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Australasian Wound & Tissue Repair Society

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 3

SEPT 2010

Newsletter Update

The newsletter has been running now for 2 1/2 years and we hope you are enjoying your quarterly delivery of wound and tissue repair news and views. Over the coming years we are planning to change the content slightly, still retaining the 4 issues per year but having a bumper issue every 6 months, with smaller issues in between. These smaller issues will still include meeting announcements and member updates. This is the first of the "thin" issues and you will see that this it contains a selection of the upcoming conferences which you might want to put into your diaries for 2010 and 2011. It is an important part of being a researcher to attend and most importantly present your research at both National and International conferences. Having a National and International profile is an important measure of your standing in the field and a key factor for being successful in NHMRC/ARC fellowship applications. Presenting a poster or giving an oral presentation also provides opportunities for you to describe your research to a broader audience and may well facilitate the start of new exciting collaborations. The AWTRS recognizes the importance of attending conferences for students and early career researchers and will be offering travel

grants for current members in 2011. The guidelines for applications including deadlines and eligibility criteria will be available at the website shortly.

We are in the planning stages once again for the 3rd AWTRS conference which will now be held in May 2012 (not March as we suggested in the last newsletter) in Sydney. Chairing the scientific organising committee is Dr Rachael Murray so look out for her updates over the coming months and make sure to mark this one in your diary as one not to miss!!



**A/Prof Allison Cowin,
President, AWTRS**

**Join
AW&TRS
Now!**

Member Profile

What is your PhD on?

My PhD involves the investigation the effects of Hyperbaric Oxygen (HBO) therapy on the generation of the epidermis utilising the Human Skin Equivalent model previously developed in our lab. In particular, I'm aiming to determine the key changes to gene expression induced by HBO treatment that have beneficial roles in creating a thicker epidermal layer.

What made you choose this area?

I actually started work in this area by chance. Initially I was investigating the control of collagen production in abnormal scar formation, however, there were some unexpected experimental difficulties that arose and I was left with a PhD project that clearly wasn't going anywhere. In conjunction with my supervisors, I decided to follow up on some previous work from our group, which has led me to what I'm working on now. This project really excites me as it has required me to learn a whole new array of techniques and has inspired my interest in skin biology and tissue regeneration.

What are you working on at the moment?

I recently used gene microarrays to screen the epidermis of the human skin equivalent models for any interesting changes in gene expression induced by HBO treatment. I now have a short-list of some interesting genes and I'm validating their expression using quantitative real time PCR.

What do you enjoy most about being a PhD student? And what would do you like the least about it?

As a PhD student, I enjoy having the freedom to be curious in my research and (to a reasonable extent) being able to follow up on those results that make you think 'that's interesting' without the immediate pressure of publications and grant success to secure a salary. The downfall to this is living on a PhD scholarship.

What is the best aspect of working at IHBI?

I like that IHBI is a multi-disciplinary institute and that we have the opportunity to be exposed to a large variety of different research areas and topics. I think we're lucky to be able to interact with people from such different research backgrounds each day and to be able to so easily get a fresh perspective on our research.

What are you passionate about?

In research, I'm passionate about normal functioning and development of tissues, in particular, the skin. Also, I'm passionate about seeing the furthering of careers of women in male-dominated areas, such as science.

What is your perfect Saturday night?

My perfect Saturday night would involve catching up with friends over a few drinks.

What is your favourite meal?

For me, there's nothing better than any of my mums home cooking.

What is your favourite getaway spot?

I went on a holiday through south-east Asia last year and I would definitely love to go back to Laos. I couldn't even begin to describe how beautiful the country is or how friendly the people are.

Is there something that you dream of doing one day?

I think moving overseas, travelling and working in Europe would be an amazing experience, and it's one that I hope to pursue after finishing my PhD next year.

What innovation or invention would you not be without?

A computer!

What innovation or invention would you like to see created?



I would love to see a greater understanding of tissue development that would lead on to innovations which stimulate complete tissue regeneration rather than the imperfect process of tissue repair.

Who inspires you and why?

I am truly inspired by the women with successful careers who also manage to raise a family, maintain their relationships and have time for themselves. I feel that, particularly as women in science, there is an increased pressure on us to succeed in all aspects of our lives, and those who have found that work-life balance are incredibly amazing women.



Upcoming Conferences 2010



OzBio 2010
Melbourne, Australia

The Molecules of Life - from Discovery to Biotechnology
Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre 26 September - 1 October, 2010
www.ozbio2010.com

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 ComBio2010 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 2011



Gordon Research Conferences

Tissue Repair & Regeneration

June 5-10, 2011

Colby-Sawyer College

New London, USA

NH Chair: Michael Galko

Vice Chair: Sabine A. Eming

Link: <http://www.grc.org/>

[programs.aspxyear=2011&program=tissuerep](http://www.grc.org/programs.aspxyear=2011&program=tissuerep)



SAWC SPRING

THE SYMPOSIUM ON ADVANCED WOUND CARE

WHS
WOUND HEALING SOCIETY



Symposium on Advanced Wound Care - Spring (SAWC/WHS)
April 14 - 17, 2011 Dallas, TX, USA

Link: <http://spring.sawc.net/>



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

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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E-mail: tim.woodfield@otago.ac.nz



KEYSTONE SYMPOSIA™

on Molecular and Cellular Biology

Accelerating Life Science Discovery

Keystone Symposia on Tissue Repair

Extracellular Matrix and Cardiovascular Remodeling

Organizers: Merry L. Lindsey &

Thomas K. Borg, January 23 - 28,
2011 • Granlibakken Resort • Tahoe
City, California, USA



Lung Development and Repair

Organizers: Brigid L.M. Hogan, Ross
Metzger and Edward E. Morrissey

February 6 - 11, 2011 • Hilton Santa Fe/
Historic Plaza, Santa Fe,
New Mexico, USA

Link: <http://www.keystonesymposia.org/>

AWMA 2012



2012 AWMA Conference Sydney Convention & Exhibition Centre

Visit the official conference website www.awma2012.com



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 scien-



General enquiries:

- Email: scientistsin-schools@csiro.au
- Fax: +61 2 6276 6641
- PO Box 225, Dickson ACT 2602



Australasian Wound & Tissue Repair Society

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

go to www.awtrs.org and
click on the membership link

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