



## Welcome to the January E-News

of the Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists

If you would like to contribute any items to the eNews, please send to the **Secretariat** for consideration

Closing date for **E-News** contributions is the **15th of each month** for end of month publication

Closing date for the weekly **News Alerts** is **5pm each Wednesday** for a Friday publication.

Nicole Jones  
ASCEPT Newsletter Editor

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## President's Message



Happy new year to all our members and I hope it isn't spoiled too much by the task of submitting grants by February!

The ASCEPT council has decided that one important task for the society this year is to work on our public profile. We have a unique set of expertise and independence that we should be very proud of, and that makes us important to the broader community. So we have been very active in providing submissions to government over the last 12 months. But we also need improve our website and promote ourselves in the media. This is part of our job as a scientific society and will - hopefully - make us more attractive to sponsors.

I would really appreciate your feedback on how we can do this, and especially comments on our website. Please email [Jen Coulls](mailto:Jen.Coulls) with any thoughts.

**David Le Couteur**  
**President, ASCEPT**

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## **Extended deadline 8 February: Call for symposia for the 2013 ASCEPT Annual Scientific Meeting**

**1 - 4 December 2013 RACV City Club Melbourne**

Please remember that preference will be given to symposia that are supported and proposed by more than one SIG.

In terms of International speakers, there will only be a limited number (2) of international speakers supported for the conference. If an international speaker is proposed for your symposium, please also propose a local speaker who would also be suitable if funding does not permit your proposed international speaker.

Could you please submit all your symposia suggestions to the **ASCEPT Secretariat** ([jen.coulls@ascept.org](mailto:jen.coulls@ascept.org)) **by close of business on Friday 8th February, 2013**. The symposium proposal form is available from your forum area.

Best wishes

**Dom Geraghty**  
**Carl Kirkpatrick**  
**Chair-Elect and Chair of Scientific Advisory Committee**

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## **2012 Council Awards**

The Council makes Awards for Life and Honorary membership to recognise people who have made significant contributions. These awards carry significant prestige. Recipients for 2012 were **Ray Morris**, **Bevyn Jarrot** and **Ian McGrath**.

An ASCEPT Life Member Award is a prestigious award that recognises the significant service and/or sustained contribution of an ASCEPT member to the Society. Life Member Awards are the highest recognition of achievement made by ASCEPT. This award is made only when an appropriate candidate meets the criteria. Awards were presented to Ray Morris and Bevyn Jarrot at December's AGM.



**Ray Morris** has played a major role in Pharmacology nationally and internationally and has been a major contributor to ASCEPT and other scientific associations. Ray completed his Bachelor of Science at the University of Adelaide in 1974 and did his PhD studies with Prof Ivan de la Lande. Ray's contributions to international Pharmacology associations include terms as a councillor, director of education and treasurer of the international association of therapeutic monitoring and clinical toxicology (IATDMCT). He has made sustained and major contributions to ASCEPT, he served as an ASCEPT Councillor (2009-2010) and as a president (2010).



**Bevyn Jarrot** completed a Pharmacy degree with honours from the University of Queensland in 1965 and completed his PhD at Cambridge. He has made major contributions to Pharmacology teaching and research in Australia and Internationally. He is a world leader in Neuropharmacology. Bevyn headed the Department of Pharmacology at Monash University between 1992 and 2003. In honour of his outstanding research he was the recipient of the ASCEPT Michael Rand Medal (1997). He has chaired the educational section of the international union of pharmacology (1990-1998) and he also served as ASCEPT president (1990).



### **Honorary Membership Award – Ian McGrath**

“... may be elected from distinguished persons of any country who have contributed to the advance of pharmacological or toxicological science”

**Ian McGrath** is a world leader in the Pharmacology of autonomic transmission and is an Emeritus Professor at the University of Glasgow. He has had a long association with ASCEPT and was the British Pharmacological Society Australasian Visitor and Lecturer in 2008. His major contributions to international Pharmacology are reflected in his elected fellowship to the British Pharmacological Society and his period as editor-in-chief of the British Journal of Pharmacology. In 2011 he was awarded the prestigious British Pharmacological Society JR Vane Medal.

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### **Welcome to new members**

We're delighted to welcome 68 new Members, officially endorsed en bloc at the 2012 AGM. We particularly welcome the 49 student members and hope they find their membership of ASCEPT beneficial to their careers.

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### **Membership renewals 2013**

It is that time of year when your ASCEPT membership renewal notices are sent. Membership subscriptions are based on a calendar year beginning 1 January and ending on 31 December.

ASCEPT membership continues to offer many member benefits including:

- Discounted rates to the Annual Scientific Meetings
- Student/Early Career/Mid-Late Career awards and prizes
- Opportunities for international travel support
- Special Interest Groups and forum participation
- Departmental seminar program support
- Networking opportunities
- Job opportunities
- Regular updates ( E-news and website)
- Discounted subscriptions for the Australian Medicines Handbook (AMH)

The Society's web site is a great resource featuring news about the Society and includes a members-only section with special interest group forums, membership directory and more. Membership fee schedule for 2013 ( \*incl GST):

- Full member (AUS) - \$200.00\*
- Full member (New Zealand) - NZ\$200.00
- Student member (AUS) - \$82.50\*
- Student member (New Zealand) - \$82.50
- (International members at Australian rates)

Payments are due by 31 March.

The ASCEPT membership policy was approved by Council in January. It can be viewed [here](#)

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## ASCEPT International Travel Awards

The ASCEPT International Travel Awards are a competitive and prestigious award system implemented by ASCEPT Council as part of a continued commitment to encourage members in the pursuit of careers in pharmacology and toxicology.

The purpose of the ASCEPT International Travel Award is to assist eligible members to:

- Attend international conferences,
- Attend short courses and workshops, and/or
- Work for short periods (<2 months) in overseas institutes (eg to learn new techniques etc).

Applicants must be a financial member of ASCEPT at the time of application and have been a member for at least 2 full calendar years. Members must be resident in Australia or New Zealand.

Members are eligible if they are:

- No more than 6 years postdoctoral; or
- No more than 6 years post fellowship of an appropriate college for medical graduates; or
- No more than 6 years post award of a higher degree or bachelor degree in dentistry or veterinary science.

PhD students are eligible for 1 ASCEPT International Travel Award in their candidature and must be presenting, and have presented at, at least 1 ASCEPT Annual Scientific Meeting. PhD students may be eligible for a second travel grant to IUTOX/IUPHAR/CPT

More information [here](#)

## **IUTOX/IUPHAR Travel grants**

Considering attending attending ICT in Seoul 2013? ASCEPT offers travel assistance to eligible members of to participate at the World Congress of Basic & Clinical Pharmacology (WCP) and/or the International Congress of Toxicology (ICT).

Grants are open, in priority allocation, to the following members.

1. Postdoctoral personnel with no access to other funds
2. Students who have just submitted their PhD
3. Final year PhD students
4. PhD students not in the final year of candidature

Applicants must be financial members of ASCEPT at the time of application, and preference will be given to applicants who have been members for at least two years prior to the application.

More information [here](#)

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## **Career Opportunities**

### **Professor of Medicines Use and Health Outcomes**

#### **Faculty of Pharmacy/Charles Perkins Centre, The University of Sydney**

The University has applied its internationally recognised academic credentials to ease the burden of obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease by forming the Charles Perkins Centre – a unique collaboration of scholars across many disciplines and faculties.

To this end, the Charles Perkins Centre and the Faculty of Pharmacy are seeking an outstanding researcher with an internationally recognised reputation in the broad area of medicines use and health outcomes. The successful candidate is likely to have a research focus in pharmacy; medicine; pharmacotherapeutics; pharmacoepidemiology, pharmaceutical policy, health services research; pharmacoconomics health technology assessment; evidence-based practice or patient-centred care.

As an inspirational teacher in areas that intersect the research and education strategy of the centre, with its focus on obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease, and the Faculty of Pharmacy's five core research themes of cancer, cardiovascular and diabetes, mental health, respiratory disease and health services, you will assist the centre and the faculty to maintain and further improve an international reputation in both teaching and research. You will also contribute to the faculty's research-enriched learning and teaching activities, administration and engage with the pharmacy profession and the community.

This is an opportunity to take on a leading role in collaborative research within the field of pharmacy and to join a vibrant and high-achieving faculty training approximately 20% of all pharmacists in Australia. Full details can be found on the University of Sydney website.

**Closing Date: 1 February 2013**

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## **Associate Lecturer / Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Pharmacology, School of Medicine**

**Reumeration package: Academic Level A  
University of Western Sydney**

- Campbelltown Campus
- 4 Year Fixed Term Appointment (with a potential for extension)

The Pharmacology Unit is a research-intensive discipline located in the School of Medicine at the Campbelltown campus of the University of Western Sydney. Current areas of research are pathogenesis, biomarkers and drug development for age-related neurodegenerative diseases, including Alzheimer's disease and the cognitive decline associated with type II diabetes. This Unit also constitutes a critical component of the UWS Molecular Medicine Research Group.

We seek an energetic postdoctoral researcher to join our team as an Associate Lecturer/ Postdoctoral Research Fellow.

This position has an academic focus and you will be expected to provide evidence of strong performance in neurodegeneration research (in particular Alzheimer's disease) and a commitment to postgraduate research training including supervision of honours and postgraduate students. You will also be required, where necessary, to assist in the teaching of Undergraduate Pharmacology.

Enquiries: Professor Gerald Münch, Professor of Pharmacology 02 4620 3814 to discuss your application prior to submission or email Gerald Muench Your application must address the selection criteria, please refer to the position description. Visit the University of Western Sydney website [www.uws.edu.au/vacancies/](http://www.uws.edu.au/vacancies/) for full details on this position and how to apply.

**Closing date: 10 February 2013**

Reference: 1200/11

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## **Research Associate, Myocardial Function**

**Imperial College London - National Heart and Lung Institute**

Applications are invited for a Research Associate to join the Functional Microscopy group headed by Dr Julia Gorelik in the Myocardial Function section of the National Heart and Lung Institute, a division of the Faculty of Medicine at Imperial College London.

For more information [visit](#)

**Closing Date: 11 February 2013**

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## **Advisor Hazardous Substances (Toxicology)**

**Environmental Protection Authority, New Zealand**

The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) intends to enable better future environments for New Zealanders by being a world leading regulator. We are seeking a skilled and enthusiastic toxicologist to join our Hazardous Substances Applications & Assessment team. The role involves evaluating applications for import and manufacture or reassessment of chemicals.

For further information and to apply please visit

[HS Advisor Toxicology](#)



**Closing Date: 15 February 2013**

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## **Post Doctoral Research Fellow Pharmacology, School of Medicine**

**University of Western Sydney**

Remuneration Package: Academic Level A

An exciting opportunity exists to join the Pharmacology Unit within the School of Medicine at the University of Western Sydney. The Pharmacology Unit is a research-intensive discipline located in the School of Medicine at the Campbelltown Campus. This Unit also constitutes a critical component of the Molecular Medicine Research Group and the Centre for Complementary Medicine Research.

UWS seeks an energetic Postdoctoral Research Fellow to join our Pharmacology team, led by Professor Gerald Muench. The main focus of current research is target discovery and drug development for chronic inflammatory diseases including Alzheimer's disease.

For further information please refer to the [position description](#)

Position Enquires: Professor Gerald Muench, Professor of Pharmacology on telephone +61 2 9852 4718 to discuss your application prior to submission or email: [g.muench@uws.edu.au](mailto:g.muench@uws.edu.au)

**Closing Date: 20 February 2013**

Ref 1069/12

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## **Professor of Medicines Use and Health Outcomes**

**Faculty of Pharmacy/Charles Perkins Centre  
The University of Sydney**

- Teaching and research role in the Faculty of Pharmacy
- Lead world-changing research to improve health outcomes
- Be part of a rich multidisciplinary community

The University has applied its internationally recognised academic credentials to ease the burden of obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease by forming the Charles Perkins Centre – a unique collaboration of scholars across many disciplines and faculties.

To this end, the Charles Perkins Centre and the Faculty of Pharmacy are seeking an outstanding researcher with an internationally recognised reputation in the broad area of medicines use and health outcomes. The successful candidate is likely to have a research focus in pharmacy; medicine; pharmacotherapeutics; pharmacoepidemiology, pharmaceutical policy, health services research; pharmacoconomics health technology assessment; evidence-based practice or patient-centred care.

As an inspirational teacher in areas that intersect the research and education strategy of the centre, with its focus on obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease, and the Faculty of Pharmacy's five core research themes of cancer, cardiovascular and diabetes, mental health, respiratory disease and health services, you will assist the centre and the faculty to maintain and further improve an international reputation in both teaching and research. You will also contribute to the faculty's research-enriched learning and teaching activities, administration and engage with the pharmacy profession and the community.

This is an opportunity to take on a leading role in collaborative research within the field of pharmacy and to join a vibrant and high-achieving faculty training approximately 20% of all pharmacists in Australia.

Full details can be found on the University of Sydney careers website.

**Closing Date: 3 February 2013**

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## **TGA Medical Officers - more than one**

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) is currently undertaking a recruitment process to fill a number of TGA Medical Officer positions. The TGA supports a culture of high performance, continuous learning, and scientific excellence, and the Medical Officer positions are a key to this endeavour. As experts in a range of clinical and scientific fields we wanted to bring these vacancies to your attention, and also seek your assistance in promoting these vacancies to your colleagues and networks as you consider appropriate.

Further information about the positions is available at [TGA Careers](#)

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## **Upcoming Events**

### **12th meeting of the Asia Pacific Federation of Pharmacologists (APFP)**

The 12th meeting of the Asia Pacific Federation of Pharmacologists (APFP), sponsored by Chinese Pharmacological Society (CNPHARS), will be held in Shanghai, China from 9 – 13 July, 2013.

The meeting will consist of plenary lectures, invited lectures, symposia, oral presentation, poster presentations and discussion sections, all focusing on basic and clinical pharmacological research as well as on new drug discovery. The meeting will offer a golden opportunity for all delegates and guests to expose and communicate their results, new ideas, new methods and technologies in pharmacology.

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, we look forward to welcoming pharmacologists from the Asia Pacific region and all over the world to get-together in the beautiful city, Shanghai. We believe that the meeting will make a great contribution fostering regional and international communication and collaborations, and boost progress in the field of pharmacology and new drug research.

We look forward to welcoming you in Shanghai.

**Co-Chair**

**Professor Guanhua Du**

**Co-Chair**

**Professor Samuel H. H. Chan**

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## **International Narcotics Research Conference**

**The 44th INRC will take place in Cairns, Queensland from July 14 – 18, 2013.**

The INRC Annual Meeting features all aspects of opioid research from cellular signaling, molecular biology and medicinal chemistry through addiction research and pain management. Since 1969, the INRC meeting has been a unique forum where scientists, clinicians and Pharma share the latest information about the key questions in opioid research. The 44th annual meeting in Cairns is great chance to get together with colleagues old and new, and learn about

the most exciting findings in the opioid world.

Website: <https://www.dconferences.com.au/inrc2013/home>

Contact:

Mark Connor, Macquarie University, [mark.connor@mq.edu.au](mailto:mark.connor@mq.edu.au)

Mac Christie, University of Sydney, [mac.christie@sydney.edu.au](mailto:mac.christie@sydney.edu.au)

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## **CDISC Asia-Pacific Interchange, 18 - 22 February 2013, Singapore**

The Clinical Data Interchange Standards Consortium (CDISC) is proud to announce the launch of the inaugural CDISC Asia-Pacific Interchange to be held 18-22 February 2013 in Singapore. Singapore was chosen for its central location in this region, the epicenter of some of the most booming economies in the world.

The core message of the CDISC 2013 Asia-Pacific Interchange is "Streamlining Global Research through Standards," and representatives from local Asia-Pacific ministries of health, pharmaceutical companies, clinical research organizations, technology service firms and non-governmental organizations will be in attendance. Speakers and panelists will include presentations on case studies using the CDISC standards, the role that CDISC standards play in clinical research around the globe, how CDISC standards can streamline clinical research using EHRs, and recent advances in therapeutic area standards development.

In addition to the conference, CDISC will also offer authorized CDISC educational training courses during the week. "The CDISC Asia-Pacific Interchange will include excellent keynote speeches and commentary by leaders in Asia, networking opportunities and the privilege of authorized CDISC training from our certified instructors in an area central to all Asia-Pacific countries," said Kiyoteru Takenouchi, Director from Asia on the CDISC Board, "We are excited to offer this innovative and educational forum and hope everyone in Asia interested in streamlining clinical research on a global basis will consider attending."

[CAPI DRAFT Program Version 4-Nov2012.pdf](#)

For more information on how to register for the conference and education courses, please visit <http://www.cdisc.org/interchange>.

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## **Toxicology and Poisons Network Australasia Scientific Meeting, 2 - 4 May, Newcastle**

Newcastle will host the second scientific meeting of the Toxicology And Poisons Network Australasia. Widely perceived as the city that paved the way for Australian clinical toxicology on both a national and an international scale, it is fitting that next year we will look at what the future may hold as we encompass " new directions in poisoning ".

A stimulating scientific programme along with a pleasurable social programme in Australia's seventh largest city with some of the most beautiful beaches and other landscapes in Australia at close hand, make this an event not to be missed.

Opportunities for presentation of research will be available along with key updates in important areas and plenary sessions that will be of relevance to a number of medical specialities.

Register your interest to attend and check back regularly for updates at <http://tapna.net/registration/>

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## **The 2nd International Conference on Prehypertension and Cardio Metabolic Syndrome, Barcelona, Spain, 31 January - 3 February**

The Conference will aim to deal with all aspects related to early diagnosis, including innovative technologies and treatments, as well as bringing together professionals from the fields of Hypertension, Diabetes, Lipidology, Cardiology, Nephrology, Endocrinology, Internal Medicine, Pharmacology and more. [Read more information](#).

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## **The International Symposium on Ocular Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Paris, France, 7-10 March, 2013**

Over the years, ISOPT has repeatedly shaped its form so it can accommodate to provide a collaborative atmosphere for clinicians, clinical trialists, pharma industry and regulatory officers. Our formed vision has been to increase knowledge and awareness of drug usage in ophthalmology reflecting innovations and their utilization in practice. [Read more information](#).

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## **Molecular Pharmacology Gordon Research Conference, Lucca (Barga), Italy, 28 April - 3 May, 2013, Lucca (Barga), Italy, 28 April - 3 May 2013**

A key event gathering scientists from basic, applied and clinical science in G protein coupled receptor (GPCR) research. The 2013 conference, 24th GRC edition, will emphasize both emerging and rapidly growing areas in the field, from receptor dynamics at molecular level to system-level analysis of receptor function. [Read more information](#)

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## **XIII International Congress of Toxicology, Seoul, Korea, 30 June- 4 July, 2013**

Abstract submissions close 31 January 2013. [Read more information](#)

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## **Other News**

### **Latest NHMRC Research Tracker**

- **Key funding dates for 2013**

Partnership Projects third call for 2012: closes 29 January 2013

Partnership Projects first call for 2013: opens 30 January, closes 30 April 2013

NHMRC-European Union Collaborative Research Grants 2013 call: opens 30 January 2013, closes 3 July 2013

The updated funding calendar is available on the NHMRC website.

- **Research Help Centre: extended operating hours 4 February to 19 March 2013**

4 February until 10 March open 9am to 7pm AEDST Monday to Friday

11 March closed for Canberra Day public holiday

12 March until 19 March open 8am to 7pm AEDST Monday to Friday and 10am to 2pm AEDST

Saturday 16 March.

Further information is on the NHMRC website.

- **Open Public Consultations**

NHMRC Draft Principles of Peer Review call closes 5pm AEDST on 1 Feb 2013

- **NHMRC Strategic Plan 2013-15: now online**

The NHMRC 2013-15 Strategic Plan is available from the NHMRC website. The Plan, which was tabled in the Parliament on 18 January 2013, includes NHMRC priorities, the major health issues identified for the 2013-15 triennium, how NHMRC will deal with those issues and a strategy for medical research and public health research.

A video message about the Plan, from Chief Executive Officer Professor Warwick Anderson AM, will be available on NHMRC's YouTube channel in early March 2013.

- **Approvals and commencement of funding**

In response to recent enquiries, NHMRC approval can be sought for grant funding to commence in advance of relevant approvals, where:

an ethics clearance or regulatory approval is not required until the latter years of a grant; and the relevant committee cannot review the proposal without the results of the preliminary findings of the research.

This is in accordance with Section 9 of the NHMRC Funding Rules.

With the exception of Research and Practitioner Fellowships and the Translating Research into Practice fellowship scheme, grant funding will not commence until NHMRC has been advised by the Administering Institution that relevant approvals are in place.

For further information, refer to the relevant scheme's funding rules.

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ASCEPT E-news is a snapshot of updates, industry news and other information relevant to ASCEPT. If you have any suggestions or would like to contribute to the E-news, please send it along to:

Nicole Jones ASCEPT Newsletter Editor  
Follow us on twitter [ASCEPTanz](#)

Please do not hesitate to contact ASCEPT Secretariat, if you have any queries.  
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