



FROM THE PRESIDENT

My new term as President has commenced with a lot of activity. The first job has been to restructure the ESA Council to focus on strengthening our Medical Affairs and Financial Management.

Since I am a basic scientist it is important that medical affairs are addressed by the clinicians with the appropriate expertise. So we have formed a Medical Affairs Subcommittee, chaired by Prof Peter Ebeling and made up of 2 other ESA Council members who include Prof Warrick Inder and Prof Mark McLean. The Medical Affairs Subcommittee will occasionally call on the expert advice of ESA members who have specific expertise for dealing with RACP issues, other societies and endorsement of guidelines from the various specialities within Endocrinology. At the AGM there was a general consensus that Council and the Medical Affairs Subcommittee will call on ESA members in the future to address any issues that arise outside the expertise of the subcommittee. I hope members will be supportive and responsive if called upon for advice and input into any of the activities of the subcommittee.

We have formed a Finance Subcommittee to better manage our funds. This committee is chaired by Prof Warrick Inder, Treasurer with 2 other members of the Council who are Prof Bu Yeap and Prof Helena Teede. We also have a financial expert who is a non member of ESA and will have an advisory role on the subcommittee, Ms Nicola Frazer. Ms Frazer is employed as an Investor Relations Manager at Beach Energy Limited in Adelaide. She is currently the Treasurer of Asthma SA and has donated her time to support not-for-profit organisations in the management of their funds. Ms Frazer will be a non-voting member of the committee and provide financial advice as the committee develops an operating budget for the coming years. For those interested, the terms of reference for this committee can be accessed on the ESA website.

It has been decided that ESA will not offer postgraduate or postdoctoral scholarships in 2010 to commence in 2011 until our financial position is strengthened.

ESA continues to view this initiative as one of its major strategic goals and all efforts will be made to ensure we can support our ECRs in the future. The ability of the society to fund these grants will be assessed again next year.

We will be developing a strategic plan for ESA over the next few months and hope that it will be available for comment by early 2011. It will be posted on our website and all comments can be directed to our secretary, A/Prof Tim Cole. Any member who would like to comment on ESA's strengths and weaknesses for the Council to consider in the formulation of the strategic plan can forward an email to ESA secretariat. ESA will be bidding for the 2016 ICE conference in Melbourne. The bid is being chaired by Prof Leon Bach. Preparation for the bid has already commenced with the formation of a working party that includes Prof John Funder, Prof Mark McLean, Prof Peter Ebeling, Prof Evan Simpson, A/Prof Tim Cole and A/Prof Vicki Clifton. It will be a great challenge and hopefully we will be successful in attracting the conference to Australia.

Preparations for the 2011 Annual Scientific Meeting in Perth are well underway led by Dr Kathy Gatford as Chair of the Program Organising Committee and Prof Cathy Choong as Chair of the Local Organising Committee. Thank you to both committees for volunteering your time. It is highly appreciated. We are teaming up with the Australian Paediatric Endocrine Group for 2011 instead of SRB and so we will have an interesting mix of both adult and paediatric endocrinology which should lead to a great scientific and medical program.

I wish everyone good luck in the pending announcement of the NHMRC grant outcomes. We have registered a concern with the NHMRC that Endocrinology as a discipline is underfunded but have not received any reply. New approaches to this issue need to be considered by ESA members and any ideas are welcome.

Last but definitely not least, I would like to welcome our new councillors: Dr Belinda Henry, Dr Nicolette Hodyl and Dr Chen Chen. Nicolette will take over the editing of the newsletter from Tim Cole and Belinda has agreed to be part of the Sponsorship Committee on Council. I hope your experience on Council will be a rewarding one.

Associate Professor Vicki Clifton

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ESA ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING, 29 AUGUST – 1 SEPTEMBER, 2010, SYDNEY

Sydney provided a great venue for the 53rd Annual Scientific Meeting of the Endocrine Society of Australia at the end of August. We enjoyed a full three-day program of plenaries, symposia, oral and poster presentations, interspersed with plenty of opportunities to catch-up with old friends and make new ones.

As usual we owe a huge debt of gratitude to our four plenary speakers who presented such a range of basic, clinical and translational research at the meeting. All of our plenary speakers more than earned their keep during the meeting, with presentations in symposia, Meet the Professor sessions, and/or at the Clinical weekend, and in the case of Professor Jayne Franklin, giving three different talks throughout the meetings! Monday morning started with an excellent plenary lecture from our Taft lecturer, Professor Karel Pacek, on clinical practice and research directions for Pheochromocytoma and Paraganglioma. Professor Jayne Franklin similarly started Tuesday on a high note, with a discussion of the pathogenesis of thyroid disease spanning clinical issues through to cutting edge research. We were delighted to have Professor Stafford Lightman as our Harrison lecturer, to explain why activity of the HPA axis oscillates and why pulsatile hormone secretion can provide better control than steady-state secretion. Finally on Wednesday, Professor Ralph De Fronzo, the Endocrine Society of Australia/Australian Diabetes Society joint plenary lecturer, delivered an excellent plenary on insulin resistance, Type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease. We thank all of our plenary lecturers for their many and varied contributions throughout the meeting.

The combination of joint and “stand-alone” symposia with other Societies at our joint meetings provides a diversity of topics for all of our members, including sessions with a basic science focus, those dealing with clinical management and issues, and cross-disciplinary and translational symposia. This year our symposia covered Pregnancy Nutrition (joint with the Society for Reproductive Biology), Generation and Significance of Pulsatile Hormone Secretion (joint with Neuroendocrinology Australasia), Thyroid Function and Disease, Recent Advances in Cancer Therapies and Mechanisms, Endocrinology and Energy Balance, the Australasian Women in Endocrinology Showcase (joint with Australasian Women in Endocrinology), featuring recent winners of the AWE travel awards, Endocrine Receptors and Signal Transduction, Choosing and Using Thresholds in Diabetes Diagnosis and Management (joint with Australian Diabetes Society). We finished the meeting with our ESA Opinions session on the Safety and Efficacy of Calcium Therapy in Osteoporosis, and enjoyed the passionate presenting of viewpoints from the four speakers!

Our award presentations provided an excellent standard of presentations as usual and made judging the Young Investigators a difficult task for the judges. Zoë Hyde presented the Servier award on her work on testosterone levels and frailty in the Ageing Mens Cohort in Perth, and Monday morning also featured the Novartis Junior Scientist Award, won by Lyndal Tacon for her presentation on expression of the glucocorticoid receptor in malignant adrenocortical tumours. The Bryan Hudson Clinical Award on Tuesday was won by Jeremy Hoang, who described use of somatostatin PET in evaluation of neuroendocrine tumours. We also congratulate Peter Liu, who presented the Mid-Career Research Award lecture on Tuesday, on his work on the male gonadal axis and sleep in ageing men.

Thank you to all of the members of Adelaide-based Program Organising Committee who played such an important role in developing the programme; Morton Burt, Lisa Butler, Jui Ho, Beverley Muhlhausler and David Torpy. I would also like to thank Tina Bianco-Miotto and Ian Chapman for their assistance with refereeing abstracts for the meeting. Particular thanks go to Mike Pickford and the fantastic staff as ASN who ensure that the logistics of the meeting run smoothly, and whose new on-line registration and submission system worked so well! Thanks also to Ivone Johnson at ESA for her organisational knowledge and keeping the ESA membership informed via webpage and newsletters, to Helen MacLean, the 2007-2009 POC chair for generously sharing her expertise and advice, and to the Local Organising Committee chaired by Ros Bathgate for planning the social events, checking venues and keeping us dancing at the Conference Dinner! Finally, thanks to all of our presenters who obviously put so much work into their talks and orals – we enjoyed hearing about your research and look forward to updates next year.

We are already looking forward to our next Annual Scientific Meeting in Perth in 2011, which will be a joint meeting with the Australasian Paediatric Endocrine Group as well as including the traditional joint day with the Australian Diabetes Society and Australian Diabetes Educators Association on Wednesday. We wish our usual joint meeting hosts, the Society for Reproductive Biology well as they host the World Congress of Reproduction Biology meeting in October next year, and look forward to the SRB re-joining us at our meeting in 2012. The ESA/APEG 2011 Perth meeting will run from Sunday 28 August to Wednesday 31 August, 2011 – please put the dates in your diaries now!

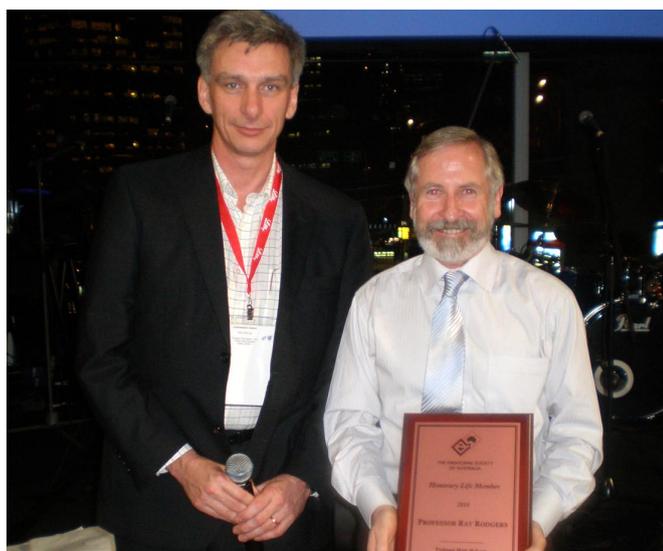
Kathy Gatford
POC Chair, 2010-2012

ESA ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING, 29 AUGUST – 1 SEPTEMBER, 2010, SYDNEY

Mark McLean and ESA Bryan Hudson Award winner Jeremy Hoang



Mark McLean and IPSEN ESA Award winner Wee Ching Kong



Mark McLean and new ESA Life Member Ray Rodgers



ESA Past-president Mark McLean and ESA President Vicki Clifton



Mark McLean and ESA Novartis Award winner Lyndal Tacon



Mark McLean and ESA Servier Award winner Zoe Hyde

ESA SEMINAR MEETING – 2011

In 2011 the ESA Seminar Meeting will begin a new triennial curriculum cycle. The last cycle was managed by a NSW-based organizing committee, headed by Bernard Champion and Bronwyn Crawford. The 2011-13 meetings will be planned by Dr Rosemary Wong and a Melbourne-based POC. I am very grateful to Rosemary for agreeing to take this on.

The venue for 2011 will be the Launceston Country Club. This will be the first ESA meeting in Tasmania in living memory and I hope that all ESA members will be keen to come to enjoy the beauty and hospitality of the Apple Isle – as well as a great program of clinical and basic science seminars.

We expect to have an international guest, continuing the great tradition established in 2009 and 2010 with the visits of Rajesh Thakker and John Wass, respectively. (ESA is grateful to Ipsen Pty Ltd for their sponsorship of the Seminar Meeting overseas speaker). Please mark the dates of 29th April to 1st May in your diary and join us in Launceston for the meeting.

Professor Mark McLean

NEW MEMBERS

Zane Andrews	Paul Fogarty	Ratana Lim	Bianca St John
Algenes Aranha	Brian Fredericks	Hong Liu	Siti Sulaiman
Helen Atkinson	Champaklal Ganda	Jennifer Lo	Shane Sykes
Dana Briggs	Rebecca Goldstein	Kelly Loffler	Jonathan Taft
Shanti Carnelio	Kamala Guttikonda	Hayden McEwen	Vijayaganapathy
Bree Cawsey	Jacqueline Hewitt	Saidatul Mohammad	Vaithilingam
Yi Chen	Camilla Hoyos	Sandra Neoh	Amy Wagstaff
Simon Chu	Albert Hsieh	Karen Ng	Yu Wang
Wing Hong Chu	Ezani Jamil	Peter Nicholls	Toni Welsh
Louise Ciin	Charlotte Keating	Parul Nigam	Michaela Wharfe
Rachael Crew	Meredith Kelleher	Vijay Panicker	Kurugamage
Bethany Crinall	Katherine Kibbey	Eduardo Pimenta	Wijayaratne
Rebecca Dyson	Kevin Knower	Sarah Price	Natalie Yap
Pablo Enriori	Adam Koppers	John Prins	Chai Yee
Natalie Eriksson	Navina Krishnasamy	Shaffinaz Rahman	Morag Young
Nava Ferdowski	Kyren Lazarus	Stella Sarlos	
Rebecca Fitzsimmons	Joshua Lewis	Viral Shah	
Nicholas Fleming	Qun Li	Stephanie Simonds	

ESA would like to thank ESA award sponsors

**Ipsen Pty Ltd
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Australia Pty Ltd
Servier Laboratories (Australia)**

REPORT FOR ESA NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER AUSTRALASIAN WOMEN IN ENDOCRINOLOGY- (AWE)

Australasian Women in Endocrinology (AWE) works closely with the US Endocrine Society's Women in Endocrinology. As in previous years, we were delighted to have the continuing support of two Industry sponsors (DSL/Beckman Coulter and Novo Nordisk), who funded our activities and travel grant awards. The 2 awardees were: Ms Sarah To, a PhD Candidate from Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology of Prince Henry's Institute and Monash University and Ms. Liza Phillips, a PhD candidate from Diamantina Institute of University of Queensland.

This year we also did something different. We sponsored and were able to showcase past recipients of AWE awards in a special symposium at the Annual ESA Scientific meeting. Each of the 4 past awardees gave an update on their work and highlighted the importance of their award to the research program; the scientific presentations were excellent and proof of the worth of the program to the recipients.

Professor Gail Risbridger (Chair)

50 YEARS OF ENDOCRINE RESEARCH AT PRINCE HENRY'S

In 2010 Prince Henry's Institute of Medical Research (PHI) is celebrating 50 years of research.

The origins of PHI go back to the Medical Research Centre established in 1960 at Prince Henry's Hospital in Melbourne. Today, PHI is based at Monash Medical Centre in Clayton, Victoria and is well established as a leading centre for endocrine research.

Over the years researchers at the Institute, have played key roles as leaders in endocrine research. Here we look back on the history of the Institute, the contributions to research and also to the close ties with the Endocrine Society of Australia (ESA).

In 1958 Professor Bryan Hudson was one of the founding members of the ESA. Bryan was appointed as the Foundation Professor of Medicine at Monash University and in 1962 became the first Director of the new Medical Research Centre at Prince Henry's Hospital. He went on to serve as ESA President from 1966 to 1968. The ESA later named its clinical endocrinology award, presented at the annual scientific meeting, after Professor Hudson in recognition of his outstanding contribution to clinical and basic endocrinology.

In 1963 Henry Burger was recruited by Bryan as the fledgling Centre's first full time appointment and in 1969 Henry was appointed as Director of the Centre. He was also as Head of Endocrinology at the hospital. Between 1974 to 1976 Henry would also serve as ESA President.

Through the 1970's at the Medical Research Centre endocrine research continued to grow and flourish under his leadership. Amongst many achievements the Prince Henry's team of researchers pioneered new diagnostic approaches for common endocrine disorders and also developed new assay systems to reliably measure reproductive hormones. This progress would prove key in understanding and treating some of fertility issues seen in the couples attending the new fertility clinic established at the Medical Research Centre in 1977. Henry, together with the late Jean Hailes, also established Australia's first menopause treatment clinic.

In 1973 John Funder joined the team at the Medical Research Centre to lead a new Steroid Hormones Group. He also served as ESA President, from 1982 to 1984. Over the following 17 year period at Prince Henry's his team initiated fundamental research which revealed the critical role of adrenocortical hormones in cardiovascular disease. In 1990 John would become Director of the Baker Institute before returning to the Institute as a Senior Fellow in 2000.

Clinical researcher David de Kretser joined the staff of the Medical Research Centre in 1974 to lead a group which explored both clinical and basic aspects of male fertility. David would also become a major partner in the Melbourne quest for the elusive hormone inhibin. In recent years, through his high profile role as Governor of Victoria, he has made a major contribution to raising community awareness of endocrinology.

Prince Henry's research, and the close collaborations and networks established with other Australian endocrine experts, have led to several discoveries that have fundamentally changed the field. Perhaps most notably in 1985 the PHI team of researchers, including David Robertson, Jock Findlay, Rob McLachlan and Henry Burger, joined with other Melbourne partners to achieve a world first when they purified and characterised the hormone inhibin.

Many of today's leading Australian endocrine researchers and clinicians trained at the Medical Research Centre and also served in key ESA positions. Professor Peter Fuller, now Associate Director at the Institute and Head of Endocrinology at Monash Medical Centre, is also a past ESA President. Former Institute alumni who have served in major ESA roles include Ben Canny, Don Cameron and Ray Rodgers.

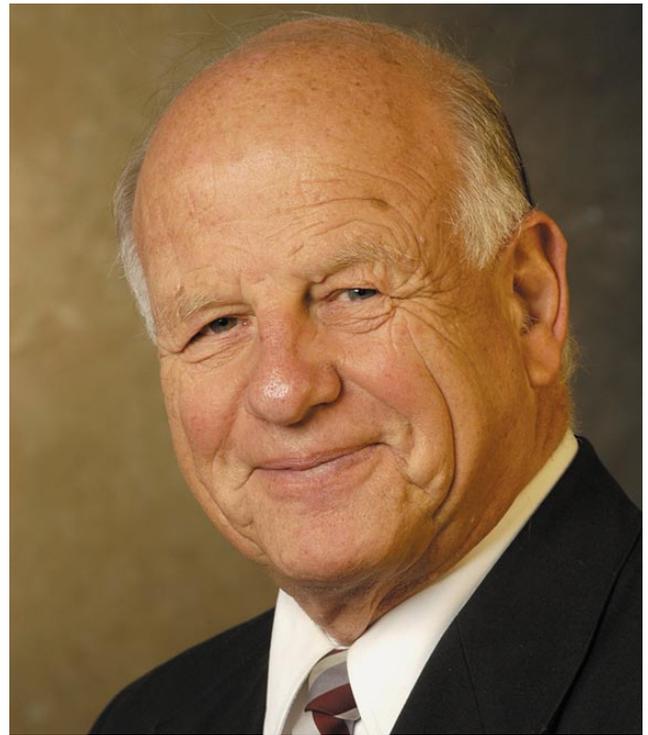
In 1999 Professor Evan Simpson became the third Director of the now renamed Prince Henry's Institute for Medical Research. Evan's research, linking aromatase and oestrogen biology to breast cancer, is widely recognised as having transformed the field. He currently plays a key role on ESA Council.

Today's endocrine research at PHI is firmly built upon almost 50 years of foundations. The Institute has been led since 2008 by Director Professor Matthew Gillespie and research is closely tied to several themes including cancer, cardiovascular disease, men and women's health and reproductive biology.

Further information www.princehenrys.org/50yrs



Bryan Hudson



Henry Burger

PHI 50TH ANNIVERSARY SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE ALSO A FAMILY REUNION

On Tuesday 26th September 2010 over 200 researchers from Prince Henry's, past and present, joined together for a one day scientific conference Hormones in health and disease; 50 years of endocrine research at PHI. The meeting was held at the Arts Centre in Melbourne; only a few hundred metres from the original St Kilda Road location of PHI's predecessor, the Medical Research Centre at Prince Henry's Hospital. Current PHI Director, Professor Matthew Gillespie, in his comments at the close of the meeting, highlighted that the collegial research environment at Prince Henry's had been established over many years. Former institute Director Professor Henry Burger delivered the Prince Henry's Jubilee Oration at the meeting, An endocrine odyssey.

The proceedings were opened by Professor Richard Larkins. Over 20 internal and external speakers presented current research stories and reflections on their own Prince Henry's Institute connections. Interstate and international endocrinologists, with past research and study associations to Prince Henry's, were welcomed to the conference which proved to be as much a family reunion as scientific meeting. Leading US andrology researcher and clinician Dr Bill Bremner, a former Prince Henry's PhD student, travelled from The University of Washington to present his research at the meeting. Professor Khalid Kadir, now a Professor of Medicine at the Monash University site in Malaysia, presented data on the epidemic of diabetes being seen in Asia and the basic research that may lead to new prevention and treatment strategies.

Professor Adrian Hetherington, now at the University of Queensland, was a senior researcher at Prince Henry's through the 1970's and 1980's.



Current PHI Director Matthew Gillespie thanks former Director Henry Burger after his presentation of the Prince Henry's Jubilee Oration.

During that time the team discovered the soluble growth hormone (GH) binding protein. He described some of this research history and also spoke about his current research examining hormone dependent cancers. Professor Judith Clements, former Prince Henry's student, and also a migrant to Queensland, spoke about her latest translational research in prostate and ovarian cancer. Other local speakers included Professor David de Kretser, Professor Iain Clarke, Professor Gab Kovacs and Professor Harry Majewski. The conference was followed by an evening reception at Government House, hosted by the Governor of Victoria.

INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP ROLE IN FERTILITY FOR MONASH ACADEMIC AND RESEARCHER

Professor David Healy, Chairman of the Monash Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, will this year begin his influential new role as President of the International Federation of Fertility Societies (IFFS) – an organisation of 59 member countries and around 40,000 health professionals.

This is the first time in the 60-year history of the IFFS and its sister organisation – the Federation for International Gynaecology and Obstetrics (FIGO) – that an Australian has been head of either body. He was elected at the last IFF World Congress in 2007 and will preside over the next international meeting, to be held in Munich in September.

“I’m charged with providing leadership on the direction of the IFFS in the next three years, and the task now is to work with the World Health Organisation in raising Women’s Health standards through Workshops that are run around the world, usually in developing countries,” says Professor Healy.

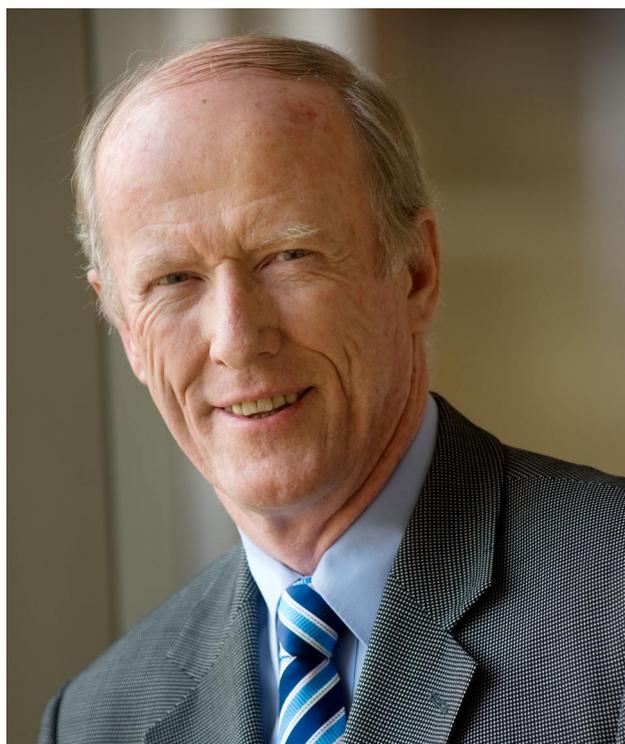
Other leadership goals involve making IFFS more inclusive of patients and counsellors (for the first time ever, a patient at the next congress will present a major lecture on her personal view of infertility), and maintaining the high clinical, scientific and ethical standards of the organisation.

After World War II, the medical community developed two international societies to care for women’s health across the globe. While FIGO concentrates on obstetrics and safe motherhood, IFFS focuses on contraception, fertility, infertility and gynaecology.

While in many countries women such as Hilary Clinton exert a strong influence on the political process and can agitate for better health care, IFFS member countries also include those where issues of fertility – especially contraception and abortion – are taboo.

“In many other countries that the IFFS deals with, women are regarded as inferior from the moment of conception. That’s a somewhat controversial IFFS issue. An Australian or a western view around the world is one thing but clearly some countries take it quite differently,” he says.

Professor Healy has been Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the Monash Medicine Centre (MMC) for 15 years and is a past president of the Fertility Society of Australia.



Professor David Healy

He is one of the original staff at Monash IVF and co-founded the Jean Hailes Menopause Foundation. He was the first person to introduce the drug Mifepristone (RU486) into Australia.

The MMC is the largest obstetric hospital in Australia, and the only one that has units in adult intensive care, adult coronary care and neonatal intensive care. Around 85 per cent of Victoria’s riskier pregnancies end up being referred to the MMC. The hospital delivers more than 8,000 babies each year, and its training program in obstetrics and gynaecology is over-subscribed.

ESA IPSEN INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL GRANT AWARD 2011

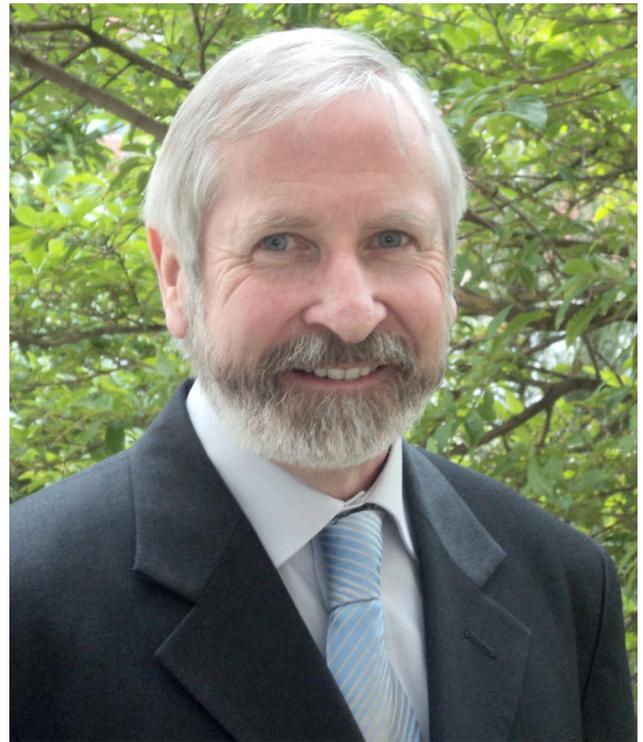
Aim:
To support younger members of the society to travel to international meetings, laboratories and/or clinics to further their training and knowledge in Endocrinology.

Awards:
One award of \$3500 will be awarded to assist with the costs of international travel to a European destination - Deadline 1st March 2011.
One award of \$3500 will be awarded to assist with the costs of international travel - Deadline 1st March 2011
One award of \$3500 will be awarded to assist with the costs of international travel - Deadline 1st August 2011

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

RAYMOND J. RODGERS - LIFE MEMBER

ESA member since 1981; awarded Life membership in 2010. Ray Rodgers graduated with a B Agr Sci (Hons) in 1976, M Agr Sci in 1979 and PhD in 1984, all from the University of Melbourne. He undertook post-doctoral training at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas (1984-1986) before returning to Australia in late 1986 as a Queen Elizabeth II Fellow at Prince Henry's Hospital in Melbourne. He moved to Flinders University in 1990 as he was awarded a NHMRC Senior Research Fellowship (1993), and with the awarding of a Principal Research Fellowship in 2000 he then moved to the University of Adelaide. Ray Rodgers was awarded the BBSRC Underwood Fellowship in 2007. He has served on ESA council for a total of six years, two as Vice President (1996-1998) and two as President (1998-2000). He was a former Editor of the ESA Newsletter (1995-1999) and Chair of the Program Organising Committee for the Annual Scientific Meeting (1991-1993), and member or chair of six ESA local organising committees. He has been a member or chaired NHMRC grant reviewing panels and the Training Awards Committee (2001-2007). Ray Rodgers is currently a Member of the NHMRC Academy (appointed 2009). He is a member of the Faculty of 1000 and Editor of Molecular and Cellular Endocrinology (from 2000) and has been or is a member of other editorial boards (Molecular Human Reproduction, Reproduction and Endocrinology). Ray Rodgers is currently the chair of the Steering committee of AIB Laboratories. His research interests have focused on the cellular biology underpinning the unique aspects of the endocrinology of the ovary.



Professor Ray Rodgers

It would be easy to assume ESA is just the Annual Scientific Meeting, but it runs two other clinical meetings and deals with many clinical endocrine issues, and interacts with many sister societies in these roles. ESA gave me numerous opportunities, and, as a scientist, these have helped me to focus and justify my research from a clinical perspective. I have met many members and made many friends over the years – for which I am grateful. So for any younger members, if you want to volunteer, I wholeheartedly suggest you do so. Ask any of the existing or former members how to go about this. There is no shortage of things to be done. You will enjoy it. Thank you again.

2010 AWARD WINNERS

Servier Young Investigator Award
Zoe Hyde

Novartis Junior Scientist Award
Lyndal Tacon

ESA/Bryan Hudson Clinical Endocrinology Award
Jeremy Hoang

ESA Mid-Career Research Award
Peter Liu

ESA/IPSEN International Travel Award
Wee-Ching Kong,
Frederik Steyn
Ann McCormack

FUTURE MEETINGS -**2010****15-18 November 2010**

Australian Health and Medical Research Congress
Melbourne

Website: <http://www.ahmrcongress.org.au/>

2-5 December 2010

AOCE 2010 - 14th Asia-Oceania Congress of
Endocrinology

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Website: www.aoce2010.com

2011**20-23 January 2011**

World Congress on controversies in bone & Joint
Diseases (C-Bone)

Barcelona, Spain

Website: www.comtecmed.com/cbone

4-6th March 2011

International Symposium on IGF-I, GH and Ghre-
lin/GHS: Climbing the Scientific Growth Ladder

The Peabody Hotel

Orlando, Florida

Website: www.cme.hsc.usf.edu/growthladder

20-22nd March 2011

TGFB Down Under conference

Melbourne

Contact: jane.girling@monash.edu

29th April-1st May 2011

ESA Seminar Meeting

Launceston Country Club

Convenor: Rosemary Wong

Website: <http://www.esaseminar.org.au>

2-5 June 2011

1st Asia Pacific Congress on Controversies to
Consensus in Diabetes, Obesity and Hypertension
(CODHy) Shanghai, China

Website: www.comtecmed.com/codhy/china

4-7th June 2011

ENDO

Boston, Massachusetts

<http://www.endo-society.org/meetings/Annual/index.cfm>

28th-31st August 2011

ESA/APEG ASM

Perth Convention Centre

Website: www.esa-srb.org.au

31st August - 2nd September

2011 ADS/ADEA Annual Scientific Meeting

Perth Convention Centre, WA

Website: <http://www.ads-adea.org.au/>

4-8th September 2011

IOF 2nd Asia-Pacific Meeting Osteoporosis and
Bone meeting: ANZBMS Scientific meeting with
the JSBMS

Gold Coast

Website: www.anzbms-iof.org

ENDOCRINE SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA – COUNCIL AND OFFICE BEARERS 2010-2012**A/Prof Vicki Clifton (President)**

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Honorary Secretary:
Dr David Phillips

Treasurer:
A.Prof Bu Beng Yeap

MINUTES FOR ENDOCRINE SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**SYDNEY CONVENTION CENTRE, SYDNEY
Auditorium A**

**TUESDAY 31st August 2010
5.00pm**

Attendance: Kathryn Gatford, Ray Rodgers, Peter Liu, Duncan Topliss, Walter Plehwe, Bev Muhlhausler, George Muscat, Mike Waters, Jock Findlay, Roger Smith, Carolyn Allan, Anne Turner, David Handlesman, Peter Fuller, Brian Hirschfeld, Zoe Hyde, Mark Hedger, Jeffrey Zajac, Mathis Grossmann, Rick Nicholson, Ross Cuneo, Cathy Choong, Annette Osei-Kumah, Ganesh Cholkalingan, R. Worsley, Matthew Dunn, Charles Allan, Tamas Zakar, Mark McLean, Vicki Clifton, Bu Yeap, Timothy Cole, Evan Simpson, Peter Ebeling, Helena Teede, Warrick Inder, Leon Bach, Belinda Henry, Nicollette Hodyl, Kathy Gatford.

1. Apologies

Kelly Loffler, Ben Canny, Sonia Stanton, Bernie Tuch, Jeff Schwartz, Shane Hamblin, Chen Chen, Ken Ho, Judith Clements, David Phillips, David Healy, Sue Mei Lau, John Funder, Chris Clarke, Mary Wlodek

2. Confirmation of Minutes – 25th August 2009, Adelaide Convention Centre

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting that was held on 25th August 2009 were accepted as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Leon Bach and seconded by Evan Simpson .

3. Business Arising

Nil.

4. President's Report

New ESA Council 2010-2012

As I step down from the role of ESA President I am very happy to be handing the Society into the hands of our first female President, A/Prof Vicki Clifton and a very capable ESA Council. The new line-up of Council combines some experienced members (Vicki Clifton, Peter Ebeling, Helena Teede, Warrick Inder, Evan Simpson, Tim Cole, Bu Yeap), with some new fresh blood (Chen Chen, Nicollette Hodyl and Belinda Henry). Office Bearers were chosen by Council at their meeting last night. Congratulations to President-elect Peter Ebeling, Honorary Secretary Tim Cole and Treasurer Warrick Inder. Vicki will be our first non-clinical President for some time and she has already indicated that she intends to make some changes in the running of Council, including the formation of a Medical Affairs sub-committee to manage issues relating to clinical institutions and issues. We will also see the formation of a finance subcommittee to advise on the increasingly complicated financial dealings of ESA (more on this below).

ESA Achievements in 2010

ESA is becoming ever stronger. In the coming year we will probably see our membership pass the 1000 mark, our meetings become bigger every year and the involvement of the Society in many facets of medical and scientific affairs continues to increase. In 2010 our nominee, Past-President Leon Bach, became a member of the Executive Committee of the International Society for Endocrinology (ISE). This will give us

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a very important voice in international affairs in our discipline. Leon was also on the POC of the 2010 ICE in Kyoto and succeeded in gaining places for many Australia speakers on the program. We continue to foster links with fellow societies, and an important example of this will be the combined ASM in 2011 with the Australian Paediatric Endocrine Group. We also have established exciting new opportunities for young Australian endocrine scientists to study, work or travel overseas through new International Scholar Awards and invitations to the Japan Endocrine Society seminar meeting. I have felt enormously privileged to have been your President for these last two years and I look forward to continuing involvement with the new Council from the backseat role of Past-President

ESA Finances

The Society's fundamental financial position is very strong and we continue to produce healthy surpluses from our meetings each year. In 2008-9 the Global Financial Crisis caused problems for our management of invested funds and for the support of the ESA Scholarship and Post-doctoral Award. It was necessary to temporarily suspend new awards for a time – but these will begin again in 2011. It is important for us to have a sound financial plan to achieve the Society's objectives. Recently Council commissioned an independent review to guide development of an ongoing financial strategy. Together with the formation of a Finance Subcommittee, this should allow us to have confidence about our future conduct of ESA's increasingly complicated financial affairs.

Meetings in 2010

The Seminar Meeting (Wollongong, May 2010) and the Clinical Weekend both attracted record registrations and were highly successful meetings. I would like to express the ESA's thanks to the chief organizers of those meetings; Bernard Champion, Sue Mei Lau and Sue Lynn Lau. Kathy Gatford has stepped into the role of POC Chair for the Annual Scientific Meeting, surely the most demanding role in our Society. Kathy and her committee have produced a fantastic program and attracted first-class plenary speakers. It has all of the hallmarks of another very successful conference.

Thanks

Thank you to all members of the ESA Council for their contributions to the running of the Society in the last year, and especially to Ivone Johnson and Melissa Dupavillon for sterling work as the Secretariat.

4.1 Motion

Election of new Honorary Life Member on the recommendation of Council

Ray Rodgers

CARRIED.

5. Treasurer's Report

Financial report from the auditor

We have changed auditors and this has resulted in significant changes in the interpretation of the accounts.

The Australian Accounting Standards Board have issued a directive for the 2010 financial year that all public companies limited by guarantee are to be "reporting entities" and accordingly are now required to prepare general purpose financial reports that comply with all Australian Accounting Standards. In the past the Society has prepared a special purpose financial report that only had to comply with five accounting standards and limited disclosure

The reasoning behind this change is a public company, by definition, will always have users of the financial report that are unable to demand the information they need to make decisions regarding the allocation of scarce resources. In the past the Society has been able to satisfy this requirement by agreeing to answer any questions or provide the information that any member requested.

This has resulted in a significant increase in the size of this year's financial report.

Financial result

Revenue increased by 5.8% with increases in interest, managed fund distributions and conference proceeds whilst expenses were substantially similar to prior years with the exception of conference expenses and award costs. This resulted in an overall operational loss of \$38,855.

The statement of comprehensive income however shows an overall loss in equity of \$95,784. This is the first year this statement has been used and the difference between the operating loss of \$38,855 and the \$95,784 being the decrease in the market value of the Asgard portfolio of \$56,929.

In the prior year, the decrease in the market value of the Asgard portfolio was expensed as an impairment loss in the statement of comprehensive income as the decrease was considered to be significant and prolonged. This is seen in the comparative column and is included in the profit & loss (above the line)

The decrease in market value at June 2010 was not considered significant or prolonged and has been placed in a financial asset reserve – this determination is made annually and if equity markets fall again in the next twelve months, this could be expensed as an impairment loss in the 2011 year. If equity markets rise, this amount would be moved out of the reserve and back to the value of the investment.

The Societies cash flow was negative with \$550,000 being placed with Asgard and prepayments being made for the 2010 meetings. Overall the Society remains with \$952,000 in net assets.

Corporate sponsorship

Corporate sponsorship (income, page 9) has decreased slightly this year. The sponsors for this financial year are Ipsen, Novartis, Servier and Roche products

Membership subscriptions

Subscription payments have increased since last financial year 2009 was \$73955 2010 was \$78315. Currently we have 970 members, 760 have paid up to 2010 and 210 are unfinancial members.

Society's investments

Asgard Investment portfolio

The bulk of our investment was moved into a fixed term deposit in the midst of the financial crisis and we then re-invested \$529 628.43 in April 2010 when the market was on an upswing. However there have been subsequent fluctuations in the market with the announcement of the resource tax and then the election which have again affected returns on the investment from May to August.

Current value as of 30 June: \$668 258.47

Return: -\$46 874.15

Value as of August \$674,338.96

PhD and Postdoctoral Scholarships

We currently fund one PhD student and one postdoctoral fellow: Tammy Pang and Dr Sarah Spencer. Further funding of other scholarships and fellowships are on hold until the ESA financial position is strengthened.

5.1 Audited Accounts

Approval for the Audited accounts was moved by David Handelsman and seconded by Peter Ebeling. CARRIED.

6. Medical Affairs Report

Peter stated the college are looking at the accommodation of the special societies and will probably charge rent in the future. This money will go into research and scholarships.

The adult medical council are enforcing advance trainees in endocrinology. A curriculum needs to be developed that is more standardised.

The SAC currently have two representatives from ESA. Mark McLean and Elke Hendrich.

7. Report on 2010 ESA Meetings • Seminars • Clinical weekend • ASM

The 2010 Seminar, Clinical weekend and ASM have shown near record numbers of registrants and were very successful.

8. Future Meetings

ASM 2011 Combined meeting ESA/APEG–Perth Convention Centre, 28-31 August

The ASM will be held at the Perth Convention Centre. Kathy Gatford is the POC Chair.

ESA Clinical Weekend 2011, 26-27th August 2011

ESA Seminar Meeting 2011

This meeting will be held in Launceston, Tasmania.

9. Other business

9.1 New council and office bearers

Vicki Clifton-President, Peter Ebeling-President-elect, Tim Cole-Secretary, Warrick Inder –Treasurer, Councillors: Helena Teede, Evan Simpson, Bu Yeap, Chen Chen, Nicollette Hodyl and Belinda Henry.

Duncan Topliss

Issues on endorsements have not gone out to members. Email members for expertise.

Cathy Choong

Growth Hormone in young adults

Growth Hormone drug companies who take lead recognising the TGA was not responsive. Up against a losing battle. Subsidiary of growth hormone in young adults. ESA might be asked for endorsement.

Jeff Zajac

The number of medical graduates will increase in the next year or two to 3000. There is no plan and not many jobs. ESA could make statement for college eg. What is the plan for trainees

Make it clear that ESA and RACP need more endocrine trainees. Paid training in private practice. Workforce requirement plan needed. This should be done with the other endocrine societies ESA, ANZBMS, ADS and APEG

Mark McLean

Concerned about the state of endocrinologists with NHMRC. Perception that they are hard done by for grants. Structure of NHMRC puts endocrinology as a disadvantage. ESA have met with NHMRC, Leon Bach, Mark McLean and Peter Fuller.

Met with Jim Best. Concerns were acknowledged. Endocrinology is put into larger discipline group..

Survey members to see which members are on these panels.

10. Date of next meeting: Perth, 31st August 2011