



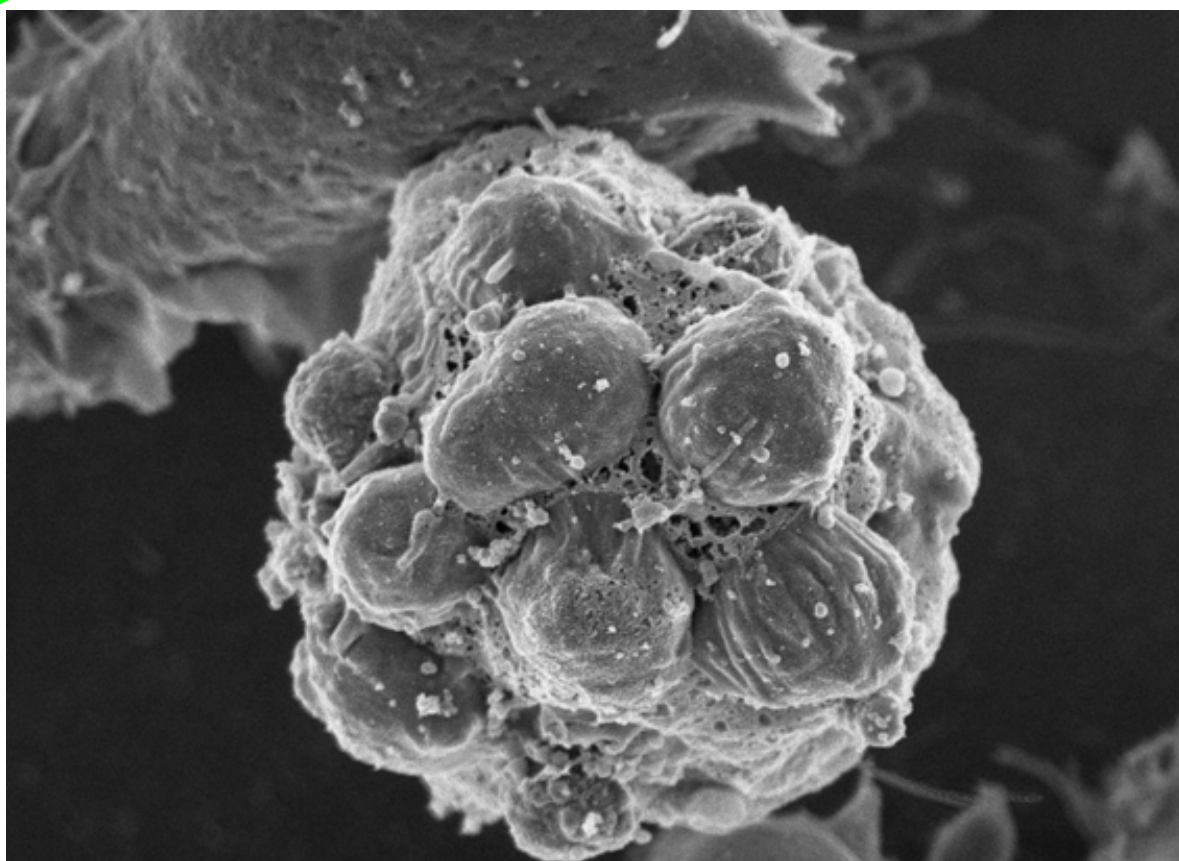
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Image: *Cryptosporidium* meront by Hanna Borowski



Australian Society for Parasitology Inc.

NEWSLETTER page 1

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# FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK

Some 220 people attended our July ASP Conference in Glenelg and encouragingly 115 members attended the ASP AGM at the same venue. The number of conference attendees, I suspect, reflected the quality of the paper and poster presentations given, in addition to the professional and efficient running of the event. A hearty congratulations goes out to Ian Whittington and his team of volunteers in running the event. The number of members present at the AGM I feel reflects the continued support and ownership of the Society by members. The debate on whether to retain or change the existing ASP logo was encouraging to hear. There obviously is passion within our Society. It is history now that we voted to retain the existing ASP logo. Similarly, the AGM voted in some constitutional changes that will result in, among other things, an extension of the term of the ASP President from 1 year to 2 years from July 2009. As Terry Spithill was elected unopposed as President Elect, he will take up a 2 year term as ASP President in July 2009. Welcome aboard Terry.

I look forward to the next 12 months as your ASP President. There are many issues on the Council agenda for this year and I am eager for our Council to progress these as much as we can. On day to day activities I will be working with Ian Mortimer (Treasurer) and Heather Koch (Executive Secretary) as your Executive. Similarly, we will all be working with the ASP Council to deliver agreed activities. Key activities for our consideration this year, include the ASP 2009 Conference in Sydney; ICOPA XII; 2010 in Melbourne; the ASP Register of Living Parasite Cultures; Intimate Aliens; IJP Editor-In-Chief future vacancy; space issues on the ASP website; Society Insurance and future funding of the Network.

I am keen to hear member's opinions and concerns on issues that face our Society. If you are passionate about an issue(s), please send me an email expressing your thoughts. It is important for Council to remain in touch with members' opinions when dealing with key issues.



Finally, I would like to extend my appreciation to our previous Executive (Shelley Walton, Lois Small and Deborah Holt); our State/Territory Councillors; IJP Editorial Team; Archivist; Newsletter Editor; Webmaster; Bancroft-Mackerras Medal Committee and the Sprent Award Committee. Your efforts over the last 12 months have been significant and are duly noted. We are grateful to you all.

Dr Peter Holdsworth  
President

## **ASP Online membership site**

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# NETWORK NEWS

## Congratulations

**Congratulations to Prof Michael Good who was awarded Officer of the Order of Australia on the 9th June 2008** for "service to medical research, particularly in the fields of infectious disease immunology and vaccine technology, through leadership roles at the Queensland Institute of Medical Research and contributions to education."

**Congratulations to the winners of the ARC/NHMRC Research Network for Parasitology Early Career Researcher Award** for the best presentation:

**Alex Maier** (Walter and Eliza Hall Institute/LaTrobe University) for his presentation on "The malaria parasite *Plasmodium falciparum* holds several keys to gain entry into human erythrocytes";

**Julie-Anne Fritz** (Australian National University) for her poster and poster talk on "pWormgateMulti: Tissue-specific RNAi using Gateway hpRNAi vectors."

## Grant Winners

### ARC Linkage Grant Winners

Congratulations to the following Network scientists on their success in the recent ARC Linkage round, winning a total of almost \$1 million:

**Prof. Els Meeusen** (Monash University) for "Characterisation and development of adjuvants for new generation veterinary and human vaccines";

**A/Prof P Batterham** (The University of Melbourne) and Hatchtech Pty Ltd for "Identification of the targets of a novel metalloproteinase inhibitor used for the treatment of human head lice";

**A/Prof Barbara Nowak, Dr J Carson and Prof B Koop** (University of Tasmania) for "Improving vaccine performance through understanding host pathogen interaction in yersiniosis."

Congratulations also to **Prof Andy Thompson and his research team**, who will receive approx. \$3m from the Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative (DNDi) over the next three years in a project to optimise new drugs to treat Chagas disease (*Trypanosoma cruzi*). This will be in collaboration with the Murdoch-based medicinal and synthetic chemistry company Epichem. The project will start on July 1st. Andy's team has also been established as a drug screening centre for DNDi, to complement the role of the Swiss Tropical Institute in Basel and thus increase global capacity. In addition to *T. cruzi*, they have established assays for African trypanosomes and *Leishmania* species.

### Network Researcher Exchange, Training and Travel Awards

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

**Catherine Covacin**, Murdoch University, to fund a Researcher Exchange to the Queensland Museum to visit Matthew Shaw, Dr Claudio Bandi's lab at Università degli Studi di Milano, and Prof. Serap Aksoy's lab at Yale University.

**Leann Tilley**, La Trobe University, Melbourne to fund a Researcher Exchange for the visit of **Shelia Akinyi** from the laboratory of Assoc Prof Mary Galinski, Emory University, Atlanta, USA.

**Magda Ellis**, QIMR, Brisbane, to fund a Researcher Exchange to Yueyang and Nanchang to conduct research on immunological and genetic aspects of schistosomiasis in China.

**Mieke Burger**, The University of Queensland, to fund a Researcher Exchange for your visit Dr Michael Kent's lab at Oregon State University.

**Suzannah Hetherington**, BAMBI, ANU, to fund a Researcher Exchange with the INSERM in Strasbourg, France, to perform a series of experiment on *Caenorhabditis elegans* under the supervision of Prof. Michel Labouesse.

**Phillip Fromm**, James Cook University, to fund a four week researcher visit to the laboratory of Prof Christian Bogdan, Institute of Medical Microbiology, Immunology and Hygiene, Friedrich-Alexander University, Erlangen, Germany to learn methods to measure antileishmanial activities of macrophages to *L. major*.

**Prof Andrew Thompson**, Murdoch University, to fund a Researcher Exchange for the visit of Prof Michael Grigg.

**Dr Alan Dargantes**, Murdoch University, Melbourne to fund a Researcher Exchange to visit Dr David Piedrafita at Monash University and CSIRO AAHL (Geelong).

**Michael Lees**, UTS, to fund a Researcher Exchange to visit Prof Rima McLeod's lab at the University of Chicago Illinois, USA.

**Alex Umbers**, The University of Melbourne, to fund a Researcher Exchange laboratory of Julie Moore, Centre for Tropical and Emerging Diseases, Georgia for training in the isolation of fresh placental primary syncytiotrophoblasts.

**Dr Shelley Walton**, Menzies School of Health Research (Darwin), to fund a three day workshop to bring together national collaborators involved in a coordinated program of scabies research.

**Ming Kalanon**, The University of Melbourne, to attend the Biology of Parasitism Course at the Marine Biology Laboratory in Woods Hole, USA.



# ARC NHMRC Research Network for Parasitology Events

## Australian Health and Medical Research conference Sponsorship

The ASP and the Network are co-sponsoring symposia at the Australian Health and Medical Research conference at the **Brisbane Convention Centre, November 16 - 21 2008**

<http://www.ahmrcongress.org.au>

The invited speakers sponsored by the ASP and the Network are:

- o Charles King, USA
- o Giovanna Raso, QIMR
- o Ian Riley, UQ
- o Scott O'Neill, UQ,
- o Malcolm McConville, University of Melbourne
- o Andreas Hofmann, Griffith University
- o Tina Skinner-Adams, QIMR

Other societies are also sponsoring speakers with parasitological interests, so there will be a major focus on parasites of medical importance at the congress. Registration and abstract submission is now open.

### **"Parasites in Focus" photography exhibition**

The "Parasites in Focus" photography exhibition continues to be a big hit. These twenty-six superb photographic prints showing the amazing microscopic world of the parasite were on display from 18 August 2008 to 31 July 2008 at The Muse Gallery in Sydney, accompanied by a presentation from **Dr Sheila Donnelly (UTS), "Revenge of the Bodysnatchers "**. Parasites in focus has now moved to Perth, WA.

**"Parasites in Focus"**  
**on display at the Perth Zoo, Sep 10 to Oct 31.**



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

Bancroft-Mackerras Award - 30th Sept 2009 (for award in 2010).

Invited Lectureships Travel Grants - December 31<sup>st</sup> 2008.

JFA Sprent Prize – Next round to be in 2010.

JD Smyth Travel Awards - December 31<sup>st</sup> 2008 and June 30<sup>th</sup> 2009

ASP Fellowships - before mid term Council meeting (Jan 9<sup>th</sup> 2009)

Information: Newsletter announcements or [www.parasite.org.au](http://www.parasite.org.au)



# Fellows of the ASP

## DAVID BLAIR

David Blair's was awarded a Degree of Bachelor of Science with Honours from the University of Glasgow as well as a number of prizes for outstanding performance. He undertook his doctoral studies in Parasitology at the University of Glasgow and was awarded his PhD in 1974 for his thesis on strigeoid trematodes.

David continued his work on digeneans as a tutor at James Cook University from

1975-1979, and from 1979-1980 as a Research Fellow in the Department of Parasitology at the University of Queensland, conducting research on the taxonomy and life cycles of parasites of digeneans. Between 1981 and 1988, David worked as a Lecturer then Senior Lecturer in the Department of Zoology at Christchurch University and in 1989, David commenced a Senior Lectureship in the Department of Zoology at the James Cook University in Townsville and was subsequently promoted to Associate Professor. As a consequence of his outstanding contributions in research, teaching and administration, David was promoted to Professor in 2007. David has been an exceptionally dedicated teacher and mentor, contributing to courses in Parasitology, Genetics, Ecology, and Evolutionary Biology at James Cook University and other universities in Australia and around the world, at the undergraduate, postgraduate and postdoctoral levels. For many years he has played an enormous role through mentoring and supporting colleagues in Australia and overseas, particularly Asia, supporting visiting scientists and professors, and continually fostering the next generation of Parasitologists, Molecular Parasitologists, and Zoologists.

David Blair is an extremely gifted scientist and teacher, who is highly respected both personally and profes-

sionally in the international arena.

David's scholarly eminence is evidenced by:

His international recognition in Parasitology and Zoology;

- Having achieved, demonstrated and maintained a profound understanding of Parasitology and Zoology, having extended his knowledge and communicated the results of his scholarly endeavour in the discipline to undergraduates, postgraduates, peers and other members of the scientific and non-scientific communities;

- Demonstrated leadership and/or management qualities at different levels (group, departmental, faculty and university).

- Publication of the results of original research and other scholarly endeavour in a wide range of refereed scientific journals of high international standing in the Life Sciences, in books, and in peer-reviewed, published proceedings through publishing houses of high international repute;

- Multiple invited lectures at key national and international conferences;

- A demonstrated record of editorial activity (for key international scientific journals) in the dissemination of knowledge;

- Publication of reports commissioned by international organizations;
- Demonstrated success in leading and supporting research and conducting independent research;
- Demonstrated ability to attract funds for research in various areas from a range of different external, peer-adjudicated granting bodies;
- Has received multiple awards or fellowships, both national and international;
- Demonstrated ability to attract funds for research of academic significance;
- Demonstrated record of achievement in the transfer and application the of results, both in the profession and the broader community;

In conclusion, Professor David Blair has made sustained and outstanding contributions to both teaching and research in Parasitology, and has demonstrated exceptional academic leadership, ability to foster academic development and achievement in others, as well as identifying and providing new opportunities in teaching, research and services to the discipline of Parasitology. Overall, David has contributed enormously to the Society and the discipline of Parasitology, and is therefore worthy of election as Fellow of the Australian Society for Parasitology.





## NICK SMITH

Nick Smith received a BSc (Honours) in Zoology from the Australian National University in 1985 and a PhD in Parasitology from the same University in 1988. He was a National Research Fellow at the ANU from 1988-1990, before becoming Head of the Coccidiosis Research Laboratory at the Institute for Parasitology, University of Zurich, from 1990-1994. Nick returned to Australia in 1994 as a Queensland Institute of Medical Research Fellow before accepting an appointment as Lecturer in Immunology at the University of Technology, Sydney (UTS), in 1996. In 1998, he was promoted to Senior Lecturer, made Associate Professor in 2002, and was awarded the title of University Reader in 2001 for his contributions to research at UTS.



Nick's research career has focused on understanding how hosts and parasites interact with each other, including the host/parasite relationships in malaria and coccidiosis. His research embraces immunity to parasites, immune evasion by parasites, the biochemical basis for drug resistance by parasites and molecular mechanisms involved in parasite stage differentiation. In all these areas Nick has made seminal contributions including the role of free radicals and antioxidant enzymes, the molecular basis for oocyst wall formation in *Eimeria*, and the development of a novel coccidiosis vaccine for poultry based on the principle of maternal immunisation. Nick's research has resulted in over 50 publications in peer reviewed international journals, and has been characterised by the development of an excellent network of national and international collaborators.

Nick has supervised over 25 research students in the last ten years, as well as 10 postdoctoral fellows.

At UTS, Nick played a key visionary and entrepreneurial role in the founding of the Institute for the Biotechnology of Infectious Diseases (IBID). He served as Acting Director in 2002 for the newly established Institute before becoming its first Deputy Director (from 2002-2005). IBID has grown from a group of 20 researchers into a vibrant, internationally recognised institute of over 50 staff and students and Nick has played a key role stimulating and managing that growth and in the strategic planning that will see IBID grow to over 100 staff and students over the next few years.

Nick has been a strong supporter of the Australian Society for Parasitology since he became a member in 1985. Notably, in 2003 and 2004, Nick led and coordinated a successful bid to establish the ARC/NHMRC Research Network for

Parasitology and he has been the National Convenor of the Network since 2004. In this position, Nick has led major initiatives to enhance parasitological research in Australia and increase the profile of our discipline. Through Nick's commitment and energy, annual scientific meetings have been revitalised, membership has grown through linkages with other researchers particularly in the field of malaria, and international collaborations continue to grow. Of particular significance and importance, have been Nick's efforts to improve career opportunities for young researchers in the field of parasitology.

In view of his contribution to Parasitology and service to the Society, Nick Smith is an extremely worthy recipient of the title, Fellow of the Australian Society for Parasitology.



# Conference corner

5<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Nematology (5ICN)

13 – 18 July, Brisbane

“Nematodes Down Under”

The first International Congress of Nematology kicked off in 1984 in Geulph, Canada. Since this time, the Congress continues to grow with over 300 delegates from 36 countries gathering in Brisbane for the fifth Congress. Mike Hodda from CSIRO Entomology and President of the Australasian Association of Nematologists and Conference Organising Committee, opened the conference with an overview of nematology: “a Jigsaw, a Tapestry or a Strange Attractor?”.

While this was the first time I attended a Congress, I found it both interesting and stimulating. One of the unifying themes of the Congress was the effect of global warming and plant parasitic burden on food production. In addition, the Congress covered a broad range of research areas from the identification of nematode species and their effects on plants, animals and people, through to the use of nematodes as biopesticides.

One of the highlights of the Congress were the Mid-Congress Tours. I attended one to a wheat growing area in The Darling Downs region. The attendees learnt about sustainable cropping systems used to control plant parasite burden and the growing of tolerant cereal varieties. Another highlight was driving through the small Queensland town of Kingsthorpe. Here, the children at the local primary school had been aware of our visit, making a banner stating, “Nematologists count too!”.

Julie-Anne Fritz



**WANTED**

**Conference coverage**

**Going to a conference?**

**Write a review and take some pictures.  
Send them to your State Rep or Newsletter Ed for  
inclusion in Conference corner**





**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Australian Society  
for Parasitology Inc.  
Tuesday 8th July 2008  
The Stamford Plaza Hotel, Glenelg, SA**



**Meeting declared open at 5.05pm.**

**1. Present and Apologies**

S Walton, (President), Deborah Holt (Treasurer), Lois Small (Executive Secretary): ~ 113 members present

*Apologies:*

Dave Spratt

**2. Acceptance of Minutes from 2007 AGM**

*Moved: David Piedrafita, Seconded Brendan Crabb. Carried.*

**3. Business Arising from 2007 AGM**

Business items will be addressed under business

**4. Reports**

**4.1 President's Report.**

An oral report was provided to the membership by Shelley Walton.

New changes implemented during 2008 included contracting and handover to a new Secretariat. The Secretariat handover was relatively smooth and membership renewals and new registrations will shortly go online.

At the previous AGM, the requirement for a new logo was presented. Logo designs were obtained and a general Society vote conducted. The result was an impasse and a final vote from ASP members on this matter will be undertaken in this meeting. Proposals to change the term of the President and Exec from one to two years, and to achieve further consistency, changes to the terms of some of the elected and appointed members of council will be enacted through changes to the constitution voted on at this meeting.

The Council has continued to support the generation of Parasite educational resources through ongoing funding for Peter O'Donoghue's PARA-SITE project and the ASP commissioned book History of Parasitology edited by Ian Beveridge and Peter O'Donoghue.

The ARC/NHMRC Network for Parasitology has been a highly successful venture and has greatly raised the profile of Parasitology in Australia both nationally and internationally. The Network Researcher Exchange, Training and Travel Awards have benefited a significant number of individuals and research groups, and the Network's proactive contribution to the joint ASP/Network Annual Scientific Meetings is recognized. However with recent changes to both the elected government of Australia and the Australian Research Council the long term future of the Network is currently unknown. It is important that the ASP continues to support the Network and help lobby for continued federal funding to promote Australia as a centre for parasitic research, and to nurture and enhance scientific interaction and collaboration in Parasitology.

With approximately 220 registrants and 155 submissions, the Network and local organising committee, under the direction of Ian Whittington, have done an exceptional job overseeing the program and activities for the ASP & ARC/NHMRC Research Network for Parasitology Annual Conference. Nick Smith, Convenor of the Network, has once again obtained significant sponsorship for the conference and

these companies and all involved in the organisation are thanked for their support.

A number of accomplished Parasitologists will again be recognised this year by ASP for their outstanding achievements in parasitology research and education. Congratulations were offered to the winners of the Bancroft Mackerras Medal, The Sprent Prize, and the newly elected ASP Fellows. The relevant ASP committee members were thanked for their efforts in the difficult job of selecting winners for these awards.

The president said it had been a privilege to manage the business of the Society over the latter year and to work with so many distinguished Parasitologists. She thanked Deborah Holt and Lois Small, for their support as members of the ASP Executive Committee and also acknowledged members of Council for their continual input and involvement.

Motion to accept President's report:

*Moved Lois Small; Seconded Deborah Holt. Carried.*

**4.2 Treasurer's Report.**

An oral report was provided to the membership by Deborah Holt.

- iPAC investment account dropped 27% in market value (\$160,000) although this was offset by 18% in dividend payments (\$105,000). We can expect that the market value of this investment will continue to fall in the short term.

- two years worth of IJP royalties were paid in this financial year, so income and profit are artificially high

- Sprent term deposit is making a good return and the interest alone should continue to generate the income for this prize (without accessing the capital)

Taking into consideration the status of the main operating account bank balance, the \$30,000 committed for the publishing of the History of Parasitology, conference expenses, increased secretariat fees, possible further funding for ICOPA, the Council may need to be



this coming financial year.

Motion to accept Treasurer's report:  
*Moved Julie Anne Fritz; Seconded Carol Behm. Carried.*

#### 4.3 IJP Editor's Report.

An oral report was provided to the membership by Brendan Crabb.

**Editorial issues** There have been changes in the Editorial Board with Dominique Soldati becoming a full Deputy Editor and Alex Loukas stepping into a Deputy Editor role. The Specialist Editors continue to contribute strongly to the journal.

**Impact Factor and citations** The 2007 Impact Factor has just become available and is 3.392, up 0.055 on last year and is the highest on record. Goal to get to 4. Immediacy 0.857. Discussion on ERA rating.

#### **ASP Royalty Payment**

The royalty paid to the ASP in 2008 (for 2007) was GBP 79,152.90, but expect to be about GBP 92,000 next year.

**Strategic Direction** Efforts are being made to internationalise the journal, eg design of cover and pages. The old logo had been removed from the IJP cover in order to update the IJP image. Any new logo would need to fit in with the new international look of the journal. There is a need to maximise open access, while protecting our income. Publicity is a major area that requires addressing.

**Thematic Paper Series** We are publishing some thematic series and this includes a Zoonoses paper series and a series of papers from the COST Action 857 (Apicomplexan Biology in the Post-Genomic Era) meeting in May 2008.

**Office** Brendan Crabb has moved to the Burnett Institute and the IJP Editorial Assistant functions from a home office. Brendan noted that the Editorial Assistant is crucial to the success of the IJP and that succession planning for this position was necessary.

Brendan Crabb is not expecting to extend his 3 year contract as editor in chief and his current term will finish in April 2009.

Brendan expressed his thanks to his deputy Editors, Ian Beveridge, Dominique Soldati and Alex Loukas as well as all specialist editors. Maria Meuleman was commended for her passion and commitment to the IJP. Brendan asked for feedback on the journal from Council.

Terry Spithill enquired about the ERA ranking of A\* for the journal in vet science categories. Shelley Walton, on behalf of the Society, expressed thanks to Brendan Crabb for his efforts to date as editor in chief, as well as thanks to the deputy Editors. Replacement processes for Brendan will be through an open and transparent system.

Motion to accept IJP Editor's report:  
*Moved Michelle Power, Seconded Mark Sandeman. Carried.*

4.4 Webmaster's Report. Webmaster was delayed and sent apologies.

#### 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. \$10 per member to receive. The expenditure for this year was \$8357, which included the purchase of a new computer. It is anticipated that the upgraded database by the new secretariat will enable addresses to be printed directly onto envelopes as opposed to sticky labels that need fixing. With our new online database, members will be able to select to receive an electronic version. MP produced information sheets for incoming executive and state reps to streamline procedures. MP thanks State reps for their reports and member feedback on the issues.

#### 4.6 Conference Reports:

##### A) Adelaide 2008:

Approximately 220 delegates attended this year's conference. SW thanked local organising committee for all of their hard work to organise another very successful conference.

B) Sydney 2009: Organisation is in hand. Date 12-15 July 2009, with a similar format to 2008 conference. Conference committee has been formed and invited speakers contacted.

C) AHMRC Congress will be 16-19 Nov. The ASP will host 1/2 symposia-including New Technologies in Parasitology. Mal Jones is the ASP representative on the organizing committee.

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

Website is up [www.icopaxii.org](http://www.icopaxii.org) A number of working groups have been set up (Marketing, Program, Outreach, Entertainment) and thanks to the people who are in-volved. ASN has been appointed as conference organisers. The overall aim is to raise the profile of parasitology in Australia and community awareness.

#### 4.7 Network Report.

An oral report of the Network's activities was presented to the AGM by Nick Smith. 1. the aims of the network are to foster collaboration, create opportunity and raise awareness through

- Databases, bioinformatics tools and e-resources
- Conferences, symposia and workshops
- Researcher exchanges, training and mentoring – nationally and internationally (68 Awards made so far – 15 in 2005, 23 in 2006, 30 in 2007).
- Public education and information events



## 2. Budget

Expenditure, 2005-07 Salaries - \$480,000 IT Initiative - \$405,000 Conferences - \$220,000 Research Exchanges - \$325,000 Committee Meetings - \$30,000 Outreach Activities and Office Costs - \$70,000	Budget, 2008-09 Salaries - \$320,000 IT Initiative - \$165,000 Conferences - \$150,000 Research Exchanges - \$180,000 Committee Meetings - \$20,000 Outreach Activities and Office Costs - \$40,000
TOTAL = \$1,530,000	TOTAL = \$875,000

3 The Network of the Future-  
With the ending of current funding next year, suggestions for the future of the network were discussed. Options raised were

A) No change

Maintain some activities (through the ASP) through Conference support, Researcher Exchange, Training and Travel Scheme, Outreach activities

B) Maintain *status quo*

C) Expand significantly into a graduate school

Don McManus asked about the role of the NHMRC. The network reports to the ARC who in turn report to the NHMRC. Vern Bowles asked about a transition period between the end of current funding and future funding. The ARC is reviewing in Sept, and the Council will be considering options. The president thanked Nick Smith for his efforts in the network and expressed support for the network continuation.

### 5 Prizes and Awards

#### 5.1 Bancroft-Mackerras Medal

Congratulations to Kieran Kirk who was awarded the BMM in 2008.

#### 5.2 JFA Sprent Prize

Congratulations to Magda Ellis who was awarded the JFA Sprent Prize in 2008.

#### 5.3 Fellowships.

Society Fellowships were awarded to David Blair and Nick Smith.

Citations for each Fellow were read by the president

Next applications are due prior to the mid-term meeting (held early 2009).

#### 5.4 Invited Lectureship Travel Grants.

2008 Grants awarded to Prof. David Bird, Ben Dunn, David Ferguson.

#### 5.5 D Smyth Travel Awards.

There have been 4 applications for this year and the Award will be announced shortly. Next round due 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008.

#### 5.6 Student Travel Awards.

There were 60 travel grants awarded, and this totalled \$40000.

A moment of silence was had in remembrance for Peter Waller and John Hickman who sadly passed during the year.

### Other Business

#### 6.1 Constitution Changes: ADMINISTRATION

##### Terms of executive

##### Motion 1

To propose a change of Section 1 Paragraph 1 ARTICLE IV. ADMINISTRATION of the Constitution to read:

“The Society shall be governed by a Council consisting of the following officers of the Society, namely: the President, President – Elect OR Vice President, Secretary, Executive Secretary, Treasurer, Editor(s), Convenor of the Bancroft-Mackerras Medal Committee, Archivist (non-voting), Newsletter Editor (non-voting), Webmaster (non-voting) and not less than 6 other elected members of which there shall be not more than one representative from each of the States and mainland Territories of the commonwealth of Australia. A state Representative may not serve more than 3 consecutive terms. The positions of President – Elect and Vice President on Council will be filled alternately each consecutive year.”

##### **And**

To propose a change of Section 2 Paragraph 2 ARTICLE IV. ADMINISTRATION of the Constitution to read:

“The Society shall have a President, President-Elect OR Vice-President, Secretary, Executive Secretary, Treasurer and Editor (s).”

*Moved, Brendan Crabb, Seconded Deb Holt. Carried unanimously*

##### **And**

To propose a change of Section 2 Paragraph 4 and 5 ARTICLE IV. ADMINISTRATION of the Constitution to read:



“The President, Executive Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected for a period of two terms at every second General Business Meeting at which postal and proxy votes will be accepted. A term is defined by the period elapsing between the termination of one General Business Meeting and the termination of the next General Business Meeting.”

“The President-Elect shall be elected for a period of one term at the second General Business Meeting in the term of the President.”

*Moved, Brendan Crabb, Seconded, Deb Holt. Carried unanimously.*

#### Appointment of Society officers

Motion 2:

To propose a change of Section 2 Paragraph 3 ARTICLE IV. ADMINISTRATION of the Constitution to read:

“The Editor(s) and Secretary shall be appointed by Council for a period of three (3) years and then subject to re-appointment for further periods of three years with no limit to the number of years of continuous service”

“All other officers of the Society shall be elected at a General Business Meeting at which postal and proxy votes will be accepted.”

*Moved Nick Smith, Seconded Deb Holt. Carried unanimously.*

#### Election of some Society officers

Motion 3:

To propose a change of Section 2 Paragraph 2 ARTICLE IV. ADMINISTRATION of the Constitution to read:

“The Newsletter Editor, Archivist and Webmaster shall be elected for a period of three (3) years and then subject to re-election for further periods of three years with no limit to the number of years of continuous service.”

*Moved Mark Sandeman, Seconded David Blair. Carried unanimously.*

## 6.2 Logo

A vote on changing the logo was presented to the membership during the term. Although the old logo had the majority of the votes from email responses to state reps, 75% of votes were for a new logo but vote was split between 2 designs. It was decided by Council to take the issue to the membership (AGM) for the final vote.

Discussion from floor

There was some discussion about this issue- correction to ASP name in second new logo (Lesley Warner), colour scheme of new logo (David Jenkins), problem that some members had not received email (Terry Spithill).

A show of hands indicated that the majority of members at the AGM had received the notification of the vote from their state rep.

Motion Do you want a new logo – Yes or No. *Moved: Shelley Walton; seconded Deb Holt;*  
Vote for -50: Vote against 58

The logo will remain the same.

## 7 Council Nominations

All positions were declared open . SW handed over Presidency officially to Peter Holdsworth.

A comment about the time for nominations of 2 weeks was made.

### Council Positions

Position	Nomination	Proposer	Seconder
Executive			
President elect	Terry Spithill	Peter Holdsworth	Shelley Walton
Treasurer:	Ian Mortimer	Peter Holdsworth	Andy Thompson
Executive Secretary:	Heather Koch	Peter Holdsworth	Andy Thompson
State Reps:			
NSW:	Catherine Miller	Nick Smith	Deborah Holt
QLD:	Rebecca Traub	Katharine Trenholme	Malcolm Jones
SA:	Kate Hutson	Ian Whittington	Lois Small
NT:	Deborah Holt	Lois Small	Shelley Walton
ACT:	Adele Lehane	Carolyn Behm	Deborah Holt
VIC:	Jody Zawadski	David Piedrafita	Shelley Walton
TAS:	Barbara Nowak	Deborah Holt	Lois Small
WA:	Amanda Ash	Andy Thompson	Caroline Jacobsen
Other			
Archivist	Julie-Anne Fritz	Kate Miller	Michelle Power
Incorporation Secretary (QLD)	Katharine Trenholme	Deborah Holt	Lois Small

*Motion to accept all single nominations: Unanimous*

**PH as ASP president formally closed the meeting at 6.35pm.**





## **New Editor-in-Chief sought for the *International Journal for Parasitology (IJP)***

The IJP has developed to the point where it is the world's leading parasitology research journal (Impact Factor 3.392 in 2007), a flagship of the Australian Society for Parasitology (ASP) and a major source of income to the Society (\$175,109 in 2007). It is important that its position is maintained and even further improved.

The reputation of the journal is built on attracting high quality papers across a range of topic areas and rapid processing of manuscripts. The strength of the impact rests on invited reviews and thematic issues as well as submitted papers. We maintain a good relationship with our publisher Elsevier through their representatives in Europe. The journal offers web-based submission and refereeing through the Elsevier Editorial System.

Due to the current Editor-in-Chief (EiC) of the Journal concluding his 3 year term at the end of March 2009, applications are now sought for a new EiC for the IJP to take up the challenge of moving the Journal forward. The initial term will be for 3 years commencing April 2009 and the journal would be coordinated in the appointee's institute within Australia. A suitable funding arrangement has been developed to facilitate the functions of the EiC and the IJP editorial office. The EiC holds the position as "editor" on the Council of the ASP.

### **Position description**

As the EiC of the IJP you will take overall responsibility for managing the operation of the IJP, including:

- Oversight of management of the IJP editorial office
- Review and acceptance or rejection of each manuscript submitted to the IJP office
- Promotion of the IJP to the scientific community
- Recommending appointment and management of the Specialist Editor and Deputy Editor panel
- Liaison with Elsevier Ltd and the ASP Council on matters concerning the IJP
- Maintaining the current high standards with regards to the journal's impact factor and income
- Initiating new directions for the journal in the changing world of publishing

### **Selection criteria**

- Demonstrated excellence in ongoing and cutting edge research in a field of parasitology
- Membership of the ASP
- Past experience in scientific publishing will be highly regarded

### **Information**

- On the journal is available at <http://www.sciencedirect.com/ijpara>
- on editorial processes and running of the IJP can be obtained from the current Editor-in-Chief (Brendan Crabb) at [crabb@wehi.edu.au](mailto:crabb@wehi.edu.au).

Correspondence will be strictly confidential. Expressions of interest will be considered by a small committee of ASP members and candidates may be interviewed. Expressions of interest should be directed to: [peter.holdsworth@animalhealthalliance.org.au](mailto:peter.holdsworth@animalhealthalliance.org.au) by 17 November 2008.



## 2008 End of term Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday 6 July 2008  
Stamford Plaza, Glenelg  
8.15am start



### 1. Present and Apologies.

Shelley Walton (SW), Peter Holdsworth (PH), Mal Jones (MJ), Lois Small (LS), Deborah Holt (DH), Adele Lehane (AL), Katherine Trenholme (KT), Catherine Miller (CM), Kate Hutson (KH), Barbara Nowak (BN), Jody Zawadzki (JZ), Carol Behm (CB), Jason Mulvenna (JM), Michelle Power (MP), Nick Smith (NS), Brendan Crabb (BC), Andrew Thompson (AT)

David Piedrafita as ICOPA chair representative

### Apologies

Tonia Woodberry, Danielle Smyth, Caroline Bath-Jacobsen

### 2. Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meetings: Mid Term Council Meeting (MTM)

*Motion:* That the minutes of the meetings be accepted as true records: *Moved MJ; Seconded, BN Carried.*

### 3. Business Arising from Minutes 2007 MTM

Action items from Business arising from MT meeting Feb 2008 had all been completed and where necessary, are covered in other reports.

### 4. Reports

A) President's report (SW)  
Written report provided, see attachment.

*Motion:* That the President's report be accepted: *Moved KT; Seconded, JZ Carried*

B) Treasurer's report (DH) Written report provided, see attachment.

#### Main points

- iPAC investment account dropped 27% in market value (\$160,000) although this was offset by 18% in dividend payments (\$105,000). We can expect that the market value of this investment will continue to fall in the short term.
- two years worth of IJP royalties paid in this financial year
- Spent term deposit is making a good return and the interest alone should continue to generate the income for this prize (without accessing the capital)
- The conference account exceeds GST free level and will need to register for GST
- Need to be careful in coming financial year

*NS Noted \$60000 for Intimate Aliens display*

*MP Should membership fee increase? General discussion included impact of cost of new secretariat. To be reviewed at next Council meeting*

*Motion:* That the Treasurer's report be accepted: *Moved AT; Seconded, CB. Carried*

C) Secretary/Incorporation Secretary report (LS/DS)

#### Oral report

- Current membership is at 362 financial members with 126 student members, and 236 ordinary members. This does not include 32 Fellows, 20 life members and 2 sustaining. There are 88 non financial members.
- There have been 47 new members since 1<sup>st</sup> July 2007 (student 6)
- New secretariat getting there – a few hitches (data base inaccuracies, handwriting, fax #, time of renewal), a new database with all members being upgraded: online by end of July
- Updated new members constitution copy.
- Danielle Smyth had suggestion about business registration

*Official postal address of ASP remains at PO Box 60, Herston. MJ to give keys of box to KT. Mail is redirected each year to the address of the new executive. KT to check box on occasions.*

*Reminder that hard copy of constitution is sent to all members every 3 years (should be 2009) with newsletter*

*Need to review Parasite Culture List.*



*AT suggested the need to fund collection as valuable resource and to sustain control of collection. Next Council to form a subgroup to investigate. (PH) PH to approach current contact Rob Adlard. DH to pursue business registration and report to next meeting*

*Motion: That the Secretary's report be accepted: Moved CM; Seconded, MJ. Carried*

- D) International Journal for Parasitology Editor's report (BC) Written report provided by BC, see attachment  
*BC noted that his 3 year term as editor in chief ends in mid April 2009.*

*Motion: That the Editor's report be accepted: Moved BN ; Seconded, CB. Carried*

- E) Newsletter Editor's report (MP) Written report provided.

- Macintosh laptop, Adobe Creative suite and Microsoft office: mac were purchased for \$3135.50 for the newsletter editor

- Old secretariat had been helpful with labels, should be improved with new secretariat as addresses can be printed directly onto envelopes

- Three issues of the ASP Newsletter for this term  
Total costs for three issues was \$5222.12

- Information reports prepared for new executive and state reps on Council

*Discussion about requirement for hard copy vs electronic.*

- **Action** MP to ask new secretariat to add a box to ASP renewal/new applications to tick for option of an electronic delivery.

- **Action** MP to send new Council members copy of information sheets

*Motion: That the Newsletter Editor's report be accepted and a budget of \$6600 for production of the next 3 issues be approved. : Moved, CM Seconded, KT. Carried*

- F) Archivist's report (CB)  
Written report provided.

- The JD Smyth historical films on culture of *Echinococcus granulosus* have been copied to DVD and will return to the Archives.

- Scanning of past ASP abstract booklets will be completed by the end of the month.

Does the Society wish to make the pdf files available on the website?

*Discussion for the past ASP abstract booklets to go on website.*  
Action JM and CB to coordinate.

*Discussion about what is to be kept in the "guard" books of the ASP (ie meeting minutes for Council and AGM). Guard books, as the operational records of the ASP, keep paper copy of minutes, president, treasurer and IJP reports, and Archivist is to keep a paper copy of all other reports in meetings.*

Action The Archivist will prepare a checklist to be placed in front of guard books.

*Motion: That the Archivist's report be accepted: Moved JM; Seconded, KT. Carried*

- G) Webmaster's report (JM)  
Written report provided.

• Over the last twelve months the parasite.org.au domain has received 1 023 084 requests and served 215 005 pages.

• Pages relating to the ASP conference and the downloading of newsletters and reports are the most common activities on both the arcnet and ASP homepage.

• Concerns have been raised about the reliability of Wolf Web and the poor customer service and new hosting was investigated.

The current website suffers from a few technical flaws that makes it difficult to update and imposes a limit on the amount of content that can be put on certain pages before the design begins to breakdown. I have updated the website and put in a content management system.

*Motion: That the Webmaster change our web host to Webcity or equivalent : Moved MJ; Seconded, AT . Carried*

Action Proposed Changes to website design to go out to next Council. JM to email new Council.

*Motion: That the Webmaster's report be accepted: Moved JM; Seconded, KT . Carried*

- H) BMM Convenors report (AT)  
Written report provided.

Composition of current committee was discussed as one fellow had served 5 year requirement. PH to approach ASP fellows for a new nominee to committee.

Motion That the BMM committee be convened after et meeting by AT, moved CM seconded LS



I) Network report (NS)  
Written report provided.

- 2 Newsletters for 2008, plus a special Conference Newsletter
  - The 2007 Annual Report was delivered to the ARC on March 31, 2008 and is available on the website (<http://www.parasite.org.au/arcnet/reports/index.html>).
  - Outreach Activities include the "Parasites in Focus" Photography Exhibition, A portfolio book for *Intimate Aliens* is about to go to print, series of workshops and lectures, on parasite biology and molecular biology, for several Sydney schools.
  - Network Researcher Exchange, Training and Travel Award, January-July, 2008: 16 awarded
  - Organisation of Glenelg 2008 has proceeded quite smoothly, and Sydney 2009 on track
- With the end of Current ARC and NHMRC Funding approaching in 2009, the future of the Network needs consideration. Expanding the network is one option.

*If the network is successful in gaining funds to continue, there may be a gap in funding. Financial support for the network to bridge this gap was discussed. There could be a number of options. Need for a one page summary of value of network and a business plan. NS to prepare 'vision statement' 2011 conference suggestion either Western Australia or NSW (ie Wagga). AT to approach his state members for interest.*

Other reports

Science meets Parliament  
(KH)

6 Conference Reports

A) 2008 Adelaide Written report provided by Ian Whittington.

- There are 213 delegates and 155 submissions
- Programme: There are 2 Plenaries (*Host-Parasite Interactions; Apicomplexan Organelle Biology*) and 6 symposia (*Proteases; Plant Parasitic Nematodes; Host-Parasite Interactions; State-of-the-Art Technologies; Proteomics; Sustainable Worm Control in Grazing Livestock; Aquaculture*) with 10 overseas speakers and 12 national speakers invited to present

There are 14 contributed sessions comprising a total of 79 oral presentations, of which 38 are student presentations. There will also be 54 posters on display for the duration of the conference.

*Approximately 59 students applied for Student Travel. Award will depend on distance travelled from Adelaide.*

B) 2009 Sydney - meeting to be held at University of Sydney. A report from Nick Smith indicated that planning was well underway and progress in program, invited speakers, catering etc.

C) 2010 ICOPA XII- Organiser report (DP)

Number of working groups established (Marketing, Program, Outreach, Social)  
Target is 1500 delegates  
Approx \$700 registration

Venue new Convention Centre in Melbourne (video of facility shown) issues and responses from convenor.

*D) 2011 conference suggestion either Western Australia or NSW (ie Wagga). AT to approach his state members for interest.*

E) Other reports

- a) Science meets Parliament (KH) Kate Hudson and Shelley Walton attended. Highly recommended as a personal and professional experience
- b) Australian Health and Medical Research Congress 2008 (MJ) Congress to be held in November. To be advertised on web site (JM)
- c) Two symposia- Disease burdens of parasites and New Technologies

7. Awards

i) Bancroft-Mackerras Medal  
Dr Kieran Kirk successful nomination

ii) ASP Fellows  
Professor David Blair, Assoc Professor Nick Smith

iii) Smyth Travel Award

Four applications to consider  
The Network also offers awards and these may be offered to same students. Need to liaise between executive and Network

iv) Sprent Prize

Dr Magda Ellis successful nomination. Appreciation of work of Sprent committee noted





## v) Undergraduate prizes

*LS had approached people at various universities about undergraduate prizes for parasitology (see update in Attachment 12). There were 2 requests for the ASP to present more prizes.*

### Motion

That ASP student undergraduate prize scheme (\$400) be expanded to include 1 for UQ for BVSc and 2 for Murdoch for ANS356, VET344. *Moved LS; Seconded, DH. Carried*

8 correspondance

Table below

## SP undergraduate prizes in universities

State	University	2007/8
ACT	ANU (shared prize)	<b>Chaithra Upadhyaya for 2007</b>
VIC	Uni of Melbourne	<b>Caitlin Davey (for 2007)</b>
NSW	Uni of Sydney (shared prize):	<b>Clancy Crean, Stephen Fleischer, Antony Ghaly and Justin Quigley</b>
	UNE	<b>Jeanine Goss, Robert Hart</b>
NSW	UTS	<b>Andrew Tze Fui Liew</b>
QLD	QUT	<b>Sally Anne Mujaj (for 2007)</b>
QLD	James Cook Uni	<b>No prize in 2007</b>
QLD	Uni of QLD	<b>Teng Wai Ang, Hayley Thomas</b>
QLD	Central Queensland University	<b>Melissa Van Herk</b>
WA	Murdoch Uni	<b>Holly Allen and Yongjan Joel Huang.</b>

### Undergrad prizes information

ANU  
UNE  
UMelb  
Murdoch University  
QUT  
JCU  
UTS  
CQU  
Uni of Sydney  
UQ

Thank you from recipient (Student prize)

### ASMR

contract for Australian Health and Medical Research Congress 2008  
Request to link from our website  
Upcoming events

MLA contract for conference sponsorship

Encyclopedia of Associations: International Organizations

Murdoch Uni re donation

New Darwin convention Centre

## 9 Other Business

### A) Vet Text book

Not much progress to date, but commitment to get it done.

Meeting of interested people to be held at conference. Nick Sangster to be asked to report.

B) Para Site Written Report from Peter O'Donoghue The textual, photographic and tabular sections of the electronic website have been completed and the construction of the final multimedia interactive keys is awaiting the final drawings.

History of Parasitology (Written Report from IB/POD)

More photos obtained and hope book could be published by the end of the year.

Meeting closed at 3.50 pm

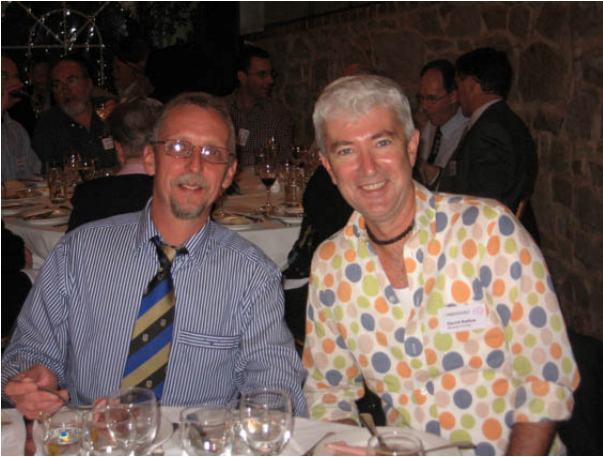


# ASP Conference

Glenelg, South Australia July 2008









## Australian Society for Parasitology Presidents End of Term Report – July 08

### Many Thanks

Motivating, enlightening, and much busier than I envisaged is how I would describe my one year as the ASP President! As it draws to a close I would foremost like to thank the ASP for the privilege of managing the business of the Society over the latter year and providing the delightful opportunity to meet and work with so many distinguished Parasitologists. I would also like to thank a number of people for their hard work and dedication. Specifically Deborah Holt and Lois Small; as members of the ASP Executive Committee we have had a very close association throughout the year and due to their commitment and attention to detail the 'behind the scenes' financial and organisational affairs of the ASP have been extremely well managed. I would also like to acknowledge members of Council for their continual input and involvement, and for always maintaining the objectives, goodwill, and accountability of the Society as their primary responsibility. I also would like to state my appreciation for the advice I have received from those ASP members with corporate knowledge of the Society's business. This is always such a hard thing to grasp with a short term presidency and hopefully with the proposed constitutional changes to the terms of the executive will become less of an issue in the future.

### General Business

New changes implemented during 2008, as directed by council and the Society, have included contracting and handover to a new Secretariat; obtaining and voting on new concepts for the ASP logo; and detailing changes to the Constitution to be voted on at the 2008 AGM. The Secretariat handover went relatively smoothly and membership renewals and new registrations will shortly go online. For those members with any outstanding membership issues please contact Maree Conway or see her at the Secretariat stand at the 2008 ASP & ARC/NHMRC Research Network for Parasitology Annual Conference. A change to the ASP logo was a fairly emotive issue and this was demonstrated in the outcome of the general Society vote – an impasse. At the 2008 AGM the requirement for a new logo will again be summarised and results of the recent Society vote detailed. A final vote from ASP members on the matter will then be undertaken. Constitution changes include a proposed change to the term of the President and Exec from one to two years, and to achieve further consistency, proposed changes to the terms of some of the elected and appointed members of council. Please read the latest ASP newsletter for details. Finally the Council has continued to support the generation of Parasite educational resources through ongoing funding for Peter O'Donoghue's PARA-SITE project and the ASP commissioned book History of Parasitology edited by Ian Beveridge and Peter O'Donoghue.

### ARC/NHMRC Network for Parasitology

I think we would all agree the Network has been a highly successful venture and has greatly raised the profile of Parasitology in Australia both nationally and internationally. The Network Researcher Exchange, Training and Travel Awards have benefited a significant number of individuals and research groups, and we have all recognised and appreciated the Network's proactive contribution to the joint ASP/Network Annual Scientific Meetings. However with recent changes to both the elected government of Australia and the Australian Research Council the long term future of the Network is currently unknown. It is important therefore that the ASP continues to support the Network and help lobby for continued federal funding to promote Australia as a centre for parasitic research, and to nurture and enhance scientific interaction and collaboration in Parasitology.

### ASP & ARC/NHMRC Research Network for Parasitology Annual Conference

As this report is being prepared the 2008 conference in Glenelg is in the last stages of preparation. With approximately 220 registrants and 155 submissions, the Network and local organising committee, under the direction of Ian Whittington, have done an exceptional job overseeing the program and activities. Nick Smith, Convenor of the Network, has once again obtained significant sponsorship for the conference and I thank those companies and all involved in the organisation for their support. Please remember to place in your diaries the 'not to be missed' next Parasitology conference to be held in Sydney in 2009, and ICOPA XII in 2010 Melbourne. Also note the 2008 Australian Health and Medical Research Congress in Brisbane in November and a special thanks to Malcolm Jones for representing ASP on the Program Organising Committee.

### ASP Awards

A number of accomplished Parasitologists will again be recognised this year by ASP for their outstanding achievements in parasitology research and education. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the winners of the Bancroft Mackerras Medal, The Sprent Prize, and our newly elected ASP Fellows. Many thanks to the relevant ASP committee members involved in the enormously difficult job of selecting winners for these awards. Good luck to those involved in the student presentation and poster prizes to be awarded at the conference.

### The Future

Welcome new 2008/09 ASP Exec and Council! I am sure under the guidance and strong leadership of Peter Holdsworth the ASP will continue to move from strength to strength and continue its role to support and encourage the investigation and advancement of knowledge of parasitology and to foster the association of persons interested in parasitology.





## Income and Expenditure

			Totals
<b>Income</b>			
<i>Main income</i>			
	Members Subscriptions - RGSQ	\$ 20,063.64	
	IJP Journal Royalty	\$ 386,792.77	
			\$ 406,856.41
<i>Interest income</i>			
	Interest from Working Account		
		\$ 5,435.75	
	Interest from Account #2		
		\$ 1,002.47	
	Interest from Sprent Term Deposit		
		\$ 3,590.12	
			\$ 10,028.34
<i>Investment income</i>			
	Dividend income (iPAC investment)	\$ 105,029.07	
	Change in market value	\$ (160,762.52)	
			\$ (55,733.45)
<i>Conference income</i>			
	Conference registrations	\$ 53,514.55	
	Conference sponsorship income	\$ 104,542.35	
	Other conference income	\$ 11,392.50	
			\$ 169,449.40
<b>Total Income</b>			<b>\$ 530,600.69</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
<i>General Expenses</i>			
	Accounting & Audit Fees	\$ 2,800.00	
	Insurance	\$ 1,153.77	
	Newsletter	\$ 4,929.59	
	Postage (excl Newsletter)	\$ 759.43	
	Withholding tax	\$ 454.00	
	Bank Fees/charges	\$ 649.31	
	Mid Term Council Meeting 2007	\$ 463.62	
	End Term Council Meeting 2007		
		\$ 5,584.44	



	End Term Council Meeting 2008	\$	1,895.64	
	Science meets Parliament	\$	2,133.88	
	Sponsorship	\$	6,500.00	
	Secretarial Fees - RGSQ	\$	7,474.50	
	Direct debit charges and adjustments	\$	454.55	
	Other Expenses	\$	4,380.87	
<i>Total General Expenses</i>				\$ 50,374.50
<i>Prizes and Awards</i>				
	JD Smyth Travel Awards	\$	10,678.55	
	Undergraduate Student Prizes	\$	3,600.00	
<i>Total Prizes and Awards</i>				\$ 14,278.55
<i>Conference Expenses</i>				
	ASP Conference Student Travel (2007)	\$	26,167.79	
	ASP Travelling Lectureships (2007)	\$	10,073.30	
	ASP Conference Prize Winners (2007)	\$	2,000.00	
	Other conference expenses (2007)	\$	21,359.10	
	ASP Conference 2008	\$	172,819.09	
	ASP Conference 2009	\$	-	
	ICOPA Conference	\$	46,424.55	
<i>Total Conference Expenses</i>				\$ 278,843.82
<i>Subscriptions</i>				
	Subscriptions - FASTS	\$	1,250.36	
	Subscriptions - ASMR	\$	394.55	
	Subscriptions - WFOP (paid until 2010)	\$	-	
<i>Total Subscriptions</i>				\$ 1,644.91
<i>Research</i>				
	ARC research network	\$	50,000.00	
	ParaCite website	\$	30,000.00	
<i>Total Research</i>				\$ 80,000.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>				<b>\$ 425,141.78</b>
<b>Operating Profit / (Loss)</b>				<b>\$ 105,458.92</b>



## CASH MANAGEMENT (WORKING) ACCOUNT - CBA PREMIUM BUSINESS ACCOUNT

Transaction	Credit	Debit	Balance
Balance as at 30th April 2007			\$ 46,250.70
Total credit interest to 30th April 2008	\$ 5,435.75		
Total credits excl. interest to 30th April 2008	\$429,315.89		
Bank and Merchant fees, adjustments to 30th April 2008		\$ 1,028.86	
Totals debits (excl fees) to 30th April 2008		\$282,386.63	
<b>Balance at 30th April 2008</b>			<b>\$ 197,586.85</b>

## ACCOUNT # 2 (Conference account) - CBA PREMIUM BUSINESS ACCOUNT

Transaction	Credit	Debit	Balance
Balance as at 1st May 2007			\$ 102,759.91
Total credit interest to 30th April 2008	\$ 1,002.47		
Total credits excl. interest to 30th April 2008	\$158,464.85		
Bank and Merchant fees, adjustments to 30th April 2008		\$ 529.00	
Totals debits (excl fees) to 30th April 2008		\$159,755.45	
<b>Balance at 30th April 2008</b>			<b>\$ 101,942.78</b>

## SPRENT TERM DE-POSIT

Transaction	Credit	Debit	Balance
Balance on reinvestment at 1st November 2006			\$ 52,112.48
Funds reinvested @6.150% for 9 months			
Interest paid on 1st May 2007 (6 month installment)	\$ 1,589.29		
Interest paid on maturity 1st August 2007	\$ 832.45		
Balance on reinvestment at 1 August 2007			\$ 54,534.22
Funds reinvested @4.250% for 9 months			
Interest paid on 1st February 2008 (6 month installment)	\$ 1,168.38		
<b>Balance on 30th April 2008</b>			<b>\$ 55,702.60</b>



## iPAC INVESTMENT

Transaction	Credit	Debit	Balance
Balance transferred to iAccess account 16th April 2007			<b>\$ 585,111.44</b>
Income paid and reinvested to 30th June 2007	\$ 536.34		
Change in Market Value to 30th June 2007	\$ 8,169.08		
Balance at 30th June 2007			\$ 593,816.86
Income paid and reinvested to 30th September 2007	\$ 56,165.93		
Change in Market Value to 30th September 2007		\$ 45,054.48	
Balance at 30th September 2007			\$ 604,928.31
Income paid and reinvested to 31st December 2007	\$ 19,090.72		
Change in Market Value to 31st December 2007		\$ 28,069.84	
Balance at 31st December 2007			\$ 595,949.19
Income paid and reinvested to 31st March 2008	\$ 29,236.08		
Change in Market Value to 31st March 2008		\$ 95,807.28	
Balance at 31st March 2008			\$ 529,377.99
<b>Balance at 30th April 2008</b>			<b>\$ 529,377.99</b>

Note: total annualised return since initial investment on 29/04/02 is 9.3%pa (6.62%pa after inflation)- as at April 2007

<b>Totals</b>	\$113,198.15	\$168,931.60	\$ (55,733.45)
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<b>Totals</b>	\$ 3,590.12	\$ -
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### TOTAL BALANCE (all accounts) as at end of available statements (to end April 2008)

Working account	\$197,586.85
Account #2	\$101,942.78
iPAC investment	\$529,377.99
Sprent account	\$ 55,702.60

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$884,610.22</b>
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**Editorial issues** We previously mentioned our arrangement with Prof. Alan Johnson (Research Management Services International) for Alan to do scientific editing of manuscripts before papers are returned to authors for revision. Unfortunately, after a trial period, Alan was unable to continue editing papers for the IJP. I am now Director and CEO of the Burnet Institute (otherwise known as the MacFarlane Burnet Institute of Medical Research and Public Health) and, in order to keep the IJP workflow moving as smoothly as possible, there have been some changes in the Editorial Board with Dominique Soldati becoming a full Deputy Editor (previously Deputy Editor – Reviews) and Alex Loukas stepping into a Deputy Editor role (previously a Specialist Editor). I remain extremely grateful to Ian who continues to work tirelessly for the journal. And also to Dominique Soldati whose efforts to solicit high quality reviews have been one of the most important factors in the prospects for ongoing success of the IJP, particularly with respect to Impact Factor. I warmly welcome Alex to the Editorial leadership team. Specialist Editors continue to contribute strongly to the journal.

**Impact Factor and citations** The 2007 Impact Factor has just become available and is 3.392, up 0.055 on last year and is the highest on record. The 2007 Immediacy Index is 0.857 compared with 0.404 in 2005.

**ASP Royalty Payment** The royalty paid to the ASP in 2008 (for 2007) was GBP 79,152.90. This was less than the previous year due to the correct amount having been deducted for the IJP Editorial Office expenses (only half of those were deducted the previous year).

**Strategic Direction** *Internationalisation.* As part of our effort to internationalise the journal, the cover (and the web site eventually) now has a new modern design which incorporates a strong re-enforcement of what has become our brand (whether we like it or not really) which is the acronym “IJP” and removal of the Australian map version of the ASP logo. The new journal cover design was implemented from 1 January 2008. Thanks to all of you for your comments, advice and support in making this change happen. I certainly understand the sensitivity surrounding removing the ASP logo from the front. Informal feedback received in the Editorial Office to date has been very favourable. Costs for designing the new cover were met from the Editorial Office budget. We have not been informed by Elsevier that they will be increasing production costs to include typesetting and printing of the new cover style.

*Open access.* I continue to press Elsevier to find the right balance between maximising accessibility of the journal to the widest possible audience, especially those in developing countries, and protection of the income.

*Publicity.* A major area that still needs to be addressed as there is much room for improvement especially in relation to the web site and targeted email alerts. I have had correspondence with Dale Seaton about this but not much movement yet apart from a commitment to re-design the website. The new cover should be the catalyst here.

### **Profile of Submissions**

**2007 statistics:** We received 576 papers in 2007 (slightly less than the record of 582 in 2006) with an upfront rejection rate of 54%. We accepted 162 papers (28%). The main sources of submissions were Western Europe (24%) and Asia (21%). Submission rates from most regions were similar to 2006, however Western Europe decreased 3% while the Middle East increased 3%. We had some changes in manuscript categories in 2007. Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics (8%) and Medical and Veterinary Parasitology (9%) received most submissions. Epidemiology, Immunology and Vaccines, and Medical and Veterinary Parasitology had the highest percentage of accepted papers within individual categories.

**2008 statistics:** At 30 April we had received 189 submissions, with 53% being rejected upfront. The main sources of submissions were Western Europe (25%) and Asia (18%). Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics (7%) and Medical and Veterinary Parasitology (6%) have received most submissions to 30 April.

**Thematic Paper Series** We are publishing a Zoonoses paper series September 2008. We are also publishing a series of papers from the COST Action 857 meeting in May 2008 to be published January 2009. IJP last published a COST issue in 1999 from the 1998 COST 820 meeting and it seems timely to do so again as we expect those papers will cite highly.

**Office and Budget** As mentioned in our previous report, Maria purchased a home quite some distance from Melbourne and has moved the IJP Editorial Assistant functions into a home office. A separate telephone/fax line has been installed for the IJP which has its own office. The new set-up has been running smoothly. Maria continued to be employed by WEHI until 30 June. IJP funds continued to be held at WEHI until 30 June in a dedicated IJP account managed by WEHI finance staff. From 1 July, Maria has been employed by the Burnet Institute. IJP funds have been transferred to the Burnet where these will be held in a dedicated IJP account managed by Burnet finance staff. We are using the Burnet Institute mail address for the IJP.

Maria's move to a home office is with my full support and encouragement. Maria continues to be the lynch pin for the journal. Her dedication to the IJP, expertise in the role and the high regard in which she is held by all who deal with the journal are extremely valuable assets for the journal.



# STATE NEWS

## Australian Capital Territory

**Conference news.** There was a strong ACT contingent at this year's ASP/Network conference in Glenelg. Special congratulations must go to Julie-Anne Fritz, who won one of two Early Career Researcher awards for her presentation on tissue-specific RNAi in *C. elegans*. Congratulations also deservedly go to Rob Summers, whose poster entitled 'Reversing chloroquine resistance in the malaria parasite *Plasmodium falciparum*' was awarded first place in the traditional poster category. The ACT successes continued with Natalie Spillman, who took out the best poster + oral (speed dating) award for her convincing demonstration that 'Regulation of intracellular pH by the intraerythrocytic malaria parasite does not involve a Na<sup>+</sup>/H<sup>+</sup> exchanger', and Adele Lehane, who was runner-up in the student talk category. A number of ACT parasitologists are now gearing up for presentations at this year's ComBio conference in Canberra, which will coincide with Floriade's peak in late September.

**Travels to and from the School of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (BaMBi, ANU).** BaMBi has been fortunate over the last few months to have two visitors from South Africa. Jandeli Niemand, a PhD student in Prof. Braam Louw's group at the University of Pretoria, is spending about 6 months in Kieran Kirk's lab investigating polyamine transport in the malaria parasite. Marianne van Wyk, a PhD student in A/Prof. Erick Strauss' lab at the University of Stellenbosch, has recently returned home after working hard through the Canberra winter in Kevin Saliba's lab.

Simon Cobbold, a PhD student in Kieran Kirk's lab, is currently engaged in some proteomics work in Prof. Klaus Lingelbach's lab in Marburg, Germany. This is part of a collaborative effort between the two labs, funded by the GO8/DAAD – Australia Germany Joint Research Co-operation Scheme, to investigate the 'New Permeability Pathways' induced by the malaria parasite in the infected red blood cell membrane.

## NEW SOUTH WALES

### Institute for the Biotechnology of Infectious Diseases

Congratulations to Nick Smith on being made a Fellow of the Society at the recent AGM held in Adelaide – a well-deserved award! Congratulations also to Philippa Sharman who won second prize in the Poster/Oral competition for her presentation about the subtilisin proteases of *Eimeria*. The good news continues for IBID with the awarding of a JD Smyth award to Mike Lees. Mike has gone to the US to work on *Toxoplasma* with Rima McLeod at the University of Chicago. Congratulations to Mike and also to Kelly Mai who has received her examiners reports and will be awarded her PhD at the next graduation. IBID members have also been busy traveling. A large number attended the conference in Adelaide and many thanks to the organizers for all their hard work. Marilyn Katrib and Rob Walker are just back from EMOP in Paris and Nick Smith is heading off to Brazil. Nick has been invited to speak at the Toxoplasma Centennial Conference in Buzios. Mark Robinson and John Dalton spent a week visiting the Oxford University Clinical Research Unit at the Hospital for Tropical Diseases in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

Mark and John delivered seminars to highlight research at IBID and also learned more about the important work being done at the hospital, in particular the diagnosis of human helminth infections. John Dalton also visited Khon Kaen University with Dr. Alex Loukas (QIMR), Prof Paul Brindley (GWU, USA) and Dr Jeff Bethony (GWU, USA) to consult into the on-going project NIH-funded on Human Opisthorchiasis (Directed by Paul Brindley and Banchoop Sripa). Collaborative projects between Khon Kaen and IBID were also initiated with the group on the role of cysteine proteases in the pathogenesis of this liver disease.

### University of Sydney

Parasitology has featured strongly at USyd in recent months. The highlight was the discovery of the "protozoal missing link" *Chromera velia* (published in Nature), in a "Bottom of the Harbour" investigation unrelated to income tax and involving our own Jan Slapeta. Jan also displayed his *Crypto muris* on the cover of IJP (vol 38, 8-9). Several other wildlife protozoal pathogens are under scrutiny, with students Jess King and Stephanie Bishop hard on the heels of *Neospora*. Parasite stocks have been gratifyingly amplified with provision of specimens from students and from Graham Brown's dog samples from remote settlements as far afield as Bidjara (nr Broome), Yarrabah in FNQ and Ti-tree in NT. USyd researchers Natasha Ellis and Seyit Kayis (with Herman Raadsma) have been centrally involved in SNP selection and DNA amplification for the genotyping of SheepGenomics resource flocks for parasite resistance markers. This should be completed this year at Johns Hopkins Uni, with results from these and proteomic analyses eagerly awaited. The upgrading of the University's Camden Campus gathers momentum with the completion of the building locations and priority plan due for acceptance by Faculty Deans this month. And Parasitology is included!





# STATE NEWS

## QUEENSLAND

### Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries Parasitology group

#### Macquarie University

Congratulations to Nichola Hill who submitted her PhD thesis on parasites in urban possums. Nichola has accepted a postdoc in California to study bird flu. We have been hosting three international interns, Sarah Lord who characterising parasites from sealions, Alina Kelman who is working on *Eimeria* in marsupials and Tyler Allen who is working on new detection methods for *Cryptosporidium*. Samantha Emery is continuing analysis on rock wallaby *Eimeria* with Michelle Power. Liette Waldon, Cristel Cheung and Michelle ventured to Wagga Wagga to visit a number of people including Nick Sangster and Tiggy Grillo. They also ventured to John Hunter Hospital to discuss collaborative work and for Michelle to present the latest on *Cryptosporidium* work.

Staff (Susan Robinson, Jacqui Wigg, Peter Rolls, Bert de Vos) at the **Tick Fever Centre** are currently mid way through a 3 year MLA project looking at improving the post thaw shelf life of the frozen tick fever vaccine. The frozen vaccine is stored in glycerol and processes for improving red blood cell recovery and parasite infectivity after deglycerolisation are being investigated in laboratory and field trials. Some positive results for *Babesia bovis* and *Anaplasma centrale* are encouraging but results of efforts to deglycerolise *B. bigemina* have been disappointing and a new approach is being considered. Several experimental parameters, including different reconstitution and 'deglycing' processes, storage in diluent over time and different concentrations of the vaccine, are currently being tested in animal trials on co-operator properties and results will be available in the new year. Conversion to an automated process using a Haemonetics machine is also being trialed.

Peter Rolls will visit the manufacturer in the USA in October 2008 (via the TTP-6 conference, Buenos Aires, Argentina) to investigate changes to the equipment to allow it to meet the project's requirements.

**The Applied Biotechnology Animal (ABA) group (Animal Research Institute)** has had a busy few months – much fame and glory to be had by all. Jess Morgan has just returned from a trip to Vienna to present to the International Atomic Energy Agency her results on molecular surveillance for screw worm fly in bulk trap catches. Bart Wlodek has been busy conducting a chicken trial to investigate competition among vaccine strains of *Eimeria* species. Ala, Sandy, Sebastian (Centre for Comparative Genomics, Murdoch Uni – PhD Student) and Taryn from TFC (above) all attended ASP in Adelaide. A good time had by all. We can't wait for the tick-mite fusion to be held at next ASP in Sydney in 2009 J. The tick vaccine production team (especially Manuel, Megan, Cathy, Bing) has been very busy – expressing, screening, checking expression and getting ready for TTP-6. Emily Piper has been analysing bovine arrays associated with tick responses. Sandy Jarrett and Anthea Bruyeres have been screening sera and preparing samples for proteomic analysis. TTP-6 will held in Argentina (VI International Conference on Tick and Tick-borne pathogens, 21-26<sup>th</sup> September) –to be attended by Wayne Jorgensen, Ala Lew, Manuel Rodriguez-Valle and 2 PhD students on the project (Sebastian Kurscheid – Murdoch Uni and Emily Piper - UQ). Suraj Ratnakar has joined us from UQ (Masters student) to study a family of tick genes. Con Constantinoiu has been generating some great tick feeding fluorescence images which everyone is thrilled about. Emily (supervised by Louise Jackson DPI&F Biosecurity and Nick Jonsson UQ) won the Early Career Research Award out of 58 CRCs in Australia (May 08) and Ala just won the Qld's Smart State Smart Women Award for Science (Community/Public Sector).



# STATE NEWS

Both awards were for the contributions on the tick vaccine project – Emily for being a great PhD student assisting to unravel the immune responses to ticks and Ala for putting together the team and the funding for the tick vaccine project. Thus we have had many celebrations including the opening of CAAS.

CAAS the Centre for Advanced Animal Science is located at UQ's Gatton Campus, the \$33 million facility was officially opened by the Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries, the Honorable Tim Mulherin on 2 September. CAAS is a joint initiative between UQ and the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries, is equipped with biosecurity containment facilities, allowing scientists to collaborate on Animal health, behaviour and nutrition projects. Combined with other finished and planned developments at UQ Gatton, it will give Queensland the most comprehensive animal research and teaching precinct in Australia, and one of the best anywhere in the Southern Hemisphere/subtropics. Wayne Jorgensen was instrumental in working with UQ and DPI&F to get this facility up and running (these were all the meetings he was attending for a couple of years).

The Parasitology section of **Biosecurity Sciences Laboratory** has been busy examining the latest find of Asian honeybees for parasitic mites. This included plucking bee larvae from all the brood cells of a hive (>3000 from one hive) and examining each larva and its cell for mites. Thankfully no parasitic mites have yet been found. Louise, Ala and Wayne will be attending the inaugural meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee on Cattle Ticks that has been set up, in part, due to outbreaks of ticks and tick fever in northern NSW in recent seasons.

## The University of Queensland School of Molecular and Micro- bial Sciences

The recent review of the BSc program at UQ has seen staff teaching all sorts of oddities. Peter (POD) O'Donoghue has been dragged into a new first year course on the Theory and Practice of Science where they are attempting to remediate quantitative skill development in students in the context of science (that is, teach them basic maths). Wonders will never cease as Tom Cribb was also caught lecturing on bacteria!

POD has taken on an honours student Veronica Zhang with Major Norm Waters at the Australian Army Malaria Institute where she is looking at novel therapeutic compounds. He has also taken on PhD student Michelle Plant who is looking at the health status of native birds that flock to tourist parks for free handouts.

Research-wise, POD had almost finished a first round stock take of ciliated protozoa in herbivores, but on the way home one evening he almost ran over a three-point stag wandering down the highway. He is now looking at ciliates in feral and farmed deer in Australia (more prevalent than you would think). On the protozoa front, Denis Lynn from the University of Guelph in Canada is on a sabbatical visit to Andre-Denis Wright's lab around the corner at CSIRO Livestock Industries in the IMB Precinct. The rumen protozoa and bacteria in Oz are taking a hit.

The PARA-SITE website is coming along nicely, with most of the illustrations for the first-stage development now completed by biological artist Lynn Pryor. She does fine work. Thank you to the ASP and the ARC/NHMRC Network for funds to pay for her services. POD will add the text, photos and tables over the coming months and a test website will be made available to members for comment and editing.

He would still like to obtain original photos of sick animals and clinical lesions for inclusion in PARA-SITE. They should belong to members and copyright would be assigned to the ASP. If you have any novel and dramatic images, please contact POD.

## The University of Queensland School of Veterinary Science

The future of parasitology is being well taken care of here at the Vet School - congratulations to Glen and Clare Coleman and Kim Jell and her husband on the birth of their bundles of joy! We have a couple of more on the way, so we will keep you informed!

Nick Jonsson, is now Associate Dean of Research for the Faculty and will enjoy squeezing his research into his other job responsibilities! Nick has been in Veracruz Mexico (again) trying out the local enteric pathogens at a meeting of the FAO Working Group on Parasite Resistance and speaking at the VI International Seminar on Animal Parasitology. Christian Cutelle has been busily analysing some information that confirms polyandry in *Rhipicephalus (Boophilus) microplus* and future steps of his PhD project will be to assess temporal genetic changes in ticks that are under the effect of an acaricide rotation program. A hearty 'congratulations' to Emily Piper (PhD student co-advised by Nick and Ala Lew, QDPI & F), for being awarded an Early Career Researcher Award at the CRC Association Conference in May. She will be spending the award on attending the International Symposium on Ticks and Tick Borne Pathogens in Buenos Aires in September, at which she will be presenting microarray data from skin samples taken from resistant and susceptible cattle infested with the cattle tick, *Rhipicephalus microplus*. Christian Gray, Postdoctoral Fellow, has established an *in vitro* tube feeding systems for *R. microplus*. More recently Christian has started to adapt this assay for feeding *I. holocyclus*, with some early but promising results.





The aim of this research will be to develop an *in vitro* method to collect saliva to be used in range of research projects associated with the Vet School.

Rebecca Traub has regained her research 'mojo' after returning from an exciting fieldtrip to India. Rebecca accompanied her Ph.D. student Azaziah Megat Abd Rani (co-advised by Peter Irwin, Murdoch University and Glen Coleman, UQ) to India for a period of four weeks to help conduct a survey of canine gastrointestinal parasitic zoonoses and vector-borne diseases. This three-year project is being funded by Bayer Health-Care Animal Health with in-kind support from Vets Beyond Borders ([www.vetsbeyondborders.org](http://www.vetsbeyondborders.org)). Azaziah and Rebecca had the joy of visiting four exotic locations in India, including Leh (Tibetan border, 3500m), where Rebecca was assured 'discharge' of Azaziah from a local government hospital for altitude sickness, *once* Rebecca agreed to act as interpreter for foreign tourists in the trauma ward! While in India, Rebecca also visited collaborators at Bombay Veterinary College to finalise her collaborative project on the molecular epidemiology of hydatid disease in western India, funded by UQ. Leigh Cuttall, advised by Rebecca, Paul Vanderlinde (AQIS), Christian Gray (UQ) and Louise Jackson (QDPI & F) has made a good start to her PhD project on a risk assessment and survey of *Trichinella* on mainland Australia, funded by the Australian Biosecurity CRC. Leigh is on the lookout for serum and meat samples from indicator species such as crocodiles, feral pigs, feral dogs, foxes and migratory carnivorous birds. Leigh is also busy footing up a number of frequent flyer miles through attending AB-CRC funded workshops on principals of epidemiology, surveillance and risk assessment. Asma Latif, a PhD student from the University of Punjab, Pakistan is currently visiting Rebecca's lab for six months to work on the

molecular epidemiology of hydatid disease in Pakistan. Asma's skills as a researcher are only matched by her scrumptious *Biryani*! Otherwise, Rebecca continues her longitudinal study in collaboration with Dr Nagel, St Vincent's Hospital, Toowoomba collecting stool (ok, what's new!) from patients suffering from blastocystosis in aim of unravelling the enigma of the emerging issue of treatment failure.

Actest is getting a new lease on life in a collaborative venture between UQ and QDPI. Jim Rothwell and colleagues Beth McGraw and Scott O'Neill in the School of Integrative Biology and Bing Zhang, Wayne Jorgensen and Peter James at QDPI are investigating the prevalence of *Wolbachia* in buffalo flies – it is apparently not present in Australia unlike horn flies. Wendy Balydon has started a PhD with Jim Rothwell and Paul Mills trying to find alternatives to mulesing. Effie Lee's work on characterising the pathology induced by one of the chemical mulesing products has been successful and she is looking now at ultra-structural pathology in her new position at EMAI in Sydney.

Glen Coleman was recently appointed Associate Dean of Teaching and Learning for the faculty and is managing to squeeze his research into his busy schedule. Steven Kopp has done the unimaginable that is, managed to juggle the demands of being an academic with submitting his PhD thesis on pyrantel resistance in the canine hookworm, *Ancylostoma caninum*. Steven was recently appointed Associate Lecturer in Veterinary Clinical Pathology at the Vet School and is now officially the sixth parasitologist on board! Congratulations Steven and welcome to the club!

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

### South Australian Museum/The University of Adelaide

Vanessa Glennon, Lizzie Perkins and Ian Whittington are excitedly anticipating a field trip to Noumea to study the monogeneans of a variety of warm water, coral reef fishes. PhD student Lizzie was recently awarded a JD Smyth Award and some funds from the ARC/NH&MRC Research Network for Parasitology which will enable her to fund her participation in this trip to collect more capsalids for her phylogeny studies. Kate Hutson is conferenced out from two interstate meetings (Australasian Aquaculture in Brisbane and the Australian Society for Fish Biology at Bondi Beach, Sydney) and associated field work. Upon her return she was lucky enough to get hold of an oceanic sunfish (a *Mola* sp. more than 1 m long!) that was washed up recently at Port Augusta. Kate and Ian are looking forward to what they anticipate to be a very smelly dissection in the search for parasite material! Lesley Warner embarked on a research trip to Hawaii shortly after the Glenelg conference where she visited the Bishop Museum in Honolulu, the State Museum of Cultural & Natural History. There, she studied nematodes from rodents to progress her on-going studies on *Labiobulura* funded by ABRS. Lesley returned with more than just data because she contracted shingles. However she is on the mend now and was well enough to return to Rockhampton recently to attend the graduation of PhD student, Haylee Weaver, at Central Queensland University. The other Leslie in Adelaide, Leslie Chisholm, has just returned from her second Australian winter spent overseas working at the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto on capsalid and monocotylid monogeneans from Australia and Borneo. While in Canada, she was also married. Leslie is being interviewed for the position of Collection Manager in Parasitology (3 days/week) at the SA Museum along with several other applicants shortly.



# STATE NEWS

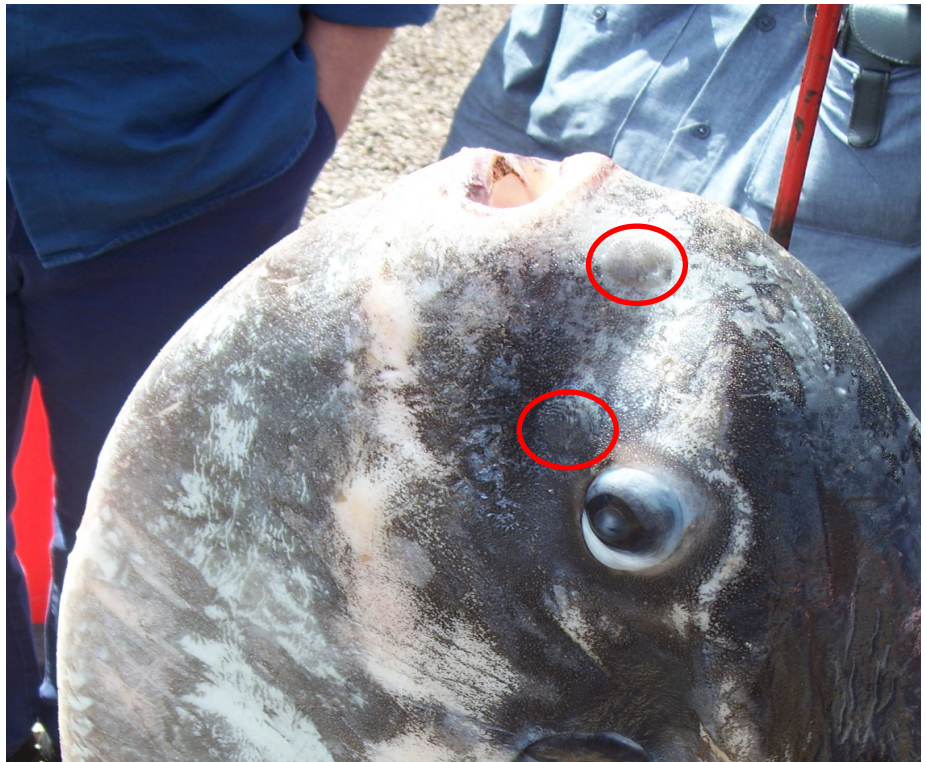
## TASMANIA

AquaFin CRC, which supported our research on Amoebic Gill Disease, tuna parasites and parasitic copepods in striped trumpeter is close to the end of its funding. However, we have been successful attracting new funding through FRDC as well as other sources. This will allow us to continue our research on parasitic diseases in farmed fish. There will be opportunities for PhD students to join our group as some of the funding includes PhD scholarships.

PhD student Neil Young has spent some time in Dr Iva Dykova's laboratory in Czech Republic, where he has been working on *Neoparamoeba*, in particular the relationship between the amoeba and its symbiont. The results are currently being prepared for publication. His visit to Czech Republic was partly sponsored by the Czech Academy of Sciences. Neil is currently busy writing up his PhD thesis.

Barbara Nowak has given presentations on parasitic diseases of fish at fish histopathology course in Weymouth, UK, which was organised by CEFAS. The workshop is organised every two years and has been attended by researchers and PhD students from various countries. In Australia, fish histopathology workshop is run once a year by University of Tasmania, for more information please contact Barbara Nowak. PhD student, Melanie Andrews has been progressing well with her research on parasitic copepods affecting striped trumpeter. In addition she has spent some time in Port Lincoln helping out with research on tuna parasites. PhD students Renee Florent and Mathew Jones have submitted their theses on various aspects of Amoebic Gill Disease.

We would like to welcome our new members from Hobart who will add more diversity to our ASP group as until now all of us have been working on fish parasites.



Sunfish (*Mola* sp.) with capsalid monogeneans on the skin, Port Augusta, South Australia (Kate Hutson)

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

### Department of Parasitology Murdoch University

Jill Austen has taken a break from labouring at the bench characterising new trypanosomes to plan for the forthcoming labour that will produce her second baby. Fortunately Jill has been as prolific in her research efforts as she has in the breeding stakes so we are confident that she will eventually finish her PhD. Celia Smuts is on the downhill run of her PhD on improving the diagnosis of surra that is funded by the Biosecurity CRC. Celia was recently invited to showcase her filter paper-based serum collection system at a recent end-users workshop for the CRC, a brilliant piece of work. She is almost there with her thesis. Alan Dargantes has spent more time in the Philippines where he has been busily collecting tabanids and collecting more samples from outbreaks of surra.

He also spent a fruitful couple of weeks with David Pedrafit testing his collection of serum to determine the level of co-infection with *Fasciola* and also at AAHL where he ran some samples through the qPCR for *T. evansi* that was developed by Trevor Taylor. Rob Dobson is busy holding it all together now that Simon has eloped to Sulawesi to work on bird flu (not even a parasite)!! Simon has survived a few months so far with only one bout of Dengue and the usual settling in problems. He was fascinated to see that the local vets in the field are always more interested in discussing surra and its treatment than they are bird flu. Perhaps sick chickens just don't raise the pulse of the average vet as much as a sick horse or cow. In June Rob attended the annual meeting of the Biosecurity CRC in Bangkok and greatly enjoyed the fine food, temples, river, people ... he managed to find time to present a talk on the development of demographic and infectious disease models for buffalo and other





common domestic surra hosts. Dobbo has also been pondering parasite data in general and whether arithmetic or geometric means offer the best estimate of drug efficacy? He believes it can now be proved (by Monte Carlo simulation) that efficacy is best determined by arithmetic means and that geometric means will yield a "biased" efficacy result (i.e. "biased"; the expected efficacy differs from the true efficacy).

Andre Buret is here for 6 months, from the University of Calgary. He was awarded a prestigious Research Fellowship from the Australian Government's Endeavour Programme to undertake collaborative research with the Parasitology group at Murdoch. He'll be at Murdoch for six months working on the comparative pathogenesis of *Giardia* assemblages. Andre will be joined by Tim Paget from the University of Kent in November who will complement Andre's research activities by adding a biochemical component to the comparative *Giardia* studies.

Amanda has returned safely from her second field trip to Africa and is now busy in the lab analysing this latest collection of samples.

Andy T and Susana recently attended EMOP in Paris which proved to be a very good meeting with an emphasis on wildlife and protozoology.

Andy T will head off again shortly to Mahidol University in Bangkok to run a course in the Tropical Medicine faculty, examine PhD students, and as an invited speaker at the Joint Tropical Medicine Conference in Bangkok in October.

Nevi has just handed in her PhD thesis and is preparing to move to the UK to start a postdoc at Nottingham University. She will be working on malignant catarrhal fever in cattle.

Michael Grigg from NIH will be coming in October to discuss collaborative research on *Toxoplasma*.

Andy T and Andy Smith are off to a WHO meeting in Geneva in November on foodborne infections. They have been compiling data on the burden of intestinal protozoan diseases (giardiasis, amoebiasis, cryptosporidiosis, cyclosporiasis, blastocystosis), and will give a first report at the consultation in Geneva. The WHO initiative aims to provide estimates for all major causes (including parasites) of the global burden of foodborne disease through the work of the expert advisory group, established by the WHO Director General, the Foodborne Diseases Burden Epidemiology Reference Group (FERG).

Hanna recently completed a review for Trends in Parasitology on *Cryptosporidium* and has had one of her electron microscope photos of *Cryptosporidium* being chosen for the cover of that journal?

Tanya is heading off to Brazil re: *T. cruzi* drug screening which is a new project funded by DNDi, before joining Wayne, Andy et al at the American Soc. Trop Medicine in New Orleans in December. Andrea Khong has joined us as a research assistant to help Tanya in her expanding drug discovery work. Andrew Mikoza has recently received a new grant from Canada for work on the "Development of high-throughput molecular detection systems for *Salmonella* and *E. coli* in food."

Josephine Ng is heading to Atlanta, Georgia to do a 4 week Epidemiology course run by CDC and Emory University.

#### **Department of Agriculture and Food WA**

A cold and fairly wet winter has brought its share of parasite problems, and the labs are busy with

worm egg counts. Luckily funds have continued for research into better alternatives, such as the Sheep CRC-funded "Targeted treatment" strategy that has kept Brown Besier (or the technical team) busy for the last few years. The CRC has also funded the additional promotion and development of WormBoss, with Rob Woodgate at the helm. And we have recently started work on the new "Boss on the Block", FlyBoss – blowfly strike information website, and hope to launch this in 2009. A major issue behind this is, of course, the planned cessation of mulesing of lambs in 2010, as objective information on alternatives will be urgently needed. Locally, Di Evans and others of our "PestWise" team are developing an annual sheep management calendar which assists in determining the flystrike risk, and indicates various options. The lack of advisers who are really up with the complexity of chemical choice is very evident.

And it's not all sheep nematodes – we have a grant to look at anthelmintic resistance in cattle worms, with a new parasite research officer, Jenny Cotter due to start at Albany. Another worm, *Taenia ovis* ("sheep measles" to the industry) appears to be on the increase as a cost to abattoirs, and Anna Ericson at the Narrogin office will shortly run a questionnaire survey to see whether its all just about (not) dosing dogs, or there are other factors.

As always, we've needed some R & R at conferences, so Brown Besier and Rob Woodgate attended the Australian Veterinary Association annual gathering in Perth, and then the ASP conference in Adelaide. Both great in scientific and social terms, with an interesting vinous difference: Barossa and Coonawarra versus Margaret River and the Great Southern. We kept our options open and sampled them all.



# Conferences

## **XIX NATIONAL CONGRESS OF VETERINARY PARASITOLOGY AND NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON**

**"National Impact of Parasitic Diseases on Livestock Health and  
Production"**

**November 18-20, 2008**

**FOCAL THEME  
"Changing Trends in Parasitology:  
From Eggs to Genomics"**



Sponsored by  
Indian Association for the  
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**Australian Health and Medical Research conference  
Brisbane Convention Centre  
November 16 - 21 2008**

<http://www.ahmrcongress.org.au>

Registration now open.

An event sponsored by Australian and New Zealand  
Medical Research Societies





## Nominations for Bancroft-Mackerras Medal

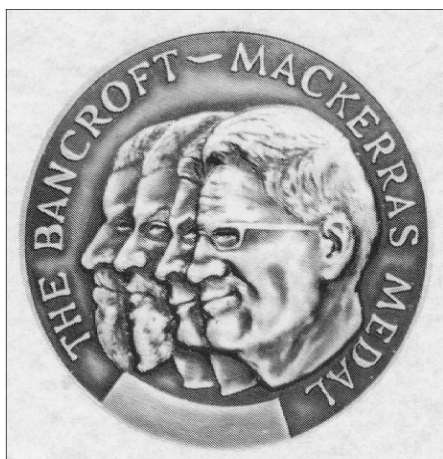
The Bancroft-Mackerras Medal may be awarded to a member of the Society who, in the opinion of the selection committee, has made an outstanding contribution to the science of parasitology, particularly in work published during the last five years.

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 Executive Secretary. 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 September.



## 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 designed specifically to assist full-time postgraduate student to travel overseas to gain knowledge on techniques that may not be available in Australia, to form liaisons that may benefit their careers in the longer term and to promote the cause of parasitology in Australia. It is primarily to conduct research or to attend conferences and visit research institutes. The fellowship is not provided for the primary purpose of attending a conference. Applicants must be members of the ASP Inc of at least 6 months standing and enrolled in a postgraduate degree at a recognised Australian University.

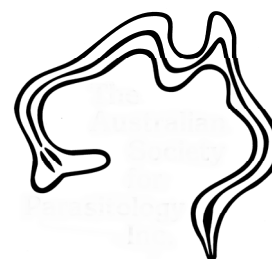
Four scholarships are awarded each year and applications are considered in two rounds, with closing dates in December and June. The maximum value of the fellowship is to be determined annually by the Council and may be up to \$2500. Recipients are to be chosen by a selection committee appointed by Council.

Applications should include details of the travel to be undertaken, the applicant's research, evidence of the supervisor's support, budget and an abbreviated CV. For research based proposals, applicants should nominate the international laboratory to be visited, the purpose of the visit, including techniques and skills to be gained, and the timeframe. If attendance at a conference is to form part of the travel then the conference name and a copy of the conference abstract should also be included. Full details of laboratory visits are to be included. Proof of acceptance of the abstract by the conference organisers **must be provided prior to receiving the award**. The application must not number more than 6 pages including the CV, extra information and abstract (if applicable).

Awardees will be required to provide a report of their trip within three months of return from their travel.

Applicants should apply to the current Executive Secretary of the Australian Society for Parasitology using the application form from the web site or this newsletter. Applications must be accompanied by the details requested above and an abbreviated CV. Email, mail or fax your application.

Applications should be received by the due dates: June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008 and December 31st 2008.



## APPLICATION FOR JD SMYTH POSTGRADUATE TRAVEL AWARD

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Fax:

Email:

University:

Enrolled Degree:

### **Supervisor's Certification**

I hereby affirm that is a bona fide postgraduate student working under my supervision.

Name:

Signed:

Date:

### **Research Visit**

Name and address of laboratory to be visited:

Name of host:

Purpose of visit:

Justification:

### **Conference Attendance (if applicable)**

Conference Title:

Venue:

Type of presentation to be given:

Title of Abstract:

(Please attach a copy of the abstract)

Justification:

**Budget** Please provide a budget including details of travel expenses, accommodation and research costs. Please also provide details of any other funding sought or received for this travel.

**Curriculum vitae** Please attach a brief curriculum vitae.

**Additional information** Applications NOT to exceed 6 pages.

Successful applicants will be required to submit a report to the ASP council within three months of their return from their travel.

Applications must be received by the due dates: June 30th or December 31st

**Email, mail or fax your application to:** The Executive Secretary of the Australian Society for Parasitology  
([www.parasite.org.au/Council.html](http://www.parasite.org.au/Council.html))





# The Australian Society for Parasitology Inc.

**Secretariat:** ASP Inc c/- Thinking Futures

PO Box 2118,

Hotham Hill, Victoria Australia 3051

Fax 03 9329 3448

Email: [maree.conway@thinkingfutures.net](mailto:maree.conway@thinkingfutures.net)

## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

**Tax Invoice ABN: 65 979 686 445**

**Surname:**

**Given names:**

**Title:**

**Institute**

**Email:**

**Postal address:**

**Telephone:**

**Fax:**

**Other Email:**

**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), and \$20 for student members (inc GST)<sup>†</sup>, \$500 (inc GST) for sustaining members.

<sup>†</sup> Applicants for student membership must have the following statement signed.

**Registered Higher Degree:**

**Institution:**

**Name of Head of Department:**

**Signature of Head of Department:**

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

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. Successful applicants will receive a receipt and a copy of the Constitution from the Secretariat. Unsuccessful applicants will be advised and their subscription fee refunded.





## 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:



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:



.....



.....

Tel: .....



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