

# AUSTRALIAN & NEW ZEALAND Bone & Mineral Society

Issue 17 • December 2012

inside this issue

Page 1.	President's Report
Page 2.	NSW Health Award 2012
	Lifetime Achievement Award
	New Members
Page 3.	2012 Award winners
	Therapeutic Committee Report
	Osteoporosis Australia
	Our Sponsors
Page 4.	AMGEN-GSK OA-ANZBMS Clinical Grant Program
Page 5.	Member News
	Victorian Senior Australian of the Year
Page 6.	Philip Sambrook Award
Page 7.	Visual Science 2012
Page 8.	ANZBMS 22nd ASM
Page 11.	ANZBMS Office Bearers and Council 2011 - 2013
Page 12.	Dates for the Diary
Page 13.	Minutes from AGM

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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

On behalf of the Society, I would like to thank Ming Hao Zheng and Charles Inderjeeth for the work that they undertook in developing and delivering an excellent program for the Annual Scientific Conference held in Perth this year. This year's meeting was the first Asia Pacific Bone and Mineral Research meeting in conjunction with the 22nd Annual Scientific Conference of the ANZBMS. We were fortunate to participate in an outstanding program, and thank each of our Key Note speakers: Prof Nancy Lane, Prof Shiro Ikegawa, Prof Stavros Manolagas and Prof Hiroshi Takayanagi. A key facet to the success of this meeting was that of our engagement of our local Pacific Rim partners, especially from the Japanese Society for Bone and Mineral Research as well as the Korean Society for Bone and Mineral Metabolism. We wish the Korean Society for Bone and Mineral Metabolism every success in their posting of the second Asia Pacific Bone and Mineral Research meeting to be conducted in 2014.

This year we noted the passing of Philip Sambrook, a past President of the ANZBMS, and a friend to many in the Society and beyond. The Society is proud to partner with Osteoporosis Australia in the creation of Prof Phillip Sambrook Award to honour the memory and legacy of Philip Sambrook. The inaugural recipient of this award was Prof Gustavo Duque who attended Medical School at the University of Caldas in Columbia. Gustavo, in receiving the award, highlighted his personal association with Philip which extended from his time in Medical School during his postdoctoral studies at McGill University and ultimately to his location in Sydney and his close mentorship provided by Philip.

We also acknowledge the Amgen-GSK OA-ANZBMS Clinical Grant Program recipients Dr Jackie Center (Garvan Institute of Medical Research), Prof Marlina Kruger (Institute of Food Nutrition and Human Health Massey University) and Dr Egon Perilli. These research awards highlight the growing relationship between Osteoporosis Australia and ANZBMS: a report of this has been further outlined in Page 3 of this newsletter.

We also highlight two of our members in receiving noted awards. Prof Markus Siebel and members of the Bone Research Program at the ANZAC Research Institute, Concord Hospital in Sydney who won the NSW Health Award which was formerly known as the Baxter Award. Emeritus Prof T John Martin, known to all of us as Jack, who was awarded the Victorian Senior Australian of the Year 2013.

Whilst Jack would have mixed reactions about the word 'Senior' in this title of the Award, we all know that Jack has a vibrant personality who is still questioning all scientific investigations that he witnesses. We all recognise that Jack has had a long and distinguished career in Medical Research, specifically in the broader field of Endocrinology with a primary interest in the actions of hormones upon the skeleton, calcium metabolism and mechanisms by which tumour cells have the predilection to grow in bone. He has been responsible developing a number of concepts integral to these fields, but his foremost achievement was the recognition, identification and subsequent cloning of parathyroid and hormone-related protein. Whilst this is a recognised achievement of Jack he has gone on to develop further concepts in bone biology and exploring interactions of osteoblast/osteoclast communication as well as their interactions with the immune system.

Jack is also recognised as one of the "founding fathers" of the bone field within Australia and internationally. He was the Founding President of the Australian and New Zealand Bone and Mineral Society in 1962 and was a participant in the first meeting of scientists interested in calcium regulation, and this group developed quickly into a pre-eminent society of the field – the American Bone and Mineral Society. Jack has always been a supporter of the ANZBMS, the ASBMR as well as the International Bone and Mineral Society.

As we recognise, Jack has always demonstrated a pursuit of excellence and question in every aspect of his science, and this is something he has conveyed to all. He has always argued science upon scientific grounds. Jack has always been a strong supporter of individuals that have gone through his laboratory, and he regularly engages with his past alumni.

Finally, I wish to thank the service that the Society receives from Ivone Johnson and Melissa Dupavillon and their assistance to deliver the information to the members and maintaining the office of the ANZBMS.

I wish each of you an enjoyable Christmas Season with your families and every success for 2013.

**Professor Matthew Gillespie** 

## ANZBMS Welcomes New Members

**Mvriam Abboud Ryo Aizawa** Michitsugu Arai Yohann Bala Kate Bolam Karen Borschmann **Rachelle Buchbinder Audrey Chan Tegan Cheng Ling Yeong Chia** William Cundawan **Dylan Del Frate** Nikita Deo Jad El-Hoss Yuko Fujihara Mahvash Goolam Laura Groombridge **Holger Henneicke** Claudia Huelso Xanne Janse De Jonge **Rachelle Johnson Ryutaro Kamijo** Ippei Kanazawa Mariana Kersh **Belal Khan Ee Cheng Khor** Hiromi Kimura-Suda Yasuhiro Kobayashi Shintaro Komoto Mayo Kondo Histaka Kondo Vincent Kuek **Euphemie Landad-Bassonga Christian Langton** Sue Lynn Lau Guangyi Li **Bay Sie Lim** Zhen Lin Min Ling continued page 4

# NSW HEALTH AWARD 2012

Members of the Bone Research Program and the Department of Endocrinology at ANZAC Research Institute and Concord Hospital, Sydney, have won the NSW Health Award 2012 (formerly known as the Baxter Award). Professor Markus Seibel, Dr Kirtan Ganda and Dr Anna Lih were given the prestigious award for their ongoing research into the efficacy of clinical Fracture Liaison Services. In a prospective study initiated in 2005 and published last year, the team demonstrated that active identification and appropriate treatment of people with osteoporotic fractures reduced the risk of re-fracture by up to 80%. (Lih et al, Osteoporosis Intl 2011) Based on these clinical data and a subsequent health-economic analysis (Cooper, Palmer and Seibel, Osteoporosis Intl 2012), the Sydney Local Health District decided in March 2012 to fully fund an integrated Fracture Liaison Service at Concord Hospital, the first of its kind in New South Wales.



Markus Seibel, The Hon Jillian Skinner (NSW Minster for Health and Medical Research, Kirtan Ganda and Susan Maraa (19 October 2012)

## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

#### Professor Philip Sambrook

Honouring a significant lifetime commitment to supporting and promoting health and medial research

Professor Philip Sambrook was Professor of Rheumatology in the Florence & Cope Department of Rheumatology, Royal North Shore Hospital, having practiced clinically and published significant papers across Australia and internationally. As the inaugural Medical Director of Osteoporosis Australia Prof Sambrook helped build the organisation from its very inception, as well as co-founding and acting as President of the Asia-Pacific Osteoporosis Foundation. He made an immense contribution to research and public awareness about bone health and osteoporosis in Australia.



# 2012 AWARD WINNERS

Roger Melick Award: Farzin Takyar Runner up: Audrey Chan

**Chris Nordin Award:** Alvin Ng **Runner up:** Marie-Luise Wille

Amgen outstanding abstract Clinical: Ego Seeman Basic Science: Rachelle Johnson Runner up: Yasuhiro Kobayashi TJ Martin Award: Ashika Chhana

Sol Posen Award: Julie Quach

Kaye Ibbertson Award: Emma Duncan

ANZBMS Clinical Research Excellence Award: Belal Khan

## THERAPEUTIC COMMITTEE REPORT

In August 2012, the TC provided further comment on our MSAC application 1313: 'Bone Densitometry in breast cancer patients receiving treatment with aromatase inhibitors.' This 4-page document followed an 8-page response by the TC to earlier questions by the MSAC in February 2012. We now have received the next version of the DAP, which by in the interim has grown into a 56 page (!) document with another 14 or so questions for the TC to consider. We are currently in the process of collating the answers. A decision on the matter is expected in March 2012, although I am sure there will be another round of questions.

#### **Markus Seibel**

(on behalf of the ANZBMS TC)

# OSTEOPOROSIS AUSTRALIA

Osteoporosis Australia has continued to raise the profile of osteoporosis in the community and to promote fracture reduction programs in recent years under the leadership of Shelley Evans, ably assisted by Melita Daru, who has been invaluable to OA for many years. Recently, Dr Lisa Croucher has joined the team at OA, having moved to Sydney with her husband, Dr Peter Croucher, and family. The last few months have seen some major initiatives. On the eve of Halloween, the trade launch of the "Healthy Bones Program" took place at the Museum of Modern Art, Sydney. This initiative, which will allow people to easily check whether they are getting recommended calcium, vitamin D and exercise, has been led by Nicole Smith at OA, with scientific input by Professors Carvl Nowson, Rob Daly, Michael Kimlin and Peter Ebeling. This launch was directed towards companies that may choose to become partners with the program. The website has now gone live at http://www.healthybonesaustralia.org.au/ On November 7th, Board members of OA and many of the members of the Medical and Scientific Committee of OA, as well as ANZBMS President and members, attended a reception for Osteoporosis Australia at

Government House, Melbourne in the presence of Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of Cornwall. The Duchess proved to be quite charming, taking the trouble to speak to everyone in the room. It was clear from her discussions and from her short address at the end, that the Duchess was passionate about supporting patient education and research in osteoporosis. She has been the Patron of the UK Osteoporosis Society for many years. On a sadder note, Paul Hogan, who was partly funded by ANZBMS to develop a capital raising plan for the ANZBMS/ OA Research Fund, moved to a high profile Business Development position in the NSW Government. Paul has done an excellent job in organizing a brochure to be used for the major capital appeal in 2013. The Governor General, Her Excellency, Ms Quentin Bryce, has written a foreword for this. Even before the capital appeal, Amgen Australia Pty Ltd. provided funds in 2012 to the ANZBMS/ OA Research Fund for funding of projects. There were some constraints on the type of project eligible for funding. The successful applicants are provided on page 4.

Professor Rebecca Mason

## ANZBMS Gratefully Acknowledges Our sponsors:

Amgen

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Hologic

Immuno

**Key Pharmaceuticals** 

Medtel

Merck Sharp & Dohme (Australia)

**Novartis Pharmaceuticals** 

**Reckitt Benckiser** 

Sanofi-Aventis

Servier Laboratories

**Surgical Synergies** 

Thompson Scientific Instruments

Wyeth

## ANZBMS Welcomes New Members

#### Qian Liu

Lyn March Mark McLean **Ciara Murphy** Yuki Nagata Alvin Ng **Benjamin** Ng **Jacqualyn Nicholls Joanna Potts** Nishi Punnose **Gaurav** Puri Rethi Raghu Nadhanan Amanda Sainsbury-Salis Negar Shamoradi **Allison Sigmund** Leslie Silk Yu-wen Su Sjuhaila Taher **Michael Thompson** Akifumi Togari **Rahma Triliana** Anjali Tumkur Jaiprakash Peng Zhang Jane Zhang Fiona Zhou Xiang Zhu

## AMGEN-GSK OA-ANZBMS Clinical grant program

#### 1. Dr Jackie Center -Garvan Institute of Medical Research.

By using the data from several large international studies concerning osteoporosis, this study aims to address and define the relationship between osteoporotic fractures and mortality. Major osteoporotic fractures are associated with premature mortality, particularly in the eldery. However, there is still uncertainty regarding the cause of this, particularly how closely it's related to the fracture. The lack of recognition of the adverse consequences of fracture is a potential cause of the poor treatment rates of osteoporotic fracture worldwide.

#### 2. Professor Marlena Kruger -Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, Massey University, Palmerston North, NZ

This intervention study involves increasing fruit and vegetable intake in 100 postmenopausal women. Bones are constantly breaking down and reforming, and because bone health and vegetable and fruit intake are positively linked, this study aims to determine how dietary changes impacts this mechanism. The primary outcome is to determine the effects of the increased intake of fruit and vegetables on bone health.

#### 3. Dr Egon Perilli – Austin Health, The University of Melbourne; and Medical Device Research Institute, Flinders University

Bone loss is accelerated after mid-life, potentially leading to osteoporosis. The diagnostic criterion for 'osteoporosis' is based on a measure of areal Bone Mineral Density, however this measurement lacks sensitivity and specificity in predicting fracture risk. By more correctly identify persons who need treatment and those who don't we could significantly reduce the costs to the medical system. Better prediction of fracture risk could reduce the pain and suffering for the patients and for their families. This project is examining a unique new method of measuring how the bone is put together and how weakness of the bone occurs. This new method involves in vivo measures of microstructure, tissue mineralization density and its distribution. by using High Resolution peripheral Quantitative Computed Tomography.







# MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Congratulations to Tania Crotti and colleagues from the University of Adelaide and the Daw Park General Repatriation Hospital, who at The Australian Rheumatology Association conference in May 2012 received the Best Basic Science Poster for their presentation entitled:

EVIDENCE THAT VASCULAR EXPRESSION OF THE ITAM RECEPTOR, OSCAR, IN ACTIVE RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS IS MODULATED BY INFLAMMATORY MEDIATORS

by Crotti T, Alias E, Dharmapatni AASK, Weedon HM, Zanettino A, Smith MD, Haynes DR.

Associate Prof David Haynes and Prof Malcolm Smith also received the Australian Rheumatology Association President's Award for Collaborative Research 2012.

Sandra Bermeo – ASBMR 2012 President's Poster Competition Award Congratulations to PhD student Sandra Bermeo for being the winner of the Presidential Poster Competition at the last meeting of the American Society of Bone and Mineral Research in Minneapolis. This is a very competitive award considering that more than 2,000 posters were presented at that meeting. Sandra received the highest score for her poster entitled: Inhibition of Fatty Acid Synthase as a new treatment for osteoporosis in oophorectomized mice.

Dr Tara C Brennan-Speranza- Congratulations

Dr Tara Brennan-Speranza had a baby girl on July 25th this year. hher name is Romy Clare Speranza. Her scientific endeavours are taking a back seat at the moment!

## VICTORIAN SENIOR AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR

**Emeritus Professor T John Martin AO,** known as Jack, was awarded **Victorian Senior Australian of the Year 2013** for his work in medical science.

"Professor Jack Martin is one of Australia's most esteemed medical scientists and the founder of skeletal research in Australia. Possibly his greatest contribution has been advancing the understanding of calcium regulating hormones and the development of modern concepts of bone cell biology.

His research has had a major impact on the understanding and treatment of diseases including osteoporosis and bone tumours and the spread of cancers to the bone.

Formerly Director of St Vincent's Institute of Medical Research, Jack continues to work in medical research and mentors a new generation of scientists.

In an intellectually challenging field he is seen in Australia and around the world as a current leader in the area of bone disease and cancer who continues to give his time and expertise to inspire others with his love of science.

Compassionate, generous and with a rigorously inquiring mind Jack continues to make a positive contribution to science by inspiring younger researchers and scientists to fulfil their potential and imbuing them with a sense of purpose and integrity. Source: http://www. australianoftheyear.org.au/news-and-media/news/ article/?id=victorian-australian-of-the-year-award-2013recipients-announced



Jack Martin and Chancellor - had the degree of Doctor of Laws conferred by The University of Melbourne on July 5 2012.

# PHILIP SAMBROOK AWARD

Osteoporosis Australia has created the Prof Philip Sambrook Award to honor the memory and legacy of Philip Sambrook who passed away this year. His contribution as the first Medical Director of Osteoporosis Australia and his career dedicated to the research and awareness of bone health will be remembered. We are delighted to announce the recipient of the inaugural award was Gustavo Duque, and it was presented to him at the recent Australian and New Zealand Bone and Mineral Society conference.

Osteoporosis Australia wishes to acknowledge the support of corporate and private donors who made the award possible.



L-R: Prof Peter Ebeling (Medical Director, Osteoporosis Australia), Prof Rebecca Mason (Board member, Osteoporosis Australia), Gustavo Duque (award recipient) and Matthew Gillespie (President, Australian & New Zealand Bone and Mineral Society)

#### **Biographical details**

Prof. Gustavo Duque attended medical school at the University of Caldas (Colombia). Following medical school he completed an internal medicine residency at Javeriana University in Bogota (Colombia) followed by a two-year fellowship in Geriatric Medicine at McGill University (Canada). After completing his fellowship, Prof. Duque completed a PhD in Experimental Medicine at McGill University with the thesis entitled "Molecular Changes of the Aging Osteoblast" under the supervision of Dr. Richard Kremer. He also completed the Macy Scholar Program in Medical Education at Harvard University. He joined the faculty at McGill University Medical School (Canada) as Assistant Professor and as project director at the Lady Davis Institute for Medical Research in 2003.

In 2007, he moved to Australia and joined the faculty at Sydney Medical School Nepean as Professor of Geriatric Medicine and Director of the Ageing Bone Research Centre. His work on mesenchymal stem cells differentiation has provided new evidence to the understanding of senile osteoporosis including the toxic role of bone marrow fat and the potential trans-differentiation between bone and fat cells. His experiments using vitamin D in bone cells have demonstrated a new anabolic effect of vitamin D on both osteoblasts and differentiating mesenchymal stem cells.

#### **Research interests**

Prof. Duque is the Head of the Discipline of Geriatric Medicine and Director of the Ageing Bone Research Centre [http://www.agingbone.med.usyd.edu.au] at Sydney Medical School Nepean. Prof. Duque's major research interests include the elucidation of the mechanisms of age-related bone loss. He is also looking at the effect of vitamin D on bone and muscle mass. Finally, he has implemented a Falls and Fractures clinic at Nepean Hospital (Penrith, NSW) where patients are assessed for falls and fractures risk in a comprehensive manner. For more information about the Aging Bone Research Program at Nepean visit: http://www.boneresearch.edu. au

# VISUAL SCIENCE 2012

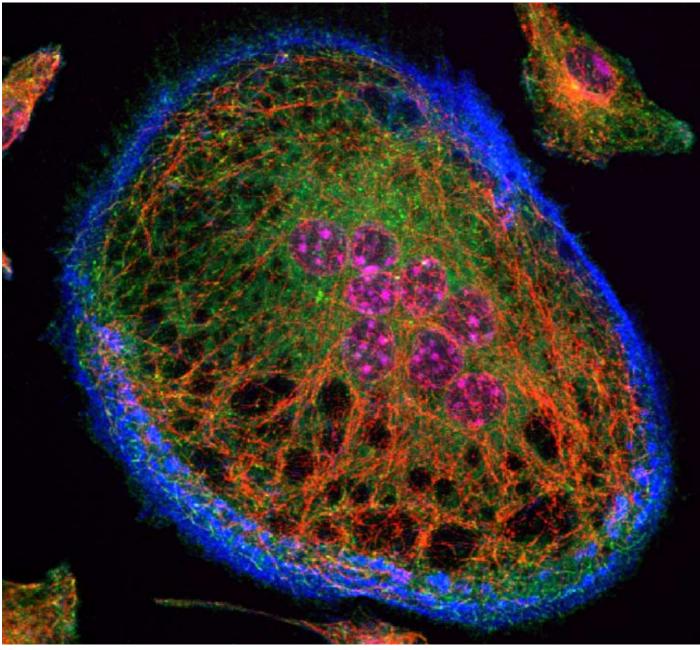
The winner of 'Best Picture 2012 in Visual Science' was Ms Pei Ying Ng, University of Western Australia for her picture

# "Illuminating the Cytoskeletal Architecture of an Osteoclast."

Pei Ying is the PhD student of Dr Nathan Pavlos.

Please email ijohnson@anzbms.org.au with your entry into this year's Visual Science competition.





# ANZBMS 22ND ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING



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## ANZBMS OFFICE BEARERS AND COUNCIL 2011 - 2013

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# DATES FOR THE DIARY

## 2013

5-7 April 2013 ESA Seminar Meeting Novotel Twin Waters, Maroochydore, QLD Website: http://www.esaseminar.org.au/

17 – 20 April 2013 European Congress on Osteoporosis & Osteoarthritis (ECCE013-IOF) Rome, Italy Website: www.iofbonehealth.org/meetings-events. html

27 April-1 May 2013 15th European Congress of Endocrinology Copenhagen, Denmark Website: http://www.ece2013.org/

18-21 May 2013 CTS 2013 Lisbon, Portugal Website: www.ectscongress.org/2013

28 May - 1 Jun 2013 2nd Joint Meeting of the IBMS and the JSBMR Kobe - Japan Website: www.ibmsonline.org/ 15-18 June 2013 ENDO San Francisco, California, USA Website : http://www.endo-society.org/ENDO-2013-san-francisco.html

22-25 June 2013 6th International Conference on Children's Bone Health Rotterdam, Netherlands Website: www.iccbh.org

29-31 July 2013 APEG Annual Scientific Meeting Sydney, Australia Website: http://www.apeg.org.au/

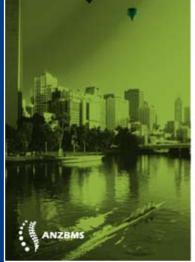
23-25 August 2013 ESA Clinical Weekend Manly Pacific, Sydney Website : http://www.esaclinicalweekend.org.au/

25-28 August 2013 ESA/SRB ASM Sydney Convention Centre Website: http://www.esa-srb.org.au/ 28-30 August 2013 ADS/ADEA Annual Scientific Meeting Sydney Convention Centre Website: www.ads-adea.org.au

8-11 September 2013 23rd ANZBMS Annual Scientific Meeting Melbourne Website: www.anzbms.org.au

**4-8 October 2013 ASBMR Annual Meeting** Baltimore, Maryland, USA Website: www.asbmr.org

21-24 November 2013 The 2nd World Congress on Controversies, Debates & Consensus in Bone, Muscle & Joint Diseases (BMJD) Brussels, Belgium Website: www.congressmed.com/bmjd



# ANZBMS 23rd Annual Scientific Meeting

8 - 11 SEPTEMBER 2013 HILTON ON THE PARK, MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

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ANZBMS is a professional medical / scientific society established in 1989 to bring together clinical and experimental scientists and physicians actively involved in the study of bone and mineral metabolism in Australia and New Zealand.

