



Australian & New Zealand Association of Clinical Anatomists Inc.

Newsletter, May 2013

President's report

2012 Annual ANZACA Conference, University of New South Wales, December 9-11

The Association's 9th Annual Conference was hosted by the University of NSW and held at Coogee Beach, Sydney from December 9-11 and was a very successful and enjoyable meeting. Congratulations to co-chairpersons Patrick de Permentier and Nalini Pather and colleagues for all their efforts.

The major theme of the conference was advancing clinical anatomy education and research and, as with our meetings in the last three years, an overseas speaker Professor Wojciech Pawlina from the Mayo Clinic Rochester Minnesota was the principal invited speaker. Professor Pawlina wears a number of hats; he is heavily involved in curriculum development and innovation at Mayo Medical School, he teaches anatomy to medical students, residents and other health care professionals and is also chair of anatomical education of the International Federation of Associations of Anatomists (IFAA). He gave an excellent keynote address on learning, social media and social networks in anatomy education and also a workshop on anatomy teaching. Other guest speakers were Malynda Flarey from the NSW Department of Health and Estelle Lazer from Sydney University. Once again we had many research presentations from honours and higher degree students highlighting the strength of research in Australian and New Zealand institutions in applied and clinical anatomy. Increasingly anatomy-teaching contributions are directed at use of modern technology and ranged from the use of e-learning to teach clinical anatomy, on-line discussion forums, an anatomy virtual laboratory and Youtube video to learn about the anatomy of the heart. In addition to two full days of platform presentations there were more than 40 excellent poster presentations scheduled.

Prizes

Prizes were awarded for the top two oral presentations and best posters in the categories of research and education. Adam Semciw and colleagues from Latrobe University won the prize for the best oral presentation with his paper titled '*Electromyographic profiles of anterior and posterior segments of gluteus minimus during gait*'. The runner-up oral presentation prize was awarded to Alexandra Webb and colleagues from ANU and the University of Southampton for the paper '*Implementation of eLearning in anatomy: key factors for success*'. The prize for the best research poster was won by Stanley Serafin and colleagues from Macquarie University for '*MRI investigation of the relationship between lumbar disc degeneration and multifidus atrophy*'. Chris Smith and colleagues from the University of Otago won the best education poster prize for '*The anatomy poster library: development of a departmental resource*'.

Changes to Council

In 2013 Phil Blyth, formerly secretary of the association, became President, replacing Chris Briggs. Vaughan Kippers has taken on the role of secretary, replacing Phil and Rod Green is the assistant treasurer, looking after Australian finances. Stephanie Woodley from the University of Otago and Kristy Weir from the University of Queensland were appointed to council at the 2012 meeting. Kristy has taken on responsibility for the newsletter. New appointments to council for 2013 are Alexandra Webb from ANU and Ian Johnson from the University of Adelaide.

International Federation of Associations of Anatomists (IFAA)

Chris Briggs provided an update on progress to host the 2019 meeting of the above organization in Australia or New Zealand (it meets every five years with the 2014 conference taking place in Beijing). During 2012 Chris met with representatives of convention bureaus from Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne to discuss the possibility of the meeting being hosted in one of the cities and if we go ahead with a bid it is suggested Brisbane be the venue for July/August 2019. An expression of interest is due before the end of April.

Marius Fahrer

Members of ANZACA will be saddened to learn that Mr Marius Fahrer passed away in February 2013 (see report from Pierre Chapuis and Norm Eizenberg). Marius was a senior fellow in the Department of Anatomy and Neuroscience at the University of Melbourne and before that senior lecturer in the Department of Anatomy at the University of Queensland. Marius was a former member of the Anatomical Association of Australia and New Zealand and a founding member of ANZACA, elected as one of our three honorary members in 2010. Marius was a gracious man with an encyclopaedic knowledge of anatomy. He had a wonderful sense of humour and will be missed by all who came in contact with him.

-Chris Briggs

ANZACA President (2008 - 2012)

List of upcoming conferences – prepared by Dr Monika Zimanyi

5th International Symposium of Clinical and Applied Anatomy and 1st Paneuropean Meeting of Anatomists Joint meeting

Graz, Austria, May 24-26, 2013

<http://www.iscaa-pma-graz.at>

The Human Anatomy and Physiology Society

HAPS 27th Annual Conference

Las Vegas, Nevada, US, May 25-30, 2013

<http://www.hapsweb.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=3>

History and Cultural Representations of Human Remains Conferences

Exhibiting Human Remains at the Hunterian Museum, London, 4 June, 2013

<http://corpsetmedecine.hypotheses.org/4431>

European Joint congress of Clinical Anatomy

Lisbon, Portugal, June 26-29, 2013

<http://www.eaca2013.com>

Anatomical Society

Dublin, Ireland, July 4-5, 2013

<http://www.anatsocmeeting.co.uk/ibis/summer-2013/home>

American Association of Clinical Anatomists

Denver, Colorado, US, 9-13 July, 2013

<http://www.clinical-anatomy.org/upcomingmeetings.html#Denver>

XXIII International Symposium on Morphological Sciences

Niigata, Japan, September 10-13 2013

<http://www.isms2013.jp>

18th Congress of International Federation of Associations of Anatomists (IFAA)

Beijing, China, August 8-10, 2014

<http://www.csas.org.cn/ifaa2014/index.html>

Are you running an anatomy workshop in 2013 or 2014 that may interest other anatomists?

Please email monika.zimanyi@jcu.edu.au or kristy.weir@uq.edu.au the details so that we can include it in upcoming newsletters to encourage education of our educators.

Did you know ANZACA has a Facebook page?

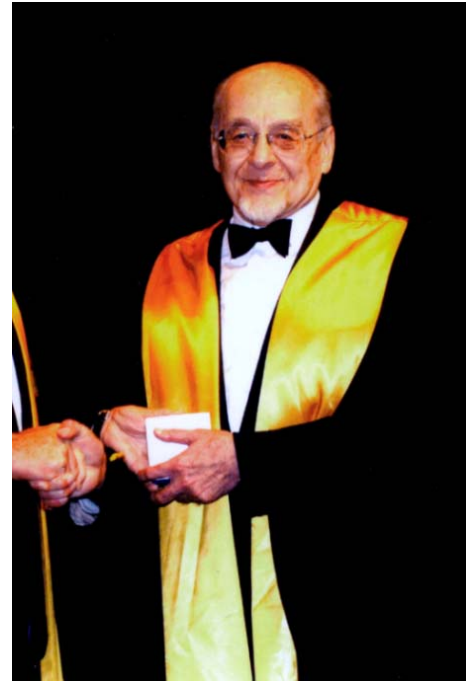
Go to <http://www.facebook.com> and search for 'ANZACA'

If you would like to contribute items to the ANZACA Facebook page please contact Jamie Chapman – Jamie.Chapman@utas.edu.au

MARIUS FAHRER FRACS
SURGEON-ANATOMIST
27 MARCH 1927 - 27 FEBRUARY 2013

Marius was born in Romania in 1927 and graduated from the University of Bucharest in 1951. In 1953 he received his MD and went on to specialist training in orthopaedics. At the height of the communist upheaval he was forced to flee Romania and sought refuge in France in 1962. He completed his training in hand surgery and obtained the postgraduate Diploma of Hand Surgery working at the Nanterre Hospital in Paris. He was greatly influenced by Marc Iselin, who had pioneered the specialty in France.

In 1963 Marius immigrated to Australia and was appointed Lecturer at the School of Anatomy at the University of Queensland. I have it on good authority that at his interview, Michael Hickey, then Professor of Anatomy and a respected classical scholar in his own right, conducted the interview in some Latin and a little Italian ... for this was the only means of communicating with the candidate who spoke little or no English. However, he had no difficulty with French or German, although Romanian, he would always say, was **not** an exceedingly useful language in which to conduct a job interview!



Marius Fahrer receiving his ESR Hughes medal from the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

Those early years in Queensland were difficult for Marius, yet with his usual enthusiasm and dedication, he quickly overcame his problem with English, so that by the time I knew him, as a second year medical student in the mid-sixties, he could deliver a fifty-minute lecture without difficulty or apprehension. His lectures were always well received by students who very much appreciated being taught by someone who knew his way around the body as a practising surgeon. His method of teaching anatomy was appreciated by all who attended his tutorials as he strongly emphasised a regional approach using succinct, clinically-relevant facts, clearly described and demonstrated by dissection. His illustrations using coloured chalk and a blackboard were a highlight in the dissecting room.

In 1967 Marius re-qualified when he obtained his MB, BS by examination from the University of Queensland and was registered to practise by the Queensland Medical Board in the same year. He achieved this by studying and working during University term breaks as an RMO in various country hospitals. He was elected Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in 1985.

Whilst in France Marius developed a very close friendship with Raoul Tubiana at the Institute of Hand Surgery in Paris affiliated to the University Department of Orthopaedics at the Hôpital Cochin. His unique expertise as a professional anatomist and surgeon was much admired and his research output during those times was prolific.

He established important networks with such greats in his speciality as Professors Verdan, Tubiana, Lisfranc, Rabischong and other members of the famed French "Group d'Etudes de la Main" (also known as the GEM club) as well as international lights such as Erik Moberg from Sweden, Graham Stack in the UK, Kaplan, Little and Flatt in the US, Zancolli from Argentina not to mention John Hueston, Bernie O'Brien and Wayne Morrison in Melbourne.

In 1969 Marius Fahrer was promoted to Senior Lecturer in Anatomy at the University of Queensland. In both 1975 and 1980 the University of Paris invited him as visiting Professor of Anatomy. It was during this period that he worked tirelessly to translate, revise, edit and contribute additional original material to the English edition of Raoul Tubiana's seminal treatise "Traité de Chirurgie de la Main". Today this remains an authoritative reference for surgery of the hand and upper limb and a testimony to Fahrer's scholarship.

Throughout the 1980s, Marius Fahrer ran postgraduate tutorials and supervised dissecting classes for Primary Surgery Fellowship candidates in Brisbane. He also gave special tuition for those preparing for examinations in Orthopaedics and Plastic surgery and was always available to organise specimens for College Viva Vocé examinations whenever they were held in Brisbane. This was in addition to teaching undergraduate students in medicine and physiotherapy and always in tune with his philosophy that anatomy is central to the study of surgery and the training of surgeons.

Marius always welcomed new challenges. In 1984 he retired from Queensland University and moved to Melbourne to take up the post of Director and Senior Specialist in charge of the Central Development Unit for Protheses and Orthoses in the Department of Veterans' Affairs based at the Heidelberg Hospital campus, a position that he held until his second retirement in 1994.

As soon as this second retirement began, Marius was recruited as an Honorary Senior Associate in the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology at The University of Melbourne, where he was a wise and knowledgeable mentor for staff, tutors and medical students from 1994 to 2011. In particular, he was a most valuable resource for identifying anatomical variants at dissection and checking whether they had been previously described in the departmental collection of large French and German books, many written more than a century ago. A favourite saying of Marius was a quote from Pickwick Papers by Charles Dickens: *"Nothing like dissecting, to give one an appetite..."*

Marius was also a long standing member of the Australian & New Zealand Association of Clinical Anatomists (ANZACA) as well as its predecessor, the Anatomical Society of Australia & New Zealand (ASANZ). He was conferred "Honorary Life Membership of ANZACA" in 2011.

Love of teaching has been central to Marius Fahrer's long and distinguished career. Together with Dr Norm Eizenberg at the University of Melbourne, Marius was a leading player in promoting the very successful conjoint College and Melbourne University (Private) Postgraduate Diploma of Surgical Anatomy and played an active role in the day-to-day supervision, teaching and examination of candidates in the dissection programme. In 2010 Marius received a meritorious service award from the University of Melbourne for his "outstanding contribution to the Postgraduate Diploma in Surgical Anatomy".

Marius Fahrer was always actively involved in research - the depth of his knowledge of European history and languages was invaluable in his work as the curator of the priceless Cowlshaw Collection of over 3,000 books housed in the College and he was a regular contributor to the Cowlshaw Symposium, for both of which he received the Kenneth Russell Memorial Medal in 2008.

Marius was first and foremost a respected clinician. He taught a generation of medical students and acted as mentor and supervisor to numerous surgical trainees. He gave freely of his time to the College. He was much respected by his peers both in Australia and abroad and he dedicated his professional life to preserving the fundamental essence of sound surgical training. It was for this and for his scholarship in the anatomical sciences that the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons awarded Marius the distinguished ESR Hughes medal at its 2006 Annual Scientific Congress in Sydney.

This award was richly deserved and humbly accepted, and like Cyrano de Bergerac in Rostand's play it was accepted *"sans un pli, sans une tache, j'emporte malgré vous, ... (avec) panache"*.

Marius Fahrer once described himself as "one of the few surviving specimens of that now extinct species of surgeon-anatomists" - sadly, so few of whom are left today. He was a gracious, elegant man and a wonderful raconteur with great panache and he will be sorely missed.

-Pierre Chapuis, DS (Q'ld), FRACS

-Norm Eizenberg, MBBS

ANZACA 2012 conference report

A joint meeting of ANZACA (Australian and New Zealand Association of Clinical Anatomists) and AIAS (Australasian Institute of Anatomical Sciences) was held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Coogee Beach from 9-11 December 2012. The theme of the conference was '**Advancing Anatomy Education and Research**' and featured a combination of clinical and radiological anatomy, embryology, anatomy education and anthropology. The international nature of the conference was evident by the attendance of delegates from South Africa, the United States, United Kingdom, Europe, Malaysia, India and Korea. In addition, there were a large number of delegates from Australia and New Zealand. The meeting was well sponsored by book publishers and anatomy laboratory suppliers.

Professor Nick Hawkins (Head, School of Medical Sciences, UNSW) opened the conference and provided interesting historical and future perspectives in Anatomy. There were a wide variety of oral and poster presentations, but the highlights of the conference were the keynote speakers, **Professor Wojciech Pawlina** (Mayo Clinic, Rochester, USA, and Editor-in-Chief of Anatomical Sciences Education) and **Dr Estelle Lazer** (University of Sydney). Professor Pawlina's speech centered on the challenges facing higher education in particular the 'Y-generation', millennium challenges and social media. His subsequent workshop examined the 'hidden curriculum' in modern curriculum design. Dr Lazer, a forensic anthropologist delivered an inspiring lecture entitled 'Pompeii AD 79: Anatomy of a mass disaster'. She presented her findings on an examination of the remains of the human victims of the AD 79 eruption of Mt Vesuvius in Italy providing insights into their lives and deaths. On a social note, the conference dinner cruise on Sydney Harbour was a unique experience for many delegates and provided a close-up view of the iconic Sydney Opera House and Harbour Bridge.

The success of this conference was reflected by much positive feedback such as:

Professor Helen Nicholson (Dean, Otago School of Medical Sciences, NZ) - "The conference provided a good balance of clinical anatomy original research and medical education papers. It had fantastic plenary speakers and attracting Dr Pawlina was a real coup. The number of students attending and the quality of their presentations indicates that Anatomy is not dead and is likely to have a healthy future in Australasia".

Dr Vaughan Kippers (University of Qld and ANZACA Council member) - "This meeting attracted a record number of registrations, which, in itself, is a major achievement, for which your organizing committee should be congratulated". "Very good choice of guest speaker - Wojciech is a deep thinker with many positive ideas. The keynote address and the workshop were both very informative".

Emeritus Professor Phil Waite (UNSW) - "I thought it was an impressive meeting, very well organized, great location and good mix of topics from cutting-edge e-learning to clinical imaging".



The conference ended with a prize giving ceremony and delegates looking forward to re-uniting at ANZACA 2013, to be hosted by the University of Queensland.

Patrick de Permentier and Nalini Pather
ANZACA 2012 conference co-chairpersons

The Organising Committees for ANZACA and AIAS 2012

Left to Right: Marcus Robinson (AIAS), Irina Dedova (ANZACA), Ken Ashwell (ANZACA), Nalini Pather (co-chairperson, ANZACA), Craig Hardman (ANZACA), Patrick de Permentier (co-chairperson, ANZACA), and Julie Sinuks (AIAS). Priti Pandey (ANZACA) was also a committee member.

As you all know Chris Briggs has stepped down from the Presidency of ANZACA and it seems an appropriate time to review the great contribution that Chris has made to Clinical Anatomy in general and to ANZACA in particular. Chris was a member of the now defunct Anatomical Society, but as we all know he was one of the architects behind the founding of ANZACA at a meeting hosted by Uni of Melbourne in 2004. Chris has been an inspirational teacher of anatomy over many decades to many thousands of students, his enthusiasm for knowledge has led to a wide variety of related interests and we have been very fortunate to have him as one of the leading lights of ANZACA in its formative years. ANZACA has always encouraged presentations to further both teaching and research in clinical anatomy, but has done so in a way that has encouraged participation by a wide variety of anatomists at different stages of their career, from honours students right through to senior anatomists. The high quality of the conferences has led to significant growth in membership over a relatively short period of time.



Associate Professor Chris Briggs

Thanks Chris, the ANZACA members have appreciated your contribution to the profession.

-Rod Green
ANZACA Assistant Treasurer

ANZACA 2013 CONFERENCE

29th – 30th November

Theme: Technology-enhanced anatomy learning and research

Venue: The University of Queensland, St Lucia campus, Brisbane, Australia

Thursday 28th November

- Preconference workshops
- Welcome reception in the evening

Friday 29th November

- Plenary Lectures, Free Papers & Posters
- Keynote Speaker: Professor Anne Agur, University of Toronto
- Conference Dinner

Saturday 30th November

- Symposia on Clinical Applications of Anatomy, Free Papers & Posters

Sunday 1st December

- Full day 'Meet the Speakers' event, Moreton Island

Please access the ANZACA website for further details <http://anzaca.otago.ac.nz/> or contact Dr Vaughan Kippers (v.kippers@uq.edu.au) with your enquiry.



SCHOOL OF
BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

www.uq.edu.au/sbms



Note the due date for ANZACA Travel Fellowship applications – 30th June, 2013

The ANZACA Travel Fellowship provides funding for up to \$2000 to assist recipients to travel to an overseas institution, to attend an international conference or combination of both in order to further their knowledge and education in anatomical sciences or in educational issues relevant for anatomists. Applicants must hold a current ANZACA membership and have been a member for at least 12 months. The deadline for the next round of applications is the 30th June 2013.

See the ANZACA website for further details – <http://anzaca.otago.ac.nz>



Group photo of the ANZACA 2012 conference delegates

VISIT THE ANZACA WEBSITE - <http://anzaca.otago.ac.nz>