Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the recent Clinical Weekend or Annual Scientific Meeting in Christchurch for personal reasons. However, I have received an enormous amount of extremely positive feedback for both meetings. Many members told me that they were the best meetings that we’ve had for many years, and that the plenary speakers were especially outstanding. I’d like to thank the Program and Local Organising Committees for both meetings, ably led by Helen Maclean, Jeffrey Zajac and Warrick Inder. I’d also like to thank Mark Maclean for representing me.

Jenny Conn has finished a very successful 3 year stint as chair of the Organising committee for the Annual Seminar Meeting, for which we thank her. The next 3 year cycle will run out of NSW and will be led by Drs Mark Maclean and Rory Clifton-Bligh. The next meeting will be held from May 9-11 in Sydney.

On the clinical front, we have been busy liaising with the Royal Australasian College of Physicians regarding our future involvement in endocrine training as part of a major College overhaul of training. We have also been active in exploring solutions to outdated product information for endocrine-related drugs, a problem that Prof Jim Stockigt alerted us to earlier this year.

Following last year’s successful launch of the ESA research higher degree scholarship, we are pleased to launch the inaugural ESA postdoctoral award this year. As I write, we have received a large number of excellent applications for each award, which emphasises their value to our members and also makes me feel confident that endocrine research in Australia is alive and well.

I am sure that most of you already realise that we are celebrating our 50th anniversary next year, centring around our Annual Scientific Meeting in Melbourne from August 25-27. A subcommittee (Tim Cole, Jeffrey Zajac and myself) has started planning for this important milestone and we have already received a number of excellent suggestions from members. However, we are still looking for more ideas as we start to focus on the details, so please feel free to contact us with your suggestions.

Professor Leon Bach

---

**ESA CLINICAL WEEKEND**

**22-24TH AUGUST 2008**

In 2008 the ESA Clinical Weekend will be held at the Cumberland Lorne Resort. The Cumberland Lorne Resort was established in 1989 on the site of the original Cumberland Guest House, Cumberland Lorne Resort has become one of the regions most well known and popular resorts. Located in the heart of Lorne opposite the famous main beach, the Resort combines outstanding accommodation and leisure facilities and a purpose built Conference Centre. Refresh your mind, relax your body and rejuvenate your spirit.A truly exceptional resort with luxurious and spacious accommodation, a spectacular seaside location and comprehensive leisure, business and conference facilities.

Website:
http://www.esaclinicalweekend.org.au/
REPORT ON THE
ESA CLINICAL WEEKEND 2007

The Clinical Weekend was held at the spectacular Peppers Clearwater Resort just outside Christchurch, New Zealand between the 31st August and the 2nd September. The gorgeous venue and great food set the scene for a very successful clinical meeting. The two plenary lecturers, Robert J. Smith and Anna-Maria Colao gave informative and well received presentations, but as always the highlight of this meeting was the registrar initiated case discussions. This year the cases ranged from genetic causes of hypertension to adrenal tumours as well as the more basic diabetic foot.

The quality and clarity of the registrar’s presentations allowed the audience to refresh their knowledge or learn new elements of endocrinology.

The social events were well received and in particular the trivial pursuit run by Elke Hendrich was very successful. Trivial pursuit has been missing for several years, but has returned with a vengeance in a new innovative style.

All the feedback was positive. I congratulate Emma Hamilton who was awarded the prize for the best presentation. Next years meeting will be in Victoria in 2008 and we encourage everyone to attend.

Yours sincerely,
Professor Jeffrey Zajac
AWE REPORT 2007

The 8th meeting of the "Australasian Branch of Women in Endocrinology" (AWE) was held on Sunday 2nd September at the Christchurch Convention Centre in New Zealand. This was our largest reception to date, with over 70 people registered for the event. Once again we thank DSL-Australasia, and in particular their Managing Director Dr Sylvia Johnson, for their continued support and sponsorship of the reception.

The 2007 AWE-DSL New Investigator Travel Award was awarded to Sue Mei Lau of the Garvan Institute of Medical Research, and was presented by Dr Sylvia Johnson of DSL-Australasia. Helen Blanchfield from Novo Nordisk presented the 2007 AWE-Novon Nordisk New Investigator Travel Grant to Dr Ashwini Chand of Prince Henry’s Institute of Medical Research. Prof Helena Teede accepted the 2007 AWE-Abbott Diabetes Care New Investigator Travel Grant from Campbell Spence of Abbott Diabetes Care on behalf of her student Samantha Hutchison, who was unable to fly to New Zealand at 7 months pregnant! AWE-Merit certificates were awarded to Jennifer Miles, Jenny Chow, Caroline Larsen (University of Otago, Dunedin, NZ) and Dr Martina Kocan. We sincerely thank DSL-Australasia, Novo Nordisk and Abbott Diabetes Care for their sponsorship of the three major travel awards.

Annual AWE Travel grants of $1500 each should be available again to attend ENDO 2008 in San Francisco. These awards are to assist senior PhD students and post-doctoral fellows who are AWE members (and financial members of either the ESA or NZSE) to attend the meeting, and also provide a great networking opportunity with tickets to the Women in Endocrinology dinner at the US ENDO meeting! Application forms will be available from the ESA website in January 2008, and the deadline for receipt of applications is April 18th 2008. The 9th meeting of AWE will be held on Sunday 24th August 2008, in conjunction with the commencement of the 2008 ESA-SRB conference at the Melbourne Convention Centre.

Kathy Gatford

ESA SEMINAR MEETING
9-11TH MAY 2008

Sydney Harbour Marriott In 2008 the ESA Seminar will be held at the Sydney Harbour Marriott Hotel in the heart of the business, financial and tourist area of Sydney at Circular Quay. The world famous Sydney Opera House and Harbour Bridge are 300 & 500m away.

In addition, museums, galleries, cinemas, theatres, the Royal Botanic Gardens, duty free shopping, bus, train and ferry transport and the historic area of The Rocks are all on your door step.

The serene, friendly atmosphere makes it a welcome oasis in an often hectic city. With its lavishly appointed rooms, renowned restaurants and intimate bars, the Sydney Harbour Marriott offers the ideal combination of sublime luxury and obliging service in a central location - as is expected from a world class hotel.

Website: www.esaseminar.org.au
NEW REPORT HIGHLIGHTS CHALLENGE OF DIABETES TRANSITION CARE

Diabetes Australia and Eli Lilly have launched the first ever National Review of Transitional Care, a review of current initiatives and resources in the area of transitional care for young adults with Type 1 Diabetes. The Review which researched the areas of transitional planning, mental health and peer support for young adults with type 1 diabetes, provides stakeholders with insight into the issues facing this group, along with recommendations and opportunities for consideration.

The transition from a paediatric to an adult diabetes care setting is already well documented as a challenging time for young adults with type 1 diabetes due to significant physiological, emotional and environmental changes happening during this period of life. It is a time when for different reasons many young adults 'drop out' of the healthcare system and subsequently put themselves at risk of developing complications from their diabetes.

To discuss these issues, a national forum for young adults with type 1 diabetes was held in August 2006 bringing together young adults, health professionals and key stakeholders. As one of the outcomes of the forum, the National Review of Transitional Care was commissioned by Diabetes Australia, with support from Lilly to review what resources and initiatives are in existence and identify gaps and opportunities to explore.

The review consulted young adults with type 1 diabetes, endocrinologists, diabetes nurse educators, mental health specialists and representatives from Diabetes Australia (DA), Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF), Australian Diabetes Society (ADS) and Australian Diabetes Educators Association (ADEA).

The key findings of the review highlighted:

• The 'ad-hoc' nature of transition from paediatric to adult care settings
• The gaps in information available for young adults as they transition
• The need for sharing 'best practice approaches' and useful materials at a national level
• The significant lack of mental health resource for young adults with type 1 diabetes

"The National Review of Transitional Care is an important step in helping us identify what resources are currently available and what else we need to be doing to encourage a more successful transition for young adults with type 1 diabetes," commented Gary Deed, National President from Diabetes Australia.

As a result of the review and to confirm Diabetes Australia and Eli Lilly’s commitment to improving transitional care, Eli Lilly has announced its sponsorship of the development of a transitional information kit to be available to all diabetes centres across Australia. The kit, a recommendation from the review, is currently in development with Diabetes Australia and in consultation with other partners and will be launched later in 2007.

The review will be issued to members of ADEA, ADS and DA over the coming weeks. To request a copy of the National Review of Transitional Care please contact Diabetes Australia. Phone 02 6232 3800

Issued on behalf of Diabetes Australia and Eli Lilly by Cube. For further information contact Mardi Stewart on 0402 231 142

References:


ESA 2007 AWARD WINNERS

NOVARTIS JUNIOR SCIENTIST AWARD
Marianne Elston

SERVIER YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD
Kirsten McTavish

ESA MAYNE PHARMA BRYAN HUDSON CLINICAL ENDOCRINOLOGY AWARD
Morton Burt

ESA IPSEN INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL GRANT AWARD
Elspeth Gold, Michael Stark, Lisa-Marie Atkin
NEW MEMBERS

Elaine Barrington-Ward
Kristy Brown
Larissa Christophidis
Hui Chua
Catherine Conway
Renata Ganko
Gerard Gibbs
Belinda Henry
Nicolette Hodyl
Vive Howell
Louise Hutley
Trina Jorre de St Jorre
George Kalogerakis
Wee-Ching Kong
Yan Lam
Wai Lau
Heather Lee
Judy Luu
Peak Mah
Deborah Marsh
Sybil McAuley
Mark McCabe
Roland McCallum
Keely McNamara
Sarah Meachem
George Muscat

Stephen Myers
Jyotsna Pippal
Tuan Quach
Kesa Rana
Jyothsna Rao
Debra Renouf
Lisa Rodgo
John Schjenken
Katherine Scott
Brett Sillars
Ulla Simanainen
Jeremy Smith
Sarah Spencer
Jorge Tolosa
Michelle Van Sinderen
Alexander Viardot
Kirsty Walters
Shu-Ching Wang
Kun Wang
Guam Wang
Phillip Wong
Christopher Yates
Fiona Young
Dina Zebian
Yufeng Zhao
Sophia Zoungas

ESA IPSEN INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL GRANT AWARD 2008

Aim:
To support younger members of the society to travel to international meetings, laboratories and/or clinics to further their training and knowledge in Endocrinology.

Awards:
One award of $3500 will be awarded to assist with the costs of international travel to a European destination - Deadline 1st March 2008.

One award of $3500 will be awarded to assist with the costs of international travel - Deadline 1st March 2008

One award of $3500 will be awarded to assist with the costs of international travel - Deadline 1st August 2008

Visit ESA website:
http://www.endocrinesociety.org.au/awards.htm#ipsen

REPORT ON THE ESA ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING 2007 HELD IN CHRISTCHURCH, NEW ZEALAND

The 2007 ESA/SRB Annual Scientific Meeting was held from the 2nd -5th of September in Christchurch, NZ as a combined meeting with the New Zealand Society of Endocrinology. The meeting was a great success with a large number of registrants from both countries and some outstanding plenary and combined sessions. It was headed by an exciting line-up of plenary speakers. The Harrison Memorial Lecturer was delivered by Prof Gerard Karsenty from Columbia University (USA) and provided insights into endocrine regulation of energy metabolism by the skeleton. The Pincus Taft Lecture by Dr Robert Smith addressed a molecular journey from insulin and IGFs to neurodegenerative diseases. The ESA Japan-Australia Lecturer, Prof Takashi Kadowaki discussed adiponectin and its receptors in insulin resistance, diabetes, and metabolic syndrome, and obesity. Dr. Jeff Keelan delivered the ESA/NZSE Nancy Sirett lecture on placental mediators of pregnancy and parturition.

Congratulations to the recipients of the following highly competitive ESA awards at the Meeting. The Novartis Junior Scientist Award was won by Marianne Elston. The 2007 ESA Mayne Pharma Bryan Hudson Clinical Endocrinology Award was won by Morton Burt. Kirsten McTavish received the Servier Award. Many thanks to the Programme Organising Committee, comprising of Helen MacLean (Chair), Warrick Inder, Mathis Grossmann, Carolyn Allan, Vince Russo, Brian Oldfield, and Greg Anderson, for this outstanding meeting. Thanks also to our principal and major sponsors and supporters of the ESA awards. Many registrants took advantage of the breathtaking scenery and activities of the South Island of New Zealand both before and after the meeting.

ESA ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING
25-28 AUGUST 2008

ESA 50th Anniversary
Melbourne Convention Centre
Website: www.esa-srb.org.au

Abstract, early bird and ESA award deadline 16th June 2008.
MINUTES FOR 
ENDOCRINE SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

CHRISTCHURCH CONVENTION CENTRE,
NEW ZEALAND
MONDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER 2007
6.15-7.15pm

Attendance:
Mark McLean, David Phillips, Vicki Clifton, Cathie Choong, George Muscat, Chris Gilfillan, Evan Simpson, Tim Cole, Helen MacLean, Christine Clarke, Peter Leedman, Wayne Tilley, Peter Ebeling, Ben Canny, Brian Hirschfeld, David Hurley, Jeffrey Zajac, Shane Hamblin, Walter Plehwe, Dennis Engler, Tamas Zakar, Paul Williams, Bu Yeap, Brendan Waddell, Gail Risbridge, David Handlesman, Mark Hedger, Ken Ho, Lois Salamonsen, Roger Smith

1. Apologies
Leon Bach, Alan Tilbrook, Peter Fuller, Ivone Johnson

2. Confirmation of Minutes
– 21st August 2006, Gold Coast Convention Centre
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting that was held on 21st August 2006 were accepted as a true and accurate record.
Proposed by Ben Canny and seconded by Peter Ebeling.

3. Business Arising
Largely dealt in other agenda items.

4. President’s Report
Mark stated that he has taken the role of acting President in Leon’s temporary absence. He thanked David Phillips, Vicki Clifton, Jeffrey Zajac and the secretariat Ivone Johnson.

The core ESA business remains strong with very successful ASM, Clinical Weekend and Seminar meetings. ESA have also supported its members with travel grants to attend the ASM. The ESA scholarships, which were initiated in 2007, will build up to 3 PhD’s and 2 Post Doctoral. Priya Sumithran was awarded the inaugural scholarship for her PhD project with Prof Joe Proietto at the University of Melbourne. This year we are advertising the ESA Postdoctoral Award for ESA members within 5 years of their higher degree. Funding of $25000 pa for 2 years will be available either for salary support or research expenses. Members discussed the scholarships and will be further discussed at next year’s AGM.

At last year’s AGM there was talk of a possible merger/marriage with the New Zealand Endocrine Society. This initiative will not happen in the near future.

5. Treasurer’s Report
5.1 Audited Accounts
FINANCIAL REPORT FROM THE AUDITOR
Our auditor has indicated that they have been advised by their corporate law accountants that the audits conducted on the ESA finances for the last two years have been wrongly interpreted and that there have been further adjustments to their accounting practices. As a result of this, the audit report indicated the net profit for this financial year was $69 134 which is significantly less than last years profit of $219 657. Cash flows are slightly reduced to $355 302 as we withdrew money from the NAB account last financial year to place in the Asgard investment ($120 000) resulting in a reduced amount of cash in the bank overall. We also commenced our PhD scholarship scheme at the beginning of this year resulting in a decrease in the income. The main reason our profit is reduced relates to a reduced income recorded from the 2006 Clinical Weekend. This is related to the time that the ASN accounts were audited which covered Jan-Dec 06 and does not reflect ASN account cash flows or earnings in the first 6 months of 2007.

Overall there is a 13% increase in expenses relative to last financial year. Increases in expenses relate to increased funding in scholarships and awards, a pay rise for the secretariat, an increase of expenses from the 2006 ASM relative to the 2005 ASM.

Corporate sponsorship
Corporate sponsorship has increased slightly this year. The sponsors for this financial year are Servier Laboratories, Alphapharm Pty Limited, Eli Lilly Australia, Ispen Pty Ltd, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Australia Pty Limited and Mayne Pharma Pty Ltd.

Membership subscriptions
Subscription payments are reduced since last financial year. The Secretariat has sent reminders to unpaid members requesting their contribution. Members with unpaid subscriptions of greater than two years were removed from the membership list. We have abolished the fee for late subscriptions in an effort to encourage members to pay anytime. The ESA late fee has been cancelled.

Society’s investments
Asgard Investment portfolio
The ESA funds are presently allocated to a number of different managed investment profiles which include 12.3% in a Cash account, 11.8% in Australian fixed interest deposits, 6.4% international fixed interest deposits, 27.5% in Australian shares, 29.4% in International shares, 11.9% in property. The total value of these investments is $1 052 228.47 and the investment has a net earnings of $128 453.62 for the 06/07 financial year. This is an overall return of 12.9% for this financial year. A summary of the returns for 06/07 financial year for each profile is detailed in the attachment.

PhD and Postdoctoral Scholarships
ESA funded its first PhD scholarship in 2007 at a cost of $22 500 for three years to Dr Priya Sumithran. The scholarship will be offered annually to either a clinical or basic science project in endocrinology.

Applications for a Postdoctoral scholarship are now available on the ESA website for commencement in 2008 and it will also be offered annually. The Postdoctoral Scholarship will be for two years at a sum of $25 000 per year. The funds for these scholarships will be derived from the Asgard Investment and the scholarships will consume approximately 11% of the...
investment each year from 2009. Based on the presumption that most years we will have a 12% return it is likely that the investment will not be depleted significantly.

Approval for the Treasurer’s Report was moved by Jeffrey Zajac and seconded by Ken Ho.

6. Medical Affairs Report
Mark stated that the main item in regards to the RACP is the training of endocrinologists. The college gives out the diploma which certifies training as specialist endocrinologist. The training is delivered by ESA clinicians, however the college certifies when the trainee has done sufficient time. There is no formal curriculum. The college wants to redefine the relationship between the special societies in regard to designing a curriculum, assessment, developing and owning intellectual property. Mark McLean is the ESA representative on the specialties board. This board has been embarked and Mark will be the ESA representative on the Adult Medicine Division. Ken Ho stated that a curriculum officer needs to be appointed. ESA needs to think how best to manage these issues. Council will look into and discuss these items and report back to the membership.

7. Report on 2007 ESA Meetings
• Seminars • Clinical weekend • ASM
The 2007 Seminar, Clinical weekend and ASM have shown near record numbers of registrants and were very successful.

8. Future Meetings
ESA ASM 2008, Melbourne Convention Centre 25th-28th August
The 2008 meeting will begin at lunchtime on the Monday and finish on Wednesday afternoon as we do not have access to the Convention Centre on the weekend prior to the meeting. This meeting is ESA’s 50th Anniversary. We hope to have a reception at Government House hosted by David de Kretser. ESA are beginning to plan a special program and have received suggestions from several members. More suggestions are needed. The 50th Anniversary committee comprises Leon Bach, Tim Cole and Jeff Zajac.

ESA Clinical Weekend 2008, Melbourne 23-24th August
The venue of Hilton on the Park, has been provisionally booked. An organising committee will shortly be appointed.

ESA Seminar Meeting 2008, Sydney 9-11th May
This meeting will be held at the Marriott Hotel in Sydney. Rory Clifton Bligh is the Chair and the committee includes Mark McLean.

ESA ASM 2009, 30th August-2nd September
This meeting will be held at the Adelaide Convention Centre.

9. Other business
David Philips, honorary secretary, to send letters from ESA to Leon Bach and Ivone Johnson
Nominated: Ben Canny Seconded: Walter Plehwe

10. Date of next meeting:
Melbourne, 26th August 2008

---

**ESA 50TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR IN 2008.**

Next year the Society will be celebrating its 50th year of existence (the inaugural meeting where the Society was formed was on June 2, 1958) and in the Program Book for next year we will be having a supplement with transcripts of the defining documents and a short history of the Society. If any members have photos taken at significant ESA events over the years or have copies of documents that record important events in the Society’s history, please contact Ivone Johnson at the Secretariat.

We have some of these documents already, but would like to hear of other materials that you may have, particularly photos. If possible, we would like to borrow these treasures temporarily to make copies and potentially include in this short addendum to the abstract book for next year. We will keep you informed in the next Newsletter about how our celebratory Annual Scientific Meeting is coming along and how you can be involved.
ENdOCRIne socIEty of auSTRalia – cOUNCil and offIcE bEaRers

Professor Leon Bach (President)
Department of Endocrinology and Diabetes
The Alfred Hospital
Commercial Road
Melbourne VIC 3004
Tel: 03 9076 3287
Fax: 03 9076 3782
Email: leon.bach@med.monash.edu.au

Dr Mark McLean (President-elect)
Department of Endocrinology
Westmead Hospital
Hawkesbury Road
Westmead NSW 2145
Tel: 02 9845 6796
Fax: 02 9635 5691
Email: mmclean@med.usyd.edu.au

Associate Professor Vicki Clifton (Treasurer)
Mothers and Babies Research Centre
John Hunter Hospital
Locked Bag #1
Hunter Region Mail Centre
Newcastle. NSW 2310
Australia
Tel: 02 49855641
Fax: 02 49214394
Email: vclifton@mail.newcastle.edu.au

Associate Professor David Phillips (Secretary)
Institute of Reproduction & Development
Monash Medical Centre
Clayton VIC 3168
Tel: 03/9594 7126
Fax: 03/9594 7111
Email: david.phillips@med.monash.edu.au

Associate Professor Timothy Cole (News Editor)
Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
Monash University
Wellington Road
Clayton. VIC. 3800.
Ph: 03 9905 5753
Fax: 03 9905 3726
Email: tim.cole@med.monash.edu.au

Professor Peter Ebeling
Department of Medicine (RMH/WH)
University of Melbourne
Western Hospital
Footscray. VIC. 3011.
Ph: 03 8345 6429
Fax: 03 9318 1157
Email: peterre@unimelb.edu.au

Professor Evan Simpson
Prince Henry’s Institute
Monash Medical Centre
PO Box 5152
Clayton VIC 3168
Tel: 61 03/9594 4397
Fax: 61 03/9594 6125
Email: evan.simpson@princehenrys.org

Professor David Healy
Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology
Monash Medical Centre
Level 5, 246 Clayton Road
Clayton VIC. 3168
Tel: 03 9594 5374
Fax: 03 9594 6389
Email: david.healy@med.monash.edu.au

Associate Professor Bu Beng Yeap
School of Medicine and Pharmacology
Level 2, T-Block
Fremantle Hospital
Fremantle. WA. 6160.
Ph: 08 9431 3229
Fax: 08 9431 2977
Email: byeap@cyllene.uwa.edu.au

Professor Jeffrey Zajac (Past-President)
Department of Medicine
Austin & Repatriation Medical Centre
Studley Road
Heidelberg VIC 3084
Tel: 03/9496 5198
Fax: 03/9457 5485
Email: j.zajac@unimelb.edu.au

ESA Secretariat
Mrs Ivone Johnson
145 Macquarie Street
Sydney. NSW. 2000
Tel: 02-9256 5405
Fax: 02-9251 8174
Email: esa@racp.edu.au
Mobile: 0414 454 085
Office Hours: 10.00am - 4.00pm
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

FUTURE MEETINGS - 2008

World Endometriosis Society / AGES
WCE 2008
11-14 March 2008
Melbourne
Website: www.wce2008.com

ESA Seminar Meeting
9-11th May 2008
Sydney Harbour Marriott
Website: www.esaseminar.org.au

ENDO 2008
15-18 June 2008
San Francisco. California
Website: www.endo-society.org

ESA Clinical Weekend
22-24 August 2008
Hilton on the Park, Melbourne
Website www.esaclinicalweekend.org.au

ESA/SRB ASM
25-28 August 2008
Melbourne Convention Centre
Website: www.esa-srb.org.au

ANZBMS 18th Annual Scientific Meeting
28-31 August 2008
Hilton on the Park, Melbourne, VIC
Website: www.anzbms.org.au

ADS/DEA ASM
28-30 August 2008
Melbourne Convention Centre
Website: http://www.ads-adea.org.au/