



inside this issue

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Page 1. President's Report
- Page 2. ANZBMS award winners
- Page 3. Our Sponsors
- Page 4. Hobby Horse
- Page 4. Who's in Town
- Page 4. Members in the News
- Page 4. ANZBMS Welcomes New Members
- Page 5. OA Report
- Page 5. OA - ANZBMS Research Fund Update
- Page 5. ANZBMS Post Graduate Meeting
- Page 6. Visual Science
- Page 7. ANZBMS ASM
- Page 12. AGM Minutes
- Page 19. ANZBMS Office Bearers and Council 2011 - 2013
- Page 20. Dates for the Diary

OFFICE BEARERS:

- Professor Matthew Gillespie
PRESIDENT
- Professor Markus Seibel
PRESIDENT ELECT
- Professor Rebecca S. Mason
PAST PRESIDENT
- Dr Gethin Thomas
TREASURER
- Associate Professor Gerald J. Atkins
HONORARY SECRETARY

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- A/Prof Nicholas Pocock
- Dr Mark Bolland
- Clinical Professor Charles A Inderjeeth
- A/Prof Natalie Sims

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

- Associate Professor Gerald J. Atkins

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- Mark Stevens
- MarkIT Media

WEBMASTER

- Anne Kovach

On behalf of the Society, I would like to thank Rebecca Mason for all her efforts over the past two years as President, as well as her years serving on Council. She has provided a calm sense of reason and wisdom in her decisions that has allowed the Society to develop. We are fortunate that we will not lose Rebecca as a resource since she was responsible for including the Past-President as an office bearer in Council. The Society has also been well served by other "retiring members" in Philip Sambrook, Roger Price, Nigel Gilchrist and Nick Fazzalari. In particular, both Phil and Roger have been instrumental in the Society with Phil serving as President and Chair of the Therapeutics Committee, while Roger has acted as Treasurer since 2005 ensuring our substantial funding basis through a GFC.

The new members on Council are Mark Bolland, Charles Inderjeeth and Nick Pocock, and I am pleased that Markus Seibel is President-elect.

Again the Society hosted an excellent scientific meeting and the delegates who attended were fortunate to participate in a conference that was on par with any meeting in the world. This outstanding meeting was the culmination of the work of several people, but in particular Emma Duncan and Mark Forwood who were Chairs of the Program Organising Committee and Local Organising Committee, respectively. The association with the International Osteoporosis Foundation and the Japanese Society for Bone and Mineral Research promoted our international linkages and resulted in over 740 attendees at the conference. I would encourage you to read Emma's report within this newsletter.

Research Support

It is with delight that I draw your attention to the ANZBMS/OA Clinical Grants Program advertised in this newsletter. The ANZBMS/OA Clinical Grants Program is supported by Amgen Australia and GSK Australia, and is open to applicants from Australia and New Zealand. I thank both Amgen and GSK for their initiative to support this program and the partnership with Osteoporosis Australia that will allow joint review of applications submitted for consideration.

In this newsletter you will notice concerns about the review process of NHMRC grants, and it is worthwhile to address two crucial issues relating to NHMRC grants. The first is that imposed by regulatory constraints that have been applied by the Australian Bureau of Statistics that have failed to recognise that "osteoporosis" is a significant impact and has not been recognised as "Field of Research" within the ABS and thus impacts upon the assignment of applications to Musculoskeletal grant review panels. This has been addressed by the ANZBMS Scientific Committee such that this, along with other terms are appropriately recognised in the next release of ABS terms.

The second constraint is that of peer review. Many of the complaints in relation to grant outcomes are based upon the process of peer review, in its broadest sense. That is, from allocating an application to the correct panel, assignment of external assessors, panel assessors and the quality of the assessment report. These issues are essentially no different to processes surrounding manuscript submission and review, but unlike manuscripts we often do not have the luxury or capability to submit research proposals to another organisation, or the capability to continue work in the absence of a research grant. Each of us must be prepared to participate in the review process and provide a fair and reasonable review to applications for support.

McKeon Review

Next year the recommendations of the McKeon review of medical research is to be delivered. This is a time that we, as a community, have the opportunity to provide visionary thoughts into the future of medical research and health delivery in Australia, and to the strategic alliances that can be made with New Zealand and beyond. It is timely for the members of the Society to articulate their vision for musculoskeletal research, provide in put to a response from ANZBMS, which will provide the catalyst to inform the Society's strategic plan.

Again, it is time to reflect upon 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.

I wish each of you an enjoyable Christmas season with your families and every success for 2012.



Professor Matthew Gillespie

ANZBMS AWARD WINNERS

Best clinical abstract

Ian Reid University of Auckland,
"A randomized controlled trial of annual low dose zoledronate in postmenopausal women"



Best basic abstract

Asiri Wijenayaka University of Adelaide,
"Sclerostin induces osteocyte support of osteoclast formation and osteoclast activity"



Other young investigators – IOF awards

- Agnieszka Arthur (SA Pathology)
- Haslinda Gould (The University of Melbourne)



Chris and Margie Nordin Poster Prize

Shek Man Chim (UWA),
supervised by Jake Xu
for work on *EGFL6*



Sol Posen Award

Kylie Alexander (University of Queensland),
supervised by Allison Pettit, for her paper
in *JBMR on the role of osteomacs in bone healing.*



Alison Pettit accepting award for Kylie Alexander

Chris and Margie Nordin Poster Prize Runner up

Kirsty MacRae, (University of Queensland)
supervised by Conrad Sernia for work on
*Angiotensin II regulates RANKL:OPG ratio
potentially through transactivation of ErbB
receptors by EGF-like ligands*

ANZBMS AWARD WINNERS

Kaye Ibbertson Award

Susannah O'Sullivan, University of Auckland, supervised by Andrew Grey, for 5 first author papers in JBMR, CTI, JCEM, Bone etc, on *effects of tyrosine kinase inhibitors and bisphosphonates*.



Jill Cornish accepting award for Susannah O'Sullivan

Christine and T J Martin Travelling Fellowship

Julie Quach (St. Vincent's Institute), supervised by Louise Purton, who will be travelling to Boston to learn Laser Scanning Cytometry.



Julie Quach and Jack Martin

Melick Award - Winner

Chiaming Fan (University of SA), supervised by Corey Xian for her work on *prevention of bone damage by methotrexate with folic acid*.



Melick Award - Runner-up

Shuman Yang (Garvan Institute) supervised by Tuan Nyugen for work on *the relationship between fat mass and fracture risk*.



Melick Award - third place

Yu Zheng (ANZAC Institute), supervised by Markus Seibel for work on *VDR and prostate cancer*



Other outstanding presentations by young investigators:

Ayse Zengin (Garvan Institute), supervised by Paul Baldock for work on *androgens and NPY control of bone formation*



Tara Brennan-Speranza (ANZAC Institute), supervised by Markus Seibel, for her work on *osteocalcin in glucocorticoid induced metabolic dysfunction*.



ANZBMS
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Thomson Scientific Instruments

ANZBMS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Yohanes Ariathianto
Vimesh Avlani
Tara Brennan-Speranza
Sarah Bristow
Xiaoxiao Cai
Jun Chen
Shek Man Chim
Wei-Hang Chua
Rosa Chung
Louise Ciin
Carolyn Coulson
Anak Dharmapatni
Patrick Donnelly
Alana Dunne
Shelley Evans
Chia-Ming Fan
Kirtan Ganda
Kristen Georgiou
Alana Green
Rowan hardy
Ebrahim Bani Hassan
David Haynes
Rhys Holyoak
Tristan King
Qingnan Li
Irwin Lim
Nicolene Lottering
Heath McGowan
David Musson
Adele Rivers
Preetinder Singh
Stephen Tonna
Jinnen Tu
Amanda Van der Kraan
Christopher Vidal
Cristina Vincent
Thuy Vu
Chris Whitton
Loretta Wigg
Yaqing Zhang

HOBBY HORSE

A Call for a Review of the Review
Every year the NHMRC Project Grant announcements provoke the full range of responses from the applicants. There is something approaching bliss for the few who were not only funded but received most or all of what they asked for. There is grudging gratitude from those who were funded but wonder whether the work can actually be done with the stripped budget. There is a philosophical sadness from those who missed out on funding while receiving a reasonable score, recognising that there just is not enough money in the pot to fund all grants. And there is despair and hand wringing from those who not only missed out on funding but who know that their application was better than the score it received. This year, there appear to have been too many applicants in this latter group. So this year there were two important problems with the Project Grant review process. The first was that Musculoskeletal applications did not receive peer review, in the sense that they were not judged by a panel of experts in the field. These applications were split between 2 GRPs that were half Musculoskeletal and a half grab bag of clinical medicine. (This latter group could also regard that their applications were not given due process.) The second problem relates to the performance of the panels.

Disclaimer: The views expressed in this section are those of the Author and do not necessarily represent those of the ANZBMS, its affiliates or its sponsors.

Amongst my colleagues and contacts, there have been some incredibly anomalous scores, with very experienced and highly credentialed investigators receiving a 3 or even a 2 for Scientific Quality. When this happens, I would contend that the review process has failed, in the sense that scores have not been given in reference to the Project Grant Category Descriptors. Having said that, I admit that the descriptors for Categories 2 and 3 are vague: 3. Not Competitive - The application is considered to be satisfactory in terms of its scientific quality, and while the GRP is confident that the applicants will be able to undertake the research, on balance it is not competitive. 2. Marginal - The application displays a number of good features but is not competitive. From the outside, the process probably looks to be working- grants are still being awarded and good people are still being funded. But this masks the reality that the process is not being performed in the same rigorous and fair way that it has in the past. We can and do spend a lot of time, and gain some relief from, complaining about all of this. However, I believe that the shortcomings of the review process are now sufficiently important that we as a Society should call for a review of the review process.

Anonymous

WHO'S IN TOWN?

We'd like to encourage members to let us know when you have international visitors to your institute or your local meeting. This gives others the opportunity to arrange to

meet with them and even perhaps share the travel-associated costs. Please email Ivone at ANZBMS@racp.edu.au with the details.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Former ANZBMS Honorary Secretary, **Prof. Nick Fazzalari**, retired this year after some 33 years of service. We wish him well in his 'future endeavors', but Nick assures us that he is maintaining his keen interest in bone research and he has 'Visiting Professor' status at the Bone and Joint Group, IMVS / SA Pathology in Adelaide.

The ANZBMS sends its best wishes to **Prof. Chris Nordin** who is recovering from a hip fracture. Chris has lost none of his passion for bone research and hopes to return to work in the New Year.

If you have anything you'd like to share, personal notices, achievements outside of your professional life, please submit them to ANZBMS@racp.edu.au, subject line 'Members in the News'. Photos are welcome!

OSTEOPOROSIS AUSTRALIA

Osteoporosis Australia has been working well under the leadership of CEO Shelley Evans and Medical Director, Professor Peter Ebeling. On World Osteoporosis Day (Oct 20th), OA organized a large gathering of people working in osteoporosis, in Sydney, to discuss draft documents provided by a large number of experts. The aim is to produce some sensible, clear, evidence-based advice for health practitioners and the public for prevention and treatment of osteoporosis.

The ANZBMS/OA Research Fund has been invigorated this year by the appointment of Paul Hogan, who is partly funded by ANZBMS.

Paul is developing a portfolio of projects that might be of interest to a range of funding bodies and individuals.

The first round of expressions of interest brought in a range of applications, covering basic, translational and clinical research.

OA-ANZBMS RESEARCH FUND UPDATE

Thanks to all members who have submitted Expressions of Interest to the OA-ANZBMS Research Fund. We receive almost \$2 million in applications which we are currently processing in order to respond as quickly as possible. Please contact us if you have missed the October 2011 round as there will be another opportunity in the new year, and we would be interested in hearing of your project ideas.

We will try and keep ANZBMS's members up-to-date on potential grant opportunities, and would draw your attention to the IOF-Servier Young Investigator Research Grant.

This is a Euro 40,000 grant encouraging young scientists to carry out high quality research of significant value and international relevance in the field of osteoporosis. This grant has a deadline of December 31st 2011 - more information is available at the link below:

<http://www.iofbonehealth.org/about-iof/iof-programs/science-health-professionals/scientific-grants-and-awards/>

Paul Hogan
Research Fund Manager

ANZBMS POSTGRADUATE MEETING

The NSW section of the ANZBMS Advanced Clinical Postgraduate Meeting took place at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Coogee, on 25 June 2011. The meeting was a success with 107 attendees (64 from NSW, 19 from Qld, 8 from VIC, 3 from the ACT, 6 from SA, 4 from WA and 1 from NZ, TAS and Sri Lanka each), a good mix of specialties, and a comprehensive program covering basic bone biology, osteoporosis epidemiology, diagnosis and management, as well as metabolic and other bone disorders.

For the faculty, it was great to work with a crowd of interested and enthusiastic young doctors, who kept listening and asking questions despite the almost irresistible temptation of sunny Coogee Beach being around the corner. On behalf of ANZBMS, I would like to thank the sponsors, Amgen, sanofi-aventis and Servier, for their ongoing support. The next ANZBMS Advanced Clinical Postgraduate Meeting has been scheduled for 19 November, 2011, in Melbourne.

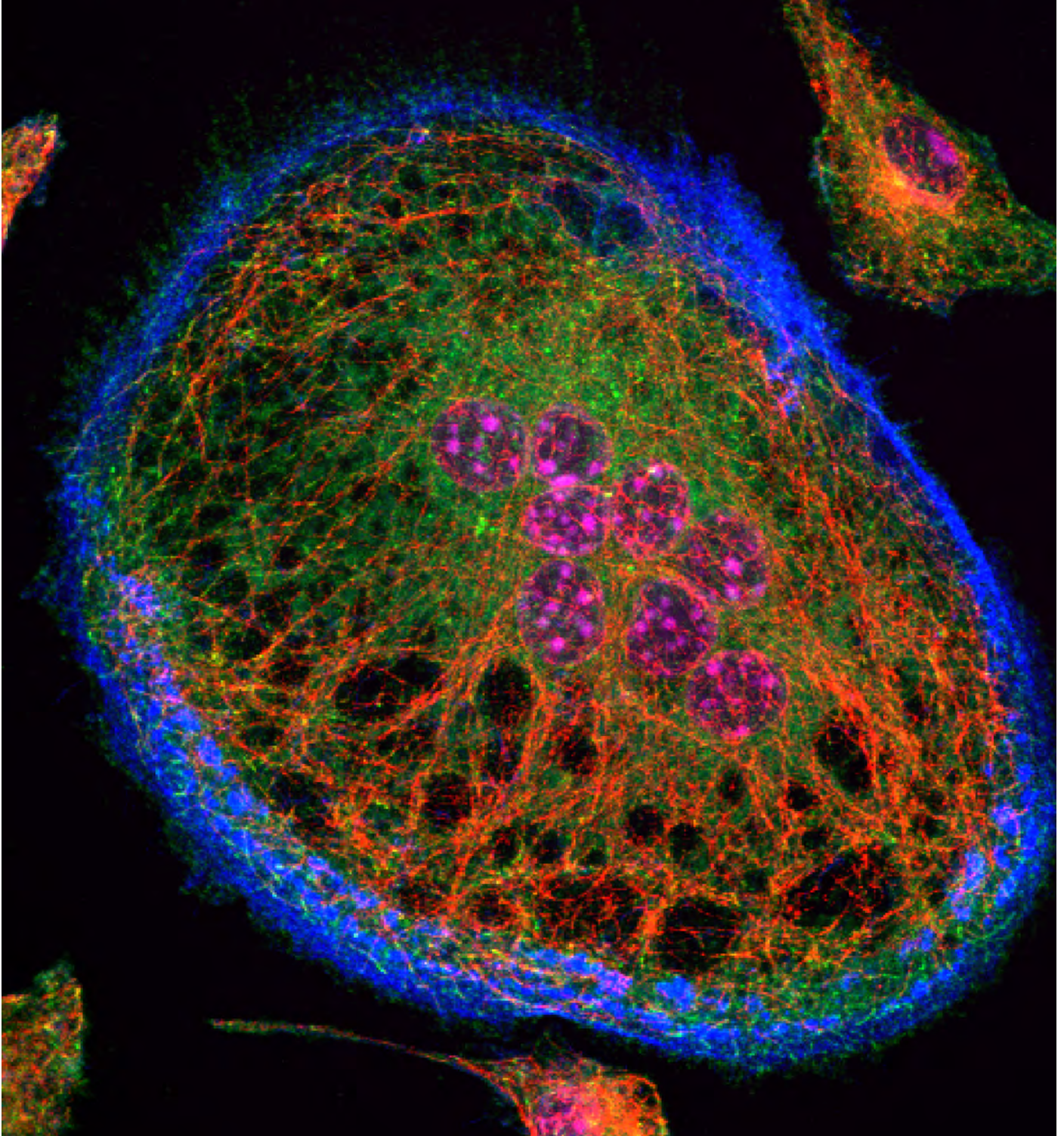
Markus Seibel, Meeting Chair



VISUAL SCIENCE

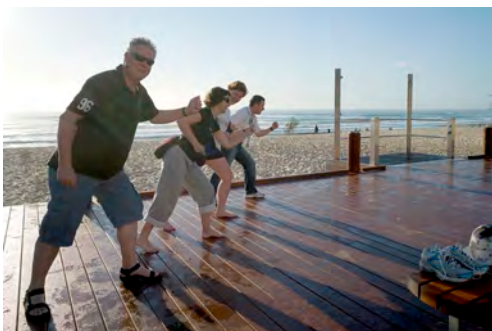
“Illuminating the Cytoskeletal Architecture of an Osteoclast.” Microtubules stained in red, dynamically growing microtubule plus-end (CLIP170) in green, F-actin in blue and nuclei in magenta.

Submitted by Dr Nathan Pavlos and PhD student Ms Pei Ying Ng, University of Western Australia.

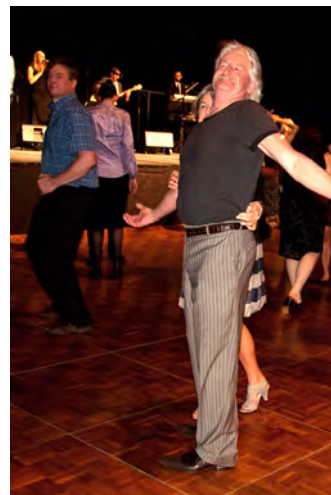
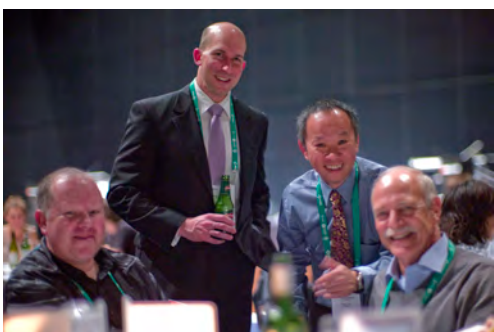


ANZBMS ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING 2011

'Scenes from the Gold Coast'. Thanks in particular to photographers David Haynes and Kamarul Khalid.



ANZBMS ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING 2011



The Australian and New Zealand Bone and Mineral Society invites you to attend the **1st Asia-Pacific Bone and Mineral Research Meeting with the 22nd ANZBMS Annual Scientific Meeting.**

September 2–5, 2012
Pan Pacific Hotel, Perth,
Australia

*So pack your bathers,
sunscreen and a hat and
we hope to see you there!*



The 1st Asia-Pacific Bone and Mineral Meeting will be held in conjunction with the 22nd ANZBMS Annual Scientific Meeting at the luxurious Pan Pacific Hotel, Perth, Australia between the 2nd and 5th of September 2012. For meeting details and a tentative program, please visit: www.anzbms.org.au.

The 2012 Annual Scientific meeting hosted by the ANZBMS will be held in the world's most remote city and Australia's sunniest capital, Perth in Western Australia.

Overlooking the meandering Swan River, Perth is adjoined by vast stretches of pristine coastline and boasts some of the world's most stunning beaches including Cottesloe and Scarborough Beach. Just minutes from the vibrant multi-cultural Port city of Fremantle, the culinary and wine-rich Swan Valley and the quaint island retreat that is Rottnest, Perth has something to offer everyone. So whether you are looking to join in the surf, take in the sites, or simply sit back and enjoy a glass of wine while watching the sunset over the Indian Ocean, come and experience the relaxed lifestyle of Perth and understand why Perth was been voted by *The Economist* as one of the World's Most Livable Cities.

2012 Annual Scientific Meeting Highlights:

The 2012 scientific program will host a wealth of local and internationally acclaimed experts in the field of bone and mineral research with just a few of its featured themes including:

- Evidence-based care in Musculoskeletal diseases
- Osteoimmunology
- Molecular & stem cell therapy for bone and cartilage diseases
- Genetics of bone and cartilage diseases
- Therapeutic targets of bone remodeling
- Computational bone and cartilage biology

For further information on the Meeting, please contact lara@themeetingpeople.com.au



Program Organising Committee

Ming Hao Zheng (Chair), Emma Duncan, Gustavo Duque, Alison Pettit, Charles Inderjeeth, Mark Forwood, Paul Baldock, Rebecca Mason, Nathan Pavlos; Graeme Jones.

Local Organising Committee

Charles Inderjeeth (Chair), Roger Price, Ming-Hao Zheng, Kathy Briffa, Paul Glendenning, Peter Pivonka, Jiake Xu



Amgen/GSK are proud to announce the **ANZBMS/OA Clinical Grants Program**

- Significant patient burdens and conflicting priorities in the care of individual patients means that the management of osteoporosis presents important day-to-day challenges; simple initiatives may produce benefits for patient care which are beyond expectations.
- Amgen Australia and GSK Australia are proud to announce the launch of the ANZBMS/OA Clinical Grants Program.
- This program is designed to fund projects which will support the quality use of medicines in the treatment of osteoporosis or advance the diagnosis or management of patients with osteoporosis.
- Applications will be peer reviewed by a panel of representatives from both ANZBMS and OA.
- A total of AUD\$100,000 will be awarded, with a maximum of up to AUD\$50,000 per project (*only direct costs will be supported*).
- Applicants must be ANZBMS members and based within Australia or New Zealand; support should not be requested for clinical research.
- Applicants must provide a proposal of no more than 4 pages, addressing the following:
 - Requestor details
 - Background of proposal including current unmet need
 - Details of project, indicating innovation and novelty
 - Duration of project
 - Size of grant requested; total cost of project (*if grant does not cover total cost, state where the remainder will come from*)
 - How benefit will be demonstrated
 - How funding will be addressed after period of funding (*if relevant*)
 - How results/output will be communicated
- Important dates:
 - Applications open: **1 December 2011**
 - Applications close: **1 February 2012**
 - Announcement of successful applicants: **April 2012**
- Please email completed applications to Research@osteoporosis.org.au at Osteoporosis Australia, quoting **Amgen/GSK Clinical Grants Program** in message title.

Amgen

Amgen discovers, develops, manufactures and delivers innovative human therapeutics. A biotechnology pioneer since 1980, Amgen was one of the first companies to realize the new science's promise by bringing safe, effective medicines from lab to manufacturing plant to patient.

Amgen therapeutics have changed the practice of medicine, helping millions of people around the world in the fight against cancer, kidney disease, rheumatoid arthritis, bone disease and other serious illnesses.

With a deep and broad pipeline of potential new medicines, Amgen remains committed to advancing science to dramatically improve people's lives.

Amgen in Australia

- Established in 1991 – 20 years old in 2011.
- Currently markets seven products in Australia for the treatment of cancer, kidney disease, bone disease and other serious illnesses.
- Supports a number of academic awards and scholarships to promote the advancement of scientific research in Australia.
- Is amongst the highest contributing countries to clinical trial activity in the Amgen world.
- Invests approximately AUD\$35 million in local research and development annually, which represents around 15% of its sales.

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GlaxoSmithKline

GlaxoSmithKline is a global research-based pharmaceutical and healthcare company with a mission to improve the quality of human life by enabling people to do more, feel better and live longer.

- In Australia we have improved people's wellbeing by delivering the highest quality medicines, vaccines and over-the-counter healthcare products since 1886.
- We collaborate with local researchers and doctors to discover new ways of treating and preventing disease, investing around AUD\$45.2 million a year in research and development. We are pioneering new treatments for complex diseases like cancer, and we are leaders in vaccine technology and the treatment of respiratory disease, anti-viral, central nervous system and diabetes. We currently have over 30 discovery projects underway and our Medicines Research Unit is the only Phase 1 facility supported by a pharmaceutical company in Australia.

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**The Annual General Meeting of the
Australian & New Zealand Bone & Mineral Society
will be held on Tuesday 6th September 2011
at the Gold Coast Convention Centre
5.00pm**

1. Welcome to ANZBMS Members

Don Gutteridge, Geoff Nicholson, Martin Epstein, Michael Hooper, David Haynes, Andreas Evdokiou, Arthur Conigrave, Tim Cundy, Nicole Walsh, Joseph Wong, Paul Baldock, Ashika Chhana, David Musson, Jill Cornish, Peter Ebeling, Nguyen Nguyen, Mark Forwood, Julian Quinn, Jian Sheng Chen, Tania Crotti, John Eisman, Charles Inderjeeth, Kirtan Ganda, Ming H. Zheng, Jack Martin, Irwin Lim, Rhys Holyoak, Laura Gregory, David Thomas, Nicolene Lottering, John Clement, Sharon Brennan, Haslinda Gould, Mark Kotowicz, An Qin, Shek Man Chim, Don Perry-Keene, Wendy Kelly, Belinda Beck, Justin Brown, Jenny Wormald, Neil Kent, Jackie Center, Nick Pocock, Ailsa Goulding, Graeme Jones, Natalie Sims, Allison Pettit, Rachel Davey, Susan Millard, Gethin Thomas, Jiake Xu, Gerald Atkins, Nathan Pavlos, Sarah Rea, Xiaofang Wang, Thuy Vu, Kun Zhu, Cory Xian, Markus Seibel, Phillip Clifton-Bligh, Rory Clifton-Bligh, Gustavo Duque, Philip Sambrook, Andy Wu, Damien Myers, Hong Zhou, Matthew Gillespie, Rebecca Mason, David Findlay, Emma Duncan, Katy Cottrill, Colin Dunstan

2. Apologies

Mark Bolland

3. Confirmation of the Minutes

Annual General Meeting 7th September 2010, Adelaide

Minutes from the Annual General Meeting that was held on 7th September 2010 were accepted as a true and accurate record. Proposed: Jack Martin, Seconded: Mark Forwood

4. President's Report (Rebecca Mason)

It is hard to believe that two years have gone and we are about to usher in a new Council – fortunately with many continuing (note: not “old”) faces. The new faces include Mark Bolland, Charles Inderjeeth and Nick Pocock. In particular, I would like to express the gratitude of the Society to Roger Price, who has been a member of Council for many years and in the key role as Treasurer since 2005. This role requires considerable involvement in terms of time and energy and has benefited from Roger’s good sense and level-headedness. Under his watch, the Society’s financial position has improved over time, to a point where we are reasonably secure, despite the GFC. Roger has also made a valuable contribution to management of the secretariat and, as many know, is also the leader of the very successful team which runs the ANZBMS densitometry courses. Gethin Thomas has been Roger’s understudy for some time now and I am sure, will grow and serve effectively in his new role. Phil Sambrook will also step down from his position as Immediate Past President. This is a new position adopted in a change to the constitution in 2009, and one that has allowed continuity of corporate memory. Phil’s input in this context and as Chair of the Therapeutics committee until recently, has been invaluable for me as President and for our dealings with various government bodies, where a long memory has proved critical. Also stepping down is Nigel Gilchrist from Christchurch, who has provided useful insights, ideas and suggestions to Council in the past two years, despite having to cope with calamity from the earthquakes at home. Thanks are also due to Nick Fazzalari who was an active Councillor and editor of the newsletter until he took leave of absence. Nick’s position on Council and role as newspaper editor is now filled, very ably, by Gerald Atkins.

Markus Seibel, who will become President-elect, when Matthew Gillespie takes over as President, has already shown, in recently taking over the role of Chair of the Therapeutics committee, that he is more than up to the task. Markus led a revamp of our Bone Weekend, into a highly successful Registrar Bone Day Meeting, recently held in Sydney. With the help of Natalie Sims, who is Chair of the Scientific Committee, a similar Bone day is planned for Melbourne in November. Natalie and her committee are also leading the charge to ensure that musculo-skeletal health gets its own category in the classification system of the Australian Bureau of Statistics. There are likely to be many benefits to this, should we be successful.



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As well as the Bone Seminar Day, there are plans to organize a Bone Interface Weekend, likely to be held mid-2012, which will bring ANZBMS, the Australian Rheumatology Association and the ANZ Orthopaedic Research Society together. Since there is increasing evidence that cartilage needs to be considered in relation to the underlying bone, and vice versa, this ought to be a useful gathering. As is usual, a Bone Densitometry Course will be held in conjunction with the ASM. The Densitometry Committee, including Roger Price, Nick Pocock (who will be an incoming Councillor), Chris Schultz, continue to produce a really high quality program that is very attractive to people in the field. Further courses are planned for Sydney, Melbourne and New Zealand over the next couple of years.

Under the leadership of Emma Duncan, who has excelled as Chair of our Program Organizing Committee over the last couple of years, and her committee, working with Cyrus Cooper and colleagues of the IOF and Toshiyuki Yoneda and colleagues from the Japanese Bone and Mineral Society and many international POC members, we have an exciting international program planned. With the help of Mark Forwood and the local organizing committee and the valued input of Danielle White from ASN events, there will be plenty of action on the social front as well. Our Young Investigator members have two events organized to facilitate networking, which is one of the main reasons for these meetings. We have over 350 abstract submitted and over 700 delegates registered, including just over 200 ANZBMS members. Australia and New Zealand account for just over 40% of delegates, with 44% from Asia, 6% from Oceania, 5% from Europe, 2% from North and South America and 1% from South Africa and the Middle East. The meeting would not have been possible without generous sponsorship and I am grateful that all our sponsors from the 2010 meeting have supported the Scientific Meeting this year, as well as some new companies.

Emma will step down from her position as Chair of the POC after this meeting, but will continue to contribute to the Society on the new POC and on the Therapeutics Committee. I am very pleased that Ming Hao Zheng, has agreed to take over as Chair of the POC and has thrown his considerable energy into developing a Pan-Pacific meeting for Perth in 2012. The work of our various committees is critically important to the activities and goals of ANZBMS and I would like to sincerely thank the Chairs and the members who serve on these, who are listed on the ANZBMS website. At various times, we ask members to offer to become involved in areas that are of interest. Please do volunteer, since it is a way of making a difference - contributing to ANZBMS and in many cases to the general public good.

Many of you will have noticed some extra oomph in our newsletter. The electronic dissemination seems to be working well and allows us to include more items of interest to members. You may have noticed a new section on non-medical science achievements of our members, ranging from boating to mountain trekking. Please do submit news items to Gerald and Julian Quinn for inclusion. It is good to see a less formal side of our members.

ANZBMS works very well with Osteoporosis Australia to provide practical information and programs for the public and health practitioners to optimize bone health. Peter Ebeling, a former ANZBMS President and who is currently Vice-President of the Endocrine Society of Australia, Chairs the Medical and Scientific Committee of OA, which also numbers many ANZBMS members. Peter Ebeling, Phil Sambrook and I serve on the OA Board. The new CEO of Osteoporosis Australia, Shelley Evans, is full of good ideas and a delight to work with. With support from ANZBMS, the OA/ANZBMS Research Fund has employed an experienced leader in research development, Mr Paul Hogan, to really try to enhance the value of the joint Research Fund. You may have noticed a flyer, inviting groups to put together a project outline. The idea is to develop a portfolio of ready-to-go research projects, which can then be taken round to funding bodies and individuals, based on the principle that funders are more likely to provide money for particular projects. The portfolio will allow projects in different areas to be discussed, depending on the interests of the potential funder.

It has been an exciting couple of years as President of the Society. The role has only been possible with key support and advice from Ivone Johnson, our very experienced, highly capable and very helpful executive officer, ably assisted by Melissa Dupavillon. All the Council members and Emma have made my job easier and contributed to the success of the Society in many ways, as outlined earlier. I particularly would like to thank Matt, Roger and Phil and more recently Markus, who have provided expert input on many issues and wise counsel. On the basis of past experience, I am sure that Matt will be a stellar new leader of ANZBMS and look forward to working with him and the new Council for a little while to come.

4.2 Future Meetings

4.2.2 ANZBMS ASM, Pan Pacific, Perth 2nd-5th September 2012

The 2012 scientific programme will host a wealth of local and internationally acclaimed experts in the field of bone and mineral research. The Chair of the Programme Organising Committee is Ming Hao Zheng. The Local Organising Committee Chair is Charles Inderjeeth.

4.3 General meetings

4.2.3 Registrar Bone Weekend (M. Seibel)

The next ANZBMS Advanced Clinical Postgraduate Meeting has been scheduled for 19 November 2011 in Melbourne.

4.2.4 Bone Interface Weekend (P. Sambrook)

This meeting will be held in 2012.

5. Reports of Committees

5.1 Programme Organising Committee (E. Duncan)

At the time of writing, this year's Annual Scientific Meeting is nearly completed. As everyone is aware, this year our meeting is combined with the International Osteoporosis Federation and the Japanese Society for Bone and Mineral Research. The result of this collaboration has been a truly international meeting, with over 740 participants from over 40 different countries from the Asia-Pacific region and with invited speakers from Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, UK, and the USA. 306 abstracts were submitted, evenly divided between basic and clinical abstracts, and 82 were awarded an oral presentation. It's worth noting that 54 of these were young investigators, with half presenting in dedicated young investigator sessions and the other half presenting as part of the general programme of the meeting based simply on their merit. We built the programme around what we hope is the cutting edge of clinical and basic research in bone; and we hope this has been the experience of the conference attendees also.

National and international guests were welcomed by Uncle Graeme Dillon, an elder of the Kombumerri people, and given the freedom of the Gold Coast. I must thank Mark Forwood for his imaginative and very successful ideas for our social events. I thought the bush band and the indigenous dance were terrific; and who could forget the python and the crocodile, Dave and Brian?! For those people who missed Zumba, this was such a success that the LOC for next year are considering a return visit. I am sure that our dinner/dance will be a great evening, with the New Zealanders as usual leading off with the dancing; and on the following morning we will see if South Australia can maintain their perfect participation record in the early morning walk/run along the beach.....

Last year, Mark Butler MP highlighted the gender imbalance in science and senior management that persists in Australia; and this year we welcomed the Chancellor of Griffith University Ms Leneen Forde to speak at our breakfast Women in Bone session on the choices between a career in science and being a primary care giver. Several speakers and session chairperson have had to cancel at short notice due to poor health themselves or in their family, or, in one person's case, a typhoon preventing their travel. I am really grateful for the many people who at essentially no notice were happy to take on talks and chairing of sessions. I would particularly like to thank Peter Ebeling, John Eisman and Phil Sambrook, all of whom have at unreasonably short notice given talks this week.

This year the committee was joined by IOF (led by Cyrus Cooper) and JSBMR (led by Keiichi Ozono). I would like to thank sincerely the Australian team: Gustavo Duque, Gethin Thomas, Allison Pettit, Mark Forwood, Graeme Jones, Paul Anderson and Ego Seeman. I would also like to thank the ANZBMS council for trusting me with this opportunity and responsibility: I have learnt an enormous amount in this role. I wish Ming-Hao the very best as he takes over as the new chair of POC.

5.2 Professional Affairs Committee (M. Kotowicz)

There was not a lot to deal with this year.

5.3 Therapeutics Committee (M. Seibel)

An application to the MSAC was made on 25 May, regarding the **indication for Bone Mineral Density testing in patients using aromatase inhibitors**. Further to previous correspondence, the TC submitted additional and more recent evidence regarding the role of bone densitometry in women receiving treatment with aromatase inhibitors for hormone receptor-positive breast cancer. Based on these data, ANZBMS expressed the view that there is sufficient evidence to expand the indications for BMD testing - as a case finding tool - to include either planned or ongoing treatment with aromatase inhibitors in women with hormone-receptor positive breast cancer.

The application is presently considered by MSAC. It should be noted that the DoH decided to submit the AI application together with a submission from Prof Nordin re routine BMD screening in all women 50 years or over, although both submissions may be considered separately by the MSAC.

ANZBMS was invited to comment on the **'NBOCC Recommendations for use of bisphosphonates for early breast cancer'**. Various members of the Therapeutic Committee read the documents and made suggestions. In general, ANZBMS supported the concept of considering bisphosphonate therapy in women with early breast cancer. However, as the evidence base is still limited (in particular in regards to fracture outcomes), it was suggested to target treatment to women at the highest risk, e.g. those treated with aromatase inhibitors or low bone mass. A reply has been received in late August 2011 and was tabled at the Council meeting in September 2011.

ANZBMS was asked to comment on a **submission made to the PBAC regarding the removal of the 3-year limit for Zoledronic Acid 5mg** currently applicable under the rules of the PBS for the treatment of patients with osteoporosis. ANZBMS supported the removal of the 3-year limit based on the cumulative clinical experience with ZA, and on recently published scientific data from clinical trials (Black et al. The effect of 3 versus 6 years of zoledronic acid treatment in osteoporosis: a randomized extension to the HORIZON-Pivotal Fracture Trial. Abstract, ABSMR 2010). This study demonstrated that six years of once-yearly ZA 5mg maintains BMD and has a safety profile comparable to 3 years of treatment. These results, together with the fracture data from the original trials, indicate that patients at high risk of fracture would benefit from continuous once-yearly treatment with ZA 5mg. Furthermore, ANZBMS considers that some patients will need to continue annual treatment for more than 3 years and that the decision to treat for >3 yrs should be at the discretion of their physician. The availability of safety and efficacy data over six years no longer justifies a 3-year treatment limit for ZA 5mg. Also, the 3-year limit is unique to Australia and has no parallel in any other country in which ZA 5mg has been approved for the treatment of osteoporosis. The PBAC during its July meeting decided to remove the 3-year limit on ZA 5mg.

5.4 Densitometry sub-committee (R. Price)

Ali Ghasem-Zadeh is the Chair of the Densitometry Committee. 17 Clinical Bone Densitometry courses have been run in Australia and New Zealand since 2005. In Perth in 2012 the Course will undergo a major upgrade, to include a 'hands-on' workshop on pQCT, plus advanced bone imaging with focus on researcher interests. The next course will be held in Sydney on 31st March-1st April 2012.

5.5 Research Sub-committee (N. Sims)

Members of Research Committee for 2011 were: Natalie Sims (Chair – VIC), Tania Winzenberg (TAS), David Findlay (SA), Jiake Xu (WA), Emma Duncan (QLD), Jackie Center (NSW), Mark Bolland (NZ).

One of the key areas that has engaged the research committee over 2011 was working on the way grant submissions are categorised and ranked by funding bodies in Australia and New Zealand. A submission was made to address the Fields of Research (FoR) codes used by the National Statistics bodies in both Australia and New Zealand. These codes are used for many purposes, including determining extent and impact of research within fields of inquiry in Australia and New Zealand. The lack of coding for major skeletal disorders including osteoporosis is likely to be a major contributor to the poor categorisation of NHMRC grant application, and under-reporting of the level of research being conducted into areas of musculoskeletal research that ANZBMS members are engaged in. I wish to record my thanks to John Eisman and Jackie Center

who compiled suggestions from a number of members to make constructive suggestions of categories that should be included when the codes are next revised in 2014.

Submission to the revised ERA journal rankings was made, thanks are due in particular to Gethin Thomas and Tania Winzenberg for help in this submission process. The decision to scrap the journal rankings after these submissions was disappointing, but given the difficulty we had as a committee to agree on rankings even within our field makes this decision a welcome one!

The Research Subcommittee also organised a day's sessions at the Australian Health and Medical Research Congress in Melbourne in November 2010. This was organised in conjunction with the Matrix Biology (MBANZ), Molecular and Experimental Pathology (MEPSA), and Orthopedics Research (ANZORS) Societies, and provided excellent opportunity for interactions with scientists from these and other societies. Similar sessions will be held in at this conference in Adelaide in 2012.

Probably the most enjoyable, but also, most challenging tasks this committee conducts is deciding on award winners for the Sol Posen Award, Kaye Ibbertson Award, Chris and Margie Nordin Poster Prize, Roger Melick Award and the Christine and TJ Martin Travelling Fellowship Award. This year was a particularly difficult year to judge, due to the exceptionally high quality of submissions made. We congratulate the awardees on their achievements.

6. Treasurer's Report (R. Price)

ANZBMS Financial Report – Accounting Standards

Members are referred to the ANZBMS Financial Report for the year ended 30 June, 2011, which will be placed on the Society's website <http://www.anzbms.org.au/news/index.cfm>. Members are also referred to the first paragraph of the Hon. Treasurer's report for 2009/'10, which explained that the Australian Accounting Standards Board had issued a 'reporting entities' and accordingly are now required to prepare general purpose financial reports that comply with *all* Australian Accounting Standards. As in 2010, the required change benefits Members seeking more details, but has resulted in a significant increase in the size of this year's Financial Report.

General Financial result

Though interest in invested capital increased by 25% and receipts from membership also increased, total revenue was marginally down on the previous year (15%) due to fluctuation in proceeds from scientific meetings. Expenses increased significantly, almost entirely due to outlays for the current scientific meeting, the timing of conference expenses and the introduction of equity accounting for conduct of conferences. This is explained in more detail below. Award & travel grant expenses increased by \$19,107 and the Society also contributed \$25,000 to Osteoporosis Australia and \$15,455 to Barwon Health. Collectively, these activities have led to an operating loss of (\$96,669) for this year, compared with surpluses of \$221,849 for 2009/'10 and \$177,571 for the year before. Following Australian accounting standards the Auditor assigns ASM revenues to the year received, and expenditure to the year when committed. Consequently, the gross income and gross expenditure in respect of each ASM will be reflected in the profit and loss account, as they occur, rather than simply recognizing a 'net profit' of each individual meeting.

The Profit & Loss Statement in the Financial Report (page 26) shows that meeting-related expenditure rose from \$78,380 in 2009/'10 to \$300,000 this year, while meetings proceeds (ie; not profits, see below) fell from \$175,053 in 2009/'10 to \$92,427 this year. This 'meeting gap' of \$304,582 almost entirely accounts for the change in profit figures between the years – that is; other income and expenditure sources are relatively steady. (Compared to the previous year, income from sponsorship and the bone densitometry course remained steady at \$110,000 and \$44,700, respectively). The Auditor has indicated that this has arisen because of; (i) the timing of recent ASMs. Profits from the Mar 2009 IBMS/ANZBMS Sydney meeting were accorded to 2009/'10 in disproportion to its expenditures. While the 2010/'11 year benefited from the net profit of the Adelaide Sept. 2010 ASM (see below) it supported the startup expenditure of the current larger (international) meeting, without receiving the 'benefit' of its profits. (ii) Management of the current meeting has used 'equity accounting'. This means that ANZBMS is essentially currently 'holding a position' in a 'subsidiary' that manages the conference; ANZBMS is recording its (undistributed) profits without folding them into its own profit statement. The audited accounts for the current IOF/ANZBMS 2011 meeting (Auditor, McLeod Woottons)



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show the Meeting to be in surplus, as of 30 June and indications are that this meeting will be both scientifically and financially successful.

It costs around \$95,000 each year to run the Society's business, including guaranteeing all awards (see below). Member subscriptions provide around \$40,000 of this (p26, Financial Report). A Member participating in the ASM receives, in direct benefits in a full year around 2.5 times their subscription. Thus, profits from ASMs are very important for the Society, representing the majority of its 'steady' income. The Adelaide ASM yielded a profit of \$57,000. Earlier years' profits were: 2009 \$87,575 for the share of profits accruing to ANZBMS from the joint IBMS/ANZBMS Meeting in Sydney; 2008 \$59,839; 2007 \$24,472; 2006 \$109,000; 2005 \$115,000; 2004 \$25,341; 2003 \$40,609; 2002 \$77,928; 2001 \$24,556 and 2000 \$100,000. An indication of the Society's commitment to assisting young researchers attend and present at the current ASM is this year's provision of 50 travel grants totaling \$15550. Previous years' figures were 2010 51 (\$16,950) and 2009 51 (\$16,200).

The Society currently has net assets of \$905,802. The conservative investment of spare funds (largely using term deposits) has assisted in the rise of the Society's net assets from \$588,299 in 2007, and though this year's figures have declined from a transient peak \$1,001,708 in 2009/10 (for the reasons given above), the trend is solidly upwards. Properly managed, these funds provide a foundation for income generation in order to guarantee a raft of services to Members, buffering against fluctuating market forces and providing a financial instrument to extend the Society's reach. Traditionally, the ANZBMS has adopted a conservative policy towards investment, relying on term deposits, and this served us well during the recent economic upheaval. Currently, we do not believe that a less conservative position is justified, at least until the world economic situation improves. The Investment subcommittee of Council continues to monitor opportunities, including combining part of our interests with a larger kindred entity with a proven investment track record.

Services to Members & the Community

As noted in last year's Report, in addition to the 'flagship' ASM and focused meetings for trainees (e.g.; postgraduate meetings), the Society supports numerous direct services for its Members. These include the Newsletter; Website; discounted student subscriptions, travel awards for new researchers, reduced journal subscriptions & conference registrations; plus various scholarships and awards (Christine & T Jack Martin Research Travel Grant, Roger Mellick and Chris & Margie Nordin Young Investigator Awards, Amgen-ANZBMS Outstanding Abstract award, PhD scholarship, Kaye Ibbertson Award, Sol Posen Award; IOF-Servier Young Investigator Research Grant. (For full details see website <http://www.anzbms.org.au/resources/grants/index.cfm>). There is also a subsidy provided for six Life Members to attend the ASM.

ANZBMS maintains its role in clinical education in disciplines impacted by bone. From time to time, activities include Bone Weekends (aimed particularly at registrars), Clinical Updates (held in conjunction with OA), the Paediatric Day, the Clinical Bone Densitometry (BMD) courses and Biomedical Imaging courses. As an example, 17 Clinical Bone Densitometry courses have been run in Australia and NZ since 2005. In Perth in 2012 the Course will undergo a major upgrade, to include a 'hands-on' workshop on pQCT, plus advanced bone imaging with focus on researcher interests.

The Society has partnered with Osteoporosis Australia (OA) since 2006, when a joint research fund was established, aligned with ANZBMS Membership interests. ANZBMS has since contributed \$65,455, \$60,000, \$25,000 & \$25,000 in successive years. As the economic situation improves ANZBMS will continue to strive to build this partnership, contributing financially when possible.

Future Directions

In summary, we wish to maintain (and by investment, guarantee) the beneficially favorable imbalance between the average return to a Member versus their annual subscription, as well as to extend Member services. We must continue to insulate the Society's income against short-term fluctuations, arising particularly from the impact of market factors on corporate sponsorship. We remain extremely grateful to our corporate sponsors at all levels, and understand their responses to market fortunes. In turn, our sponsors understand our need to remain scientifically independent.

On behalf of Council and the Society, as in previous years I wish to warmly thank Ms Ivone Johnson, ably supported by Ms Melissa Dupavillon. This small team – the ANZBMS Secretariat - continues to guide the treasury, including (as noted repeatedly in previous years) micro-managing the Society's accounts and maintaining our corporate obligations.



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Additionally during the financial year the Secretariat played a significant role in negotiations with the RACP from whose Sydney CBD location the Society conducts its business. These negotiations are proceeding and may lead to some adjustments in the working relationship between the Society and the College.

I also wish to thank our Auditor, Mark Tinworth Chartered Accountant of Tinworth & Co, North Sydney who has provided an excellent financial analysis of the Society's activities, plus verbal advice, at a very reasonable cost. This is my last report as Hon. Treasurer. I would like to thank the current President Professor Rebecca Mason in particular, plus fellow Councilors (present & past) for their guidance and support, as well as Mark Forward who preceded me in the post and Gethin Thomas who will take my place. The job was always enjoyable and rewarding – made so by the people I have worked with.

7. Other Business

NHMRC GRP Musculoskeletal Researchers

Concerns were expressed about the review process of this year's grants, which were deemed as musculoskeletal. There were concerns about the appropriateness of the assessment quality and of the composition of the GRPs.

Peter Ebeling commented that the Academy members for musculoskeletal panel had no dealings this year's process, and the NHMRC decided on issues that the Academy normally had responsibility over. He noted that application assignment to a GRP was done by applicant declaration and by key words.

Graeme Jones stated he was the only rheumatologist on the GRPs (two in musculoskeletal), and there were very few rheumatology applications.

Emma Duncan stated that the NHMRC have responsibility to be competent.

Matthew Gillespie stated that in 2007 there were 236 applications that were considered to be musculoskeletal, and the evolution of musculoskeletal panels resulted due to a campaign by ANZBMS.

Graeme Jones, Rebecca Mason and Peter Ebeling to write letter of concern to the NHMRC.

8. Date of next AGM – September 2012 in Perth

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DATES FOR THE DIARY

2012

19-22 January 2012

World Congress on Debates and Consensus on Bone, Muscle and Joint Diseases (BMJD)
Barcelona, Spain
Website: www.congressmed.com/bmj

31 January – 2 February 2012

21st IOF Advanced Training Course on Osteoporosis
Geneva, Switzerland
Website: www.iofbonehealth.org/gtc-2012

21 – 24 March 2012

European Congress on Osteoporosis & Osteoarthritis IOF-ECCEO12
Bordeaux, France
Website: <http://www.iof-ecceo12.org>

23-26 March 2012

Seventh Clare Valley Bone Meeting
Clare, South Australia
Website: <http://www.themeetingpeople.com.au/clare2012-home>

27 - 29 April 2012

ESA Seminar now including basic science stream
Peppers "The Sands" Torquay, VIC
www.esaseminar.org.au

5-9 May 2012

15th International Congress of Endocrinology is being held jointly with the 14th European Congress of Endocrinology
Florence, Italy
Website: endosociety.com/eventsICE2012.html

6-9 May 2012

RACP Congress
Brisbane Convention Centre
Website: racpcongress@wsm.com.a

19-23 May 2012

2012 European Calcified Tissue Society 39th Annual Conference
Stockholm, Sweden
Website: www.ectscongress.org/2012/

23-26 June 2012

ENDO 2012
Houston, Texas
Website: www.endo-society.org/meetings/Annual/index.cfm

27-30 June 2012

5th Int'l Workshop on Advances in the Molecular Pharmacology & Therapeutics of Bone Disease
Oxford, UK
Website: www.oxfordbonepharm.org/

19-21 July 2012

The 30th Annual meeting of JSBMR
Tokyo, Japan
Website: jsbmr.umin.jp/eng/

24-26 August 2012

ESA Clinical Weekend
Gold Coast
www.esaclinicalweekend.org.au

26-29 August 2012

ESA/SRB Combined Annual Scientific Meeting
Gold Coast Exhibition and Convention Centre
www.esa-srb.org.au

29-31 August 2012

ADS/ADEA Annual Scientific Meeting
Gold coast Exhibition and Convention Centre
www.ads-adea.org.au

2-5 September 2012

1st Asia-Pacific Bone and Mineral Research Meeting being held in conjunction with the 22nd ANZBMS Annual Scientific Meeting
Pan Pacific Hotel, Perth, WA
Website: www.anzbms.org.au

12-15 October 2012

ASBMR 2012 Annual Meeting
Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA
Website: www.asbmr.org

25-29 November 2012

AHMR Congress
Adelaide Convention Centre
Website: www.ahmrcongress.org.au

2013

17 – 20 April 2013

European Congress on Osteoporosis & Osteoarthritis (ECCEO13-IOF)
Rome, Italy
Website: www.iofbonehealth.org/meetings-events.html

28 May - 1 Jun 2013

2nd Joint Meeting of the IBMS and the JSBMR
Kobe - Japan
Website: www.ibmsonline.org/

25-28 August 2013

ESA/NZSE Joint meeting
Sydney Convention Centre
Website: www.endocrinesociety.org

4-8 October 2013

ASBMR Annual Meeting
Baltimore, Maryland, USA
Website: www.asbmr.org

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.