

President's message



Dr David Rogers

Hello to you all. Since my last report in May, the academic season for ASUM has certainly been in full swing, with an ambitious program.

First, a large delegation from ASUM attended the WFUMB 2006 meeting in Seoul, Korea. What a magnificent event this was – the Olympics of ultrasound. The Koreans, under the leadership of Prof Choi and Prof Kim, organised a spectacular event, with a fantastic academic program and a Grade A social program.

This conference is of special significance to ASUM as it is the conference preceding the 2009 WFUMB Congress in Sydney. It begins the three-year countdown for our own organising committee and certainly threw down the gauntlet for us to match and, hopefully, better. There is a great deal of work to do between now and then, and I encourage all ASUM members to take up the challenge and assist the organising committee in any way possible. Already, ASUM has conducted a great deal of promotional work around the globe. To formally launch the 2009 Congress, ASUM hosted an excellent cocktail party in Seoul, which was very well attended by keynote speakers and WFUMB councillors. This helped raise awareness of the Sydney event and, hopefully, many will plan to make the long trip from the northern hemisphere. We extend our gratitude to our event sponsors: GE Healthcare, Terason and Toshiba.

In June Roger Davies, Caroline Hong and I travelled to Denmark to present lectures at the 9th International Congress on Interventional Ultrasound,

hosted by the Danish Society of Diagnostic Ultrasound, in Copenhagen. This was the first Australasian exchange to Denmark under the recently formed CADUCEUS liaison whereby there will be continued exchanges of speakers at meetings hosted by ASUM and DSDU. Christian Nolsoe has been the driving force behind this and ASUM is deeply indebted to Christian for his efforts. The congress was of the highest of standard, with many of the originators of interventional ultrasound present, such as Prof Hans Henrik Holm and Skip Van Sonnenberg.

Recently, the New Zealand Branch held its annual meeting in Napier. This meeting was a tribute to the continued enthusiasm of the New Zealand members, and the dedication of the organising committee, under the leadership of Rowena Tyman and Jayne Lloyd. As ASUM now holds a Council Meeting in conjunction with this meeting, it was very pleasing to see the contribution of the ASUM Council members who presented seven talks in total. Of special interest were the veterinary ultrasound talks given by Angela Harkness. Hopefully, Angela will become a regular presenter at ASUM meetings. The inclusion of photos of her patients was a lovely touch. I am not sure pictures of our own human patients would evoke such a response.

It is with relief, but tinged with

some sadness, that this is my last President's report. My two-year term has flown by. It has been my honour to meet many people from around the world in this role. It has been a privilege to serve ASUM in this capacity. I am still amazed at the strength of the Society, the enthusiasm of the members and their dedication to education that is the cornerstone of all ASUM activities. During the last two years there have been many highlights. To list the most important ones:

- i) The expansion of ASUM activities within Asia. This has seen the status of ASUM grow immensely within the region. ASUM now has links with many Asian societies and collaborates with them in educational events.
- ii) The passing of the first candidates from the DMU (Asia) course in Kuala Lumpur. This has been ground breaking work to help establish the field of sonography in an area where sonographers are not recognised. The first students were of the highest calibre and will be a credit to the program.
- iii) The establishment of the CADUCEUS liaison with Denmark, as previously outlined.
- iv) The sale of the old ASUM offices and the purchase of a new building in recent months. This building will give the ASUM secretariat the space it needs to perform its work and should be a sound investment for the future.
- v) The holding of a strategic planning



Dr David Rogers, Dr Caroline Hong and Dr Christian Nolsøe launch CADUCEUS





Left – Dr David Rogers and Assoc Prof Roger Davies at the Interventional Ultrasound Congress in Copenhagen. Right – CADUCEUS founding members Dr Bjorn Skjoldbye, Dr Caroline Hong, Dr David Rogers, Dr Christian Nolsøe and Dr Hans Henrik Holm

seminar to try to set the course for future ASUM activities.

- vi) The establishment of the ASUM College of Ultrasound. This is a major and creative new initiative that should help to maintain ASUM's position as the peak body in ultrasound education. This has been passionately driven forward by Glenn McNally.
- vii) The establishment of new, prestigious, travelling fellowships which

should bring speakers to many areas.

I must thank my wife and family for their support and patience during the last two years, when my family time has been eroded and my presence scarce. Without their support my efforts would have been greatly diminished. I must also thank my working colleagues who will be relieved to see me more often at their sides.

Lastly, I must thank ASUM CEO Dr

Caroline Hong, who has made my job easy over the last two years. Caroline is the driving force behind ASUM and we are very fortunate to have her working for the Society. She is also supported by fantastic staff at the office.

Best wishes to Matthew Andrews who will take over as President in September. I am sure you will do a great job, Matthew.

David Rogers
ASUM President

ASUM seeks applications for funding for research to be presented at WFUMB 2009 in Sydney

Applications for research funding by the ASUM Research and Grants Committee should be received by 1st October. Applications which involve a presentation of results at WFUMB 2009 in Sydney, will be prioritised, but must meet the normal criteria outlined in the ASUM Research and Grants Policy.

Applicants will be notified of the decision with respect to their application two months after the 1st October deadline.

Applications must be in writing and address all of the criteria outlined in the ASUM Research and Grants Policy.

Applications to be addressed to:

The Chairman
ASUM Research and Grants Committee
2/181 High Street
Willoughby
New South Wales 2068
Australia
Enquiries to Mr Keith Henderson
tel +61 2 9958 6200
email khenderson@asum.com.au

Applications invited for ASUM Research Grants

ASUM is seeking to support research which builds on the body of existing research findings and extends our knowledge of the applications, efficacy and safety of clinical ultrasound.

Applications are particularly invited in the areas of:

- 1 High frequency ultrasound
- 2 Therapeutic ultrasound applications
- 3 Tissue elasticity
- 4 Obstetric growth parameters pertinent to the whole Australian and/or New Zealand population
- 5 Flow Mediated Dilatation and/or Intima Media Thickness Studies

Projects in other areas will be considered, however, it is unlikely that applications for projects that duplicate existing findings, or studies, will be successful except where it is judged that these are necessary to validate the findings of other studies.

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