



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

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 1999



Christmas Dinner Wednesday December 1 1999 Earl of Leicester Hotel 85 Leicester Street, Parkside

**Drinks from 6.00 p.m.
Dinner at 7.00 p.m.**

Our major social function for the year is with us again. This year we have changed the venue to the Earl of Leicester Hotel in Parkside. This is an old hotel that has been decorated with old world charm. We have the entire upstairs function room to ourselves with bar, standing area and CD music. This year we will have a choice from 3 main courses and 2 desserts. Beer, house wine and softdrinks will be included.

The Christmas dinner has always been a very enjoyable occasion so mark this date in your diary. The cost is still \$7.50 per head so it is extremely good value. To assist with the catering arrangements could you please send the slip at end of this newsletter to John Kirby along with a cheque/money order made out to the SMBE (Inc) SA.



Council for the Society for Medical and Biological Engineering (SA) Inc 1999/2000

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Council for 1999/2000

At the recent AGM the positions of V.President, Treasurer and 3 councilors were declared vacant. All vacating members with the exception of Shawn Zabo agreed to restand for election. They were all subsequently elected. The council would like to thank Shawn for his involvement with the council over the last 2 years. Tam Nguyen was elected to fill the vacancy left by Shawn. Tam is a final year student in the Biomedical Engineering course at Flinders University and has spent the last 18 months at Repatriation General Hospital as part of the Industrial Affiliates program and to complete his final year project. The Council welcomes Tam and hope his time with us is enjoyable.

New members

The Council welcomes Melissa Suter, a Biomedical Engineering student to the Society.

The SMBE (SA)/DRAGER Biomedical Engineering Encouragement Award

This award was announced back in June this year and to date we have had no nominations. This award aims to recognise and encourage excellence among our peers. Between those working in our hospitals and industry and the students at various stages of the Biomedical Engineering degree there should be many people who would satisfy the criteria. The award of a trip to the annual Biomedical Technicians Seminar in NSW is indeed a worthy one as it provides a lot of information and discussion for those working in a clinical engineering environment. So if you know someone who would deserve such an award, or you may wish to have yourself nominated, please contact a member of the Council to obtain more details.

PHILOSOPHY

This annual award is to be made as a means of acknowledging and encouraging excellence amongst Biomedical Engineering practitioners.

PROCESS

The recipient shall be selected by the council of the SMBE (SA) and a representative of Drager Australia from amongst candidates who shall:

Be nominated by a peer who deems them worthy of such recognition

Author a short technical or topical article on a subject either nominated by themselves or chosen from a list provided by the council for publication in its newsletter.

Either of these may precede the other but both must be fulfilled to be eligible.

THE AWARD

The award shall comprise a funded visit to the annual SMBE (NSW) technicians seminar.

CONDITIONS

Open to all BME practitioners, from within SA and the NT, be they SMBE members or not.

The recipient must be in a position to attend the seminar, in either their own or employers time. The award may be forfeited if this requirement cannot be fulfilled.

The nomination by a peer must give a clear indication or evidence of the nominees abilities, skills, motivation or commitment that, in their mind, sets them apart and makes them deserving of particular recognition.

Individuals holding position of the council of the SMBE (SA) at the time of judging are ineligible for consideration.

All entrants are eligible for minor awards of complimentary SMBE (SA) membership for a one year period. The SMBE (SA) council reserves the right to not make the award whether the submitted articles have been published or not.

***Institution of Engineers Biomedical Engineering, SA
in association with ACPSEM and SMBE
present***

" Out of the Ivory Tower: examining the clay feet of science."

SPEAKER: Dr Wendy Rogers, Departments of General Practice and Philosophy
Flinders University

DATE: Tuesday 9th November 1999

VENUE: IEAust House, 11 Bagot Street, North Adelaide

TIME: Light refreshments: 5:30pm
Annual General Meeting: 5:45pm
Presentation: 6:15pm

Summary

This talk raises questions about the nature of science, the values which underpin much of our scientific research, and the ways in which various biases can influence not only the results of research but also the very questions which are considered suitable for investigation. Dr Rogers will use examples from contemporary research to illustrate different kinds of bias. Finally, using the example of absence of women as research subjects, she will show how bias in research produces significant harms.

Biography

Dr Rogers qualified as a medical doctor in 1983 and then trained here and in the UK as a general practitioner. In 1989, following the birth of her first child, she started an arts degree majoring in English and Philosophy. From there she undertook honours in philosophy, looking at issues of informed consent. This was followed by a PhD investigating ethical issues in general practice, awarded in 1998. Currently she works half time in the Philosophy Dept lecturing in bioethics, and half time in Dept of General Practice as a research fellow.

All members of IEAust, ACPSEM, SMBE, students and other interested parties are welcome. Meeting sponsor: IEAust

E. & O.E.

Christmas Dinner reply slip.

Name No. attending

A cheque/money order for \$..... is enclosed. Please return to John Kirby as below by COB Wednesday November 24 1999.

**John Kirby
Multimedia Officer
C/- Biomedical Engineering Services
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