

President's Report



Taking on the role as President has been both challenging and exciting especially as we move towards a new management structure and future direction for the society. During the first 3 months in this position, having the guidance of Dr Sze Ting Lee, the immediate past president and Geoff Roff was invaluable, and I thank them for their support.

As you are aware, the ANZSNM has employed a General Manager, Ms Robyn Smith who has a background in managing professional associations and employs an operations manager, Ms Genevieve Butler who will be responsible for the 'day-to-day' working of the Society including the website. Robyn will be the key person involved in enhancing the ANZSNM professional management, role and profile within the Australian and New

Zealand healthcare systems Robyn reports directly to the Council of the ANZSNM via the ANZSNM President. Moving the Society from being a collegiate organisation to a professional body ensures that the needs of members are met and the society is able to respond to the needs of government and organisations with regards to Nuclear Medicine. A short profile on Robyn and Genevieve is included in this edition.

With the introduction of National Registration for Nuclear Medicine Technologists/Scientists as of July 1, 2012, the future role of the Accreditation Board was reviewed. The MRPBA undertook a decision to form an independent Accreditation Council that would oversee course and training program accreditation from July 1, 2012. At this time, the Federal Council made the decision to disband the Accreditation Board and to re-allocate the remaining duties of the Accreditation Board to the ANZSNM-TSIG. Consequently, the ANZSNMT are now responsible for the PDY and mentor program, CPD program, department accreditation and the overseas qualification exam. The TSIG are currently working on forming sub-committees to undertake these roles.

The new website launched at the Melbourne conference has been live for 3 months with the revised CPD database now also fully operational. There have been a few 'teething' problems and we encourage members to notify the Secretariat of any errors and access issues. Thanks to Robbie Barnett for his time and hard work in finalising this project.

The Technical Standards Committee has released the second Edition of the Requirements for PET Accreditation document that has been endorsed by the Federal Council. The new document recognises the increased number of new PET installations, especially regional PET centres, has updated the performance standards in-line with contemporary devices and includes an annual test of accuracy of reconstructed SUV values using ^{18}F . A copy of the second Edition of the Requirements for PET Accreditation document is available on the ANZSNM website.

The International Relations Committee, chaired by Professor Andrew Scott successfully submitted a bid to the World Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology to host the 2018 meeting in Melbourne. Voting to determine the winning bid will be in Milan as part of the EANM and we wish them the best of luck.

The membership of the Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNM), during its annual meeting in Miami, Florida successfully voted on a name change for their society, now being known as the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (SNMMI) and the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging - Technologist Section (SNMMI-TS). During this meeting the ANZSNM were approached by the SNMMI to be involved in a Nuclear Medicine Global Initiative project, a joint undertaking of 10 organisations with an interest in promoting standards and quality in nuclear medicine. The purpose of the project is to (a) promote health by advancing the field of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging, (b) encourage global collaboration in education and harmonisation of procedural guidelines and (c) improve quality and safety. The first meeting of this group will be held in Milan and I have no doubt that this initiative will be successful.

A proposal to establish an MI SIG that would operate under the banner of the ANZSNM has been discussed by the Federal Council in consultation with interested researchers from universities and other research institutes. We would like to assess the level of interest from members before establishing such as group. The suggestion to include an MI abstract category at the ANZSNM ASM was supported by the council and will be incorporated for future meetings. Remember the next ANZSNM ASM will be held in Perth at the Perth Convention Centre, April 11-15, 2013 with abstract submissions opened as of August 2012 and early bird registration from November 2012. Hope to see you there.

Liz Bailey
President ANZSNM