

President's Report



Welcome to the final edition of the *Gamma Gazette* for 2011, which has been diligently put together by Paul Brayshaw and Stephanie McMahon from Western Australia. They have had input from Society members from all over Australia, particularly from Western Australia.

It was not so long ago that I remember the launch of the inaugural bumper edition for 2011, and I have received some feedback which we apply to every subsequent edition to move it from strength to strength. The efforts of all members of the Society, and the branches in particular who have put these versions together have to be commended for their enthusiasm and diligence throughout the year.

Now that the aftermath of the Darwin conference has passed, I am pleased to announce that registration for the next ANZSNM Annual Scientific Meeting in Melbourne is now open, and I encourage all to submit an abstract or just participate in the proceedings to learn from experts from all over Australia and around the world.

I also take this opportunity again to congratulate our dedicated members - Julie Crouch, Diana Gentilore and Sharon Mosley - for being appointed as Nuclear Medicine Directors in the newly formed Australian Medical Radiation Sciences Accreditation Council (AMRSAC). I am confident that they will fulfil their roles in ensuring that the high quality practice of nuclear medicine in Australia will be preserved.

I am also very pleased to inform you that our New Zealand colleagues have put together a PET Advisory Committee to provide a reference source for guidance on issues concerning practice of PET in New Zealand and oversee relevant quality assurance programmes and initiatives. There will be representatives from experienced PET professionals from the ANZSNM involved in this committee.

The Technical Standards Committee (TSC) have also recently elected Prof Richard Smart as the Chair of this committee to update the recommendations on quality control requirements for instrumentation used in nuclear medicine, which would be important source documents for government and regulatory bodies for nuclear medicine instruments. In particular, the TSC will collect and collate technical data and carry out surveys for the purpose of setting and determining compliance with good standards of practice, and facilitate and oversee surveys with and use of phantoms for assessing quality and consistency of clinical protocols. There will be representatives from all disciplines of our profession on this Committee.

I'd like to also thank Dr Dylan Bartholomeusz for representing the Society at the Health Workforce Australia group in Adelaide on several occasions over the last 12 months. One of the main aims of this group is to gather demographic data on the health workforce, which will be used to fund training and plan for future workforce requirements. We will be sending out a survey in the next few months to gather some demographic data on our profession so that our needs will also be assessed by the government and given the appropriate funding and attention.

We also continue to engage our colleagues from all around the world, and we were recently invited to a meeting of NM Society Leaders of the World, organised by IAEA, with participation from the SNM, EANM and WFNMB as well. We have discussed efforts to increase access to continuing education activities to the Nuclear Medicine community globally, and this will be an ongoing effort in the future.

Finally, I would like to wish all members of the ANZSNM a very safe and Merry Christmas & Happy New Year for 2012.

Dr Sze Ting LEE
President