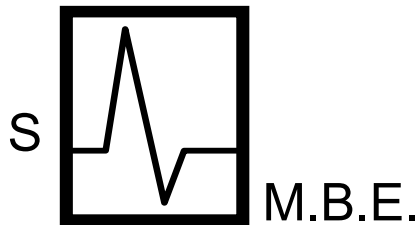


The Society for Medical &
Biological Engineering S.A.
Incorporated



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NEWSLETTER

February 2003

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*Australian Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering
International Federation for Medical and Biological
Engineering*

Scientific Meeting

Date: Tuesday 4th March 2003

Time: 5.30 PM Refreshments

6.00 PM Presentation

Venue: 3rd floor, Norwich House
King William Street
North Adelaide

Norwich House is across the road from The Women's and Children's Hospital.

"Principles of low flow anesthesia and spontaneous breathing modes of ventilation"

Alison Curren, Drager Australia

Anesthesia and ventilation techniques are always improving for better patient care. Learn what the latest trends are and how technology copes with improved clinical demands.

Family day BBQ

Our popular family day out is on again. All members and their families are invited to a fun day at Belair National Park. We have two tennis courts booked so bring your tennis rackets etc. If you have any other games suitable for picnics e.g. cricket, footy, bocce, bring them along. Please bring your own chairs, glasses and a picnic table if you have one.

When: Sunday 16th March 2003
10.00 am to 4.00 pm

Where: Tennis courts 35 and 36
Belair National Park.

A map is at the www site below.

<http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/parks/belair/>

What: You get the lot, i.e. meat, salads, bread, sauce, plates and drinks etc.

RSVP: We *must* hear from people who are coming so that we don't run out of food on the day. Please RSVP to Kerry Nelson at Helicon on 82232000 or email at helicon@chariot.com.au before COB 12th March and let her know how many people you will be bringing.

Drager/SMBE Award

The annual Drager/SMBE encouragement award this year has been awarded to Michelle Catlin from Biomedical Engineering at Flinders Medical Centre. The Council congratulates Michelle on receiving this award and hope she finds the NSW Biomedical Technician's Conference enjoyable and rewarding. Michelle's paper titled "Haemodialysis vs. Peritoneal Dialysis" is printed separately.

IEAust National Clinical Engineering Development Workshop

This annual event is to be held once again, but as this is the year of the World Congress rather than our annual EPSM meeting with which the workshop is normally associated, it is to be held in conjunction with the NSW SMBE Biomedical Engineering Seminar. It was felt that the World Congress is going to be too large and busy, already with many associated events, to attempt to connect yet another workshop.

This means that the workshop will be held over the weekend of March 22/23 at Coffs Harbour on the NSW north coast.

As a reminder, this IEAust workshop is designed for "up and coming" Clinical Engineering practitioners, at any level from technician through to engineer, who would benefit from developing and delivering a presentation on any one of a wide range of suggested topical and technical subjects. It can cater for approximately 8 participants and is mentored by a small group of experienced people in a non-threatening manner. It is very popular, highly successful and provides a valuable development and networking opportunity for people who are the future of our profession. Each day invariably ends up as a healthy and productive round table discussion on a broad range of topics.

The two days of workshop, the Saturday night dinner and accommodation is funded by IEAust. It is anticipated that participants stay on for the SMBE seminar to complete the overall experience.

If you feel that yourself or someone that works for or with you would benefit from this event please let Nina Lenz at IEAust know (nlenz@ieaust.org.au or 02 62706548) and she will dispatch a full information package. For people that may already be planning to attend the SMBE seminar this is an opportunity to add some extra value to your trip.

World Congress 2003

By now I would trust that everyone has August 24 - 29 firmly marked in their diaries. This World Congress is set to be singly the most exciting Biomedical Engineering event that most of us will witness here in Australia in our professional career. Twenty broad areas of interest, or tracks, with each of these containing up to fifteen specialist topics, two thousand registrants - a real who's who of our profession.

Now is definitely the time to prepare your abstracts and submit them. Papers, posters, discussion groups and topics are all catered for. Technical subjects and projects, organisational issues, professional topics, they will all be there with the ability to present to and mix with the broadest possible range of our international peers.

One thing to definitely keep in mind is that you should not feel intimidated by the scale and attendance of this event. The mix of attendees is the World Congress's biggest strength with substantial numbers coming from developing countries, our Asian neighbors being well represented along with the developed Western countries. Just as we can attend and learn much, so others will be attending to learn from and share ideas with us. Many ideas and strategies that we take for granted in our highly developed BME practice here in Australia will be just what many people are looking for. So check out the web site, submit that abstract and start planning your trip!!

On that note, watch this space for details of plans that are already emerging to make the trip affordable such as budget travel arrangements, shared affordable accommodation and the like. There is set to be an exodus of people from Adelaide, don't be one that gets the information second hand.

For any further info do not hesitate to contact me on 0416095120 or at arichards@cobweb.com.au.

More information on the World Congress can be obtained from the website at www.wc2003.org

Christmas Dinner 2002

Once again our Christmas Dinner was an outstanding success with some 70 members and partners enjoying the company of friends and colleagues and the hospitality of the Earl of Leicester. Such an event would not be possible, nor could it be provided at such good value for money, without the generous support of a number of companies that provide biomedical and medical device sales and support here in South Australia. The sponsors for our 2002 dinner are listed below and on behalf of the SMBE Council and membership we thank them for their generous support of the Society.

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EPSM 2003

A small South Australian contingent crossed the Tasman for the annual "Engineering and Physical Sciences in Medicine" EPSM conference.

This conference jointly sponsored by the Australasian College of Physical Scientists and Engineers in Medicine (ECPSEM), IEAust College of Biomedical Engineers and the Australasian Radiation Protection Society (ARPS). Due to the diversity of these interest bodies the conference presented three distinct streams throughout, biomedical engineering comprising one of those streams.

The opening keynote address by Peter Hunter, Professor in Engineering Science and Head, Biomedical Engineering Group, University of Auckland, set a strong biomed theme that balanced well, biomedical research within a clinical engineering environment. It was certainly good for some of those physicists attending, who have little comprehension about what the biomed do, to have the conference start in this manner.

General conference highlights for me were the quality of content presented as part of the IEAust Young Engineers Award and the continuing professional development workshops. There was a strong neuroscience flavour to the latter - by coincidence there is a strong expansion at the IMVS with research in this area.

Overall the conference streams presented enough content and diversity for there to always be something on the four conference days passing quickly.

Chris Jeffs

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