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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

There have been a number of highlights in the last six months. In March ANZBMS combined with the International Bone and Mineral Society to run a highly successful joint scientific meeting in Darling Harbour, Sydney. Feedback from the meeting has been very positive from our members and the international guests. There were some 912 registrants and 428 abstracts submitted. Our thanks go to the Program Organizing Committee chaired by Stuart Ralston and the Local Organizing Committee chaired by John Eisman for the quality of the program and the seamless running of the meeting. I am also once again pleased to report on the continued success of the ANZBMS Densitometry Course, which was run again prior to the Sydney meeting.

At the Sydney ASM dinner, Council also acknowledged the contributions of our Dunedin colleague, Ailsa Goulding, who is shortly to retire. Council has recommended the award of Honorary Life membership be approved at the AGM later this year.

Because the Sydney meeting was held early in our ASM cycle, the next ASM will not be held for 18 months but planning is already underway for this meeting, which will be in Adelaide in September 2010. The 2011 ASM will be held on the Gold Coast, hopefully in conjunction with colleagues from Japan and Singapore.

In February we saw the appointment of Rosanna Martinello to take over as CEO of Osteoporosis Australia following the appointment of Judy Stenmark as Chief Operating Officer of the IOF in Geneva. I'm sure all members extend their thanks to Judy for the wonderful job she has done and we wish her all the best in her new role. At the same time we warmly welcome Rosanna, who will no doubt bring a different focus, given her corporate background. ANZBMS will continue to support, at least in part, the

salary of the OA fundraiser, although with the difficult financial times, we can only make this commitment on a 12 monthly basis.

In the next 6 months, the Society will hold two other events, both of which were very successful in their inaugural run last year. Firstly, on 1st-2nd August we will hold a Bone and Joint Interface meeting in conjunction with the Australian Rheumatology Association in Melbourne, with the support of Servier. Professor Tim Spector will be the invited speaker. Following this, a Registrar's Bone Weekend will be held in Sydney on 8th-9th August with the support of Amgen and about 80 registrar attendees are expected.

During the latter part of 2008, we faced a number of issues in regard to our relationship with the RACP. Previously we had received support from the College in respect of salary processing for our staff, as well as workers compensation and related insurances. Like a number of Special Societies, we are now being asked to perform these functions ourselves, which means increased costs. The College was also looking at cost recovery for rent for the space we occupy in their building. Much of this push by the College seemed to ignore the major contributions the Special Societies make to the function of the College itself. Like other Special Societies, ANZBMS has made strong representations to the College opposing the latter.

Discussions with John Kanis in regard to an Australian version of FRAX have been occurring and we have in principal agreement to develop that using data from both the Dubbo Osteoporosis Epidemiology Study and Geelong Osteoporosis Study.

**Professor Philip Sambrook**

ANZBMS  
WELCOMES  
NEW MEMBERS

Mr Mohamed Al-Mushaiqri  
Dr Agnieska Arthur  
Dr Helen Barrett  
Ms Kerrin Bleicher  
Dr Frank Driessler  
Dr Grahame Elder  
Dr Anita Fotedar Verma  
Mrs Nikki Fozzard  
Dr Claudia Gagnon  
Dr Makoto Hirata  
Mr Kazuhiro Imai  
Dr Akinori Kan  
Mr Ee-Cheng Khor  
Dr Masakazu Kogawa  
Miss Jasreen Kular  
Dr Jaideep Kulkarni  
Dr Kazuhiro Maeda  
Miss Narelle McGregor  
Ms Jean McQuade  
Mr Yichi Nagase  
Dr Masaki Nakamura  
Ms Rebecca Nobes  
Dr Naoshi Ogata  
Ms Li Laine Ooi  
Mr Yu Qian  
Mrs Sarah Rea  
Dr Taku Saito  
Dr Samuel Scherer  
Miss Jamie Tan  
Ms Juliana Tasevska  
Dr Natalie Towers  
Miss Emma Walker  
Dr Shuying Wei  
Dr Anita Wluka  
Dr Fumiko Yano  
Miss Ayse Zengin

## ANZBMS 2009 AWARDS AND GRANTS

all awards and grants at <http://anzbms.org.au/resources/grants/index.cfm>

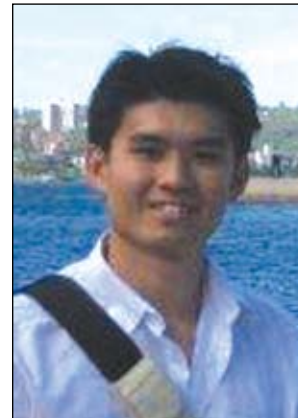
### The Roger Melick Young Investigator

*Award was presented to Nicola Lee*



### The Christopher and Margie Nordin Poster Award

*was presented to Ee-Cheng Khor*



### The Christine and T J Martin Award

*was awarded to Bich Tran from the  
Garvan Institute of Medical Research*



### The Kaye Ibbertson Award

*was presented to Mark Bolland  
from The University of Auckland*



### The Sol Posen Award

*was presented to Ming-Kang Chang  
from The University of Queensland*



## 2009 AWARDS AND GRANTS

continued..... ANZBMS/AMGEN Outstanding Abstract Award.

Two Outstanding abstract awards were presented to:



*Basic: Vicky Katsiogiannis from Prince Henry's Institute, VIC*



*Clinical: Nguyen Nguyen from Garvan Institute of Medical Research*

## ANZBMS TRAVEL GRANTS 2010

The new criteria is listed below

Eligibility criteria:

- The applicant must be a financial member of ANZBMS for the past 12 months (or provide documentary evidence of the commencement date of employment or candidature if this has occurred within the past 12 months)
- The applicant must have made a substantial contribution to the work and be first and presenting author of the paper to be delivered at the ANZBMS Annual Scientific Meeting.
- The applicant must be employed at a level no higher than lecturer or Institutional Research Fellow.
- The supervisor must be a financial member of ANZBMS.

## OSTEOPOROSIS AUSTRALIA

Many of you will know that Judy Stenmark, the founder CEO of OA, has been poached by the International Osteoporosis Foundation and is now set up in Geneva. Judy's sterling efforts to get OA off the ground and to build up the Joint ANZBMS/OA Research Fund are greatly appreciated by all. OA now has a new CEO, Rosanna Martinello, who comes to OA from a mainly corporate background, but with experience on health boards and a not-for-profit organization relating to breast cancer. As for many organizations, the economic climate has made finances difficult for OA as well, so that new sources of funding are being sought and no doubt some belt-tightening will be in order. A strategy day will be held in late May in order to work out directions in relation to support, government projects and the joint research fund.

**Professor Rebecca Mason**

ANZBMS  
GRATEFULLY  
ACKNOWLEDGES:

Amgen

Eli Lilly Australia

Hologic

Immuno

Key Pharmaceuticals

Medtel

Merck Sharp & Dohme  
(Australia)

Novartis Pharmaceuticals

Reckitt Benckiser

Sanofi-Aventis

Servier Laboratories

Surgical Synergies

Thomson Scientific Instruments

Wyeth

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## THERAPEUTICS SUBCOMMITTEE

Members of the Therapeutics Subcommittee have been involved in a number of matters of interest to the members.

These include discussions with the National Prescribing Service in regard to RADAR documents on various agents for osteoporosis.

We have assisted the Federal Government's Drug Utilization Subcommittee in regard to potential reasons for the apparent lower than expected uptake of BMD testing and drug therapy in patients older than 70 years with low BMD and possible barriers to treatment.

ANZBMS has been asked by the RACP to assist with their PBAC/Therapeutics project by providing nominations of bone clinicians who can be contacted to deliver clinical assessments for the PBAC.

We have also been asked to provide comments on the proposed PBS indications for cinacalcet in the treatment of primary hyperparathyroidism.

Finally with the assistance of Peter Ebeling, we have made a submission to the Senate Select Committee on Men's Health in regard to male osteoporosis.

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## ASM 2010 ADELAIDE

The 2010 Annual Scientific Meeting of the ANZBMS will be held in Adelaide from Sunday 5th to Wednesday 8th September. The venue will be the Adelaide Hilton. Lara Birchby (the [meeting] people pty ltd) has been appointed the Professional Conference Organiser for the meeting, and the Local Organising Committee will shortly begin working with Lara on detailed planning for the meeting.

The LOC Chairperson is David Findlay, who is very happy to receive ideas for the meeting from ANZBMS members. I encourage all members to prioritise attendance at and involvement in the 2010 ASM in Adelaide

**Professor David Findlay** (Chair, 2010 ASM LOC)



# REMINDER TO PAY YOUR SUBSCRIPTION DUES

**ANZBMS membership subscriptions are now due.** Please ensure that the Secretariat has all the correct mailing and contact details, particularly email addresses, as we rely on these to maintain contact with you and keep you informed of ANZBMS activities.

Membership to the ANZBMS permits access to all meetings, obtaining membership registration, opportunity to apply for the various ANZBMS awards/Travel Grants and the ANZBMS newsletter. You may find it more convenient to use the online Annual subscription renewal form and secure credit card payment gateway.

The screenshot shows the ANZBMS website's membership page. At the top, it says "Australian & New Zealand BONE & MINERAL SOCIETY". Below this is a navigation menu with "MEMBERSHIP" highlighted. The main heading is "Join ANZBMS". Under "Eligibility", it states that anyone with a major interest in bone and mineral metabolism is eligible. A table lists "Annual Membership Fees": Full members (\$110.00), Overseas members (\$100.00), Student members (\$38.50), Overseas Student members (\$25.00), and 3 years for Retired members (\$33.00). A sidebar on the right lists "Advantages of Membership to the ANZBMS", including attendance at meetings, access to travel grants, and awards. At the bottom, there is a link to download the membership application form.

Membership Type	Annual Fee
Full members	\$110.00
Overseas members	\$100.00
Student members	\$38.50
Overseas Student members	\$25.00
3 years for Retired members	\$33.00

## ANZBMS COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

The new ANZBMS Council's term (2009-2011) will commence at the Annual General Meeting. The new President for this 2 year term will be Professor Rebecca Mason. Nominations are needed for President-Elect and a new council.

**The nomination form is included in this newsletter. Deadline 30th June 2009**

## ANZBMS PROFESSIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT

Development of the National Musculoskeletal Diseases Core Competency Project is well underway and efforts to incorporate the curriculum into undergraduate teaching are soon to begin. A curriculum conference is planned for early June and ANZBMS has been asked to provide input into the final version of project. The current working documents can be viewed on the AMSEC (Australian Musculoskeletal Education Competencies) website: [www.amsec.org.au](http://www.amsec.org.au) and any comments should be fed back to Assoc Prof Mark Kotowicz who is representing the society at the curriculum conference.

The Specialty Advisory Committee in Endocrinology is preparing to progress the curriculum for physician training in Endocrinology that will include the metabolic bone diseases component for trainees. An early draft of this curriculum is being circulated to Council for comment.

The Advanced Trainees in Endocrinology are keen to learn about research opportunities that members of the society might be able to offer them. This might include short-term projects suitable for a single year of Advanced Training to projects that might lead to a higher degree. The Trainees are keen to develop a register of projects that they might consult as they plan their career development. An email was circulated to all members at the end of last year and again at the beginning of this year and I urge those that have suitable projects to advise the Advanced Trainee Representative Dr Elif Ekinci or Sara Patterson about these opportunities.

**Associate Professor Mark Kotowicz**

## 2009 ANZBMS CLINICAL BONE DENSITOMETRY TRAINING COURSE

Osteoporosis New Zealand will be hosting the ANZBMS Clinical Bone Densitometry Training Course at the Brentwood Hotel, Kilbirnie, in Wellington, New Zealand.

This clinical densitometry course is intended for both practitioners and technologists and covers the patho-physiology of osteoporosis, as well as the principles and practice of bone density and body composition measurement.

### **You should consider the course if:**

- you have tertiary education in a science based course, including nursing, and you have not previously received formal training for bone densitometry
- you are currently a DXA operator who has not undertaken formal training or who is seeking an advanced update of their work practices
- you are a medical specialist with responsibility for bone density testing and are seeking deeper knowledge of the technological and quality assurance aspects of bone densitometry measurements and reporting.

### **Course Structure:**

- participants are provided with a CD of the lecture material approximately one month prior to the commencement of the course, and are required to read through all the material over the subsequent 4 weeks
- participants attend a two day lecture series, which will include two interactive workshops where small groups work with an experienced technologist utilizing hands on computing training
- a written examination will be held two weeks after completion of the lecture series
- upon completion of the course and achievement of a pass mark in the examination, participants will be awarded a Certificate of Completion in Clinical Bone Densitometry, which satisfies the licencing requirements of radiation safety legislation in most Australian states for DXA operators.

Please contact Julia on +64 (0)4 499 4862 for more information and registration or visit the ANZBMS Clinical Densitometry Course web page <http://www.anzbms.org.au/densitometryCourse/index.htm>

# ANZBMS CLINICAL BONE DENSITOMETRY COMMITTEE REPORT

## **Future Courses**

The ANZBMS/IOF Joint Clinical Bone Densitometry Course was held on 20-21 March at St Vincent's Hospital and at the Garvan Institute, Sydney. There were 58 registrants. The IOF was represented on the faculty by Dr Marius Kraenzlin, who gave the Keynote Lecture as well as a lecture on lateral vertebral assessment. This excellent collaboration augers well for future cooperation on such events between ANZBMS and IOF. In collaboration with Osteoporosis NZ, and relying heavily on a Kiwi faculty the ANZBMS "roadshow" will run a Course in Wellington on 6-7 June 2009. Later in the year, another (ANZBMS only) Course will be run in Adelaide. Nick Pocock and Chris Schultz have been invited to join a faculty constructed by the Irish Osteoporosis Society, in order to deliver a Course there later this year. Appropriate acknowledgments will be made to ANZBMS material input. See the ANZBMS website for updates on these events.

## **Site Accreditation (non-Radiology, non-Nuclear Medicine)**

After much debate, and a "trial run" of a prototype accreditation process at a major Victorian densitometry centre, followed by a degree of "soul-searching", it was decided to approach an established accrediting organisation, to "scope" what sort of package for voluntary submission to site accreditation assessment they could come up with. This has been driven by Nick Pocock and Michael Hooper. Negotiations have been extremely encouraging. The concern about a 'within-ANZBMS' accreditation process had centred on issues such as; (i) public liability, arising from possible disputes about accreditation outcomes, even though the process may have been entered into voluntarily; (ii) perception of conflict of interest; (iii) resources; significant and fairly specific 'in-house' resources would be needed. (iv) Mechanics. Clearly, accrediting organizations are set up for such a process and for any ongoing auditing, in ways that ANZBMS would otherwise need to painstakingly re-invent.

The proposed model would consist of ANZBMS doing most of the quantitative "legwork" in terms of the technical processes of accreditation documentation. Though the proposed cost might concern some of the smaller operators, it is extremely encouraging compared with analogous accreditations in the health sector, given the scope of the investigation required to assess the site. The possibility of Federal Government support (given the benefit flowing to the industry), will be canvassed.

## **Materials support**

Two low-cost laptops have been purchased for the Workshops, to augment resources provided by faculty members themselves. This has some advantages because each laptop can then be loaded with software and other proprietary aids from multiple manufacturers - recalling that three separate (manufacturer-specific) Workshops are run simultaneously in the Courses. That said, ongoing support from the manufacturers (Inderlec/Norland in particular) is very much appreciated. As service delivery becomes more complex (and international), it is hoped to increase the suite of 'in-house' technology.

## **Thanks**

Though one should probably be wary of picking out individuals from a faculty for special mention... Chris Schultz deserves recognition for the substantial work that he has done, both on his own lectures and on the electronic presentation of teaching material - in the form of 'flash formats' on individual USB drives. This, surely, is "state of the art", and informs the quality of the Course in other areas as well. Nick Pocock worked tirelessly at various levels as the host of the Sydney Course (at his alma mater), for what was one of our largest classes ever. Faculty member Bev White and her "computer-literate" partner David Walton (also an excellent sailor - to be commended for that as well!) did the 'hard yards' for the laptops.

**Associate Professor Roger Price,  
on behalf of the Committee**

# DATES FOR THE DIARY

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## 2009

**6th-7th June**  
**ANZBMS/Osteoporosis New Zealand Clinical Densitometry Training course**  
Wellington, New Zealand  
Web: <http://anzbms.org.au/densitometryCourse/index.htm>

**10th-13th June 2009**  
**ENDO 2009**  
Washington DC, USA  
Web: <http://www.endo-society.org/meetings/Annual/index.cfm>

**21st-23rd August 2009**  
**ESA Clinical Weekend**  
Barossa Novotel Resort  
[www.esaclinicalweekend.org.au](http://www.esaclinicalweekend.org.au)

**23-26th August 2009**  
**ESA/SRB ASM**  
Adelaide Convention Centre  
Website: [www.esa-srb.org.au](http://www.esa-srb.org.au)

**26th-28th August 2009**  
**ADS/ADEA ASM**  
Adelaide Convention Centre  
Website [www.ads-adea.org.au](http://www.ads-adea.org.au)

**11-15th September 2009**  
**ASBMR 31st Annual Meeting**  
Colorado Convention Center  
Denver, Colorado, USA  
Website: <http://www.asbmr.org/meeting/meetingsindex.cfm>

**4th-8th October 2009**  
**Vitamin D Workshop**  
Brugge, Belgium  
Website: <http://vitamind.ucr.edu:80/workshop.html>

## 2010

**29th August-1st September 2010**  
**ESA/SRB ASM**  
Sydney Convention Centre  
Website: [www.esa-srb.org.au](http://www.esa-srb.org.au)

**5th-8th September 2010**  
**ANZBMS Annual Scientific Meeting**  
Adelaide Hilton, South Australia  
Web: [www.anzbms.org.au](http://www.anzbms.org.au)

*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.*