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Stephen Bird SA  
Margaret Condon Vic  
Kaye Griffiths NSW  
Michelle Pedretti WA

**ASUM Head Office****Chief Executive Officer**

Caroline Hong

**Education Manager**

Keith Henderson

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**CEO's message**

Dr Caroline Hong

**ASUM 2006 Melbourne ASM attracted more than 600**

We are pleased to report that more than 600 people attended the 36th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australasian Society for Ultrasound in Medicine (ASUM) from 14th to 17th September, at the Melbourne Convention Centre. Including exhibitors, trade and accompanying persons, over 800 in total were present at the meeting.

We gratefully acknowledge the support of ASUM members who attended as delegates, speakers and organisers. We also appreciate the continuing support of our sponsors and exhibitors. Gold sponsors at this meeting were Toshiba, GE Healthcare, Philips and Siemens.

The meeting received very positive feedback about the quality of the speakers, content of the presentations, quality of the workshops and the excellent social programs.

ASUM congratulates the recipients of the following awards and honours, which were announced at the meeting:

**Awards**

UI UL – Prof David Elwood  
Caduceus 2006 – Mary Langdale  
BMUS Presidential Exchange 2006 – Dr Grant Baxter  
Chris Kohlenberg Teaching Fellowship 2006, sponsored by GE – David Fauchon and Dr Meiri Robertson  
Giulia Franco Teaching Fellowship 2006, sponsored by Toshiba – Stephen Bird  
Beresford Buttery Overseas Fellowship 2006, sponsored by GE –

Assoc Prof Albert Lam

2006 Best Sonographer's Research Presentation Award, \$2000 sponsored by Philips – Stephen Bird

2006 Best Research Presentation Award, \$1500 sponsored by Siemens – Rebecca Charmess

2006 Anthony Tynan Award for Best Clinical Presentation, \$1000 sponsored by Siemens – Peter Coombs and Dr Boon Kian Yeu

2006 ASUM Poster Award, Free registration to the next ASUM meeting and \$500 expenses (valued at approximately \$1500) – Benjamin Micallef

**Honours**

Life Members – Dr Bev Barraclough and Dr Susie Woodward

Honorary Fellow – Sue Davies

Honorary Members – Dr Christian Nolsoe and Dr YuXin Jiang

More is reported about our special Life Members, Honorary Fellow and Honorary Members in this issue (pages 14–16).

**Dr Matthew Andrews is new ASUM President**

During the meeting, Dr David Rogers completed his two year-term and Dr Matthew Andrews commenced his presidential duties for 2006 to 2008.

On behalf of ASUM Council and the members, Dr Andrews thanked Dr Rogers for his outstanding contribution to ASUM during his term as president. In particular, and on behalf of the ASUM Secretariat staff, we also thank Dr Rogers for his support and for the enormous work he has undertaken for ASUM. We have enjoyed working with a great leader.

**ASUM in the news**

In the box on page 11 is a news release issued on 14th September 2006, which attracted media coverage in *The Herald Sun*, *The Advertiser*, *Channel Seven News* and several other media outlets.

**WFUMB 2009**  
*Sydney*  
Australia  
12<sup>th</sup> Congress of the  
World Federation  
for Ultrasound in  
Medicine and Biology  
August 30 – September 3, 2009





ASUM Gala Dinner



Chinese delegate Dr Yu Xia and ASUM member, Dr Ming Hao

### CCPU

At the time of writing this report, ASUM has conducted four Certificate in Clinician Performed Ultrasound (CCPU) Basic Courses in Melbourne and Sydney and an Advanced

Emergency and O&G Course is planned at the Royal North Shore Hospital in November. There is increasing interest in the ASUM CCPU and communications have advanced with the following organisations:

Australasian College for Emergency Medicine (ACEM); Australasian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM); Australasian College of Sports Physicians (ACSP); Australasian College of Phlebology (ACP);

## Thursday 14th September 2006 News Release World spotlight on ultrasound in Melbourne

Melbourne will come under the international spotlight from the medical profession when it becomes the venue for the 36th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australasian Society of Ultrasound in Medicine (ASUM) from today until 17th September, at the Melbourne Convention Centre.

It will involve more than 500 doctors, sonographers and other medical experts from Australia and overseas who are looking at the latest in scientific developments in the use of ultrasound in medicine, the president of the Australasian Society of Ultrasound in Medicine (ASUM), Dr David Rogers, said.

'Technologies including real-time 3D ultrasound, medical disorders in pregnancy, sonographic detection, uses of ultrasound in breast cancer and female infertility will be among more than 90 issues being discussed at the meeting.

'Diagnostic ultrasound is one of the most rapidly expanding branches of medicine. Technological developments permit higher resolution images to be obtained and it can now be used to examine virtually every part of the body.'

Dr Rogers warned that the new trend of using powerful ultrasound technologies for entertainment – to produce ultrasound 'snapshots' and DVD movies of fetuses – was not medically appropriate and should be discouraged.

'In-utero portraits are being taken for family entertainment by fetal photo shops that may not have technicians with the necessary qualifications,' he said. 'In their hands ultrasound, which is generally a safe procedure, may have unanticipated risks.

'Recent advances in ultrasound technology, including the increasingly widespread availability of powerful 3D

imaging equipment, has seen the proliferation of businesses offering ultrasound examinations during pregnancy for the purpose of producing 'snapshot' images of fetuses and DVD movies as souvenirs.

'The first businesses in this field in Australia are already operating. They have become most prevalent in the United States, where much effort is currently being directed toward regulating this phenomenon and restoring the use of diagnostic medical ultrasound equipment to the area of medical diagnosis, as opposed to entertainment.

'Fetal ultrasonography is considered safe when properly used – as a diagnostic tool.

'But, while there is no evidence to suggest that exposing a fetus to unnecessary ultrasound is harmful, it would be sensible to use the technology only in qualified hands to avoid misinterpretation and the unnecessary anxiety that it might cause the patient,' Dr Rogers said.

'The pretty fetal photos for non-medical purposes taken at these entertainment non-diagnostic centres, could falsely assure the mother that everything is alright. It is a concern that abnormalities or problems might be missed.'

ASUM disseminates medical and scientific information. It rotates its annual meetings between the major cities of Australia and New Zealand and includes lectures from some of the world's foremost experts in ultrasound technology.

Following the media release, several press interviews were held with Dr Matthew Andrews. Many of you would have seen him interviewed on Melbourne's *Channel Seven News*, when he represented ASUM's views on the use of ultrasound for non-medical purposes.





Clockwise from top left – CADUCEUS Assoc Prof Christian Nolsøe; Ms Ann Robertson, Dr Andrew Ngu, Dr Amanda Sampson and Prof David Elwood at the 2006 ASM, happy campers at the 2006 ASM; Faculty Dinner ASM 2006

Australian and New Zealand College of Nephrology (ANZCN); Australian and New Zealand College of Intensivists (ANZICS); Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA); Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP); Royal Australian College of Physicians (RACP); Royal Australian College of Surgeons (RACS); Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG) and the Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners (RNZCGP)

There are many more colleges with which ASUM will be working closely in the development of the CCPU relevant to their disciplines.

At present, 47 candidates are enrolled in the CCPU program and the number of applications from Fellows and Registrars is continuing to grow.

ASUM is also compiling a database of suitably qualified sonographers who may be interested to contributing to the ongoing ultrasound skills development of CCPU candidates. People who are interested

in becoming involved in this exciting and developing program should contact the ASUM office by email to ccpu@asum.com.au .

Dr Glenn McNally, Chair of the ASUM CCPU Certification Board, and the ASUM CEO have met with various groups, including the DoHA to discuss attaining education and standards for non imaging specialists who wish to practise medical ultrasound at their point of care.

### ASUM BMUS Presidential Exchange 2007

As you are all aware, for some years now, ASUM and BMUS have had a Presidential Exchange Program. By agreement, on alternate years, the respective presidents present at the annual scientific meeting of their opposite number's society.

In 2007, Dr Matthew Andrews will be a presenter at the BMUS Annual Scientific meeting at Harrogate, UK. Dr Grant Baxter, President of BMUS was our guest speaker at the ASUM 2006 Melbourne meeting and it was delight-

ful to return the hospitality shown to us at the previous BMUS 2005 meeting last December.

### International scholarship placements with ASUM

Earlier this year, Borsha Sarker spent some time in Sydney, gaining an insight into emergency medicine. She has written about her interesting experience under the ASUM BMUS Scholarship Program in this issue (page 74).

Dr Maria Gonzales is the first WFUMB scholarship recipient placement in Sydney. She was helped by the ASUM Secretariat and Dr John Crozier in finding opportunities for her placement in Sydney. Her article is also published in this issue (page 78).

Mary Langdale was chosen as the first CADUCEUS scholar to go to Denmark in November 2006. Look out for her article in a future issue of the Ultrasound Bulletin.

### DMU (Asia)

This venture is progressing at Vision College in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. ASUM will be sending experienced

general sonographer lecturers to Vision College at regular intervals, to assist in the teaching of students. To date, ASUM volunteers involved in this program have included Roger Gent, Jane Fonda, Andrew Ngu, Martin Necas, Glenn McNally, Ros Savage, David Rogers and Christopher Skyes.

The ASUM CEO continues to liaise with the executive director of Vision College on administrative and college matters relating to the DMU (Asia).

### Expressions of interest on committees

It is always healthy to see so many people interested in the activities of ASUM. Unfortunately, we are unable to provide positions for all the people who have expressed interest. ASUM thanks all the people who have submitted their expressions of interest for committees, and continues to encourage input from members in forums other than on committees.

### Bookshop at [www.mitec.com.au](http://www.mitec.com.au)

Recently, Prof Ron Benzie, a tireless worker for ASUM, referred a new book, *Early Pregnancy Care* by George Condous, an ASUM member, to me. I recommend this title to members. It will be reviewed in a future issue of the *Ultrasound Bulletin*.

It is now available through the ASUM bookshop ([www.mitec.com.au/catalogue/category797/c845/p12302](http://www.mitec.com.au/catalogue/category797/c845/p12302)). Email [asumbookshop@mitec.com.au](mailto:asumbookshop@mitec.com.au) if you wish to order this book.

You can view all of the 2006 titles and previous years' titles on the ASUM bookshop website at [www.mitec.com.au](http://www.mitec.com.au).

### ASUM meetings coming up soon

Members often come up to me at ASUM meetings to say how much they have enjoyed attending our meetings. Many also comment on the quality of the speakers and programs, on how proud they are to see how ASUM has increased its international profile over the past few years and on how well ASUM is being represented at international events.

One of the most valuable commodities that most people lack is time. At ASUM meetings we try to ensure that members, trade and speakers have ample opportunities to network professionally, as well as update their skills and knowledge. To help you plan your next meeting schedule, please mark these dates in your and visit the ASUM website for updates.

- 28th February – 4th March 2007  
Multidisciplinary Workshop 2007  
Gold Coast Queensland
- 19th – 22nd July 2007 ASUM NZ  
branch and RANZCR NZ Branch  
Joint Annual Scientific Meeting  
2007 Wellington New Zealand
- 13th – 16th September 2007  
ASUM Annual Scientific Meeting  
2007 Cairns Australia
- 30th August – 3rd September 2009  
WFUMB 2009 Sydney World  
Congress to be hosted by ASUM  
Sydney Australia.

For a full listing of all ASUM meetings, see the ASUM calendar at [www.asum.com.au](http://www.asum.com.au).

### ASUM office is moving: date to be announced on the ASUM website

Plans are underway for the design

and fit-out for the new and more efficient ASUM premises, which were purchased on 1st September 2006. We hope to have completed our relocation to the new office by the end of 2006. The new address will be:

Level 2, 511 Pacific Highway  
St Leonards NSW 2065  
SYDNEY  
AUSTRALIA

Mail sent to the Willoughby address will be redirected when we move, so there is no need to worry about correspondence going astray. Our telephone and facsimile numbers will also change and will be announced on our website.

We seek your patience during the move; we will do our best to minimise any disruptions to services and will keep members fully informed of this exciting achievement.

### Seasons greetings

By the time you receive this issue, it would be close to the Christmas and New Year holidays.

I take this opportunity to thank all our volunteers, sponsors, supporters, loyal members, staff, councillors and their families. I wish you all a happy festive season.

The ASUM office will be closed from Friday 22nd December and will reopen on Wednesday 3rd January 2006.

We look forward to another successful and exciting year ahead in 2007.

**Dr Caroline Hong**  
ASUM CEO  
[carolinehong@asum.com.au](mailto:carolinehong@asum.com.au)

## Sonographer Registration Working Party

### Sonographer registration will happen – help us to make it happen on our terms

#### What the current accreditation system means:

Since 2001 the Australasian Sonographer Accreditation Registry (ASAR) has been the body for accreditation of sonographers in Australia. This involves:

- Assessing and evaluating education and training courses and institutions to uphold standards and consistency of sonographer education and training; and
- Ensuring sonographers meet the required level of expertise and maintain that level via mandatory continuing professional development (CPD).

The Sonographer Registration Working Party, comprising representatives of all professional associations and stakeholders – ASAR, ASUM, ASA, AIR, and CSANZ – has been formed to work towards developing a national sonographer registration board.

#### What future national Sonographer Registration would mean for you and the ultrasound profession:

- Offers protection to patients and the community by assuring the quality and safety of ultrasound service provision by registered sonographers
- Enhanced accountability of practitioners in ultrasound
- Avoids the multiplicity of state-based registration boards and their associated fees, thus facilitating interstate work opportunities
- Uniform national standards – assessment of character and fitness to practice
- Recognition of sonography as an allied health profession
- Protection of the title 'sonographer'.

All enquiries can be addressed to the ASUM representative, Ros Savage, via ASUM at [srwp@asum.com.au](mailto:srwp@asum.com.au)

