015

**Please note:** if applicants have not received email confirmation of receipt of their application within 1 week of submission, they should contact the CSANZ at info@csanz.edu.au
Travelling Fellowship Update

Cher-Rin Chong, The Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Adelaide, received a CSANZ Travelling Fellowship to attend the 2014 American Heart Association Meeting.

In November 2014, I had the pleasure of visiting the "Windy City" Chicago to attend the American Heart Association (AHA) scientific sessions. Attendance at the AHA not only provided me the opportunity to absorb some of the world’s most cutting-edge research findings and clinical updates, it also enabled me to present my research results to a broader audience.

My PhD focuses on the pharmacological approach towards modulation of myocardial metabolism. As part of my PhD, it was hypothesised that dronedarone (an analogue to amiodarone that is devoid of iodine), is a modulator of myocardial metabolism. At AHA, such a finding had attracted the attention of clinicians and representatives from pharmaceutical stakeholders. During conversations, I learnt that despite the contradictory results from the ATHENA and PALLAS trials, dronedarone is still commonly used in the US for management of atrial fibrillation, while carefully avoiding patients with concomitant heart failure.

While it is widely recognised that integrating clinical expertise and research development is integral in meeting evolving patients' healthcare needs, a practice combining both is currently uncommon within the Australian pharmacy profession. The ideas and knowledge gained during this tour has provided a platform not only to enhance my career development, but also to define the potential range of pharmacist involvement in cardiovascular research.

I wish to once again acknowledge the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand for supporting my attendance at such a prestigious meeting. It was a uniquely exciting experience and I hope that throughout my professional career there will be more to come!

Dr John England’s book Kickstart² is now available to purchase online.

It is a new, revised, enlarged edition.

“Everything you need to know about living with a pacemaker or defibrillator”
Applications are called for the Clinical Development Award to enable Affiliate Members of the CSANZ to attend the 2015 CSANZ Annual Scientific Meeting in Melbourne, Victoria, from 13—16 August 2015. The Awards are intended to further develop the successful candidate through an increase in their clinical knowledge and expertise, an increased awareness of research and evidence-based practice and will also allow the successful candidate to build on their professional network. In particular, this strategy addresses succession planning for leadership positions in cardiovascular practice, research, education and management. Candidates applying for a CDA are not required to have an abstract accepted for presentation at the ASM.

The Awards:

- The Awards are valued at $1,000 each to assist in defraying the costs of travel, accommodation etc with up to five being awarded.
- There will be up to three Awards to nursing and up to two to non-nursing applicants.
- Preference will be given on an equal basis to:
  a. first time applicants for a CDA;
  b. applicants who have not previously attended a CSANZ conference;
- Should the recipient of a CDA subsequently be awarded a CSANZ ASM Travelling Fellowship in the same year, the recipient may choose which award they wish to have, but are only entitled to one award.

Selection criteria:

1. The applicant must have held CSANZ Affiliate Membership for at least 1 year and be currently financial.
2. Working or studying in a clinical area of cardiology or cardiothoracic surgery or working in an area where there is a large caseload of patients with cardiac conditions.
3. Applicants must reside outside of the State or Region in which the ASM is being held.

How to apply:

- Applicants should submit a one page document describing their interest in cardiovascular health and stating what outcomes they anticipate from the conference. For example, how it will add to the applicant’s knowledge base and career, how it will benefit their workplace and how the applicant can contribute to the CSANZ Affiliates;
- Applicants should include details of their clinical area of work or study, including patient caseload and patient cardiac conditions;
- Include the names of two referees with whom you have worked closely and who have been involved in your career development ie mentor, supervisor, manager;
- Successful candidates will be required to write a report for the On The Pulse newsletter;
- Applications should be emailed to the Honorary Secretary at info@csanz.edu.au

CLOSING DATE
8 June, 2015

Please note: if applicants have not received email confirmation of receipt of their application within 1 week of submission, they should email info@csanz.edu.au
Dr Narelle Berry, Flinders University, Adelaide, received a CSANZ Travelling Fellowship to attend the 2014 American Heart Association Meeting.

The American Heart Association Scientific Sessions was held in Chicago in November 2014. The conference was attended by more than 17,000 delegates from around the world and it was amazing to be in the company of so many great minds all in one place.

The weather was freezing, with temperatures well below zero almost every day, a great excuse to sit inside a warm conference venue and be inspired.

The format of the conference this year was highly innovative and gave presenters many opportunities to have their work disseminated. Poster presenters were able to record audio files that could be downloaded which gave you the opportunity to hear people speak about their work when you couldn’t get to their posters. With over 4000 abstracts being presented over 5 days, and 3000 of these being posters, this was a great initiative.

I presented an abstract entitled “A collaborative approach to developing culturally appropriate heart failure self-care tools for Indigenous Australians using multi-media technology” which was work from an international collaboration of researchers working in the area of using apps and avatars for patient education. Our work was well received at the conference and I had a number of interesting conversations at my poster session. I was also able to meet up with our international collaborators at the conference and develop ideas for further research.

I attended a number of Early Career workshops on career development and tips for being a successful researcher, the key take home message for me from these sessions was the importance of collaboration and getting out of silos to create innovative multidisciplinary research.

A highlight of the conference was hearing Nobel Laureate Robert Lefkowitz speak about his career in transmembrane receptors. Although not in my area of research, it was fascinating to hear how such a distinguished career develops over time and what is takes to reach such great heights. He currently has 861 papers (according to Scopus), I better get writing!

Another highlight of this meeting was the opportunity to hear from the patient. In this case the patient was Former Vice President Dick Cheney and he spoke of his 30+ year journey as a cardiac patient and how as his cardiac condition progressed, he was able to benefit from continuing advances in medical research.

Overall, this conference was extremely beneficial and I established a number of connections which have been followed up since my return. I want to sincerely thank the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand for their support to attend the AHA meeting.
CSANZ Board

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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.

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## Forthcoming Meetings

### NORTH AMERICA

**ACC15**  
15 - 16 March, 2015  
San Diego, California  
[www.cardiosource.org/acc](http://www.cardiosource.org/acc)

**AHA15**  
7 - 11 November, 2015  
Orlando, Florida  
[www.scientificsessions.americanheart.org/](http://www.scientificsessions.americanheart.org/)

### EUROPE

**ESC Congress 2015**  
29 August - 2 September 2015  
London, UK  
[www.escardio.org](http://www.escardio.org)

### ASIA PACIFIC

**20th Asian Pacific Society of Cardiology Congress**  
29 April - 2 May 2015  
Abu Dhabi, UAE  

**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](http://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](http://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](http://www.csanz.edu.au)

A more comprehensive list of meetings and events can be viewed on the Society’s website  
[www.csanz.edu.au](http://www.csanz.edu.au)