



Australian Neuroscience Society Newsletter

No. 4

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www.ans.org.au

President's Perspective



Unlike the other ANS Officers, the ANS President does not prepare a written report for the AGM, so I am taking the opportunity of my final President's Perspective both to reflect on the last two years and to outline some of the challenges facing the Society in the future.

When I was elected President, my predecessor Glenda Halliday advised me that the two years would pass very quickly and that I should hit the road running. As it turned out, a number of factors came into constellation early in my term of office that provided the impetus for a range of new initiatives.

The 2007 IBRO Congress had left the Society in a sound financial position, thanks to the hard work of many people, including George Paxinos, Andy Lawrence and Glenda Halliday. Although ANS had assumed all of the financial risk for the Congress, the organisers felt that it would be appropriate to give \$30,000 of the Congress profit to help support IBRO's activities in the Asia-Pacific Region.

My own view was that we should directly support programs within Australia that benefited our own members as well as regional neuroscientists, but to sweeten the change by increasing the available funds to \$60,000. ANS Council agreed with this initiative, resulting in three collaborations between ANS and the Asia-Pacific Regional Committee of IBRO. Moreover, APRC-IBRO eventually committed over \$60,000 of their own funds to the programs, greatly leveraging the ANS commitment.

The first collaboration was the IBRO-ANS Advanced Neuroscience School on Neuroethology, which was organised by Jochen Zeil and Jan Hemmi. This week-long school held at ANU's Kioloa Coastal Campus brought together 21 graduate students and postdocs from Australia and overseas, along with 7 international faculty and 11 Australian faculty. Most of the students and faculty later attended the ANS Meeting in Canberra, which boosted an area of neuroscience that has not been well represented at our meetings.

The second ANS-IBRO collaboration was the sponsorship of two students from the Asia-Pacific region at the 2009 Australian Course in Advanced Neuroscience (ACAN) and another two students at the 2010 ACAN. Not only did the two students from China at the 2009 ACAN benefit greatly from the intensive three-week course, but I also think that the Australian students profited from being exposed to foreign students with different perspectives.

The third collaboration, organised by Elspeth McLachlan,

is the IBRO-ANS Symposium to be held at the Sydney ANS-AuPS Meeting. The symposium, which will feature talks from outstanding younger neuroscientists working in China, India, Japan, Korea, Australia and New Zealand, is designed to promote engagement with the next generation of neuroscience leaders in the Asia-Pacific region.

Going beyond these collaborations, President-Elect Sarah Dunlop and APRC Secretary Glenda Halliday have opened dialogues with the present neuroscience leaders in the region to discuss how ANS can collaborate in the future with APRC, the Federation of Asian & Oceanian Neuroscience Societies (FAONS), and individual national societies. Change tends to be rather measured in these organisations because they place a strong emphasis on consensus decisions reached after broad consultation with past and present stakeholders.

The other major initiative that was set in motion in 2008 was the acquisition of ACAN by the Society. This was facilitated by a very generous donation of \$500,000 by Alan and Elizabeth Finkel to underwrite ACAN. The acquisition was not straight forward and required a great deal of work by ANS, ACAN Ltd and the Finkel Foundation, and I want to acknowledge the sustained contributions of Andy Lawrence, Alan Finkel, Jackie Phillips, Chris Jay and John Bekkers, the Course Director of ACAN.

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President's Perspective

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The acquisition of ACAN has created its own challenges for the Society. The ACAN endowment needs to be doubled if the course is to be self-funding in perpetuity. Moreover, the Course Management Committee would like to see parallel courses established in the future so that areas such as molecular and cellular neuroscience can be covered, in addition to the emphasis of the foundation course on electrophysiology and functional imaging.

While the focus of ANS Council in 2008 was on new initiatives, the focus in 2009 has been on the Society's finances. Although ANS was not exposed to the falling share market, the GFC has undoubtedly impacted on the Society. Low interest rates have greatly reduced the returns on our investments and it has been more difficult to attract exhibitors to the annual meeting. Yet the cost of running the meeting at major convention centres continues to rise and small percentage overruns in the massive budget of the meeting can translate into a substantial loss for the Society. This puts a lot of pressure on the LOC, the ANS Secretariat and Council to formulate a realistic budget many months before the final numbers of registrants are known.

Although running the annual meeting is the core business of ANS, the Society has taken on a range of other activities in recent years, which has put further strain on the budget. The membership fees have not been raised for seven years and ANS Council fully supports the Treasurer's motion to increase the fees from 2011 by an amount that is slightly less than the CPI over the same period.

All of the ANS Officers changed at the beginning of 2008, so we have been on a steep learning curve together. Ann Turnley (Secretary), Jackie Phillips (Treasurer) and David Small (Editor) have provided outstanding service and I am delighted that all three will stay on for at least the next two years. My daily interactions with Ann have been a pleasure, although it is probably not a good sign when we start to complete each other's sentences! I am also grateful for advice and support from Glenda Halliday (Past-President, 2008) and Sarah Dunlop (President-Elect, 2009). Everyone agrees that engaging Sally Jay Conferences to run the ANS Secretariat has been very successful and I thank Sally and Chris Jay for their professionalism, candour and good humour.

From a personal point of view, I have greatly enjoyed being President of ANS and it is, undoubtedly, the highlight of my professional life.

I hope you all have a very happy festive season and I look forward to seeing you in Sydney for what promises to be an outstanding meeting.

David Vaney

4 December 2009

ANS/AuPS Annual Meeting Sydney 2010

The ANS/AuPS joint meeting will be held in Sydney from 31 January to 3 February 2010 at the Darling Harbour Convention Centre, where the highly successful ANS 2006 meeting was held. It will include a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the first meeting, also held in Sydney, of the Australian Physiological and Pharmacological Society, from which both ANS and AuPS have grown. The Organising Committee, believe that this meeting will provide a wonderful opportunity for stimulating interactions between physiologists and neuroscientists.

The scientific program will include symposia and free communications, and plenary lectures to be presented by David J. Adams, David Attwell, Herbert Herzog and Gilles Laurent. The program will provide ample time and space for poster presentations. Once again there will be a trade display and an Exhibitor Passport Competition, and your chance to win one of the excellent prizes on offer.

The Committee will ensure that this meeting will also be socially enjoyable. In addition to our popular 'mixer' on the Sunday evening and the Conference Dinner on Tuesday night, there will be a special event on the Monday evening – a Seminar and Cocktail Party celebrating the 50th Anniversary of AuPS, to be held at the University of Sydney. Bus transport will be provided to transport you from the Sydney Convention Centre for this special celebration.

The conference venue is adjacent to several conference hotels and within walking distance of the city centre, China Town, the Maritime Museum, the Powerhouse Museum, the Sydney Aquarium, IMAX theatre and a diverse mix of cafes, bars and restaurants. Ferries connect Darling Harbour to Circular Quay, from where you can take a leisurely stroll around The Rocks – the historic heart of Sydney – or sip champagne at the Sydney Opera House. From Circular Quay you can take a ferry to several other attractions, such as Taronga Park Zoo, Manly Beach or Watson's Bay.

For further details of registration please visit the website at:

<http://www.sallyjayconferences.com.au/sydney2010/>

We look forward to seeing you in Sydney.



ANS MATTERS

ANS Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Australian Neuroscience Society will be held at 5.30pm on Tuesday February 2nd, 2010, in the Auditorium of the Sydney Convention Centre.

Proposed membership fee increase for 2011: For the last two financial years, annual total operating costs for ANS have been greater than income, taking into account meeting income and expenditure as part of that budget (deficit of \$35,000 in 2007-2008 and approximately \$23,000 predicted for 2008-2009). This reflects increases in charges associated with CPI, reduced income at conferences linked to the global financial crisis (GFC) and increased activities supported by ANS. We are currently in a sound financial position, predominantly due to the outcome of the 2007 IBRO meeting, and our investments have not lost value despite the GFC. Council have reduced spending where possible while maintaining our core activities, however, Council do not support operating the Society at an ongoing loss.

Full ANS and student membership fees were last increased 7 years ago to \$95.00/\$45, respectively (or \$104.50/\$49.50 GST inc). Over 2008-2009, the average membership fee of comparable Australian Societies was \$119/\$36, GST inc. Overall, money raised from membership fees in 2007-2008 was \$58,000 and in 2008-2009 is predicted to be audited at \$69,000.

ANS Council proposes to increase membership fees to \$115 (\$126.50 GST inc) and student membership to \$55 (\$60.50 GST inc). Based on 600 full members and 250 student members, this will provide an extra \$14,500 in revenue to support the Society's activities. This proposed increase is less than the CPI increase since membership fees were last raised.

This will be discussed further in the Treasurer's report at the AGM and there will then be a vote on the motion: *That full ANS membership be increased to \$115 + GST (\$126.50) and student membership to \$55+GST (\$60.50).*

Jacqueline Phillips, December 2009

ANS Council Elections

ANS called for nominations for ANS Council positions that fall vacant in 2010, for the positions of Secretary, Treasurer, Editor and Council Representatives for ACT, NZ, SA, Vic and WA. Except for the WA representative (Don Robertson), the current holders of these positions all nominated for a second consecutive term. No additional nominations were received and so all were elected unopposed. A nomination for Representative of WA was received from Lindy Fitzgerald, who was elected unopposed.

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We thank retiring member of Council Professor Donald Robertson for his contribution to the Society.

Ramaciotti Prize to Phil Robinson

Congratulations to Professor Phil Robinson, Head of the Cell Signalling Unit at the Children's Medical Research Institute, who, together with Professor Adam McCluskey from The University of Newcastle, has received the \$1 million Ramaciotti Biomedical Research Award to create the world's first 'Centre for Kinomics'.

Kinomics is a unique combination of Medicinal Chemistry and Chemical Proteomics which enables the study of many/most kinases in a cell or tissue at the same time. This Centre will not only be an Australian first, but a world first. The CFK will enable a completely novel drug design strategy, with better understanding of current therapies and their unwanted side effects. It will be used to develop novel treatments for neurological diseases, as well as viral and inflammatory diseases and cancer.



Phil Robinson

Increasing international links among neuroscience societies of different world regions

On behalf of ANS, Professor Glenda Halliday, Past President, attended a meeting of the "Big 4" neuroscience societies when she attended the Japanese Neuroscience Society meeting in Nagoya in September. Major discussion points included how to work more collaboratively, current ethics structures in the different countries that most neuroscientists operated under, neuroscience research funding and the low general impact of neuroscience journals.

Other attendees included JNS representatives Tadaharu Tsutomoto (Current President), Norihiro Sadato (Chair of Ethics Committee) and Atsushi Iriki (symposium organiser and Chair of Outreach Committee). SfN was represented by Marty Sagesse (CEO), Carol Barnes (Past President 04/5), Nicholas C Spitzer (Chair of Public Education and Communication Committee) and Eun-Joo Chang (Senior Director for Education & Member Development and symposium co-organizer). FENS was represented by Sten Grillner (President Elect). In addition, the UK Royal Society was represented by Claire Rawlinson and the Asia-Pacific correspondent for Nature, David Cyranoski, was in attendance for the symposium.



Right to left: Atsushi Iriki, Norihiro Sadato, Claire Rawlinson, Glenda Halliday, Sten Grillner, David Cyranoski, Nicholas Spitzer.

New book by previous ANS member Peter Snow

Snow, P. J. *The Human Psyche in Love, War and Enlightenment*. Boolarong Press, Brisbane, 2009; Containing: 8 sections, 210,000 words, 39 original figures.

The Human Psyche is a frank and far reaching and strikingly original exposé of human identity. It seeks to unify the insights into humanity gained from introspection (religion), argument (philosophy) and experimentation (science). It will be of particular interest to neuroscientists, mental health professionals, philosophers and ethologists and indeed all those fascinated by human behaviour, its origins in the animal world and its implications for our future. *The Human Psyche* is unique because it is only very recently that new technology has enabled us to gain a virtually complete operational comprehension of our higher functions. *The Human Psyche* reminds us that we live in a time when science has finally come of age. It is through science and, in particular, the systematic analysis of our psyche that we now stand on the threshold of a new order of ideational thought – an order that will inevitably see the dissolution of many hallowed, though plainly stagnant institutions. Orders after December, 2009 to: www.boolarongpress.com.au

Neuroscience Downunder:

An Aussie Reception organized by the Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney (Australia) Chapters of the Society for Neuroscience

The Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney Chapters of the Society for Neuroscience held a wonderful reception at the Hilton Chicago on Sunday October 18th as a satellite event to the Chicago SfN. The Reception was sponsored by the School of Biomedical Sciences, the Queensland Brain Institute at the University of Queensland, the Florey Neuroscience Institutes, the Mental Health Research Institute and Olympus Australia. The Chapters thank these sponsors for their ongoing support of this event. Whilst approximately 150 people from around the world were able to enjoy a relaxing couple of hours to network, the event also alerted attendees about career opportunities in neuroscience in Australia as well as the upcoming ANS/AuPS meeting in Sydney 2010.

This serves one of the main aims of the SFN Australian Chapters, which is to propagate awareness of the high quality neuroscience research done Downunder. The Presidents of the 3 Australian Chapters are Helen Cooper (University of Queensland; outgoing President Shaun Collin), Brian Dean (Mental Health Research Institute) and Alan Freeman (University of Sydney).

Sarah Caddick visit

Dr Sarah Caddick, Principal Neuroscience Advisor to Lord Sainsbury (Gatsby Charitable Foundation) will be visiting Australia in 2010 to discuss potential interactions between Australian neuroscience and the Gatsby Charitable Foundation. As part of this visit, she will present the **Peter Goodenough Memorial Lecture** at the **Queensland Brain Institute, The University of Queensland**.

Date: Thursday 8 April 2010 at 5.00pm

Location: Level 7 Auditorium, Queensland Brain Institute, Building 79, The University of Queensland, St Lucia Campus, Brisbane 4072

Title: Philanthropy and the Brain: Making Connections.

Abstract: The brain operates largely by transferring information between specialized cells (neurons) at points of contact called synapses. Over the past few decades, there has been impressive progress in understanding the organisation and function of the brain's neurons and networks, and intrepid research teams are already knee-deep in their quest to understand how these connections between neurons are translated into behaviours. The challenge that faces neuroscience in the coming decades is to obtain a coherent and unified view of the relationship between gene activity, neural circuit function and behaviour. Achieving this goal will require an effective merger of old and new technology and a culture of innovation and collaboration between neuroscientists around the world. This effort is one that every country should be a part of and ambitious philanthropy from all stakeholders will be essential in providing resources that protect the pursuit of an ambitious and long-term scientific goal. **RSVP:** To attend the lecture and cocktail party afterwards email events@qbi.uq.edu.au

Australia-NZ Brain Bee Challenge National Finals

The National finals of the 2009 Brain Bee Challenge will take place on Sunday 31 January and Monday 1 February, 2010, at the ANS Meeting in Sydney, at the Sydney Convention Centre.

Australian Course in Advanced Neuroscience (ACAN) 2010

A reminder that applications for ACAN 2010 close on Monday 14 Dec 2009 (but late applications will be accepted). If you want to learn neurophysiology from the experts, don't delay -- apply now! ACAN 2010 will be held on North Stradbroke Island, near Brisbane, from 11 April to 1 May 2010.

In order to apply, you must:

* be a currently-enrolled PhD student, or

* be a postdoctoral fellow or junior faculty, preferably no more than 5 years after completing your PhD
* preferably be a full-time resident of Australia or NZ, but a small number of applicants living in other countries may be accepted

In your application you must include:

* your CV
* a cover letter that clearly states how you will apply the skills taught in the course
* a statement about the source of funding that will allow you to attend the course
* a reference from your supervisor
* a completed application form

SCHOLARSHIPS are available -- see the ACAN website for details. For full details about the course, including instructions on how to apply, visit the ACAN website: <http://www.ans.org.au/acan>

New Zealand

Launch of New Zealand's new Centre for Brain Research

"The dream becomes reality," announced a very happy Professor Richard Faull at the official opening of the Centre for Brain Research on the 6th November.

More than 200 prominent New Zealand scientists attended the launch, held in redeveloped \$16 million laboratories at The University of Auckland. Hon. Dr Wayne Mapp, the Minister for Research, Science and Technology, performed the official opening and welcomed the new addition to New Zealand's science scene.

The Centre brings together over 200 neuroscientists from the University of Auckland, neurologists and neurosurgeons from the Auckland regional District Health Boards and community groups from across New Zealand.

"By working together we will ensure our research is of the highest international standards. That is the vision; that is the excitement; and that is the enormous challenge," stated Professor Faull in his inaugural speech as Director of the Centre.

"We see the Centre as having three pillars of strength; the scientists, doctors and the community. Each has their own knowledge and expertise to share in our fight against brain disease."

The launch is the culmination of years of collaboration across New Zealand, led by the Auckland Neuroscience Network. The internationally renowned Neurological Foundation of New Zealand Human Brain Bank is also housed in the new Centre.

Links to clinical and community research have been solidified with the appointment of Professor Alan Barber as Deputy Director. Professor Barber is a practising neurologist at Auckland District Health Board and the Secretary-Elect for the Australian and New Zealand Association of Neurologists.

Speaking from a clinician's point of view, Alan thinks the new style of research will be a powerful model; "Working together means that the questions our researchers ask are the ones clinicians want answers to. And at the other end we hope to be able to take the basic science research that has been done and translate it into new therapies and treatments for patients."

Louise Nicholson, NZ representative

Nov. 2009



Left to right: Professor Alan Barber, Deputy Director of the CBR, Professor Richard Faull, Director of the CBR and Professor Iain Martin, Dean of the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences.

New South Wales

Can you help out for Brain Awareness Week?

ANS and the new Sydney SfN chapter are calling for proposals and volunteers for public outreach events in 2010, with a major focus on Brain Awareness Week. This is an international event, which means the timing (Mar 15-21) is a bit inconvenient for running events in the southern hemisphere, but we would still like to try! Our goal for next year is to have every major neuroscience cluster in NSW run an event, no matter how small. If you have ideas, or would like to help (by assisting with a public lecture, hosting or visiting school kids, etc) please contact Alan Freeman (A.Freeman@usyd.edu.au) or myself (p.osborne@usyd.edu.au).

I also encourage NSW ANS members to join the Sydney Chapter (it's free). You can do this by e-mailing Nastaran Hesam Shariati (nhes4841@usyd.edu.au).

Meeting for state members at ANS2010

All NSW (and ACT) members are invited to attend a meeting planned for Wednesday afternoon during ANS2010 (time and venue to be confirmed). This will be a dual meeting, as it will incorporate the AGM for the Sydney Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience. Please come along, as we would like your

feedback on what you expect from ANS at the state level. You will be able to attend this meeting even if you are not registered for ANS2010.

Peregrine Osborne, NSW Representative

Victoria

The ANS Vic. Committee would like to announce the following events for Brain Awareness Week 2010:

Sunday 14th

Public lecture Prof Geoffrey Donnan, Monash University

Wednesday 17th

'Stimulate the Brain' Trivia night for ANS members and guests

Thursday 18th

Public lecture Prof Geoffrey Donnan, University of Melbourne

Friday 19th

Victoria Neuroscience Network (back by popular demand!)

Monday-Friday School Outreach Program

We are encouraging ANS members to participate in BAW activities; if interested please contact Joanne Britto (joanne.britto@floreys.edu.au) or your local ANS-Vic committee member (<http://www.ans.org.au/state-and-nz-members-pages/victoria>).

Joanne Britto, Vic. Representative

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

See ANS website for further details:

<http://www.ans.org.au/upcoming-conferences/>

- American Society for Neurochemistry Annual meeting, Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA, March 6-10, 2010.
- Eighth World Congress on Brain Injury, Washington, DC, March 10-14, 2010.
- Pain Management Workshop, Vancouver, Canada, March 26, 2010.
- 4th A+PD Symposium 2010 Sydney, April 22- 23, 2010.
- 7th FENS Forum of European Neuroscience, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, July 3-7, 2010.
- Measuring Behavior 2010 The 7th International Conference on Methods and Techniques in Behavioral research 24-27 August 2010, Eindhoven, The Netherlands.
- The 11th Biennial Australasian Schizophrenia Conference (ASC 2010), Sydney, Australia 22-24 September 2010.
- OzBio2010 The Molecules of Life - From Discovery to Biotechnology. Melbourne Australia Sept 26-Oct 1, 2010. This meeting includes a Molecular Neurobiology Program Stream. Abstract and Early Registration Deadline, Friday, 16 April 2010.
- 9th Biennial Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Society for Neurochemistry (APSN 2010), Phuket, Thailand October 18-20, 2010
- 8th Asian & Oceanian Epilepsy Congress (AOEC), Melbourne, Australia, 21st – 24th October 2010
- Federation of Asian-Oceanian Neuroscience Societies: 2010 Congress in India and Satellite Symposium in Sri Lanka. The 5th Congress will be hosted by the Indian Academy of Neuroscience and organised by Professor Prahlad Seth (prahladseth@gmail.com). Dates to be announced, tentatively November / December 2010. A satellite symposium in Sri Lanka is also proposed before or after the Congress and will be organised by Professor Ranil de Silva, President of the Neuroscience Society of Sri Lanka.

DONATIONS TO ANS RESEARCH (GIFT) FUND

Members are reminded that donations to the ANS Research (Gift) Fund are tax deductible. If you wish to make a donation, please email the ANS Treasurer, Prof Jackie Phillips at: j.k.phillips@murdoch.edu.au All donations, regardless of amount, are most welcome.

ANS POLICY ON REQUESTS FOR PUBLICITY VIA EMAIL CIRCULATION

The standing policy of the ANS is to minimize email traffic to members. This is done by bundling brief announcements or news which needs to be disseminated between print newsletters into (at most) monthly plain text email circulars. Attachments are not sent with email to members, with very few exceptions (such as our core business of an annual Society meeting). This is to reduce both the risk of virus transmission via attachments received from outside sources, and the volume (ie. cost) of email traffic through University or Institute based servers. Meetings and other significant announcements (such as job vacancies) will also receive Society publicity, via links to appropriate web pages from the ANS web site, and by subsequent inclusion into the next print ANS newsletter when appropriate. Requests for these publicity services should be directed either to the Secretary, or to Sally Jay Conferences.

ANS WEBSITE AND NEWSLETTER

The ANS website is on-line at <http://www.ans.org.au/>. Members are encouraged to regularly check the website for updated information on positions vacant, travel awards and national and international neuroscience meetings. While announcements and news items cannot always be broadcasted as an email to ANS members, they are promptly loaded on the ANS website and so it is always worth a regular check of the news page. Current and recent newsletters are available to be downloaded in PDF format and information about ANS, including the current list of council members, historical facts and how to apply for ANS Awards and Prizes is readily available. For further information or requests to place announcements on the ANS website, please contact Ann Turnley (email turnley@unimelb.edu.au, phone 03 8344 3981). Similarly, we are very happy to include information or news items in the ANS newsletter. Anticipated copy deadlines are set out below. Material for inclusion can be topics for discussion, meeting announcements, meeting reports, prizes and awards received by ANS members, obituaries, and any other items of potential interest to members of our society.



9th Biennial Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Society for Neurochemistry (APSN)

Phuket island, Thailand, 18th-20th, October 2010

Local organizers

Thai Society of Neuroscience

Mahidol University School of Medicine

Chair of LOC

Prof. Piyarat Govitrapong, Mahidol Univ.

Chair of Program committee

Prof. Akio Wanaoka (akiow@naramed-u.ac.jp)

Confirmed plenary speakers

Prof. Glenda Halliday, Univ. New South Wales, Australia

Prof. Kyungjin Kim, Seoul National Univ. Korea

Prof. Hideyuki Okano, Keio Univ., Japan

Web site: www.apsn2010.com

Abstract deadline : June 30th, 2010

Invited symposia include: Cell therapy for Parkinson's disease, Drug discovery for Alzheimer's disease, Regulation of oligodendrocyte development, Cell fate determination in CNS, Cl ion signaling in neurobiology



DEADLINES FOR FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

April 2010 Newsletter

2nd April 2010

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Annual General Meeting

5:30pm, Tuesday 2nd February 2010

Bayside Auditorium A, Sydney Convention Centre – Sydney, NSW

Agenda

1. Attendance and apologies
2. Minutes of the 2009 Annual General Meeting
3. President's report
4. Secretary's report
5. Treasurer's report
 - a) Vote on motion for proposed membership increase. *Motion: That full ANS membership be increased to \$115 + GST (\$126.50) and student membership to \$55+GST (\$60.50).*
6. Editor's report
7. 2009 ANS Awards and Prizes
8. Award of Honorary Membership of the ANS to Stephen Redman, Elspeth McLachlan, Max Bennett, Marcello Costa and John Rostas.
9. Vote on Council nominations for award of Honorary ANS membership to Robert Rush and Bruce Livett
 - a) *Motion: that Honorary Membership of the Australian Neuroscience Society be awarded to Robert Rush in appreciation of both his outstanding service to the Society, including three terms as ANS Treasurer from 1989-1993, and his sustained contributions to the development of neuroscience in South Australia. The research in Robert's laboratory is focused on how neurotrophic factors can be used to prevent nerve degeneration due to disease or injury and to aid nerve regeneration.*
 - b) *Motion: that Honorary Membership of the Australian Neuroscience Society be awarded to Bruce Livett in appreciation of both his outstanding service to the Society, including two terms as ANS Secretary from 1990-1993, and his commitment to the advancement of neurochemistry in Australia. Bruce's research advanced the fields of chromaffin cell biology and nicotinic receptor function. More recently he worked on a cone snail toxin, ACV1, for the treatment of neuropathic pain associated with diabetes and a range of other conditions.*
10. Future ANS meetings
11. Council members for 2010
12. Other business