

# Australian Neuroscience Society **Newsletter**

No. 3

September, 2012

www.ans.org.au



## Potential Change of Name for the Society

In the April 2012 issue of the Newsletter, I outlined the Society's historical relationship with New Zealand neuroscience. In view of the this long history of association, as well as the

highly successful Auckland meeting, ANS Council believed that it was time to formalise the role of ANS in representing New Zealand neuroscientists. Consequently, the Society's constitution was changed to formally include New Zealand and this was overwhelmingly approved at the Gold Coast AGM in 2012.

ANS Council believes that a change to the name of the Society reflecting its broadened constitution will have long term benefits. Government authorities that approach the Society for advice will know that we speak for neuroscientists in both countries; commercial entities or foundations that approach the Society for partnerships or joint initiatives will be dealing with a larger market/audience; and the ability to speak on behalf of both countries will give us a greater voice in international fora However, unless our name indicates that we are international, we will miss opportunities to capitalise on our international status.

The alternative name proposed at the Gold Coast AGM (Neuroscience Society of Australia and New Zealand) provoked vigorous debate and, although approved by a simple majority, a two thirds majority was not achieved which is necessary for a major change to our constitution. During the debate at the AGM and afterwards, it became apparent that an extended opportunity to consider alternative names would be appreciated by the Society's membership. Therefore, Council has decided to hold an on-line forum about: 1) the issue of name change; and 2) the preferred name for the Society. This forum will be followed by an on-line poll. The online forum will run from **8** October – **11 November** and the online poll will run from **12 – 25 November**.

To assist with this forum and poll, I have listed below the alternatives that have been proposed together with my comments about the pros and cons of each name.

Australian Neuroscience Society (ANS) - the no change option:

**Pro:** no changeover cost

Con: does not reflect new constitution; does not identify

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international role of Society – loss of enhanced influence nationally and internationally.

#### Australasian Neuroscience Society (ANS)

**Pro:** in line with names for several clinical societies and colleges that represent Australia and New Zealand; change of name without change of abbreviation

**Con:** Australasia was a term popular in the colonial/ early post-colonial period and, as we enter a period when Asian influence will be steadily growing and we will wish closer ties with Asian organisations, such a name may be a disadvantage diplomatically in some parts of Asia; despite the minimal change to the name the cost of changeover is the same as for a major change in the name; the lack of change to the acronym will fail to highlight the new international nature of the Society.

## Neuroscience Society of Australia and New Zealand (NSANZ)

**Pro:** clear identification of constituency and nature of organisation; name can be said as its letters of abbreviation or as "ensanz".

Con: cost of changeover

Neuroscience Australia and New Zealand (NANZ) *Pro:* clear identification of constituency; name can be said as its letters of abbreviation or as "nanz". *Con:* does not indicate that we are a society (similar names are used by philanthropic foundations, political lobby groups, commercial entities and institutes) so it could lead to confusion when talking to government; cost of changeover.

We will establish an on-line forum through the ANS website where members will be able to discuss the issue of the name change and indicate their feelings (contin.)

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## 

We are delighted to extend an invitation to participate in the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Australian Neuroscience Society to take place in Melbourne from 3 – 6 February 2013.

This premier scientific meeting will incorporate four outstanding plenary lectures, commencing on Sunday afternoon with the Overseas Plenary Lecture, to be given by Nancy Ip of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. Paul Martin (University of Sydney), Margaret Morris (University of NSW) and Ingrid Scheffer (University of Melbourne) will give the other prestigious lectures over the course of the meeting. We also have oral presentations, poster sessions and a record number of symposia – including two Federation of Asian-Oceanian Neuroscience Societies (FAONS) Symposia.

The conference will be held in the state-of-art Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC). The MCEC is centrally located on the banks of the Yarra River adjacent to the Southbank entertainment precinct and within close walking distance of all major city hotels, motels and apartments. Melbourne is one of the top ten convention destinations in the world.

Sporting and cultural events and shopping opportunities are a major part of life in Melbourne and the integrated transport network of trains, trams and buses make it easy and comfortable to get around. Melbourne is one of the most dynamic cities of the Asia-Pacific region. It is renowned for scientific research and development, medical innovation and technological progress.

The Social program will include a Welcome Reception on the Sunday night in the stunning marble foyer of the Melbourne Convention Centre, with a combined Student Mixer and Postdoctoral Social on the Monday night, which is now a regular and popular event at ANS conferences. However, the pinnacle of the Social program will be the Conference Dinner on the Tuesday evening, which is to be held at the historical Melbourne Town Hall. The Melbourne Town Hall is a magnificent heritage building in the heart of the city and this will be a wonderful evening with fine food and wine and entertainment— this is a special occasion not to be missed.

The meeting will conclude with Farewell Drinks on the Wednesday afternoon, which will be combined with the presentation of poster and oral prizes.

We look forward to welcoming you to Melbourne.

### James Bourne

Chair, ANS 2013 Local Organising Committee

## President's Perspective (conrd.)

about, and preferences for, changing the name of the Society. Additional options for a name change can also be suggested and commented upon. Members will receive an email with instructions for accessing the on-line poll.

Council will use the results of the forum to conduct an on-line poll later in the year about the preferred name for the Society giving the choices above plus any other alternative that receives strong support in the forum. According to our constitution, a change of name must be approved by a two thirds majority of members present at an appropriately advertised general meeting of the Society. Council will use the poll results to select the most popular new name to propose to the AGM in Melbourne in February 2013. However, if more than 50% of the members of the Society vote in the on-line poll and more than two thirds of those who vote indicate that they would prefer to stay with the current name, a motion to change the name of the Society will not be put at the Melbourne AGM.

John Rostas President ANS

## ANS Council Positions – Call for Nominations

ANS Executive calls for nominations for the following ANS Council positions which need to be filled in time for the Melbourne 2013 Conference AGM:

- President-elect (to be President 2014-2015 and Past-President 2016)
- New South Wales State Representative: the current representative, Kay Double, has served in this position for 2 years and she has indicated that she will renominate for a second 2 year term.
- Queensland State Representative: the current representative, Lizzie Coulson, has served in this position for 4 years and is ineligible to be renominated.
- Tasmania State Representative: the current representative, Rob Gasperini, has served in this position for 4 years and is ineligible to be renominated.

To nominate for a position, please fill out a nomination form and send to the ANS Secretariat, Sally Jay Conferences (ans@sallyjayconferences.com.au) by 19 November 2012. Nomination forms can be downloaded from the ANS website (http://www.ans.org.au/ans-membership/nomination-form/). In the event of more than one nomination for a position, an online ballot will be held prior to the 2013 AGM and details concerning the ballot will be provided in the December 2012 newsletter. If you would like to find out more about what each position entails, please contact the current incumbent. Australian Neuroscience Society 33rd Annual Meeting 3rd - 6th February

# Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

WEUROSCIENCE Society GJLVNOANO

# Early registration and abstract deadline 5th October 2012

Further information: enquiries@ans2013.org www.ANS2013.org

## OPENING NIGHT PLENARY: Prof. Nancy Ip

Followed By Welcome Reception

A Record 19 Symposiums Featuring Cellular & Clinical Neuroscience Research

Students & Early Career Researchers "High Impact Neuroscience - The Art of Publishing"

> 3-Course Conference Dinner At The Historic Melbourne Town Hall



## Australian Course in Advanced Neuroscience (ACAN) 2013

ACAN 2013 will run from Sunday 14 April to Saturday 4 May 2013. The course is open to PhD students, postdoctoral fellows and junior faculty (preferably no more than 5 years post-PhD) who would like to learn the theory and practice of cellular neurophysiology and fluorescence imaging. Please visit the course website for further details: http://www.ans.org.au/acan. The call for applications will go out in early November 2012, with the application deadline on Monday 10 December 2012.

## **ANS Newsletter**

We are always interested in receiving articles or information from ANS members for the newsletter. Such material could include topics for discussion, meeting announcements, meeting reports, news about prizes and awards received by ANS members, obituaries, and any other items of potential interest to members of our Society. The copy deadline for the next newsletter is 28 November 2012.

# Message from Michael Lardelli, Chair of LOC for ANS Adelaide 2014

Dear Australian Neuroscience Society members, While we are all looking forward to the next ANS meeting in Melbourne in January 2013, preparations have already begun for the following meeting in Adelaide in 2014. Next year, the Local Organising Committee for Adelaide 2014 will be putting forward a number of nominations for symposia topics for the Adelaide meeting. (Ultimately, it is the ANS national executive that decides which bids are successful.) As far as possible, we would like to align our symposia nominations with the satellite meetings that will be held before or after the ANS meeting. Hopefully this will encourage the mutually beneficial effect of greater attendance at both the satellite meetings and the main meeting and it may also assist with the invitation of international speakers.

At this point in time, we do not know what satellite meeting are planned for 2014. If you are contemplating organising a satellite meeting for 2014 please email me a few sentences describing it. This will greatly assist our planning. (Please note, however, that the official deadline for symposium submissions is 26 April 2013. - ed)

## Michael Lardelli

Chair of the Local Organising Committee for ANS Adelaide 2014

michael.lardelli@adelaide.edu.au

## Call for ANS Award Nominations

## A.W. Campbell Award

The A.W. Campbell Award commemorates the eminent Australian Neurologist whose "Histological studies on the localisation of cerebral function" in 1905 founded cerebral cytoarchitectonics. It is for the best contribution by a member of the society in their first five postdoctoral years.

Candidates should nominate themselves (within 7 years of the award of their doctorate, at the deadline for nominations) by emailing their CV (including list of publications) and a synopsis of up to 5 pages outlining their contribution to neuroscience. The successful candidate will receive a certificate and a contribution towards travel expenses to the meeting at which the award is made.

Nominations for the A.W. CAMPBELL AWARD for 2012 are due by 23 November, 2012 and should be submitted to the ANS Secretary (Joe Lynch j.lynch@uq.edu.au). Applicants must be Members in good standing on the 30th June in the year of nomination.

## Nina Kondelos Prize

The Nina Kondelos Prize is awarded to a female neuroscientist for outstanding contribution to basic or clinical neuroscience research. The Nina Kondelos Prize was made possible by a donation to the Society by Professor George Paxinos, and it is named after his late sister. The Nina Kondelos Prize was awarded for the first time in 2007 at the IBRO2007 World Congress of Neuroscience in Melbourne. Successful nominees will receive \$500 plus a certificate.

### Rules for the Nina Kondelos Prize:

1. The nominee must be a female member of ANS and the achievement must be in the field of neuroscience.

2. The nominee must not have received other major national or international prizes such as the PM's Prize, Ramaciotti and Glaxo.

3. Each nominee must be proposed by one nominator, who must also list three supporters. Nominator and supporters must be members of ANS.

4. The nomination must include a one-page description of achievement and a three-page CV.

5. The prize shall be judged by a committee appointed by Council.

Nominations for the 2012 NINA KONDELOS PRIZE are due by 23 November, 2012 and should be submitted to the ANS Secretary (Joe Lynch j.lynch@uq.edu.au). Nominees must be Members in good standing on the 30th June in the year of nomination.

## **Distinguished Achievement Award**

This is occasionally awarded to recognise an outstanding contribution by an individual to neuroscience in Australia, and to the Australian Neuroscience Society. Founded in 1992 it was first awarded in 1993 to Lawrie Austin, the foundation President of ANS. Previous recipients also include Stephen Redman (2000), Max Bennett (2001), John Furness (2003), Elspeth McLachlan (2006) and David Curtis (2009). Nominations can be forwarded any time to the ANS Secretary (Joe Lynch j.lynch@uq.edu.au).

### Paxinos-Watson Award

This award has been made possible by a generous donation to the Society by Professor George Paxinos and Professor Charles Watson, commemorating the new edition of their important key reference text "The Rat Brain in Stereotaxic Coordinates" published by Academic Press. The award was established for the most significant neuroscience paper published by a full member of the society, and is judged annually.

- 1. Any Member of ANS may nominate one of their papers in the field of neuroscience; other authors may be Members or non-members of the Society.
- 2. No Member may nominate more than one paper per year, but may be a co-author on a paper nominated by another Member.
- 3. The research in the paper must have been substan-

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tially undertaken within Australia or New Zealand.4. The judges will rank the nominated papers on the basis of their scientific significance.

A PDF file of the paper, bearing **2011** as the year of publication, should be submitted. The nomination may also be supported by up to two short submissions (max 500 words each) from ANS members explaining why they think the paper is significant.

The prize will be awarded for the paper. All authors will receive a certificate, and the prize money will be sent to the nominating authors who will be required to report how it was shared between the authors.

Applications for the 2012 prize are due by 23 November, 2012 and should be submitted to the ANS Secretary (j.lynch@uq.edu.au). Applicants must be Members in good standing on the 30th June in the year of nomination.

## Australian Student becomes International Brain Bee Champion

Congratulations to Teresa Tang, the 2011 Australian Brain Bee Champion who has won the 2012 International Brain Bee (IBB). Congratulations also go to Byung Cheol Cho, the 2011 New Zealand Brain Bee Champion who was awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> place at the IBB. Teresa and Byung competed in the IBB against competitors from 14 other countries, including Canada, Germany, India, Italy, Kenya, Korea, Malaysia, Nigeria, Poland, Romania, Singapore, United Arab Emirates, USA and Wales.

Teresa became the Australian Brain Bee Champion, and Byung became the New Zealand Brain Bee Champion, in January 2012 at the ANS meeting on the Gold Coast. As part of their prize, they were awarded flights and accommodation to Cape Town, South Africa to attend the IBB. Each year the IBB is held at an overseas neuroscience or psychology conference, and in 2012 it was hosted by the International Congress of Psychology. All 16 National competitors were invited to attend the conference and had the opportunity to sit in on lectures and activities organised by the congress.

The participants mingled with scientists specialised in the fields of neuroscience and psychology and experienced first hand what it's like to be a part of the international scientific community, as well as gaining insight into the work that is being done in these fields. The competitor's neuroscience knowledge was tested in various ways including oral tests, a neuroanatomy laboratory exam with human brains, a neurohistology test with tissue specimens and microscopes, and a patient diagnosis component with student actors.

Thanks to the ANS, Queensland Brain Institute, University of Queensland, Carl Zeiss, ADInstruments, The Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, The CatWalk Trust, The Centre for Brain Research and the Freemasons of New Zealand for their continued support of the Australian-New Zealand Brain Bee Challenge. We wish Teresa and Byung all the best as they continue their studies and hope to see them pursue neuroscience in the future.

#### Linda Richards

Australian Brain Bee National Co-ordinator

## Round 2 of The Australia-New Zealand Brain Bee Challenge 2012

The Australia-New Zealand Brain Bee Challenge motivates young people to learn about the brain and inspire students to pursue careers in neuroscience research. Round 1 was held in March 2012, during Brain Awareness Week and completed by, 5,400 students from 322 schools across Australia and New Zealand.

Round 2 has recently been held in each state/territory of Australia and in the South Island and North Island of New Zealand. The students selected for Round 2 spent a day at a research institution where they mingled with neuroscientists, toured research laboratories, participated in activities, heard from guest speakers and competed to become the Brain Bee Champion for their region. There was an individual challenge as well as a team challenge for eligible schools Each final was a great success, with students and teachers enjoying the experience.

Congratulations to all the Round 2 participants and the 10 individual champions who will attend the ANS meeting in Melbourne in 2013 where they will compete to become the Australian or New Zealand Brain Bee Champion

#### 2012 Individual Brain Bee Champions

**Queensland**- Jackson Huang, Queensland Academy of Science, Mathematics and Technology

Victoria- Zelda Perri, Presentation College

Australian Capital Territory- Niluka Karunasekara, Burgmann Anglican School

South Australia- Liam Hockley, Christian Brothers College

Western Australia- Abbey Ford, St Mary's College New Zealand North Island- Jiantao Shen, Mt Roskill Grammar School

New Zealand South Island- Ja Won Kim, Riccarton High School

Tasmania- Stephan Harvey, St Mary's District High. New South Wales- Vivienne Zhang, Ascham School Northern Territory- Shannon Kieran, Casuarina Senior College.

The number of schools and students involved in Round 1 continues to grow and hence many more students are now exposed to neuroscience at the age of 15. During the 6 years that the Australia-New Zealand Brain Bee Challenge has been running, we are now starting to see some results from the participation in the Brain Bee during high school. Many of these students are now working and studying neuroscience in courses and programs across Australia and New Zealand.

Thanks to our major sponsors for their continued support of the Australian-New Zealand Brain Bee Challenge which allows the Brain Bee Challenge to be held each year- ANS, Queensland Brain Institute, University of Queensland, Carl Zeiss, ADInstruments, The Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, The CatWalk Trust, The Centre for Brain Research and The Freemasons of New Zealand.

For more information about the Australian-New Zealand Brain Bee and for all Round 2 results and photos, please visit our website at www.abbc.edu.au

#### Linda Richards

Australian Brain Bee National Co-ordinator

## **BRAIN BEE PHOTOS**





IBB Students Teresa Tang and Byung Cheoi Cho

Students at Round 2 State Finals on tours and participating in the individual and team challenges

## Call for Proposals for the 6<sup>th</sup> ISN Special Neurochemistry Conference

*Submission deadline*: November 20, 2012-07 *Location:* The conference will be held within the Asian-Pacific region but cannot coincide in time with other major neuroscience meetings

*Duration:* 3 days with no parallel sessions *Delegate numbers*: not to exceed 300 people

*Funding:* ISN will provide \$150,000 USD to the organisers

Decision Process: Proposals will be reviewed by the ISN Council. Selection decisions will be made based on the quality of the scientific program, diversity of speakers as well as the suitability of the proposed venue.

Submissions addressing topical and

emerging areas are encouraged, and the proposed area may relate to neurochemistry in its broader context within neuroscience. Focus on an important and timely neurochemical topic would be ideal. Please note that proposals from ISN members will be given priority.

#### Proposals should include:

- Name and address of organizer(s)
  A statement on the importance of the
- topic
- An outline of the program and list of speakers
- Details about the location, facilities and dates
- Information on composition and role of the Local Organizing Committee

· A preliminary budget

The ISN Council reserves the right to sug-

gest changes to the scientific program. Proposals are to be submitted by email to the ISN Secretary (monica.carson@ microglia.org)





10<sup>th</sup> Annual SA Branch of the HGSA Symposium Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October, Urrbrae House, Waite Campus

#### **PROGRAM INCLUDES**

Prof. Paul Verma

Ass. Prof. Anthony Hannan Florey Neuroscience Institutes

Dr. Mark Corbett SA Pathology

Ass. Prof. Leanne Dibbens University of South Australia

Dr. Ainslie Derrick-Roberts SA Pathology

Dr. Cheryl Shoubridge SA Pathology

Dr. Damien Keating Flinders University Prof. Eric Haan SA Pathology

Dr. Quenten Schwarz SA Pathology

Dr. Michael O'Callaghan University of Adelaide

Prof. Bernhard Baune University of Adelaide

Dr. Nick Smith WCHN and University of Adelaide

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## **UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND COURSES**

2nd International Neural Regeneration Symposium, Shenyang, China, 22-26 September, 2012. For more details go to www.nrronline.org/conference

13th International Conference on Alzheimer's Drug Discovery, 10-11 September, 2012. Hyatt Regency Jersey City, New Jersey. For more details go to http://www.worldeventsforum.com/addf/addrugdiscovery/

2nd International Neural Regeneration Symposium, Shenyang, China, 21-25 September, 2012. For more details go to http://www.inrs-nrr.org/.

2012 Collaborators Day: The Future of Neuroscience. Where in 10 Years? Flinders Medical Centre, Adelaide, 28 September, 2012. Registration details, venue information and program all available online: http://www.flinders. edu.au/neuroscience/collabday.htm

#### APSN/JSN 2012, the Joint Symposium of 11th Biennial Meeting of APSN and 55th Meeting of

JSN, International Conference Center, Kobe, Japan. 29 September – 2 October, 2012. The meeting theme is 'Brain chemistry: Integrating the Mind'. The meeting will partially overlap with the meeting of Japanese Society of Biological Psychiatry. For more details go to www.apsneurochem.org

World Muscle Society Annual Congress, Perth Australia 9-13 October, 2012. This meeting brings together world leaders in clinical, pathological and scientific research into neuromuscular disorders. For more details go to www.wms2012.com

3rd Australian Neurotrauma Symposium. This will be held at the School of Medicine, University of Tasmania 25 - 26 October, 2012. Registration is free and further details are available from (http://www.utas.edu.au/ medicine/events/n/2012/events/october/neurotrauma).

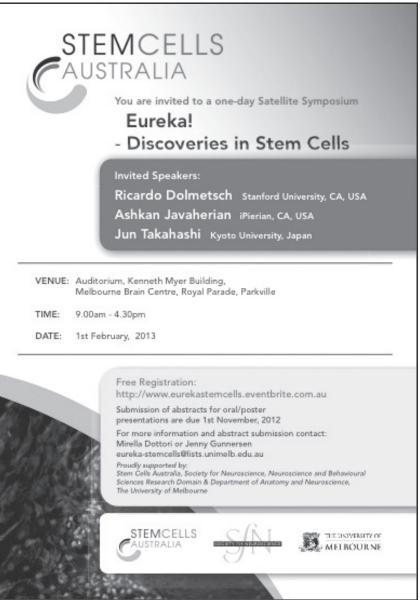
Epilepsy Society of Australia 26th Annual Scientific Meeting. 31 October - 2nd November 2012, Hobart Function and Conference Centre, Tasmania. For more details go to http://sapmea.asn.au/conventions/esa2012/ index.html

Australian Health and Medical Research Congress. 25 – 28 November, 2012. Adelaide Convention Centre. For more details go to http://www.ahmrcongress.org.au/

First Asia-Pacific Molecular Cell and Cognition Society Meeting. 1 - 2 February, 2013, Melbourne Brain Center, Parkville, Melbourne. Plenary speaker: Prof Mu-Ming Poo. Information will become available at the following website: www.molcellcog.org. For more details contact Stephanie Bissiere: sbissiere@ gmail.com Dementia, Ageing and Neurodegenerative DISeases group (DANDIS)

DANDIS 2013, "New Insights into Neuropathologies: Neuroinflammation, Gliosis, Proteinopathies and More", Florey Neuroscience Institute, Kenneth Myer Building, University of Melbourne, 3 February, 2013. This meeting has been associated with the ANS Conference for many years. There will be opportunities for free oral communications and posters.

Further information will be available on the Florey website (http://www.florey.edu.au) and Phil Beart (philip.beart@florey.edu.au) or Linda Mercer (linda.mercer@florey.edu.au).



## 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.

## DEADLINES FOR FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

December 2012 28th November 2012

#### NEUROSCIENCA SOCIETION CALLENCA SOCIETION SOCIETION CALLENCA SOCIETION

#### Address and contact details for the ANS secretariat

Sally Jay Conferences can be contacted by the following means:-Mail: PO Box 2331 KENT TOWN SA 5071 Phone: (08) 8362 0038 Fax: (08) 8362 0038 (International – Phone/fax: 618 8362 0038) Email: ans@sallyjayconferences.com.au Web: www.ans.org.au

### Authorised by Joe Lynch

Secretary – Australian Neuroscience Society Inc Queensland Brain Institute University of Queensland ST LUCIA QLD 4072 Phone: 61 7 3346 6375 Email: j.lynch@ug.edu.au

## ANS WEBSITE AND NEWSLETTER

The ANS website is on-line atwww.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 Joe Lynch (email j.lynch@ uq.edu.au, phone 07 3346 6375).

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.

