

# Australian Society for Antimicrobials



## 19<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting Brisbane Convention Centre, Brisbane Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018 1900 - 1930

1. **Welcome:** The President welcomed the members to the 19<sup>th</sup> AGM of the ASA.
2. **Apologies:**  
Carolyn Beckett, Michael Leung, Mary Barton, Anna Allman, Susan Benson, Wendy Munckhof
3. The **Minutes** of the **18<sup>th</sup> AGM** were endorsed as a true and accurate record. Moved by Graeme Nimmo, seconded by Keryn Christiansen and accepted by all present.
4. **President's Report (Ben Howden)**

1. Antimicrobials 2018

Attendance numbers at this year's annual scientific meeting have once again exceeded our expectations with over 380 delegates. We received a record 107 abstracts and have subsequently scheduled six oral proffered paper sessions and a Friday evening poster session of 71 posters. The meeting's high attendance is once again a reflection of the high calibre of our invited speakers and the continuing high standard of the proffered papers and posters. I wish to thank all presenters – their contribution and interest are essential for the health of the Society.

Several satellite meeting were held the day before Antimicrobials 2018 commenced including:

- BD User Group Meeting
- bioMérieux Vitek 2 User Group Meeting
- MSD
- ASA national EUCAST AST Committee Meeting
- Antimicrobial Optimisation Workshop (CRE Reduce)

I also want to thank the Industry for their continuing support of the meeting and the Society. For Antimicrobials 2018 we have seven Foundation/Sustaining members including one Platinum (MSD), one Gold (Astellas), and five Bronze Members (bioMérieux, BD, Cepheid, Pfizer and Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care). The ASA

Committee will be meeting with the Industry on Saturday 24th February 2018 during the morning tea session.

## 2. ASA Membership

Continues to grow and in February 2018 the Society had over 800 members. Since the inaugural meeting in 2000, ASA membership has increased by over 350%.

## 3. ASA Newsletter

During the year, the Newsletter Editor Andrew Stewardson and ASA Business Manager Jacson Chung produced four excellent ASA Breakpoint newsletters. These newsletters covered a variety of subjects related to antimicrobials including:

- Antifungal Stewardship
- Using Genomics to Investigate Carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae in Victoria
- AGAR Surveillance Reports

In addition, the newsletter's regular sections continue to prove popular including

- In the News
- The Meeting Calendar
- EUCAST Updates
- CARAlert Updates

On behalf of the ASA Executive, I would like all ASA members to join me in thanking Andrew and Jacson for all their efforts and hard work. ASA members are encouraged to contact Andrew with ideas or manuscripts to include in the newsletter.

## 4. Travel Awards

BioMérieux continues to provide an award for a member to attend the ASA meeting. The Society is grateful to bioMérieux for their ongoing support towards the Society and its members.

The 2017 bioMérieux travel award winner was Frances Hurren, from Austin Health, Victoria

The 2018 bioMérieux Travel Award winner will be announced on Saturday morning before the commencement of the Plenary Session. This award is given to an individual on the basis of a proffered paper (oral or poster) presented during the annual scientific meeting dealing with the identification of bacterial resistance to antimicrobials in a routine clinical setting. The award committee consists of three ASA members. The winner must be a financial member of the Society and reside in Australia or in New Zealand. The award consists of a 1,000AUD cash prize, a commemorative plaque, and the provision of flights, accommodation and

registration (including conference dinner) for the recipient to attend Antimicrobials 2019.

#### ASA Travel Awards

Recipients of ASA travel awards to attend Antimicrobials 2018 are:

Sam Abraham, Daniel Knight and Terence Lee

Each award winner received a complementary conference registration, return economy airfare and a three day per diem

#### ASA Poster Travel Award (New Award)

In 2018 ASA introduced the ASA Poster Travel award and will be announced on Saturday morning before the commencement of the Plenary Session. This is awarded to an individual on the basis of a poster presented during the ASA's Annual Scientific Meeting. The applicant must have been a financial member of the ASA for at least the last twelve months. The award committee will consist of three ASA committee members or their nominees and will take into account the quality and originality of the poster. The award consists of a return economy airfare, accommodation and conference registration up to the value of \$2,500 AUD for the recipients to attend Antimicrobials 2019. The award committee will consist of at least three ASA committee members or their nominees.

#### 5. ASA Research Grant

The 2018 ASA Research Grant attracted eight high quality applications. A panel of independent reviewers using a standardised scoring system assessed the applications.

The ASA Committee thanks all ASA members for submitting their applications

The 2018 the Research Grant was awarded to Shakeel Mowlaboccus, University of Western Australia.

It is anticipated an ASA Research Grant will be available in 2019

#### 6. ASID/ASA AMR Summit: Roadmap to Effective Action Melbourne 29th June 2017

After an introductory address by Profs Tom Gottlieb and David Looke, a review of the progress since the 2011 summit was presented which included presentations by the Chief Medical Officer, Professor Brendan Murphy and the Chief Veterinary Officer, Dr Mark Schipp.

The remainder of the day featured a series of panel discussions focusing on the four pillars of antimicrobial resistance:

- Improving Infection Prevention and Control
- Practical Antimicrobial Stewardship
- Improving Surveillance and Outbreak Response

- Research and Development

Presentations have been uploaded onto the ASA website.

A follow up symposium on the summit is planned for Antimicrobials 2019.

#### 7. ASA National ASA Antimicrobial Committee

The Australian National AST Committee (AusNAC) was established in 2011 to provide expert advice and further the cause of skill development in the area of antimicrobial susceptibility testing. It is now the affiliated national committee within the European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (EUCAST) network

The Committee was renamed the ASA National EUCAST AST Committee and expression of interest for membership was sent out on 30 November 2017. Chair: Prof John Turnidge

Terms of reference are available on the ASA website

Initially the NAC will meet face-to-face once yearly in conjunction with the ASA annual scientific meeting, with work being undertaken in between meeting via email and teleconference.

For further information, please contact John Turnidge ([info@asainc.net.au](mailto:info@asainc.net.au))

#### 8. ASA Representation

Australian Scientific and Technical Advisory Group on Antimicrobial Resistance (ASA representative Ben Howden, AGAR representative Geoff Coombs)

Implementation plan for the national AMR strategy

#### 9. ASA Affiliations

- Alliance for the Prudent Use of Antimicrobials (APUA)
- International Society of Chemotherapy (ISC), New name: ISAC International Society of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy. Geoff Coombs elected Secretary General (2017 – 2021)
- Asia-Pacific Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infection (APCCMI)
- International Society for Infectious Diseases (ISID)
- European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (EUCAST)
- John Turnidge appointed Scientific Secretary of the EUCAST Steering Committee
- European Society for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID)
- Jacson Chung attended the 2017 ESCMID Council meeting

#### 10. Aladdin Software

Removed from the ASA website. ASA Committee reviewing the commercial software packages that are available

11. ASA Supported (in kind and/or financially):

- 2017 Antibiotic Awareness Week
- 2017 Lancefield International Symposium on Streptococci and Streptococcal Diseases
- 30th International Congress on Chemotherapy (ISC)
- StaphPath 2017
- World Veterinary Day on Antimicrobial Resistance
- ICARE
- National Antimicrobial Resistance Forum, Brisbane
- AURA 2017 Report
- CRE Redefining Antimicrobial Use to reduce Resistance Dose Optimisation Workshop

12. ASA AGAR Webpage/Twitter

Webpage Developments

- Antimicrobials 2017 and StaphPath 2017 presentations uploaded
- APCCMI presentations uploaded
- Updated ASA membership subscription section
- Home page banner introduced
- iPhone and iPad user friendly

Members are encouraged to renew their ASA/APUA subscriptions on-line

New AGAR website

- Launched January 2018

13. Australian Group for Antimicrobial Resistance (AGAR)

ASA Vice President Geoff Coombs re-elected AGAR Chair

AGAR continues as a working group of ASA

- The AGAR Executive will manage the activities and operations of AGAR
- An AGAR representative, as recommended by the AGAR Executive, will be co-opted onto the ASA Committee to provide a report on AGAR activities (in 2018 this will be the AGAR Deputy Chair Graeme Nimmo)
- ASA fund the maintenance and development of the AGAR website
- The AGAR Executive will recommend to the ASA scientific committee speakers and topics for the ASA national annual scientific meeting
- The 2017 and 2018 AGAR programs are funded by the Australia Commission on Safety and Quality in Healthcare.
- AGAR reports can be accessed via the AGAR website or by a link on the ASA website

14. ASA continued its association with APUA (54 members)

15. Future ASA Annual Scientific Meetings

- Antimicrobials 2019 Sydney 21 - 23 February 2019  
Sydney Convention Centre

Preliminary Program

Howard Florey Oration  
Monica Slavin

Confirmed Plenary Speakers  
Jesús Rodríguez Baño  
Romney Humphries  
Karin Thursky

Symposium

1. Difficult to treat populations (Science and Immunology)
2. Difficult to treat/ID organisms (Laboratory and Treatment Aspects)
3. Technology
4. AMR Summit Discussion
5. When Humans and Animals Collide
6. AMR Testing Update

In addition, two pharmacy symposia are scheduled and The Year in Clinical Microbiology and The Year in AMR

- Antimicrobials 2020 Melbourne 27 - 29 February 2020  
Melbourne Convention Centre

- Antimicrobials 2021 Brisbane 25 - 27 February 2021  
Brisbane Convention Centre

## **5. 2016/2017 Financial Report**

An audited statement of the Society's finances was presented by the treasurer Dr Keryn Christensen.

There were no questions regarding the report from the floor and the report was moved by Ben Rogers, seconded by Sam Abraham and accepted by the meeting.

ASA aims to provide funding for two research grants in future.

The ASA funds have been moved from the Westpac Portfolio to Smith and Coffey Securities.

## 6. Election of 2018-2020 ASA Committee

We received the required number of nominations for all positions and therefore an election not required at the AGM.

Elected Positions:

- President: Ben Howden
- President Elect: Geoffrey Coombs
- Vice President: David Kong
- Secretary: Denise Daley
- Treasurer: Keryn Christiansen

Committee:

- Sam Abraham
- Thomas Gottlieb
- Sally Partridge
- Ben Rogers

Seconded Positions:

- Newsletter Editor: Andrew Stewardson
- AGAR Representative: Graeme Nimmo
- EUCAST/CLSI Representative: John Turnidge
- ASID Representative: Cheryl Jones

## 7. Other Business

Andrew Gordon thanked the ASA Committee for an excellent conference.

**Attendance record:** 35 signatures

**Attendees**

Sally Roberts	New Zealand
Tony Korman	Monash, VIC
Tom Gottlieb	Concord, NSW
Sally Partridge	Westmead, NSW
Ben Rogers	Monash, VIC
Peter Huntington	RNSH, NSW
Sebastian van Hal	RPAH, NSW
Jennifer Cooper	Cabrini Pathology
Pikku Roy Chawdhury	UTS, NSW
Jacqueline Harper	Pathology QLD
Ian Mawbey	Dubbo Base Hospital, NSW
Jan Bell	University of Adelaide, SA
Norelle Sherry	University of Melbourne, VIC
Graeme Nimmo	RBWH, QLD
Keryn Christiansen	Retired, WA
Ben Howden	MDU, VIC
Geoff Coombs	Murdoch University, WA
Denise Daley	AGAR, FSH, WA
Andrew Gordon	
Helen Heffernan	New Zealand
Peter Taylor	SEALS, NSW
Helen Ziochos	Liverpool Hospital, NSW

Despina Kotsanas	Monash Medical Centre, VIC
David Kong	Geelong Hospital, VIC
John Turnidge	EUCAST
Mitchell Groves	University of QLD
Sam Abraham	Murdoch University, WA
Jason Kwong	University of Melbourne
Nicolette Graham	Children's Health QLD
Kerrie Stevens	MDU, VIC
Glen Volsppi	
Marc Stegger	Staten Serum Institute, Denmark
H Henry	
Lucy Casula	RNSH, NSW
Aryan Shahabi-Sirjani	RNSH, NSW