



# The Australian Society for Parasitology Inc

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*Eimeria macropodis* SEM: Carolin Richter

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# FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK

As this is my first report as ASP President for 2007 I would like to start by assuring the society the high standards set by previous Presidents and Councils will be maintained. The new executive committee consisting of myself, Lois Small (Secretary) and Deb Holt (Treasurer) have met for the first time and I feel very confident we will be an efficient and strong team to manage the day to day society business and implement any new changes as directed by Council and the Society. I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank Mal Jones and his Executive Committee (Danielle Smyth, and Deborah Stenzel) for the outstanding job they did last year, and for providing helpful advice and information to the new executive leading to an uneventful handover of the society's documents and ongoing business. I would also like to take this occasion to welcome our new council members Kate Hutson (SA), Kate Mounsey (NT), Adele Lehané (ACT) and Peter Holdsworth (President-elect). Please feel free over the coming year to contact any member of council regarding ASP issues, concerns, or new initiatives so they can be addressed during the year and/or raised for discussion at the ASP mid term and end of term council meetings. I would also like to thank those who are retiring from council, especially Mark Sandeman (Webmaster). The ASP website is our public link to the world and Mark has done a fantastic job updating and modernising this site and his efforts are very much appreciated by all. We still have no nominations for a replacement Webmaster and if you have webpage skills would like to be involved in ASP council activities please contact me ASAP.

The 2007 joint ASP/ARC-NHMRC Network conference held in Canberra in July was a great success, as demonstrated by the strong support from members with around 240 delegates in attendance, and high quality and

interesting presentations from both International and National speakers. I would like to thank all those involved with its smooth and successful operation.

Congratulations to those who won awards: Tom Cribb for the Bancroft Mackerras medal and his presentation describing the exciting world of digeneans and their phylogeny; our new ASP fellows Roger Prichard and Russ Hobbs; the four students awarded JD Smythe awards Tamsin Barnes (UQ), Nicholas Robinson (Monash Uni), Amber Glanfield (QIMR), and Catherine James (UTS); and our ASP student presentation awardees Best Poster: Simon Cobbold (ANU), Best Poster/Oral: Alison Knight (ANU), and Best Oral (joint winners): Nichola Hill (Macquarie) and Kate Mounsey (MSHR). Finally congratulations to Rowena Martin (ANU) for winning the Network for Parasitology Early Career Researcher award. Please also note the advertisement in this newsletter in regard to the 2007 JFA Sprent Prize, now open for nominations. The arrangements for the next joint ASP/Network for Parasitology conference in Adelaide 2008 are well underway, and the organising committee now have the venue and a number of events booked, an exciting draft program established, and official letters sent out to invited speakers. In the pipeline is the ASP/Network conference in Sydney 2008 and of course ICOPA in 2010, of which the latter organising committee had its inaugural meeting in Canberra recently.

The ASP council will continue to foster the development of parasite educational resources for both ASP members and the general public as demonstrated in ongoing support for the History of Parasitology in Australia textbook edited by Ian Beveridge and colleagues; the Parasite website designed and initiated by Peter O'Donoghue;



the Veterinary Parasitology text book edited by Nick Sangster; and continued collaboration with the Network for Parasitology and Questacon for the production of the travelling 'Intimate Aliens' display. Further initiatives for council this year include changes to the constitution in regard to the term of the ASP executive committee and student travel awards (as described in the 2007 AGM minutes), and to seek designs for an updated modernised ASP logo, with final decisions to go to the Society for voting at the next AGM.

Finally I would like to welcome new members to the ASP. It seems appropriate at the beginning of a new term of council to revisit the objectives of the society as outlined in the constitution. These are to foster the association of persons interested in parasitology, foster the establishment and proper curation of collections of Australian parasites, and by facilitating interaction and discussion, promote the investigation and advancement of knowledge of parasitology. During my term as President I will continue to facilitate these aims and look forward to the continuation of what I believe is a very friendly and interactive society.

Shelley Walton





## Fellow of the Australian Society for Parasitology



### Russell P. Hobbs

Russ Hobbs graduated with a BSc in zoology from Monash University in 1968, which was followed by a move to the University of Alberta in Edmonton Canada, where, after undertaking some additional undergraduate courses in Zoology, he enrolled as a Masters student. During the next five years, according to his mentors and supervisors at the time, Russ “did the best work ever done on the parasite community of North America’s and Canada’s two species of pika, *Ochotona princeps* and *O. collaris*”. His resultant MSc thesis demonstrated Russ’ skills in taxonomy and ecology and was described as “complete and beautiful science”.

Russ’s contribution to parasitology is evident in a number of areas. In research, Russ has published over 30 papers, and contributed to many more in terms of his descriptive and taxonomic input, principally in the areas of the ecology and taxonomy of wildlife parasites, and recently a new species of *Choanocotyle* from

an Australian freshwater turtle was named after Russ – *C. hobbsi*.

Russ’ paper in the *American Midland Naturalist* published in 1980, on ‘Interspecific interactions among gastrointestinal Helminths in pikas of North America’ is still considered one of the best contributions to science from graduate students in the department at the University of Alberta. His 1990 seminal paper in *Parasitology* on host induced morphological variation in *Echinococcus* remains one of the most significant contributions to research on this parasite in the last 20 years, and his continuing contributions to the ecology of parasites of wildlife was highlighted in his studies on parasites of rabbits published in several journal articles in the late 1990s.

Russ has also provided innovative and invaluable input to the teaching of parasitology to veterinary and biomedical students, in particular

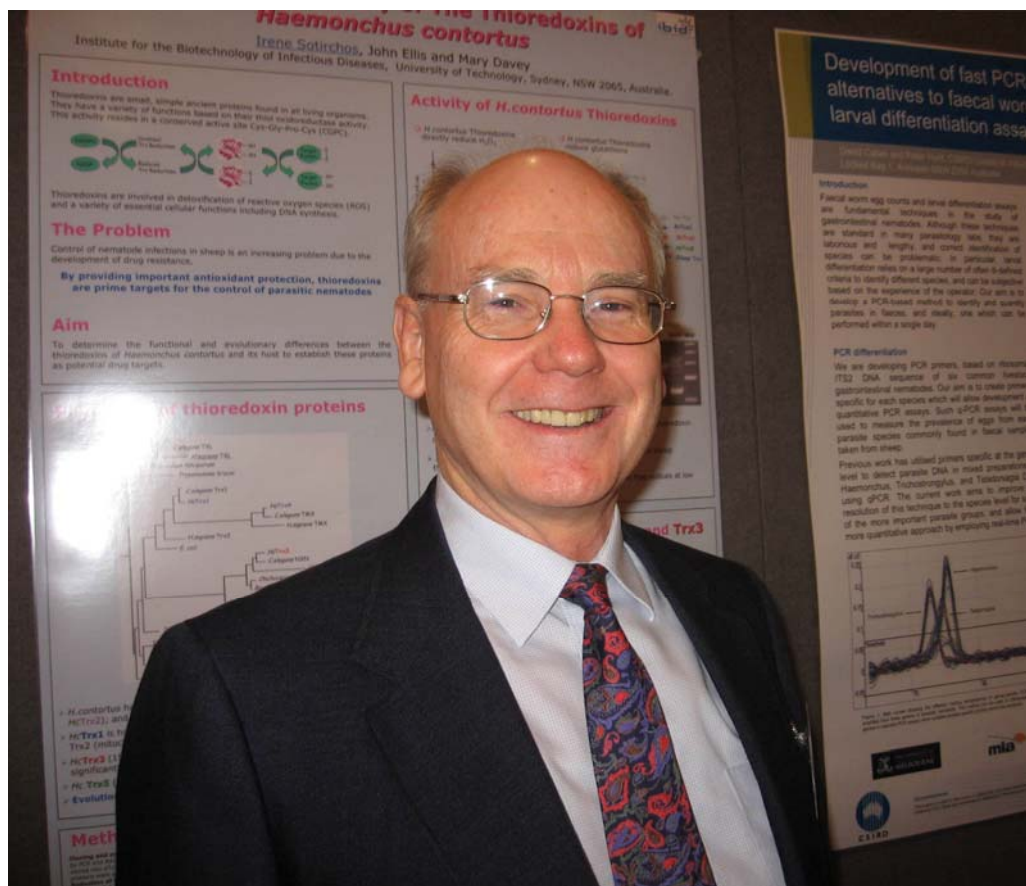
with the development of teaching resources both printed and web-based. Russ has also managed the School’s diagnostic unit for the last 20 years and has secured the unit’s reputation for quality, particularly in the areas of livestock and wildlife, and once again served to enhance collaborative interaction with a number of laboratories throughout Australia.

Russ has been a stalwart of the Society of which he was the founding Newsletter Editor and lent his skills in web design to establish the web sites for both the Society and the ARC/NHMRC Research Network for Parasitology. He has served on Council and the Executive on several occasions, and has been part of the organising team for several ASP meetings.

In view of his contribution to Parasitology and service to our Society, Russ Hobbs is a worthy recipient of the title, Fellow of the Australian Society for Parasitology.



# Fellow of the Australian Society for Parasitology



## Roger K. Prichard

Roger Prichard graduated with a BSc from the University of New South Wales in 1966 and following completion of his PhD from the same University in 1969 he joined CSIRO's McMaster Laboratory until leaving for Canada in 1984.

Roger has made an outstanding contribution to the science of Parasitology, since beginning his career as a Research Scientist at CSIRO's McMaster Animal Health Laboratory in 1969. In 1984 Roger became Professor of Parasitology at McGill University Canada, where he became Director of the Institute of Parasitology for three terms (9 years). Over a period of 37 years Roger has presented 99 invited research papers, (co)authored 200 research papers, contributed to 17 books on Parasitology and supervised 32 PhD students. Roger's high level of achievement has been recognised by awards from:

WAAVP, the American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists, the European Veterinary Parasitology College and the Canadian Society of Zoologists.

Roger's research has focused on mechanisms of anthelmintic action and metabolism, pharmacodynamics, and mechanisms of Anthelmintic Resistance. This work has encompassed the macrocyclic lactones, benzimidazoles, filarial worms, GI-nematodes and flukes in animal and human hosts. He also has examined the molecular basis of anthelmintic resistance. Roger has been a consultant for WHO programs aimed at controlling onchocerciasis and schistosomiasis. He also has contributed to research policy and higher education, particularly in Canada. Roger has strong collaboration with industry: Novartis Animal Health, Aurelium

BioPharma, Fort Dodge Animal Health, Pharmacia & Upjohn, Merck, Schering-Plough and Pfizer.

Roger has been an active member of the Australian Society for Parasitology since 1969, and Chaired the Bancroft-Mackerras Medal Development Committee from 1981-83. He has also served on numerous international associations and professional bodies through which he has advanced the science and international standing of Parasitology in numerous ways.

In view of his contribution to Parasitology and long standing, close association with our Society, Roger Prichard is a worthy recipient of the title, Fellow of the Australian Society for Parasitology.

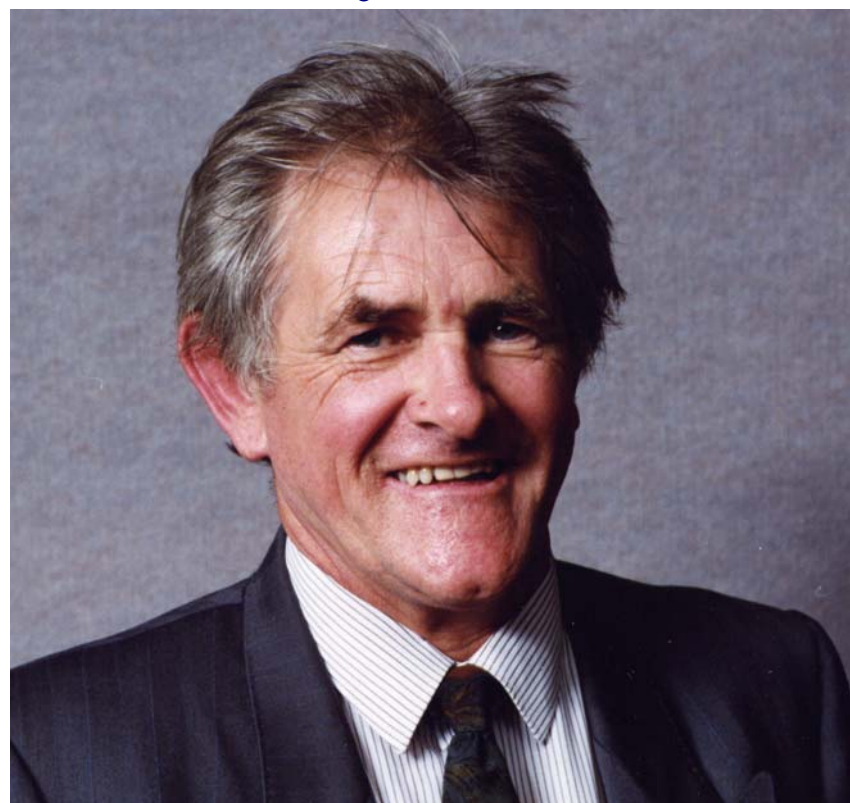




# Vale Colin Dobson

19 July 1937 -22 June 2007

Colin Dobson passed away in Brisbane on 22 June 2007 after a struggle with cancer. Colin contributed much to the development of the Society and parasitology in this country. He was Professor and Head of the Department of Parasitology for many years. To him, life was fun and full of laughs; Colin was immensely proud of his department, its heritage, and its members, including the “girls”, who made it function. Nevertheless, he had to carefully manoeuvre the department like a well-oiled machine to get the most from its components.



Colin was born at Newbiggin-by-the-Sea on 19 July 1937, the only child of his coalmining parents. Colin was a precocious child. After completing school, he enrolled in Science at Sheffield University, largely because that university had produced two Nobel prize winners- Lord Florey (Nobel prize winner in 1945) and Sir Hans Krebs (1953). Unfortunately, both laureates had retired by the time he arrived at the university, but Colin persevered with his studies and graduated with Honours in Science in 1958. He was awarded his Ph.D. in 1960 for a thesis entitled “An investigation of the host-parasite relations and host specificity of *Nematospiroides dubius*, Baylis 1926, Heligmosomidae, a mouse nematode in its normal and an abnormal host”. The interactions between this parasite and its hosts were to occupy Colin’s interests for much of his career in research.

Colin arrived in Brisbane in 1960 with his wife Barbara. He was appointed as a Senior Research Fellow in Experimental Parasitology at the University of Queensland and quickly progressed into an academic post. Colin was awarded his D. Sc. from the University of Queensland at the age of 31. He was appointed Professor of parasitology in 1985 and

made head of the Department of Parasitology, a position he held until 1998. His last University of Queensland appointment was as Foundation Director of the School of Marine Science.

Professor Dobson made substantial contributions to knowledge of immunity to parasitic infections, including the nature of protective immunity against gastrointestinal nematodes, genetic control of immunity and immunosuppression. In later years he turned his attention to practical control of metazoan parasites by vaccination. He published in excess of 100 papers, gave many invited presentations, and spent hours on the manuscripts of students in his department. He mentored many young scientists, some of whom, like Mike Rickard, John Welch and Paul Brindley, went on to leadership roles in parasitology. Colin took up his first sabbatical studies in the laboratory of the noted veterinary parasitologist Lawson Soulsby (now Lord Soulsby of Swaffam Prior) at the University of Pennsylvania, and the two formed a firm and lasting friendship.

Colin was a foundation member of the ASP and the British Society for Parasitology. He served as President of the Australian Society from 1983 to 1985, during which time much of the Society activity was directed towards organizing ICOPA VI. He was later to be appointed to Chair of the Organizing Committee and contributed much to what was to become a tremendously successful Congress.

Colin’s talents extended beyond his science. He was an accomplished artist and painter, and once made a harpsichord. As a superior metal craftsman and competitive marksman, he recognized that he was considered an eccentric among both peer groups. He had a passion for firearms, and turned out his handmade pistols and ammunition as well as a model steam engine and other railroad cars in his shed. Some of his neighbours were not a little concerned when he constructed a shooting range in his backyard at Pinjarra Hills!

Colin was bright, forceful and could carry an argument. He loved books and most rooms of his home contained shelves of his extensive library. Colin was forthright, and many colleagues and former students



will no doubt recall uncomfortable times when Colin was want to point out home truths. Nevertheless, he was a loyal and true friend to many, and fiercely protective of his own family and extended “family” of parasitologists. He won few friends, but no doubt much respect, among senior administrators at the University for defending HIS department. Sadly Colin’s retirement was short and troubled as both he and Barbara battled illness. His beloved wife, Barbara, passed away in late 2006. Colin is survived by his three children, Penny, Kate and Nick and their families; he was extremely appreciative of the achievements and abilities of his children, and each of his grandchildren was the apple of his doting eye. Colin was a wonderful travel companion with a wealth of knowledge on a variety of topics. Actually, he knew more about the US Civil War than most American scholars. He gave much to parasitology in Australia and will be sorely missed!



Malcolm Jones and Robin Overstreet

Above: Colin at ASP 2006, Gold Coast, with Lois Small and Lesley Warner.



## **Closing Dates for Nominations for ASP Awards**

JFA Sprent Prize – September 30<sup>th</sup> 2007 (for award in 2008).

Bancroft-Mackerras Award - September 30<sup>th</sup> 2007 (for award in 2008).

Invited Lectureships Travel Grants - December 31<sup>st</sup> 2007.

JD Smyth Travel Awards - December 31<sup>st</sup> 2007.

ASP Fellowships - before next mid term Council meeting (February 2008)



# Science meets parliament 2007

As part of our membership of the Federation of Australian Scientific and Technological Societies (FASTS), the Australian Society for Parasitology (ASP) is invited each year to participate in a two-day event in Canberra where Science Meets Parliament (SmP). This year, the ASP sent Peter O'Donoghue as their representative. The following narrative is a short report on his activities and general impressions.

The Australian Government operates on a triennial cycle: the first year concerns meeting election promises; the next year with forward planning and damage control, and the final year with getting re-elected. We are in an election year so politicians were exploring topical issues. Four main themes emerged: water, energy, health and education. Much has been done in recent years to develop a national science policy agenda, including the just-released report on Public Support for Science and Innovation by the non-partisan Productivity Commission [which was scathing of government interference in higher education and critical of universities striving to commercialize]. However, the big picture issue which dominated and overwhelmed the proceedings was that of global warming. The SmP meeting was coincident with Parliament sitting to consider responses to rising greenhouse gas emissions as well as the visit by British economist Sir Nicholas Stern, who urged the Australian government to ratify the Kyoto Protocol. Prime Minister John Howard has refused to commit to targets claiming they would devastate Australia's economy and he dismissed Sir Nicholas as 'just another expert'. The timing for SmP was unfortunate.

Into this volatile environment, some 200 scientists from many different societies descended on Canberra for one day of briefings and one day of meetings with Senators, Ministers and Members.

Briefings were held at University House at ANU and only a small amount of time was given over to logistics. The majority of time was spent learning about current policies and reviews into science, industry, innovation, research, ethics and politics. Parliamentarians consider themselves to be well briefed on current events and they expect the same from contemporary scientists. FASTS reaffirmed to us that only governments can implement policy but we can all contribute to its formulation through timely and considered consultation. Briefings were very professional and informative - time well spent getting up to speed. Congratulations to the FASTS organizers.

That evening, we dined in the Great Hall of Parliament House where we were seated with at least two politicians per table of ten scientists. The compere for the evening was John Doyle who used his sharp wit to inflict mayhem and incite riot. Table discussions were lively and covered topics as diverse as droughts, floods, emergency services, carbon footprints, power industries, indigenous health, government inaction and scientific fraud. As the night proceeded, you could hear the room volume swell as ethanol accentuated the apposition of viewpoints. Quite entertaining.

Early next morning, we attended Parliament House to begin our meetings with individual Members of the House of Representatives and the Senate. As a representative of the ASP, I was keen to lobby for all things parasitological. Indeed, meetings had been set up for me to talk to politicians who had indicated an interest in human and animal health, infectious diseases, biosecurity, water quality, biodiversity, research funding and science education. I was gob-smacked when my first interview with a Senator began by him stating that global

warming was a fabrication by alarmist scientists. The rest of the interview was hi-jacked as the three scientists in the room attempted triage damage control. Fortunately, subsequent meetings with two Members and a Minister remained focused on specific topics and we were able to lobby for:

- ◆ multi-partisan support for the CRC scheme (currently under threat);
- ◆ renewed funding for biosecurity initiatives (expansion of scope);
- ◆ reviewing national priorities for medical research (incl. infectious diseases);
- ◆ development of national science curriculum (resolve State differences);
- ◆ recruiting students into science, medicine, nursing and teaching (global shortage);

Generally speaking, the scientists focused on their areas of specialization and their idiosyncrasies often prevented them for reaching consensus opinion and presenting a united front. Nearly everyone lamented the lack of adequate funding, but it is not very original for lobbyists to have their hands out for money (although one enterprising soul started his interview by telling a Minister to increase taxes so they would have more spending power). Predictably, the politicians were concerned with money (How much would it cost? Where will the money come from?) and popularity (What could do the most public good? aka What will have the best political impact?). It is quite alarming to see how destructive our political system can be as common-sense goes out the window when competitive politicians aggressively score points with semi-truths, subjective interpretations and weird logic. Haven't they ever heard about the honesty and integrity of the scientific method?





# SmP cont.

Regrettably, scientists are not paragons of virtue as they adopt similar tactics when they play politics.

Despite the melodramas of SmP, I believe we actually did some good. We were able to emphasize the importance of science to the Australian economy, several esteemed colleagues got excellent press, and many facts were tabled about big issues (scientific and technological preparedness, global warming, water for

cities, drought prediction, aging populations, social welfare). The Chief Scientist, Jim Peacock, suggests that the greatest impact we can have on politicians is to become vocal members of expert committees convened to inform government, develop and review policy, and implement change. If you are ever asked to join such a committee, take the opportunity to have your say in governance.

Peter O'Donoghue

## NETWORK NEWS

Congratulations to the most recent Network Researcher Exchange, Training and Travel Award winners:

Adele Lehané, PhD candidate from the Australian National University to attend the Biology of Parasitism Course at Woods Hole USA from June - August 2007;

Alan Cowman, from The Walter & Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research to support the Molecular Approaches to Malaria (MAM) 2008 Meeting 3rd- 7th February 2008, Lorne Victoria;

Mike Bull, Flinders University of South Australia for a two day symposium, held at Flinders University in June 2007. The theme of the symposium was "Parasites, Conservation, and Evolutionary Ecology; Connecting some disparate threads".

Stephanie Godfrey PhD student, Flinders University of South Australia for a Researcher Exchange 27th May - 18th June 2007: 3 week visit to Prof. J. Krause's laboratory at the University of Leeds (UK), and Dr. Dick James at the University of Bath (UK) to learn social network analysis and modeling techniques;

Mal Jones from the Queensland Institute of Medical Research for a workshop on Tuesday March 27, entitled, "Genomic and proteomic analyses of secretions of parasitic helminths";

Emanuela Handman, Principal Research Fellow/Laboratory Head, The Walter & Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research to support the Imaging Infectious Diseases - A Pasteur Institute and Walter and Eliza Hall Institute Workshop at WEHI Thursday 31st January & Friday 1st February 2008;

Ying Zhu, post-doctoral research fellow, The Walter & Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research to attend the Optical Microscopy & Imaging in the Biomedical Sciences course at Woods Hole, October 9 - 18, 2007;

Leann Tilley, La Trobe University, for a Researcher Exchange by international student Silvia Haase from Dr Tim Gilberger's laboratory in the Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine, Hamburg, for collaborative research;

Una Ryan, School of Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences, Murdoch University, for a Researcher Exchange to visit Dr Caccio Department of Infectious, Parasitic and Immunomediated Diseases, Istituto Superiore di Sanita', Italy from August 07 until October 07;

Stephane Hemmerter, Institute for the Biotechnology of Infectious Diseases, University of Technology, Sydney to attend the Work

shop on Molecular Evolution, Woods Hole, Massachusetts USA from 22 July to the 10 August 2007;

Nevi Parameswaran, from Murdoch University for a Researcher Exchange August 27th to September 8th '07, Salford UK: 2 weeks with Geoff Hide, The Centre for Molecular Epidemiology and Ecology, University of Salford, and September 8th to 26th, Washington D.C, USA : 2 weeks with Michael Grigg, National Institute of Health (NIH) and 3 days with Mark Jenkins, Animal Parasitic Disease Laboratory, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA);

Phillipe Boeuf, Research Fellow, Department of Medicine (RMH/WH) The University of Melbourne for a Researcher Exchange to Academic Unit of Child Health University of Manchester;

Fiona McCallum, PhD student, The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, for a Research Exchange to the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI), Kilifi, to work in KEMRI malaria laboratory, 17 July - 30 September 2007;

Leanne Robinson, PhD Student, The Walter & Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research to attend the annual Epidemiology & Control of Infectious diseases training course at St Mary's Hospital Campus of Imperial College in Paddington, London, from September 3-14, 2007; and

Jody Zawadzki, Project Leader and Senior Research Scientist, Department of Primary Industries Victoria, for a Research Exchange to the Novartis Centre de Recherche Santé Animale CH-1566 St-Aubin to undertake a short Research & Development project under the supervision of Dr Ronald Kaminsky, Head of Parasitology and also to the University of Bern and the University of Zurich to meet with Professor Maser and Professor Seeberger to develop international networks and discuss the possibility of collaborative projects for the future.



Network Research Exchange, Training and Travel Award application dates for 2007/08

At the recent annual meeting of the Network Management and Advisory Committees, it was agreed to increase the budget for the Network Research Exchange, Training and Travel Awards. Thus, there will be eight rounds of awards, with approximately \$30,000 available for each round, in total (ie a total budget of ~\$240,000). The following dates are the new deadlines for

submission of your Network Research Exchange, Training and Travel Award application. Further guidelines for application can be found at <http://www.parasite.org.au/arcnet/funding/index.html>.

Following each of these dates, the applications will be assessed by the Network Management Committee and applicants will be advised of the outcome within 3-4 weeks, where possible.

2007/08 dates for submission of Network Travel Award applications

- \* Friday September 28 2007
- \* Friday November 30 2007
- \* Friday January 25 2008
- \* Friday March 28 2008
- \* Friday May 30 2008
- \* Friday July 25 2008
- \* Friday September 26 2008

## Events

The Network has been involved in more outreach activities in 2007; Dr Kate Miller (IBID, UTS) and Lisa Jones have been running hands-on parasite workshops and interactive displays for students of all ages and the general public whilst Dr Sheila Donnelly has been presenting her fascinating and gory "Revenge of the Body Snatchers" talk for high school students as part of Science in the City.

Kate and Lisa took their parasite workshops to Tocal, in the Hunter Valley in May and, along with Michelle Robinson, Marilyn Katrib, Rowan Ikin, Mark Robinson and Amanda Hudson, to the Australian Museum as part of Science in the

City for two weeks in August. Kate and Lisa have also run their "Parasite DNA extraction workshop" for senior school students either visiting UTS as part of National Science Week activities or as a careers visit.

The Network organised the Parasites in Focus photography exhibition, currently on display at Questacon - The National Science and Technology Centre until early November 2007. This exhibition is supported by the ASP, Questacon - The National Science and Technology Centre, and DEST.

The Network also organised and hosted the highly entertaining "Hypothetical - Global Warming and Parasites" public event, which was held in the Great Hall at New Parliament House on Wed 11 July 2007. This lively discussion was hosted by the ABC's Robyn Williams and featured an expert panel of scientists, legislators and politicians (below):

Senator Lyn Allison, Leader of the Australian Democrats and spokesperson for Education; Health and Ageing; Resources, Energy and Infrastructure; Treasury and Commonwealth-State Relations.

Dame Bridget Ogilvie, Companion of the Order of Australia for services to science policy and parasitology, and former chief of the Wellcome Trust.

Lieutenant Colonel Bob Cooper, Deputy Director of the Army Malaria Institute.

Prof Bart Currie, Head of the Tropical and Emerging Infectious Diseases Division at the Menzies School of Health Research in Darwin, Senior Infectious Diseases Physician at Royal Darwin Hospital and Professor in Medicine at the Northern Territory Clinical School, Flinders University.

Dr Peter Daszak, Executive Director of the Consortium for Conservation Medicine in the U.S.A.

Dr Eva Bennet-Jenkins, acting CEO of the Australian Pesticide & Veterinary Medicines Authority.

Nick Smith



# Bancroft-Mackerras Medal

## Thomas Cribb



Thomas Herbert Cribb was born in 1960 and was raised in Brisbane. He graduated from the University of Queensland with a BSc in 1981, Honours BSc with a University Medal in 1982 and PhD in 1986. He was a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Natural History Museum in London in 1987, the CSIRO Division of Wildlife and Ecology in Canberra in 1988, the University of Queensland in 1989, and a Queen Elizabeth II Research Fellow at the Queensland Museum from 1990-1992. He was appointed Lecturer in the Department of Parasitology at The University of Queensland in 1992 and is currently Reader in Helminthology in the Department of Microbiology and Parasitology in the School of Molecular and Microbial Sciences.

His research has concentrated on the biodiversity and evolution of helminths parasitic in Australian animals, particularly the trematodes. He has worked on species infecting amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals but his greatest contribution has been intensive work on the trematodes of teleost fishes and he has developed strong international collaborations with British and French colleagues working throughout the tropical Indo-Pacific.

The underlying theme of his research has been to explore parasite diversity through studies on their morphology, taxonomy, life-cycles, biogeography and ecology. He found the tropical fauna to be similar to that throughout the Indo-West Pacific whereas the southern temperate fauna showed a high level of endemism. Collectively, he has produced 730 of the 1440 records of trematodes in Australian fishes and reported on 200

of the 370 known species. He has described 106 new digenean species and 27 new genera and has substantially revised the major trematode families Apocreadiidae, Faustulidae, Transversotrematidae and Tandanicolidae. He has contributed significant life-cycle information on the Aspidogastridae, Bivesiculidae, Brachylaimidae, Cryptogonimidae, Gorgoderidae, Opecoelidae and Transversotrematidae. He was the first to combine morphological and molecular approaches to infer digenean phylogeny and his studies now extend to the evolution of morphological characters, life-cycles and host specificity of the Trematoda (recently reviewed in his chapter on *Digenea* in the book *Interrelationships of the Platyhelminthes*). He is also contributing to chapters in each of the three CAB volumes on *Keys to the Trematodes of Vertebrates*. His reputation as a world leading authority on trematode systematics is supported by his extensive publication record and peer recognition through invited reviews, book chapters and conference presentations. To date, he has published 171 refereed scientific papers on digeneans, aspidogastreans, cestodes and acanthocephalans and presented 50 papers at national and international conferences. He has been especially industrious over the last five years and published 71 papers from 2001-2005 (average of 17 per year). During his career, he has held

24 competitive research grants worth over A\$1.3 million.

He teaches parasitology to undergraduate science and veterinary science students at the University of Queensland. He maintains an active postgraduate laboratory in helminthology and has graduated 39 higher degree students (currently supervising another 12). He serves on several university research, teaching and library committees, is an Honorary Research Fellow at the Queensland Museum, is a member of the editorial board of *Systematic Parasitology*, member of the American Society for Parasitology, the Australian Coral Reef Society, the Helminthological Society of Washington, the Royal Society of Queensland, and has served as Secretary for the Australian Institute for Biology and President of the Australian Society for Parasitology.

By his efforts, Thomas Cribb has made an outstanding contribution to the science of parasitology, particularly over the last five years. He has conducted original and innovative research using conventional and contemporary technologies, has an excellent publication record, has exhibited superior grantsmanship and scholarship, has cultivated productive collaborations with international experts, and has provided meritorious service to his discipline. His achievements amply fulfil the intent and requirements for the award of the Bancroft-Mackerras Medal of the Australian Society for Parasitology.





# Minutes of the 2007 End-of-term Council Meeting of the Australian Society for Parasitology

Sunday 8th July 2007 Marque Hotel, Canberra



**Meeting declared open at 8.30am.**

## 1. Present and Apologies

*Present:* Carolyn Behm (CB), Brendan Crabb (BC), Julie-Anne Fritz (JF), Deborah Holt (DH), Malcolm Jones (MJ), Catherine Miller (CM), Barbara Nowak (BN), David Piedrafita (DP), Michelle Power (MP), Mark Sandeman (MS), Nick Smith (NS), Danielle Smyth (DSm), Deb Stenzel (DSt), Andrew Thompson (AT), Katherine Trenholme (KT), Jody Zawadzki (JZ), Shelley Walton.

Kate Hutson (KH) as proxy for Nathan Bott; Una Ryan (UR) as proxy for Carolyn Bath-Jacobsen; Alan Cowman (AC) (ICOPA Chair) attending as an observer.

A moment of silence was had in remembrance for Colin Dobson.

## 2. Acceptance of minutes from the MTM.

No changes to the Minutes of the 2007 Mid-Term Council Meeting (MTM).

*Motion:* The Minutes of the last meeting be accepted (AT/JF). *Unanimous*

### Business Arising from 2007 MTM

- Selection of Professional Conference organiser for ICOPA. *(Completed. After email consultation between council, Mike Pickford from ASN was chosen as the preferred PCO).*

- Selection of ICOPA Chair. *(Completed. Alan Cowman was selected as ICOPA Chair).*

*Audit. (Completed. Books were closed as of April 30, 2007 to allow time for the audit to be completed prior to the 2007 AGM).*

- Terms of Executive Council. *(Completed. A committee was appointed at the ETM which met and a set of proposals have been drawn up for discussion by NS later on in the meeting).*

- ASP Logo. *(To be discussed later in the meeting).*

## 4. Reports

### A0 President's Report.

Written report provided (MJ, see attached).

General: The Society is continuing to go from strength to strength, with a strong financial status (we were briefly a 1 million dollar Society) and a continued successful linkage with the ARC/NHMRC network. We currently have over 400 members with a good attendance at the annual conference.

ICOPA: The ASP Council decided on a Professional Conference Organiser (PCO) and appointed Alan Cowman (AC) as the ICOPA chairperson. AC appointed an organising committee and the first meeting will be held later today.

Terms of Council: The 2005-2006 council/executive did a lot of work updating society operations. In order to further update and streamline our membership procedures, we need to enhance our secretariat services so that we keep pace with our expanding and changing membership. Also to assist in Council continuity, the term of Executive Council (and a proposed working model) will be addressed later in the meeting.

ASP Initiatives: During the year there has been progress on a number of ASP involved initiatives. Intimate Aliens is a project to raise the awareness of parasitology by using interactive displays. Nick Smith will comment on the progress of this later in the AGM. There are also two books being supported by the ASP; an Australian Veterinary textbook, and the History of Parasitology which is being finalised and catalogues the history of parasitology in Australia.

MJ wishes to thank MS for his expertise with taking on the Webmaster position and updating the website. MS is standing down from this position.

*Motion:* The President's report be accepted (KT/DSt). *Unanimous*

### B) Treasurer's Report.

A written report was provided by Deborah Stenzel (DSt).

Audit: Books were closed on April 30 in order to get the auditing completed by the AGM so that the audited accounts could be passed (and to avoid having to call another Extraordinary Meeting to pass audited accounts after the AGM, as happened in 2006). This means the accounts presented are not for a full financial year. The original accountants lined up to audit backed out at the last minute (same company as last year). DSt was able to find another accountant (Irene Keel of Accent Accounting and Finance) and the accounts will be done by the AGM.



**\*\*Note** that the date the books are to be closed can't be changed back to June/July again. They will need to be closed by April 30 from now on due to the taxation rules of not allowing a financial year to be over 12 months). As the AGM is likely to still be in the July/August time period, this will allow time for books to be audited.

**Income:** For the period July 1 2006 – April 30 2007. Memberships (new and renewals) has been \$11,240 and bank interest of \$3822 (excluding iPAC and Spent investment accounts). Total funds to be audited (working account, conference account, Spent investment, iPAC investment) totals \$787969.90.

**Income received after April 30 (therefore not included in audit):** The IJP royalties are the Society's major source of income and this year we received \$220,470. Investments accounts continue to do very well with the IPac account earning 9.3% in interest annually, and the Spent account matures on August 1<sup>st</sup> and receives 6.15% interest.

**Major expenditures:** Council meetings (ETM Gold Coast and MTM Brisbane); Student Travel awards (Gold Coast Conference); JD Smyth awards; Vet Para textbook workshop and the ARC Research Network support officer.

**Motion:** The Treasurer's report be accepted (BC/MS). *Unanimous*

### C. Secretary/ Incorporations Secretary Report

Oral report provided by DS<sup>m</sup>.

Current membership is currently at 462 financial members. This total consists of 243 ordinary members, 160 student members, 27 fellows, 24 life members, 6 gratis and 2 sustaining members. The majority of new members are students. There are currently 99 unfinancial members (49 ordinary/50 students) which are members who have not

paid renewal as of June 2005 and/or 2006.

**Motion:** The Secretary/ Incorporations Secretary's report be accepted (BN/CB). *Unanimous*

### D) Network Report.

An oral report of was presented NS.

The Network has made several outreach initiatives (QIMR Travel Bugs, field days, National Science week, Parasites in focus exhibition at Questacon, Hypothetical) which have been a great success (with much thanks to Lisa Jones, Cate Miller and Carley [has since taken up a new position in govt]).

The Network has fostered a great relationship with Questacon, which will move Intimate Aliens forward (similar idea to Questacon's Earthquest: a successful travelling interactive display). Spent approx 1 day discussing ideas for a prototype pod and portfolio. ASP committed seed funding at the mid-term meeting to get the initial interactive pods designed. More funding is sought and the final cost will be dictated by how much money can be raised (Will approach pharmaceutical companies, therefore a portfolio is needed to show companies etc). The intention is to have a product by ICOPA time

Fifty nine awards have been made since the start of the Network (with a large number already given this year). An increase in budget for these awards will be sought. A mentoring scheme has been setup, where interested young researchers can contact NS, and be sent to meet with a senior mentor. IT initiative being directed by Ross Coppel.

**Motion:** The Network report be accepted (CB/DS<sup>t</sup>). *Unanimous*

### E) IJP Editor's Report.

A written report was presented by BC.

At the beginning of 2007, the Editorial Board was expanded to 39 members, based in 12 countries and representing a wide spectrum of parasitological disciplines. Dr Dominique Soldati (University of Geneva) has been appointed Deputy Editor (Reviews), with Ian Beveridge (University of Melbourne) continuing as Deputy Editor. The current (2006) Impact Factor is 3.337 which is slightly down on last year's (2005) IF of 3.346.

### ASP Royalty Payment:

Royalty paid to the ASP in 2007 (for 2006) was GBP 92,240.23 (up from GBP 69,079.00). Appears to be a much lower amount charged for editorial expenses, this will be checked with Elsevier but we should factor in the possibility of increased editorial expenses next year.

**Strategic Direction:** Not much has changed since the last report. With a new journal cover being finalised, it is hoped that with added promotion by Elsevier, IJP will become more internationalised.

Open Access of IJP is still being considered and discussions are being had about promoting an "Author-paid non-restricted access option" which will allow the journal to become freely available while protecting out income stream. Rather than thematic issues, a focus on high quality review articles and small series of papers on particular topics will be pursued.

### New Journal Cover Design:

Input from Council will be sought closer to a more finalised design (January issue).



#### Society Service:

Details available on the ASP website. Member's info is updated quarterly with Elsevier.

#### Web Submissions:

Web submission system is running smoothly however there is an occasional glitch with Mac/PC communication which is being discussed with Elsevier.

#### Profile of Submissions:

2006 Statistics: Accepted 29% of submissions. Up front rejection rate for 2006 was 50%. The page budget remained the same. Main source of submissions was Western Europe (27%) with an increase in Australasian submissions to 8%.

2007 Statistics to date (1 January to 31 May): Accepted 28% of submissions. Up front rejection rate was 53%. The page budget remained the same. Main source of submissions is still Western Europe (26%) with an increase in submissions from North America (15%) and the UK (13%).

#### Office and Budget:

The office is running smoothly at the Bundoora campus of WEHI. With the increased workload in the office, we may need to employ some temp assistance during busy times. Currently budget is in surplus with some of these funds going towards the cover redesign (and planned inside cover redesign). We also need to allocate money towards Maria Meuleman's long service leave (due 2010). All funds are held at WEHI in a dedicated IJP account and are managed by WEHI finance staff.

*Motion:* The IJP Editor's report be accepted (CB/DS). *Unanimous*

#### **F) Newsletter Editor's Report.**

A written report was presented by MP.

Three issues were printed and cost approx. \$3.78 per member to receive. Only members who are currently financial or in arrears for no longer than 12 months were sent a newsletter.

MP streamlined the newsletter processes to save money such as invoicing the ASP directly for postage/printing. In order to cost cut further, supplying the printers with an Excel file of member's addresses will allow for labels to be printed at the same time, however the current Secretariat is unable to supply that information in an easily adaptable file format.

The colour covers (introduced in December 2006) have been a successful addition and more are planned. MP thanks State reps for their reports and member feedback on the issues.

DP. For the international members, would it be better to email an electronic PDF rather than the cost of posting a hardcopy (approx. 60 overseas members)?

MP requests for a budget of \$7000 for the next year. Also asks if information for the newsletter can be channelled through the State Reps so MP isn't swamped with late emails.

*Motion:* The Newsletter Editor's report and budget request be accepted (BC/KT). *Unanimous*

#### **G) Archivist's report.**

A brief written report was presented by CB.

Scanning of past ASP Abstract booklets is under way. We have finished 15 years so far.

Fellowship folders have been ordered as there was only one remaining (ordered 20 @ \$65 each).

Preparation of a list of JD Smyth Travel Award recipients for The History of Parasitology in Australia is not yet completed but underway (have to go back through newsletters).

No progress has been made on liaising with the National Film and Sound Archive for curation/copying of JD Smyth's *Echinococcus* culture films. Not sure of what the cost will be for this service.

*Motion:* The Archivist's report be accepted (J-AF/KH). *Unanimous*

#### **H) Webmaster's Report.**

An oral report was provided by MS.

The Society needs to think about how to get people/members looking regularly at the website. There is currently not enough storage space etc, Wolfweb have not responded to requests to change things. We are moving beyond the basic website and need to think about that in regards to website providers.

MS is resigning from Webmaster position on council. There is currently no-one else has been proposed for the position. Ross Coppel was mentioned as a possibility (although he is not currently a member), however while he's paid by the Network he is extremely busy.

**\*\*Priority to find someone for at least the next year. To maintain the site MS estimates it currently takes a few days/month.**

*Action:* Need new councillors to send photos and contact details in order to update the webpage.

*Action:* Add ICOPA details to the front page of website.

*Action:* Mention the position of Webmaster to Ross Coppel but a call for interested parties must go out at the AGM.





DP. How much is the webpage used by members? Some people might be confused about whether to go to the ASP or The Network. How much detail (depth) do we need on the website (do we really need more space).

MS. The website is the top form of advertisement so we need to keep it up to date.

MJ. The web-host is a bit 'ad hoc'. For example, no bill for services has been received yet.

NS. Reconsidering the Network budget on Thursday and there is a possibility to add the cost of ASP Website maintenance.

*Action: For SW to look into the cost of maintaining websites etc, in order to look into transitioning to a new provider.*

*Motion: The Webmaster's report be accepted (DSt/DStm). Unanimous*

#### **I) BMM Convenor's report.**

A brief written report was provided by AT.

There are two new members on the committee. Committee consists of Andrew Thompson-Chair; Carolyn Behm; Lesley Warner; Graham Mitchell; Nick Sangster). One nomination has been received with unanimous support. While all members are conscious that the medal is advertised, the convenor can canvass ideas to contact potential nominators of people worthy of the award. We should be giving awards (1 award/ annum).

MP. Does the BMM go into IJP? BC. Yes.

CB. When do we give the medal? MJ. The oration is now as a symposium, not part of the AGM. The medal/certificate will be awarded prior to the oration.

*Motion: The BMM Convenor's report be accepted (DSt/DStm). Unanimous*

## **5) Conference Reports.**

### **A) Canberra 2007:**

Approximately 240 delegates attended this year's conference, which is fewer than the Gold Coast Conference. The budget (approx \$188,000) has gone a little over (now around 190,000), which the Network will cover. Three convenors for the student awards: MP (orals); Colin Stack (posters) and Cathy Andrews (poster talks). Awards to be presented at the dinner by the new president.

*Motion: To increase the amount of the student awards from \$250 to \$500. (BN/DP). Unanimous.*

ASP invited lectures: Richard Grenais; Peter Daszak; Colin Sutherland (travel funded by Network so may only be claiming for accommodation)

### **B) Adelaide 2008:**

Brief oral report by NS. Venues for conference and events have been booked. Formal letters will go out to invited speakers shortly. A dinner venue is being sought. While the last two conference venues had been very cheap, the 2008 conference will be more expensive due to the venue at Glenelg.

### **C) Sydney 2009:**

suggestions for venues wanted via email. An organizing committee will be set up.I

### **D) ICOPA XII 2010:**

Oral report by Alan Cowman was presented.

AC thanked Alan Johnson and DP for bidding and winning the bid to host ICOPA in Australia in 2010. The date has been set for 15<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> August 2010. Banners and logos are being designed and the organising committee has been formed (will meet after the ASP ETM). AC met with Mike Pickford from ASN.

Funds secured so far: \$300,000 to bring scientists from developing countries.

(from DIIRD) and \$120,000 from Melbourne Convention Visitor's Bureau (MCVB).

Feedback has been gained from the Glasgow ICOPA organisers: email list of all applicants has been passed over. Also have provided the total budget which will be very useful for the organising committee.

Aims: Scientific excellence (breadth and depth needs to be covered); Target number of delegates is 2500 (1500 needed to break even); Speakers need to be a balance of senior and younger up and coming PIs as well as PhD students and postdocs; Posters to be a major feature. Priority is to not make a loss, but not to make a huge profit either: want to use the available money to make it the best conference possible.

Liability Protection: Three options; 1) ASP covering the conference and liability protected through broad insurance coverage. 2) Set up a no liability company. 3) Allow ASN to be the legal organiser of conference. AC prefers option 1 and asked a solicitor to look at that option.

Web designer needs high definition version of the current ASP logo. NS will ask Lisa Jones to forward that to AC. When the website goes live, all participants of Glasgow ICOPA will be emailed.

Budget: A soft budget from ASN (this must be paid), \$6K for the first year, 28K for the second year. AC is hoping the ASP will put money into the conference. AC presents a working budget which requests 2 x \$29,000. The committee will attend conferences internationally for advertising (marketing plan will target which conferences to market for ICOPA).



MJ asks if AC's request is enough money to bankroll and will Council approve the money? After discussion, Council feels the budget is very modest and rather than having to come back to the ASP to request more money, we should agree to fund for more than what might be required, and review at the MTM/ETM.

*Motion: To approve the budget request of Alan Cowman from the supplied documents, up to \$50,000 in the first year to cover the ASN costs and the organising committee costs, and will be given as instalments, as requested to the ASP treasurer at the time. (CM/MS). Unanimous.*

## 6. Awards.

### A) BMM.

The BMM recipient will be announced during the conference.

### B) ASP Fellows.

Russ Hobbs and Roger Prichard were elected to fellowship of the ASP at the Mid-term Meeting. Next applications are due prior to the mid-term meeting (held early 2008).

### C) JD Smyth Travel Awards.

Awarded to four students this year (valued at \$2500). Congratulations to Tamsin Barnes (UQ), Nicholas Robinson (Monash Uni), Amber Glanfield (QIMR), Catherine James (UTS). Next round due 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007.

*Action: Need to clear up the confusion with the information on the webpage, as we have to abide by the Constitution which states it is not to be for conference attendance alone.*

### D) Sprent prize.

Need to advertise in the August Newsletter. Due date 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2007. Need to get the Sprent committee organised (check the constitution).

DP. Committee members should be thanked officially (eg. bottle of wine), as it is a big job to read a number of theses.

*Action: To find out who was on the last committee (3 years ago) and who can stay on for the next round, then appoint two more members.*

*Action: State Reps to email members about the Sprent Prize and also to mention at the AGM.*

### E) ASP Undergraduate prizes in universities.

Written list provided by DSt.

ANU (shared prize): Ms Juliana Dandach; Ms Amelia Thompson.

James Cook Uni: No prize awarded in 2006

Murdoch Uni: Ms Michelle Gardner.

QUT: Ms Petrina Kellar.

Uni of Melbourne: Ms Melissa Hutchinson.

Uni of QLD: Ms Siew Tee

Uni of Sydney (shared prize): Ms Jessica Green; Ms Louise Rabbit; Ms Nicole Taylor; Ms Katherine von Ekert.

UTS: Ms Alana Zakrezewski.

## 7. Other Business.

### a) Proposed New Award

Discussions were held on proposed sponsorship of the society by a company with interests in parasitology.

### b) History of Parasitology

A written report from Ian Beveridge and Peter O'Donoghue was presented by MJ. The final draft of all chapters has been received and is now at the stage of book design and printing.

### c) Parasite Isolates Resource

Discussions are continuing.

### d) Request for sponsorship of International Invertebrate Conference

A Parasite Diversity Symposium is to be held as part of the upcoming 8<sup>th</sup> Invertebrate Biodiversity and Conservation Conference in Brisbane, 3-7<sup>th</sup> December, 2007 ([www.ibcc2007.org](http://www.ibcc2007.org)). There has been a written request by Rob Adlard and Tom Cribb for \$5000 towards this symposium for invited speakers. In return they will badge the symposium as an ASP sponsored symposium.

*Motion: That the ASP support the Parasite Diversity Symposium by granting \$5000. (CM/MS). Unanimous.*

### e) Vet Textbook Progress

Progress on the Vet textbook is slow but a number of chapters have been written. ASP approved \$16000 seed funding for a workshop to get the idea running. A sum of \$7000 was spent on the workshop and the remaining money is in trust at Charles Sturt University for later use for further workshops etc. There is a lunch meeting scheduled at the ASP conference to discuss progress.

### f) Multimedia Educational Resource.

At the MTM, Council agreed to fund \$15000 to match that given by the Network, in order to employ a biological artist (Lynn Pryor, UQ) to do the illustrations/ lifecycles/ web outlines etc, which will then be copyrighted to the ASP. At the AGM, Peter O'Donoghue will give an overview of the content and layout of the multimedia educational resource he has designed. An invoice from the University of Queensland for \$15,000 plus GST for 2007 has been paid.

### g) Meeting of Taxonomists from ASP, ABRs and FASTS.

MJ indicated that he had organised a meeting of the taxonomists of the ASP, staff of the Australian Biological Resources Study (Cam Slayter), and FASTS (Bradley Smith) to discuss the status of taxonomic studies in Australia and possible ABRs



initiatives. The meeting was organised for dinner on Monday evening at the Canberra Conference.

#### **h) Council Nominations**

President: Shelley Walton  
President Elect: Peter Holdsworth  
Treasurer: Deb Holt  
Exec. Secretary: Lois Small  
SA Rep: Kate Hutson  
ACT Rep: Adele Lehane  
NT Rep: Kate Mounsey  
QLD Rep: Katharine Trenholme  
Tas Rep: Barbara Nowak  
VIC Rep: Jody Zawadzki  
WA Rep: Caroline Bath-Jacobsen  
NSW Rep: Catherine Miller  
BMM Convenor: Andrew Thompson  
Webmaster: no nominations  
Archivist: Carol Behm/Dave Jenkins

#### **i) Other business:**

##### **Term of Executive Committee.**

A report was given by NS outlining a proposal to change from 1 year terms to 2 years in order to get a better balance and handover of executive, and so that the executive can plan rather than react. Five proposals were presented to Council.

Proposal 1: State Reps on Council to be elected annually with a maximum term of 3 consecutive terms (ie. No change from current arrangements).

Proposal 2: Archivist, Webmaster, Newsletter Ed, IJP Ed, BMM Committee Convenor and Incorporation

Secretary (QLD based as the ASP was incorporated in QLD) all be appointed by Council for 3 year terms

Proposal 3: President Elect will serve 1 year, followed by a 2 year term as President and, finally, a 1 year term as VP (thus in alternate years the position of President Elect and VP will be vacant).

Proposal 4: The Exec. Sec and Treasurer will be elected for 2 year terms, served concurrently with each President (Note that, normally these two positions will be nominated by the President-Elect, prior to he/she becoming President).

Proposal 5: The New model for the ASP Council Exec commence in July 2009 to allow the incoming President to stay in office in the lead-up to, and holding of, ICOPA in Melbourne in 2010.

MJ asked for comments from the AGM. Discussion from the floor resulted in a lot of past Exec members supporting the ideas put forward, although it was also noted that during a difficult period, two years would be might be too long.

Changes require Constitutional changes, which mean 1 month's notice prior to an AGM or Special Meeting. NS proposes 2008 AGM.

*Action: To present proposals to the 2007 AGM to gain feedback/direction.*

##### **Proposed change to logo.**

As actioned at the MTM, NS/LJ had Embellish Creative (cost of \$660) come up with several designs for the logo. The three logos are all very modern takes of parasites and design in general. They were sent out to Council with no response back. After general discussion Council decided to not show the designs to the AGM, but instead to ask the Society's opinion on the logo and take direction from there. Council needs to decide whether the mechanism to change is OK and what is the process going to be to decide on a new/updated logo

AT. The man who inspired this logo (the late Roger Lethbridge) should be acknowledged.

*Action: To address the AGM to gain direction from the Society regarding the logo.*

##### **Thanks**

MJ thanks those on council who are standing down (J-AF, DSt, DSm and MS). MJ also thanks DP for his leadership and guidance over the past year.

Close of meeting 2.30pm



Outgoing Executive: Malcolm Jones (President), Danielle Smyth (Secretary and Deborah Stenzel (Treasurer).





# Minutes of the 2007 Annual General Council Meeting of the Australian Society for Parasitology

Tuesday 10th July 2007 Marque Hotel. Canberra, ACT



**Meeting declared open at 5.10pm.**

## **1. Present and Apologies**

Malcolm Jones (President), Deborah Stenzel (Treasurer), Danielle Smyth (Executive Secretary): ~150 members present

*Apologies: Warrick Grant*

A moment of silence was had in remembrance for Colin Dobson, Des Hennessy and David Kemp, who sadly passed during the year.

## **2. Acceptance of Minutes from 2006 AGM and Extraordinary Business Meeting**

*Moved: Mark Sandeman, Seconded: Katherine Trenholme. Carried.*

## **3. Business Arising from 2006 AGM**

No business arising.

## **4. Reports**

### 4.1 President's Report.

An oral report was provided to the membership by Malcolm Jones. The Society is continuing to go from strength to strength, with a strong financial status and a continued successful linkage with the ARC/NHMRC network. We currently have over 400 members with a good attendance at the annual conference.

Congratulations to the team that successfully won the bid to host ICOPA XII in Melbourne, 2010. Special mention and thanks to both Alan Johnson and David Piedrafita for their hard work. The ASP Council decided on a Professional Conference Organiser (PCO) and appointed Alan Cowman (AC) as the ICOPA chairperson. AC appointed an organising committee and the ASP are providing the committee with seed funding to begin organising procedures.

The 2005-2006 council did a lot of work updating society operations. In order to further update and streamline our membership procedures, council is looking into our secretariat requirements to meet with our expanding membership. Also to assist in Council continuity, the term of Executive Council (and a proposed working model) will be addressed later in the meeting. In addition, the matter of whether the Society logo should be changed or updated will be put to the AGM for discussion.

During the year there has been progress on a number of ASP involved initiatives. Intimate Aliens is a project to raise the awareness of parasitology by using interactive displays. Nick Smith will comment on the progress of this later in the AGM. There are also two books being supported by the ASP; an Australian Veterinary textbook, and the History of Parasitology which is being finalised and catalogues the history of parasitology in Australia.

Motion to accept President's report: *Moved, Marshall Lightowlers; Seconded, Brendan Crabb. Carried.*

### 4.2 Treasurer's Report.

An oral report was provided to the membership by Deborah Stenzel (DSt). DSt thanks the work done by previous treasurers for the databases that were setup as they have been of great assistance throughout the year.

Audit: Books were closed on April 30 in order to get the auditing done by the AGM so that

the audited accounts could be passed (and to avoid having to call another Extraordinary Meeting to pass audited accounts after the AGM). This means the accounts presented are not for a full financial year.

**\*\*Note** that the date the books are to be closed can't be changed back to June/July again for tax office purposes (can't be longer than 12 months, would need to be two shorter periods). They will need to be closed by April 30 from now on.

The IJP royalties are the Society's major source of income and this year we received \$220, 470. Investments accounts continue to do very well with the IPac account earning 9.3% in interest annually.

Motion to accept Treasurer's report: *Moved, David Jenkins; Seconded, Russ Hobbs. Carried.*

### 4.3 IJP Editor's Report.

An oral report was provided to the membership by Brendan Crabb. At the beginning of 2007, the Editorial Board was expanded to 39 members, based in 12 countries and representing a wide spectrum of parasitological disciplines. Dr Dominique Soldati (University of Geneva) has been appointed Deputy Editor (Reviews), with Ian Beveridge (University of Melbourne) continuing as Deputy Editor. The current (2006) Impact Factor is 3.337 which is slightly down on last year's (2005) IF of 3.346.

Strategic Direction:

With a new journal cover being finalised, it is hoped that with added promotion by Elsevier, IJP



will become more internationalised. Open Access of IJP is still being considered and discussions are being had about promoting an "Author-paid non-restricted access option" which will allow the journal to become freely available while protecting out income stream. Rather than thematic issues, a focus on high quality review articles and small series of papers on particular topics will be pursued.

#### Web Submissions:

Web submission system is running smoothly however there is an occasional glitch with Mac/PC communication which is being discussed with Elsevier.

#### Profile of Submissions:

2006 Statistics: Accepted 29% of submissions. Up front rejection rate for 2006 was 50%. The page budget remained the same. Main source of submissions was Western Europe (27%) with an increase in Australasian submissions to 8%.

2007 Statistics to date (1 January to 31 May): Accepted 28% of submissions. Up front rejection rate was 53%. The page budget remained the same. Main source of submissions is still Western Europe (26%) with an increase in submissions from North America (15%) and the UK (13%).

Motion to accept IJP Editor's report: *Moved, Barbara Nowak, Seconded, POD. Carried.*

#### 4.4 Webmaster's Report.

A brief oral report was provided to the membership by Malcolm Jones. Mark Sandeman (MS) modernised and updated the website which now includes services such as a job page which can be updated regularly. Unfortunately MS is resigning his position as Webmaster, MJ thanked MS for his great contributions as Webmaster.

#### 4.5 Newsletter Editor's Report.

An oral report was provided to the membership by Michelle Power (MP). Three issues were printed and cost approx. \$3.78 per member to receive. MP streamlined the newsletter processes to save money such as invoicing the ASP directly for postage/printing. In order to cost cut further, supplying the printers with an Excel file of member's addresses will allow for labels to be printed at the same time, however the current Secretariat is unable to supply that information in an easily adaptable file format. The colour covers have been a successful addition and more are planned. MP thanks State reps for their reports and member feedback on the issues.

Alan Cowman asked whether an electronic version is planned. The newsletter is available on the website, but a hardcopy is still sent to all financial members as it's the link between the Society and its members.

POD suggests preserving the hardcopy as people have expressed liking a hard copy to read and students like to receive something in the hand for their membership that they can put in their bag and read later.

Motion to accept Newsletter Editor's report: *Moved, Craig Kyngdon, Seconded, Mark Sandeman. Carried.*

#### 4.6 Conference Reports:

##### A) Canberra 2007:

Approximately 240 delegates attended this year's conference. MJ thanked local organising committee for all of their hard work to organise another very successful conference.

##### B) Adelaide 2008:

Brief oral report by NS. Venues for conference and events have been booked. Formal letters will go out to invited speakers shortly. While the last two conference venues had been very cheap, the 2008 conference will be more expensive due to the venue at Glenelg.

##### C) Sydney 2009: Suggestions for venues wanted via email.

##### D) ICOPA XII 2010: Oral report by Alan Cowman was presented.

##### E) ICTM 2008: A presentation by a representative was given to the ASP AGM. This conference is hosted by The Korean Society for Parasitology and will be on Jeju Island, Korea, from September 29<sup>th</sup> – October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2008. Further information available from website ([www.ICTM17.org](http://www.ICTM17.org)).

#### 4.7 Network Report.

A brief oral report of the Network's activities was presented to the AGM by Nick Smith. 59 awards have been made since the start of the Network (with a large number already given this year). An increase in budget for these awards will be sought. A mentoring scheme has been setup, where interested young researchers can contact NS, and be sent to meet with a senior mentor.

The Network has made several outreach initiatives which have been a great success (with much thanks to Lisa Jones and Kate Miller). The Network has fostered a great relationship with Questacon, which will move Intimate Aliens forward (similar idea to Questacon's Earthquest: a successful travelling interactive display). ASP committed seed funding at the mid-term meeting to get the initial interactive pods designed.



## 5. Prizes and Awards

### 5.1 Bancroft-Mackerras Medal.

Congratulations to Thomas Cribb who was awarded the BMM in 2007.

### 5.2 Fellowships.

Society Fellowships are awarded to Russ Hobbs and Roger Prichard.

Next applications are due prior to the mid-term meeting (held early 2008).

### 5.3 Invited Lectureship Travel Grants.

Grants awarded to Dr Peter Daszak, Dr Richard Grencis and Dr Colin Sutherland.

### 5.4 JD Smyth Travel Awards.

Awarded to four students this year (valued at \$2500). Congratulations to Tamsin Barnes (UQ), Nicholas Robinson (Monash Uni), Amber Glanfield (QIMR), Catherine James (UTS). Next round due 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007.

## 6. Other Business

### 6.1 Multimedia Educational Resource. Presentation by POD.

The AGM was presented with a very impressive outline of the initial content and layout of the multimedia educational resource POD has been designing. Lynn Pryor (UQ) is the biological artist that is commissioned to do the illustrations and lifecycles so that they can be copyrighted to the ASP/Network.

POD requires colour photos from Society members which can be copyrighted (not published).

### 6.2 Term of Executive Committee.

A brief oral report was given by NS outlining a proposal to change from 1 year terms to 2 years in order to get a better balance and handover of executive. Five proposals were outlined.

Proposal 1: State Reps on Council to be elected annually with a maximum term of 3 consecutive terms (ie. No change from current arrangements).

Proposal 2: Archivist, Webmaster, Newsletter Ed, IJP Ed, BMM Committee Convenor and Incorporation Secretary (QLD based as the ASP was incorporated in QLD) all be appointed by Council for 3 year terms.

Proposal 3: President Elect will serve 1 year, followed by a 2 year term as President and, finally, a 1 year term as VP (thus in alternate years the position of President Elect and VP will be vacant).

Proposal 4: The Exec. Sec and Treasurer will be elected for 2 year terms, served concurrently with each President (Note that, normally these two positions will be nominated by the President-Elect, prior to he/she becoming President).

Proposal 5: The New model for the ASP Council Exec commence in July 2009 to allow the incoming President to stay in office in the lead-up to, and holding of, ICOPA in Melbourne in 2010.

MJ asked for comments from the AGM. Discussion from the floor resulted in a lot of past Exec members supporting the ideas put forward, although it was also noted that during a difficult period, two years would be might be too long.

*Motion: That all 5 points in the proposal are adopted by the ASP.*

*Moved: POD; seconded: Marshall Lightowlers; Carried.*

### 6.3 Proposed change to logo.

MJ calls for comments from the AGM regarding the current ASP logo.

One young attendee suggested that the worm depicted in the shape of Australia doesn't commonly represent a parasite and perhaps something like Giardia would be more

recognisable. POD is in favour of employing a more professional, high resolution design as it will assist in using it to badge ASP product in an electronic resource (a watermark on webpages, images etc). Mark Sandeman points out that the logo is already working on the Society webpages, it successfully represents the Society, people like the design. Additional comments from the floor favoured the logo but updating it to look more stylised and professional.

*Action: In light of the comments, MJ directs council to form a subcommittee to look at updating/changing the logo, however any final decisions will need to go to a general Society vote.*

### 6.4 Constitutional change: Student travel award.

*Motion: To propose a change of Article XIII of the Constitution to read:*

*Eligibility for Scientific Travel Grants is further limited to individuals who have been financial members for at least three (3) months prior to the General Business Meeting.*

*Moved: Emanuela Handman; seconded: David Jenkins.; Carried.*

### 6.5 Constitutional change: Archivist position

Due to confusion to the meaning/intention behind the wording of the constitution, it was decided to withdraw the proposed constitutional change from being voted on by the AGM at this time and for council to address this at its next meeting.

## 7. Council Nominations(See following table)

*Motion to accept all single nominations: Unanimous*

*Vote taken for archivist: Carolyn Behm, majority.*

*No nominations were received at this stage for Webmaster.*

*MJ handed over Presidency officially to Shelley Walton.*

**SW as ASP president formally closed the meeting at 6:55 pm.**





<b>Position:</b>	<b>Nominee:</b>	<b>Proposer, Seconder</b>
<i>President – Elec:</i>	Peter Holdsworth;	S Walton, M Jones
<i>Executive Secretary:</i>	Lois Small;	S Walton, D Holt
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Deborah Holt;	S Walton, D Stenzel
<i>Councillor ACT:</i>	Adele Lehane;	JA Fritz, C Behm
<i>Councillor QLD:</i>	Katherine Trenholme;	M Jones, D Smyth
<i>Councillor NSW:</i>	Katherine Miller;	M Power, JA Fritz
<i>Councillor WA:</i>	Caroline Bath-Jacobsen;	U Ryan, D Smyth
<i>Councillor TAS:</i>	Barbara Nowak;	M Jones, D Smyth
<i>Councillor NT:</i>	Kate Mounsey;	S Walton, D Holt
<i>Councillor SA:</i>	Kate Hutson;	N Bott, I Whittington
<i>Councillor VIC :</i>	Jody Zawadzki;	D Piedrafita, D Smyth
BM medal convenor	Andrew Thompson;	C Behm, D Piedrafita
 <i>Archivist:</i>	 Carol Behm; David Jenkins;	 J Zawadzki, M Power M Lightowlers, R Hobbs

*Webmaster:*                      *no nominations received*

## Presidents Report

**General:** The ASP continued in its strong position, in terms of its membership and in the many activities that promote Australian parasitology. The Society has become very large again, with approximately 400 members and the ASP/Network Conference in Canberra has attracted almost 250 delegates. The number of conference registrants is slightly less than that of the 2006 Gold Coast conference, but is still impressive. Part of this continuing enthusiasm for parasitology must be attributed to the enhanced national and international linkages provided through our Parasitology Network. As the Network nears the end of its current cycle, we should all be proactive to ensure that the momentum provided to our discipline by the Network does not diminish.

**ICOPA XII Committee:** As reported in the April edition of the ASP Newsletter, we are pleased to advise that Professor Alan Cowman of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research has been appointed as chairperson of the ICOPA XII Organizing Committee. Alan has assembled a team of ASP members from around Australia for the committee and the first meeting will be held at the ASP Meeting in Canberra.

**ASP Administration:** The previous Executive Committee introduced some changes to streamline the operations of the ASP. These changes were particularly concerned with financial operation of the ASP and the adoption of a central mail address for the society. Council has had numerous discussions on a number of issues surrounding maintenance of our membership database and ways to improve the upkeep of the databases and our communication with members. New ways of managing our Secretariat issues are being investigated.

The matter of the duration of the Executive Committee has also been discussed and a proposal has been prepared by a sub-committee of Council for consideration by the ASP at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting. It is essential that the membership-at-large is involved in discussions on this matter. Any changes to the term of the executive will not affect the terms of the current or subsequent Executive Committees.

A proposal to update the ASP logo has been received by council. It is appreciated that this is not an easy decision and the decision to change the logo must rest with the ASP.

**ASP Activities:** A range of events and publications are under development by ASP. Intimate Aliens (IA) is progressing with Qwestacon.

Council has agreed to fund one of the demonstration pods of the IA display, and anticipates that other pods will be funded from other agencies and through sponsorships. The Australian Veterinary Parasitology Text Book, for which ASP Council provided seed funding, is progressing and we expect that a draft will be available soon. Council also funded Peter O'Donoghue to establish a Multi media interactive educational website for the ASP. Material for this comprehensive website is being assembled and will become an excellent resource for our members. Finally, the History of Australian Parasitology project is nearing completion and talks with book designers are underway.

**Thanks:** ASP Council is always busy and this year is no exception. I am grateful to all on council for the hard work that they have put in over the year. Although everyone deserve thanks, I make three special mentions. First, thanks to Mark Sandeman for his hard work as our Webmaster and in redesigning the ASP Website. The new pages look great. Mark will step down from his position on Council at the AGM. The other two special mentions are for Danielle Smyth and Deb Stenzel, my two buddies on the Executive Council, who put in many long hours on behalf of the society.



# Conference of the Australian Society for Parasitology and ARC/NHMRC Network for Parasitology, Canberra, July 2007









# Treasurers Report

## Australian Society Of Parasitology Inc.

ABN 65 979 686 445

### Income and Expenditure Statement

For the period 1 July 2006 to 30 April 2007

	2007 \$	2006 \$
<b>Income</b>		
Membership Fees	10,960.94	26,266.00
Royalties (International Journal For Par		162,749.00
Conference Fees & Sponsorship Income	112,297.26	35,207.00
Investment Income	85,427.44	70,406.00
Interest	4,579.12	7,411.00
Other income	3,064.50	
Total income	216,329.26	302,039.00
<b>Expenses</b>		
Auditors - other services	3,000.00	3,000.00
Conference Expenses	79,766.01	54,621.00
Publication Expenses	4,954.95	8,679.00
Prizes & Awards	14,308.53	14,839.00
Research Funding	66,000.00	128,000.00
Other Expenses From Ordinary Activities	29,167.33	34,933.00
Total expenses	197,196.82	244,072.00
<b>Profit from ordinary activities before income tax</b>	<b>19,132.44</b>	<b>57,967.00</b>
Income tax revenue relating to ordinary activities		
<b>Net profit attributable to the association</b>	<b>19,132.44</b>	<b>57,967.00</b>
<b>Total changes in equity of the association</b>	<b>19,132.44</b>	<b>57,967.00</b>
Opening retained profits	767,298.00	709,331.00
Net profit attributable to the association	19,132.44	57,967.00
<b>Closing retained profits</b>	<b>786,430.44</b>	<b>767,298.00</b>



**Australian Society Of Parasitology Inc.**

ABN 65 979 686 445

**Detailed Balance Sheet As At 30 April 2007**

	Note	2007 \$	2006 \$
<b>Current Assets</b>			
<b>Cash Assets</b>			
General Cheque Account		45,529.61	196,185.54
CBA No2 Account (Conference)		102,759.91	133,574.10
Sprent Account Term Deposit		52,112.48	51,130.36
		<u>200,402.00</u>	<u>380,890.00</u>
<b>Other Financial Assets</b>			
IPAC Investment		585,111.44	499,684.00
		<u>585,111.44</u>	<u>499,684.00</u>
<b>Current Tax Assets</b>			
GST payable control account		917.00	
		<u>917.00</u>	
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<u><b>786,430.44</b></u>	<u><b>880,574.00</b></u>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<u><b>786,430.44</b></u>	<u><b>880,574.00</b></u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
<b>Payables</b>			
<b>Secured:</b>			
- Trade creditors			113,276.00
			<u>113,276.00</u>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>			<u><b>113,276.00</b></u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>			<u><b>113,276.00</b></u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u><b>786,430.44</b></u>	<u><b>767,298.00</b></u>



# IJP Editors Report

## Editorial issues

There have been no significant changes since the February report. I would like to especially thank the Deputy Editor Ian Beveridge who continues to work tirelessly for the journal and the Deputy Editor (Reviews) Dominique Soldati whose dogged efforts to solicit high quality reviews are one of the most important factors in the prospects for ongoing success of the IJP, particularly with respect to Impact Factor. The editorial team continues to have a very strong working relationship that is underpinned by the Editorial Assistant Maria Meuleman and her office in Bundoora. We remain extremely fortunate to have someone of Maria's capacity, competence and passionate commitment to the journal and to the ASP. Specialist Editors continue to contribute strongly to the journal. Due to the nature of the submissions, some are worked much harder than others. I anticipate some additions to the board from time to time to address concerns about overloading some members.

## Impact Factor

The current (2006) Impact Factor is 3.337. This is a very slight decrease from last year's (2005) Impact Factor of 3.346. The Impact Factor rose sharply last year which, while obviously satisfying, raised concerns about sustainability. To have essentially consolidated this position I believe is a great achievement and is attributable to the outstanding stewardship provided by the Editorial team of Nick Sangster, John Ellis and Maria Meuleman who were in charge during this period.

The IJP continued to perform very strongly against competitor journals and further confirmed its position as the leading parasitology-focused research journal. With respect to other journals, a number of interesting issues arose.

Open access (and fully on-line) journals generally performed very strongly (eg, Malaria Journal and Plos journals) and my impression is that this relates more to broad availability than it does to quality. Also interesting is the seemingly unpredictable shifting of journals between categories in the Thomson ISI listings.

## ASP Royalty Payment

The royalty paid to the ASP in 2007 (for 2006) was GBP 92,240.23. This was an increase from 2006 (for 2005) which was GBP 69,079.00.

While total revenue increased pleasingly by ~GBP 16,000, the main reason for the increased payment appears to be a much lower amount charged for editorial expenses. We believe it should have been similar to 2004 (approx GBP 60,000) as our office budget is much the same as 2004 (without last year's additional office removal/employment termination costs). The lower editorial cost has in turn lowered the overheads (indirect costs; 68% of production costs). These issues will be checked with Elsevier but we should factor in the possibility of increased editorial expenses next year. Nevertheless, overall this is a strong result. Summary:

Total revenue: GBP 483,119 (up ~16,000)

Total costs: 114,158.71 (down ~GBP 77,000)

Payment in 2007 (for 2006, 25% of profit): GBP 92,240.23 (up ~ GBP 23,000).

Production/distribution costs:

2006 GBP 41,921

2005 GBP 46,502

2004 GBP 40,417

2003 GBP 57,876

2002 GBP 59,438

2001 GBP 69,822

Elsevier advised us we were under-charged on production costs in 2004 and this was corrected in 2005.

## Strategic Direction

Internationalisation. In bringing together the Editorial Board, we particularly considered the shift in disciplines covered by current submissions and representation in particular geographic regions such as the US. We are in the process of designing a new journal cover to enhance the physical appearance of the journal. We have also stressed to Elsevier that a more proactive approach to promotion of the IJP is necessary and they have responded positively with the distribution of flyers and email notices.

Open access. Figures are not yet available, and it's essentially too early to say, how the various mechanisms to allow papers from the IJP to be more freely available are performing. I have had recent discussions with the publisher's representative Dale Seaton about options to better promote the "Author-paid non-restricted access option". I remain concerned for example that even our open access papers are not obviously available from PubMed. One positive development is potential for the Editor to make a case to the publisher for a particular paper or two each issue to be made open access.

## New Journal Cover Design

Progress is being made with the new cover design for the IJP (prototypes tabled). The cost of designing the cover will be met from the Editorial Office budget surplus from 2006. There may be regular ongoing costs for preparation of each cover for printing but this is not clear at this stage. This will be discussed with Elsevier to determine whether their typesetters will do this or if we will contract someone locally. That will also determine whether the cost is included in Elsevier's annual production costs or if we will pay that money directly from the Editorial Office budget.





## Society Service

Details available on the ASP website; contact the IJP Editorial Office for logon details. We update members' information quarterly with Elsevier.

## Web Submissions

The web submission system is running smoothly and the majority of authors and referees have reported that they find it very user-friendly. Unfortunately, there is the occasional glitch with Mac/PC communications. There are increasing numbers of authors/referees informing us that our e-mails are being treated as spam. We will discuss this with Elsevier to see if anything can be done about it. 2006 was our first full year using the web system and will enable consistent reporting. There was previously some discrepancy in the way statistics were calculated by the old database and the web system.

## Profile of Submissions

2006 statistics: We accepted 169 papers from 582 submissions (29%), excluding Thematic Issue papers. In past years the acceptance rate has been between 24-32%. We accepted extra papers to make up the extra 30 or so papers that would normally be published in Thematic Issues. Thematic Issue submissions were previously excluded from manuscript statistics as they represented a guaranteed number of papers with rare rejections. Now that we are publishing paper series of only 4-5 papers, these additional papers will be included in all statistical reports.

Our upfront rejection rate for 2006 was 50%. The page budget has remained the same and acceptance rates can vary due to manuscript length which determines the number of papers needed to fill our page budget. Our main source of submissions was still Western Europe (27%) with an increase in Australasian submissions to 8%.

Molecular Genetics (6%), Biochemistry (4%), Ecology (4%) and Systematics and Evolution (4%) were the categories receiving the highest percentage of submissions, with Epidemiology and Ecology having the highest percentage of accepted papers within individual categories.

**2007 statistics:** We received 257 papers from 1 January to 31 May with an upfront rejection rate of 53%. With increased submissions, we are raising the standards of papers that go through the review process and increasing our upfront rejection rate (59% and 60% in March and April, respectively). Increased upfront rejections will not only increase the standard of papers being published. It will also reduce the overall workload for editorial staff with less manuscript handling and not overburden reviewers. The page budget is the same as 2006.

We have accepted 73 papers (28%) with 6 papers still under review. The main source of submissions is Western Europe (26%) and Asia (18%). There have been fluctuations of 2-3% in most regions compared with 2006; with increased submissions from North America (15%) and the UK (13%). We have some changes in manuscript categories in 2007. Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics (8%) and Medical and Veterinary Parasitology (9%) have received most submissions. Epidemiology and Cell Biology and Physiology have the highest percentage of accepted papers within individual categories.

## Thematic Paper Series

There are two Paper Series being published in July and August 2007. The first is "Parasite Species and Speciation" with four submissions solicited by Tim Littlewood and Tine Huyse; the second is "Cell Biology of Leishmania" with four submissions solicited by Dominique Soldati. A fifth submission from this series will be published separately in our September issue.

## Office and Budget

The office is running smoothly at the Bundoora campus of WEHI. The 2007 office budget is back to the 2004 level of \$120,000 now that all costs associated with the office transfer have been met. Approximately \$90,299 is budgeted for office salaries (Maria and temporary replacements while Maria is on leave) and associated on-costs. With the increased workload in the office, we may need to employ some temporary assistance during busy periods. Elsevier's payment is for the year January to December. At 1 January 2007 the editorial office account had a surplus of approximately \$60,000. Some of these funds will be used to pay the journal cover re-design costs and for the future design of the inside of the journal. We also need to allocate approximately \$20,000 for Maria's long service leave, which will become due in March 2010. All funds are held at WEHI in a dedicated IJP account and are managed by WEHI finance staff.

## Newsletter Editors Report

### Change of Editors

As reported in the MTM the transition between Newsletter editors appears to have run smoothly. Since the change in July 2006 three issues of the Newsletter have been printed and distributed to financial members of the society. The Newsletter is also distributed to members who are in arrears for no longer than 12 months. The distributions for September were 478, December 432 April issue to 438 (Table 1).

### Accounting

The excessive account charges imposed by Macquarie University for managing a Newsletter resulted in establishment of an Australia Post account which enabled postal charges to be invoiced directly to the Society. Similarly invoices from Macquarie Press for Newsletter printing costs are also now directed to the Society. These systems are working well.



The reversion to Print Post has reduced postage from the projected budget (ETM 2006). Full postage costs for three issues were estimated at \$2325 (ETM 2006) (Table 1). Print-post has saved an estimated \$738 but last years projected figure also accounted for membership increases which were not as evident this year. Hence the savings may not be as pronounced. For the year 06/07 the incidentals purchased were a printer and a lead (Table 2). Incidentals are reimbursed on provision of receipt to Society Treasurer.

As noted in MTM report Macquarie University Lighthouse Press ways to streamline production processes. One was to print addresses directly onto envelopes at minimal cost in conjunction with printing postage/Society details and society details.

We are yet to establish this as formatting of member's database is required. Lighthouse Press is also able to insert the newsletter into the envelope. The printing costs were also not as estimated by the printers despite introducing colour covers to the December 06 and April 07 issues.

#### Newsletter presentation

The colour cover introduced in the December 2006 seemed to be quite popular and therefore it was continued in the next issue. Other options to improve the presentation of the Newsletter include colour centre spreads and different paper types.

However changes rest with what members would like from the Newsletter, and member feedback will be valuable for Newsletter presentation changes.

#### Newsletter production costs

The cost of the Newsletter production per member has increased by less than 10% with relocation to Sydney. The average cost per member for the three 2005/2006 issues was \$3.40 (Queensland production) compared to the average cost of the three 2006/2007 issues at \$3.78 (NSW production).

Below: Newsletter production costs

Issue	Printing costs	Postage/envelopes	Circulation	Pages	Cost/member
September 06	1184	545.32 66	478	40	3.75
December 06 (Colour cover)	1061.50	443.52 66	432	28	3.63
April 2007 (Color cover)	1100	*569.13 74.20	438	32	3.98

Below: projected costs for 2007/2008

Issue	Printing	Postage	Predicted circulation	Pages
August 2007	1400	600	460	40
December 2007	1200	600	480	32
April 2008	1400	600	480	40
<b>Estimated total</b>	<b>4000</b>	<b>1800</b>		
<b>Inc GST</b>	<b>4400</b>	<b>1980</b>		

Below: Expenditure summary

Provider	Amount	Invoice Date	Goods supplied
Officeworks	389.96	07/06	Scanner/printer, lead and envelopes
Australia Post	545.32	13/10/2006	Postage Volume 17 Issue 2
Australia Post	443.52	10/12/2006	Postage Volume 17 Issue 3
Australia Post	569.13	07/05/07	Postage Volume 18 Issue 1
Lighthouse Press	1184	18/10/2006	Printing Volume 17 Issue 2
Lighthouse Press	1061.50	5/01/2007	Printing Volume 17 Issue 3
Lighthouse Press	1174.80	18/05/2007	Printing and envelopes Volume 18 Issue 1
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>5368.23</b>		
<b>Allocated budget</b>	<b>7000</b>		
<b>balance</b>	<b>1631.77</b>		



# STATE NEWS

## AUSTRALIAN CAPITOL TERRITORY

### School of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, ANU

Many members of the Behm, Kirk and Saliba labs presented at this year's ASP/Network conference held in Canberra in July. A special congratulations must go to Rowena Martin from Kieran Kirk's lab, who presented a talk entitled 'Characterization of the malaria parasite's chloroquine resistance transporter in *Xenopus laevis* oocytes', and was a joint-winner of the 2007 Early Career Researcher Award. Rowena plans to use her award to attend the BioMalPar conference to be held in Heidelberg, Germany in April 2008. Congratulations also to

Alison Knight from Carolyn Behm's lab, who gave a very interesting presentation on her PhD work, and was awarded the Best Student 5 min Oral/Poster Award for her abstract entitled 'VHA-19, a protein predicted to associate with vacuolar ATPase, is critical for reproduction and development in *C. elegans*'. Simon Cobbold, who started his PhD in Kieran Kirk's lab this year, also gave an excellent presentation and was awarded a Student Poster Prize for 'Amino acid transport in the intraerythrocytic malaria parasite'.

**Visitors.** Yian Nee Lim from the Pharmacology Department at the University of Cambridge visited Kieran Kirk's lab during April and May. While in Canberra, Yian Nee, who is studying for her PhD under the supervision of Dr Margery Barand, investigated the efflux of glutathione from the malaria parasite.

**Travels.** Christina Spry from Kevin Saliba's lab is preparing for her trip to Woods Hole, U.S.A., to attend the Molecular Parasitology Meeting. Christina was awarded an ANU Travel Grant and will present a

poster on her PhD work in pan-tothenic acid utilisation by the malaria parasite.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Peter Holdsworth (Animal Health Alliance (Australia) Ltd) who was awarded the 2007 WAAVP Bayer Healthcare Award for Excellence in Services to Veterinary Parasitology at the WAAVP Conference in Ghent, Belgium. The award was presented for his outstanding services to Veterinary Parasitology.

## NEW SOUTH WALES

### Charles Sturt University

The parasitologists from Charles Sturt University have advertised that they are definitely now in business, with attendance to the ASP Annual Conference by Nick Sangster, Tiggy Grillo, Abdullah Alanazi and newly appointed Terry Spithill. Student funding from ASP gave Abdullah the opportunity to present a poster on his research on internal parasite of horses in Saudi Arabia. Abdullah, who has recently relocated from Sydney to CSU in Wagga, has been kept busy since arriving, collecting parasites from over 31 horses from across the Riverina. Tiggy presented previous research undertaken in the U.K. investigating population genetic structure (PGS) of the parasitic nematode, *Teladorsagia (Ostertagia) circumcincta*. She was funded by a travel grant from the E.H. Graham Centre for Agricultural Innovation. The E. H. Graham Centre for Agricultural Innovation is a newly established collaborative alliance between Charles Sturt University and the NSW Department of Primary Industries. Recently awarded a New Initiatives Grant from the centre to investigate the PGS of *T. circumcincta* in Australia, Tiggy took the opportunity at the ASP to network for samples (worms!).

Parasite bargaining was successful with samples being offered by Brown Besier & Peter Hunt. Whereas Ian Beveridge had actually brought some *T. circumcincta* with him! Both Nick and Terry promoted the new research directions, the refurbished laboratories for molecular parasitological research at CSU, and publicised the new veterinary degree. If they previously hadn't heard of us they now do - the Australian parasitology community is now aware of the development of parasitology research focus here at CSU as part of the E. H. Graham Centre and all of us were approached several times with inquiries about future research directions and opportunities. Thank you to ASP for organising an excellent conference!

Looking forward, Nick and Abdullah are now preparing to go the WAAVP in Belgium. Terry Spithill plans to permanently move to Wagga Wagga at the start of next year.

### Institute for the Biotechnology of Infectious Diseases

The members of IBID have been out and about recently with a large contingent attending the ASP/ARC/NHMRC Network for Parasitology conference in Canberra. We all had a great time and many thanks to Nick Smith, Lisa Jones and the Canberra organising committee for organising a great conference. We also had a number of people venturing overseas - Mike Lees attended the 8<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Toxoplasmosis in Montana in June where he was asked to do a talk about his research into the role of the P2X<sub>7</sub> receptor in the response to *Toxoplasma gondii* infection. Sheila Donnelly spoke at the annual Woods Hole Immunoparasitology conference and Nigel Beebe attended the Molecular and Population Biology of Mosquitoes and other disease vectors held in Crete in July. Nigel PhD student, Stéphane Hemmerter also traveled to Woods Hole to participate in this year's highly





competitive Molecular Evolution Workshop at the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole (Boston, July 2007) and will then present at the 11th International Congress of the European Society of Evolutionary Biology in Uppsala (August 2007). Our seminar program has been very full lately with a number of visitors in the last few months including Richard Grencis, Colin Sutherland Stuart Ralph and Denise Doolan who all presented very interesting seminars.

Lisa Jones and Kate Miller have also been busy with their Outreach program to help raise the profile of Parasitology in the wider community and have presented workshops to high school students from schools such as Hornsby Girls High, Newington and Fort Street and also set up a display at the annual Science in the City program at the Australian Museum held to coincide with National Science Week. Sheila Donnelly also gave her acclaimed talk "Revenge of the Body Snatchers" to the high school students – better than Dr Karl according to feedback from the students who heard it!

Prof John Dalton, won a Network Travel Award in November 2006 to support travel and accommodation for Wains International Fellow Dr. Mark Robinson for a Researcher Exchange in February/March 2007 for 12 months. Welcome to Mark and also to his wife, Michelle, who has taken a position with Nick Smith's group while they are here.

Recently we have farewelled Colin Stack, Sabina Belli and Selma Maric – Colin took up a lectureship at University of Western Sydney and Selma returned to Sweden. We hope all goes well with them in the future.

### Macquarie University

Feeling recharged with fresh ideas and enthusiasm after the ASP conference in Canberra researchers from Macquarie took no time getting back to the bench/desk and into their respective projects.

EBCRC PhD student Anitha Alagappan has been busy trialling her

FISH probes against oocysts from as many different species of *Cryptosporidium* as she can get her hands on. Contact Anitha if you happen to have spare oocysts you are happy to part with! Quach Truong is looking forward to emerging from the hibernation of thesis write-up very shortly. Belinda Ferrari attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> International *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia* meeting in Mexico in May, which was also attended by a strong contingent of Australia's protozoologists (Some pictured below). Belinda managed to find a little time to do some site seeing of Mexico's volcanic regions with Michelle Power. There has been an exciting new addition to the existing family of flow cytometers in the lab; a BD FACSAria Cell-Sorting System. Much to the delight of the EBCRC researchers the new flow cytometer is capable of sorting single cells of microorganisms. With additional research projects being cooked up, the lab has expanded to include a new postgraduate and honours students.

*Marsupial Research Group*  
Inger Vilcins is currently on the 'conference circuit' having presented results from her PCR screening of ectoparasite-borne diseases at ASP in Canberra and also WDA in Colorado. Inger will also stop by

Various lab in North America and then unwind from her busy schedule of networking during a visit to Hawaii. Having at long last put down the pipette, Nichola Hill is focused on the task on preparing her findings on *Cryptosporidium* in urban-adapted Common brushtail possums for publication. Taking a brief hiatus from bandicoot trapping, Matt Dowle has been busy in the lab screening faecal samples for *Giardia* and *Cryptosporidium*. Michelle Power spent May in New Mexico which was funded by a Network Researcher award. Michelle was working in the labs of Don Duzynski and Rob Miller learning to classify *Eimeria*, screening North American marsupials and working up ideas for grants with Rob. Michelle also attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> International *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia* conference in Mexico. For the last 4 months, the Marsupial Research Group has had the pleasure of hosting Carolin Richter, an intern from Germany who's many successes in the lab, aside from genetically characterising *Eimeria* and capturing spectacular images of the parasite with SEM, included finding a method to rupture the notoriously tough oocyst wall. The cover of this month's newsletter is a dedication to Carolin's hard work, patience and determination in 'cracking' *Eimeria*.



Jo Ng, Belinda Ferrari, Ron Fayer, Narwal Hijjawi and Una Ryan in Mexico.



**NSW Department of Primary  
Industries - Elizabeth Macarthur  
Agricultural Institute**

In July we said a fond farewell to Dr. Gareth Hutchinson who has been with us for the past 8 years. Gareth was initially employed to run the Diagnostic Laboratory but over recent years has been our 'internal' Research Parasitologist. Gareth is officially on leave until October when he plans to retire. Recruitment of a replacement Research Officer is currently underway. In the meantime Catherine Fitzgibbon is looking after our stock-supply animals, liver fluke snail colony and cryo-preserved parasites so that our involvement in internal parasitology research can continue. Kim Dawson still has much of the hands-on responsibility for our commercial contract work which in recent times has involved trials with sheep and horses.

*Lice detection test project:* Our long-term project that aims to produce a test to detect sub-clinical sheep lice infestations has moved a step closer to reality. Paul Young and Garry continue to work on streamlining the laboratory test so that it can be made commercially available out of the Diagnostic Laboratory later this year. Appointment of Kulan Turton as Laboratory Assistant has allowed us to separate Narelle Sales from the sheep blowfly colonies and she is now working on the next phase of the Lice Detection Test project - trying to develop an 'on-farm' test that producers will conduct.

*Small Hive Beetle project:* Garry submitted the final report for this project to RIRDC in July. Field trial results with the Small Hive Beetle insecticidal harbourage were outstanding but commercial interest has been disappointing. We have hopes that this situation might change after the information is presented at the major international bee conference APIMONDIA in September.

*Insecticide resistance project:* Narelle conducted bioassay

work to measure the effectiveness of, and speed of action of ivermectin and spinosad-based product against third instar Insect Growth Regulator resistant *Lucilia cuprina* larvae. Garry has been investigating cross-resistance in sheep lice resistant to insect growth regulators and fielding enquiries about lice control when diazinon will no longer be available.

## QUEENSLAND

### University of Queensland - Molecular & Microbial Sciences

Steve Barker is still on a high from the III International Congress on the Phthiraptera, Buenos Aires, Argentina. The Congress was a fantastic follow-up to the II International Congress on Phthiraptera at UQ in 2002 (the "first" congress was in 1971!). The IV International Congress on Phthiraptera will be in Turkey in 2010. The field has grown considerably. Lice just won't go away! This led to the formations of ISoP, the *International Society of Phthirapterists*, to promote the study of these lousy parasites. Check out the excellent web site "Louse Central" <http://www.phthiraptera.org/>

Joel Porgand submitted his Honours Report on the genomics of *Pediculus humanus* (clothes louse) and *P. capitis* (head louse). Dr Renfu Shao won a UQ Research Excellence grant to study phylogenetic markers lice and other insects. Dr Natalie Leo has almost finished her 2-year Australian Academy of Science – Japan Society for the Promotion of Science on the evolution of the lice of *Homo* spp. and our relatives.

Peter O'Donoghue certainly had a bumper year last year. Not only was he awarded his DSc and elected Fellow of the ASP, he was promoted to Professor. He now feels somewhat bullet-proof and is able to decline invitations for more committee membership, more teaching, etc. He says he is glad to concentrate on the ASP initiative to develop educational programs in parasitology. He has requested and received funds from the ASP and the ARC/NHMRC Research Network to hire a biological artist to produce life-cycle diagrams to put on the ASP website without fear of breeching copyright. He is also compiling original text descriptions, powerpoint lecture notes, light and electron micrographs, host-parasite checklists and associated bibliographies.



**Above Wes Sharrock and Peter Christensen from Menzies School of Health Research, NT try their best to enthuse Ray Martin about the importance of *Plasmodium vivax* research.**





He also hopes to soon complete several coffee-table books on protozoa incorporating material collected over the last 34 years: an atlas of scanning electron micrographs of testate amoebae of Australia, and a guide to the ciliates of Australia and Antarctica.

POD has some rather complicated supervisory arrangements with postgraduate students located around Brisbane. Nick Ariotti finished his honours project on the endosymbiotic ciliates of wombats and discovered six new amyloporacid taxa. He then toured Vietnam with his better half and is now working at the IMB in Brisbane. Luke Bursle completed a survey of parasitic and fouling organisms of redclaw crayfish in SEQ (despite the drought). He is now enrolled in the postgraduate medical course at UQ. Lisa Norman conducted a survey of cyst-forming sporozoa in meat from local butcher shops and abattoirs and reports that sarcocysts still form a significant part of our carnivorous diet. This year, Stavroula Michelatos is identifying the species of rumen ciliates found in local sheep and goat populations to test the historical myth that goats are crazy sheep. Gillian Tenni has also begun a survey of haemoparasites of local wildlife and has already found loads of haemogregarines in reptile populations. Chris Peatey is continuing his honours work on malaria gametocytogenesis with Katherine Trenholme at QIMR and Zainab Dost began her work on low-dose malaria vaccine strategies with Katherine and James McCarthy at QIMR. Tegan Don finished her PhD with Alex Loukas at QIMR on hookworm digestive physiology, Bennet Datu (also with Alex) is nearing completion of his studies on hookworm wachstum, Feris Lafi finished his work on symbiotic prokaryotes of marine sponges with John Fuerst at UQ, Janelle Wright (with Jacqui and Peter Upcroft at QIMR) has submitted her work on anaerobic protozoan chemotherapy, Rebecca Dunne (also with Jacqui and Peter) is writing up her studies on trichomonad genomics, and Sonja Hall-Mendelin is writing up her work on tick toxins.

The UQ has recently completed a review of the BSc program and is currently revamping all undergraduate courses. Essentially, the review recommended going back to the future by re-establishing four enabling sciences (maths, physics, chemistry and biology) rather than the plethora of specialized offerings now currently available. Parasitology did not survive the cull of named majors (altogether 44 majors were reduced to 12) but the third-level parasitology courses did survive intact as part of a major in microbial sciences. Introductory parasitology components have also been incorporated into second-level courses. Vocational service teaching involving parasitology continues unabated with lectures given in medical, pharmacy, nursing, midwifery, and veterinary courses.

### School of Veterinary Sciences

The veterinary parasitology group (*sans* Jim Rothwell) has recently relocated from the Veterinary School to the nearby Otto Hirschfield building where we are occupying the old electron microscopy facilities – it is a return to the scene of past crimes for Mal Jones. The new facilities offer substantially greater laboratory and postgraduate space. The discipline has come a long way in the School since Glen Coleman was appointed in 2002 – at that stage, he was the only academic employed to teach veterinary parasitology and for over ten years the School had not had a research higher degree student enrolled in a parasitology project outside of Rick Atwell's canine medicine group. Now there are five academics (Glen, Nick Jonsson, Rebecca Traub, Mal Jones & Jim Rothwell) working in the field, and veterinary parasitology is the fastest growing area of graduate student enrolments in the School.

All except Rebecca and Nick attended and enjoyed the ASP conference. Tamsin Barnes, Steven Kopp, Kim Jell, Christian Cutelle, Emily

Piper and Constantin Constantoiu acquitted themselves well in delivering their oral presentations despite variable levels of nervousness. Last December, Steven was awarded the School's prize for best postgraduate seminar for 2006 – well done Steven! Steven's thesis is on track for submission in early 2008, and he has recently been appointed to an academic position in the School. Meanwhile, Tamsin Barnes has just resubmitted her minor corrections to her PhD thesis on hydatid disease in macropods under the supervision of Glen Coleman, Anne Goldizen (Integrative Biology, UQ), Lyn Hinds (CSIRO), Don McManus and David Jenkins. Congratulations Tamsin! Tamsin is temporarily lecturing in Animal Health and Epidemiology at the School of Animal Studies at Gatton campus. Kim Jell, currently spending much of her time up to her elbows in horse guts, can only dream of reaching that stage! Christian Cutulle is continuing to study the population structure of susceptible and resistant strains of *Rhipicephalus (Boophilus) microplus* in Queensland and New South Wales under the supervision of Nick Jonsson and Jenny Seddon. He expects to confirm preliminary results of genetic population structure by genotyping two new susceptible subpopulations from New South Wales.

Nick Jonsson just completed his Sabbatical - kind of a busman's holiday – instead of doing a coach trip he is doing his sabbatical in Brisbane at CSIRO Livestock Industries, doing some RNAi on cattle ticks, as well as DNA vaccination studies in sheep, immunohistochemical studies on cattle and a few small studies on acaricide resistance in cattle tick. He's happy to be out of the line of fire from the undergraduates for a while, but has more than enough work keeping abreast of his postgraduate students! Rebecca has just been hit with the realities of life as a true academic and is pleased to say that she survived her first semester of undergraduate teaching!





## Queensland Museum

Rebecca was awarded her New Staff Research Start-Up Fund to study the molecular epidemiology of cystic echinococcosis in Western India. As part of this she spent a fun-filled week collecting hydatid cysts from abattoirs in Mumbai city with collaborators Dr Gatne from the Bombay Veterinary College. Rebecca recently visited her alma mater, Murdoch University to plan the completion of a current ARC-Linkage (Bayer Healthcare, Animal Health) project on the epidemiology of canine parasitic zoonoses in Thailand (as well as get in as much partying with old friends and colleagues as possible!). Jim Rothwell's patent on an injectable alternative to mulesing has been granted and AWI is proceeding with commercialisation plans. Together with Paul Mills, Sheree Cross, Clive Phillips and Melanie Latter he received an ARC linkage grant to explore other alternatives to mulesing. The 2010 deadline to cease mulesing seems very close.

We warmly welcome some new faces to the team. Christian Gray joined our group as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow. The main focus of his research is the association between major histocompatibility complex (MHC) and production diseases in cattle. Christian is also involved in developing an *in vitro* tick feeding assay which will allow him to examine parasite resistance and immune responses to tick infections in cattle. Luke Smith has also joined our team as an honours student and will be supervised by Nick and Christian on a related project, measuring the association between resistance to Cattle ticks and MHC haplotype in beef cattle. Luke is currently multiplexing a panel of microsatellites that will be used for his research project. Leá Indjein is midway through her honours project under the supervision of Glen and Constantin Constantinoiu. Leá has been working on immunodiagnostic techniques for the detection of parasitic infections in macropods, in a project that supplements Tamsin Barnes' PhD.

Dr Rob Adlard (Principal Investigator) & Dr Matt Nolan (Research Officer) made a significant breakthrough in oyster disease research in the FRDC-funded project 'Identification of host interactions in the life-cycle of QX disease'. After collecting benthic animals from the Hawkesbury River last November (staying on a houseboat they called a lab....) and using PCR and ISH they identified two polychaete worms from the family Nephtyidae, that showed DNA probe ISH positive staining for developing stages of *Marteilia sydneyi* in the epithelium of the intestine of the worms. This represents the first confirmation of stages of the organism that causes QX disease occurring in a host other than an oyster. The oyster and polychaete are likely to represent the two different hosts required for the lifecycle of *M. sydneyi* and this information will provide a significant advance in our understanding of the dynamics of QX disease. Very exciting to find that 'needle in the haystack' in marine systems where diversity is so high.

### Department of Primary Industries & Fisheries - Emerging Technologies and Biosecurity

The Beef CRC has finished the weekly sampling from the 35 Santa Gertrudis cattle in June. This study is investigating the underlying mechanisms of tick resistance in cattle and will continue on a smaller scale with just the tick resistant and tick susceptible cattle until November. Thanks to John Goopy, UQ post-doc on the project, who is returning to UNE Armidale to work on poultry nutrition. Also thanks to numerous DPI&F and UQ staff who helped with the cattle study. The team (Louise Jackson, Megan Jones and Anthea Bruyeres (DPI&F) and Emily Piper and Nick Jonsson (UQ)) will now be analysing all the blood and skin samples collected and doing microarrays, proteomics and cellular assays.

The tick vaccine project funded by the Beef CRC and the Qld DSD is due to start in September, when Manuel Rodriguez, a post-doc working on the project, will arrive from Cuba. Tick gene functional studies have been underway with Catherine Minchin and Anthea Bruyeres in tick cell culture and ticks. Bing Zhang (our new 'John Molloy') has been helping to develop primary Australian tick cell cultures. A small ongoing project is trying to unravel whether our clones of *Babesia bigemina* are true clones and to this end Ala Lew, Bart Wlodek and Louise Jackson will be doing some PFGE, parasite cloning and PCR. Then maybe the *Babesia bigemina* genome sequencing project at the Sanger Centre can finish the assembly phase. Sandy Jarret has assisted to characterise a potential new *Babesia* isolate from kangaroo. Jess Morgan and Con Constantinoiu have been finishing off the poultry *Eimeria* diagnostics project report. The screw worm fly real-time-PCR surveillance project is progressing well with Malaysian trap samples now available for Jess Morgan and Sandy Jarrett to test their new assay. Jess Morgan has also been in the spotlight recently with the media release associated with her PNAS publication on the chytrid fungus responsible for global amphibian declines.

### Anton Breinl Centre and WHO Collaborating Centre for Control of Lymphatic Filariasis, James Cook University, Townsville.

Welcome to our new Research Officer Hayley Gallagher who had been wading through (not quite literally) the pile of faecal and serum samples accumulated from earlier field work in Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste and Tuvalu. The Tuvalu samples are proving to be very interesting as we are finding people infected with what appears to be a fish trematode. Hayley is also working on developing an ELISPOT for *Haycocknema perplexum* that can be used to find the zoonotic reservoir for this rare, but very serious human pathogen.



The “walking hookworm incubators” Rick Speare and Wayne Melrose are happily providing samples so that Hayley can evaluate egg counting methods for SAF-fixed samples in an attempt to find an acceptable method for the smelly and infection-risk prone Kato-Katz method. The non-parasitologists around the lab are complaining about the sight and smell of the samples – some people just don’t appreciate real science! Doctoral Student Sonia Harmen has returned from her daunting, difficult and dangerous (or so she would have us believe!) sojourn in New Caledonia. The “all-girl power team” of Hayley and Sonia will be joining WHO colleagues in Timor-Leste for scabies and other skin disease survey later in the month if the security and political situation improves. The WHO Collaborating Centre is extremely busy supporting the development of the filariasis elimination and school-age de-worming program in Papua New Guinea and providing serology testing for the “post-program” evaluation in Tonga and Vanuatu. They are also involved in a Gates Foundation-funded, multi-country evaluation of filariasis diagnostic tools. Dave Reeve is still in the “thesis write-up cave” from which he occasionally emerges to provide helpful advice to his colleagues and consult with his supervisors.

### **Queensland Institute of Medical Research**

A large number of staff and students attended and enjoyed the ASP conference. Mal Jones and Danielle Smyth have handed over their duties and are all looking much more relaxed than they have in ages ( about a year actually !).

Mai Tran ( Helminth Biology Lab) is spending a year at University of Pennsylvania as a Fulbright Fellowship recipient working on RNAi in Schistosomiasis. Congratulations to Tegan Don ( Helminth Biology Lab) who was awarded her PhD and who is now working in Melbourne.

James McCarthy (Clinical Tropical Medicine Lab) is currently attending the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology in Ghent, Belgium. Hope he remembers to bring us all some chocolates back. Also congratulations to Kathy Andrews (Clinical Tropical Medicine Lab) who is the recipient of an Ian Potter travel award to attend the ASTMH meeting in Pennsylvania in November.

QIMR has been lucky to have had two eminent parasitologists as this years Bancroft Fellows in residence Dame Bridget Ogilvie and Professor Paul Brindley. Many thanks to Bridget and Paul for the time they have spent with staff and students , their enthusiasm and advice has been an inspiration to all.

## **SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

### **South Australian Museum/The University of Adelaide**

Kate Hutson and Lesley Warner represented the University of Adelaide and the SA Museum, respectively, at the recent Canberra conference where Kate was elected to Council as the SA State representative. This accompanies other major changes in Kate’s life for the following reasons. 1) Subject to minor editorial modifications, her PhD has been approved. CONGRATS K8! 2) Kate, with co-investigator, Ian Whittington, was successful in winning a grant co-funded by the ABRs and FRDC. The project investigates parasites of key recreational, commercial and aquaculture fishes in southern Australia. 3) Kate is also working on her Spanish skills because she hopes to plan a trip to work with fish parasitologists at the University of Valencia, Spain, following the 7<sup>th</sup> *International Symposium on Fish Parasitology* (ISFP7) in Viterbo, Italy in late September. Lesley also won an ABRs research grant to investigate the parasites of bandicoots.

Ian, Kate and Lesley will soon exercise their palates to identify the

most appropriate conference dinner venue for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference of the ASP and ARC/NH&MRC Research Network for Parasitology set for early July 2008 in Glenelg, SA. No easy task, they will trial fine South Australian wines and food all in the name of science.

Leslie Chisholm, Vanessa Glennon, Kate, Lizzie Perkins and Ian are all excitedly anticipating ISFP 7. Lizzie won funds from ABRs to help attend the meeting, Kate won a student registration waiver from the ISFP7 organising committee and Vanessa is finally using her best student oral presentation award from ASP Fremantle 2004 to attend the conference. Well done to all three for their awards!

Lizzie has been particularly productive in recent months, having completed the mitochondrial genome for the kingfish skin fluke, *Benedenia seriola*. However, she is currently going round in circles trying to complete the mt genome for *Neobenedenia ‘melleni’* which has been a considerably more difficult task! For-saking the molecular lab for a break from sequencing, Lizzie joined forces with Kate on an expedition to the Port Macdonnell annual Tuna and Sport fishing tournament where they searched for monogeneans and other parasites from >30 fish species! This enabled Lizzie to include 5 extra monogenean species in her phylogeny studies.

Vanessa is only months away from completing her PhD having made awesome progress with 6 published papers! She has managed this in addition to a considerable undergraduate teaching load. A figure from her most recent publication was selected for the cover of Parasitology (August edition)! Vanessa is looking forward to the end of all molecular malarkey and will then complete the general introduction and discussion for her thesis.

Allan Mooney, Rissa Williams and David Schmarr are working for a living and PhDing in their spare time. Allan, now at the Blue Water Barramundi farm in northern Queensland,



supplies Lizzie and Ian with juicy parasite specimens for their monogean work. Rissa was involved in a recent 'sting' in her position with Biosecurity New Zealand and had to confiscate illegally imported fluorescent fish! David has been working at SARDI on sardine and mud crab stock assessments. It's hard to keep up with David these days as he's running further and faster in multiple marathons!

Di Barton announced the birth of her new baby with "It's a Max not a Grace!" Di had been told to expect a girl and luckily had not gone berserk colouring the nursery pink! Max Francis Hillier was born at 2.07pm on July 15<sup>th</sup> and Mum and baby are now settling in nicely.

### Flinders University

At Flinders University, PhD students Margot Oorebeek, Rachael Dudaniec (supervised by Dr. Sonia Kleindorfer) and Stephanie Godfrey (supervised by Prof. Mike Bull) have not only been busy with data analysis and thesis writing, but also recently presented their findings at the Canberra ASP conference (Margot and Rachael) and at the Annual Conference for the Wildlife Disease Association (Margot, Rachael and Steph), held in the stunning Rocky Mountain National Park, Estes Park, Colorado. Captivating presentations were given by many world-renowned wildlife disease experts and parasitologists, while there was also a strong international student contingent.

Margot presented two posters about her research, which is examining the prevalence of ticks (*Ixodes Hirsti*) in South Australian birds and their fitness costs, using the New Holland Honeyeater as a model species. Rachael gave an oral presentation at each conference outlining her recent molecular findings that examine the population genetics of the ectoparasite *Philornis downsi*, which is causing extreme mortality in Darwin's finches across the Galapagos Islands. She also presented a poster that examined the relation between *Philornis* intensity and nesting pattern in

Darwin's finches. Stephanie's oral presentation about social connectivity and parasite transmission in New Zealand's territorial Tuatara (*Sphenodon punctatus*) was also well received.

Prof. Mike Bull, who also attended ASP and Wildlife Disease Association conferences, gave a fascinating oral presentation about the impacts of tick-lizard interactions and hemogregarine transmission in the sleepy lizard. Parasitological research is certainly active and continues to thrive in both the bird and reptile labs at Flinders University!

### SARDI Marine Parasitology

Nathan Bott has now completed his research on tuna pathogen diagnostics with PI Kathy Ophelkeller at SARDI Plant Sciences involving molecular detection and identification of various parasites of farmed tuna) in collaboration with members of the University of Tasmania's Tuna Health Project (including PI Barbara Nowak, research fellow Craig Hayward, and PhD student Hamish Aiken), and also SARDI Aquatic Sciences at West Beach, Adelaide (to where Marty Deveney recently moved, from PIRSA Aquaculture, to take up the post of Marine Pests subprogram leader). Nathan has now taken up a postdoctoral position with Robin Gasser at the University of Melbourne, and is again using molecular methods - only this time to quantify nematodes in sheep poo.

Craig Hayward has now completed his research on tuna health, and recently joined SARDI Aquatic Sciences as a research scientist in aquatic animal health and welfare, and is again based in the rural city officially billed as "Australia's Seafood Capital", Port Lincoln, at the Lincoln Marine Science Centre. He is now developing grant applications for projects on aquatic animal health, including some parasite-associated issues.

Hamish, who is supervised by Barbara and Craig, has been based

in Adelaide since leaving Port Lincoln, and is now in the final, writing-up stages of his PhD on the tuna blood fluke (global distribution, epidemiology and modelling, and tuna antibody response). Hamish, Marty, Craig, Barbara and Kathy joined a number of other parasitologists participating in the Aquafin CRC conference held in May at the swish Novotel resort in the Barossa. Highlights included: Rob Adlard's entertaining presentation on taxonomy; and updates presented by various researchers on amoebic gill disease.

Craig and Barbara (and briefly also Shane Roberts, another SARDI Aquatic Sciences staff member with a keen interest in marine parasitology) attended the third FRDC Aquatic Animal Health conference in Cairns in July, where they thawed out nicely. A highlight of this conference was Ben Koop's (of British Columbia) presentation of a fascinating hypothesis explaining the apparent leaping of transposons between the genomes of salmonids and various non-salmonid fishes: by incorporation of these transposons within the genome of blood fluke vectors! For a change of pace, Craig attempted to go tandem skydiving in the tropics that weekend, but was thwarted by wet weather, and aims to try again another time. Marty is now writing up manuscripts on capsalid monogeneans on tunas, and both he and Barbara are looking forward to attending two conferences in Italy in September (ISFP and EAFP).

### SARDI Livestock

The SARDI Livestock group are currently busily engaged in field work which keeps Richard Martin, Paul Blackburn and Ian Carmichael on farms in the South-east of the state for 3-4 days each week. The main activity is the setting up of field trials to measure the impact on production of worm infections in a wide range of prime lamb farming enterprises, as part of our collaborative research agreement with Meat and Livestock Australia.





Activities have been scaled up this season following the recent unrepresentative drought years. The large volume of samples for analysis are dealt with by Richard and Paul at our laboratories in Adelaide and at Struan Research

Centre near Naracoorte, conveniently located near the Coonawarra wine region.

We have recently taken on another helper at Struan (Liz Abraham) to assist with putting the material together for a final report for this four-year program by mid-2008. Another field activity is scouting around for suitable properties to start field trials to evaluate the concept of selective (targeted) treatment of worm infections in individuals in sheep flocks as a component of our commitment to the Sheep CRC.

Micko O'Callaghan has very wisely chosen to take a good slab of long service leave in 2007 and has been using the time productively to improve his fishing, bowling, home maintenance and, it is rumoured, his

baby sitting talents with periodic visits to his granddaughter. He remains healthy, fit and, as always, full of nonsense.

The recent drought years have stimulated serious interest in productive utilisation of effluent from water processing facilities, leading to considerable expansion of our role in screening water samples from diverse sources for helminth parasites of man and animals. Richard is handling this, in between forays to farms in Victoria and South-east SA.

Meat and Livestock Australia have recently published a CD "Internal parasites in prime lambs" compiled and edited by Ian Carmichael, Di Barton and Sue Low. This CD provides abstracts with a keyword search facility (160 keywords) for over 940 publications with direct or indirect relevance to parasitism in prime lamb production in southern Australia. The data base covers from 1930 to June 2007.

## TASMANIA

Our research group at the Tasmanian Aquaculture and Fisheries Institute (TAFI) has made a break through in our understanding of amoebic gill disease (AGD), a familiar problem troubling Atlantic salmon aquaculture in Tasmania, Australia. The study, to be published in the journal *International Journal for Parasitology*, is the first to formally confirm the disease-causing agent of AGD. For many years AGD was thought to be caused a single species of amphizoic amoebae. More recently, a morphologically similar species was also isolated from the gills of AGD-affected fish leading to confusion regarding the aetiology of AGD. Both species were cultured from the gills of AGD-affected fish, however their role in AGD aetiology has never been formally confirmed. The task of clarifying the aetiology of AGD was given to



Aquafin CRC meeting



Neil Young, a PhD student under the supervision of Richard Morrison and Barbara Nowak and supported by the Aquafin CRC.

When we sequenced the DNA of non-cultured gill-derived amoebae from AGD-affected Atlantic salmon we discovered that they were similar but phylogenetically distinct from the two species of amoebae previously associated with AGD. To confirm the role of this new group of amoebae, the DNA sequences we obtained were cross-matched with those of AGD-associated amoebae *in situ* using DNA probes. Surprisingly, only the new group of amoebae were associated with AGD gill lesions. These data were used to argue that the infectious agent should be considered a new species and it was named *Neoparamoeba perurans*. His discovery will facilitate future development of diagnostics, treatments and vaccines that will be of direct benefit to salmon farmers. Our immediate efforts are in the development of diagnostic tests specific for this amoeba.

Melanie Andrews' PhD project has been progressing well. It concerns the study of the metazoan parasites of the striped trumpeter primarily the two new copepod species, *Chondracanthus goldsmidi* and a new species of *Caligus* (currently under description). Her project covers many aspects including the identification of these parasites, as well as the description of the developmental stages for *C. goldsmidi*, and finally the identification of suitable treatment methods. Over the past six months the description paper for *Chondracanthus goldsmidi* n. sp. was submitted and accepted for publication in the Journal of Parasitology. Melanie is currently in Norway, taking part in sea lice research. She is hoping that she will be able to apply her sea lice experience to studying striped trumpeter parasites, in particularly developing treatment method. Her trip to Norway has been supported by ARC/NHMRC Research Network for Parasitology, Researcher Exchange Programme.

PhD student Hamish Aiken, Renee Florent and Matt Jones finished their laboratory work and are all busy writing up their PhD theses.

PhD student, Rebecca van Gelderen graduated on 18 August and moved to Victoria. We wish her all the best in her future career and personal life.

We made a significant contribution at Aquatic Animal Health Subprogram Scientific Conference in Cairns in July (Above right). Most of the first day was spent on parasitic diseases of fish and oysters, with our group contributing most of the talks on fish parasites.

## VICTORIA

### Division of Infection and Immunity at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research.

Professor Alan Cowman was one of nine recipients of the inaugural Australia Fellowship. The Australian Government has established a pre-eminent award in health and medical research to attract and retain leading health and medical researchers. This award provides 4 million dollars over the next five years to further develop Professor Cowman's work in malaria. The aims of the work supported by this fellowship include the identification of promising vaccine and drug targets as well as to increase our understanding of the host-pathogen interactions required for this disease.

We have said goodbye and wished good luck to two of our highly valued colleagues, PhD students Jo McCoubrie and Marthe D'Ombrian who have handed in their theses and are going overseas to continue their careers.

A special visitor to the Division of Infection and Immunity and the McConville group at Bio21 is Angela Cruz from Sao Paulo, Brazil. She is one of the pioneers of transfection and knock out techniques and is here on a mission to find

ways to increase the efficiency of transfection of the Leishmania parasites. In the Leishmania Laboratory, we have been fortunate to have as a sabbatical visitor Dr Poonam Salotra, the Assistant Director and Chief Molecular Biology, Institute of Pathology (ICRM) New Delhi, India. We benefited a great deal from her wealth of clinical and epidemiological experience combined with her expertise in molecular biology.

We were also delighted to see the Leishmania parasites in all their colourful glory on a poster at Questacon during the ASP Annual meeting in Canberra.

Anuratha Sakthianandeswaren, a PhD student in her last year of studies attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Crossroads between Innate and Adaptive Immunity Crete, Greece in June 2007, and here is her report. Her report below highlights the professional and personal benefits of international conferences for the career path of students.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Crossroads between Innate and Adaptive Immunity was held at the beautiful Knossos Aldemar Royal Village, Crete. Held every two years, this small and intimate conference catering to approximately 100 delegates, ran for over 4 days. The conference format was very similar to that of the relaxed Keystone Symposium, with sessions in the morning, the afternoons free and poster sessions and networking at night.

There were a total of eight sessions, covering topics ranging from T cells and T cell memory, innate immune sensing and molecular control of immunity. Of interest to me were presentations focusing on the molecular aspects of immunity, such as those delivered by Martin Turner (UK), Bali Pulendran (US), Peter Katsikis (US) and Ron Germain (US).





Sessions were followed by lunch, in which Cretan wines were served generously and conversations flowed freely. Due to the small size of the conference, everyone got to know each really well, with a relaxed mixing of lab heads, postdocs and students. These interactions were important in establishing my network of peers and senior colleagues and in allowing me to decide on my next career step.

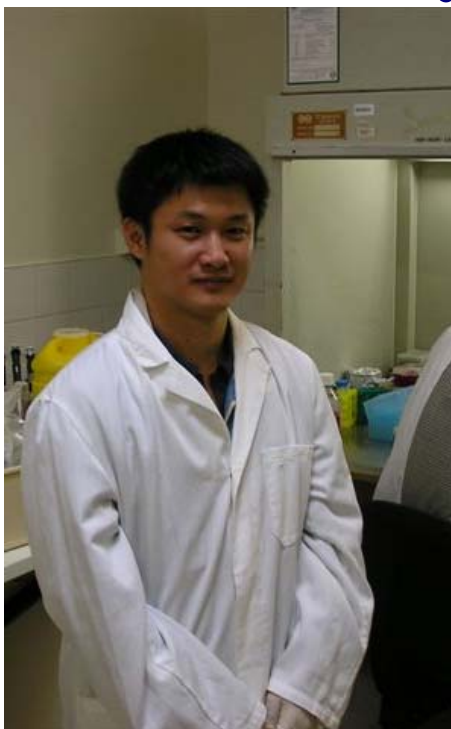
We were all let loose from 3pm – 8pm, time that was often spent lazing at the pool or beach (reading papers, of course!). This was followed by poster sessions, dinner and more wine.

Outings to local Greek taverns and archaeological sites (the ruins of Knossos) were organised and allowed delegates to interact with each other, experience Greece and its ancient culture as well as the Cretan cuisine.

In summary, I had an amazing time at the conference, both scientifically and socially. Many thanks to Aegean Conference and NHMRC Dora Lush Postgraduate Award for supporting my attendance at the conference (Anuratha Sakthianandeswaren).

### **Animal Biotechnology Research Laboratories**

The last six months have been busy for ABRLites. Troy Kraska recently joined us from DNA Solutions. He will be working with David Piedrafita and Michael de Veer and has already been initiated into the world of parasitology, taking over 100 faecal samples for egg counts! Let's hope that this hasn't put Troy off a brilliant career in parasitology. We have been fortunate in hosting two international visitors. Soraya Naem (right), Associate Professor at Urmia University in Iran, spent 8 weeks in Melbourne. For four weeks Soraya joined us at ABRL, learning molecular biology techniques with David. For the rest of her stay, she worked with Ian Beveridge and Robin Gasser at the School of Veterinary Science, in Werribee on developing molecular



diagnostic methods to differentiate between different species of Phyllostoma. Panat Anuracpreeda (above), a PhD student from Mahidol University in Bangkok, Thailand, has joined us for 8 months and will be working with David, learning all there is to know about fluke immunology, biochemistry and molecular biology. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> and final year of Panat's PhD and we hope that he finds his time at ABRL both productive and enjoyable.



Jill Pleasance is now in the UK for her first post-doctoral position, at King's College in London, in the Department of Academic Rheumatology with Val Corrigan. She is working on establishing biomarkers associated with a potential therapeutic agent for rheumatoid arthritis. Jill has not only made the change from studying liver flukes to arthritis, but also from sheep to humans. We wish Jill the very best in her new endeavour. Rebecca Smith recently graduated with all the bells and whistles, managing to get David to dress up for the occasion.

A dual achievement Bec, well done! Nick Robinson is now in the US and has begun his residency at the University of Minnesota. He has the unenviable task of holding down a full-time job and finishing writing his PhD. Nick did find time to go to WAAVP in Ghent last month where by all accounts he was the life of the party. He also added to his list of sporting achievements by winning the WAAVP fun run while there. Well done Nick!

Speaking of conferences, between Els, David, Mike and Joanna members of ABRL have attended five conferences on three different continents. ABRL was well represented at this year's ASP & Network for Parasitology conference in Canberra. Els was invited to speak at the International Veterinary Immunology Symposium (IVIS) in Ouro Preto, Brazil. Joanna also went to IVIS and then the Immunology Congress in Rio de Janeiro. David attended WAAVP in Ghent, and was invited to speak on 'Discovery of new molecular targets for drug and vaccine design against liver fluke.'

### **NORTHERN TERRITORY**

PhD student Annette Dougall recently returned from a six-week network funded visit to the UK and South America. She visited her co-supervisor Bruce Alexander at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine and spent time learning all things *Leishmania*. More importantly she was finally able to identify





some of the Top End sand flies collected during the previous years field work. Annette then traveled to the Federal University of Piaui in Teresina, Brazil to participate on a Wellcome Trust-funded project studying the role of domestic chickens in the maintenance and transmission of *Leishmania infantum*. Annette experienced field work in an area endemic for leishmaniasis, and even managed to learn a little Portuguese. The people from Teresina were extremely friendly and so excited about her visit that she was included in the local news TV broadcast! Annette has returned to work full of enthusiasm and now sports an impressive collection of Havianna sandals.

This month we said goodbye to Yvette Emmanuel, who is returning to Brisbane. Yvette's diligent approach to skin-scraping and mite-picking was appreciated by all, and we wish her all the best in future endeavors. In other news, Kate Mounsey & Melanie Kahl gave Darwin high-school students a glorious (and gory) introduction to parasites and other infectious nasties as part of the "Siemens Science Experience"- a 3-day workshop coordinated by Charles Darwin University.

Go North Young Men! Two BSc graduates from QUT, Peter Christensen and Wes Sharrock are delving into the joys of *Plasmodium vivax* research as they complete their honours at Menzies, enrolled through CDU. Both of these young scientists are excited by the chance to work on clinical isolates of *P. vivax* and *P. falciparum*. Peter (supervised by RN. Price, B. Russell and R. Suwanarusk) compared three molecular methods: Nested, Multiplex and Real-Time PCR for the speciation of *Plasmodium falciparum* and *Plasmodium vivax* on isolates he collected from western Thailand. Peter submitted his findings in a manuscript to the *Malaria Journal* in July 2007. Wes (Supervised by B. Russell and R. Suwanarusk) is developing a medium-throughput *in vitro* assay for measuring the sensitivity of *Plasmodium vivax* to current and novel anti-malarial drugs. Wes is also interested

in measuring the stage specific action of antimalarials against *P. vivax*. Both Wes and Peter wish to thank their senior Thai collaborator Professor Usa Lek-Uthai (Mahidol University) for her help in ethics submissions and microscope training and field support.

## Western Australia

Visitors: Peter Daszak who heads the Consortium for Conservation Medicine in New York, came to Perth after the ASP conference as the opening speaker of a Workshop on wildlife diseases in native WA fauna. Peter not only gave a great talk but gave everyone confidence about the importance of their research, and many suggestions for future collaborations. Tim Paget from the Medway School of Pharmacy, University of Kent is visiting for six weeks working with Rob Steuart, Andy and Ryan on correlating biochemical and proteomic variation in *Giardia*.

New students: Nguyen Phong Lan from Hanoi, on an international PhD scholarship, will be undertaking a project on the molecular epidemiology of enteric protozoan infections in different endemic foci in Vietnam with Andy and Phung Dac Cam, from the Division of Enteric Infections in the Dept of Health in Hanoi. Shuting Pan has taken up an ARC postgraduate scholarship and her project will focus on genetic variation and virulence in *Toxoplasma* with Alan and the two Andys as part of the ARC native fauna project being undertaken in WA. Yan Jing Ng has started

Honours to investigate the synthesis of a novel group of compounds with activity against *Cryptosporidium*. Wan Hon Koh has also started Honours and will investigate *in Vitro* requirements for different *Giardia* assemblages as well as demonstrating the occurrence of genetic exchange.

New staff: Susana Averis has joined the group as a Research Assistant on the ARC native fauna project being undertaken in WA. Susana's role will be quite diverse since she will coordinate field sampling activities and data base management, as well as undertake the molecular characterisation of key parasite species from marsupial hosts.

Travel: Nevi Parameswaran will visit the UK and USA on an ARC/NHMRC Network funded travel grant in August and September. She will visit Geoff Hide's group at the University of Salford, Pat Conrad at UC Davis and Mike Grigg at NIH. The group was well represented at the ASP/Network Conference in Canberra (photo above)

Andy will visit Bangkok and Laos in September for two very different workshops. As a visiting Prof at Mahidol University he will run a workshop on writing research articles for graduate students from their International College and Faculty of Tropical Medicine. In Laos, Andy will take part in a Workshop with Jamie Conlan, who has now commenced his PhD at Murdoch, and Stan Fenwick also from Murdoch, Stuart Blacksell from Mahidol and local collaborators in Vientiane for their new ACIAR-funded project on *Trichinella* and *Taenia solium* in Laos.



# CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS



## **A Pasteur-Walter and Eliza Hall Institute Workshop**

Imaging infectious diseases at the molecular, cellular and  
tissue level

**Thursday January 31 and Friday February 1 2008**  
**The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research**

### **Invitation**

Microscopic imaging techniques like confocal microscopy, multiphoton excitation or wide-field deconvolution have become indispensable tools for the study of biological processes in cells and tissues. We invite you to participate in this Workshop, which will bring together French and Australian scientists and provide a relaxed and informal forum for the exchange of data and ideas on the exploitation of state of the art imaging technologies to the elucidation of host-pathogen interactions in different infectious diseases from bacteria to parasites.

Topics include cell invasion by bacteria and protozoan parasites, microbial cell-cell interactions, intracellular trafficking and the use of imaging techniques to screen for new drugs. New and evolving technologies include molecular beacons and quantum dots, cryo-electron microscopy and dynamic imaging of cells and tissues.

Emanuela Handman

*Chair, Pasteur-WEHI Workshop Organising Committee*

*[http://www.wehi.edu.au/WEHI\\_Groups/indexworkgroups.php?id=124](http://www.wehi.edu.au/WEHI_Groups/indexworkgroups.php?id=124)*

Enquiries: Email: [enquiries-pasteur2008@wehi.edu.au](mailto:enquiries-pasteur2008@wehi.edu.au)

Registration at: <http://www.wehi.edu.au/pasteurworkshop>

**DETAILS COMING SOON**

**The 3rd Conference of the  
Australian Society for Parasitology and  
ARC/NHMRC Parasitology Network**

**ADELAIDE JULY 2008**



## Nominations for Bancroft-Mackerras Medal

The Bancroft-Mackerras Medal may be awarded to a member of the Society who, in the opinion of the selection committee, has made an outstanding contribution to the science of parasitology, particularly in work published during the last five years.

Nominations should be made by a proposer and seconder, and should consist of:

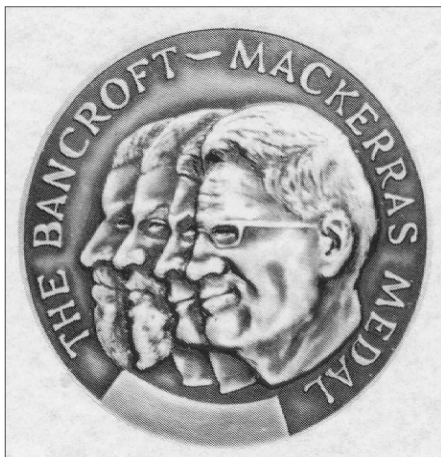
- A detailed statement of nomination describing the nature of the "outstanding contribution to the science of parasitology" for which he/she has been responsible. The statement should be signed by the proposer and seconder, or each may submit a separate statement.
- A *curriculum vitae* including a list of all publications.

Note that the Medal is intended for members whose research program has been productive during the last five years. The permission of the nominee is not required and the nominee need not be aware of the nomination.

Nominations should be sent direct to the current ASP President. Detailed information on nomination and selection procedures is given in the By-Laws of the ASP Constitution. Nominations are due each year at the end of October.

## Nominations for ASP Invited Lectureship Travel Grants

To complement the scientific presentations at the Scientific Meetings of the ASP, overseas researchers of international reputation in a field of parasitology may be invited to attend and present their work. The invited speaker's expertise must be common to a discipline or symposium conducted at the Scientific Meeting. The visitor must be nominated by a member of the Society.



The Society will provide a travel grant to assist in the finance of the trip. The support will be based on an economy class direct return airfare from the recipient's home city to Australia, the necessary interstate travel and reasonable living expenses based on actual costs. Registration at the Scientific Meeting will also be included.

The total value of the lectureship will be determined by Council but it is expected that the recipient, or his/her Australian sponsor, will also seek to provide additional or alternative financial support.

Applicants must include the following information:

### Details of visiting specialist

An up-to-date *curriculum vitae* must be attached to the application. The following details should be supplied:

- Date and place of birth
- Present nationality (and former nationality, if applicable)
- Present position held
- Full address of employing institution, including phone, fax and Email numbers
- Detailed evidence of expertise in relevant discipline (list of publications, etc.).

### Details of Australian nominator

- Name of member organizing the visit, including full address, phone, fax and Email numbers
- Details of all other applications which have been made for financial assistance towards travel/accommodation costs. Total value of other contributions must be included.

### Details of program

The program should normally last a minimum of 2 working weeks and cover at least 2 States or Territories.

Details should include:

- Date of visit
- Program being arranged, including institutions to be visited (with dates) and the purpose of each visit (lecture, seminar, workshop, research discussion, etc)
- Aims, rationale and likely benefits of visit
- Contribution to be made at Society's Scientific Meeting

Applications plus supporting documentation should be sent to the ASP President by the end of December in the year preceding the

Conference. Applicants should check with the Conference Organisers for details of conference theme, symposia, workshops, etc. before submitting an application.

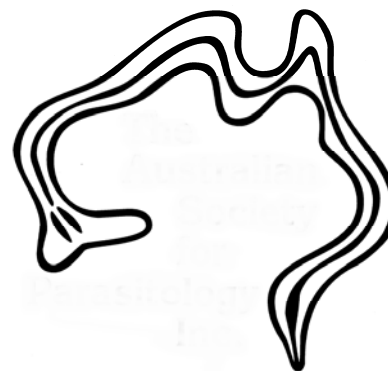
## JD Smyth Travel Awards

These awards are specifically designed to assist postgraduate students travel internationally to conduct research and/or to present their research at international conferences. Applicants must be members of the ASP Inc. of at least 6 months standing and enrolled in a postgraduate degree at an Australian university.

Four scholarships will be awarded each year and applications will be considered in two rounds with closing dates in June and December of the preceding year. Each scholarship will be up to the value of, but not exceeding, \$A2000. For research-based proposals, applicants should nominate the international laboratory they intend to visit, the purpose of the visit and the time frame. A short, abstract-length (approximately 250 words) proposal of the techniques and skills to be gained should be attached.

For travel that primarily involves attendance at a conference, applicants must nominate the conference, supply an abstract and justify their attendance at a recognised international conference preferably though not exclusively held outside of the Australasian region.

The award will only be made once proof is received of acceptance of the abstract by the conference organisers. If the student does not attend the conference the ASP funds must be returned to the Society. On return from the Conference a short report must be written to the Council detailing the student's experiences. Applicants should apply to the current ASP Secretary giving details of the conference, their research and supervisor's support plus an abbreviated c.v. and conference abstract, as outlined on the accompanying application form. The application must not number more than 6 pages including the c.v. and abstract. Applications must be received by the next due dates of June 30th or December 31<sup>st</sup> each





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# Application form for JD SMYTH Travel Award

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

Phone: ..... Fax: .....

Email: .....

University: .....

Enrolled Degree: .....

## Supervisor's Certification

I hereby affirm that the above-named person is a bona fide postgraduate student under my supervision.

Signed: ..... Date: .....

---

## Laboratory Details (for research applications)

Laboratory to be visited .....

Address .....

.....

Purpose of Visit .....

.....

.....

---

## Conference Details (for applications to attend conferences)

Conference Title: .....

Venue: .....

Conference Address: .....

Title of Abstract (*Please attach a copy of the abstract*):

.....

.....

Author(s) .....

Awards will only be paid on receipt of proof that the abstract has been accepted.

---

**For all applications: Attach statement justifying attendance, budget (include all other support), brief curriculum vitae  
[application not to exceed 6 pages]**



# THE AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY FOR PARASITOLOGY INC

**Secretariat:** ASP Inc c/- RGSQ,  
237 Milton Road, Milton QLD 4064  
Fax: (07) 3367 1011 Email: rgsq@gil.com.au  
**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**  
**Tax Invoice ABN: 65 979 686 445**

**Surname:** ..... **Given name(s):** ..... **Title:** .....  
**Email:** .....

**Postal address:** .....  
.....  
.....  
.....

**Telephone:** ..... **Fax:** .....

**Signature:** ..... **Date:** .....

**\*Proposed by (Name):** ..... **(Signature):** .....

**\*Seconded by (Name):** ..... **(Signature):** .....

**\*The Society's Constitution requires that the Applicant be known personally to at least one of the sponsors for membership. Both the proposer and seconder must be members of the Society.**

This application must be accompanied by payment of one year's subscription in Australian dollars:  
\$80 for full members (Inc GST), \$20 for student members (Inc GST)†, \$500 (Inc GST) for sustaining members.

I enclose a cheque or money order for A\$ payable to the "Australian Society for Parasitology Inc."

† Applicants for **student membership** must have the following statement signed.

Registered Higher Degree: ..... Institution: .....  
Signature of Head of Department: .....

OR please debit my (tick one)

Visa      Bankcard      Mastercard

Card number:    — — — —    — — — —    — — — —    — — — —

Expiry date:    — — / — —

Cardholder name: .....

Cardholder signature: .....

Applications for membership are considered by a Committee of the ASP and applicants duly notified.

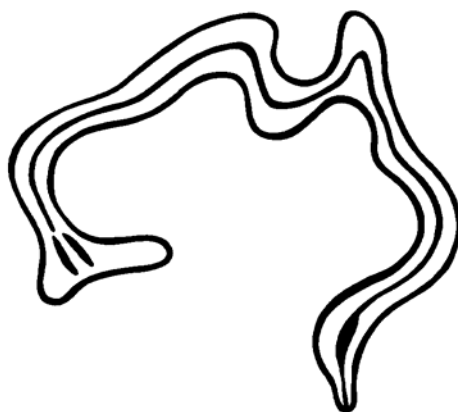
Amount received

**Office use only**

Date elected: .....

Elected by: .....





**the australian society for parasitology inc.**



**CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

If you have changed your address, title or name; or if there is a mistake in your mailing label, please fill out the details below and send them to:

ASP Secretariat,  
c/- RGSQ  
237 Milton Road  
Milton QLD 4064



Name as it appears on present mailing label:  
(if possible, please enclose the old mailing label)



.....



Title, name and postal address for future mailing labels:



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