Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists

44TH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING 2010
Found in Translation: Integrated Approaches to Drug Development

28 November – 1 December 2010
Sebel Albert Park, Melbourne

PROGRAM

ASCEPT is the professional and independent society in Australia and New Zealand with expertise in the use and toxicity of medicines and chemicals

www.ascept.org
Welcome

On behalf of the Scientific Advisory Committee and ASCEPT Council welcome to the ASCEPT annual scientific meeting for 2010 which has the theme “Found in Translation: Integrated Approaches to Drug Development”. We believe this meeting will be an excellent opportunity to showcase the research of our members while also allowing sufficient time for those social activities to begin or renew friendships.

We hope that the combination of plenary lectures, symposia and free communications in the form of oral presentations and posters will be academically and scientifically stimulating and lead to new collaborations and research opportunities.

While attending this conference, please take a minute to consider the bigger picture of how we can improve the translation of research in Australasia. Our members have a reputation for doing great work and research and you may wish to consider what new researcher(s) you need to join your current programs to enhance the translation of your research, regardless of your specialty area. Many researchers or research teams will be at this conference, so take the opportunity to network.

We extend a welcome to our international guests from the British Pharmacological Society and the British Toxicology Society and to our exhibitors and sponsors. The Scientific Advisory Committee and ASCEPT Council welcome your feedback on every aspect of the meeting.

With kind regards

Carl Kirkpatrick
Chairperson, Scientific Advisory Committee

Kathie Knights
Immediate Past President

ASCEPT gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the following organisations:

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Thermo Fisher Scientific
**Plenary Speaker**
**British Pharmacological Society**

**Simon Maxwell**
Simon Maxwell is Professor of Student Learning/Clinical Pharmacology and Director of Pharmacology & Therapeutics teaching at the University of Adelaide, where he has been active in developing e-Learning strategies to support education in this area. His clinical responsibilities include supervision of acute medical admissions and the management of outpatients at increased cardiovascular risk. He is Chair of the British Pharmacological Society (BPS) Prescribing Committee and was lead author of the core curriculum for CPT teaching in UK medical schools. He is Chair of the European Association of CPT Education Committee and Secretary of the International Union of Pharmacology and Clinical Pharmacology (IUPHAR) Education Section. He has recently been a member of the NICE drug appraisals committee, is currently a member of the Scottish Medicines Consortium, the Medicine and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency’s (MHRA) Pharmacovigilance Expert Advisory Committee and is Medical Director of the Scottish Centre for Adverse Reactions to Drugs (CARDs). He was formerly Vice-President of the BPS and is a fellow of the Royal Colleges of Physicians in London and Edinburgh and of the Higher Education Academy. Since 2008 he has been the Clinical lead for the Prescribe project, a joint collaboration between the Department of Health, Medical Schools Council (MSC) and BPS to deliver a national eLearning solution to develop safe and effective prescribing amongst UK medical students. He is also leading a BPS-MSC group tasked with developing a national Prescribing Skills Assessment for all UK medical students. He is also part of an international group developing an electronic Summary of Product Characteristics (European Medicine’s Agency) and a UK group tasked to develop unified prescribing documentation (Academy of Medical Royal Colleges).

**Plenary Speaker**
**British Toxicology Society**

**Timothy Gant**
Dr. Timothy W. Gant (TWG) trained at the School of Pharmacy, University of London graduating BSc joint honours Toxicology and Pharmacology in 1985. TWG stayed on at the same institution for a PhD in Pharmacology graduating in 1988. From there he travelled to the National Cancer Institute (NCI) Bethesda Maryland, USA for a postdoctoral period in the laboratory of Dr Simon S. Thorgeirsson and stayed for a further period as a visiting fellow. At the NCI TWG worked on the regulation of the recently described ABCB1 (MDR1) gene and developed an interest in drug resistance and ABC class transport proteins that continues to date. TWG returned to the UK in 1993 to a position in the Medical Research Council Toxicology Unit. Here he worked extensively on mechanisms of Tamoxifen hepatocarcinogenesis that was a major focus of the unit at that time. TWG achieved tenure in 2001 and remains at the ARC Toxicology Unit where he runs the Systems Toxicology Group. Additionally TWG was made Reader in the Department of Genetics, University of Leicester in 2010. The evolution of the Systems Toxicology group started with TWG’s interest in transcriptional gene regulation and built on the development of the microarray from the Stanford laboratories of Prof. P.O. Brown at UCSF. Following their published MiGuide designs in collaboration TWG built a microarray at the ARC Toxicology Unit, gathered a collection of EST clones and started work. Since then TWG has used genomics in a variety of disease and toxicological models. In the process he gained extensive experience in the production and use of microarrays, and data analysis. His bioinformatics experience is built from the programming level upwards. Application of genomics technology goes beyond the narrow confines of transcriptomics. Of particular current interest is the analysis of mRNA expression, mRNA translation and epigenetic modification. Standing still is not an option and so TWG is currently investigating the “where next” for which the likely addition to the technological armoury will be high throughput sequencing. Furthermore at the present time the group is investigating the use of differentiated stem cells (cardiac, liver and germ line) as potential in vitro models for chemical and drug testing with high throughput technologies.

**ASET Lecturer**

**Felix Bochner**
Professor Felix Bochner graduated in medicine from the University of Queensland in 1963. He obtained a MD in 1974 and in the same year became a fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians. He is a staff specialist and clinical pharmacologist and was Professor of Clinical Pharmacology in the Department of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology, University of Adelaide from 1980-2005 and Head of the Department from 1980-2003. His skills as a clinical teacher have been recognised with The Mark Bonnin Prize and The Richard Fellow Prize for outstanding teaching and service to medical students of the University of Adelaide in their preclinical and clinical years. Professor Bochner has held numerous administrative positions including Chairman of the Investigational Drugs Subcommittee of the Research Ethics Committee, Royal Adelaide Hospital since 2005 and Chairman of the Adelaide Women’s and Children's Hospital Research Grants Committee of the Hospital’s Research Foundation. More recently he held the position of Chairman of the Editorial Advisory Board (1996-2010) of the Australian Medicines Handbook and was a member of Board of Directors (1997-2000) and Chairman of the writing group for Therapeutic Guidelines Endocrinology Edition 1 (1997) and Therapeutic Guidelines Psychotropic Edition 4 (2000). In addition to these roles Professor Bochner is author or co-author of 2 books and 160 research papers since 1969 and has served on numerous editorial boards. Additionally he has supervised or co-supervised 20 successful doctoral students. Professor Bochner was ASCEPT President 1998-1999 and was elected to Life Membership of ASCEPT in 2005. In 2010 he was appointed as Member of the Order of Australia and he currently holds the position of Professor Emeritus at the University of Adelaide.

**Plenary Lecturer**

**Julio Licinio**
Professor Licinio is Director of the John Curtin School of Medical Research at the ANU, where he also heads the Translational Medicine Department. Professor Licinio came to Australia in September of 2009. Prior to that, he worked for 25 years in the United States at University of Chicago, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Cornell, Yale and NIH. His last appointments were as Director of the Translational Science Graduate Program and Vice-Chairman of Psychiatry at University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and Chairman of Psychiatry and Associate Dean (Translational Science) at University of Miami. He is currently a member of an NIH review panel and has served as member of the US Secretary of Health and Human Services Advisory Committee on Genetics, Health, and Society. Professor Licinio is trained in endocrinology, psychiatry and neuroscience and his research is focused on translational pharmacogenomics of obesity and depression. He is the founding editor of Molecular Psychiatry and The Pharmacogenomics Journal, both by the Nature Publishing Group.
David Adelson

David Adelson is Professor and Chair of Bioinformatics and Computational Genetics, in the School of Molecular and Biomedical Science at the University of Adelaide. Prof. Adelson’s current research focuses on the computational analysis of repetitive, so called “Junk DNA” in mammalian genomes and on bioinformatic tools to mine Quantitative Trait Loci. He has led the analysis of repetitive DNA for the Bovine and Equine genome sequencing consortia and is currently working on the Elephant, Armadillo and Sheep repetitive DNA analyses. In addition to genome analysis, Prof. Adelson is also a founding member of bovinegenome.org, a single point of integration for bovine genome data. Prof. Adelson is currently Head of School for Molecular and Biomedical Science.

Emilio Badoer

Professor Badoer coordinates several courses and the BSc Biomedical Science (Pharmaceutical Sciences) program. He has also taught pharmacology and physiology at Melbourne and Monash Universities. In addition, he supervises several postgraduate and Honours students and Postdoctoral Fellows. He has received teaching awards and funding for innovative teaching and learning initiatives at RMIT. Professor Badoer is an active, passionate and productive researcher. He is the head and leader of the Neuropeptides and Neuroinflammatory Laboratory. The laboratory consists of Post-Doctoral Fellows, PhD students and Honours students. Research assistants and international Postdoctoral Fellows have also contributed. The group has received national and international recognition, for the work that has highlighted the role of specific subgroups in the brain and the role of the brain in the symptoms of chronic diseases. The group has a number of successful collaborative projects with scientists both within and outside RMIT.

Richard Day

Richard Day is Professor of Clinical Pharmacology at UNSW and St Vincent’s Hospital Sydney. He has a clinical practice in Clinical Pharmacology, Clinical Toxicology, and Rheumatology. He has particular interests in promoting the quality of use of medicines (QUM). He was chair of PHARMA for the Federal Government 1999–08, was a director of Medical Benefits Fund, is a Director and President of the international Drug Information Association (DIA), was a member of the Medication Safety Taskforce for the Australian Safety and Quality Council, is chair of NSW Medication Safety Committee, was chair of the NPS (National Prescribing Service) R&D committee (2008–10), co-chair of the electronic medication management research steering committees for the National e-Health Transition Authority and ex officio member ARA Therapeutics Committee. He is the academic in charge of the Masters in Medical Science in Drug Development in the Faculty of Medicine at UNSW. This is a national and international distance education programme dedicated to excellence in medicines and device development. His research focuses upon QUM and the pharmacotherapy of cardiovascular, diabetes, and psychotic disease. He is also researching methods of enhancing the safe use of medicines using electronic medication management and decision support tools as one of five Chief Investigators on a NHMRC Programme Grant (2009–13).

Stephen Duffull

Stephen Duffull is currently a Professor and Dean of the School of Pharmacy at the University of Otago. He was awarded the Johnson and Johnson Young Investigators award in 2000 by the Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists (ASCEPT). Prof Duffull is on the editorial board of five journals including Clinical Pharmacokinetics and Journal of Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics and acts as an external referee for a number of journals in the area of quantitative pharmacology including Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics and British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology. He has been invited to speak at more than 30 international meetings and has adjunct appointments at the University of California, San Francisco and the School of Pharmacy, University of Queensland. Prof Duffull is the editor of a book on clinical trial simulation. Prof Duffull has over 15 years experience in the area of pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics and co-authored more than 130 peer reviewed scientific publications. Prof Duffull is on the organising committee for PAGE (Europe) and PAGANZ (Australia/New Zealand) meetings and contributes to regulatory and professional bodies such as the Pharmacy Council of New Zealand and the New Zealand College of Pharmacists as well as numerous other professional and university committees.

John Duley

John Duley did his PhD during the early 1970s in “Biochemical Genetics”, when that meant ‘animal breeding’, not PCR. He spent 16 years at the Sir Thomas Guy’s Hospital, London, and there he rediscovered what the great Sir Archibald Garrod said in 1912, that Pharmacogenetics is a branch of Metabolic Diseases. In the process, John established the largest pharmacogenetic service in Britain. In 2002, he returned to Australia, to work in Pathology at the Mater Hospital, as well as the new Pharmacy Centre of Excellence in the University of Queensland.

Symposium Speakers
Mukesh Haikerwal

Dr Mukesh Haikerwal is a practicing General Medical Practitioner, Commissioner to the National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission and Professor in the School of Medicine in the Faculty of Health Sciences at Flinders University in Adelaide, South Australia. He is currently working with the National e-Health Transition Authority (NEHTA) as the National Clinical Lead, leading a team of healthcare providers from multi-disciplinary backgrounds, to assist in NEHTA’s mission with the healthcare community and to provide input into the development of the NEHTA work program to deliver e-health for Australia. He was also the former head of the Federal Australian Medical Association (AMA) that is responsible for national policy development, lobbying with federal parliamentarians, co-ordinating activity across the AMA State entities and representing the AMA and its members nationally and internationally.

David Harrison

Dr. Harrison is the Bernard Marcus Professor of Medicine. He received his MD degree from the University of Oklahoma in 1974 and obtained his house staff and clinical cardiology training at Duke University. From 1980 to 1982, he completed a cardiovascular research fellowship at the University of Iowa. In 1982, he joined the faculty at the University of Iowa, and was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor in 1987. In 1990, he moved to the Cardiology Division at Emory University, where he was appointed Professor of Medicine. In the 1980s and 1990s, Dr. Harrison has served as the Director of Cardiology at both the Iowa City and Atlanta VA hospitals and in 2000 was named the Director of Cardiology at Emory. He served in that capacity until January 2009. Dr. Harrison's career has been devoted to basic research related to vascular function and mechanisms of hypertension, the practice of cardiology and the education of young physicians and investigators. Dr. Harrison received the NovoNordisk Award from the American Heart Association Council on High Blood Pressure, which is the highest award given for hypertension research from this organization. He received the Carl J. Wiggers Award, the highest honor given by the Cardiovascular Section of the American Physiological Society, in 2010. In that year, he also received the Distinguished Scientist Award from the American Heart Association.

Robert Harrison

After graduating from Nottingham University (BSc Zoology) and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (MSc-Medical Parasitology; PhD-Immunology of schistosomiasis), Harrison’s interests in the development of vaccines against schistosomiasis and onchocerciasis took him on various postdoctoral scientific adventures to Kenya, California and Egypt before he found a more permanent home in Liverpool. Now, Head of the Aktair Reid Venom Research Unit and Senior Lecturer at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, Harrison and his team conduct a variety of research activities with the objective of ‘improving the treatment of snakebite’. This includes the provision of antivenom to treat rural snakebite victims in Nigeria through a collaboration (the EchiTAb Study Group) with the Nigerian Federal Ministry of Health, the University of Oxford and antivenom producers in UK and Costa Rica. Our laboratory research is currently focussed on developing (i) toxin-specific antivenom with cross-generic therapeutic cover; (ii) antivenom with lower risk of adverse effects than conventional equine and ovine antivenoms; and (iii) an antibody-based treatment of the tissue-destructive effects of snake envenoming — a frequently disfiguring effect of snakebite that is not effectively treated by antivenom or any other medicinal therapy.

Wayne Hodgson

Professor Hodgson is Head (Teaching & Research Training) of the Department of Pharmacology and Head of the Monash Venom Group at Monash University. He is a leading Australian toxicologist responsible for isolating and pharmacologically characterising a wide range of animal venoms/toxins. He has published more than 100 papers on the pharmacology of venoms/toxins/antivenoms including papers in Nature, PNAS, JPET and JBC. Professor Hodgson is currently on the editorial boards of Toxicon and the Journal of Pharmacological and Toxicological Methods.

Geoff Isbister

Associate Professor Isbister is a senior research academic in the Discipline of Clinical Pharmacology, University of Newcastle and staff specialist at the Calvary Mater Newcastle. He is a leading Australian clinical toxicologist undertaking research on snake and spider envenoming, including the effectiveness of antivenom therapy. He has published more than 150 papers in clinical toxicology/toxinology. Associate Professor Isbister is currently on the editorial board of Toxicon, was the ASCEPT British Toxicology Society Lecturer in 2009 and won the IUTOX Early Toxicologist Award in 2010.

Richard Lewis

Professor Lewis has over 20 years experience leading multidisciplinary research on the pharmacology and structures of marine toxins, especially the ciguatoxins and conotoxins. Much of his research is focussed on the discovery and molecular pharmacology of marine bioactive substances. This research resulted in the discovery of two new classes of peptides that allosterically inhibit either the α1-adrenoceptor (α-conopeptides) or the noradrenaline transporter (ε-conopeptides). The therapeutic potential of the ε-conopeptides and a novel α-conotoxin that inhibits N-type calcium channels (CVID) has been evaluated clinically, with both peptides showing promise in the treatment of pain. I am a co-founder of Xenome Ltd, a spin-off company established by the University of Queensland that is developing the pharmaceutical potential of venom peptides.

Jennifer Martin

I am a general physician and clinical pharmacologist at the Prince Alexandra Hospital, Brisbane and the Head of the Southside Medical School, University of Queensland. I have been teaching medical students since 1992 (University of Otago) and have subsequently developed teaching and curriculum programmes and mentored both medical students and junior doctors at Canterbury Health, Monash and Melbourne Universities and UQ. Here I currently teach medical, masters pharmacy and population health students in addition to coaching basic and advanced physician trainees, supervising medical PhD students at the Diamantina and PA Hospitals; and lecturing at the School of Population Health. My research interests cover clinical pharmacology from bench and animal research to clinical research and trials and am the Australasian investigator for an international study on drug induced liver injury. I am also the inaugural chairperson of the Queensland Health Medicines Collaboration. I am very interested in the development of the pharmacogenetic area as one area that could potentially improve patient care, but with my expertise in policy, medical ethics and health economics I am also very aware of the impact of this field on the clinical, sociological, ethical and economic issues currently facing us.

Adam McCluskey

As Professor of Chemistry at the University of Newcastle, I am a teaching and research academic. I am a medicinal chemist, with multiple, strong national and international collaborations developing novel anti-epileptic, anti-parasitic, anti-malarial and anti-cancer agents. I am known for the elegant and simple synthetic approaches to complex molecules and the development of drugs acting via novel modes of action. My most significant contributions are in the area of dynamin GTPase inhibitor medicinal chemistry. My team is responsible for all the known inhibitors (but one; dynasore), and in one library iteration we effected a ~100 fold improvement in dynasore’s potency of this inhibitor with the synthesis of the ‘dynagons’. We have progressed more advanced agents to animal studies (epilepsy & kidney disease). Recent efforts have seen installation of Australia’s 1st flow chemistry laboratory, a technology that ushers in a new era of medicinal chemistry possibilities. We are leading Australia in the implementation of this technology, and consequently the its outcomes. This was supported by the award of the 2009 Ramaciotti Biomedical research Award ($1M) and an Australian Cancer Research Foundation Grant ($3.1M) to establish a world first Centre for Kinematics. I am also an educator, recognised as innovating and excelling in this role with the receipt of teaching awards, but also in the successful supervision of ~30 honours students, 10 PhD completions (9 current students) supervised 14 postdoctoral fellows (2 current).
Charles Mackay
Professor Mackay is an international authority in the field of leukocyte migration. His research aims to understand mechanisms of immune cell migration, particularly with respect to inflammation, and the translation of this into new therapeutics for inflammatory diseases and cancer. Professor Mackay is a prominent Australian immunologist who has made clearly identifiable contributions to fundamental immunology as well as biotechnology and the development of new anti-inflammatory therapies. Professor Mackay joined Monash University in 2009. Previous positions held by Professor Mackay include as Director of the Immunology and Inflammation Research Program at the Garvan Institute, and as Director of Immunology at Millennium Biorthapeutics in Cambridge, MA, USA. Professor Mackay holds a B.Sc. (Hons) from Monash University and a PhD from the Department of Veterinary Pre-clinical Sciences at the University of Melbourne.

Ross McKinnon
Professor Ross McKinnon is Professor of Pharmaceutical Biotechnology in the School of Pharmacy and Medical Sciences and former Director of the Sansom Institute at the University of South Australia. He has broad research interests in molecular pharmacology including pharmacogenomics and personalised medicine. He is co-founder of PharmaQuest Pty Ltd which is currently progressing a novel skin cancer chemotherapeutic through clinical trials. His current roles include Chair of the South Australian Toll Poppy campaign, Director of the Australian Institute of Policy and Science and he is immediate past-president of the Australasian Pharmaceutical Science Association. Other roles include membership of the CSIRO Health Sector and TGA Health Science Ethics Board and TGA’s Pharmaceutical Science subcommittee. He was recently admitted as a member of the NHMRC Academy for 2010.

William Runciman
William (Bill) Runciman is Professor of Patient Safety and Healthcare Human Factors at the University of South Australia, and was Foundation Professor of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care at the University of Adelaide. He is President of the Australian Patient Safety Foundation, and a member of the International Patient Safety Classification Group and Co-chair of the Research Methods and Measures Group of the World Alliance for Patient Safety, World Health Organization. He is a Research Fellow with the Joanna Briggs Institute and the Australian Institute of Health Innovation of the University of New South Wales and a Chief Investigator with the NH&MRC Research Grant team investigating Patient Safety: enabling and supporting change. He worked as an Intensive Care consultant for over 30 years and has published over 200 scientific papers and chapters, and a book — Runciman, Merry & Walton Safety and Ethics in Health Care: A Guide to Getting it Right (Ashgate 2007). He has been conferred the Pugh Award in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the science of anaesthesia and related disciplines, and the Sidney Sax Medal for outstanding achievement in health services policy, organization, delivery and research.

Jeff Schwartz
After receiving degrees at the Universities of Michigan (BS, Chemistry and Cellular Biology) and California (PhD, Endocrinology), Jeff Schwartz was a research fellow at the Medical College of Wisconsin, Salk Institute, and Prince Henry’s Institute of Medical Research. He was an academic staff at the University of California at San Diego, Monash, Wake Forest University and the University of Adelaide. Since 2009 he has been the academic manager for years 1 and 2 of Griffith University School of Medicine. His research can be characterised as defining new roles for old hormones and endocrine cells. This began with work on cardiovascular and other extracellular actions of vasopressin, and continued with the characterization of functional cellular heterogeneity and cell-cell interactions within the anterior pituitary. More recently, he has applied novel approaches to understanding unexpected changes in fetal endocrine axes as they develop. His current research interests include the interactions between genetic and environmental factors in development of endocrine axes. In addition to academic responsibilities, he has held numerous editorial posts, served on research-funding panels and consulted on biomedical educational programs. His current major extramural service is on a research evaluation committee for the ERA.

Chris Sobey
A/Prof Sobey is an expert in basic studies of cerebral artery function with more than 90 publications in vascular diseases involving oxidative stress and inflammation. He obtained his Ph.D. in 1991, and has been awarded NHMRC CJ Martin and RD Wright Fellowships to conduct postdoctoral studies including 2 years at the University of Iowa. He is currently an NHMRC Senior Research Fellow, a member of 8 Editorial, and is Chief Investigator on 5 NHMRC Project Grants. His current research is investigating the inflammatory mechanisms occurring in the brain after stroke in order to identify and develop novel approaches to treat clinical stroke patients.

Andrew Somogyi
Andrew Somogyi is Professor in Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology, Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Adelaide. His major research interests are in examining interindividual variation in drug response through clinical pharmacokinetic, pharmacodynamic and clinical outcomes studies underpinned by pharmacogenomics. He currently has NHMRC and ARC funding for pharmacogenetic studies involving drugs for pain, addiction, transplantation and diabetes, serves on several international Pharmacogenomic and Clinical Pharmacology journal editorial boards and has established a pharmacogenetics service at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. He was recently awarded an honorary fellow of the Faculty of Pain Medicine, Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists.

Ieva Stupans
Professor Ieva Stupans is has been recently appointed to the University of New England where her primary responsibility will be to lead the introduction of the Bachelor of Pharmacy into the university. She has had extensive experience in teaching and learning across health sciences and nursing, and has taught pharmacology in both post graduate and undergraduate health sciences programs for more than 20 years. She is an ALIC fellow and is currently undertaking a program of activities around “Supporting student transition to a futures orientated professional identity”. She has led a number of pharmacy focussed ALIC projects “Pharmacy Quality Indicators for Best Practice Approaches to Experiential Placements in Pharmacy Programs” and “The Outcomes-based Planning, Graduated Descriptors and Quality Indicators for Pharmacy Experiential Placements’ follow-up project”.

Ross Vlahos
Dr Ross Vlahos has a long-standing interest in respiratory diseases, in particular asthma and COPD. His research has included the effects of potassium channel opening drugs on airways cholinergic transmission and the effects of existing and novel anaesthesia drugs on airway hyperresponsiveness and airway wall remodelling. More recently, he has developed unique murine models of COPD to identify therapeutic targets to treat this debilitating disease. Ross is actively involved in presenting his work at both national and international conferences, is a regular invited speaker at local and international laboratories and has been an active member of ASCEPT since 1991. Ross has co-authored 33 research papers in peer reviewed journals and 2 chapters in published books. He has obtained project grants from foundations, hospitals, Universities and industry and has been awarded 5 nationally competitive NHMRC Project Grants since 2001. Ross is a reviewer of competitive research grants for various funding agencies (eg NHMRC, Asthma Victoria) and manuscripts submitted to international journals. He has served on NHMRC Scholarship Grant Review Panels 2007 – 2009, has been involved in “Organizing and Program Committees” for national and international conferences and Chairs sessions at various conferences. Ross supervises PhD (Hons) and PhD students and contributes to teaching by lecturing postgraduate students on lung disease. Dr Vlahos has played a major role in commercially funded work that has confidentiality/patient agreements.

Johanna Westbrook
Professor Westbrook is Director of the Centre for Health Systems and Safety Research (CHSSR), Australian Institute of Health Innovation (AIHI), Faculty of Medicine, University of New South Wales. Her research expertise centres on the design and execution of complex multimethod evaluations in the health sector with a particularly focus on the effective use of information and communication technologies. As part of an NHMRC program grant shared with colleagues at the AIHI, she is leading research on medication safety, the effectiveness of electronic medication management systems to reduce errors and safe work and communication practices in hospitals. Professor Westbrook has an extensive publication record which includes over 200 refereed publications. She has attracted in excess of $260m in research funding and won several awards for her research.
ASCEPT CAREERS WORKSHOP: CAREERS BEYOND THE BENCH

Sebel Albert Park, Melbourne, Vic
Sunday November 28th 2010, 1100 — 1300

Outline of Workshop: The workshop will feature successful scientists who have pursued careers that have involved a combination of “at the bench” and “beyond the bench” components. The workshop is designed to provide students and postdoctoral fellows with an insight into career options available to them beyond a traditional, laboratory-based research career. Panelists will discuss issues including the career path leading to their current role, day to day tasks, positive and negative aspects of the job, remuneration packages etc. There will also be plenty of opportunities for questions including a panel discussion at the end of the session.

Facilitators:
Dr Barbara Kemp-Harper (Senior Research Fellow, Monash University) & Ms Anna Davey (PhD Student, Monash University)

Speakers:
1. Dr Graham Mackay (Lecturer, The University of Melbourne)
   “A University Teaching and Research Career: The Best of Both Worlds?”
2. Dr Rebecca Lew (Senior Medical Writer, ProScribe Medical Communications)
   “Medical writing: What is it and is it right for me?”
3. Dr Sharyn Fitzgerald (Senior Research Fellow, ASPREE Regional Manager and Coordinator)
   “Not tonight dear, I have a headache!”
4. Dr Janith Wickramaratna (Senior Regulatory Scientist, Existing Chemicals Program, NICNAS)
   “A Career in Regulatory Science”
5. Panel Discussion

Target Audience: Honours students, PhD students and early career postdoctoral fellows

Dr Graham Mackay
Lecturer, Department of Pharmacology, The University of Melbourne

Graham Mackay carried out his training in Pharmacology in the UK. He has followed a fairly traditional pathway into academia completing a PhD and then two post-doctoral positions in London and the USA. Graham will talk about the day-to-day diversity in a University teaching and research career that can make the position busy but immensely satisfying and enjoyable.

Graham has been a lecturer in Pharmacology at one of Australia’s smallest and largest Universities. Experiences at both institutions will be shared and compared. He will examine opportunities for “testing the water” in teaching, discuss possibilities of teaching-rich academic careers and suggest ways to retain a healthy research output concurrently with other academic responsibilities.

Dr Rebecca Lew
Senior Medical Writer, ProScribe Medical Communications

Rebecca obtained her PhD in Physiology from the University of Virginia and, shortly thereafter, migrated to Australia with her pharmacologist husband. She worked briefly as a postdoc at Prince Henry’s Institute before moving to the Baker Medical Research Institute (as it was then known) in the laboratory of Ian Smith. Rebecca and Ian maintained a long, productive collaboration at the Baker, and later at Monash University, studying the role of peptide hormones and the enzymes that metabolise them. While at Monash, Rebecca was also a part-time lecturer in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, and she continues to be the editor of the Australian Biochemist, the member magazine of the Australian Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

Rebecca made a career switch in 2006 when she joined ProScribe Medical Communications as a medical writer, where she is currently a Senior Medical Writer. Rebecca has extensive experience in writing a range of documents, with particular expertise in manuscripts. In addition to her work with ProScribe, Rebecca has been an author on more than 50 peer-reviewed publications. She has delivered a number of medical writing courses to pharmaceutical clients and has also developed ProScribe’s internal training program.

Dr Sharyn Fitzgerald
Senior Research Fellow, ASPREE Regional Manager and Coordinator, Monash University

Sharyn Fitzgerald obtained her PhD from Monash University in 1997. Sharyn’s PhD studies and early post-doc years provided her with a firm grounding in integrative physiology, examining blood pressure control under normal conditions and disease states (diabetes/obesity) using animal models. Subsequently, Sharyn felt the desire to examine this relationship in humans. In 2007-2009 she undertook a Masters in Public Health (MPH; part-time) which was instrumental in providing her with the ability to successfully transition from lab-based to clinical research. The MPH course allowed Sharyn to see that whilst her earlier studies in basic science clearly identified important factors in blood vessel and blood pressure regulation in disease, there is also a need to examine why therapies/interventions for primary and secondary prevention of disease (e.g. antihypertensive medications, weight management) are not readily taken up by patients. In Sharyn’s current position she is able to utilize the project management, organizational skills and basic physiology understanding she gained during her PhD and early post-doc years together with the clinical application in the human condition. Sharyn is now working on the largest community good clinical trial in Australia, recruiting 12,500 elderly participants to be part of the ASPREE study — ASPirin in Reducing Events in the Elderly.

Dr Janith Wickramaratna
Senior Regulatory Scientist, Existing Chemicals Program, NICNAS

Dr Janith Wickramaratna is a Senior Regulatory Scientist in the Existing Chemicals Program of the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) within the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing. He has 7 years experience in government regulation of industrial chemicals. At NICNAS he is a project manager on a major reform initiative that will screen the large number of unassessed chemicals on the Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances. In addition to undertaking assessments he has represented Australia at the OECD High Production Volume (HPV) Program meetings. He has a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Pharmacology and an Honours Degree in Bachelor of Sciences (Biomedical) from Monash University, Australia. He also holds a Master of Professional Accounting degree from University of Southern Queensland and a Graduate Certificate in Public Sector Management from the Flinders University.
The language of clinical research is statistics. This workshop will introduce key concepts in statistics directed at critical appraisal. This workshop is put on by the Clinical SIG for all ASCEPT members.

Facilitator:
Matt Doogue, Clinical Pharmacologist, Flinders University

Speakers:

1000 – 1030  A question of confidence – David Vaux, La Trobe University
1030 – 1100  Is one of these just like the other one – Evan Begg, University of Otago, NZ
1100 – 1120  Morning Tea
1120 – 1150  You probably don’t know P – Michael Lew, University of Melbourne
1150 – 1230  Panel Discussion

David Vaux
David Vaux is a medical researcher based at La Trobe University where he studies the molecular mechanisms of cell death. In his spare time he advocates establishment of an Australian Office for Research Integrity, and talks to scientists and science editors (and, frankly, anyone else who will listen) about how errors enter the scientific literature and how they might be corrected.

Abstract
Science is knowledge gained through repeated observation or experiment. It is communicated through publication of papers in journals. Science can only flourish if journals maintain minimal standards, and papers are read critically. In this talk I will propose some rules of thumb for the presentation of data in publications that can also be used when interpreting other people’s papers. The talk will be illustrated by numerous examples of papers by high profile researchers in prestigious journals that would only have had some value had they been printed on more absorbent paper with perforated pages.

Evan Begg
Prof Evan Begg is not a statistician. He is a Clinical Pharmacologist with a lay interest, who recognised early that the basis of Clinical Pharmacology is pharmacokinetics, and much of pharmacokinetics is based on statistics. He is Professor of Clinical Pharmacology/Medicine, University of Otago, Christchurch, New Zealand, and currently Chairman of the STC.

Abstract
The practice of statistics by Clinical Pharmacologists largely involves answering the question “is there a difference?”. The null hypothesis says “no”. Our studies often fail to achieve the revered $p<0.05$. Does this mean there is no difference? A famous paper by Altman and Bland (1995) stated “Absence of evidence is not evidence of absence”. Failure to attain $p<0.05$ merely means that no difference was demonstrated, not that there is no difference. The statistics of equivalence looks at the problem the other way around, enabling statements to be made that (according to predefined criteria) there is no difference. An example in Clinical Pharmacology is bioequivalence studies, in which the aim is to demonstrate “equivalence” say between a new generic medicine and the gold standard comparator. The concepts behind the above will be discussed.

Michael Lew
Michael Lew is a senior lecturer in pharmacology at the University of Melbourne with a strong background in quantitative analysis. He was convinced to see the errors of his statistical ways by Professor John Ludbrook and thereafter has been more than pleased to show others.

Abstract
It is not much of a stretch to say that $P$ values are the currency of biomedical research: projects are made and broken by $P$ values. And yet few who calculate $P$ values know what they really mean. This talk will allow challenge participants to test their understanding and will use interactive simulations to show where the common interpretations of $P$ values fall apart. The null hypothesis is that there is a positive correlation between scientists’ confidence and their $P$ knowledge, but $P<0.05$, so if you think that you don’t need to attend this session, you probably do.
**DRUG DISCOVERY (continued)**

- *Reversive modulators of the neurotrophin receptor P75NTR regulates peripheral myelination* — Yang Zhu Lim, University of Melbourne, p185
- *Interaction with caveolin-1 modulates differential g protein coupling of mouse bet3-adrrenergoce receptor isomers* — Bronwyn Evans, Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, p186
- *Maringin and tertiapin-g share a binding site on girk channels* — Elmina Per, University of Sydney, p11
- *Dephosphorylation of the osmoreceptor trpv4 increases its basal activity and permeability to the large cationic dye yo-pro 1* — Fe Abogdien, University of Melbourne, p52
- *Ethanol extracts of saw palmetto contain the indirectly acting sympathomimetic tyramine* — Thiam Chua, Monash University, p64
- *Cysteine residues in the TRPV1 pore loop are critical determinants of channel calcium and Yo-Pro permeability* — Marriana Volpert, University of Melbourne, p137
- *Revealing important roles for n-glycosylation in pore dilatation and sustained elevation of intracellular calcium of the trpv1 receptor* — Nik Veldhuis, University of Melbourne, p139
- *Vaporoate and the promiscuous delta-containing gabaa receptors* — Divye Iyer, University of Sydney, p153
- *The serotonin 5-HT4 receptor splice variants interacts with specific PDZ domain proteins vell 1-3/LIN7A, B, C homologues: mechanisms in receptor targeting* — Kenneth Chinkvo, Monash University, p169
- *Mutations in TRPV4 cause an inherited arthropathy of hands and feet* — Yuan Yuan, University of Melbourne, p172
- *Wound healing efficacy of seubakthorn leaf aequous extract in diabetic rats* — Nitin Kumar Upadayay, University of Delhi, p174
- *Drug transporters in human mammary epithelial cells* — Lisa B.G. Te, Curtin University, p195
- *Investigating the role of the low density lipoprotein class A (LDL) module in mediating activation of the relaxin family peptide receptor (RXFP) 1 and RXFP2* — Ray Chze Khai Kang, Howard Florey Institute, p75
- *Differential expression of ATP7A, ATP7B and CTR1 in adult rat dorsal root ganglion tissue* — Virginia Ip, University of Auckland, p88
- *Growth factor-mediated changes in purinergic receptor signaling in breast cancer cells* — Felicity Davis, The University of Queensland, p9

**DRUG DISPOSITION**

- *UDP-glucoronytransferase 2B7 (UGT2B7) Utilises Both UDP-Glucoronic Acid and UDP-Glucose as Co-factors in the Metabolism of Morphine* — Nuy Chau, Flinders University, p94
- *Computational modeling and structure-activity relationships of cytochrome P450 1A1: enhanced activation of the chemotherapeutic prodrug dacarbazine* — Benjamin Lewis, Flinders University, p188
- *Comparison of drug binding to human serum albumin and liver fatty acid binding protein; potential implications for intra and inter cellular hepatic transport* — Andrew Rowland, Flinders University, p57
- *Prediction of paclitaxel clearance from in vitro kinetic data* — Tahitia Heath, University of South Australia, p21

**GASTRO-UREGENITAL**

- *Spontaneous activity in isolated bladder strips from the streptozotocin-induced diabetic rat: effect of cholinergic modulation and the mucosa* — Donna Sellers, Bond University, p12
- *Investigating the atheroprotective effect of testosterone: role in modulation of inflammatory markers in the development of early atherogenesis in the testicular feminised mouse model* — Donna Sellers, Bond University, p13
- *The effect of ocuvietect and dietary phytoestrogen on relaxant responses to adenosine receptor analogues in the rat isolated bladder* — Rasslyn Rose/Meyer, Griffith University, p39
- *RNA modulation of urethral and detrusor responses to ATP and carbachol — Natasha Hasman, Bond University, p87
- *Relaxant effects of methandionamide unmasked by indomethsin in the mouse uterus* — Karen Kerr, University of Newcastle, p104
- *Characterisation of the muscarinic receptor subtype regulating urethral spontaneous contractile activity* — Christian Moro, Bond University, p105
- *Short term cetaraier diet increases serotonin availability in the rat ileum* — Rebecca Bertrand, University of New South Wales, p108
- *The influence of the mucosa on contractile responses of the internal anal sphincter (IAS) — Russ Chess-Williams, Bond University, p127
- *Aminolide reduces 5-HT release from EC cells of guinea pig intestine* — Kate Polglaze, University of New South Wales, p131
- *Age related changes in the contractile response of the mouse prostate gland* — Carl White, Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Science, Monash University, p135
- *Differential expression of oestrogen and progesterone receptors in the colon of females with slow transit constipation* — Lo Liu, University of New South Wales, p142
- *Characterisation of inflammatory phenotype in human colitis explant model* — Benjamin Harvey, The University of Adelaide, p148
- *Identifying novel urinary biomarkers — towards a new therapeutic target in overactive bladder (OAB) disease* — Orla Leahan, UNSW, p149

**INFLAMMATION/RESPIRATORY**

- *Serum-induced chemo- attractant and kinetic responses of MDA-MB-231 breast tumour cells are prevented by dexamethasone, but uninfuenced by formyl peptide receptor (FPR) ligands* — Ebony Fritz, University of Melbourne, p22
- *Morphine- and LPS-induced cellular proinflamatory cytokine production in mice: comparison of three mouse strains* — Liang Liu, University of Adelaide, p42
- *Suppression of inflammation by opioids and biopharmophores in arthritis* — Jignya H Patel, University of New South Wales, p50
- *Delineation of the interferon a receptor 1 (IFNAR1) subunit of the type I interferon receptor confers protection to neuronal tissue following traumatic brain injury* — Ilka Karne, University of Melbourne, p58
- *Expression and function of FyRlla in mast cells and the lung: a role in asthma?* — Patrick Heng, University of Melbourne, p68
- *Function and expression of novel MS4A members in atopic asthma* — Li Eon Kuek, University of Melbourne, p69
- *Glutathione peroxidase-1 (GPX-1) reduces influenza virus-induced lung inflammation* — Selcuk Yatmaz, The University of Melbourne, p91
- *Implications of interferon dependent activation of JAK-STAT pathway in neuro-inflammation* — Myles Miller, University of Melbourne, p115
- *3, 4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA) — induced hyperthermia is attenuated by administration of interleukin-1 (IL-1) receptor antagonist (IL-1RA) in rats* — Jake Gordon, University of Adelaide, p124
- *Rebatein granulocyte/macrophage colony-stimulating factor (GM-CSF) fails to restore macrophage function, and surfactant proteins (SP) suppress host defences, in pulmonary alveolar proteinosis (PAP)* — Matt Rodajic, University of Melbourne, p132
- *Transforming growth factor b (TGFb) induces glucocorticoid-resistance in human airway epithelia by reducing glucocorticoid receptor nuclear localisation* — Saad Salem, The University of Melbourne, p146
- *Influence of influenza infection on sensory nerve function in mouse airways* — Samuel Taylor, University of Western Australia, p62
- *IL-4, IL-13 and TNF TNF Inhibit GRE activation and synergise to down-regulate GRS levels in human bronchial epithelial cells* — Christine Keenan, University of Melbourne, p121
- *Airway reactivity to both constrictors and dilators is altered in vitro in a sheep model of chronic allergic airways disease* — James Esposito, University of Melbourne, p125
### Tuesday 30th November

**0830 – 1030** So Much to Teach… So Little Time  
**CHAIR:** Elizabeth Davis  
**ROOM:** Grand 5 & 6  

**0830 – 0850** And what were the best aspects of your course?  
— Iva Shapare, University of New England  

**0850 – 0910** Feedback on student performance — Emilia Bodor, RMIT University  

**0910 – 0930** Bringing practice to practicals: Placing and assessing undergraduate students on primary research — Jeff Schwartz, Griffith University, p191

**0930 – 1000** Debate: So much to teach/learn… So little time… So no time for pracs  
— Juliana Roel, RMIT University, Michael Low, University of Melbourne, Dominic Geoghegy, University of Tasmania, Eric Kok, Monash University, Benjamin Harvey, University of Adelaide, Brad Watnuff, Monash University  

**1000 – 1030** Panel Discussion  

**1030 – 1100** Morning Tea  
**ROOM:** Grand Lobby  

**1030 – 1100** Cardiovascular SIG  
**ROOM:** Grand 5 & 6  

**1100 – 1115** Oral Presentations 3  
**CHAIR:** Alyson Miller  
**ROOM:** Grand 5 & 6  

**1115 – 1130** Chronic kidney disease-induced cardiac fibrosis is ameliorated by reducing circulating levels of a non-dialysable uremic toxin, indoxyl sulfate — Suneek Lekawanvijit, Monash University, p173  

**1130 – 1145** Generation of a novel antagonist of the human protease-activated receptor-4 uncovers a role for this receptor in the platelet procoagulant response — Justin Hamilton, Monash University, p48  

**1145 – 1200** Excessive superoxide production and endothelial dysfunction in cerebral arteries following transient cerebral ischaemia are due to enhanced activity of NOX2-containing NADPH-oxidase — Alyson Miller, Monash University, p97  

**1200 – 1215** Hydrogen sulfide elicits vasoprotection by scavenging superoxide anions and inhibiting vascular NADPH oxidase — Joanne Hart, RMIT University, p84  

**1215 – 1230** Effect of a CCR2 antagonist on brain inflammation and infarct volume after stroke in mice — Vanessa Brat, Monash University, p59  

**1230 – 1245** G protein-coupled estrogen receptor signalling in the brain worsens stroke outcome in males but protects in females — Brad Broughton, Monash University, p147  

**1245 – 1300** Anti-inflammatory peptide annexin-a1 (ANX-A1) postconditions cardiac injury — Rebecca Ritchie, Baker IDI Heart & Diabetes Institute, p145  

**1300 – 1400** Lunch and Poster Presentations  
**ROOM:** Grand Lobby  

**1300 – 1400** Gastro-Urogenital SIG  
**ROOM:** Grand 3  

**1300 – 1400** Education SIG  
**ROOM:** Grand 2  

**1400 – 1600** ASCEPT Oral Session  
**CHAIR:** Barb Kemp Harper  
**ROOM:** Grand 5 & 6  

**1400 – 1415** Vasorelaxant and anti-aggregatory actions of nitroxyl (HNO) are preserved, yet those to nitric oxide (NO) compromised, in hypercholesterolemic mice — Michelle Bullen, Monash University, p116  

**1415 – 1430** Growth factor-mediated changes in purinergic receptor signalling in breast cancer cells — Felicity Davis, The University of Queensland, p9  

**1430 – 1445** MyD88-dependent signalling following stroke — Catherine Downes, Melbourne University, p126  

**1445 – 1500** Drug Burden Index (DBI) and mortality in Australian Veteran Population — Danijela Grjeda, University of Sydney and Royal North Shore Hospital, p117  

**1500 – 1515** Differential expression of AITP1A, AITP7B and CTR1 in adult rat dorsal root ganglion tissue — Virginia Ip, University of Auckland, p88  

**1515 – 1530** Investigating the role of the low density lipoprotein class A (LDLA) module in mediating activation of the relaxin family receptor (RXFP) 1 and RXFP2 — Ray Chae Khai Kong, Howard Florey Institute, p75  

**1530 – 1545** Age-related loss of fenestrations impairs hepatic uptake of the water soluble substrate paracetamol — Sarah Mitchell, Royal North Shore Hospital and University of Sydney, p15  

**1545 – 1600** CYPIA2 activity in south asians and Europeans — Vidya Parewa, The University of Sydney, p32  

**1600 – 1630** Afternoon Tea  
**ROOM:** Grand Lobby  

**1630 – 1830** ASCEPT Annual General Meeting  
**ROOM:** Grand 5 & 6  

**1930** Conference Dinner, Sebel Ballroom
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<td>0730 – 0830</td>
<td><strong>Breakfast</strong> ROOM: Grand Lobby</td>
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<td>0830 – 1030</td>
<td><strong>Medication Safety: Innovations</strong></td>
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<td>CHAIR: Ric Day, Johanna Westbrook  ROOM: Grand 5 &amp; 6</td>
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<td>0830 – 0855</td>
<td><strong>As you like it</strong> – Mukesh Haikerwal, National E-Health Transition Authority</td>
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<td>0830 – 1030</td>
<td><strong>Oral Presentations 5</strong></td>
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<td>CHAIR: Tom Polasek, Betty Exintaris  ROOM: Grand 3 &amp; 4</td>
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<td>0830 – 0855</td>
<td><strong>Protein kinase C regulates the internalization and function of the human organic anion transporting polypeptide</strong></td>
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<td>– Fanfan Zhou, The University of Sydney, p2</td>
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<td>0855 – 0915</td>
<td><strong>Mindlines: Sources of medication errors</strong> – William Runciman, University of South Australia</td>
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<td>0845 – 0900</td>
<td><strong>Inhibition of proliferation and migration of COX-2-overexpressing breast cancer cells by synthetic omega-3 monounsaturated fatty acids</strong></td>
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<td>– Pei Cui, University of Sydney, p44</td>
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<td>0915 – 0935</td>
<td><strong>Trials and tribulations of implementing electronic medication management systems</strong> – Ric Day, University of New South Wales, p224</td>
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<td>0915 – 0930</td>
<td><strong>Prediction of paclitaxel clearance from in vitro kinetic data</strong></td>
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<td>– Tom Polasek, Flinders University, p21</td>
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<td>0935 – 0955</td>
<td><strong>The impact of electronic medication management systems on prescribing errors in hospitals</strong> – Johanna Westbrook, The University of Sydney, p189</td>
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<td>0930 – 0945</td>
<td><strong>Neurotransmitters regulating tone of the internal anal sphincter</strong></td>
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<td>– Natasha Hausman, Bond University, p89</td>
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<td>0945 – 1000</td>
<td><strong>Adrenoceptor subtypes regulating urethral spontaneous contraction</strong></td>
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<td>– Christian Moro, Bond University, p107</td>
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<td>1015 – 1030</td>
<td><strong>Panel Discussion</strong></td>
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<td>1000 – 1015</td>
<td><strong>Investigation of receptors and mediator release in the porcine bladder mucosa — a role for tachykinins and other endogenous agonists?</strong></td>
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<td>– Elizabeth Burcher, University of New South Wales, p150</td>
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<tr>
<td>1015 – 1030</td>
<td><strong>Acid and acid-sensitive receptors in the porcine urinary bladder</strong></td>
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<td>– Felicity Kao, University of New South Wales, p156</td>
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<td>1030 – 1100</td>
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<td>1100 – 1200</td>
<td><strong>Plenary Speaker</strong> – British Toxicological Society</td>
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<td>Prof Timothy Gant, Medical Research Council Toxicology Unit and Reader in Genetics, University of Leicester, UK</td>
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<td>CHAIR: David Le Couteur  ROOM: Grand 5 &amp; 6</td>
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<td>1200 – 1230</td>
<td><strong>Prize Giving and Conference Close</strong></td>
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<td>CHAIR: David Le Couteur  ROOM: Grand 5 &amp; 6</td>
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Conference Venue and Registration

All sessions will be held at The Sebel Albert Park, Level One. Phone: + 61 3 9529 4300  Fax: + 61 3 9521 3111

The Registration Desk will be located on Level One in the Grand Lobby. The desk is open as follows:

Sunday November 28:  0900 – 0730
Monday November 29:  0730 – 1830
Tuesday November 30:  0730 – 1830
Wednesday December 1:  0730 – 1230

Internet access is via wireless only. Wireless access cards can be purchased from the Sebel Main Reception Desk. A Business Centre is also available for delegate use, please see the Sebel Main Reception for further details.

Speakers

Speakers are asked to load their presentations no later than ONE hour before their session begins in the Speakers Preparation Room. Presentations must be provided on a USB (memory stick), with the file in a Power Point PC format. Please note that there will be NO time to swap computers over between presentations.

Poster Presentations

Posters presenters are requested to be in attendance on either Sunday evening (1730 – 1930) or on Monday at morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea (1030 – 1100; 1300 – 1400; 1600 – 1630) as per their allocated session. Student poster presenters are eligible for either the Percy or Whelan Poster Prizes and should be prepared to provide a two minute synopsis of their posters when requested by judging panels. Following poster presentations on Sunday & Monday, students will be shortlisted for the Percy & Whelan Prizes and finalists will be asked to present their poster again on Tuesday (1300 – 1400) in a dedicated Prize Judging Session.

Social Program

The Welcome Drinks and Poster Presentations will be held at The Sebel Albert Park on Level One in the Exhibition Area on Sunday November 28 from 1730 – 1930.

The Conference Dinner will be held at The Sebel Albert Park in the Sebel Grand Ballroom, Level One, on Tuesday November 30 from 1930.

Parking

Parking is available at The Sebel Albert Park. Conveniently located beneath the hotel and accessible via Lorne Street, Mirvac’s car park has 400 parking bays for your convenience. At the time of writing the rate is $16.00 per vehicle flat rate per day. However, please note parking rates are subject to change without notification. There is one further car park in close proximity to the hotel to ensure ample space is available. Please note the ceiling height of the car park is 2.1m on level one, and 1.9m on level two.

Public Transport:

Trams travel down St Kilda Rd (numbers 3, 5, 6, 16, 64 and 67). Tram stop 27 is the closest to The Sebel Albert Park Melbourne and is a short walk down Lorne Street to the hotel. The closest train stations to the hotel are Prahran and Flinders Street. For further information on public transport, please log on to www.victrip.com.au

General Information

Mobile phones, pagers: In the interests of courtesy to speakers and other delegates, please switch off these devices during sessions or switch them to vibration mode.

Dress code: Dress for the conference sessions and Annual Dinner is informal (smart casual).

Daily notices/messages: All information on changes to the program and other items of interest to participants will be posted daily on a notice board at the Registration Desk. Delegates should check the noticeboard regularly for incoming messages and faxes.

Disclaimer: The organising committee reserves the right to make program changes if deemed necessary.

Name badges: Conference delegates are requested to wear their name badges to all conference activities.

No Liability: In the event of any disruption or event leading to losses or added expense being incurred in respect of the conference, there shall be no liability attached to ASCEPT or the Conference Organisers.

Privacy: Any information relevant to your attendance at the conference will be shared and used between ASCEPT and the conference organisers for the purposes of this conference. A list of delegates will be made available to conference delegates and sponsors.