



on the *pulse*

Volume XXI No 3
September 2009

President's Report 2009

Delivered by Dr Leo Mahar

It gives me pleasure to report on the activities of the Cardiac Society, the Board and the various Councils over the last year.

Firstly we must thank the Organising Committee for the wonderful meeting that they have put on here in Sydney. In particular, I would like to thank the Chair of the Organising Committee, Peter Macdonald, the Chair of the Scientific Committee, Chris Semsarian, Lea Delbridge from the ISHR and Patricia Davidson who organised the Affiliate Programme.

The Annual Scientific Meeting continues to grow and prosper. This year in Sydney we have had close to 2400 registrants, the largest meeting ever. The venue is wonderful. The Sydney weather has been excellent. We continue to have the format of the meeting beginning on Friday and concluding on Sunday, preceded by satellite meetings of various Councils. I should particularly mention the ANZET09 meeting which again has been a wonderful success with 540 registrants. It is the third of the interventional meetings sponsored by the Cardiac Society and we hope that they will continue. It is already planned for Adelaide 2010. ANZET has now grown to such a size that it has a permanent secretarial presence in the Cardiac Society Office. This has been of



considerable help to the running of the Society and that meeting. I would also like to congratulate Jim Wilkinson, Dan Penny and David Winlaw for the tremendous success of the World Congress of Paediatric Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery in Cairns in June this year. It was reported as a marvellous meeting, with excellent attendance and excellent weather and a satisfactory financial outcome.

I would now like to report on the activities of the four major Sub-Committees of the Board.

Cardiology Training

After 10 years of very hard work David Richmond has resigned as Chair of this Specialty Training Committee (STC) in Cardiology. We thank him for his considerable efforts over those years and wish him well in the future. Peter Steele was appointed the new Chairman of this sub-committee which is a considerable undertaking. The sub-committee now oversees the training of 170 people and this is time-consuming and difficult. The aim is to provide very good cardiology training and experience to our young colleagues as well as meeting the service demands of metropolitan and regional hospitals as best we can. This sometimes leads to disappointment for some smaller hospitals whose training programmes are not recognised but the quality of the training is paramount. The Board resolved two years ago to extend Cardiology Training to three core years, starting from 2010. This was done in recognition of the enormous amount of material that has to be covered including exposure to surgery and electrophysiology. This has led to some difficulty in rostering. In the best interests of

our young colleagues we must endeavour to overcome these and provide the best possible training for Cardiologists of the future.

There has been some call for a national matching programme between those interested in Cardiology training and positions available inside some States and amongst States. The College would, of course, like to become involved in this. After vigorous discussion in the Board, we feel that the procedures in the States so far have some way to go before we can roll this out to a national programme. There is of course the justified fear from the smaller States that they do badly from national training programmes.

The STC in Cardiology sits between the College of Physicians and the Cardiac Society and is answerable to both. The Cardiology curriculum was sent to the College and is yet to be received back. We are hoping there will be progress on this in the near future. This covers the extensive knowledge and experience required in adult Cardiology and the paediatric Cardiology curriculum is almost finished.

One area that we have not so far addressed adequately is training in grown up congenital heart disease. The Board has encouraged a small group of people interested in this area (both paediatric Cardiologists and adult Cardiologists interested in congenital heart disease) to develop a curriculum and a training programme. This is an area of real need both now and into the future.

(Continued on page 3)



On the pulse

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Views expressed in "on the pulse" are not necessarily the views of the Cardiac Society or its Board.

The Board

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Leo Mahar

President Elect:

James Cameron

Elected Board Members:

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John Atherton, QLD

Joseph Hung, WA

Ian Meredith, VIC

Philip Roberts-Thomson, TAS

Harvey White, NZ

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Len Kritharides

Paediatric Representative:

Robert Justo

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Julian Smith

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Chairman: John O'Shea

Secretary: Mark Ireland

Tasmania:

Chairman: Don McTaggart

Secretary: Andrew Thomson



David Brieger
Editor

(Continued from page 1)

Continuing Education and Recertification Committee (CERC)

Andrew MacIsaac has done a great job in chairing this Committee which develops and reviews guidelines for continuing education and recertification. Over the last year, they have reviewed the guidelines of the support facilities for primary percutaneous coronary intervention, paediatric cardiac catheterisation, pharmacological stress testing and are currently involved in the selection and creation of performance measures for quantifying the quality of cardiovascular care. CERC also reviewed guidelines for Marfan's Syndrome, management of familial long QT syndrome, management of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, familial hypercholesterolaemia and assessing fitness to drive. All of these guidelines are available on the CSANZ website and also some are to be reviewed further.

Professional and Ethical Standards Committee (PESC)

Jim Cameron has continued to do an excellent job running this Committee and has worked hard on the review of the professional and ethical standards as requested by various hospitals. They also manage the admission processes to the various categories of membership of the Society and are currently involved in the update of the Memorandum and Articles of Association for the Cardiac Society and orientation for Board Members. This is important work for correct governance of the Society. Again, we thank them for their time to do that.

Scientific Committee

Len Kritharides has accepted a nomination for a further three years as Chair of this Committee and we

are grateful. The Scientific Committee oversees the running of the Annual Scientific Meeting and appraises and recommends various scholarships awarded by the Society. In addition, Len has been one of the main organisers behind the Indigenous Cardiovascular Health Conference which starts just before the Annual Scientific Meeting concludes. I wish that meeting every success.

Heart Lung and Circulation

Richmond Jeremy continues as Editor-in-Chief of the Journal and it continues to flourish. Its index rating is now 2 which is excellent for a comparatively new journal.

I was on the Board when we took this journal over from the Australian Society of Cardiac and Thoracic Surgeons. I was concerned that it may be a millstone around our neck. Thanks to the undoubted drive and expertise of Richmond Jeremy it is flourishing. It is now self supporting. Richmond has been very helpful with special editions to cover the proceedings of the Society.

Government Issues

There are three major issues that I would like to discuss that affect the members of the Society.

CT Coronary Angiography

There has been considerable friction between the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiology and the Cardiac Society of ownership of this investigation. At the moment this does not have an MBS number. That may come in the future; we were told November but who knows in this financial climate. After a number of tense meetings between the radiologists and the Society, including some with the Chief Medical Officer of the Commonwealth it was firmly stated that no one group "owns" this

particular technique. Appropriate training and experience is required for credentialing to produce a quality examination and report. To this end, a committee has been set up comprising of three Cardiologists, three Radiologists and three Nuclear Physicians as a joint committee to recognise appropriate training in this field. It has been a difficult process. I think we have achieved a satisfactory outcome particularly for patients getting a quality examination. I would like to particularly thank Michael Feneley, our Practice Adviser, Stephen Worthley and Daniel Friedman for their very considerable input into this area and they, of course, will be our nominees for this joint committee.

The Budget outcome came as a surprise to many of us. Despite the rhetoric of consultation the 20% reduction in coronary angiography fees came as a complete bolt from the blue. It was unilateral and undiscussed. We have protested most vigorously but have yet to hear back from the Department. These changes take place from the 1st of November, although no one has been officially notified in writing.

The capital sensitivity requirement for ultrasound equipment is even more serious. The Government in its efforts to try and bolster service provision in less affluent areas decided to increase the bulk-billing rate for radiological and ultrasound investigations from 85% to 95%. The sting in the tail is that there is reduced to 50% if the ultrasound equipment is more than 5 years old. This makes no sense for ultrasound equipment. We have explained vigorously to the Department that this forces providers to buy new equipment every five years if they are to remain viable. This is wonderful for the ultrasound

President's Report

(Continued from page 3)

equipment providers but could ultimately lead to less technologically advanced equipment being offered as the service providers would have to buy it anyway. We have protested most vigorously to the Government about this but again we await a reply. I am particularly grateful to Michael Feneley for his very considerable help with the replies to Government and his extensive experience in these matters.

Annual Scientific Meeting 2010

This meeting will take place in Adelaide as there was no suitable venue available at that time in Melbourne. Nevertheless the Organising Committee will be in Melbourne. It will be an interesting first as this will be the first meeting of the Conference Company based in New Zealand run by a scientific committee based in Melbourne and to take place in Adelaide. Despite the logistics, I look forward to its success.

The convenors of the meeting are Omar Farouque and Jon Kalman is the Chair of the Scientific Committee. The named lecturers are:

RT Hall Lecturer:

Ken Chien, from Boston

Victor Chang Memorial:

Antonio Callofiore from Catania

Kempson Maddox Lecturer:

Michael Feneley from Sydney

Basic Science Lecturer:

Shaun Jackson from Victoria

Cardiovascular Nursing Lecturer:

Andrew McLachlan from New Zealand

2009 Prizes, Scholarships and other awards

I am pleased to award the following prizes on behalf of the Society:

2009 CSANZ Research Scholarship were awarded to:

- **Rachel Cordina** from the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital
- **Liang-han Ling** from the Queen Elizabeth Hospital
- **Jasmine Lyons** from the Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute

CSANZ Travel Grants to attend the *American Heart Association Meeting* in New Orleans, Louisiana, November 8 – 12, 2008, were awarded to:

- **Julian Ayer** from Royal Prince Alfred Hospital
- **Raymond Sy** from Concord Hospital
- **Sanjay Patel** from Royal Prince Alfred Hospital
- **Andrew Driscoll** from Austin Health
- **Dennis Lau** from the Royal Adelaide Hospital

Travel Grants to attend the *European Congress of Cardiology Meeting* in Barcelona, Spain, August 29 to September 2, 2009 were awarded to:

- **David Holland** from the University of Queensland
- **Carly Jenkins** from the University of Queensland
- **Darryl Leong** from the Royal Adelaide Hospital
- **Andrew Burns** from St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne
- **Andre La Gerche** from St Vincent's Hospital and UZ Leuven, Belgium

Travel Grant to attend the *American College of Cardiology Meeting* in Orlando, Florida, March 29 - 31, 2009 were awarded to:

- **Paul De Sciscio** from Flinders University
- **Rachel Denver** from Box Hill Hospital
- **Gary Liew** from Royal Adelaide Hospital

- **Payman Molaei** from Royal Adelaide Hospital
- **James Weaver** from St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

CSANZ Affiliate Clinical

Development Award was awarded to **Maria Sheehan** from Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital

Affiliate Nursing Prize

Kerena Eckert, Hanson Institute / University of Adelaide "Prevalent depression in patients with chronic heart disease: Baseline profile of the TAKE HEART in Primary Care Study cohort"

Judges: Vicki Wade, Angela Kucia and Michael Ward

Allied Health Affiliate Prize

Andrew Stewart, Austin Health "National survey of Australian cardiologists' beliefs and practice regarding screening, diagnosis and management of depression"

Judges were: Gillian Whalley, Brian Haluska and Greg Scalia

Ralph Reader Prize - Clinical Science Section

Paul De Sciscio, Cardiovascular Research Centre, Royal Adelaide Hospital, "Localised high-density activation mapping of dominant frequency sites during atrial fibrillation in humans"

Ralph Reader Prize - Basic Science Section

Joanne Tan, Heart Research Institute, Sydney, "Role of DHCR24 in mediating anti-inflammatory effects of HDL in human coronary artery endothelial cells"

Judges were: Drs Robert Bonow, Sal Pepe and Jim Cameron

I would like to take this opportunity to extend thanks to the many judges who assist, not only at this meeting, but in assessing the various scholar-

ships and travel grants which are awarded throughout the year. They do a wonderful job and the Board is extremely grateful for their time and contribution.

Honours

The following members received honours during the past year and we extend our congratulations to them:

Australian Day Honours

David Cody (OAM) for services to medicine, particularly in the fields of cardiology and cardiac rehabilitation.

Phil Harris (AM) for service to medicine in the field of cardiology as a clinician, administrator and educator, through contributions to professional organisations, and to the community.

Queen's Birthday Honours 2009

Bob Graham (AO) awarded for services to medicine, particularly through stewardship of the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute and research in the field of molecular cardiology.

Lynne Pressley (AM) awarded for services to medicine, particularly cardiology, as a clinician, teacher and mentor, and to the community through the Heart Foundation.

David Richards (OAM) for services to medicine in the field of cardiology, and to the community through the Sydney City to Surf fun run.

Deaths

It is with deep regret that I note the passing of the following Members in the past twelve months:

Professor Ralph Blacket (Life Member NSW), Dr Arthur Coombes (Associate Member NZ), Dr Thomas Cullity (Life Member WA), Dr Denis Halmagyi (Ordinary Member NSW), Dr William Hickey (Associate Member QLD), Dr Brian Lloyd AM (Ordinary Member WA), Dr Ian Lyall (Fellow VIC), Dr George Michell (Fellow NSW), Dr Ian Prior ONZM (Fellow & Life Member NZ), Mr Michael Shanahan AO (Fellow & Life Member NSW), Dr John Walker (Fellow NSW) and Mrs Barbara Williams (Affiliate Member NZ).

Changes to the Board

There will be quite a number of changes to the Board at the conclusion at this meeting. Five people will be retiring. James Tatoulis as the surgical representative will be replaced by Julian Smith, the Vice President of ASCTS; Carolyn Astley as the representative of the Affiliates

(Nursing) will be replaced by Patricia Davidson and Dianne Jackson as the Allied Health Representative will be replaced by Julie Redfern. Mark Ireland is the regional representative from Western Australia and will be replaced by Joe Hung. Andrew MacIsaac will continue as the Chair of the Interventional Council and also the Chair of CERC but will be replaced as the regional representative for Victoria by Ian Meredith. Jim Cameron will be replaced as the regional representative for Queensland by John Atherton. Gary Sholler as the Paediatric representative will be replaced by Rob Justo. The EP & Pacing Council has elected a new Chair and so Cameron Singleton will be replaced by Stuart Thomas. This will be the last meeting for each of them and we thank them for their considerable efforts. I look forward to working with the new Board.

There was an election by the Board for the position of President Elect and I commend the nomination of Jim Cameron to you. The nomination was accepted by acclamation. Jim will take over from me at the end of the meeting in Adelaide next year.

CSANZ BOARD



From left to right: Peter Steele (Chair, STC Cardiology), Cameron Singleton (Chair, Electrophysiology & Pacing Council), David Brieger (Honorary Secretary), Phil Aylward (SA), Gary Sholler (Paediatric Rep), Michael Ward (Honorary Treasurer), Carolyn Astley (Nursing Affiliate rep), Phil Roberts-Thomson (TAS), Lynne Portelli (Executive Officer), Mark Ireland (WA), Diane Jackson (Allied Health Affiliate Rep), John O'Shea (Chair, Imaging Council), Leo Mahar (President), Jim Tatoulis (Surgical Rep), Jim Cameron (QLD and Chair, Professional & Ethical Standards Committee), Roger Allan (NSW and Heart Foundation Rep), Richmond Jeremy (Editor-in-Chief, Heart Lung and Circulation) and Len Kritharides (Chair, Scientific Committee)

CSANZ 09 Highlights



The Society wishes to congratulate all the members of the Organising and Scientific Committees on a wonderful meeting.



Peter Macdonald
Convenor



Chris Semsarian
Programme Chair



Lea Delbridge
President, ISHR



Trish Davidson
Affiliate Rep



**2009
Ralph Reader Prize
Basic Science**

Joanne Tan
Heart Research Institute

“Role of DHCR24 in mediating anti-inflammatory effects of HDL in human coronary artery endothelial cells.”



**2009
Ralph Reader Prize
Clinical Science**

Paul De Sciscio
Royal Adelaide Hospital

“Localised High-Density Activation Mapping of Dominant Frequency Sites during Atrial Fibrillation in Humans.”



**2009
Affiliate Allied Health
Prize**

Andrew Stewart
Austin Hospital

“National survey of Australian cardiologists’ beliefs and practice regarding screening, diagnosis and management of depression.”



**2009
Affiliate Nursing
Prize**

Kerena Eckert
University of Adelaide

“Prevalent depression in patients with chronic heart disease: Baseline profile of the TAKE HEART in Primary Care Study cohort.”

ASM 2009 Highlights



CSANZ President, Dr Leo Mahar congratulates Dr Jim Wilkinson, for the tremendous success of the World Congress of Paediatric Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery in Cairns in June 2009.



Gadigal clan welcome to country



Mini Oral Session



The Conference Dinner, Dockside Darling Harbour

For more [ASM photos](#) visit the Image Gallery on the CSANZ Website

Poster Prize Winners

Friday Poster Prize was awarded to **Andrew French** from the **Prince of Wales Hospital, Sydney**, for his poster “Myocardial salvage and intra-myocardial haemorrhage on T2 weighted cardiac magnetic resonance imaging after reperfused STEMI”.

Saturday Poster Prize was awarded to **Cheuk-Kit Wong** from the **University of Otago, New Zealand** for his poster “aVR ST elevation: an important but neglected sign in ST elevation acute myocardial infarction”.

Affiliate Poster Prize was awarded to **Christine O’Reilly** from **Canberra Hospital, ACT** for her poster “Influence of body mass index on early diastolic untwisting velocity in healthy children”.

Judges were: *John Beltrame, Peter French, Stewart Mann, Karen Page, Phil Roberts-Thomson, John Rolley and Rukshen Weerasooriya*

Congratulations to you all!

Indigenous Cardiovascular Health Conference Highlights



The Hon Warren Snowden gave the Welcome Address



Len Kritharides welcomes delegates



Alex Brown, Co-Chair of the Conference



Didgeridoo performance at the Indigenous conference



Indigenous conference delegates



James Galloway, Assistant Surgeon General US Health Service received an indigenous artwork commemorating his participation in the meeting



Panel discussion

For more Indigenous Conference photos visit the Image Gallery on the CSANZ Website

ANZET09 Highlights



Masahiko Ochiai from the Northern Yokohama Hospital, Japan



Keith Oldroyd, David Hildick-Smith, Barry Rutherford, Ganesh Manoharan and Alaide Chieffo watch David Muller do a live case



Discussion Panel - Darren Walters, John Ormiston, David Hildick-Smith, Eberhard Grube, Ganesh Manoharan and Martin Leon



ANZET Fellows Prize – Aniket Puri is presented with the prize by Martin Leon, Columbia University Medical Centre NY



David Smyth and David Brieger chair the St Vincent's Sydney Live Case on Complex PCI

For more [ANZET09](#) photos visit the Image Gallery on the CSANZ Website



Named Lecturers

R.T. Hall Lecturer, Prof Kenneth Chien
(Harvard Stem Cell Institute, Massachusetts General
Hospital, Mass., USA)

Victor Chang Memorial Lecturer, Dr Antonio Calafiore
(University of Catania, Italy)

Basic Science Lecturer, Prof Shaun Jackson
(Monash University, VIC, Australia)

Kempson Maddox Lecturer, Prof Michael Feneley
(St Vincent's Hospital, NSW, Australia)

Gaston Bauer Lecturer, Prof Louise Burrell
(The University of Melbourne, VIC, Australia)

Cardiovascular Nursing Lecturer, Mr Andrew McLachlan
(Middlemore Hospital, New Zealand)

Key Dates

Call for Abstracts:
19 November 2009

Registration opens:
25 March 2010

www.csanz.edu.au



Antonio Colombo	San Raffaele Scientific Institute Milan, Italy
Spencer King	Saint Joseph's Heart & Vascular Institute, Atlanta, GA, USA
Jeff Popma	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Centre Boston, MA, USA
Carlos Ruiz	Lenox Hill Heart & Vascular Institute New York, NY, USA
Patrick Serruys	Erasmus Medical Center Thoraxcenter, Rotterdam The Netherlands
Renu Virmani	CV Path Institute Gaithersburg, MD, USA
Stephan Windecker	Bern University Hospital, Bern, Switzerland

4th Annual Australia & New Zealand Endovascular Therapies Meeting

04-05 August 2010
Adelaide Convention Centre

www.anzet.com.au

Electronic Posters from CSANZ 2009 ASM now available on the CSANZ Website

To view Electronic Posters

To search and view the electronic posters that were accepted into the CSANZ 2009 ASM programme, [click here](#).

Electronic Poster Authors

As an author, you have the opportunity to view statistics and reports on your submitted electronic poster/s. To view these reports, please [click here](#) and log in by entering the same email address and password that you set when initially uploading your poster/s. Once logged in, you can search and view all submitted electronic posters, as well as viewing the statistics on your own poster/s.

The following guidelines have been reviewed and ratified by the CSANZ Board at its meeting on 12 August 2009. Because of the physical size of all these guidelines it is not possible to reproduce them in this edition of *On the pulse*, however, they can be accessed on the [CSANZ website](#) under the Education tab.

- Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Marfan Syndrome
- Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Familial Long QT Syndrome
- Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Familial Hypercholesterolaemia
- Ambulatory Electrocardiographic Monitoring

Other documents and recent publications of interest to members to Members are also available on this area of the website.

Congratulations

The Society extends congratulations to **Professor Murray Esler** (VIC) who was awarded Victoria's most prestigious science award, the 2009 Victoria Prize by the Governor of Victoria, Professor David de Kretser in July.

Professor Esler has pioneered new ways of treating heart failure, stress and high blood pressure.

NON-INVASIVE CARDIOLOGIST

Townsville Cardiovascular Associates are seeking the services of a well trained Non-Invasive Cardiologist to join our private Cardiology Practice in Townsville, North Queensland. This vacancy will arise due to the imminent retirement of one of our colleagues.

Our rooms are situated in the major private hospital which has modern facilities for Invasive and Interventional Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery. A full Electrophysiology Service is also provided at the hospital from within our group. The private hospital also has Cardiac CT Scanning and MRI Services available.

The successful candidate will be required to fulfill the CSANZ Guidelines for Post Graduate Echo Training. Experience in Cardiac CT and MRI would also be desirable.

We would be hoping the successful applicant would be able to commence practice with our group early in 2010.

Enquiries to **07 47790199**
Email Practice Manager at teva.com.au or
www.townsvillecardiology.com.au.



The Review of *The NHMRC/ASBT Clinical Practice Guidelines on Fresh Blood Components (2001)* is currently being undertaken under the auspices of the Australian & New Zealand Society of Blood Transfusion (ANZSBT) and the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) with funding, project management, and secretariat services provided by the National Blood Authority (NBA) on behalf of all governments.

The AUGUST 2009 Update is now available. To view the update please visit the NBA website (<http://www.nba.gov.au/guidelines/updates.html>). Any questions regarding this updates can be sent to the NBA at guidelines@nba.gov.au



Patricia Davidson (Chair) NSW

Stephen Bloomer WA
Bernadette Hoffman SA
Andrew McLachlan NZ
Deborah Smith QLD

Andrea Driscoll VIC
Angela Kucia SA
Ross Proctor NSW
Linda Worrall Carter VIC

Cindy Hall QLD
Sue Mattschoss SA
John Rolley NSW
Yvonna Zudyam TAS

From the Chair

**Patricia Davidson
Curtin University & St Vincent's
Hospital, Sydney**

Dear Colleagues

I hope you enjoy the following "On the Pulse" column. It was great to catch up with so many colleagues at the recent CSANZ ASM in Sydney. This was a highly successful meeting with an excellent profile of cardiovascular nursing within the program. It is so exciting to see our increasing profile within the meeting. I would also like to take the time to thank the Board for their support of many of our initiatives, particularly the support of awards and international speakers. I would also like to thank Professor Peter Macdonald and Professor Chris Semsarian for their generous allocation of time within the scientific program. The multi-disciplinary care sessions were well attended by a range of health professionals and were an excellent opportunity to profile the important role that cardiovascular nurses have in contributing to favourable patient outcomes.

The 2009 CSANZ ASM was also an historic meeting as the Cardiovascular Nursing Lecture was delivered for the first time by an Indigenous nurse. Vicki Wade was a very worthy recipient of this award and we recognise her for her substantial contribution to cardiovascular nursing and, in particular, her work and advocacy in improving the health and well being of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

As I take over as Chair of the Cardiovascular Nursing Council it is important to acknowledge the pivotal contribution of Carolyn Astley and Jim McVeigh to the advancement of the CNC. Carolyn has been instrumental in securing our position on the Board and we have so much to thank her for. Her

advocacy has secured an important place for cardiovascular nursing within the Board – our named lecture, scholarship and international speaker program are but a few of her achievements. We thank her for her hard work and look forward to her ongoing involvement in the CNC.



Carolyn Astley

Jim McVeigh has also played a fantastic leadership role in advancing cardiovascular nursing. Under his chairmanship, we have introduced regular newsletters and advanced considerable work in relation to competencies and standards. Jim has also been successful in forging our professional links with the Australasian Cardiovascular Nurses College. At our recent meeting both Carolyn and Jim shared with us their vision for cardiovascular nursing. We were all inspired by their enthusiasm and motivation. Certainly we know that cardiovascular nursing in Australia is in a much better place because of their hard work.



Jim McVeigh

Over the next year we will be seeking your feedback on the considerable work that is being undertaken on competencies. I would also like to thank the following individuals for their generous donation of time to the CNC. Cindy Hall (QLD), Bernadette Hoffman (SA), Carolyn Astley (SA), Sue Mattschoss (SA), Andrea Driscoll (VIC), Andy McLachlan (NZ), Ross Proctor (NSW), Yvonne Johansen (NZ), Marcia George (VIC), Maria Sheehan (WA), Yvonna Zuydam (TAS), Deb Smith (QLD/NSW). Over the next editions of "On the Pulse" we will profile the new members of the incoming CNC.

As we begin a new term it is important that we review the aims of the CNC outlined below.

- To develop and grow the speciality of cardiovascular nursing within the CSANZ, which in turn enhances the CSANZ and its ability to improve cardiovascular health in Australia and New Zealand
- To organise and participate in educational activities within the CSANZ
- To gather and exchange information regarding policy, practice, education and research activities through national and international networking
- To promote and assist with research for cardiovascular nurses
- To design, co-ordinate and assist with scientific research
- To contribute to the organisation, preparation and delivery of the annual CSANZ scientific meeting
- To establish appropriate recommendations for the CSANZ, regarding cardiovascular nursing via the nucleus of the CNC

(Continued from page 14)

- To contribute to task forces for the development and implementation of CSANZ guidelines for practice
- To collaborate and work in partnership with other councils within the CSANZ and national, state and international societies of cardiovascular nurses
- Investigate opportunities for funding collaborative research
- Support the development of research networks: eg. linking cardiovascular nurses with similar interests in different states

Dr Cheryl Dennison – our 2009 International Speaker from the School of Nursing at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore USA, made an excellent contribution to the meeting and we thank her for her generosity and the CNC looks forward to a continuing relationship. Her important work in improving patient outcomes provided us with some important considerations, particularly relating to the role of health literacy.



Dr Cheryl Dennison

Many of us were also fortunate to attend the Inaugural Indigenous Cardiovascular Health Conference sponsored by the CSANZ. This was an inspiring yet challenging meeting. This meeting was convened by Dr Alex Brown and Professor Len Kritharides who organised an exciting range of perspectives of Australian and international experts in Indigenous Health.

The summary of action items from the meeting had some important implications for cardiovascular nurses working across a range of health care settings.

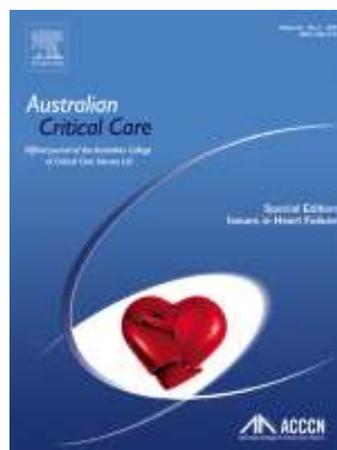
The CNC Executive plan to begin a program of consultation to identify strategic initiatives that can be undertaken by the CNC to improve outcomes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

If you are interested in being part of this working group please email p.davidson@curtin.edu.au



Some interesting reading

For an update on heart failure nursing in Australia go to the recent special edition of Australian Critical Care.



State of the Science. Promoting Self-Care in Persons with Heart Failure. A Scientific Statement from the American Heart Association.

Riegel B, Moser DK, Anker SD, Appel LJ, Dunbar SB, Grady KL, Gurtvitz MZ, Havranek EP, Lee CS, Lindenfeld J, Peterson PN, Pressler SJ, Schocken DD, Whellan DJ; on behalf of the American Heart Association Council on Cardiovascular Nursing, Council on Clinical Cardiology, Council on Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Metabolism, and Interdisciplinary Council on Quality of Care and Outcomes Research. *Circulation*. 2009; Published online before print August 31, 2009; doi: 10.1161/CIRCULATIONAHA.109.192628

What works in chronic care management: the case of heart failure.

Sochalski J, Jaarsma T, Krumholz HM, Laramee A, McMurray JJ, Naylor MD, Rich MW, Riegel B, Stewart S. *Health Aff (Millwood)*. 2009; 28(1):179-89.

Health-related quality of life 2 years after coronary artery bypass graft surgery.

Azzopardi S, Lee G. *J Cardiovasc Nurs*. 2009;24(3):232-40.

Diary date Australasian Cardiovascular Nursing College Annual Meeting 12th and 13th March 2010 in Brisbane – for more information visit <http://www.acnc.net.au/>



Research Scholarships / Call for Applications

CSANZ Research Scholarships for 2010



Guidelines for Applicants

The CSANZ Research Scholarship is intended to provide support for Members of the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand who wish to pursue a career in cardiovascular research.

1. The Scholarship is open to **all Members of CSANZ**.
2. The value of the Scholarship will be equivalent to that of the Heart Foundation Postgraduate Medical or non-Medical Scholarship (depending on the candidate's academic qualifications) and will be payable for one year.
3. Research must be conducted in Australia or New Zealand.
4. Only those applicants who are enrolled as full time students (eg. for PhD or MD) will be eligible to receive the Scholarship as a tax-free stipend.
5. Deadline for the receipt of applications and referees' reports is 25th September, 2009.
6. Applications will be graded by a selection panel appointed by the Scientific Committee of the CSANZ. No interviews will be undertaken.
7. Successful applicants will be notified in December.

Note: Previous recipients of the CSANZ Research Scholarship are not eligible to apply for a second scholarship.

In addition to the above information, you will **also** require a copy of the Application Form and Application Instructions available from either the Society Secretariat or from the website at www.csanz.edu.au, Education, Scholarships/Fellowships.

Closing Date:

**5 PM FRIDAY,
25th SEPTEMBER, 2009**

R T Hall Prize

Nominations are invited for the **2010 R T Hall Prize** of The Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand. The Prize is the most prestigious research award of the Cardiac Society of Australia & New Zealand and recognises the achievements of senior and established investigators. The Prize is awarded in open competition and is directed towards recognition of sustained and outstanding research achievement.

The following conditions will apply:

1. The R T Hall Prize will be awarded to **an individual investigator** for a coherent body of work, which advances knowledge of the cardiovascular system and its diseases and which is published in a scientific journal or journals. Earlier publications, which provide scientific background for the main body of the submission, would also be acceptable as supporting documentation. Work published in book-form and thesis, which have been accepted for higher degrees, may also be submitted. The work must have been substantially carried out in Australia or New Zealand but the investigator need not be a Member of The Society.
2. Submissions for the R T Hall Prize will consist of a nominating letter by a Member of The Society plus copies of the published manuscript(s).
3. The R T Hall Prize will be judged by a panel appointed by the Board on the recommendation of the Scientific Committee after it has considered the nature of the submitted work.
4. The winner of the R T Hall Prize will be announced at the Annual General Meeting of The Society. The names of the judges will also be announced.
5. The value of the R T Hall Prize will be AU\$3,000.
6. Submissions should be forwarded to: The Honorary Secretary (see details on page 2).

Closing date:

**5 PM (EDST) FRIDAY
6th NOVEMBER, 2009**

A C C Scientific Sessions 2010

Applications are called for the **CSANZ Travelling Fellowships** for travel grants to enable five investigators to attend the **59th Annual Scientific Session of the American College of Cardiology** to be held in Atlanta, Georgia, March 14 - 16, 2010. 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.

The conditions are:

1. The Fellowships are valued at AU\$3,000 each.
2. Applicants must be FCSANZ, Associate Members or Affiliate Members of the Cardiac Society or researchers in cardiology or cardiac surgery and related disciplines with preference given to those attending their first meeting.
3. The work must have emanated from Australia or New Zealand.
4. Applicants must have an abstract accepted for presentation at the ACC meeting.
5. 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.
6. Preference will be given to those who have not previously been awarded CSANZ travelling scholarships.
7. Conditions apply to successful applicants **not domiciled in Australia or New Zealand**.*
8. Late applications will NOT be considered.

Applications should be sent to the Honorary Secretary, **together with –**

- (1) copy of submitted abstract(s) and ACC notification of acceptance (should this arrive after you have forwarded your application, please fax to +61 2 9247 7916)
- (2) brief curriculum vitae
- (3) supporting letter from the supervisor or Director

Closing Date:

5 PM (EDST)

31st DECEMBER, 2009

* Contact the Sydney Secretariat to obtain a copy of the conditions (info@csanz.edu.au)

Dr Andre La Gerche, was the recipient of a CSANZ Travelling Fellowship to attend the European Society of Cardiology Meeting in Barcelona, Spain, earlier this month and has provided the following summary of his activities at the ESC Congress

The following constitute some projects completed as part of my PhD studies and which were presented at the European Society of Cardiology Congress in Barcelona 2009:

Project 1, oral presentation:

“Exercise-induced increases in Right Ventricular End-Systolic Wall Stress (RV-ESWS) are greater than for the Left Ventricle (LV-ESWS) and may cause preferential RV enlargement in endurance athletes”. In this project we studied 40 athletes and 15 non-athletes using a combination of cardiac magnetic resonance, echocardiographic and direct pressure measures to assess

ventricular volumes, wall thickness and systolic afterload at rest and during strenuous exercise. These values were then used to calculate end-systolic wall stress (ESWS). Whilst LV-ESWS was greater at rest, RV-ESWS increased by 170% and 87% with exercise as compared with a 23% and 14% increase in the LV for athletes and non-athletes respectively ($p < 0.001$). RV volumes were significantly greater than LV volumes in athletes but not in non-athletes suggesting that high RV-ESWS during exercise may contribute to long-term remodelling.

Project 2, poster presentation:

“Athletes with ventricular arrhythmias of right ventricular (RV) origin have a lower than expected prevalence of arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy (ARVC) gene mutations”. We addressed speculation that the association between RV abnormalities and ventricular arrhythmias in athletes can be explained by familial ARVC.

We sequenced 5 desmosomal genes in 46 athletes with VT and RV abnormalities. We found a prevalence of familial disease in 1% (family history) and 15% (desmosomal mutations) which are both well below published prevalence for ARVC. We speculate, therefore, that familial ARVC does not completely explain this syndrome and that habitual endurance exercise may contribute to an ARVC-like syndrome even in the absence of a known genetic predisposition.

Project 3, invited presentation:

“Right Ventricular Function in Athletes”. A summary of the literature and our own experience relating to RV remodelling in athletes will be presented. I will discuss the possibility that, in some athletes, athletic RV remodelling may represent a pro-arrhythmic substrate.

I wish to thank the CSANZ for their support.

CSANZ / CSL Biotherapies Interventional Fellowship

Applications are invited for an Interventional Fellowship Award, which has been generously provided by CSL Biotherapies. The award is specifically designed to assist a young Member of the Society to undertake training or research in interventional cardiology at an overseas centre.

The award is valued at AU\$30,000 and to be used to provide salary support for a research / training position relevant to Interventional

Cardiology in an overseas institution.

Applicants should be citizens or permanent residents of Australia or New Zealand and should be eligible for medical registration in Australia or New Zealand. Recipients will currently be undertaking, or have completed within the last 5 years, advanced training in Cardiology recognised by the RACP/CSANZ Specialist Training Committee (STC) in Cardiology.

Applicants should forward a letter of application in which they outline the research or training programme to be undertaken and include their curriculum vitae and 3 written references.

Applications should be submitted to the Honorary Secretary, CSANZ, 145 Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000, Australia.

**Applications Close
Friday, 29 January, 2010**



A/Prof Andrew MacIsaac, Chair CSANZ Interventional Council,
presenting Dr Ronen Gurvitch, Royal Melbourne Hospital,
with the inaugural CSANZ / CSL Biotherapies Interventional Fellowship Award.



Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute

ST VINCENT'S HOSPITAL SYDNEY AND THE VICTOR CHANG CARDIAC RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Do you have any patients that are twins?

Have one or both twins been diagnosed with Atrial Fibrillation?

In order to find out more about how genes may cause Atrial Fibrillation, we need your help to locate twins, where one or both individuals have AF. Inclusion in the research will involve a blood test, an echocardiogram and an electrocardiogram (ECG). If within your practice, you have twins with this heart condition, it would be most appreciated if you could discuss our research project with them and provide our contact details to any interested individuals.

For more information please call

Clinical Research Coordinator

(02) 9295 8768

Congratulations

The Society extends congratulations to the following members who were awarded a **2009 CSANZ Travelling Fellowship** to attend the 2009 Annual Scientific Meeting in Sydney: **Ms Mary-Anne Austin**, Monashheart, Clayton, VIC; **Dr Michelle Butler**, The Alfred Hospital, Melbourne, VIC; **Ms Christine Chiu**, Centenary Institute, Newtown, NSW; **Dr James Chong**, Victor Chang Cardiac Research Centre, Sydney, NSW; **Ms Sarah Clayton**, Nelson Hospital, Nelson, NZ; **Dr Fiona Foo**, Freemantle Hospital, Freemantle, WA; **Dr Melanie Freeman**, Austin Hospital, Heidelberg, VIC; **Mr Matthew Horsfall**, Flinders Medical Centre, Bedford Park, SA; **Dr Arthur Nasis**, Monash Cardiovascular Research Centre, Malvern East, VIC; **Ms Lis Neubeck**, Concord Repatriation Hospital, Concord, NSW; **Ms Emily Tu**, Centenary Institute, Newtown, NSW; and **Dr Bryan Wai**, Austin Health and Northern Heath, Heidelberg, VIC.

Congratulations are also extended to **Ms Maria Sheehan**, Sir Charles Gairdner, Perth, WA, who was awarded a **2009 CSANZ Affiliate Clinical Development Award (CDA)** to attend the 2009 Annual Scientific Meeting in Sydney: .

Forthcoming Meetings

NORTH AMERICA

AHA Scientific Sessions 2009
November 14-18, 2009
Orlando, Florida
Web: www.americanheart.org

ACC Scientific Sessions 2010
March 14-16, 2010
Atlanta, Georgia
Web: www.acc.org

EUROPE

ESC Congress 2009
29 August—2 September, 2009
Barcelona, Spain
Email: congress@escardio.org
Web: www.escardio.org

ASIA PACIFIC

20th World Congress of the ISHR 2010
May 13-16 May 2010
Kyoto, Japan
Web: www.ishr2010.com

World Congress of Cardiology
June 16-19, 2010
Beijing, China
Web: www.world-heart-federation.org/congress-and-events/WCC2010

CSANZ NZ Regional ASM 2010
June 25-27, 2010
Rotorua, New Zealand

ANZET10

August 4-5, 2010
Adelaide, South Australia
Secretariat:
The Conference Company
Phone: 64 9 360 1240
Web: www.csanz.edu.au

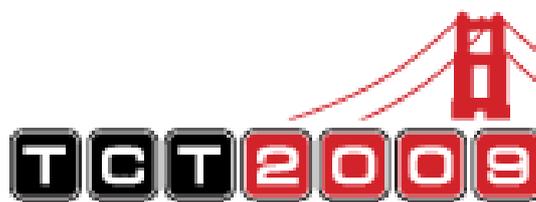
CSANZ ASM

August 5-8, 2010
Adelaide, South Australia
Secretariat:
The Conference Company
Phone: 64 9 360 1240
Web: www.csanz.edu.au

Monash University
Dept of Epidemiology and
Preventive Medicine

has a range of Short Courses,
Postgraduate programs and
PhD Scholarships available in
Clinical Research.

*For more information please
click on the area of interest.*



TRANSCATHETER CARDIOVASCULAR THERAPEUTICS

September 21-25, 2009

THE MOSCONE CENTER - SAN FRANCISCO, CA
www.tctconference.com

World Heart Day

27 September 2009

A workplace that encourages healthy
habits can reduce heart disease and stroke

