

President's Report



Dear ASCIA members

Thank you to all members who participated in the recent ASCIA Annual Scientific Meeting on the Gold Coast, which was a really successful meeting. We are extremely grateful to the local organising

committee chaired by Jane Peake, all the speakers and our sponsors for their continuing support.

For those members who were unable to attend the Annual General Meeting on 10 September 2004, the following are highlights of this meeting, further to information in the outgoing President's Report in this newsletter.

1. The financial situation of ASCIA is very sound and a summary of the latest audited financial statements is included in this newsletter. I extend a special thank you to Stephen Adelstein for his role as Treasurer for the past 8 years and welcome Jo Douglass to this role.
2. Two ASCIA grants from the ICACI 2000 proceeds have been awarded to ASCIA members for 2004. Details of these, and the process involved in making the awards, are also included in this newsletter.
3. Plans are well advanced for the 2005 ASCIA Annual Scientific Meeting in Queenstown. Details of this meeting are included in this newsletter and on the ASCIA website.
4. The ASCIA Annual Scientific Meeting will be held in the Hunter Valley (NSW) in 2006 and in Western Australia in 2007.
5. ASCIA representatives from Perth, Western Australia have expressed their interest in hosting a future World Allergy Organisation (WAO) international congress, in response to a letter sent to ASCIA from the WAO.

6. Further to the questionnaire sent out by the ASCIA Anaphylaxis Working Party on the PBS listing of EpiPen, at the AGM it was resolved that they would make requests to the PBAC for extensions to the current listing.
7. A new initiative to raise the profile of allergy and immunology as a career option for medical students has been realised with the awarding of annual grants to sponsor option or elective terms for medical students.
8. Finally I would like to thank the outgoing members of Council for their service to ASCIA over the past two years and welcome the following new Council members:
 - Dominic Mallon (President Elect)
 - Jo Douglass (Treasurer)
 - Tiffany Hughes (WA)
 - Jo Smart (VIC)
 - Patrick Quinn (SA)
 - Deryn Thompson (Associate)

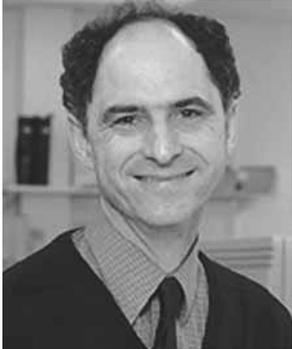
Best wishes for the festive season and 2005.

Karl Baumgart
ASCIA President

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■ Outgoing President's Report 2004



DAVID GILLIS

It is with pleasure and sadness that I submit my final report as President of ASCIA. Over the past two years I believe there have been several achievements made for ASCIA and the disciplines of clinical immunology and

allergy in general. Thank you to all the ASCIA members who have contributed to these achievements, which include:

ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

Congratulations to Jane Peake and her local committee for organising the highly successful 2004 ASCIA ASM.

DEVELOPMENT OF A PRIMARY IMMUNE DEFICIENCY REGISTER

The web based PID register was launched in October 2003.

IMPLEMENTATION OF A NEW STRATEGIC PLAN FOR ASCIA

The objectives of the plan (which was introduced in late 2003) are to:

- develop and further enhance the position of ASCIA as a leading authority in allergy, asthma and immune diseases
- utilise (expend and/or invest) the proceeds from ICACI 2000 in the most beneficial way for the discipline and ASCIA members.

Many of the activities proposed to achieve these objectives and strategies have already been implemented, as detailed in the rest of this report.

INVESTMENT AND GRANT ALLOCATION STRATEGIES FOR ICACI FUNDS

An investment strategy has been developed with Macquarie Bank and a system for the awarding of annual grants for members *and* medical students (from the ICACI funds) has now been established.

INTEREST GROUPS AND WORKING PARTIES

These groups have developed position papers and guidelines which have been or are in the process of being published:

- ASCIA Anaphylaxis working party - EpiPen Prescription, Anaphylaxis in schools guidelines and Anaphylaxis Action Plans.
- ASCIA Paediatric interest group - Allergy prevention guidelines.
- ASCIA Clinical & Laboratory Practice committee - Skin Prick Testing position paper.
- ASCIA Education committee – Unorthodox allergy tests.

These groups are also in the process of developing:

- educational materials for first aid trainers (ASCIA Anaphylaxis working party)
- educational seminars / workshops for health professionals – these are being planned for 2005, including the topics of skin prick testing and anaphylaxis.

WEBSITE AND EDUCATION RESOURCES

Several article and website updates have been made and this is reflected in the continuing increase in website visitors, requests for information and a high level of sponsorship. New materials on the website (highlighted to the press via media releases) and the introduction of the annual ASCIA media awards have resulted in the continuing increase in media coverage.

INTERACTIONS WITH GOVERNMENTS AND OTHER NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Links to relevant commonwealth and state government departments and other organisations have been further developed:

- Meetings and correspondence with TGA, Qld Health, Commonwealth government advisors and ministers.
- Representation on national asthma organisations – ASCIA now has representatives on both the National Asthma Council (NAC) and the National Asthma Reference Group (NARG).
- National Prescribing Service (NPS) - regarding guidelines for prescription of EpiPen.
- Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) – assistance in the development of reports regarding food allergen labelling and food additives.
- ASCIA symposia at other professional meetings (ASI, ASMR) have been supported in 2004 and a session is proposed for the 2005 RACP meeting.

TRAINEE BROCHURE

A new ASCIA brochure has been produced, profiling Clinical Immunology and Allergy training to approximately 500 Physician trainees in Australia each year, to assist in recruitment of advanced trainees.

MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTERS

The implementation of these since March 2003 has enabled more expedient communication of issues to members. The annual printed newsletter has also been retained.

PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS SCHEME (PBS) LISTINGS

- **EpiPen** - the November 2003 PBS listing of EpiPen has been widely accepted as a huge advantage for patients. Fortunately the process for authorization has not been as difficult a process for prescribers as originally anticipated. It has also raised the profile of ASCIA.
- **TNF Inhibitors** – this listing was amended to include "clinical immunologists specialising in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis" in the authority wording.

As well as achievements there are some important challenges that persist and/or lie ahead for ASCIA, including:

THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION (TGA) REGISTRATION OF ALLERGEN EXTRACTS FOR IMMUNOTHERAPY

This has proven to be a prolonged process, with an outcome expected at the end of 2004. ASCIA is trying to assist in this process by providing some local efficacy and safety data.

TRAINING ISSUES

- manpower shortage (particularly in clinical allergy)
- integration of different areas
- appropriate training in all areas
- adequate exposure to all areas (including HIV)
- minimum requirement (but not too hard so that it discourages basic trainees).

SKIN PRICK TESTING

A workshop is planned for the New Zealand meeting.

ALLERGY/ IMMUNOLOGY NURSE TRAINING

This has received in principle support by the ASCIA Council. Discussions are at an advanced level with the University of SA regarding a nurses' allergy course.

CONCLUDING COMMENTS

I would like to welcome all new members of ASCIA to our society, which continues to be a strong, productive and dynamic organization.

I would like to extend my gratitude to all ASCIA Council members and in particular my fellow members of the Executive and Jill Smith for their valuable input regarding the issues that have arisen over the past year.

■ From the Editor



SHERYL VAN NUNEN

Welcome to issue number 33 of the ASCIA Newsletter. As you may have noticed, the title now includes **Annual Update** as this printed newsletter is supplemented by monthly ASCIA e-newsletters, the **ASCIA News Updates**.

This more regular mode of communication should keep members up to date and saves considerable time and paper.

All of the monthly e-newsletters, as well as the most recent printed newsletters are archived on the ASCIA website for members to view at any time.

Material should be submitted for the monthly and annual newsletters as a word document by email to Jill Smith (Executive Officer) at education@allergy.org.au

■ Outgoing Treasurer's Report



STEPHEN ADELSTEIN

The auditor's report for the year ended 30 June 2004 was finalised in time for the ASCIA AGM on 10 September 2004.

A summary of the Financial Reports from the audit for the year ended 30 June 2004 is as follows:

	Current Year \$'000	Previous Year \$'000
Operating Statement		
Revenues	454*	360
Expenses	355**	338
Net Profit	99	22
Financial Position		
Current Assets	224	1,235
Non-Current Assets	1,124***	36
Current Liabilities	57	79
Funds Introduced	805	805
Retained Profit	487	387
Equity (Net Assets)	1,292	1,192

* The main revenue in the current year was derived from sponsorship of the website and ASCIA Education Resources (\$130,000), Interest (\$51,000) and profit from the annual meeting (\$39,000).

** The main expenses in the current year were incurred by ASCIA Education Resources project management (\$52,000) and Printing (\$35,000).

*** An investment strategy has been developed with Macquarie Bank, and funds were transferred in late May 2004. This is reflected in the increase in Non-Current Assets in the financial statement. These funds have increased in value in the first 4 months by over 3%, equivalent to a 12% per annum increase.

ICACI FUND ALLOCATION

A system for the awarding of annual grants for members *and* medical students (from the ICACI 2000 funds) has now been established. The ASCIA member award winners were announced at the 2004 ASCIA AGM. The annual medical student grants of \$5000 will be announced in late 2004.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

To have a more equitable distribution of fees, in 2005 Associate fees for medical practitioners (apart from trainees and PhD students) will be increased from \$88.00 to \$110.00 per annum.

The Associate membership fee (for other health professionals, PhD students and trainees) shall remain at \$88.00 per annum.

There has been a problem in 2004 with late payment of membership fees. At the time of audit we had only received \$26,000 out of a total of \$40,000. As the Tax Invoice was sent in the same envelope as the annual printed newsletter this may account for invoices being mislaid.

In 2005 the Tax Invoices will be sent out in January in separate envelopes. Payment will be due by the end of February 2005 and any late payments will be more strictly monitored than previously.

JOURNAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Earlier this year we looked into ASCIA subscribing to relevant journals electronically for its members. However this proved very expensive if we were to have access to many journals. As most members seem to already have access to these journals the expense could not be justified.

CONCLUDING COMMENTS

Thank you to the fellow members of Council and other members for their support over the years.

Management of the finances of ASCIA has become considerably more complex since the introduction of GST in the year 2000. For this reason I am pleased that the proposal for the appointment of an Executive Officer was accepted and implemented by the previous ASCIA Council. I thank Jill Smith for her work in this role.

I wish you all well for the future and welcome Jo Douglass to the role of ASCIA Treasurer.

Executive Officer's Report



JILL SMITH

The past year has been yet another eventful and productive one for ASCIA. Further to the achievements and challenges outlined in the President's and outgoing President's report the following is a summary of the highlights of the past year.

SPONSORSHIP UPDATE

The current list of ASCIA sponsors is as follows:

PLATINUM:

- SCHERING PLOUGH
- UCB

GOLD:

- ASTRA ZENECA
- CSL
- NESTLE
- NUTRICIA
- NOVARTIS

SILVER:

- ALCON
- RICHARD THOMSON PTY LTD
- AUSTRALIAN LABORATORY SERVICES PTY LTD

In total these sponsors contribute approximately \$100,000 to ASCIA Education Resources and the ASCIA website, in addition to their sponsorship of local and national ASCIA meetings.

During 2004 NUTRICIA increased their level of ASCIA sponsorship from Silver to Gold and ALCON increased their level of ASCIA sponsorship from Bronze to Silver.

PUBLICITY

The ASCIA Guidelines for prevention of food anaphylactic reactions in schools, preschools and childcare centres have generated an enormous amount of publicity including television segments on morning shows, several newspaper articles, GP publication articles, internet services such as Medeserv Intouch program and many radio programs.

The announcement of the ASCIA media awards has also generated a great deal of interest from the press.

In the last quarter of 2004 a large number of articles on allergy (featuring the ASCIA website address) have been published in newspapers, private medical benefit fund publications, GP newspapers, pharmacy journals and magazines.

ASCIA EDUCATION RESOURCES

A summary of new articles can be found in the Education committee report in this newsletter.

ASCIA AWARDS AND GRANTS

Application forms have been posted on the ASCIA webpage:

<http://www.allergy.org.au/awards/index.htm> for:

- ASCIA Grants for members
- ASCIA Grants for medical students
- ASCIA Media awards (to encourage outstanding medical/health reporting on allergic diseases (such as rhinitis, asthma and anaphylaxis) or other immune diseases (such as primary immunodeficiencies and autoimmune diseases).

Awards for trainees and advanced trainees will shortly be added to this list on the website.

The recipients of the awards already presented can be found in this newsletter.

ASCIA WEBSITE

The ASCIA website is continually reviewed and upgraded every week.

For example, the index list on the left hand side of the website has been recently updated and items have now been placed in alphabetical order for easier access. New items are:

- ASCIA awards and grants
- Anaphylaxis resources
- ASCIA Committees
- ASCIA Education Resources
- Trainee information

A further upgrading of the website will result in a simplification of the website homepage and possibly some new pictures. In the meantime it is important to ensure that the information on the website is kept up to date (this could be a full time task in itself)!

The number of visitors to the ASCIA website continues to steadily increase, and as at the end of the 2nd quarter of 2004, the statistics are as follows:

- number of hits per day: 16,713
- page impressions per day: 1,135
- unique visitors per month: 8,868

This is approximately 8 times the usage when compared to the 1st quarter of 2001:

- number of hits per day: 2,108
- page impressions per day: 135
- unique visitors per month: 1,209

ASCIA NEWSLETTERS

It is anticipated that the printed "ASCIA ANNUAL UPDATE" newsletter will be distributed to ASCIA members at the end of each year.

In the meantime the monthly e-newsletters are available on the website
<http://www.allergy.org.au/newsletter/index.htm>

This form of communication has received very positive feedback from members and resulted in significantly lower costs and paper wastage!

IMPLEMENTATION OF A NEW STRATEGIC PLAN FOR ASCIA

As stated in the President's report, many of the activities proposed to achieve these objectives and strategies have already been implemented. As Executive Officer one of the main challenges over the next year is to continue to be of support to all ASCIA members involved in the implementation of this plan.

ASCIA MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK

The 2005 ASCIA membership handbook will be published in early 2005, to include all the new ASCIA members and Council.

Thank you to all members who have updated their details with their annual membership fee payment.

If your qualifications have changed since you applied for ASCIA membership could you please inform us ASAP by emailing education@allergy.org.au. In particular, if you have now completed your advanced training in clinical immunology and allergy, you are now eligible to update to Full ASCIA membership. Your updated qualifications and contact details should be noted on an ASCIA application form, which is available on the ASCIA website <http://www.allergy.org.au/register/index.htm> and sent to PO Box 450 Balgowlah NSW 2093.

I would like to extend my best wishes to all ASCIA members and supporters for 2005.

■ Annual Scientific Meetings ASCIA ASM 2004 Gold Coast, Queensland



JANE PEAKE

Thank you to everyone involved in the ASCIA ASM 2004.

It appears to have been a great success and we have received extremely positive feedback from participants, exhibitors and sponsors.

In summary we had:

- 158 registrants for the main meeting
- 90 registrants for the satellite meeting
- very well attended presentations
- a WAO sponsored GLORIA symposium
- 22 exhibitors
- 2 Platinum sponsors
- 5 Gold sponsors.

On the social program we have had tremendous feedback on the:

- welcome reception at Sea World
- dinner at The Marriott and in particular our guest dinner speaker, Professor Bob Milns
- satellite meeting dinner.

On behalf of ASCIA thank you to

- our many local speakers
- the three international speakers:
 Professor Jean-Laurent Casanova
 Professor Stephen Durham
 Professor John Harper
- our dermatology colleagues for joining us at the satellite meeting
- the conference organisers Worldwide Conference Professionals and in particular Georgie Jorgensen
- my colleagues on the local organising committee for all their hard work and support:
 David Heyworth-Smith, Patrick Hogan, Peter Smith
 Tracey Stranger, Graham Solley, Richard Wong.

ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING AWARDS

Congratulations to the winners of the best Clinical Grand Round and Poster Presentations at the ASM 2004:

Clinical Grand rounds: Richard Nolan
 Poster Presentation: Stephanie Weston and Janet Davies

ASCIA ASM 2005 QUEENSTOWN NEW ZEALAND 31 AUGUST – 4 SEPT 2005



ROHAN AMERATUNGA

On behalf of the Australasian Society for Clinical Immunology and Allergy, I invite you to participate in the ASCIA Annual Scientific Meeting 2005 to be held in Queenstown, New Zealand. The Organising Committee has worked hard to

produce a quality program which will cover most areas of clinical and diagnostic laboratory immunology.

The theme for this Meeting is excellence in clinical and laboratory immunology and will be divided into two sections:

- ASCIA 2005 meeting which will run from 31 Aug – 2 Sept 2005
- Queenstown Immunopathology Program (QIP 2005) on 3-4 Sept 2005 (weekend).

The meetings are being held sequentially in order to allow delegates to attend both programs.

Clinical Immunologists and Scientists in Australasia have traditionally been a close knit community and the annual ASCIA Meeting provides the opportunity for the enhancement of professional relationships. We hope this meeting will also encourage trainees and younger members to participate in collaborative studies.

We have invited a faculty of outstanding clinical and

laboratory scientists who are leaders in their fields as speakers and expect their insights will enhance clinical and laboratory practice.

The emphasis in the first part of the conference will be on clinical practice, while the Immunopathology meeting will cover many aspects of diagnostic laboratory practice including allergy, primary immunodeficiency and autoimmunity.

The ASCIA 2005 committee has chosen Queenstown for its international reputation as a beautiful resort town. Queenstown is a world renowned skiing resort and in addition has many other outdoor facilities including hiking, jetboating, bungy jumping, etc. We would encourage delegates to attend with their families and spend some time either before or after the Meetings exploring this part of New Zealand.



Millennium Hotel, Queenstown



INTERNATIONAL SPEAKERS

Marvin Fritzler MD PhD

Professor Marvin Fritzler is a world renowned expert in autoimmune serology. He has identified many of the antigens observed in antinuclear antibody tests. He will be providing both clinical and laboratory updates in autoimmunity.

Luigi D Notarangelo MD

Professor Luigi Notarangelo is Professor of Paediatrics at the Children's Hospital, University of Brescia, Italy. He has actively contributed to the characterization of the molecular basis of several genetic diseases. Professor Notarangelo is the author of over 300 scientific papers on peer-reviewed international Journals and has been President of the European Society for Immune Deficiency since 2002.

Hans Ochs MD

Dr. Hans Ochs is Professor of Pediatrics, University of Washington, Seattle. He has devoted his research activities to the study of Primary Immune Deficiency Disorders (PIDD). Dr Ochs is regarded as one of the world's leading authorities in the field of primary immune deficiency disorders.

Thomas Platts-Mills MD PhD

The studies in Professor Platts-Mills laboratory are directed to understanding the role that immune responses to foreign proteins play in the common allergic diseases: asthma, rhinitis and atopic dermatitis. He is an international authority in allergic diseases which affect children.

Hugh A Sampson MD

Professor Hugh A. Sampson is Professor of Pediatrics and Immunobiology at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine. He is regarded as the foremost expert in food allergy in the world and was recently elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Science.

Jerry Winkelstein MD

Professor Jerry Winkelstein is head of Paediatric Immunology at Johns Hopkins University Medical School. He is a world authority in complement deficiency disorders and in primary immune deficiency disorders of childhood.

Marylin Winkelstein PhD

Dr Marylin Winkelstein is on the nursing faculty at Johns Hopkins University Medical School. She has expertise in nursing aspects of chronic disease.

MILLENNIUM HOTEL QUEENSTOWN

The Millennium Hotel is the conference venue. Situated on a hill overlooking the lake, the hotel is an easy 5-10 minute walk from the central shopping area.

This 4 star plus hotel features an elegant foyer, a courtyard garden, the Observatory restaurant and bar and facilities include a gym, sauna and spa.

KEY DATES

Deadline for receipt of abstracts: July 2005

Registration information available: March 2005

Earlybird Deadline: 30 June 2005

FURTHER INFORMATION

If you have any queries about the Meeting arrangements please contact:

The Conference Company Ltd
PO Box 90-040 Auckland, New Zealand
Ph: +64 9 360 1240, Fax: +64 9 360 1242
Email: ascia2005@tcc.co.nz

ASCIA ASM 2006 Hunter Valley, NSW 7- 10 September 2006

The Cypress Lakes Resort in the Hunter Valley has been chosen as the venue for this meeting which is intended to run from Thursday 7 September to Sunday 10 September.

We plan to have some multidisciplinary sessions with other specialists and an adjacent GP program will be run on one day.



Cypress Lakes Conference Centre and Resort



■ ASCIA Area Representatives

ASCIA area representatives are Full members of the ASCIA Council and usually serve a two year term, unless otherwise indicated.

Their role is to:

- represent ASCIA members from the designated area at Council level
- liaise with local authorities, organisations and media
- respond to inquiries relating to areas of professional expertise of ASCIA members
- organise regular educational and/or social meetings of ASCIA members in their area. (An informal committee may be formed in each area to provide assistance to the area representative)
- participate in all ASCIA Council meetings, where possible
- provide a report for each Council meeting.

ASCIA Area Representatives 2005 - 2006



NEW ZEALAND
Associate Professor
Rohan Ameratunga



NEW SOUTH WALES
Dr Louise Evans



SOUTH AUSTRALIA
Dr Patrick Quinn



QUEENSLAND
Dr Jane Peake



VICTORIA
Dr Jo Smart



WESTERN AUSTRALIA
Dr Tiffany Hughes

■ ASCIA Committees & Working Party Reports

ANAPHYLAXIS WORKING PARTY (AWP)



MIKE GOLD



ROB LOBLAY

NEW POSITION PAPER

The main achievement for 2004 has been the development of the **ASCIA Guidelines for prevention of food anaphylactic reactions in schools, preschools and childcare centres.**

This was developed by a subcommittee (chaired by Andrew Kemp) of the ASCIA Anaphylaxis Working Party (AWP). The document is now on the ASCIA website as an html document

<http://www.allergy.org.au/pospapers/anaphylaxis.htm> as well as a pdf (printer friendly) document. The paper has been accepted without alteration for publication in the Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health.

EPIPEN QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

Results from the ASCIA EpiPen prescription questionnaires have been discussed at the ASCIA AGM. It was resolved that ASCIA would make requests to the PBAC for extensions to the current listing, to increase the number of EpiPens for patients >17 years to two and extend the prescribing to emergency physicians.

OTHER PRIORITIES FOR THE ASCIA AWP

- publication of prescription guidelines
- obtain feedback from current ASCIA and other action plans (eg RPAH version)

- development of Action plans for non-anaphylactic reactions
- development of training material for first aid trainers and health professionals (incorporating current materials such as Action plans, brochures on Anaphylaxis for patients and health professionals, school and prescription guidelines
- development of an Anaphylaxis register.

UPDATED EPIPEN LABELLING

CSL (John Popa) has advised that they managed to convince CSL's medical and regulatory departments to change the recommended method of administration. The new recommendation which will come into effect around early next year is "Press black tip HARD into outer thigh".

This is more consistent with the ASCIA recommendation. They are very appreciative of the input from ASCIA on this matter, which has helped to achieve this outcome.

ASCIA ANAPHYLAXIS WORKING PARTY MEMBERSHIP

Chairs:

- Dr Mike Gold (SA)
- Dr Rob Loblay (NSW)

Members (alphabetical order):

- Dr Karl Baumgart (NSW)
- Dr Simon Brown (WA)
- Prof Andrew Kemp (NSW)
- Dr Richard Loh (WA)
- A/Prof Raymond Mullins (ACT)
- Dr Jane Peake (QLD)
- Dr John Ruhno (NSW)
- Dr Jan Sinclair (NZ)
- Mrs Maria Said (NSW)
- Dr Victoria Smith (TAS)
- Dr William Smith (SA)
- Dr Graham Solley (QLD)
- Dr Velencia Soutter (NSW)
- A/Prof Mimi Tang (VIC)
- Ms Leone Thiele (VIC)
- A/Prof John Ziegler (NSW)

Thank you to all members for their commitment to the AWP.

ASSOCIATE REPRESENTATIVE



DERYN THOMPSON

The Nurses' Day held on Wednesday, September 8th at the ASCIA meeting on the Gold Coast, was highly successful. The guest speaker, Dr Elizabeth Patterson, gave a splendid talk on how vital Primary Health Care is and how nurses are pivotal to its implementation.

It was immediately obvious to all present that allergy nursing should be in the vanguard of this important change in healthcare delivery.

Current and future directions of nursing and nurse education were also discussed. It prompted much discussion and gave us plenty of food for thought.

All nurses attending were able to exchange valuable professional information and all believe the Nurses' days at the ASCIA annual meetings are an important part of our professional development.

The inaugural poster competition attracted a very high calibre of work from all entrants. Carol Jones, from Hunter Area Health Service, presentation of 'Anaphylaxis- from presentation to follow up' was judged the winner.

Thank you to all nurses attending, and thank you to all ASCIA members present at the meeting, who took the time to fill in the questionnaire about the proposed 'Allergy Nurses' Course'. These will be forwarded to The University of South Australia, for the next stage in the feasibility study.

We believe such a course would be a valuable addition to nurses' professional development, as, like it or not, more practices, outside of the allergy fraternity are performing skin prick testing for aero-allergens. If the nurses working in these clinics, and perhaps performing the tests, have been trained appropriately by those with experience in the allergy field and are aware of the ramifications and safety measures involved with such testing, better quality of care can result. Some allergy

specialists can relate very worrying stories of testing and subsequent immunotherapy carried out, under conditions ASCIA members would not be happy about. These nurses would also be accredited to know when patients should be referred to the specialist!! Accredited nurses would not be able to perform testing under inappropriate guidelines.

The nurses look forward to next year's meeting. Any nurses (or doctors) with suggestions for the nurses' programme can contact Pauline Brown on PaulineB@adhb.govt.nz

Nurses within Australia and New Zealand will be regularly in touch via email throughout the coming year.

South Australian allergy nurses continue to meet for bi-monthly education meetings to enhance their professional development and displaying their commitment to their profession. The meetings are well attended by both private practice and hospital nurses.

JSAC

RICHARD WONG

From November 2004, I have taken over from Dr David Fulcher as the Co-ordinator of the JSAC for Clinical Immunology and Allergy. I have already been on JSAC for 2 years as the RCPA representative and will be attempting to contact all current trainees by early 2005 to identify areas of concern. The JSAC faces a challenging time ahead with the development of a specific curriculum for Clinical Immunology and Allergy training, as part of the new education strategy introduced by the RACP for its accreditation by the AMC. Other issues under discussion include rural training and training in private practice.

CLINICAL AND LABORATORY PRACTICES COMMITTEE



WILLIAM SMITH

The main CLPC issues over the past year include:

FSANZ INPUT

We have assisted Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) in the development of reports regarding food allergen labelling and food additives.

SKIN TESTING POSITION PAPER

A brief skin testing position paper is now available on the ASCIA website. Guidelines will be more detailed than the position paper. As there is a NZ ASM workshop on skin testing, the guidelines would be useful for this. The current membership of the ASCIA skin testing working party includes:

Dr William Smith (Chair)
 Dr Karl Baumgart
 Dr Bob Heddle
 Dr Michael Sutherland
 A/Prof Ron Walls

SUPPLY OF C1 INHIBITOR

CSL is now a supplier of C1 Inhibitor, as communicated electronically prior to the Annual Scientific Meeting.

ADVERSE REACTIONS TO IMMUNOTHERAPY

Although this has been discussed, an adverse reactions to Specific Allergen Immunotherapy (SIT) form has not yet been implemented.

REORGANISATION OF ROLES

ASCIA has developed enormously and the role of CLPC representative can no longer be fulfilled by one person. For this reason it is proposed that the role be split into two; one being CLINICAL and the other being LABORATORY. This should take effect in 2005.

EDUCATION



RAY MULLINS

The ASCIA Education committee has been very active in reviewing the following AER brochures, which have been updated and reprinted in 2004:

Patient brochures

- What is allergy? (Distributed by UCB)
- Common myths about allergy and asthma exposed (Distributed by UCB)
- What is causing your allergy? (Distributed by Schering Plough)
- What is hayfever? (Distributed by Schering Plough)
- Allergy and the skin (Distributed by Schering Plough)
- Allergy prevention in children (Distributed by Nestle)
- Anaphylaxis (Distributed by CSL)
- Cow's milk (dairy) allergy (Distributed by Nutricia)
- Hay Fever treatment (Distributed by Astra Zeneca)
- Immunotherapy (Distributed by Richard Thomson Pty Ltd)
- Allergic conjunctivitis (Distributed by Alcon)

Health professional documents

- Management of allergic rhinitis (Distributed by Astra Zeneca)
- Cow's milk (dairy) allergy (Distributed by Nutricia)
- ASCIA Anaphylaxis Action Plans (Distributed by CSL)
- Anaphylaxis (Distributed by CSL)

The first three issues in a series of newsletters on food allergy commissioned by Nutricia and a Dairy Australia newsletter have also been reviewed by the education committee and other ASCIA members during 2004. These documents acknowledge ASCIA and include the website address.

Two posters including ASCIA logo and information have been published:

- One is from Allergy NZ featuring the rugby union player, Kees Meeuws.
- The other is a new First Aid poster

The position paper on unorthodox tests is to be published and is now on the ASCIA website.

I look forward to the new articles which are intended to be contributed in 2005 by other committee members.

ASCIA EDUCATION COMMITTEE

A/Prof Raymond Mullins	(Chair)
A/Prof Jo Douglass	(VIC)
Dr Marianne Empson	(NZ)
Dr Carolyn Hawkins	(ACT)
Dr Richard Loh	(WA)
Dr John Ruhno	(NSW)
Dr Glenn Reeves	(NSW)
Dr Janet Rimmer	(NSW)
A/Prof Pete Smith	(QLD)
Dr William Smith	(SA)
Ms Tracey Stranger	(QLD)

Thank you to all members for their commitment to the Education committee.

GP LIAISON



VICTORIA SMITH

The PBS listing of EpiPen has been a good way of getting information to GPs and has raised the profile of allergy and anaphylaxis to GPs.

In Tasmania, as well as the rest of Australia there is still a need to have ASCIA specialists presenting to GPs.

I will be working with Jill Smith our Executive Officer to work out how we can establish links with the GP divisions throughout Australia.

IMMUNODEFICIENCY



SEAN RIMINTON



PHILIPPA KIRKPATRICK

THE PRIMARY IMMUNODEFICIENCY DISEASE REGISTER

www.immunodeficiency.org

We are excited to announce three major developments for the Register:

1. Appointment of Philippa Kirkpatrick as PID Register Project Co-ordinator

Philippa Kirkpatrick has been appointed as Primary Immunodeficiency Disease Project Co-ordinator. She has recently been employed as a scientist in the Immunology laboratory at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and has a background in cytogenetics as well as administration and project management.

Her role is to ensure maximum participation in the PID Register to meet the objectives of the Register. These are collection of data to facilitate diagnosis, treatment, research, education and quality assurance for patients with PID and their health care providers.

Her appointment will provide the Register with the human resources that have been lacking since its online launch one year ago. It is our goal to achieve over 1000 patient entries in the database within one year from now.

Philippa will liaise directly with the PID officers at each centre across Australia and New Zealand, and a network of PID Officers needs to be established. PID officers are most likely to be nurses and allied staff working with PID patients, and would be responsible for co-ordinating consent collection and entering patient data. In order to achieve high levels of participation, incentives for PID officers are being developed.

Philippa is also developing methods that can encourage and streamline data entry by PID officers, such as guides for entry of patient data, a list of frequently asked questions, notices for consulting rooms and modification of database reports to make access of information easier.

Philippa is situated at Concord Hospital and is working in close conjunction with the Primary Immunodeficiency Disease Committee, chaired by Sean Riminton. Philippa can be contacted on (02) 9767 5620, 0439 770 110 or via email ascia.pid@email.cs.nsw.gov.au. Expect to hear from her soon!

2. Ethics Approval in New Zealand

Recently Ethics approval for New Zealand participation in the Register has been granted, further expanding the scope of data collection. We are very grateful to Jan Sinclair and her New Zealand colleagues for pushing this along.

3. ASCIA ICACI 2000 Grant

Last but not least, the PID Register project was the recipient of a major grant from the ASCIA ICACI 2000 funds. We are proud and grateful to receive this grant, and look forward to delivering the objectives of the project with your help.

NBA REVIEW OF IVIG

The ASCIA PID committee was well represented at a one-day multi-state workshop sponsored by the National Blood Authority (NBA) on the future use and supply of IVIG in Australia. This appeared to come about, at least in part, in response to some pressure from the Committee to the NBA to involve clinicians in strategy development. The Committee is looking forward to the results of the NBA's deliberations in this important area of therapeutics.

ASCIA PRIMARY IMMUNE DEFICIENCY (PID) COMMITTEE

Dr Sean Riminton	(Chair)
Ms Kristine Maddock	(Secretary)
Members (alphabetical order):	
A/Prof Elizabeth Benson	(NSW)
Prof Warwick Britton	(NSW)
Dr Matthew Cook	(ACT)
Dr Marianne Empson	(NZ)
Dr David Gillis	(SA)
Dr Richard Loh	(WA)
Dr Jane Peake	(QLD)
Dr Jan Sinclair	(NZ)
Dr Joanne Smart	(VIC)
Dr Melanie Wong	(NSW)
A/Prof John Ziegler	(NSW)

PAEDIATRIC



MIMI TANG

The main activities of the ASCIA Paediatric Interest group have been as follows.

PREVENTION OF ALLERGY IN CHILDREN POSITION PAPER

This was compiled by Susan Prescott and edited by myself with input from members, particularly Andrew Kemp. It is now on the ASCIA website and is being submitted for publication by the MJA.

FORMAL PROTOCOL ON CHALLENGES IN CHILDREN

The World Allergy Organisation (WAO) has developed a protocol and this was discussed at the ASM. Andrew Kemp is chairing this project.

REPRESENTATION ON NARG AND NAC

Andrew Kemp is now the ASCIA representative on the National Asthma Reference Group (NARG). I am continuing as the ASCIA representative on the National Asthma Council (NAC).

ASCIA PAEDIATRIC INTEREST GROUP

A/Prof Mimi Tang	(Chair)
Members (alphabetical order):	
Dr Dianne Campbell	(NSW)
Dr Mike Gold	(SA)
Prof Pat Holt	(WA)
Dr Preeti Joshi	(NSW)
Prof Andrew Kemp	(NSW)
Dr Richard Loh	(WA)
Dr Jane Peake	(QLD)
Dr Peter Richmond	(WA)
Dr John Ruhno	(NSW)
A/Prof Susan Prescott	(WA)
Dr Jan Sinclair	(NZ)
Dr Joanne Smart	(VIC)
Dr Velencia Soutter	(NSW)
Dr Melanie Wong	(NSW)

SCHEDULES COMMITTEE

KARL BAUMGART

A teleconference was organized, which included myself, David Gillis, Michelle Hendle, David Hill, Ron Walls and Jill Smith. The main points from that meeting are as follows:

STRATEGIC ISSUES

It would be ideal to develop a system for identifying descriptors for procedures used internationally as well as benchmarking rebates for same.

ACTIONS:

- members to liaise with international colleagues
- ASCIA to liaise with other societies and international contacts
- concentrate on achieving a few outcomes (such as the clinical items, specific IgE and Tryptase) rather than trying to achieve several outcomes.

CLINICAL ITEMS TO CONSIDER FOR THE SCHEDULE

Allergen Challenge - double-blinded, in supervised environment.

Rush Desensitisation for insect or drug allergy in supervised environment.

ACTIONS:

- find out what descriptors and item numbers are used internationally
- develop clinical practice guidelines
- report back on case mix funding in SA
- aim for at least AMA schedule listing.

LABORATORY ITEMS TO CONSIDER FOR THE SCHEDULE

Tryptase

ACTIONS:

- find out what descriptors and item numbers are used internationally
- develop clinical practice guidelines
- obtain feedback from anaesthetists
- aim for at least AMA schedule listing.

Extended Allergen specific IgE estimation for patients with anaphylaxis or severe eczema, assessed by specialists in immunology, allergy or dermatology.

ACTIONS:

- find out what descriptors, item numbers and reimbursement levels are used internationally
- develop clinical practice guidelines, particularly for general practice
- develop a descriptor for use by specialist assessed patients with severe allergies (eg anaphylaxis and severe eczema), based on number of allergens tested for using systems reporting in kU/L and predictive value from studies.

Basophil histamine release assay for drug or insect allergy.

Extending total IgE estimation for more than 2 episodes per year for patients with eczema receiving immunosuppression.

Detection of common mutations by real-time PCR for Sequencing of genes for periodic fever syndromes Sequencing of genes for PID diagnoses

ACTIONS:

- find out what descriptors and item numbers are used internationally

ECP in patients with severe eczema, unstable asthma.

TNF measurement in patients with periodic fever syndrome, autoimmune disease or receiving biological response modifier therapy.

Procalcitonin estimation in patients with serious sepsis.

ACTIONS:

Deferred until further information is available.

■ Interactions with Other Organisations

MATTHEW COOK

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIETY OF IMMUNOLOGY (ASI)

A session at this year's ASI ASM has been supported by ASCIA.

It has been discussed that the new ASCIA Council should consider reviewing its relationship with ASI and a more formal and reciprocal support structure should be developed in future.

AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH (ASMR)

An ASCIA session is included in the ASMR Congress programme for 2004.

■ ASCIA Awards and Grants

The process for evaluation (for ASCIA member grants) has been established as follows:

- council members with conflict/s of interest are excluded from the evaluation process
- submissions which don't fit the majority of the criteria are excluded
- the remaining projects according to the criteria are prioritised
- check if adequate funding is available
- review of full selected applications by committee and invited past president/s (who also served on the ICACI 2000 LOC) without conflict/s of interests
- funding can only be provided for one year and subsequent funding will be dependent on submission of a report and reapplication
- successful projects will be encouraged to seek alternative funds, leveraged from ASCIA funds
- prioritised projects are reviewed in full and discussed by teleconference.

SUMMARY OF SUCCESSFUL ASCIA MEMBER (ICACI) GRANT APPLICATIONS

The following projects were chosen for the 2004 grants, as they:

- have defined aims and are likely to fulfil stated aims
- are aligned with the roles and objectives of ASCIA
- involve areas where ASCIA has a special interest
- involve a broad range of interests of ASCIA members
- involve ASCIA members from all regions
- are unlikely to be funded initially without at least some funding from ASCIA
- have no other obvious sources of full funding.
- if successful and ongoing, have a chance of generating funding from other sources (eg from governments or foundations).

Applicant: Dr Sean Riminton, on behalf of the ASCIA PID committee

Aim: To part-fund human resources and infrastructure for the ASCIA PID Register, to expand data collection capability, develop rapid utilization of the Register's resources to specific clinical and research programs and coordinate activities with international Register-based resources for PID.

Funding requested: \$25,000 per year for 3 years (part funding)

Expected outcomes: Doubling of PID registrants in 1 year

Applicants: Assoc. Prof Simon Brown and Dr Robert Heddle, on behalf of the ASCIA Insect Allergy Working Party

Aim: To establish a diagnostic framework for anaphylaxis to native Australian ant venoms

Funding requested: \$56,000 over 3 years:

Yr 1 - \$23,000; Yr 2 - \$16,500; Yr 3 - \$16,500

Expected outcomes:

- Publication of a detailed analysis of demographic/basis clinical details of allergy to native Australian stinging ants, correlated with formal entomological analysis of specimens.
- Collection and storage of serum specimens for subsequent sIgE anaphylaxis when an appropriate panel of Australian ant venoms has been established.

ASCIA INSECT ALLERGY WORKING PARTY

Dr Simon Brown (Chair)

Members (alphabetical order):

Dr Konrad Blackman

Dr Robert Heddle

Dr Rob Loblay

Dr Dominic Mallon

A/Prof Ray Mullins

Dr Victoria Smith

Dr Graham Solley

Dr John Weiner



SIMON BROWN



ROBERT HEDDLE

Historical**ASCIA PAST PRESIDENTS HONOUR ROLL**Professor Tony Basten
1991-1992Assoc Prof Dan Czarny
1993-1994Assoc Prof Connie Katelaris
1995-1996Dr Robert Heddle
1997-1998Assoc Prof Ron Walls
1999-2000Dr Roger Garsia
2001-2002Dr David Gillis
2003-2004**Professor Andrew Kemp's
Endowment Ceremony**

ANDREW KEMP

This ceremony, on Monday 13 September 2004 at the Children's Hospital at Westmead, was held in recognition of the:

- creation of the chair of Paediatric allergy and clinical immunology
- contributions from all those in Australia who over many years have developed this area of medicine:
 - NSW Department of Health
 - Children's Hospital at Westmead
 - University of Sydney
 - Australian Allergy Foundation
 - Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCIA).

The following is a transcript of Professor Andrew Kemp's speech at this ceremony.

There are many people who have contributed to the areas of allergy and clinical immunology.

It is a particular pleasure to have Tony Basten who has played a major role in the development of the speciality in this state. Tony helped me set up the pathology service in conjunction with the Immunology department at Royal Prince Alfred hospital when I commenced here in 1979. Tony published several major papers in 1970 on the role of eosinophils, an important cell in allergic disease in conjunction with Professor Beeson at Oxford University. He has since made important contributions to other areas of immunology such as immune tolerance.

I also want to acknowledge the critical contributions of Alyson Kakakios, Connie Katelaris and Ron Walls. They have shown particular energy and enthusiasm for the discipline.

In fact, for those interested in prophecy, this was predicted many years ago. My car number plate was KKK994 (Kakakios, Katelaris, Kemp) and $9+9+4=22$. There were 22 years from the foundation of the department in 1979 up until 2001, the time that the negotiations concerning this chair commenced.

Many other NSW members of ASCIA, including Ron Walls, Melanie Wong, Rob Loblay and Graeme Stewart, who are all here today have contributed to development of the specialty in this State.

The presence of Jo Douglass on behalf of Australian Allergy foundation from Melbourne is particularly appropriate, as she is both a leading member of what might be termed the parental department, that hosts the Adult equivalent of this Paediatric chair at the Alfred Hospital in Melbourne. In addition, as of this weekend, Jo is the new Treasurer for ASCIA. Thank you for the contribution of the Allergy Foundation and for being here today.

The creation of a Chair provides a focus for teaching and clinical advancement and research in the specialty.

This hospital has a long, proud record of interest and research in childhood allergic disease. To just mention two examples:

- In 1950 Dr Sam Stening published a paper in the MJA entitled "Some Observations on Childhood Allergy". This was a retrospective analysis of 243 cases, 1902 visits presenting to RAHC over 12 months to June 1947, including demographic and diagnostic factors. This was the largest analysis in the Australian literature and used skin testing, nasal cytology, food diaries and elimination diets. The comments he made are still applicable today. I quote from the introduction "This review has been undertaken to bring to the notice of others the great numbers of children who have allergic symptoms, and who could respond to appropriate treatment, but whose allergic state is all too frequently unrecognised for a considerable period of time." His analysis of the causes of food allergy are of interest "Milk is not the only cause. Oranges, cod liver oil emulsion, Farex, oatmeal and egg are other common causes". His conclusion that "The misery, unhappiness and worry in households containing a child suffering from an allergic disease

are so severe that any amelioration no matter how small must be worthwhile" reflects those issues we still deal with today.

- In 1997 one of the major prospective trials in the world to examine childhood allergy prevention by dietary supplementation and house dust mite reduction was largely initiated by Jenny Peat, Craig Mellis and Seema Miharshahi from this hospital and Seema is here today. The analysis of this trial is still continuing.

Allergic disease affects 20-30% of the population and usually commences in early childhood. Thus research into allergy is particularly important. We have calculated that the cost of chronic childhood eczema treatment for Australian community is about \$330 million per year.

Research in clinical medicine is about the future; What new ideas do we have and can transmit to our colleagues? What new treatments can we develop for our patient? What things should we not be doing because they don't work?

An academic chair is a recognition that research and teaching are important. If you read a research paper there are frequently 6-8 or more authors indicating collaboration and individuals of multiple expertise. This is reflected in our own activities.

We have established collaborative research related to Allergic diseases with Dept Respiratory Medicine and Dept of Dermatology at CHW, National Centre Epidemiology and Public Health ANU, The Menzies Centre in Tasmania, The Centre for Values Ethics and Law in Medicine at Sydney University and the University department of Paediatrics at Nepean hospital. These studies examine questions about the influence of bedding in childhood asthma, early life influences in allergic disease, effects of stress on families of children with eczema and the regulation of the immune response in eczema and community responses to the current epidemic of food allergy. Such activities would not be possible without the support given to this Chair.

Many thanks to my Secretary Jenny Cook, who by her enthusiasm and personality has made my life in the Chair so much easier and has played a principal role in the organisation of the ceremony today. In addition she comes from Melbourne.

Finally I would like to acknowledge my own family and their contributions. My mother and father, brother and sister in law have all come from Melbourne for this ceremony. Next year the hospital celebrates its 125th birthday and I can say my parents combined age exceeds that by 60 years. I must particularly mention my wife Sally without whose support each time I come home and announce that there is a possible job going in a state distant from the one we are currently in, has been prepared to embrace the idea enthusiastically and accommodate her own interests and her career as a GP to fit in with moves from Melbourne to Adelaide to Sydney to Melbourne and back to Sydney. Thank you Sally.

Since I first came here in 1979 it has been really exciting to see the speciality of paediatric allergy and clinic immunology develop both here at the Children's hospital and throughout Australia and now to be able to participate in the future developments that initiatives like this chair make possible. Thank you.

■ New ASCIA Executive Members



PRESIDENT ELECT:
Dr Dominic Mallon

HON TREASURER:
A/Professor Jo Douglass



■ ASCIA Representatives

ASCIA MEMBERS REPRESENTED ON MAJOR NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS OR COMMITTEES

Asia Pacific Assoc of Allergology & Clinical Immunology (APAACI)

A/Prof Ron Walls Vice President
A/Prof Frank Thien Secretary General

Australian Drug Evaluation Committee (ADEC)

Dr Alyson Kakakios

RACP/RCPA Joint Specialist Advisory Committee (JSAC) for Training in Clinical Immunology and Allergy

Dr David Fulcher Chairperson
Dr Richard Wong Coordinator of advanced training in Immunology – Allergy
Dr Stephen Adelstein Chief Examiner in Immunology, RCPA
A/Prof Mimi Tang Paediatric Allergy - Immunology Representative
Dr Marianne Empson Chairperson, NZ JSAC (Clinical Immunology & Allergy)

National Asthma Council

A/Prof Mimi Tang

National Asthma Reference Group (NARG)

Prof Andrew Kemp

RACP Specialties Board

Dr Karl Baumgart

RACP Therapeutic Advisory Committee

Dr Rob Loblay

World Allergy Organisation – WAO

A/Prof Connie Katelaris Treasurer
Dr John Ruhno House of Delegates

■ New ASCIA Members - 2004

Full membership

Dr Andrew BROADFOOT MBBS FRACP
Dept of Immunology, Liverpool Hospital

Assoc Prof Andrew CARR MBBS MD FRACP FRCPA
St Vincents Hospital, Darlinghurst

Dr Ralph Kay Heinrich NANAN MD FRACP
Director of Paediatrics, Nepean Hospital, Penrith, NSW

Prof Steven KRILIS
Director - Immunology, Allergy & Infectious Diseases,
St George Hospital, NSW

Dr Elizabeth PICKFORD MBBS(Hons) FRACP
Allergy Unit, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, NSW

Dr Robert STIRLING
BSc(Hons) MBBCh(Hons) MRCPI FRACP
Dept of Allergy, Immunology & Respiratory Medicine,
Alfred Hospital, Victoria.

Upgrade from Assoc to Full membership

Assoc Prof Simon BROWN BMedSci MBBS DA PhD
Dept of Emergency Medicine, Fremantle Hospital, WA

Dr Tiffany HUGHES MBBS FRCPA FRACP
Cell Biology, Telethon Institute for Child Health Research

Dr Margaret KUMMEROW MBBS DCCH FRACP
University Dept Paediatrics, Women's & Children's
Hospital, SA

Dr Patrick QUINN MBBS FRACP
Women's & Childrens Hospital SA

Associate membership

Dr Konrad BLACKMAN MBBS FACEM
Deputy Director, Emergency Med, Royal Hobart Hospital.
Director, Ant Venom Allergy Unit, Royal Hobart Hospital.

Dr Robert BOYLE BSc MBChB MRCP
Dept of Immunology, Royal Children's Hospital, Victoria.

Dr Gary Yu Jin CHEW BSc(Med) MBBS
Immunology Registrar, Liverpool Hospital, NSW

Dr Adrian ELDERHURST MBBS FRACP
Bendigo Base Hospital

Steven LEE BSc(Hons) MDipl
Founding member of ALLSA

Adrian John LOWE BBS(Hons) MPH
PhD Scholar, Uni of Melb, Data Analyst, Royal Melb Hosp

Merryn Joanne NETTING BSc BND
Senior Dietitian, Women's & Children's Hospital,
Adelaide, SA

Danielle MITROU CertNurs
Coordinator of community allergy education services

Dianne PASSWELL RN
Allergy Nurse, Mona Vale NSW

Dr Kathryn Lorraine PATCHETT MBChB BMedSci(dist)
Immunology Registrar, Hunter Area Pathology Service,
NSW

Maria SAID RN
Western Area Health Service and AAI President

Dr Sanjay SWAMINATHAN BMedSci(Hons) MBBS(Hons)
Clinical Immunology Registrar, Concord Hospital, NSW

Leone THIELE BA CertNurs/Mid
Unit Manager, Dept of Allergy, Royal Children's Hospital

■ Conference Calendar 2005

11-13 March 2005 Darling Harbour, Sydney
RCPA PATHOLOGY UPDATE
<http://www.rcpa.edu.au>

18-22 March 2005 San Antonio, Texas, USA
61ST AAAAI ANNUAL MEETING
<http://www.aaaai.org>

18-23 March 2005 Darling Harbour, Sydney
TSANZ ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING
<http://www.thoracic.org.au/asm2005.html>

11-13 May 2005 Canberra, ACT
23RD TRANSPLANTATION SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA & NZ ASM
<http://www.racp.edu.au/tsanz/asm.htm>

4-6 May 2005 Westmead Hospital, Sydney
ICPMR IMMUNOPATHOLOGY COURSE
http://www.wmi.usyd.edu.au/Net_Path_Immunology/

8-11 May 2005 Wellington, New Zealand
RACP ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING
<http://www.racp.edu.au/asm/index.htm>

12-16 May 2005 Boston, MA, USA
5TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF FOCIS
<http://www.focisnet.org>

20-25 May 2005 San Diego, California, USA
100TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AMERICAN THORACIC SOCIETY (ATS)
www.thoracic.org

22-25 May 2005 Melbourne, Victoria
47TH AUSTRALIAN RHEUMATOLOGY ASSN ASM
<http://www.araconference.com/>

4-11 June 2005
ASMR MEDICAL RESEARCH WEEK
<http://www.asmr.org.au/mrw/index.html>

8-11 June 2005 Vienna, Austria
ANNUAL EUROPEAN CONG RHEUMATOLOGY
www.eular.org

26 June – 1 July 2005 Munich, Germany
XIXTH WORLD ALLERGY ORGANISATION & XXIVTH EAACI CONGRESS
<http://www.congex.com/wac2005/>

24-27 August 2005 Hobart, Tasmania
17TH ANNUAL ASHM CONFERENCE 2005
http://www.ashm.org.au/conference_2005

17-21 September 2005 Copenhagen, Denmark
15TH ANNUAL CONGRESS EUROPEAN RESPIRATORY SOCIETY (ERS)
www.ersnet.org

31 August - 4 September 2005
Queenstown, New Zealand
16TH ASCIA ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING
<http://www.allergy.org.au>

4-9 November 2005 Anaheim, California, USA
ACAAI ANNUAL MEETING
<http://www.acaai.org>

21-24 November 2005 Couran Cove, QLD
ASMR NATIONAL CONFERENCE
<http://www.asmr.org.au/mrw/index.html>

December 2005 Melbourne, Victoria
35TH ASI ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING
<http://www.wehi.edu.au/collegiate/ASI/index.html>

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