

April 2013



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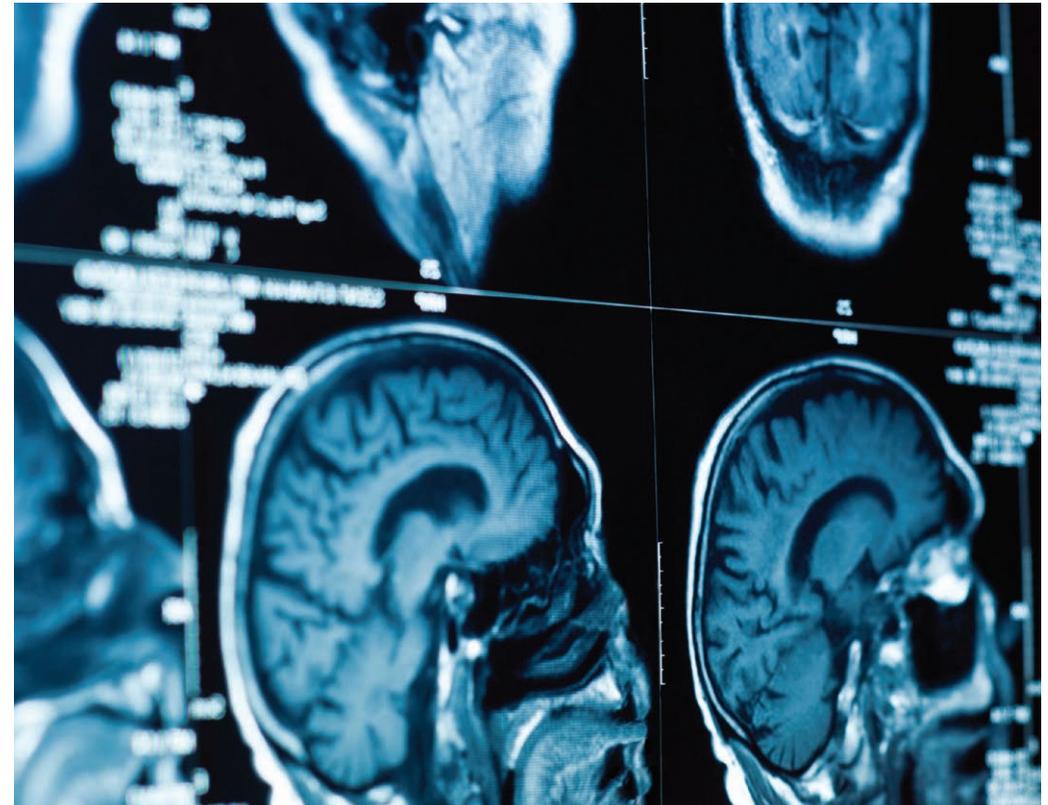
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www.ans.org.au

Australasian Neuroscience Society Newsletter



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President's Perspective

I will be in Brussels on April 4 and 5, representing not only the Australasian Neuroscience Society but all the neuroscience societies from the Pacific Rim countries. This will be the meeting of the Program Committee for the 9th FENS (Federation of European Neuroscience Societies) Forum of Neuroscience to be held in Milan (Italy) on July 5-9, 2014. As a member of the Program Committee I have recently evaluated 187 proposals for Symposia for this congress. This cross section of hot topics, proposed by researchers from all continents, has provided me with an interesting opportunity to identify some of the major trends in neuroscience research internationally. The major theme that emerged from these proposals was integration.

Half of the proposed symposia made an overt link between some aspect of basic neuroscience and clinical implications for psychiatry or neurology. In virtually all cases this desire to integrate basic neuroscience with clinical application appeared to be a major goal of the proposed symposium and not just an add-on. This international trend is consistent with the desire of ANS to foster closer links with clinical researchers. It is also consistent with the McKeon Review's recommendations for the NHMRC to place greater emphasis on funding research that will lead to translation of research results into better health care or savings in health care delivery.

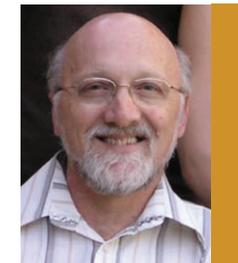
A second integrative feature of these proposals was the large number that sought to integrate domains of basic neuroscience research that had previously been investigated separately. Although such attempts have been done before I was struck by the large number of proposals that sought to compare and contrast the roles, characteristics and mechanisms of homologous processes (receptor mechanisms, release mechanisms, cell coupling, metabolism etc) in neurons and glia. Clearly a holistic approach to cellular mechanisms is becoming increasingly main stream. I was surprised how many new perspectives on integrative brain function were suggested to me by just reading some of these proposals.

The third type of integration was the cross disciplinary research links between basic neuroscience and one of the non-biological sciences – engineering, computing, physics, optics, biosensors, mathematics – or biotechnology. Such collaborations are an accepted part of neuroscience research (e.g. electrophysiology, image analysis, inducible vectors to express or suppress key molecules, fluorescence and interference optics microscopy, neurologically active implants, etc) but the range of techniques and devices available for research has grown and appears likely to keep expanding.

I think that young neuroscientists planning their research careers should take some lessons from the insight provided by this snapshot of trends in neuroscience research. Clearly, both the opportunity and the necessity for taking a

cross disciplinary approach is increasing. Both State and Federal governments have indicated that translational researcher will be strategically favoured in future funding rounds. The National Research Investment Plan developed in 2012 by the Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education (DIISRTE) showed that the percentage of higher education expenditure directed to basic research has declined steadily for the last two decades whereas that directed to applied or translational research has increased.

It is clear that we cannot cease support for basic science because without advances in the basic sciences there is nothing to translate. However, it is also clear that the greatest opportunities for research expansion lie in the areas where knowledge is integrated across at least one disciplinary boundary. The rewards for working at the interfaces of such disciplines are not just financial but also intellectual.



John Rostas

*President, Australasian
Neuroscience Society*



Sally and Chris Jay – End of an Era

Sally and Chris Jay have decided to end their 12 year association with ANS on the 30th April 2013. I am sure I speak for all ANS members in expressing my profound appreciation for the highly efficient, dedicated and friendly service they have provided to the Society over that time. They are certainly leaving the Society in a well-organised and financially strong state. We sincerely wish Sally and Chris all the best in their future endeavours. Chris and Sally were formally thanked by John Rostas in front of a large, appreciate gathering the closing ceremony of the Melbourne conference.

ANS 2014 Adelaide

Planning for the ANS 2014 Adelaide meeting is progressing well. It will be held at the Adelaide Convention Centre from Tuesday 28th January through to Friday 31st January, 2014. Michael Lardelli is Chair of the Local Organising Committee and the All Occasions Group is providing professional conference organisation services. Moses Chao, from the New York University School of Medicine, will give the Overseas Plenary lecture. Marcello Costa, from the School of Medicine at Flinders University is the ANS Plenary Lecturer. Trevor Kilpatrick, from the Melbourne Brian Centre at the University of Melbourne, has accepted our invitation to present the Lawrie Austin Plenary Lecture. The Eccles Lecturer will be Perry Bartlett from the Queensland Brain Institute.

Any organisation that might be interested in sponsoring a conference event is asked to contact the LOC Chair, Michael Lardelli michael.lardelli@adelaide.edu.au

Call for Symposia

ANS Council would like to receive proposals for symposia for ANS Adelaide in January 2014. Symposia are chosen from submissions made to council in the year prior to the annual meeting. Symposium proposals should be submitted by email to the Society Secretary, Prof. Joe Lynch (j.lynch@uq.edu.au). All proposals must be received by him no later than 26th April, 2013.

Symposia will normally have 4 speakers and be arranged in themes of interest to the broad membership of the society. Funding will be

available to contribute to costs of one invited overseas speaker per symposium. Overseas speakers (not from Australia or New Zealand) can receive free registration, social tickets and up to \$2000 to cover costs of travel and accommodation. All financial support will be paid directly to the overseas speaker.

No Society funding will be available to support costs of Australian or New Zealand speakers, chairs or symposium organisers. The Society wishes to emphasize it is not necessary for a symposium to have an overseas speaker, as high quality proposals with all speakers coming from Australia and New Zealand are most welcome. Although proposals will be considered primarily on scientific merit, Council will take into consideration the geographic and gender diversity of the proposed speakers. In general, speakers in each symposium should come from different institutions. Symposium proposals that include early career researchers as the proposer or as speaker are encouraged.

The Society wishes to particularly encourage symposium topics that focus on the interface between basic and clinical neuroscience.

Proposers need to either be current members of the ANS or to become new members prior to submitting their application.

Membership can be renewed online at www.sallyjayconferences.com.au/ansmembership/

(continued next page)

(ANS 2014 Adelaide continued)

Call for Satellite Meetings

If you are planning to hold a satellite meeting in conjunction with the ANS 2014 meeting in Adelaide and want to be included in the program, ANS Council needs to receive proposals by 14th June, 2013 for consideration at the mid-year council meeting. Proposals stating the name of the satellite, contact details and the proposed dates, venue and program (if known at this stage) can be sent by email to the ANS Secretary j.lynnch@uq.edu.au.

ANS/ISN/APSN 2015 Cairns

NSANZ 2015 will be held in Cairns from August 23-28 as a joint meeting with the International Society for Neurochemistry (ISN) and the Asian-Pacific Society for Neurochemistry (APSN). John Rostas is the Chair of the Local Organising Committee.

ANS 2016 Hobart

The dates for this conference have yet to be finalised but it will most likely be held in early December 2016. The Local Organising Committee will be jointly chaired by Kaylene Young and Tracey Dickson.

2013 Awards and Prizes

Thank you to the judges of the 2013 ANS Awards and Prizes. This was a difficult job, as again there was a large number of highly deserving candidates. For each Award/Prize, Council members who do not have conflicts of interest with any of the applicants select three judges who are Society members. The judges are then each asked to rank the applicants; their identities, rankings and comments are not made available to the applicants or the other judges.

Alex Fornito from the University of Melbourne and the Melbourne Neuropsychiatry Centre won the AW Campbell Award for best contribution by a member of the Society in their first 5 postdoctoral years.

Louise Nicholson from the University of Auckland won the Nina Kondelos Prize, which is for a female neuroscientist who has made an outstanding contribution to basic or clinical neuroscience research.

The Paxinos-Watson Prize is awarded for the most significant neuroscience paper published by a full member of the society in the year prior to submission of the nomination. The Paxinos-Watson prize for 2013 is awarded to Soon Keen Cheong, Chris Tailby, Paul R. Martin, Jonathon B. Levitt and Samuel G. Solomon for their publication titled "Slow intrinsic rhythm in the koniocellular visual pathway" published in *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 108, 14659-14663 (2011).

Student Poster and Oral Prizes

The Istvan Törk Prize is for the best oral presentation by a student member of the Society at the Annual Meeting and was awarded to four students in 2013: Andrew Thompson *Biomedical Sciences, University of Queensland*, Brad Hurren *Anatomy, University of Otago*, Daniel Amaya *Eskitis Institute, Griffith University*, Matthias Koenning *Anatomy and Neuroscience, University of Melbourne*.

The Sir Grafton Elliot-Smith Award is for the best poster by a student member of the Society at the Annual Meeting and was awarded to three students in 2013: Ben Wheaton *Pharmacology, University of Melbourne*, Duwage Alwis *Physiology, Monash University*, Jeremy Pinyon *Biomedical Sciences, University of New South Wales*.

Thank you to the many members who took time at the Melbourne 2013 conference to judge the student presentations. Given the large number of excellent presentations, this is a difficult but much appreciated task.

Caption

Daniel Amaya (**left**) and Brad Hurren (**right**) receive their **Istvan Törk Oral Awards** from Karen Sait, *Transport Accident Commission* and John Rostas, *ANS President*.



The 2012 Australia New Zealand Brain Bee Challenge

The Australia- New Zealand Brain Bee Challenge National Final was held on 2nd and 3rd of February 2013 at the Australian Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting in Melbourne. 8 Australian students, representing each state and territory, and 2 New Zealand students, representing the North and South Island, took part.

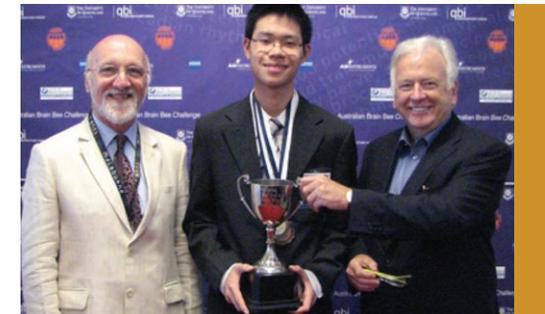
These ten outstanding 15 and 16 year olds entered the first round of the competition in March 2012, when they participated in Round 1 of The Australia- New Zealand Brain Bee Challenge. This online neuroscience quiz was held during Brain Awareness Week, and 5331 students participated. Round 2, regional finals were held with around 100 students attending in each capital city. The top student from each region then progressed to the National Final and received group coaching from Prof. Charles Watson (University of Western Australia) to help prepare for the finals. The Australian and New Zealand National Finals were held over 2 days in Melbourne, where the students completed 4 neuroscience challenges to test their knowledge of neuroscience and how this is applied to understanding diseases and disorders of the nervous system. The students all displayed an extensive understanding and knowledge of neuroscience and impressed the judges with correct answers to some very challenging questions. After a fantastic 2 days, Jackson Huang, the Queensland representative, became the 2012 Australian Brain Bee Challenge Champion and Jiantao Shen, the New Zealand North Island representative, became the 2012 New Zealand Brain Bee Challenge Champion.

The national finalists also attended the ANS plenary lectures and the ANS scientific sessions and enjoyed immensely, the opportunity to mingle with scientists attending the ANS. The national finalists found this experience very inspiring and many expressed their interest and excitement about pursuing careers in neuroscience in the future.

Thank you to ANS, Carl Zeiss, AD Instruments, the Queensland Brain Institute, the Centre for Brain Research and the Freemasons Roskill Foundation for their support of the Australia- New Zealand Brain Bee Challenge in 2012. Thank you also to the Brain Bee Coordinators who host the Brain Bee events all over Australia and New Zealand and to the 2012 National Final judges- Professor Charles Watson, Professor Simon Koblar and Dr Julian Heng.

We wish Jackson and Jiantao all the best as they prepare to attend the International Brain Bee Championships in Vienna, Austria in September 2013 and we look forward to seeing all of the 2012 Brain Bee National Finalists working in laboratories in the future.

Professor
Linda
Richards



Caption

Top: Prof John Rostas ANS President, Jackson Huang Aus Champion, Prof Perry Bartlett Director, Queensland Brain Institute.

Bottom: Hon Martin Dixon Victorian Minister for Education with Jiantao Shen NZ Champion.

ANS – Springer Joint Publishing Agreement

New book partnership will open Australian neuroscience to a wider, international audience Springer and the Australasian Neuroscience Society have entered into a new partnership to publish a series of book titles in neuroscience. The new titles will be available via SpringerLink (link.springer.com). ANS (in conjunction with the volume editors) will maintain full editorial direction for the books, while Springer will be responsible for production and distribution.

Springer and the ANS aim to publish three contributed volumes per year, all of which will be focused on general topics in neuroscience, and should be of interest to those whose research focus is the brain and the nervous system. By partnering with Springer, the Society stands to benefit from the publisher's global marketing and distribution networks.

All Springer books are published as traditional print, e-book and MyCopy. E-books can be read on anything (laptop, iPad, Kindle etc) whereas MyCopy are soft cover B&W versions of the e-book available for \$24.95. There are no publication charges. Up to 40% of the book's final printed pages can appear in colour for no cost. Authors will receive complementary copies of the book.

Please contact the ANS Secretary Joe Lynch at j.lynch@uq.edu.au if you are interested in proposing a book.



WA News

As part of the celebration of Brain Awareness Week in WA, students and staff from The University of Western Australia conducted an interactive display of brain associated activities at Scitech Discovery Centre on the 17th and 18th of March. Children and their parents were engaged in games, illusions, tests and activities all designed to teach them more about their brains. Particular favourites were the comparative brain displays where children could handle real brains and the body art neurons and balloon animals given out to the younger children. Scitech put on a "Brain Odyssey" show several times a day and The University of WA staff and students were on hand for "Meet the Scientist" sessions at the close of each show. This association with Scitech provides a valuable annual focus for the Brain Awareness Week activities in WA.

Lindy
Fitzgerald

The 9th Annual Australian Course in Advanced Neuroscience

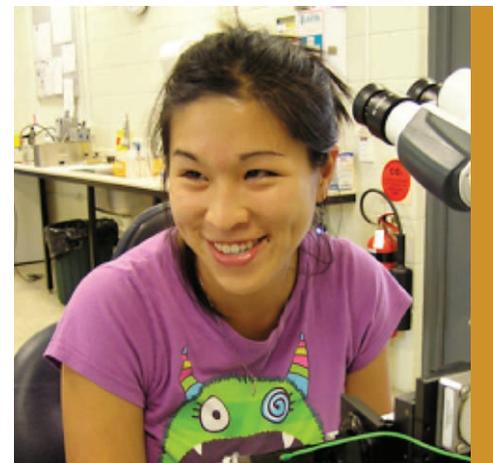
April 2013

The 9th Annual Australian Course in Advanced Neuroscience ACAN 2013 will soon be under way at the University of Queensland's Moreton Bay Research Station on North Stradbroke Island, near Brisbane. Students, lecturers and laboratory instructors will be arriving on Sunday, 14th April, for the three-week course.

During the course, participants will:

- attend lectures about the fundamentals of cellular neuroscience
- receive extensive hands-on laboratory training in patch clamping and live cell imaging using the latest equipment
- undertake a research project of their own choosing.

The twelve students attending the 2013 course will be: Will Brown *Swinburne University*, Anne Harasta *University of NSW*, Yeri Kim *University of Auckland*, Lee Fletcher *QLD Brain Institute*, Ivan Hong *Murdoch University*, David Kaplan *Florey Neuroscience Institutes*, Melissa Mangala *University of Western Sydney*, Clement Menuet *University of Melbourne*, Jennifer Robertson *ANU*, Adrienne Wilson-Poe *Kollings Institute*, Melvyn Yap *QLD Brain Institute*, and Jiann Wei Yeoh *University of Newcastle*. A total of 27 lecturers and lab demonstrators will also be attending for various periods of time. The 'Hot Topics' lectures will be given by Peter Silburn *University of Queensland* and Tony Hannan *Florey Neuroscience Institutes/University of Melbourne*.



ANS News from New Zealand

Brain Days as part of Brain Awareness Week (16th March and 23rd March)

For the eighth year running, the Neurological Foundation of New Zealand proudly sponsored the New Zealand contribution to the global initiative Brain Awareness Week. This year the focus was on four large 'Brain Day' events held in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin, and one public lecture in Queenstown.

Each of the Brain Days gave the New Zealand public a unique opportunity to hear from some of New Zealand's leading neuroscientists and clinicians. In between lectures, people mixed and mingled with local community support groups who provided information stands and answered questions about their services in the community. A number of centres provided several hands on displays that were manned and coordinated by the Neuroscience postgrads. Overall the Brain days around NZ attracted around 4000 people.

Talks showcased some of NZ's outstanding Neuroscience research including Alzheimer's treatments (Prof Warren Tate, Dunedin); Tinnitus (Prof Paul Smith, Dunedin) Mood Disorders (Prof Paul Glue, from Dunedin in Wellington); Stem Cells (A/Prof Bronwyn Connor, from Auckland in Christchurch); MS (Dr Debbie Mason, from Auckland in Christchurch); The Cutting Edge of Neuroscience (Mr Ed Mee, Neurosurgeon in Auckland) and Mind Wandering (Prof Mike Corballis, Auckland).



Popular hands-on activities included Animation workshops (Face-Facts from Weta Workshops in Auckland), Brain EEG measurements (Dunedin), Brain displays and Brain and Art.

Brain Bee New Zealand

The online tests are underway before the regional finals get underway in the forthcoming winter!

U3A Activities down South

In February, deep down in the South Island of New Zealand, in Invercargill, members of the University of Otago BHRC (Brain Health Repair Centre) provided a Course on Neuroscience to the U3A membership of Invercargill. This was ably organised by Dr Bill Ward, previously an anaesthetist in the South Island. The course was very well received by the membership and everyone learnt something new! A/Professor John Reynolds taught "Basic Human Neuroanatomy"; Dr Ruth Empson explained "Movers and Shakers: Cerebellar Function", Dr Jon Shemmell discussed "Rehabilitation from Stroke" Professor Paul Smith spoke about the "Effects of Drugs on the Brain", Dr Ruth Napper talked about "Foetal Alcohol Syndrome" and Professor Cliff Abraham tried "Cracking the Code" with his explanations of Brain Mechanisms of Memory. All the speakers thank the U3A at Invercargill for their warm, southern hospitality.



Caption

Left: Profs Warren Tate and Cliff Abraham enjoy Prof Paul Smith's talk in Dunedin, Otago

Top: Auckland's next generation of Neuroscientists

Bottom: Otago Brain Health Research Centre Postgrads try and explain the workings of the brain to a member of the public!

April 2013



Upcoming Conferences

The 44th International Narcotics Research Conference

Cairns, Queensland, 14-18 July, 2013

This meeting features all aspects of opioid research from cellular signaling, molecular biology and medicinal chemistry through addiction research and pain management.

Website: www.dccconferences.com.au/inrc2013/home

The 1st Australasian Brain Stimulation Meeting

Melbourne, 25-26 July, 2013

This meeting will, for the first time, present a multidisciplinary showcase of the exciting brain stimulation work that is occurring throughout Australasia.

Website: <http://absmeet.org/>.

The Federation of European Neuroscience Societies (FENS) Featured Regional Meeting 2013

11-14 September, 2013, Prague, Czech Republic

Online registration and abstract submission is now open on the meeting website - www.fensrmpague2013.com. Please note that the deadline for Early Registration and Abstract Submission has just been extended to 30 April 2013.

The 3rd International Conference on Medical Bionics

*Silverwater Resort, Phillip Island
Victoria, Australia, 17-20 November, 2013*

This unique biannual conference attracts neural prosthesis researchers and clinicians from a broad range of disciplines. Topics include the design, development and commercialisation of neural prostheses; the electrode-tissue interface; cochlear implants; visual prostheses; cortical prostheses; and "blue sky" research.

Website: <http://www.medicalbionics.org.au>

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 12 July 2013.

ANS Policy on Requests for Publicity via Email Circulation

The policy of ANS is to minimise email traffic to members. Advertisements for meetings and other significant announcements such as job vacancies can be added to the website and included in the newsletter if appropriate. Such requests should be directed to the ANS Secretary.

Authorised by

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Minutes

Australasian Neuroscience Society Annual General Meeting

15.40pm, Tuesday 5th February 2013, Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

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1. Attendance and apologies

Simon Gandevia

2. Minutes of the 2012 Annual General Meeting

The minutes were previously circulated in the April newsletter

Motion: That the minutes of the ANS General meeting held at the Gold Coast on Jan 31st 2012 are accurate.

Moved: Joe Lynch;
Seconded: John Rostas;
Vote: unanimous

3. President's report

3.1 The President expressed the Society's gratitude to Professors Pankaj Sah and James Vickers for providing ANS members with the

opportunity to choose between two outstanding candidates for election as the next President. There had been a strong participation by the membership resulting in a close vote and the Society is pleased to announce that Professor James Vickers will be the next President of ANS and will assume the position of President-Elect from the end of this meeting.

3.2 ANS has signed a publishing agreement with Springer. This agreement will offer new opportunities for Australasian neuroscientists to publish with a leading international publishing house and has the possibility of raising the profile of Australasian neuroscience and ANS while providing some extra revenue.

3.3 The results of the on line forum in relation to the proposal to change the name of the Society to a name that acknowledges New Zealand as being part of the constituency of ANS, clearly indicated that a majority of members who voted were in favour of a name change. A total of 331 votes were received. Eighty percent of the votes favoured a name change as their first preference. 'Australasian Neuroscience Society' was by far the most popular option with 150 first choice votes. Adopting this new name would recognise New Zealand membership and signify the international and regional nature of ANS while retaining the abbreviation which has a lot of international recognition. The President had consulted with several senior Asian neuroscientists and was assured that his previous concern about the term Australasian being negatively viewed in Asia were unfounded.

3.4 As part of a bilateral agreement for encouraging research collaboration between Australia and Israel, the Australian and Israeli Governments sponsored a delegation of Australian neuroscientists to visit a number of institutions involved in neuroscience research in Israel in December 2012 and to participate in the Israeli Society for Neuroscience meeting in Eilat. The Israeli Society altered the conference program to provide every member of the Australian delegation with the opportunity to speak in a symposium and renamed the conference the first Binational

Australian-Israeli Neuroscience Conference. The delegation was supported by the simultaneous visit to Israel by the Australian Minister for Mental Health and Ageing, the Hon Mark Butler MP.

The members of the Australian delegation were:

Dr Alan Finkel
*FTSE President-elect ATSE,
Australian Delegation Leader*

Laureate Professor Sam Berkovic
*FAA FRS, Epilepsy Research Centre,
University of Melbourne*

Professor Ashley Bush
FTSE The Mental Health Research Institute

Professor Geoff Donnan
*AO Director, Florey Institute of Neuroscience
and Mental Health, Melbourne Brain Centre*

Professor Sarah Dunlop
Australian Neuroscience Society & UWA

Professor Andrew Kaye
*Professor of Surgery, Director of Neurosurgery
and Head, Department of Surgery, University
of Melbourne, The Royal Melbourne Hospital*

Laureate Professor Colin Masters
*FAA FTSE Director, Mental Health
Research Institute*

Minutes

Professor Michael Nilsson
Director, Hunter Medical Research Institute

Professor Linda Richards
*Queensland Brain Institute,
University of Queensland*

Professor John Rostas
*President, Australian Neuroscience Society,
Faculty of Health, University of Newcastle*

Professor Peter Schofield
Director, Neuroscience Research Australia

Professor Cindy Shannon Weickert
Neuroscience Research Australia

A number of recommendations were made by the delegation to build on the common/complimentary areas of interest and potential future collaboration between Israeli and Australian neuroscientists. One outcome was that the Australia Israel Research Exchange (AIRE) will soon announce the establishment of a travelling fellowship for early-mid career Australian researchers to travel to Israel for 2-4 weeks to explore opportunities for collaboration. Professor Geoff Donnan will chair the steering committee for this scheme that will assess applicants.

4. **Vote on special resolution to change the name of the Society (requires constitutional change)**

- Resolution: that the name of the Australian Neuroscience Society be changed to the Australasian Neuroscience Society.

Moved: John Rostas;
Seconded: Richard Faull;
Vote: 134 in favour, 19 against, 5 abstained.

This represents an 85% yes vote, well over the 75% required to pass this special resolution.

5. **Secretary's report**

The Secretary made two brief points. The first was to mention that the February 2013 ANS Council meeting had voted to cease publishing the print version the newsletter. This will save the Society >\$10k per year. He noted that the newsletter will still be produced in its current format but will be distributed to the membership by email in pdf form.

The second point was to state that Sally Jay had decided to terminate her association with ANS with effect 30 April 2013. The Executive had accepted this decision with great regret. The Secretary also expressed, on behalf of ANS, his gratitude for the extremely professional and personable service provided by Sally Jay and her associates over the past 11 years. A search had been undertaken

to appoint a new professional conference organiser and a recommendation had been made to Council. Council unanimously decided to appoint All Occasions Group (AOG) as the ANS conference organiser for Adelaide 2014. It was noted that no conference organiser would be required for the Cairns 2015 meeting as ISN has appointed their own professional conference organisation for this meeting. A decision has yet to be made on how ANS secretariat functions will be performed from this year. This decision will be made over the next few months.

6. **Treasurer's report**

Andrew Allen presented details of the Society's finances and provided a summary of the financial statement for year end September 30th 2012, outlining assets and investments and major items of expenditure, showing that overall ANS made a profit of \$82,133 in 2012. He also thanked Sally and Chris Jay, the ANS executive, the ANS Council and the Steve Ireland from HLB Mann & Judd SA, for their support and collective wisdom.

- Motion: That the financial statement for the year ending September 30th 2012 be accepted.

Moved: Andrew Allen;
Seconded: James Vickers;
Vote: unanimous

- Motion: That HLB Mann Judd SA be re-appointed as ANS auditors

Moved: Andrew Allen;
Seconded: Andrew Lawrence;
Vote: unanimous

7. **Vote on special resolutions to update constitution in accordance with ACT associations legislation**

- Resolution: that a new item 12.5 be added to section 12 (Annual General Meeting) of the ANS Constitution to read "No member shall be entitled to appoint another member as a proxy for the purpose of voting".

Moved: Joe Lynch;
Seconded: Pankaj Sah;
Vote: unanimous

- Resolution: that a new item 3.6 be added to section 3 (Membership) of the ANS Constitution to read "The Society does not undertake to discipline its members".

Moved: Joe Lynch;
Seconded: Paul Martin;
Vote: unanimous

Minutes

8. Editor's report

Steven Petrou reported on a new symposium organisers application form designed to clarify guidelines and expectations for organisers. He also asked for member input on the appropriateness of the existing selection of themes used to submit abstracts and organise the meeting. A report of the meeting statistics was given with over 1000 registrations and 532 posters making it one of the largest meetings on record. He also thanked the LOC and the programming committee for their hard work.

9. 2013 ANS Awards and Prizes

AW Campbell Award for best contribution by a member of the Society in their first 5 postdoctoral years is awarded to Dr Alex Fornito from the University of Melbourne and Melbourne Neuropsychiatry Centre.

Nina Kondelos Prize This is made possible by a donation from George Paxinos and named after his late sister and is for a female neuroscientist who has made an outstanding contribution to basic or clinical neuroscience research is awarded to Professor Louise Nicholson from The University of Auckland.

Paxinos-Watson Prize for the most significant neuroscience paper published in 2010. This award has been made possible by a generous donation to the Society by Professor George Paxinos and Professor Charles Watson, commemorating the publication of their important key reference text "The Rat Brain in Stereotaxic Coordinates". The Paxinos-Watson prize for 2012 is awarded to Soon Keen Cheong, Chris Tailby, Paul R. Martin, Jonathon B. Levitt and Samuel G. Solomon: Slow intrinsic rhythm in the koniocellular visual pathway. Proc Natl Acad Sci USA 108, 14659-14663 (2011)

10. Presentation of Honorary ANS membership to Perry Bartlett and Fred Mendelsohn

The 2012 AGM voted unanimously in favour of awarding Honorary ANS memberships to Professors Bartlett and Mendelsohn, both of whom were former Presidents of the Society. Their medallions were awarded at the 2013 AGM. Both spoke briefly to acknowledge their appreciation of being nominated for this award and Perry in particular spoke a few words about the challenges facing Australian neuroscience into the future (particularly for young neuroscientists).

11. Future ANS meetings

ANS 2014 will be held in Adelaide from Tuesday, 28 January through to Friday 31 January 2014. ANS 2015 will be held in Cairns from August 23-28 as a joint meeting with the International Society for Neurochemistry (ISN) and the Asian-Pacific Society for Neurochemistry (APSN). ANS 2016 will be held in Hobart at a date yet to be determined in December 2016.

12. Council members for 2013

Office Bearers:

President – Professor John Rostas
 President-elect – Professor James Vickers
 Secretary – Professor Joe Lynch
 Treasurer – Professor Andrew Allen
 Editor – A/Professor Steve Petrou

State and National Representatives:

ACT – Dr Riccardo Natoli
 NSW – A/Professor Kay Double
 New Zealand – Dr Ruth Empson
 Queensland – Dr Mike Piper
 SA – Dr Stuart Brierley
 Tasmania – Dr Tracey Dickson
 Victoria – Dr Chris Reid
 WA – Dr Lindy Fitzgerald

Public Officer:

A/Professor John Bekkers

13. Other business

None.
 Close 5 pm.

ANS President

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