



The Society for Free Radical Research AUSTRALASIA

NEWSLETTER (December 2017)

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News items wanted

Please send any news items or articles for the newsletter to the Secretary (sfrasecretariat@gmail.com). Also, we have redeveloped the Society website (www.sfrra.org), and are looking for any news, notices, links and other items of interest to Society members that can be added. Please send your research group website URL in case the current one is obsolete, if you would like it to be added.

Presidents Report - 25 and still kickin'

Based on the title, some of you may think that the following describes a necrology of our Society. Of course, this is a joke, albeit – possibly – a bit coarse. To tell you the truth, the opposite is the case: Our society, in fact, is going from strength to strength – having been started quarter of a century ago. In this year 2017, we are celebrating 25 years from the first meeting SFRR(A), although some may argue that the Sydney Free Radical Group (FROGS) preceded formation of SFRR(A) with the formation of SFRR(A) coinciding with the SFRR(International) meeting held in Sydney some years later. Nevertheless, membership of the early SFRR(A) Society included distinguished members Christine Winterbourne, Jan Gebicki, Roger Dean, Nick Hunt and Peter Southwell-Kelly, to name only a few of the most prominent members. The Society has evolved in a dynamic manner, reflecting contemporary research priorities and focus. The society considers physico-chemical aspects through to biomedical approaches, investigating the role of free radicals in the cause and progression of disease and their application in the treatment in a variety of disease states.

An important milestone in the life of the Society was the launch of biannual joint meetings with the Japanese branch of the SFRR, with alternating meetings convened in Australia/New Zealand and Japan. This brings together world-class research from both sides of the Pacific, resulting in cross-fertilisation of scientific ideas and fostering new collaborations. Not to mention the social aspects that are a central part of these joint meeting.

As of 2001, the Society has been honouring those members who contributed significantly to the mission and vision of the SFRR(A) as well as to the diverse field of free radicals, in the way of Lifetime Achievement award to Jan Gebicki, Roger Dean, Christine Winterbourne, Peter Southwell-Kelly, Nick Hunt, Roland Stocker, Mike Davies, Tony Kettle and most recently Kevin Croft.

Annual meetings of the Society in the last quarter century have been hosted in big cities like Sydney or Melbourne, to cosy, fairy tale-like locations, the prime example being the wonderful township of Akaroa on the Banks Peninsula near Christchurch. These meetings have been attended by the ‘usual suspects’ plus ‘new kids on the block’, who have been swept up in the pleasant, vibrant and scientifically top class encounters. Amongst the venues, Sydney tops the scoreboard with 5 conferences followed by Christchurch with three held over the 25 years – and I have just heard through the grapevine that the 2019 Annual Conference of our Society will be held in Sydney again... While in New Zealand, the places of these conferences have varied from the very south (Dunedin) to the very north (the 2018 conference will be held in Auckland), we still miss several states/territories of Australia to host our annual event, which includes Tasmania, the ACT and the Northern Territory (alas, we have not yet established a core membership in these regions, to the best of my knowledge).

Of course, we should not forget the social function of our Society, including some memorable moments, such as giving away travel and poster awards. I recall that it was at one of the Christchurch conferences (chaired by one of the Society’s diehards Tony Kettle), where the award for best poster was a bungee jump! Needless to say that the winner and the runner up both gave up this coveted for award, which then was taken by the bronze medalist (mind you, I totally understand the gold and silver medalists!).

To wrap it up, we have achieved a lot during the 25 years since the “conception” of our Society, going from strength to strength, and I wish that future members of the Executive to take this legacy further, so that it maintains its prime status and evolves in line with the new challenges that the scientific community at large, and the field of free radicals more specifically, is going to face. Needless to say, it is clearly obvious that free radicals are involved, one way or another, in a plethora of human pathologies, including some of the most challenging ones. We believe that we have contributed to unraveling the role of free radicals in these pathologies and will continue to do so, for the good of the mankind. This I can see as one of the central aspects of the mission and vision of our Society.

Let’s give a toast to the SFRR(A): Happy 25th birthday!

Jirka Neuzil

Introduction from the SFRR(A) Treasurer



I'd just like to write a few words to introduce myself to you all as the current treasurer of the SFRR(A). I work in Sydney as a post-doctoral researcher at the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute, with my research in the field of redox homeostasis starting early on during my Honour's project under Prof. Ian Dawes. Many of you knew and worked closely with Gus, our past treasurer and I know I have big shoes to fill! However, I am looking forward to meeting many of you and helping the Society grow and be as strong as ever. My first ever conference was an SFRR(A) meeting and I was lucky enough to meet excellent researchers and it was a wonderful way as a young scientists to be introduced to the field. I'll be the point of call for memberships in Australia and feel free to contact me if you have any issues with memberships, payment or general queries. I look forward to seeing some of you in Japan!

Anita Ayer

Secretary's Update

2016 (and most of 2017!) has been quite a busy time for the Society with the organization of the 24th Annual Conference on the Gold Coast and an additional role in contributing to the scientific program in the upcoming SFRR(A)/J meeting in December 2017. As secretary, I would like to thank our members for their occasional email updates and requests and, importantly, to our travel grant applicants and recipients. In 2016, the Society made a total of 12 travel awards, demonstrating great strength in terms of the quality of applications (unfortunately we could not allocate awards to all applicants). The number of awards (totaling \$7500) also demonstrates the society's strong commitment to supporting early career researchers, which our current membership is critical to (therefore many thanks for your ongoing membership to the society). It has been a pleasure to co-ordinate the advertisement, collation, assessment, notification and reporting on these applications and I would like to thank my colleagues in the Society (and additional independent assessors), for volunteering their evenings/weekends to the significant task of application assessment/scoring. We would like to encourage those ECRs who were not successful in 2016/2017 to apply for future awards and further develop their all-important track record. I look forward to maintaining and expanding upon our current mailing list, and would like to ask you to disseminate this newsletter and encourage your group members and colleagues to apply for membership (a very reasonable price, forms available at the end of this newsletter). Finally, I hope that you enjoy reading the content of this newsletter and reflect on the 2016 conference, when viewing the photos later in this document.



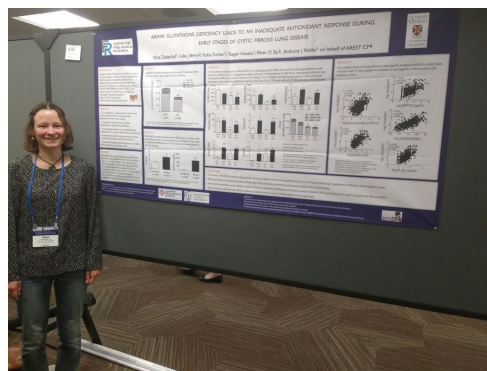
Andrew Bulmer

Conference Reports from SFRRI/SFRBM San Francisco, Nov 2016

Applicant 1 – *Dr Nina Dickerhof – Centre for Free Radical Research, University of Otago, Christchurch, New Zealand.*

It was my pleasure to attend the joint meeting of the societies for Free Radical Biology and Medicine (SfRBM) and Free Radical Research International (SFRRI) in San Francisco. This was my first SfRBM meeting and I enjoyed meeting researchers in the field of Free Radical Biology and Medicine from around the world.

The conference kicked off with a whole day pre-meeting workshop “Fundamentals in Redox Biology”. This was an excellent opportunity for us young and emerging researchers but also senior researchers to go back to the basics. I especially enjoyed Barry Halliwell’s talk “Overview of oxidative damage to biomolecules” and Christine Winterbourn’s lecture on “Oxidants, Free Radicals and Redox Reactions in Biology”. A bonus was that the presenter’s slides were made available to workshop attendees for future reference. The workshop left us sufficiently prepared for the subsequent three days of the actual meeting.



Each of the three days of the conference began with an hour of Sunrise Free Radical School, which like the pre-meeting workshop was a great tool for deepening and enhancing my knowledge in the field. During lunch hours, personal development sessions were offered covering topics on how to efficiently manage time when teaching and running a lab, developing business and entrepreneurial skills and how the peer review process works. The latter session not only covered how and why to become a reviewer, but also touched on how to write a good paper. The informal environment encouraged lots of questions and this interactive character ensured a great exchange of knowledge and advice.

During the scientific communications of the meeting, it was humbling to be reminded how much exciting work is being done in the field of redox biology and medicine. Perhaps if one had to come up with the key message of the meeting it would have to be that free radicals and reactive oxygen species are now widely accepted to play an important role in signalling pathways.



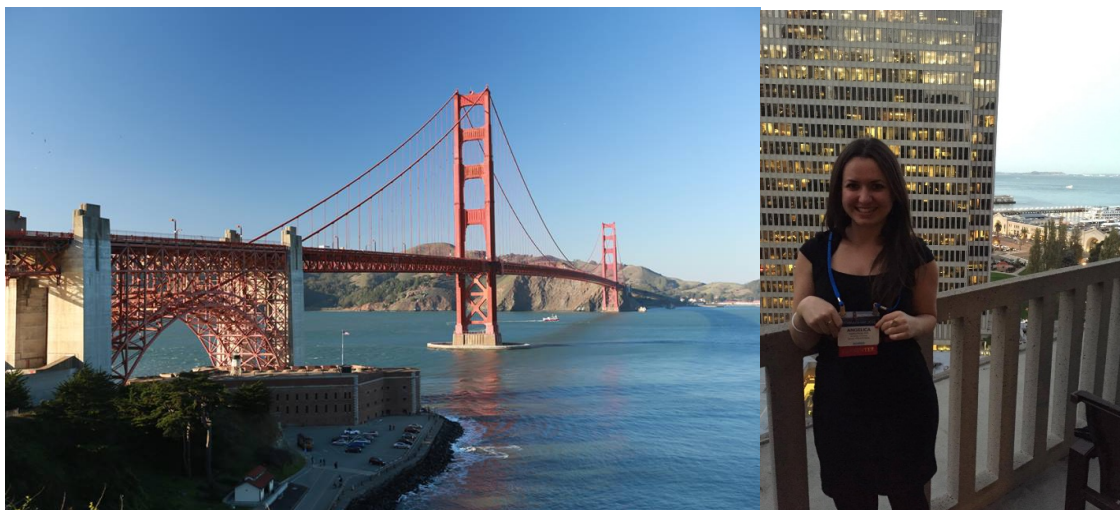
For me personally the conference was an ideal opportunity to meet some existing and future collaborators and to discuss the future direction of our joint research. During the poster session, in which I presented my work, I also received some useful insights regarding the interpretation of my results. I was also able to pass on technical knowledge on a particular LC/MS assay to fellow researchers.

Being located opposite the historic Ferry Building, the conference venue, The Hyatt Regency, was in a great location to explore downtown San Francisco with its cafes and restaurants, the scenic waterfront and the famous Golden Gate Bridge.

Overall, I enjoyed the great learning environment this conference offered and the avenues of future research it opened up. I would like to thank the SFRRA for supporting my attendance at this conference.

The 23rd Annual Joint Meeting of the Society for Redox Biology and Medicine (SFRBM) and the Society for Free Radical Research International (SFRRRI) was held in San Francisco from the 16th to 19th of November, 2016. The meeting was attended by hundreds of researchers from all around the world at the Hyatt Regency, which was a wonderful venue located in the heart of San Francisco. Each day consisted of the Sunrise Free Radical School, plenary morning lectures, lunchtime Professional Development Sessions, afternoon parallel theme sessions and early evening poster presentations. The talks were intriguing and of exceptional quality, with Reductive Stress and the Dual Role of Oxidants particularly taking my interest. I certainly learnt about areas I previously knew nothing about, such as Diabetes-Metabolic Syndrome, Cardiovascular, Neuroscience, Lipids and Electrophiles, among many others. The poster sessions were a great opportunity to meet with many scientists and make new friends in an informal manner.

I particularly enjoyed the Professional Development Workshops on offer. It was fantastic to have access to a highly sought after resource, our senior researchers and academics, and to draw on their experiences and get those burning questions answered on a research career for an ECR. It was certainly exciting to be able to present my research on the development of anti-cancer agents and ER stress in cancer as both an oral and poster presentation. This was my very first International oral presentation and it was great to receive positive feedback, many useful suggestions and have the support of other highly-respected and inspiring academics. I found the SFRBM/SFRRRI meeting to be on the whole very educational and a fantastic experience. I am very appreciative for the opportunity and grateful for receiving a Travel Award, which made it possible to attend this meeting. Thank you!!



The Golden Gate Bridge and The Hyatt Regency, San Francisco, CA, USA.

Applicant 3 – Dr Anita Ayer – Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute, Sydney, Australia.

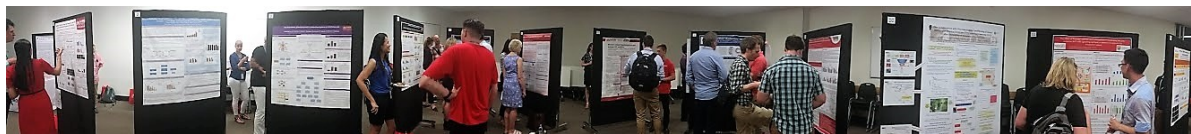
In November 2016, I was given the opportunity to attend the joint meeting of the Society for Free Radical Research and Society for Free Radical Biology and Medicine in San Francisco USA, where I was able to present work relating to my project investigating the regulation of the lipid coenzyme Q. This was the first SFRBM meeting that I have attended and the conference provided an excellent opportunity to meet some of the leading researchers in the free radical field. In particular, the conference allowed me to meet other early career researchers from around the world and share our work and experiences.

The pre-meeting workshop on Fundamentals in Redox Biology and the Sunrise Free Radical School were particular highlights for me. It was fantastic to be able to learn the basics of redox biology and chemistry from some of the biggest names in the field. In terms of the research presented, the plenary session focused on the role of hydrogen peroxide in redox regulation of signaling and transcription was session of great interest to me. The talks by Stefan Dröse, Martin Brand and Jan Reimer focusing on mitochondrial reactive oxygen species generation and their roles in metabolic signaling were absolutely fascinating.

Being able to attend the meeting was an invaluable experience and I would like to give big thanks the SFRRA for providing me a travel award allowing me to participate!



Conference Reports from SFRR(A) meeting Gold Coast, Dec 2016



Applicant 1 – Mr Adam Denny – University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand.



My attendance at the SFRR(A) 2016 conference was a very valuable experience as it gave me the opportunity to present my PhD research to leading free radical researchers. In addition to presenting my own research, the conference allowed me to listen to the insightful talks given by a host of well-established researchers and learn from their current research and the methodologies they are employing. The networking opportunities at conference were fantastic and enabled me to develop a great relationship with a number of researchers and students throughout Australasia. Furthermore, I was able to gain a great insight into the PhD and Post-Doc community in Australasia and get tips and

advice from Post-Docs on how to progress in research post PhD. Overall the conference was a fantastic experience and I am thoroughly looking forward to the 2017 conference.

Applicant 2 – Ms Genevieve Fong – University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia.

I recently had the opportunity to attend the 24th Annual Meeting of the Society for Free Radical Research (Australasia) which was held at the Gold Coast campus of Griffith University. I have attended each annual meeting since the beginning of my candidature and have always been impressed by the quality of presentations, both oral and poster, and by how encouraging established researchers are to those just entering the field. This year was no exception. I was given the opportunity to present my work on the use of capsaicin in a model of Parkinson's disease and received a number of interesting questions and useful advice both during and after my talk. I also enjoyed this year's poster session and had the opportunity to troubleshoot and discuss new methodologies with fellow students. Our lab also enjoyed the scheduled "free time" and took the opportunity to relax in a few rock pools! Overall, I thought the conference was well organised, the sessions were of good length, and I could not have asked for a better audience for my first oral presentation. Finally, I would like to thank the Society for providing financial support in the form of the "Young Investigator Travel Award" and allowing me to present my work at this conference.

Applicant 3 – Mr (now Dr!) Luke Hall – Heart Research Institute, Sydney, Australia.

I would like to thank SFRR(A) for offering me a travel award to attend what was a fantastic, and particularly well organised, 2016 Gold Coast conference. I was very grateful to be given the opportunity to give both oral and poster presentations, which I felt gave me much more confidence presenting my work in front of my peers and other accomplished academics, as well as receiving valued feedback and coming up with potential new avenues to explore in the future. The invited speakers who presented at the conference were fantastic, highlighted for me by a fascinating talk given by Dr Mike Murphy on his work on MitoQ. The conference dinner was another highlight. Being able to mingle with fellow students from other institutes and countries was a lot of fun and provided a memorable way to bring the conference to a close. Being able to connect with other scientists and to share ideas gave me a great opportunity to build connections and to get valuable insights on my own research. I would also like to thank SFRR(A) for the unexpected poster award I received as well. Receiving the travel award afforded me a fantastic experience to showcase my work as well as a chance to build connections and further my own research.

Applicant 4 – Mr Weiyu Chen – Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute, Sydney, Australia.

Weiyu Chen, a PhD student at the University of New South Wales with International Postgraduate Research Scholarship, is conducting research projects under the supervision of Professor Roland Stocker in the Vascular Biology Division at the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute. His research focuses on understanding the antioxidant property of bilirubin and its role in cardiovascular disease.

Plasma bilirubin concentrations inversely associate with the risk of cardiovascular disease, and bilirubin has potential protective properties to against cardiovascular disease, including antioxidant and anti-inflammatory activities, inhibition of vascular smooth muscle cell proliferation, and promotion of endothelial cell growth. However, a direct link between bilirubin and cardiovascular disease remains to be established. To assess the contribution of bilirubin as an endogenous antioxidant *in vivo*, he has generated *biliverdin reductase-a (Bvra)* gene-deficient mice on a C57BL/6J background and determined oxidative stress parameters. Compared with wild-type littermates, plasma from *Bvra* deficient mice contains higher concentrations of cholesterylester hydroperoxides, and their peroxiredoxin-2 in erythrocytes is more oxidized as assessed by the extent of peroxiredoxin-2 dimerization. These data show *Bvra* deficient mice experience higher oxidative stress in blood, implying that plasma bilirubin attenuates endogenous oxidative stress. He has now crossed *Bvra* deficient mice onto an *Apolipoprotein-E* deficient background to assess the protective role of bilirubin in an experimental model of atherosclerotic plaque rupture. Ultimately, these studies will determine if there is a direct link between bilirubin and protection against cardiovascular disease.

The SFRR(A) Young Investigator Travel Award has afforded Weiyu an unparalleled opportunity to present his research about bilirubin as an antioxidant, and received feedback from peer reviewers. This opportunity has not only enabled him to stay up-to-date with the latest in cutting-edge antioxidant and radical science, but also given him a chance to network with local and international researchers and begin to establish a presence in the antioxidant research community.

Applicant 5 – Mr James Marshall – University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand.

From December 6-8 in 2016, it was my great privilege to attend the SFRR(A) conference in Gold Coast with my supervisor Liz Ledgerwood, and I am thankful for the travel award that permitted me to do so. The conference program covered several interesting topics, both in my area of study and outside of it, and such a broad selection helped me to appreciate the scope of the field. The main theme of the conference was pathologies that have a free radical component: coming from a more chemical background, this provided fascinating biological context for free radical chemistry. I particularly enjoyed hearing about recent research in mitochondrial bioenergetics that is now possible with recent technological innovations, and also recent work on the horizontal transfer of mitochondria from Michael Berridge, Lan-Feng Dong, and Jiri Neuzil – a topic with which I was totally unfamiliar prior to the conference. As for my own specific area of work, peroxiredoxin biochemistry, I enjoyed hearing about the Prdx2-CRMP2 redox relay identified by Mark Hampton and collaborators, and I had an interesting discussion with him about some limitations in identifying mixed disulfide species that I was able to apply to my own work. I am also grateful for the opportunity to meet and socialise with other postgraduate students during the poster session, and to present my work there. I would also like to thank the organising committee and all the people at Griffith for hosting the conference. I am also thankful to my supervisor for her valuable support and guidance in my research.

Applicant 6 – *Dr David Cheng – Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute, Sydney, Australia.*

In December 2016, I had the pleasure of attending the 24th Annual Meeting for the Society of Free Radical Research (Australasia) held at Griffith University. It was a very well-organised conference with speakers from a wide range of disciplines presenting very interesting presentations. I especially enjoyed listening to the keynote talks by Roland Stocker and Mike Murphy, which bookended the conference and generated a lot of interest from the audience. It was also fantastic to see Kevin Croft awarded the society's honourable Lifetime Achievement Award, joining a list of exceptional researchers, and also give a fantastic presentation on his work. The young investigators session showed the amount of talent that our colleagues are capable of achieving, with each presenter speaking clearly and to time. The poster session also attracted a lot of attention due to the range of excellent posters presented (but also because of the excellent food and drinks made available). I was able to present my work on the inhibition of myeloperoxidase in mouse models of inflammation and atherosclerosis and I was also very happy and honoured to have received a poster prize at the conference dinner. Finally, I would like to thank the SFRR(A) committee for providing financial support to attend this year's conference and for the valuable opportunity to present my work.

Applicant 7 – *Dr Chris Stanley – Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute, Sydney, Australia.*

My attendance at the 2016 SFRRRA conference would not have been possible without the help of the SFRRRA and their generous travel award. Attendance at such events are vital for me at such an early and pivotal stage in my career, as it affords me the opportunity to listen to talks and informally chat with experts in the redox field. I have several highlights from the 2016 conference, for instance; the warm reception my talk received along with the thoughtful and challenging questions from the audience, the program in its entirety (especially the two sections on cardiovascular and metabolic disease, the radical chemistry and biology section and of course the fantastic keynote talk), and finally the informal conversations I had with people such as the numerous conversations about redox relays, a topic I find completely fascinating. On the whole, this was my second SFRAA conference I have found each to be exceptionally well organized, friendly and most importantly thought provoking and fascinating. I look forward to hopefully attending future conferences (all that remains is for me to gather the data arrrrggghhhh!).

Applicant 8 – *Ms Kate Vick – University of Otago, Christchurch, New Zealand.*

It was a pleasure to attend the Annual Meeting of the Society for Free Radical Research (Australasia), for which I gratefully received a travel award. I thoroughly enjoyed the conference and found it to be well organised and informative. As a third year PhD candidate, the conference provided me with an excellent opportunity to gain insight into a broad range of free radical research topics. The highlight of the conference for me was the dedicated poster session, which was scheduled in a separate evening session after the day's talks. I particularly enjoyed this session because it was attended by almost all of the members of the conference and allowed for time to discuss research with a variety of experts in the field, which were all friendly and approachable. I found the talks to be very well structured and cover a broad scope of free radical chemistry on both a molecular and clinical level. I was very appreciative of the time in-between talks to meet and learn from some of the leading minds in redox biology, particularly Michael Murphy. I wish to thank the people and Griffith University and the committee for organising the conference and being both helpful and friendly. I found the conference to be a positive and valuable experience, and I look forward to attending future meetings.

Applicant 9 – *Ms Teagan Hoskin – University of Otago, Christchurch, New Zealand.*

I thoroughly enjoyed the Annual Meeting of the Society for Free Radical Research (Australasia). It provided me with the opportunity to present some of my results and discuss these findings with leading experts in the field. There was plenty of time for discussion and feedback during the breaks, which I found extremely helpful.

My PhD is focused on how hypohalous acids generated by the heme peroxidase enzyme myeloperoxidase can modify calprotectin in various physiological and pathological situations. There were several talks that highlighted potential oxidative modifications of proteins which I found interesting, and also directly relevant to my work. Two talks were of particular interest, the first was presented by Paul Witting from the University of Sydney, and was titled “Neutrophils recruited to the myocardium after acute experimental myocardial infarct generate hypochlorous acid that oxidised cardiac myoglobin”. The second was by Mike Davies, from the University of Copenhagen, his talk was titled “Peroxynitrous acid is a potent modifying agent of tropoelastin and gives rise to structural and functional changes”.

Overall the conference was very informative and had a good mix of topics. I particularly enjoyed the talks that discussed the role of reactive oxygen species in human health and disease. Several diseases were discussed including, cancer, cardiovascular disease, neurodegenerative diseases, and metabolic diseases. For a section of my PhD I have analysed oxidative modifications of calprotectin in various disease groups. Therefore, it was of benefit to be made aware of other current research in this area.

I am very grateful to have received travel funding from the Society for Free Radical Research to attend this conference.

Selected 2016 Conference Photographs



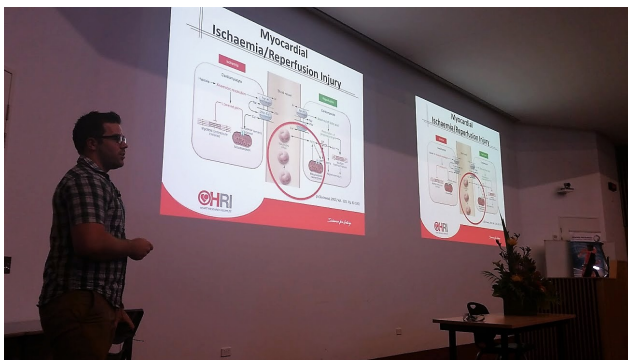
A/Prof Paul Witting and Prof Kevin Croft



Prof Kevin Croft



Prof Clare Hawkins



Mr Luke Hall



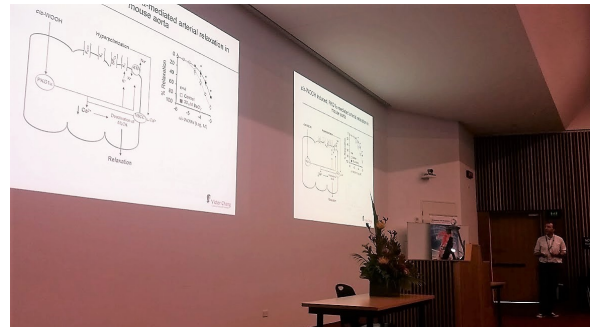
Dr Sona Hubackova



Dr Jakub Rohlena



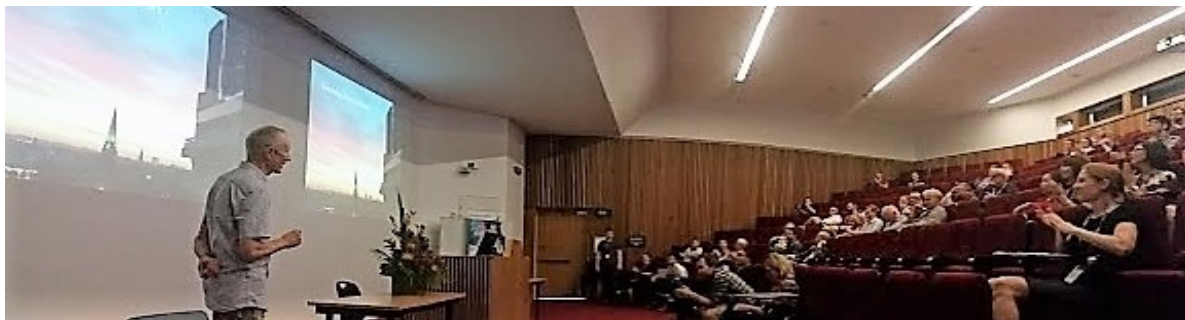
Prof Mike Murphy



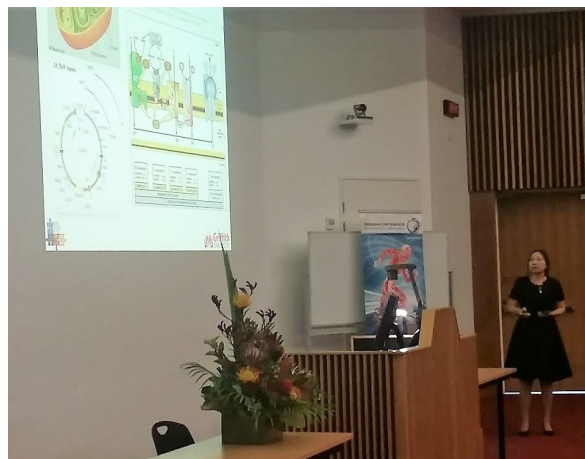
Dr Chris Stanley



Prof Margreet Visser



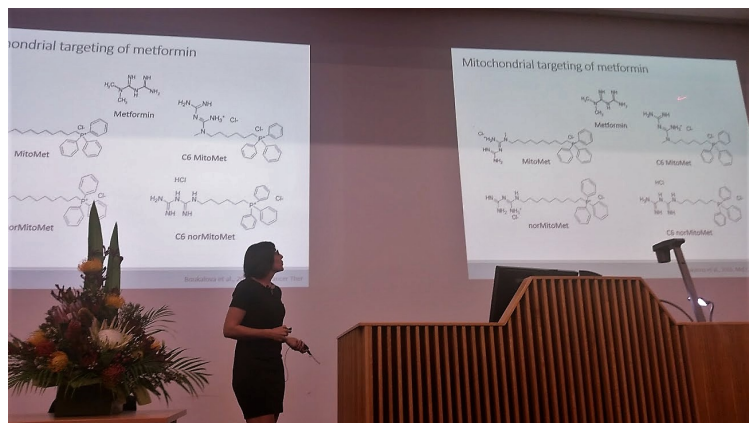
Prof Michael Davies



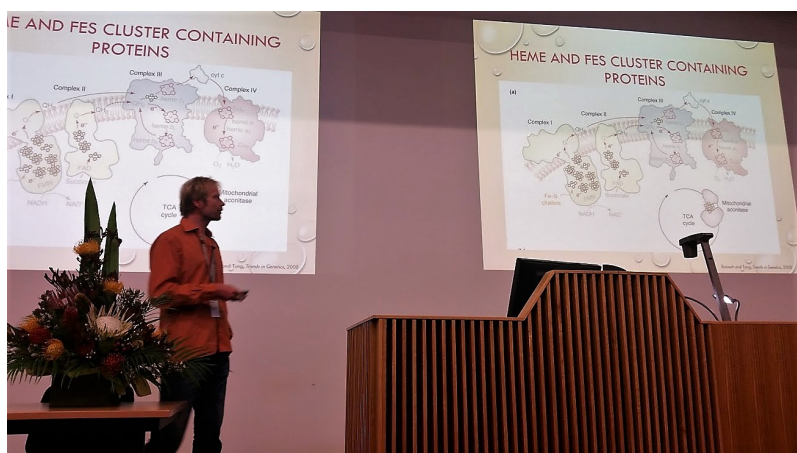
Dr Lan-Feng Dong



Dr Katerina Rohlonova

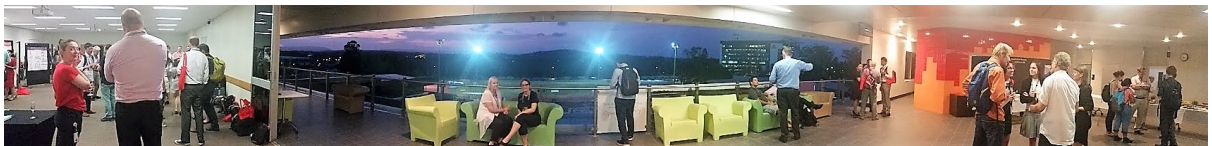


Dr Stepana Boukalova



Dr Jaroslav Truksa





Treasurer's report (2016)

1. Comments

Membership numbers are very slightly down from 2015. I would like to thank all those current financial members that have made the effort to pay their membership fees to the Society for 2016.

NOTE: The registration fees for attending the meeting in the Gold Coast do NOT include 2017 membership fees for SFRR(A).

For those who have not paid the membership on the website or have not attended the Gold Coast meeting, the 2017 SFRR(A) membership fees are due by end of the year (Full, A\$40/NZ\$45; Student, A\$20/NZ\$22).

Membership forms and payment details will be available on the website (www.sfrfa.org) or by contacting myself (g.maghzal@victorchang.edu.au) or the secretary.

2. Summary of Australian Accounts (1/11/15-31/10/16)

Opening Balance (1/11/15) of Australian accounts:	<u>\$57,674.59</u>
Cheque Account Bearing Interest:	\$9556.96
Term Deposit	\$48,117.63

Total Income:	\$978.87
Total Expenditure:	\$5220.36
<u>Income – Expenditure:</u>	<u>-\$4241.49</u>

Closing Balance (31/10/16) of Australian accounts:	<u>\$53,433.10</u>
Cheque Account Bearing Interest:	\$10,433.10
Term Deposit	\$43,000

3. Summary of BNZ Account in New Zealand

Opening Balance (1/11/15) of New Zealand account:	<u>NZ\$4,451.00</u>
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Deposits

Membership fees: Payments for 2016	NZ\$22.00
Interest on NZ current account	NZ\$3.86
Membership fees from Christchurch meeting	NZ\$2,643
Profit from Christchurch meeting	NZ\$2,300
Total NZ Income (1/11/15 – 31/10/16):	<u>NZ\$4968.86</u>

Expenditure

Travel awards (2 @\$500)	NZ\$1000
Total NZ Expenditure (1/11/15 – 31/10/16):	<u>NZ\$1000</u>
<u>Income – Expenditure:</u>	<u>NZ\$3968.86</u>
Closing Balance (31/10/16) of New Zealand account:	<u>NZ\$8,419.86</u>

Current balance: NZ\$8,419.86

Minutes from the 2016 Annual General Meeting

Time: 12:50 pm, Tuesday 6th December 2016, Griffith University, Gold Coast

Chair: Paul Witting (President); Minutes: Andrew Bulmer (Secretary)

Meeting opened – 12:55 pm

1. Apologies – Jan Gebecki
2. Approval of Minutes from 2015 AGM - Accepted by Kevin Croft (KC)
3. President's Report

- Report from the International meeting

Attendance at international meeting, San Francisco – meeting in Portugal (Lisbon) scheduled for June 4-7, 2018.

2020 meeting, maybe Taiwan after Lisbon with no indication of venues/hosts beyond that.

Rafael Radi indicated a desire to create sub-committees for young investigators. If there are younger researchers who wish to contribute to sub committees, finance, education, regional meetings, please notify the SFRR(A) executive, who will pass this information onto Geovanni Mann for consideration.

Greg Giles expressed interest (SFRR).

Gemma Figree nominated and accepted SFRR committee membership.

SFRR Japan – meeting success, a breakdown of attendees and finances after outgoing payments were made.

Call for nominees for the position of President elect mentioned, please contact executive (open call), any nominee from the region will be direct to Giovanni Mann.

Mike Davies indicated that he is co-ordinating a historical review of regional SFRR activities. Please send historical info to Jan Gebicki, who will coordinate information between Jan and Mike.

- Taylor Francis and sponsorship

To review, the contract stipulates a payment of 4000 pounds from Taylor and Francis (T&F) to the SFRR(A) in sponsorship and requires the purchase of 45 subscriptions. The society will pay 35 pounds per subscription, with 45 subscriptions equalling ~1500-1800 pounds back to T&F. This subscription to Free Radical Research would add to that of Redox Report. T&F now own Redox Report.

Questions to be answered:

Are subscriptions to Free Radical Research usually available from universities/institutes?

Would this subscription to Free Radical Research add to that of Redox Report, given that T&F now own Redox Report?

How should the Society nominate individuals to take-up subscriptions?

Margreet Vissers (MV) asked for the meaning of 'taking up' subscriptions – Paul Witting (PW) defined that individuals may wish to take own subscription in place of society purchasing on their behalf. It is expected that 40 subscriptions would be allocated to senior scientists and to 5 junior scientists. The executive will determine how to allocate subscriptions in the coming months.

KC asked about the possibility of abstract publication within Free Radical Research, PW that indicated subscriptions only would be appropriate at this stage.

PW approached Nick Hunt (NH) prior to approach of T&F. NH has provided his blessing/agreement.

The sponsorship agreement would be sent to the SFRR(A) in Jan 2017. PW made a comment that with increasing funds into the society, the society should expend more funds (meeting/travel/award support) so that the society remains revenue neutral.

Andrew Bulmer (AB) proposed to increase travel awards from these funds.

RS suggested that subscriptions should be prioritised to members who do not have access or membership to Free Radical Research. However, individual(s) must be current members of our society.

- Other Business/Meetings

Grant Drummond (GD) asked whether conference retainers are loans – PW agreed, profits also come back in addition to retainers provided.

Yorihiro Yamamoto (YY) provided a short introduction to the 2017 joint meeting. Scheduled for Dec 9 - 4 day meeting.

Auckland in 2018 – Tony Hickey was suggested as the conference chair of the organising committee, Margreet Vissers agreed to this proposal. PW supported that motion. Paul proposed 2019 meeting in Sydney, with the potential for a joint meeting with SFRR(Japan).

4. Treasurer's Report - presented by Ghassan Maghzal (GM)

GM also noted that registration to the 2016 meeting did not include membership and should have been included in the registration.

Jiri Neuzil (JN) noted the membership was noted and paid for on the conference website.

GM indicated care around NSW fair trading rules, needing to maintain not for profit status of the society.

The executive will circulate emails about travel awards for the 2017 meeting in Japan.

5. Secretary's Report - Presented by Andrew Bulmer (AB)

- Update of SFRRRA membership list – update contact details (sfrrsecretariat@gmail.com or inform conference organisers)
- Travel Awards for 2016
- SRFFA travel awards - 14 applicants – 9 awarded
 - Weiyu Chen
 - David Cheng
 - Adam Denny
 - Genevieve Fong
 - Luke Hall
 - Teagan Hoskin
 - James Marshall
 - Chris Stanley
 - Kate Vick
- SFRRRI/SFRBM Travel Awards – 9 applications – 3 awards
 - Anita Ayer
 - Nina Dickerhof
 - Angelica Merlot

7. Election of Executive for 2017-2018

- Vote was taken for the above period for the positions below. Attendees were encouraged to plan whether they would like to nominate in advance and in future meetings.

President Elect – Mark Hampton (MH) nominated Liz Ledgerwood (LL), seconded by Roland Stocker (RS). LL accepted this nomination. LL elected unopposed as President Elect.

Treasurer – Gus nominated Anita Ayer (AA), seconded by JN. AA accepted the nomination and was elected unopposed at Treasurer.

Secretary – PW indicated that the current Secretary (AB) was happy to continue in this role. No other nominations were received. AB re-elected unopposed as the Secretary.

It was agreed that the new Executive be inducted as the office bearers (2017-2018) to take the Society forward and that the new Treasurer and immediate past president be retained as cosignatories for all financial purposes including the Commonwealth Bank transactional account and the term deposit (relieving the immediate past Treasurer Gus Maghzal of this responsibility).

8. Other Business

- Naming of the society

RS mentioned that presentations concerning free radical chemistry (for example) are becoming less frequent and that presentations concerning cellular redox control and balance are becoming more common. On this basis RS suggested that the society might like to consider a name change to “Society for Redox Biology” as an example.

Margreet Vissers (MV) supported proposal and acknowledged that the society might like to consider ‘where we are’ and ‘where we are going’.

Robert Anderson (RA) mentioned that some care should be taken when changing the name of the society.

A motion was put forward by PW to explore the possibility of changing the name to increase membership and was supported by RS and seconded by MV. PW indicated that the executive would co-ordinate email communication/survey with members to determine possible ideas and proposals.

29 attendees + Paul Witting and Andrew Bulmer.

Meeting closed at 1:30 pm

Dates for your diary

2018

February 4-9, 2018

Gordon Research Conference - Biology and Pathobiology of Oxygen Radicals from Cell Signaling and Detection to Therapy

Location: Ventura Beach Marriot, Ventura, California,

Further information: <https://www.grc.org/oxygen-radicals-conference/2018/>

April 24, 2018

Redox Biology: A unifying theme in the etiology of human diseases (SFRBM sponsored symposia at the 2018 Experimental Biology meeting)

Location: San Diego, California, USA

Further information: <http://experimentalbiology.org/2018/Home.aspx>

June 4-7, 2018

19th Biennial Society for Free Radical Research (International) Meeting

Location: Lisbon Conference Centre, Lisbon, Portugal.

Further information: <http://sfrri2018lisbon.organideia.pt/>

June 8-9, 2018

3rd Annual Regional Redox Symposium

Location: University of Nebraska Medical Center, Lincoln, Nebraska, USA.

Further information: <http://sfrbm.org/meetings/regional-symposium/>

July 15-20, 2018

Gordon Research Conference - Chemistry and Biology of Tetrapyrroles

Location: Salve Regina University, Newport, Rhode Island, USA

Further Information: <https://www.grc.org/venues/north-america/salve-regina-university/>

November 14-17, 2018

25th Annual meeting of the Society for Redox Biology and Medicine (SFRBM)

Location: Hilton Palmer House, Chicago, Illinois, USA.

Further information: <http://sfrbm.org/about/events/sfrbm-2018/>

December 8-11, 2018

26th Annual meeting of the Society for Free Radical Research (Australasia)

Location: Auckland, New Zealand.

Further information: a.hickey@auckland.ac.nz

2019

September 17-20, 2019

EMBO Workshop on Mitochondria, Apoptosis and Cancer (MAC'19)

Location: Prague, Czech Republic

Further Information: j.neuzil@griffith.edu.au

November 20-24, 2019

26th Annual meeting of the Society for Redox Biology and Medicine

Location: Planet Hollywood and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA.

Further information: <http://sfrbm.org/about/events/sfrbm-2019/>

Australian residents – complete this form

Society for Free Radical Research (Australasia) 2018 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM

Title: _____ **Name:** _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Fax:** _____

E-mail: _____

Website address (for inclusion as a link on the Society website):

Research Interests (short description for the 2018 membership directory):

Annual Fees:

☐ Full Membership Aus\$40 / NZ\$45* ☐ Student Membership Aus\$20 / NZ\$22*

☐ Electronic Funds Transfer Account name : SFRR Australasia
Account number: 10178136
BSB: 06 2284 (Commonwealth, University of Sydney, NSW)

Please tick the appropriate box above to indicate category of membership. For payment, please make an electronic funds transfer (preferred option) to the account detailed above, or send a cheque payable to “Society for Free Radical Research (Australasia)” in Australian dollars* to:

Dr Anita Ayer, Treasurer SFRR(Australasia)
Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute,
Lowy Packer building
405 Liverpool St, Darlinghurst
NSW 2010,
Australia

* Note: New Zealand members can contact Associate Professor Mark Hampton (mark.hampton@otago.ac.nz) for alternative payment options or use the NZ membership form.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

(Student membership only - ask your supervisor to complete the declaration below)

I confirm that the above applicant is at present a student under my supervision.

Name: _____ **Signature:** _____

Institution: _____ **Date:** _____

New Zealand residents – complete this form

Society for Free Radical Research (Australasia) 2018 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM

Title: _____ **Name:** _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Fax:** _____

E-mail: _____

Website address (for inclusion as a link on the Society website):

Research Interests (short description for the 2018 membership directory):

Annual Fees:

☐ Full Membership NZ\$45 ☐ Student Membership NZ\$22

☐ Electronic Funds Transfer Account name : SFRRA
Account number : 02 0800 0858347 000
BNZ, New Zealand (BKNZNZ22)

Please tick the appropriate box above to indicate category of membership. For payment please make an electronic funds transfer (preferred option) to the account detailed above.

For alternate payment options please contact Mark Hampton (mark.hampton@otago.ac.nz) or send a cheque payable to “Society for Free Radical Research Australasia” in NZD to:

Assoc Prof Mark Hampton
University of Otago
2 Riccarton Ave
Christchurch, 8011
New Zealand

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

(Student membership only - ask your supervisor to complete the declaration below)

I confirm that the above applicant is at present a student under my supervision.

Name:

Signature:

Institution:

Date: