

New Zealand Society of Gastroenterology

Newsletter No. 11

January 2009

Rotorua ASM

19-21 November 2008

This was a very successful conference and our thanks go to David Shaw and Charlie Richardson, the convenors for this event, and to the conference organiser Claire Bark from Red Carpet.

Prizes Awarded at the ASM

Best Clinical Paper or Presentation

NZ Society of Gastroenterology

\$1500

Zoe Raos

Ferring Young Investigators Award

Luminal

\$2000

Anna Lindstrom

Roche Young Investigators Award

Hepatology

\$2000

Maggie Ow

Roche Best Poster Award

\$1000

Stephen Seo

Best Endoscopy Paper or Poster

Obex Medical

\$1000

Ashok Raj

Clinician-Scientist Training Fellowship

APAGE has announced that they are offering a \$20,000 fellowship to a final year or recent trainee in Gastroenterology or Hepatology. This Fellowship is to support a medical graduate who wishes to obtain training as a Clinician Scientist in the broad field of gastroenterology and hepatology and related disorders in an APAGE member country other than their own. The intention is help train leaders in the field who have obtained a grounding in laboratory or clinical scientific methods or both, and who will be able to contribute to research in the field during their subsequent career. The Fellowship will be for a period of not less than 6 months and not more than 12 months (preference will be given to those planning a 12 month period of training). It will provide a stipend of US\$20,000, paid in two equal installments – the first prior to commencement of the Fellowship and the second at the mid-point in the Fellowship.

The closing date for applications is 28 February 2009.

To apply or for more information, please go to the APAGE website: www.apage.org



Is This Space Empty?

It could be yours! This newsletter will be fully open to submissions. We wholeheartedly welcome timely article proposals from any member. Send us your stories, discoveries, notice of events – anything that would be of interest to the Gastro community – and you could see it in the next issue.

Please note the deadline for next submissions is 15 March 2009.

Subscription Fees

An increase in the annual subscription has been confirmed. From July 1, 2009, the annual subscription fee for Membership will be \$250. The capacity to request a reduced fee if working part time or on a limited income still exists. If a reduction in the subscription is required for an individual Member, this can be approved by the Secretary – Treasurer, Dr Susan Parry.

Dr Paul Wood

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the death of Dr Paul Wood recently. Paul, a surgical trainee in Dunedin, was a member of the Society and had already shown distinction by being awarded the NZGS Fellowship in 2007. Condolences on behalf of the NZGS have been sent to his partner and family.

Annual General Meeting

20th November 2008, Rotorua

The AGM was attended by 29 members and covered topics ranging from the Society's financial standing to NZSG's relationship with GESA. Four individuals were officially elected to the new Executive Committee. Our current president, Murray Barclay, also ended his term and our new president, John Wyeth, began his. Many thanks go out to Murray for the hard work he has given over his years of service and we all wish John the best as he embarks on his term.

UpComing Meetings

ASIA PACIFIC Basic Hands-on Endoscopic Ultrasound (EUS) Course

09 - 10 January, 2009

Singapore

www.conferences.nhg.com.sg/2009/eus/aboutevent.html

APASL

13-16 February, 2009

Hong Kong

www.apasl2009hongkong.org/en/home.aspx

New Zealand Association Of General Surgeons Annual Meeting

27 - 29 March, 2009

Invercargill

www.workz4u.co.nz

3rd Tri-Nations Meeting in Gastroenterology

4-7 April, 2009

Queenstown

www.terrybolin.com/trinations

Executive Meetings

The new Executive held its first teleconference in December. A face to face meeting is planned for March. It is hoped to meet with Pharmac at that time to carry on discussions already initiated on improved access to biological therapies for Crohns disease.

The Executive and office staff wish all our Members a peaceful and happy New Year.

Situations Vacant

Gastroenterologist for a private endoscopy day hospital, Gold Coast, Australia. Would suit a team player who has recently completed specialty training and is interested in long term private practice.

Contact: BJ.Chakravarty@bigpond.com

Unit Heads Meeting

At the conclusion of the AGM in Rotorua a meeting of All the Unit Heads for Gastroenterology, both nursing and medical, was held. The objective of this meeting was to identify issues that the New Zealand Society could assist in resolving. Discussions were held on:

- Vacant positions in Gastroenterology, nurse training and recruitment in Gastroenterology,
- Standards in Endoscopy,
- Concerns regarding implementation of the colorectal cancer screening program.

A good representation from units around New Zealand was obtained. At this first meeting a commitment was gained to continue with this forum and Dr John Wyeth, President NZSG, and Sandra Burton, Chair of NZNO Gastro Nurses Section will lead this.

Composition of the New Executive

John Wyeth – *President*

Susan Parry – *Secretary/Treasurer*

Murray Barclay – *Past President*

Alan Fraser – *Elected 2007*

Russell Walmsley – *Elected 2008*

Stephen Ding – *Elected 2007*

Anthony Smith – *Elected 2008*

Ed Gane – *Elected 2008*

Michael Schultz – *Elected 2008*

Sandra Burton – *Nurse Representative*

Contact Us

With the secretariat centralised in the RACP College Offices in Wellington and with the services of an administration officer it is much easier to contact us.

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Also check our website for Society information:

www.nzsg.org.nz