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**Presidents Update**

We're almost mid-way through the year and I'm wondering where the time has gone. A lot of it was spent preparing for the 2<sup>nd</sup> AWTRS meeting in Perth which was certainly the high-light of the first 6 months for me, despite the weather!! I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did. It was great to see so many familiar and new faces and to hear more about the re-search going on in Australia and overseas which is as good as any you will see presented in similar European and Ameri-can conferences. In this issue of the newsletter you will find two excellent reports describing the conference in more detail which we hope you will enjoy. Please also take a minute to go to the AWTRS website to see other reports about the confer-ence and also some fabulous



photos taken throughout the event. <http://www.awtrs.org/pages/conferences.php>

Our society is fortunate to have the support of the American Wound Healing Society and all the abstracts from the confer-ences will be published in the upcoming issue of Wound Re- pair & Regeneration Vol 18(3). Please consider subscribing to this important wound and tissue repair journal and take advan- tage of the discounted rates for AWTRS members.

The first AWTRS AGM was held during the conference and



was strongly supported with over 30 members attending the event. Reports were presented and committee elections held. I was pleased to be reelected President for a final 2 year office; Zee Upton was elected Vice President, Rachael Murray Secretary and Geoff Sussman Treasurer. Pritinder Kaur, Hilary Wallace and Mark Fear chose not to stand again for the general committee and I would like to thank them for all their hard work as part of the founding AWTRS committee which has brought the Society to where it is today with over 90 members and 2 successful conferences under its belt. New committee members were elected and I would like to welcome them to the committee: Chris Jackson NSW, James McMillan QLD, Leila Cuttle QLD, Xue-Qing Wang QLD and Nadira Ruzehaji SA (Student/Early Career Representative). I will look forward to working with you and all the

reelected members over the next 2 years to improve and strengthen the Society for the benefits of our members. We have lots of new ideas including the offer of Travel Scholarships/grants for students and ECRs to attend International Meetings which we will be announcing shortly. We are always keen to get feedback from members about things that you think could be done better or ideas for new initiatives so please feel free to contact myself or anyone on the committee if you have any thoughts and good ideas. All our contact details can be found on p23 of this newsletter.

Thank you for all the help and support over the last 3 years and I will look forward to working with you all over the next two years.

**Allison Cowin**  
President, AWTRS



Sydney, March 2012 ~3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting



Australasian Wound  
& Tissue Repair Society

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## AWTRS 2010 Masterclass Report

By Dr Leila Cuttle

The pre-conference Master Class session of the AWTRS was held on the Monday afternoon and was an exciting opportunity for early career researchers and students to present their work and interact with established, successful scientists. This informal session (which was the first such session for the AWTRS) was facilitated by Prof. Zee Upton who used the added incentive of chocolate bribes to promote questions and discussion among the participants – which worked extremely well! The session was also made more informal as each speaker shared personal information about their favourite activities and cooking recipes or their dark secrets...

The introductory talk of the session was from artist Oron Catts who presented a fascinating walk through the sometimes bizarre history of wound and tissue research and the disturbing stories of some of the major players, such as the unethical propagation of HeLa cells from Henrietta Lacks. Oron then went on to describe some of the thought-provoking biology-as-art exhibitions he has presented. Highlights were the worry dolls which were made from bio-

degradable sutures and seeded with live cells and grown in a bioreactor and the creation of miniature pig wings. The pièce de résistance was a culinary delight of frog steaks composed of gelatinous frog muscle cells grown on fabric-like matrix in a very tasty sauce which apparently were spat out by several guests (however this was good because then he could use them again in his next exhibition)!

Presentations by several researchers doing exciting research followed. Rob Murano spoke of his engineered tympanic membrane composed of silk fibroin which will hopefully be used to repair perforated eardrums in the near future (after spending lots of money they don't have on setting up a GMP facility). James Broadbent shared his discovery of ~100 new proteins from the chronic



wound fluid of patients treated with hyperbaric oxygen therapy and his initial ELISA results confirming the patterns of proteins indentified from his data. Melissa Fernandez spoke of her research into xanthine oxidoreductase and uric acid in the chronic wound environment and the potential use in the future of these molecules as diagnostic tools and trials of Allopurinol as a therapeutic agent. After this part of the session on chronic wounds, the challenges of burn wounds were discussed with work investigating the efficacy of different burn first aid treatments (including saliva) presented by Leila Cuttle and the role of metallothionein in wound healing and potential for peripheral nerve protection shown by Natalie Morellini. The last presentations by early career researchers were by Boris Klopčič and James Waters. Boris has been working with the SPARC knockout mouse to investigate intestinal inflammation and has developed a novel mouse endoscopy technique which can be used to deliver tumour treatments and create intestine incisional wounds. James has been studying the role of Flightless 1 (Flii) in hair follicle regeneration and has been conducting many intricate mouse whisker hair follicle surgeries and hair follicle amputations to examine the expression and distribution of Flii at different time points in the hair regeneration process. The interesting and exciting

work presented by these researchers (as well as the other young researchers scattered throughout the rest of the conference program) certainly promises a continued bright future for wound healing and tissue regeneration research and therapies in Australiasia!

The last part of the session was a panel discussion with special guests Prof. Paul Martin and Prof. Rob Short who talked about their different career paths. They offered advice for young researchers on various aspects of career development including: the importance of publishing in top (overall and within each field) journals, how to write papers, tenure/lectureships as an opportunity for more career stability and engaging with students, the importance of mentors, student supervision and taking that first independent step after completing a PhD. They shared many interesting stories of their own successes and failures and their winding career pathways which were sometimes directed by chance meetings or experiences. This



engaging conclusion to the Master Class session really stimulated young researchers to think about what career path they were aiming for, how they measured success and how they were going to get to where they wanted to go! Having two different guests with different measures of success and different backgrounds really illustrated the diversity within the field in terms of career pathways and the difficulties but also the potential opportunities for “young-uns”. Overall, the Master Class session was an exciting initiative offering valuable advice for researchers and hopefully it will be a fixture of future AWTRS conferences. Thank you to the special guests and organisers for their input and contributions and QUT ihbi for sponsoring the session.

**Dr Leila Cuttle,**

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## 2<sup>nd</sup> scientific meeting of the AWTRS, Perth, 23-24 March, 2010 Conference report by Nadira Ruzehaji

The Australasian Wound and Tissue Repair Society (AWTRS) hosted its second scientific meeting at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, Perth, Western Australia, 22-24 March, 2010. The goal of the event was to exchange the scientific information on current trends and developments in the field of wound healing and tissue repair research. This meeting aimed to provide a socially interactive environment for the young investigators enabling them to learn from experienced scientists, reflect on their work and current challenges. Similarly, experienced researchers were provided with an opportunity to exchange ideas and discuss future collaboration opportunities. More than 100 delegates, many of them young Australian scientists, at the beginning of their career, participated in this two day-long event.

The opening plenary on the first full day covered immunity in wound healing and Paul Martin from Bristol University reviewed wound repair and inflammatory response in models of inflammation in the *Drosophila* embryo and in the translucent zebra fish larval tail. Paul Martin elaborated on embryonic tissue healing which resolves without leaving a scar – a process thought to be due to a reduced

inflammatory response. Paul Martin's group have discovered several wound-expressed genes, including osteopontin, which have been identified as important in guiding migration of macrophages towards wound sites. The audience was captivated with Paul's informative presentation complimented by high quality audio-visual aids, including digital video images of dynamic behavior of fluorescently tagged immune cells.

Complimentary to the information given in Paul Martin's presentation, Rachael Murray from the Children's Hospital at Westmead, Sydney, further emphasized the importance of macrophage migration into wounds and elaborated on important trafficking pathways required for macrophage migration and secretion of metal-



**L to R President A/Prof Allison Cowin with speakers Prof Prue Hart and Prof Dedee Morrell.**

loproteinases. On a different note, Prue Hart from the University of Western Australia spoke about the importance of Vitamin D in the skin and reminded that 80% of vitamin D comes from UV irradiation of skin and only 20% from the diet. Prue Hart warned the delegates that many of the office workers of the sunniest state of Australia – Queensland don't get enough vitamin D. According to Prue Hart and her team, vitamin D3 regulates proliferation and enhances differentiation in keratinocytes, as well as stimulates antimicrobial peptide production. Prue's presentation convinced me to recommence my lunch time walking and outdoor exercising commitment.

The President of the AWTRS and my mentor A/Prof Allison Cowin spoke about the actin-remodelling protein Flightless I - an important regulator of wound repair. Allison Cowin discussed the function of secreted and cytoplasmic forms of Flightless I and suggested that this protein could be transported to the cell surface via late endosomes and may have important extracellular activities during wound repair.

During the next session titled as "Regeneration" Jemma Evans from Uterine Biology Laboratory, Monash Medical Centre in Melbourne reminded the delegates of an interesting fact - post-menstrual endometrium repair is com-

pletely scar-free. With up to 450 cycles of scar-free resolution, the endometrium presents a unique opportunity to study scarless repair. Similarly to fetal wounds, this is a motivating area of research and may help us to better understand the normal and abnormal process of adult wound healing. Besides, collecting menstrual flow can't be any worse than collecting fluid from a chronic wound.

It was the next session that highlighted the fact that the process of research followed by translation to practice takes a long route. Such translation of research to practice is the goal of much of our research. Indeed, research provides components that are assembled together with components made in other research centres, to create a body of knowledge that ultimately may lead to better wound outcomes. In this special presentation, Zee Upton - Vice President of AWTRS and the leader of Tissue Repair and Regeneration Program, Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation, Queensland University of Technology, spoke about



the Wound Management Innovation Cooperative Research Centre. With 24 partners, The Wound Management Innovation CRC is a collaborative research initiative aimed to transform wound outcomes by developing novel wound products and translating best practice wound care into clinical settings. Of the \$130 million provided by the government for world-class collaborative research and innovation the Wound Management Innovation CRC has received \$27.9 million over 8 years. Congratulations are extended to Professor Zee Upton as we can envisage and anticipate innovative therapeutic approaches based on the ground-breaking work of the Wound Management Innovation Cooperative Research Centre. Speaking of novel wound healing agents; Geoffrey Mitchell of the University of Queensland School of Medicine introduced preclinical data suggesting effective chronic wound resolution following topical application of OPAL A. OPAL A is paw paw pulp, which is applied to wound surfaces in the form of a 30% cream. OPAL A is believed to be an effective vasodilator with positive influences on perfusion of the vascular bed. The plenary the following day discussed the material engineering in regenerative medicine. We were privileged to have Jeffrey Hubbell – a world-class speaker, come to Perth and talk about his research. Jeffrey Hubbell, of the Institute of Bioengineering, Lausanne Switzerland, spoke about matrices that can be used to



display bioactive peptides and proteins, as well as genes with suitable nonviral vectors. Jeffrey Hubbell's fibrin and synthetic hydrogel scaffolds are very fascinating as cells are able to migrate within these three-dimensional scaffolds. Jeffrey Hubbell and his team have engineered molecular variants of the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> type-III repeat of fibronectin and explored the ability of such matrices to accelerate mesenchymal stem cell differentiation along an osteogenic pathway. Jeffrey Hubbell and his colleagues demonstrated that exposure to a recombinant dimer of the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> type-III repeats lead to more extensive interaction with alpha 5 beta 1 integrin and enhance a substantial increase in osteodifferentiation. Apart from sharing his research findings Jeffrey Hubbell has given us a glimpse of the breath taking view of his office window, which overlooks the beautiful lake of Geneva. Thank you, Jeffrey; your pictures have made me jealous. We were pleased that our next speaker - Leigh Parkinson from Fiona Wood's Burn Injury Research Unit, University of West-

ern Australia, was able to join us at the conference and present his PhD project findings. Leigh returned from his trip to America on Sunday only to find his house in Perth flooded with water due to that storm we witnessed on Monday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March. In his work, Leigh Parkinson developed an aluminium oxide template preparation to generate membranes with differing nano-pore sizes enabling epidermal and dermal cells to adhere to these membranes, which could potentially be used as a dressing or as a delivery vehicle for an “upside-down transplantation” of cells. Dedee Murrell’s work was also based around delivering cells to a wound. Professor Murrell of the Department of Dermatology at St George Hospital in Sydney presented her findings of the first double blind placebo-controlled randomized trial of intradermal cultured allogeneic fibroblast injections in Recessive Dystrophic Epidermolysis Bullosa – skin blistering disorder, which is particularly devastating in children. Dedee Murrell and her colleagues found that the rate of healing in the treated sites using both the cultured fibroblasts and placebo were significantly greater than untreated complemented by a significantly higher collagen VII production in the treated wounds. This may imply that the injection alone enhances the healing of blistered wounds.

As part of the final session titled “Chronic Wounds – Mechanisms and Di-

agnostics”, four researchers two of whom were international presenters, spoke about the current developments in the area of chronic wound healing. Laura Edsberg of the Center for Wound Healing Research in New York, USA and Sandra Loerakker of Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands have presented their research findings concerning pressure-related injuries. Laura Esberg collected wound fluid samples from 50 pressure ulcers at 15 time points within 42 days. She measured and compared the changes in the biochemical profile of the wounds to identify trends in healing and non-healing pressure ulcers and found that wound outcome was correlated with the biochemical profile of the wound. On the other hand, Sandra Loerakker investigated the role of ischemia in an *in-vivo* rat model of pressure-related deep tissue injury. Using Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) as a tool to measure reperfusion following a tourniquet induced muscle damage, Laura concluded that releasing the tourniquet after 4 hours leads to reperfusion, whereas no restoration of



perfusion is observed after 6 hours of tourniquet-induced pressure. Two concluding presentations have discussed the damaging influence of diabetes on wound healing. Frances Henshaw of the University of Sydney, discussed the role of Connective Tissue Growth Factor in an in-vivo rat model of diabetic wound healing, whereas I introduced data related to the influence of Flightless I protein in streptozotocin-induced mouse model of excisional wound healing.

In conclusion, I take this opportunity to thank the members of the organizing committee for making the AWTR 2010 conference possible and for setting out a

well planned program and orchestrating this worthwhile event. I hope that the delegates of this conference have enjoyed its relaxed and informal atmosphere as much as I have. I look forward to our next meeting in Sydney, 2012.

**Nadira Ruzehaji**

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The AWTRS 2010 Conference Dinner, relocated to the conference centre after Perth turned on a fantastic hailstorm to spoil our planned dinner. As you can see, the replacement function was a great success.

## Conference Report: “Crossing the Boundaries” at the Second Scientific Meeting of the AWTRS

22<sup>nd</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup> of March, 2010, Perth Convention Centre

Daniel Broszczak, Jacqui McGovern, Emily Lynam, Yan Xie and James Broadbent

### Abstract

The first scientific meeting of the Australasian Wound and Tissue Repair Society (AWTRS) was held on the sixth day of May, 2008 and emerged from the perceived need to recognise the current developments and innovative research outcomes that were being generated in the field of wound repair and tissue regeneration within the Australasian region. Two years on, in 2010, the second meeting has provided the same common forum for researchers based in the Australasian region and, in addition, has provided access to a strong representation of delegates from international research institutes. The second meeting was intended instead as not only an opportunity to distinguish forefront research but also as an avenue to explore research going beyond the boundaries into novel, innovative and even aesthetic directions. Furthermore, the inaugural AWTRS Master Class was the forerunner of this year’s conference, successfully bringing together internationally recognised experts into a dy-

namic and intimate environment consisting of higher degree research students, early- and mid-career researchers and successful laboratory heads alike, all with a passion to discuss topics from latest directives in wound research and career development strategies to the marriage of science and art and the cultural, ethical and moral impact of this BioArt. The conference also included the inaugural AWTRS Annual General Meeting. With a strong contingent of 48 presenters, 24 poster presentations and 3 plenary sessions this conference eclipsed other previous wound and tissue repair meetings with the high level of quality research presented. The AWTRS conference is an advantageous and beneficial, if not crucial, event in the biennial calendar for the wound and tissue repair research community.

To read more of this excellent report please go to [www.awtrs.org](http://www.awtrs.org)

## Conference Awards—AWTRS 2010

### THE BIO-RAD PRIZE-WINNERS:

Bio-Rad Best Oral Presentation: **James Broadbent** (Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation, Brisbane)

Bio-Rad Runner-up Oral Presentation: **James Waters** (Women's & Children's Health Research Institute, Adelaide)

Bio-Rad Best Poster: **Zlatko Kopecki** (Women's and Children's Health Research Institute, Adelaide)

### AWTRS TRAVEL AWARDS:

**Jemma Evans** (Prince Henry's Institute, Melbourne)

**Cheng-Hung Lin** (Women's and Children's Health Research Institute, Adelaide)

**James Musyoka** (RMIT University, Melbourne)

**James Waters** (Women's and Children's Health Research Institute, Adelaide)

### UWA BEST STUDENT ORAL PRIZE WAS AWARDED TO:

**Emily Lynam** (Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation, Brisbane)



## Introduction to our new AWTRS Early Career Representative Nadira Ruze Haji

My name is Nadira Ruze Haji. I am a second year PhD student, Department of Paediatrics, University of Adelaide. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and to thank all those that supported my candidature by trusting me with the important task of representing the Early Career Researchers/Student at the AWTRS committee.

My Bachelor's degree was obtained from the University of South Australia. I was awarded a baccalaureate degree in Podiatry and pursued a career of a clinical practitioner. I treated patients with cutaneous diabetic ulcers, which stimulated a special interest in understanding more about the mechanisms involved in wound healing. Wound healing is susceptible to interruption by diabetes - Australia's fastest growing chronic disease. I have witnessed the pain and suffering of people living with diabetes and know how important it is to find better therapies. This led to my decision to return to post-graduate studies and commence my Honours Degree in the wound healing laboratory of A/Prof Allison Cowin.

Since completing my Honours degree I have been awarded a postgraduate

scholarship and enrolled in PhD Medicine Program at the University of Adelaide. As a second year PhD candidate I currently have one article published in the British Journal of Dermatology, one article published in the Journal of Wound Practice and Research, 3 published abstracts, 1 manuscript in preparation and one *book chapter*.

In September, 2009, I attended the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the European Tissue Repair Society and the Wound Healing Society in Limoges, France. I was successful in receiving a number of awards, including the prestigious AUGU/RC Heddle Award, which enabled me to present my work at this international event. Recently, I presented my work at the 2<sup>nd</sup> conference of the Australasian Wound & Tissue Repair Society held in March, 2010, Perth, Australia. I enjoyed attending this important meeting, which allowed useful exchanges and provided a forum for interactive discussions.

In my doctoral studies I intend to investigate the role of Flightless protein in diabetic wound healing. The data obtained during the course of my study will add to the current pool of knowledge and contribute towards the achievement of our

common goal – to pioneer treatments that alleviate patient suffering. An integral part of my project is to test a novel antibody preparation, which has a potential to become an innovative solution in the treatment of diabetic wounds.

I am an enthusiastic and proactive person and given my previous experience as a podiatrist and current experience as a young research scientist I look forward to contributing and supporting the AWTRS in its ongoing initiatives and activities. I would also like to encourage young scientists and students to join our society and look forward to hearing from our current financial members. I am es-

pecially interested in hearing from our early career researchers and students regarding the issues you may have. Your concerns, comments and suggestions will be raised at our regular committee meetings. Please feel free to contact me.

**Nadira Ruzehaji**

Wound Healing Laboratory,  
Women's & Children's Health Research  
Institute, Women's & Children's Hospital,  
Adelaide

E-mail: [nadira.ruzehaji@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:nadira.ruzehaji@adelaide.edu.au)



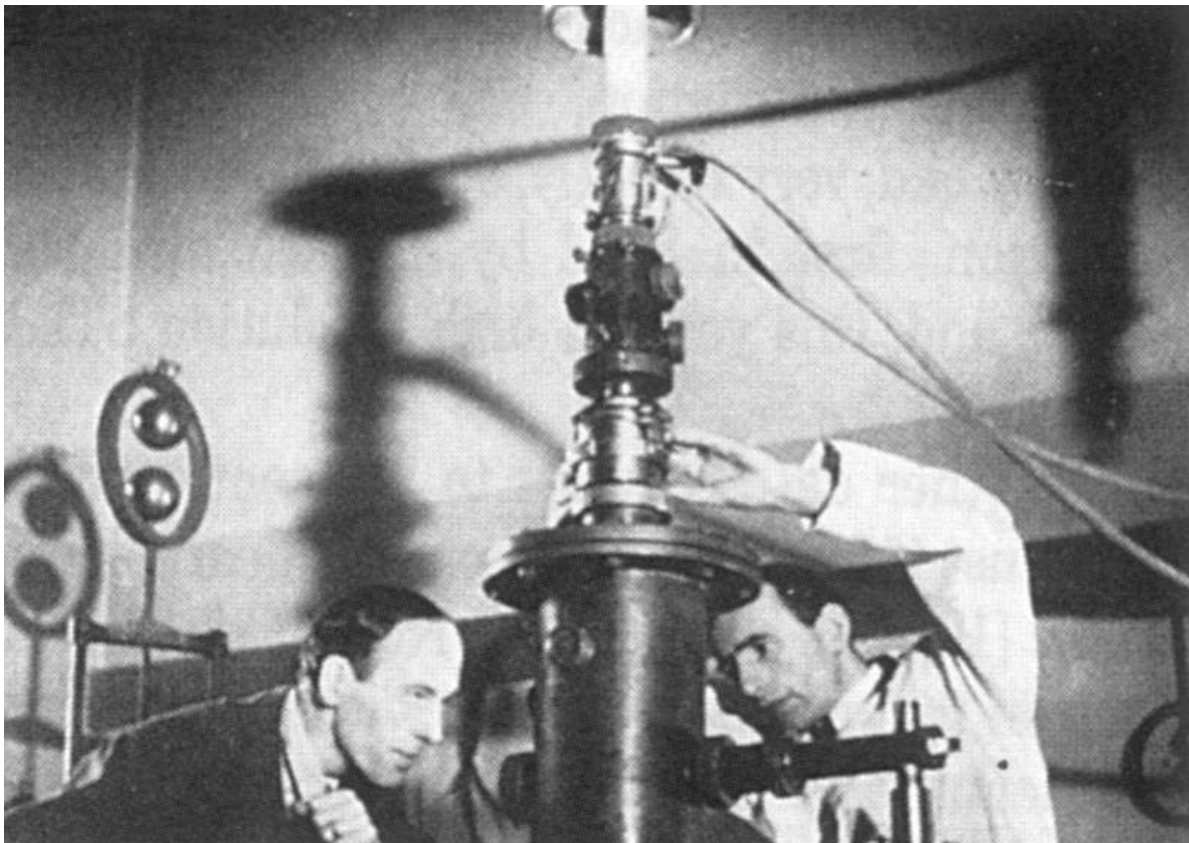
**Nadira Ruzehaji**, new committee member representing early career researchers

## Scientists in Schools

The Australasian Wound & Tissue Repair Society strongly supports the need to take action to increase the exposure of school students to science as it is practised by our members. One way to facilitate this is by engaging with the Australian Government's *Scientists in Schools* program run by the CSIRO. This is something that YOU can do!

In this free program the scientist is partnered with an interested teacher at a school in your preferred location. Together the teacher and the scientist identify ways that the real world experience of the scientist can be used to create more engaging learning experiences for the students. The time commitment and level of interaction with students is fully negotiated between the teacher and the scientist involved.

If you are interested in sharing your passion and knowledge then please visit [www.scientistsinschools.edu.au](http://www.scientistsinschools.edu.au) for ideas and information and to register online or contact one of the *Scientists in Schools* team via [scientistsinschools@csiro.au](mailto:scientistsinschools@csiro.au) or 02 6276 6397



**Upcoming Conferences 2010**



**20TH  
ETRS  
2010**

**GENT, BELGIUM**  
**15-17 September 2010**

**www.etr2010.org**



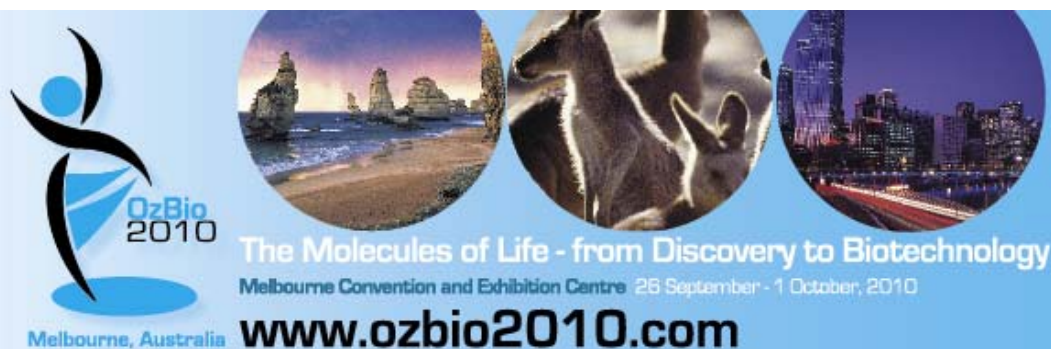
ASSOCIATIE  
UNIVERSITEIT GENT



<http://www.etr2010.org>

**Basic and Clinical Research: Building Blocks in the Puzzle of Tissue Repair**

## Upcoming Conferences 2010



We are delighted to extend an invitation to participate in the International Conference on “Molecules of life: from discovery to biotechnology” to take place in Melbourne 26 September to 1 October 2010.

This premier international scientific meeting brings together the 12th IUBMB Conference, the 21st FAOBMB Conference and the Com-Bio2010 meeting. This unique blend of participating societies will generate an outstanding scientific and technological event, which will be of major interest to biochemists, molecular biologists, cell and developmental biologists, and plant scientists. The world’s top speakers in these areas will present their exciting new findings in major plenary sessions and in a wide array of more specialist symposia.

The conference will be held in the newly built Melbourne Convention Centre. The Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre is centrally located on the banks of the Yarra River adjacent to the Southbank entertainment precinct and within close walking distance of all major city hotels, motels and apartments. Melbourne is one of the top ten convention destinations in the world.

We look forward to welcoming you to Melbourne, Australia, in September 2010.

### KEY DATES

**YSF Application Deadline:**  
**1 February, 2010**

**Abstract Submission Deadline:**  
**16 April, 2010**

**End of Earlybird Registration Deadline:**  
**16 April, 2010**

**Guaranteed Hotel Reservation Deadline**  
**26 July, 2010**

## Upcoming Conferences 2010



[www.termis.org](http://www.termis.org)



### INVITATION FOR ABSTRACTS



On behalf of the organising committee as chairperson of this forthcoming meeting I wish to invite your participation in this inaugural TERMIS event in Australia.

This is an unique opportunity for all those involved in science and research to come together with medicine, dentistry, veterinary surgery and allied health disciplines to promote the worldwide advancement of tissue engineering and regenerative medicine; in particular the integration of current laboratory technologies and clinical needs in our region.

We offer our delegates innovative topics and stimulating clinical debates which will be led by a balance of international and national speakers and the opportunity for industry to contribute.

We look forward to your participation and welcoming you to Sydney in September 2010.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Geoff McKellar".

**GEOFF MCKELLAR**  
CHAIR TERMIS AP 2010

## Upcoming conferences 2010

We invite you to submit abstracts to be considered for presentation at **TERMIS AP 2010**.

- Plenary presentation – anticipated time 60 mins
- Keynote presentation – anticipated time 30 mins
- Oral presentation – anticipated 15 mins
- Poster presentation – displayed on a board with dimensions of 1.8m high x 1.2 wide

The topic areas will include:

- Biomaterials and scaffolds
- Nanotechnological advances in tissue engineering
- Gene therapy and gene regulation
- Advances in stem cells science
- Immunological considerations and modulation in tissue engineered implants
- Bioreactors and mechanotransduction
- Commercialisation of tissue engineering implants
- Regulatory issues in tissue engineering
- Stem cell based therapies:
  - Cardiovascular
  - Musculoskeletal
  - Neural/Organs/Skin
  - Haematopoietic system
- Biomaterial based therapies:
  - Cardiovascular
  - Musculoskeletal
  - Neural/Organs/Skin
- Clinical integration of therapies in medicine, dentistry and veterinary science

### **Abstract Submission Information**

**Closing Date: 30 APRIL 2010**

Online submission, via the TERMIS web site - [www.termis.org](http://www.termis.org) - is the only method for the submission of abstracts.

When you submit your abstract you will be given an Access Key - please make a note of this key. If you wish to submit a new abstract or replace an existing abstract (before the closing date) you can do so through the Speakers Zone on the web site.

Please note that it is a **requisite** that the presenting authors for all accepted abstracts register for a minimum of one day at TERMIS AP 2010.

## Upcoming conferences 2011

### **Australasian Society for Biomaterials & Tissue Engineering (ASBTE)**

The 21st Annual conference of the ASBTE will be held in Queenstown, New Zealand from April 27-29th, 2011.

April is a fantastic time of year to be in Queenstown and the timing is conveniently placed directly after the Easter holiday period and during the academic term break.

We are also pleased to announce that the conference website is now live at ...  
[www.conferencequeenstown.co.nz/asbte](http://www.conferencequeenstown.co.nz/asbte)

Please take a look at the site for conference dates, venue, travel and contact information, and more. We will be posting new information regularly, with announcements regarding registration and calls for abstracts in due course.

Please block off these dates in your 2011 calendar, and we look forward to seeing you all for another great meeting of the ASBTE in Queenstown.

Kind regards,

ASBTE 2011 Local organising committee  
Tim Woodfield  
George Dias  
Michael Mucalo

**Contact:**

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## EXPAND YOUR RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS THROUGH THE AWTRS WEB SITE

The AWTRS consists of numerous researchers from basic scientists through to clinicians, the majority of whom are actively involved in many different aspects of wound and tissue repair research. To promote collaboration between the different facets of wound and tissue repair research, the AWTRS is offering our members the chance to add their research interests and a link to their own website to the AWTRS website ([www.awtrs.org](http://www.awtrs.org)).

### **Benefits of having an AW&TRS member's research directory on the web site:**

1. Establishing a research contacts database will facilitate collaborations in wound and tissue repair research.
2. Help to expand your research collaborative network with colleagues and others working in the areas of wound and tissue repair.
3. Have you ever had a really interesting result but do not have the expertise in the laboratory to follow it up? The useful links researchers' page will allow you to search and contact the most suitable researcher with the appropriate expertise.
4. Enable students and postdoctoral scientists who would like to work in the field of wound research to search for potential laboratories to work in.

### **How do I go about adding my name, research interests and web page link to the AWTRS web site?**

1. Become an AWTRS member (or renew your membership for 2009).
2. E-mail [Rachaelm@chw.edu.au](mailto:Rachaelm@chw.edu.au) with these details:
  1. Your name.
  2. No more than 5 key words that best describe your research.
  3. Your research page web URL.

We look forward to hearing from you.



## Australasian Wound & Tissue Repair Society Membership

### **1 YEAR membership**

Ordinary Annual Membership \$50

Student Annual Membership \$25

Corporate Membership \$350

### **NEW 3 YEAR membership option**

Ordinary Annual Membership 3 years \$140

Student Annual Membership 3 years \$70

### **MEMBERS' BENEFITS INCLUDE:**

**AW&TRS Quarterly Newsletter** – contains news of upcoming meetings, extensive coverage of meetings and workshops, research highlights, job adverts and much more.

**Free subscription to AWMA Journal “Wound Practice & Research”** – one of the primary sources of information for Medical, Nursing, Allied Health, Wound Care Practitioners and Wound Research Scientists throughout the Australasia-Pacific region.

**Reduced subscription rates to the leading wound research journal:** subscribe to Wound Repair and Regeneration for just 76 GBP.

**The chance to add you Research Profile with a brief description of your research and a web link to the AW&TRS web site** – AW&TRS members can add a brief researchers profile and web link to AW&TRS web site, which means not only will other researchers be able to see what you do but you can look for specialists to collaborate with in the area you are interested.

**Advanced notification of the AW&TRS biennial meeting as well as focus meetings.**

**Significant discounts on registration rates for the AW&TRS conferences** – members are entitled to a discount from the regular registration rate.

**Travel Awards for young AW&TR investigators at AW&TRS biennial meetings** – details of these travel awards will posted on the web site prior to meetings.

**Young Investigator Awards at AW&TRS biennial meeting** – details of these awards will posted on the web site prior to meetings.

To join as a **NEW** member or **RENEW** your membership

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