



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

Mark Oliphant Building, Laffer Drive,
Science Park Adelaide, Bedford Park, S.A. 5042
Telephone: 61-8-201 7500 Facsimile: 61-8-201 7510

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 1995

UPDATE ON NEW PULMONARY FUNCTION MEASUREMENT EQUIPMENT A REVIEW OF NEW DESIGNS AND EQUIPMENT APPLICATIONS

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR ALLAN CROCKETT
DEPARTMENT OF PULMONARY MEDICINE
FLINDERS MEDICAL CENTRE, SA**

WEDNESDAY 13th SEPTEMBER 1995

**11 BAGOT ST , NORTH ADELAIDE
(I.E.AUST OFFICES)**

**5.30 for 6.00pm Light Refreshments
6.00 pm start (approximately 45 mins)**

**IN ASSOCIATION WITH INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS AUSTRALIA,
BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING SA**

THIS ISSUE
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[Annual Student Paper Night](#)

president	Adrian Richards	The Queen Elizabeth Hospital	222 6533
Immediate past President	Robin Woolford	Repatriation General Hospital	275 1619
Vice President	Greg Smith	Helicon Technology	223 2000
Secretary	Tim Staker	The Queen Elizabeth Hospital	222 6259
Treasurer	John Kirby	The Queen Elizabeth Hospital	222 6218
Councillors	Roger Pirola	Accuson	018 806 295
	Maureen Merrick	Wakefield Memorial Hospital	223 3555
	Jo Harris	Acute Care Systems	018 800821
	Kurt Anderson	Anaequip Pty Ltd	293 7700
	Kevin O'Brien	Valleylab	377 0833
Editor	Robin Woolford		

REPORT ON ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Some 35 people attended the AGM held at the The Repatriation Hospital. Once again a very enjoyable meal was served and consumed over a few drinks and some social interaction. The business part of the meeting was brief with reports presented by Adrian Richards and John Kirby .Adrian discussed the achievements of the SMBE over the last year and some of the future aims.As Adrian is away at the moment a copy of his full report will be in the next newsletter.John presented a healthy report on the SMBE finances.

On the committee front Brian Bridger stepped down as a committee member and his position was filled by Jo Harris.Jo has recently returned to SA as representative for Acute Care Systems so you will no doubt be seeing more of her in the future. Adrian thanked Brian for his considerable contribution to the SMBE over a large number

of years. The other vacancies of vice-president, treasurer and councillor were filled by the restanding occupants as there were no other nominations.

Following the meeting we were entertained by an interesting presentation from Prof. Gary Andrews from the Centre for Aging Studies.

There is a lot more to aging than the obvious effects of hair loss and memory loss. It is the first time in history that we can expect to grow old. Prof. Andrews is currently involved in a longitudinal study of a group of people over 70 years of age. The oldest in the study is 103. All aspects of life are being considered with some interesting results. A large number of people were still sexually active despite the belief by children and young people that ones sex life was over by the time you reached 60 or so. The world's population is getting older and this is presenting many new challenges to society. In 1990 there were 400M people over 60 (9.7%) and the prediction for 2020 is 1000M (13%). For the over 80 group, in 1965 there were 15M and in 1994 there were 50M. With a retirement age of 60-65 people are having up to 20 years of active life left. The 65 retirement age was apparently introduced by a Chancellor Von Bismark in Germany as a method of reducing the size of the public service. This was when the life expectancy in Germany was 49 years.

Surveys have shown that Japanese women have the longest life expectancy. The Asia/Pacific region is of interest to Prof Andrews as there is a large elderly population, China has 100M people over 60 years of age.

A number of issues impinge on how the elderly cope with old age in this area. These include health, urbanisation, industrialisation, technology and social change, modernisation, changing family structures and the decline of traditional values. Two big areas of concern to the elderly are loneliness and lack of income.

Prof Andrews is working with WHO on a project called "Determinants of Healthy Aging". It is important that we look at why some people maintain good health through old age so we can help other people as they grow old rather than studing the sickness in aging people. A balance needs to be struck between quality of life and quantity of life.

Prof Andrews stressed that BME must look beyond the shores of Australia as we live in the most populous region on Earth and the market potentials are enormous.

An important conference is coming to Adelaide in 1997 called "XVth Congress of the International Association of Gerontology, Aging Beyond 2000 New Worlds and New Ways." Prof Andrews showed the video advertising Adelaide that won the bid for this conference. This method is certainly worth keeping in mind when seeking to attract biomedical conferences to Adelaide.

Overall I think those present enjoyed a very social and informative evening.

IEAust Biomedical Branch,SMBE & ACPSM

Annual Student Paper Night

**November 8 , Bagot St , North Adelaide
5:30 for 6pm**

Abstracts are called for from students undertaking Biomedical Engineering or Medical Physics projects at undergraduate (final year engineering or honours year) and postgraduate (Masters and PhD) level.

Students who submit the best paper will be invited to present a 15 minute paper.

Please submit abstracts (2 A4 pages in length) or address queries to :

**Geoff Tansley, School of Engineering, Flinders University,
PO Box 2100 , Adelaide 5001. Tel: 201 3614. Fax : 201 3618
Email:Geoff.Tansley@flinders.edu.au**

by 30 October 1995.

A cash prize and certificate will be awarded to the winners in each category.

CONFERENCE CALENDAR

- Sept 20-23 1995 IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology conference, Montreal, Canada
- Sept 28-30 1995 2nd National Conference on Childhood Conductive Deafness, Melbourne
- Nov 20-24 1995 EPSM '95 ,Queenstown ,New Zealand
- Nov 26-Dec 1 1995 RSNA Annual meeting, Chicago, Illinois.
- June 9-13 1996 10th Nordic-Baltic Conference on Biomedical Engineering, Tampere, Finland
- Sept 14-19 1997 World Congress on Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering, Nice, France

Information on the above are available from the editor or president

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S.M.B.E. (SA) Inc. Newsletter Vol.VI No. 1