

President Report September 2006

Although time has “flown” since my last report, progress continues on a number of important projects albeit slower than during the hectic period leading up to and during the ASM in Perth.

Research Grant

I am pleased to announce that ANZSNM now has a Research Grant mechanism with one grant (up to \$20,000) offered per year under a competitive process – overseen by a Research Grant Committee. The aim of the award is to support basic investigation, clinical projects or experimentation in Nuclear Medicine and is intended to cover maintenance, minor equipment or to employ technical or clerical staff. Applicants must be current, fully financial ordinary members of the ANZSNM (of at least 12 months standing) and the project must be either a nuclear medicine department, or an ANZSNM Branch/SIG initiative. Two documents – one outlining the conditions under which the Grant will be awarded and the other giving application details are posted on the website. The 2006 submission deadline is October 13.

History Project

The planning phase continues on this exciting project. To minimize the cost to the Society, we are currently seeking financial support from Nuclear Medicine companies. Once this is in place, the project should take up to 18 months to complete. It will take the form of structured interviews, at a state level, with key individuals involved with Nuclear Medicine (particularly in the earlier years). To facilitate the interviews I will be asking all branches to nominate one person to co-ordinate this process. This is an important part of the process. We will also run “Witness Seminars” at the next 2 Annual Scientific Meetings - these being moderated meetings of a small group of present or past- members who will be invited for the specific purpose of bearing witness to the history of the Society. So, start digging out your old documents and photos!

International matters

On the International scene, I attended a successful leadership meeting with the SNM executive at the Annual SNM meeting in San Diego in June, at which we discussed various topics relating to the direction in which Nuclear Medicine is heading. It is important that we maintain active dialog with International Societies during the rapid changes that Nuclear Medicine is experiencing. I also had meetings with both Professor Myung-Chul Lee (President) and Professor Annare Ellmann (President-Elect) of the World Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology, at which they stressed the need for Australia to play a much more active role in the Asia and Oceania region. I believe this is important and to this end I will be attending the World Federation Congress in Seoul in October.

With regard to the structure/constitution of ANZSNM, this is still under review. I will keep State branches informed of progress and plan to have more details for my December report.

Peter Collins