

Annual Scientific Meetings (ASMs)

New South Wales and Queensland ASM 2007

The 2007 NSW/QLD Annual Scientific Meeting was held over the weekend of 9 and 10 June 2007 at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel at Darling Harbour. The Organising Committee was Dr Alec Welsh (Convenor), A/Prof Christopher Benness, Dr Peter Bland, Dr Andrew Zuschmann, Dr Amanda Henry and Dr Samuel Soo.

The theme for the meeting was 'Emergencies and Complications in Obstetrics and Gynaecology'. A/Professor Christopher Benness opened the meeting and welcomed delegates from New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, Tasmania and Singapore. Dr Christine Tippett, President, and Dr Peter White, Chief Executive Officer, then both addressed the meeting.

Session one covered critical care updates in the areas of Obstetric Emergencies and Trauma (MOET), ectopic pregnancy and PPH. Session two focused on the multidisciplinary care for placenta accreta. Speakers covered epidemiology and pathology, the roles of ultrasound, MRI and arterial embolism, surgical and conservative management, and finished the session with a panel discussion.

In session three, ten registrars delivered presentations for the award of the medals. A panel comprising of Dr Christine Tippett, A/Prof Christopher Benness and Dr Benjamin Bopp assessed the presentations.

Dr Lisa Hui from the Royal Hospital for Women at Randwick won the Christopher Kohlenberg Memorial Medal for her presentation entitled, 'Effect of Labour on Postpartum Clearance of Cell-Free Fetal DNA from the Maternal Circulation' and Dr Harvinder Kaur from the Royal Women's Hospital in Brisbane won the Crown Street Medal for her presentation entitled, 'Prevalence of Dyspareunia in the Gynaecology Clinic'.

The presentations were of a high standard and the medals were awarded at the dinner held on Saturday night at Doltone House, Pyrmont Point. Mrs Cathy Kohlenberg presented the Christopher Kohlenberg Memorial Medal to Dr Hui. Dr John Murray, who was the after dinner speaker, presented the Crown Street Medal to Dr Kaur.

Despite the extreme weather in Newcastle and Sydney on the long weekend, 122 delegates attended the ASM over the two days. Included in this number were eight Overseas Trained Specialists, 11 RANZCOG Diplomates and GPs and 22 Registrars. On Sunday, there were five workshops presented by consultants and College staff. The workshops included integrating digital technology, introductory powerpoint, the Fetal Surveillance Education Program, managing patient expectations and a teacher training workshop. There were seven company sponsors. College House staff were present at the College display stand and NSW and Queensland regional staff worked together to carry out the administrative functions for the meeting.

Dr Alec Welsh
ASM Convenor

Lee Dawson
Executive Officer, NSW Region

South Australia and Northern Territory ASM 2007

Seventy delegates attended the 2007 SA/NT Annual Scientific Meeting held at Mt Lofty House in the Adelaide Hills, 18 to 20 May 2007. The Gold Sponsor was Bayer Schering Pharma, and the Silver Sponsor was Johnson & Johnson Medical.

The risk management workshop, operative complications in O and G, convened by Dr Melissa Sandercock, and the Urogynaecology Symposium convened by Dr Melissa Slattery were both highly successful, with two PR and CRM points and five PR and CRM points respectively awarded for attendance. The Urogynaecology Symposium comprised presentations by Dr Judith Goh, Dr Chris Barry, Dr Ian Tucker and Dr Elvis Seman, followed by a lively panel debate.

The Registrars Presentation Session was included in the program of the regional ASM for the first time, and attracted excellent presentations from five registrars. The O'Loughlin Medal and Bayer Schering Pharma Prize was awarded to Dr David O'Rourke for his presentation entitled, 'The Early Pregnancy Assessment Project'.

The session on medical management of pregnancy, convened by Dr Chris Hughes, included excellent presentations by Dr Bill Jeffries, Dr Patrick Disney and Dr Shilpa Prasad, followed by a panel discussion with all speakers.

On Sunday, the President, Dr Christine Tippett, and CEO, Dr Peter White delivered their addresses to the conference. This was followed by a session titled, 'How Do We Stop Rural Obstetrics from Ending Up in the City?' with entertaining presentations by Dr Colin Weatherill, Dr Steve Holmes and Dr Corinna Sims, chaired by Dr Cara Bryant. The Acting Convenor, Dr Melissa Slattery delivered the closing address.

The trade booths were set up in the Waterhouse Room and attracted a great deal of interest from delegates. Social functions included a cocktail party sponsored by Endotherapeutics on Friday evening, and a conference dinner in the Piccadilly Restaurant sponsored by Mi-tech on Saturday night.

Dr Christine Kirby and Dr Melissa Slattery
ASM Convenors

Judith Hamilton
Executive Officer, SA/NT Region



Figurine, obstetrician and newborn baby. Porcelain. Made by Zoltan USA. Gift of Prof Maurice Webb, 2005.