



# ANZACA

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND  
ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL ANATOMISTS

April 3, 2019

# Newsletter



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

ANZACA  
CONFERENCE  
4-6 DEC 2019  
PERTH

Hi to our membership.

It was great to see many of you at the 2018 conference in Townsville. Monika Zimanyi and her local organizing committee provided us with a very stimulating conference in conjunction with colleagues from the Australasian Society of Human Biology (ASHB). This provided not only a broader range of presentations, particularly on the overlap day, but also a very extensive workshop program catering to a variety of different interests. Thanks to all of those involved in organizing the conference and associated social functions and congratulations to our prize winners. A more comprehensive report, including a list of prize winners is provided elsewhere in this newsletter.

Conference time coincides with our Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Council elections. It is great to see a couple of new faces on [Council](#) but unfortunately this also means we lose some members. As I indicated at the AGM, we have appreciated Monika's input on council for many years and Amanda Meyer has been a strong contributor for a shorter time. Amanda will be continuing her involvement through hosting the next ANZACA meeting in Perth this year.

Our new [website](#) is now well established and we have gone through a full cycle of setting up the pages for our next conference already (albeit in the background at this stage). This means we have reduced our maintenance contract with Neon Jungle (formerly Takeflight). The new site facilitated easier membership renewal processes and conference management so this investment should set us up well for the future.

Many of you will remember that [Simon Parsons](#) was one of our keynote speakers at the conference last year and probably also heard that Simon is the chair of [IFAA \(International Federation of the Associations of Anatomists\)](#), of which ANZACA is a member) 2019 Congress Programme Committee. Simon's presence spurred us on to sponsor two symposia that have been accepted for presentation by a number of ANZACA members at the 2019 congress. These symposia are '*Anatomy: its role in internationalisation of higher education and contribution to the knowledge society*' being organized by Quentin Fogg & Nalini Pather and '*Quantifying muscle anatomy and function in health and disease: what do we know, what are we doing and where are we going?*' being organized by Steph Woodley & Natasha Flack. More information on the IFAA Congress is contained elsewhere in this newsletter.

As many of you are also aware one of the items discussed at our AGM was a bid to host the IFAA Congress in 2024, a process that is being assisted by significant support from State Government conference organizing authorities. Many of you voted to choose between Melbourne and Sydney for our host city and Melbourne was the popular choice. A letter has recently been sent to the IFAA confirming our bid and we will wait to see what the process will involve in London.

I know most of us are well into the teaching year, but I hope many of you are already thinking about what you will be presenting at the 2019 ANZACA conference in Perth.

Happy reading! Cheers Rod

# ANZACA 2018 Conference

College of Medicine and Dentistry, James Cook University, Townsville



Delegates came from all over the world to attend the 2018 ANZACA conference, with representation from South Africa, United Kingdom, Poland, United States of America, India, New Zealand and all states and territories of Australia. Before the program kicked off, on Sunday we spent a few hours at the Quarterdeck with drinks, nibbles, good company, perfect weather and a beautiful outlook of Magnetic Island.

Unlike previous years, with pre-conference workshops, last year the main workshops were held after the conference, following a joint oral presentation session with attendees of the Australasian Society of Human Biology (ASHB). The conference was aptly themed "Advances in Human Biology – education, research and technology" and incorporated a number of workshops catering for those interested in *"Incorporating Evidence-Based Strategies for Learning in Your Classroom"* presented by Danielle Royer, *"Tweet your research"* by Siân Halcrow & Justyna Miskiewicz, *"Anatomy teaching for science and medical students: ideas and innovations"* by Simon Parson, *"Increasing Research Impact through Strategic Publishing and Media Attention"* by Alison Behie and *"Active learning: tips and tricks"* by Pam Megaw & Pete Johnson.

On the first day of the conference, we were welcomed to country by Michael Illin and our Dean of College Professor Richard Murray, before Professor Simon Parson presented his keynote presentation *"Practical Anatomy: The Challenge of Engaging All of Our Students"*. The next day Associate Professor Danielle Royer started the day with her keynote presentation *"Variation: Anatomical Constant, Clinical Imperative, Educational Dilemma"*.

Both days were filled with oral and poster presentations of the highest quality, as well as further workshops, which were all thought provoking and generated a good discussion. Although the decision was difficult, the judges awarded 4 prizes for best anatomical and educational oral and poster presentations. Casper Thorpe Lewis, Brooke Huuskes, Anneliese Hulme and Connor Blythe took home prizes of \$1,000 each for their outstanding work and presentations. Congratulations! Further, Jessica Ogilvie, Christina Byun, Connor Blythe, Nicolette Birbara and Teresa Drake

were successful applicants for Student Scholarships to attend the ANZACA 2018 Conference and were reimbursed for flights and registrations for the conference. Congratulations!

We would like to thank BEST Network, Primal Pictures, Wolters Kluwer, Wiley and McGraw Hill Education for their sponsorship of this event and we'd like to say thank you to all of you for coming to Townsville and sharing your wisdom, knowledge, your skills and insight with all of us and making this another successful conference. I look forward to catching up in 2019 in Perth.

**Dr Monika Zimanyi, James Cook University, Townsville**  
On behalf of the ANZACA 2018 Organising committee





## ANZACA 2018 CONFERENCE AWARD WINNERS

**BEST CLINICAL ANATOMY RESEARCH ORAL PRESENTATION** Connor Blythe

Deconstructing the development of lumbar lordosis

**BEST EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ORAL PRESENTATION** Anneliese Hulme

Musculoskeletal anatomy knowledge retention in the chiropractic program at Macquarie University

**BEST CLINICAL ANATOMY RESEARCH POSTER** Casper Thorpe Lewis

Attachments to the medial aspect of the medial hallucal sesamoid bone

**BEST EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH POSTER** Brooke Huuskes

The effect of a pre-semester Kick-Start program on the academic performance of second year anatomy students in clinical undergraduate degrees



## ANZACA CONFERENCE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

In 2017 the ANZACA Council initiated the **ANZACA Conference Student Scholarship** to enable students undertaking anatomical research, in an Australian or New Zealand university/institute, to attend an ANZACA conference to present their work. The scholarship is intended to provide financial support, to the value of \$1500, for the expenses associated with conference registration and return economy airfare to the host city.

In its second year, 10 students applied for the scholarship. There were sufficient funds available to award 5 scholarships to attend the ANZACA 2018 Conference in Townsville, Australia.

- **Jessica Ogilvie**, University of Western Australia

*Mitigating against neurophobia in a cohort of undergraduate science students*

- **Nicolette Birbara**, University of NSW

*Effectiveness of virtual learning experiences in collaborative learning: a pilot study*

- **Connor Blythe**, Queensland University of Technology

*Deconstructing the development of lumbar lordosis*

- **Teresa Drake**, Queensland University of Technology

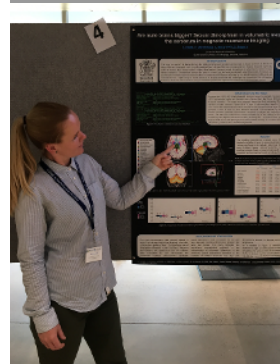
*Are male brains bigger? Sexual dimorphism in volumetric mapping of the cerebrum in magnetic resonance imaging.*

- **Christina Byun**, University of NSW

*A two-year retrospective audit of paediatric regional anaesthetic practice in Australia: suggestion for improved clinical and training guidelines.*



Each scholarship recipient is required to submit a report of their experience after the conference. A selection of their experiences are shared here.



*"Everyone at the conference was very supportive of students presenting their work which really made a positive impact on my overall experience on presenting which was amazing."*

*"The overwhelming sense of support by all ANZACA members made it really easy to approach new and ongoing members about their research and interests."*

*"Not only did I get to share ideas and knowledge, ANZACA offered a time for us to think about the reality of clinical anatomy research and education through mentorship programs and discussion sessions."*

*"It was invaluable for me to participate in this conference, communicating my research focus and listening to the ideas of and receiving feedbacks from the world's top anatomists."*

*"One of the most important things I gain as I attend and participate in conferences is confidence in my work, in presenting my work and in discussing my work with others."*

*"Participating and presenting my research at this conference (my first one) really increased my confidence as a public speaker and as an anatomy researcher, both by having an amazing and supportive community but also having discussions and collaborative ideas with new and ongoing ANZACA members."*

*"I have never felt so supported; this week I feel as though I have been initiated into the ANZACA family."*





# A Student's Reflection on the ANZACA 2018 Conference



Attending ANZACA as someone who recently completed her Masters of Research, unsurprisingly resulted in a river of positive experiences that left me feeling inspired, motivated and hopeful.

Perhaps, what echoed most to me and my research was the humanistic approach well embedded in all the presentations- particularly, the acknowledgments and genuine respect towards donors and their families. Not only did this simple, yet essential gesture from the presenters beget an ethos of respect towards the most important stakeholder in anatomy – it fostered a welcoming culture of homage and inclusiveness to everyone at the conference.

By creating opportunities for students to get involved in assisting the chairpersons during the sessions, Dr Zimanyi foreshadowed this sense of inclusiveness felt throughout the three day duration of the conference. It was also evident during question time after each presentation. The lively discussions after each presentation were encouraging to not only the speaker, but also the audience. It was clear that everyone shared the same vision (but different optic nerves) and commitment to research and teaching of anatomy.

Observation of the dynamics between the audience, speakers as well as the chairpersons made me feel confident approaching anyone for advice, question or insight. Conveniently, gaining insight from experienced anatomists was a goal I wanted to ensure I fulfilled at ANZACA – and boy, did my VTA produce abnormal amounts of dopamine whilst doing so.

A few themes emerged from the conversations had:

1. Make time for people who you can see potential to have a professional working relationship with.
2. Spend time and energy with people who share the same vision as you.
3. Everyone's time is valuable, spend yours wisely and consider others'.
4. When you can, offer a hand or a skill to someone in need.
5. Always be open to learning.
6. Take pride in your work and be proud that you are able to contribute knowledge in a discipline as magnificent as anatomy.

Overall, as an aspiring anatomist, it was a valuable experience to attend ANZACA and be around like-minded people. The positive motivation gained from listening to the thoughts and hopes articulated so well by experienced anatomists is something I hope I can give back to a student one day. The future of anatomy in Australia and New Zealand is bright. Thanks to the effort and passion that everyone has brought forward and put into the association, it is promising that the Achilles' heel will remain an anatomical structure, rather than depicting the future of anatomy.

**Joyce El-Haddad, Macquarie University, Sydney**



# Anatomy in Transition – A Case Study

Anatomy departments mean different things to different people, and this is reflected in the diverse nature of what are called anatomy departments. Of course, all are not departments in their own right, but that is not the point. What does 'anatomy' mean to those within anatomy-type units? My experience within one such entity may be interesting to others.

When I arrived in the Department of Anatomy in Otago in October 1983, as Professor of Anatomy and Head of Department, it was a largely teaching Department and was principally devoted to the teaching of medical and dental students, with a small contribution teaching physical education students. Research occurred in the Department at a low level, and PhD students were thin on the ground. My goal was to transform the Department into a research-based one with a strong presence in science teaching at all levels.

I had learned from the two previous anatomy departments in which I had worked – University College London and University of Western Australia – that Anatomy had to be academically self-reliant, and not be dependent upon the Faculty of Medicine (or any other professional faculty) for most of its students and financial support. Even more important, I had come to realize that if a discipline is to flourish, it has to be research-based. I had witnessed the tragedy of anatomy departments in the UK and USA being assimilated into other departments, and reduced to teaching-only sections within those departments. If the Otago department was to avoid this fate, it had to realize that it is a discipline in its own right capable of holding its head high among all the other departments in the University. To do this its teaching and research had to be of the highest standard.

Gradually staff were appointed who were committed to research and who wanted to see the Department grow as a strong academic unit. The transformation took at least 10 years. As the research within the Department took off, so did the breadth of the Department.

By 1996 the Department had become a modern scientific department and had cast off its image as simply the handmaiden of surgery. At the time there was a handful of PhD students, and I boldly (or foolishly) suggested that there should be closer to 40!

An underlying thrust from the 1980s onwards has been to develop a Department that is broad and cross disciplinary, in which people with different perspectives are able to interact informally and naturally. Any department should be a community – of interests, expertise, scholars and people. The department has even been described by one outsider as a school of biological sciences. For me, the underlying thread holding everything together in an anatomy department is structure/organization – from the molecular and genetic through to the macroscopic and human population levels.

Over more recent years, the continually increasing stature of the Department has been due to the appointment of highly successful academic staff, capable of obtaining research funding and contributing to the Department as well as to the University as a whole.

There are four major research groupings within the Department – biological anthropology; clinical anatomy; neuroscience; and reproduction, genomics and development. It is encouraging to note that clinical anatomy is one of these, and that its contribution is recognized as an integral part of the broad-based research endeavours of the Department. It goes without saying that its teaching and educational contribution is seminal for a health science department, and it is here that it serves as a core driver of the department as a whole.

**Gareth Jones**  
**Emeritus Professor**  
**Department of Anatomy, University of Otago**





Dear President of IFAA member Associations, friends and colleagues,

As the year draws to a close, I would like to reflect on some of the achievements of the IFAA in 2018.

The year has been most productive:

- Communication with member Associations has markedly increased through Plexus, messages from the Vice President and emails from the President
- Work by FICEM has produced a thought-provoking document on the public display of plastinated bodies and also a number of slides for use by members on the provenance of bodies around the globe
- Power point presentations on the structure and functions of the IFAA in several languages have been posted on the IFAA Website for use by individuals and Associations
- The Constitution has been updated in light of various items important to the functioning of the IFAA
- Twelve new associations have become provisional members of the IFAA, the largest number of associations to join in recent years. A large number of these associations are from Africa, thus establishing contact with local anatomists and developing an IFAA footprint on this vast continent
- The working groups in FIPAT continue to make progress while the IFAA deliberates on a new Chair, following the resignation of Professor John Fraher early in 2018
- Important progress has been made in core curriculum development by FIPAE
- FiCED has had discussions on a number of terms that require modification in the light of diversity and equality issues
- An IFAA survey of emergent anatomists across the globe has focussed on the career and professional needs of our future anatomists

The IFAA2019 Congress will be the place "to be" for all anatomists in 2019 – numerous symposia have been submitted to Professor Ceri Davis and the organising committee, who are hard at work planning the programme.

## *The 19th Congress of the International Federation of Associations of Anatomists (IFAA 2019)*

**ExCel, London, UK  
9-11 August 2019**

Registration and  
abstract submission  
opens:

**1 October 2018**

Early bird registration  
and abstract  
submission deadline:

**22 April 2019**

Thus it has been a very busy year, but a year which I hope will be remembered for the progress which we have made. I would like to thank all the member Associations for your contributions to the IFAA and our programmes and committees over the past year. I look forward to a New Year in which the IFAA and the discipline of anatomy will continue to thrive!

Wishing you and your families a festive season filled with peace, happiness and good health!

Best wishes

Bev Kramer

**Professor Beverley Kramer**  
B.Sc.Honours, PhD, FAS (Hon), FAAA ,  
FASN (Hon)

**Professor Emeritus**

**President: International Federation of Associations of Anatomy (IFAA)**

## Reflections on my working visit to Sri Ramachandra Medical College, India. February 2019

"Good morning sir" the class of 240 said in unison as they stood up. Naturally, I looked behind to see who'd just walked in, then realised they're referring to me! This was my first teaching day and just one of the things that disorientated me during my time as visiting Professor of Anatomy at Sri Ramachandra Medical College (SRC), Chennai. And this is a brief account of my stay.

The medical College is part of the Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research, offering a 4.5- year MBBS for school leavers, organised like the UK MBBS. It was established in 1985 and is associated with a large, 1800- bed, multi- speciality hospital. It also runs courses in dentistry, pharmacy, nursing and allied health, with each cohort wearing a different coloured tunic so they are instantly recognisable on campus. My visit started with my participation in the Society of Clinical Anatomists Annual Conference. This was like the ANZACA conference, but much bigger. The presentations were broadly similar and the enthusiasm and approaches to education indistinguishable. We even shared the same pain of trying to introduce change. A major point of difference was the conference food. I've never seen so much food and it centred around curry- even for breakfast. Wonderful! It turns out that India's solution to speaking so many versions of Indian across the country is to speak English, so language isn't a barrier, although on occasion it took me a couple of minutes to get my ear tuned in. Of course, this is a familiar adaptation if you've ever gone to remote Australia or corners of the UK. I found everyone busy, but they always found time to be courteous.

The scientific content of the meeting much the same as ANZACA, with a mix of basic science and teaching-focussed research. The big difference was that everyone gave an oral presentation, there being no posters. As SRMC was very large, there was no problem finding enough rooms for the presenters, but I missed the poster as I like the opportunity to chat informally to poster presenters. I must presume the SOCA budget is much greater than ANZACA as there seemed to be flowers and gifts galore for presenters. The vice-chancellor attended a good portion of the first day, and the whole event was video-recorded. The preconference workshop was enlightening. It focussed on embalming techniques and I gave the audience the benefit of my experience of these in the UK and Australia for teaching, research and surgical training. The main trend in India is to adopt new embalming techniques with reduced formalin concentrations. For SRMC, the Times of India reported on the preconference workshop, announcing that "The amount of formalin will be reduced from 30% to 4% in the new technique" (!). After spending time in the dissection rooms of SRMC and especially the Christian Medical College in Vellore, I had to agree that such a reduction was urgently needed, as memories of my own 1970's anatomy training in the UK-eyes and nose streaming- came flooding back.

The grounds of both Medical Colleges were much more manicured than I'm accustomed and they contrasted starkly with the chaos of the adjacent streets. Inside, I was struck by the primary focus on teaching and the relative lack of traces of ongoing research in peoples' offices, such as a half-written manuscript or half-constructed/repaired piece of lab equipment. SRMC has a centralised research facility with next generation sequencing and confocals and the like and there is a strong will to improve research performance. As we all know in anatomy, there are always occasions where a DIY approach is the only option, and I was impressed by the 'can do' attitude of staff-of which there seemed to be a much greater number than in UK or Australian medical schools. I was also surprised that when students were asked to do preparatory work, they did it. This was clear when I taught them. Students were happy to return the (correct) answer to factual questions before I had time to get the last part of the sentence out. Applied questions and critical analyses were less successful in my hands. All the students knew that a needle inserted into the intercostal space, needed to be near the upper border of the lower rib, but try as I might, I couldn't get anyone to criticise this approach because of the potential risk to the collateral intercostal vessels. My assessment of this is that the students, probably do have questions, but are just too polite to question the lecturer, let alone question what it says in the text book. If these students could combine their encyclopaedic knowledge with a critical approach to learning that sought out logic and concepts, they'd wipe the floor with others around the world.

Our students might take note of the diligence of their Indian counterparts regarding preparation for classes and attention during them. No-one was on Facebook and, because every teaching session is mandatory and recorded by a fingerprint scan, they all turned up. My Indian colleagues listened incredulously to my stories of Australian lecturers giving lectures to classes of only 1 or 2 students and explaining that this was a consequence of lectures being recorded and attendance being optional. With respect to teaching research, the staff were more up to date than me (not difficult) and they were very keen to adopt methods like mixed mode, AR/VR and flipped classroom approaches. Indeed, I managed, with the help of two very able AV technicians to record 10 neuroanatomy lectures as part of the National Programme for Technology Enhanced Learning that will be made available via TV nationally and for free. Overall, anatomy and medical students were much the same as anywhere else in the world, but there were nuances. And the value of a visit such as this is that the points of difference that might have a positive impact on our respective institutions can be identified and hopefully implemented. As a result, I'm now off to by a fingerprint scanner and a Faraday cage to lock down Facebook!

**Ian Johnson, Macquarie University, Sydney**

*Editor: see photos from Ian's visit to India on page 9*





Society of Clinical Anatomists Conference, Chennai, 2019



Sri Ramachandra Medical College, Chennai (Left) and Christian Medical College, Vellore (Right)

1-4 July, 2019

blue sky thinking -  
Capitalise Your Ideas

<http://www.anzahpeconference.com.au/>

ANZAHPE  
2019

National Convention Centre Canberra, ACT

## Invitation to participate in a survey: Anatomy Lab Experiences Survey. Hull York Medical School

We are recruiting for research study regarding anatomy lab experiences in relation to black humour, and would appreciate your participation. We are seeking input from anybody who has ever been involved in anatomy labs, including: health professions students, anatomy students, anatomy lab staff, and anatomy faculty. This is an international study, and the only requirement to participate is anatomy-lab experience, of any kind.

What is involved? Complete the online survey, which will take about 10 minutes. That's it! We appreciate your time and sharing your perspective! Participation is voluntary and all responses will be treated in confidence and be anonymous. Any results will be published for public access. This study has been given Ethical Approval by the Hull York Medical School Ethics Committee (Reference #18 32).

Thank you! Please feel free to respond or contact the primary researcher (Angelique Duenas, [hyad29@hyms.ac.uk](mailto:hyad29@hyms.ac.uk)) with any questions or concerns.

[Survey Link](#)

## NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Please email any reports, articles or photos for  
the next newsletter.



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- Australian and New Zealand Association of Clinical Anatomists (ANZACA) Conference. Perth, Australia. 4-6 December, 2019
- The American Association of Anatomists (AAA). Orlando, USA. 6-9 April, 2019
- Anatomical Society of Southern Africa. Pilanesberg, South Africa. 7-10 April, 2019
- The American Association of Clinical Anatomists (AACA). Tulsa, U.S. 11-15 June 2019
- European Association of Clinical Anatomists. Madrid, Spain. 24-26 June 2019
- The British Association of Clinical Anatomists (BACA).
  - Summer Meeting University of Central Lancashire. 2 July 2019
  - Winter Meeting University of Newcastle. 17 December 2019
- 21st International Conference Sports Science and Kinetic Anatomy. Copenhagen, Denmark. 11-12 June 2019
- Australian and New Zealand Association for Health Professional Educators. Canberra, Australia. 1-4 July 2019
- 23rd Annual International Association of Medical Science Education (IAMSE) Meeting. Roanoke, USA. 8-11 June, 2019