



# The Society for Free Radical Research A U S T R A L A S I A

## NEWSLETTER (September 2009)

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<p><i>Secretary</i> <b>MARK HAMPTON</b> Free Radical Research Group Department of Pathology University of Otago, Christchurch NEW ZEALAND Phone: +64-3-378-6225 Fax: +64-3-364-1083 Email: <a href="mailto:mark.hampton@otago.ac.nz">mark.hampton@otago.ac.nz</a></p>	<p><i>President-Elect</i> <b>CHRIS EASTON</b> Biochemical Reactions and Molecular Recognition Group, Research School of Chemistry, Building 35, Australian National University, Canberra, ACT 0200, AUSTRALIA. Phone: +61-2-6125-8201 Fax: +61-2-6125-8114 E-mail: <a href="mailto:easton@rsc.anu.edu.au">easton@rsc.anu.edu.au</a></p>

The Executive would like to thank all those who have contributed to this issue of the Newsletter. We would also like to thank Carl Schiesser, Courtney Judkins and their helpers for last year's excellent meeting in Melbourne. We look forward to seeing everyone again in Sydney in December.

We are currently in the process of revamping the Society website. Any information that you wish to be made available to SFRR(A) members, e.g. news items, important dates, links to personal websites etc., then please submit them to the Secretary.



# Redox Processes in Chemistry, Biology and Medicine

1-4 December 2009

University of Sydney  
Veterinary Conference Centre

Early bird registration closing 9<sup>th</sup> October 2009

<http://www.redox-processes-sydney2009.org/index.htm>

The 5th Joint Meeting of the Societies for Free Radical Research  
Australasia and Japan and the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the  
Mutagenesis and Experimental Pathology Society of Australasia



## Notice of the Society for Free Radical Research (Australasia) Annual General Meeting

The 2009 AGM will be held at 5 pm on Dec 3 at the Veterinary Science Conference Centre, University of Sydney.

The AGM will include election of the SFRR(A) executive. Nominations for President Elect, Secretary and Treasurer are now open. Please send your nominations to Mark Hampton ([mark.hampton@otago.ac.nz](mailto:mark.hampton@otago.ac.nz)) by **November 2**. The nomination list will be distributed and voted on at the meeting by current members\* of the Society.

\*A membership form is attached to this newsletter. If you are unsure of your membership status please check with David Pattison ([d.pattison@hri.org.au](mailto:d.pattison@hri.org.au)).

### Member Survey

The annual meeting is the most important event in the Society's calendar. Following discussions at previous AGMs, the executive would like members to take a few minutes to provide their personal perspective of issues relating to the meeting, including timing, length, quality, scope, combined meetings etc. We ask that you answer some or all of the questions and email them to the secretary at [mark.hampton@otago.ac.nz](mailto:mark.hampton@otago.ac.nz). The responses will be assembled into a single document, names will be removed, and the document used to guide discussions at the next AGM. The more responses we get, the better informed we will be in future decision making. If you are happy with the status quo then also please tell us that. This will only take 5-10 minutes of your time, and would be greatly appreciated. Please email responses by Nov 2.

1. How long (approx) have you been associated with SFRR(A)? (    )
2. How many annual meetings have you attended? (    )
3. The meetings are traditionally held in the first week of December.
  - a. Is this timing OK for you? (    ).
  - b. If no, what would be a better time of the year? (    )
  - c. What times of the year would you be unlikely to attend a meeting? (    )
4. Meetings showcase local research and encourage the involvement of young investigators, while also attempting to engage with Australasian researchers from other disciplines with interests in free radical research. We need to know if we are achieving the right balance.
  - a. Are you happy with the content and balance of recent meetings? (    ).
  - b. How could this be improved? (    ).
  - c. What is the ideal length of a society meeting? (    ).
  - d. Should we be engaging more with other societies? (    ).
  - e. If yes, how do we do this? Do we have to be flexible with the timing and structure of the meetings? (    ).
5. Other comments or suggestions. (    ).



## Conference Reports

**Xiao Suo Wang**

*Centre for Vascular Research, Bosch Institute, University of Sydney*

It was a great pleasure and honour to have the support from the SFRR Australasia in assisting my attendance at the 14th Biennial Meeting of the Society for Free Radical Research International (SFRRRI) in Beijing, China from 18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, October, 2008.

The presentations from the conference covered many of the facets of free radical research, which provide a unique opportunity for me to learn new things as a PhD student. I enjoyed the high quality and variety of presentations from scientists across different countries. In particular, I was very impressed and enlightened by the keynote lecture by HePing Cheng. They have proposed 'superoxide flashes', a term describing individual mitochondria undergo spontaneous bursts of superoxide generation, which could serve as a biomarker for oxidative stress-related diseases. Other plenary lectures by Christine Winterbourn and Lester Packer were also very interesting and impressive. In addition, I was also amazed by the new development and applications of mass spectrometry technology for free radical research.

My abstract was presented as a poster, entitled 'Development of a Sensitive ELISA for the Detection of Methionine Sulfoxide-containing Apolipoprotein A-I'. I was happy to have a few discussions with some of the audience, which also helped a lot in my thesis writing. This meeting has enabled me to meet with both national and international researchers and expand my insight in diverse areas in the field of free radical research as well. I also have managed to find and established potential contacts with similar and relevant research interests.



As I originally came from China, being to this conference was kind of going home, which made me very excited, especially right after Beijing Olympics. It was so pleased to see the overall improvement in China in the last few years, although every person believes there is still much to be done. Nevertheless, it is a nice and unforgettable experience being to SFRR. Besides conference, I particularly enjoyed the trip to Great Wall with Professor, Nick Hunt, Christine Winterbourne, Mark Levine and my supervisor Professor Roland Stocker (Please see the attached photo taken at Simatai Great Wall). We hiked from Simatai to Jinshaling, the part of Great Wall has most of breathtaking views and was a truly "authentic" wall experience and indeed it was! I'll recommend this part of Great Wall if people are interested in hiking on the Great Wall.

**Federica Saletta**

*Department of Pathology, Bosch Institute, University of Sydney*

The 14th Biennial Conference for the Society of Free Radical Research (Australasia) held at the Beijing, China, in October 2008 was a wonderful experience for a PhD student like myself.

It offered a great opportunity to interact and exchange ideas with fellow students and researchers as well as to present my own research at the poster session.

In fact, from my point of view, the most important thing of this conference was that it gave the opportunity even to very young researcher to share their knowledge and present their results.

Over the days I spent in China, I was fortunate enough to do some sightseeing as well. As I discovered, Beijing is a beautiful city with so much history and very modern at the same time especially looking at the Olympic game site but overall, the climb on the Great Wall is something I will never forget.

I come out of this experience more confident and definitely more educated about the work that I am involved in and I believe that it will be useful when I will write my thesis.

I wish to thank the Australasian societies for the student travel award that gave me the opportunity to attend this conference.

**Anita Ayer**

*School of Biotechnology and Biomolecular Sciences, University of New South Wales*

I found the 2008 SFRR (A) conference in Melbourne a fantastic experience. As a first year PhD student, SFRR (A) 2008 was the first conference I attended and I was unsure of what to expect. Luckily it turned out to be excellent! The diversity of speakers and the science that was presented really showcased the fundamentals of free radical research and how these ideas and techniques can be applied to a variety of complex research questions. As most of my research can be considered cell biology, I was particularly interested in talks that focused on *in vivo* methods of detecting free radicals and the effects of reactive oxygen species on biological molecules. I was lucky enough to be asked to present a talk (a big thank you to the organisers again!) and as this was my first opportunity to present my work outside of my university I was petrified! However, the conference provided a wonderful environment for me to present my research and I was fortunate enough to be able to discuss my work with some really experienced scientists and obtain a lot of helpful feedback. Overall, the conference exposed me to a lot of interesting and cutting edge scientific research, extended my knowledge and provided me with a truly memorable experience.

**Andrew Das**

*Free Radical Research Group, University of Otago, Christchurch*

The 2008 SFRR(A) meeting was a memorable experience for me because it was my first conference as well as being my first trip to Melbourne. Overall the conference covered a wide range of free radical research topics meaning there were a number of talks that were of direct relevance to my area of interest. One such talk by Dr Andrea Szuchman-Sapir in the "Redox Proteomics" session was of particular relevance because it provided insight into methods I had not previously considered. In addition I enjoyed the sessions on oxidative stress and disease. One of the highlights for me was the being able to talk to people in between sessions. Not only was it productive to talk to experts in particular fields, but it was also encouraging to talk to other students passionate about research. As a PhD student it was very helpful to experience this interaction of scientists firsthand. I would like to thank the SFRR(A) for providing me with a travel grant, enabling me to do so and present my work in Melbourne.

**Amanda Lane**

*Heart Research Institute, Sydney*

I would like to thank SFRRA for providing travel funds to assist me attending their 16<sup>th</sup> conference in Melbourne last November. The program was quite diverse, ranging from the effects of oxidative stress in disease states to synthetic chemistry. Attending this conference gave me the opportunity to present my work and exchange ideas with other students and scientists.



Of particular interest to me was the depth of research within the field, which made me think of where free radical research could take me in the future. I especially enjoyed a lecture given by Professor Nick Hunt. I have been fortunate enough to hear him previously at a conference at Sydney University and once more found him entertaining and informative.

Away from the conference it appears to have become a tradition to partake in karaoke following the conference dinner. Consequently, we wandered the streets of Melbourne in search of a suitable venue to murder a few too many popular classics. Only the dedicated few got to witness Mitch's renditions.

Whilst in Melbourne, I took the opportunity to tag a few days annual leave onto the end of my stay to enjoy a little of what Victoria has to offer. This included a trip to Great Ocean Road, a stop off at the 12 Apostles and an evening spent paddling a canoe watching feeding platypus in their natural environment. It really is a special part of the country that I hope make a swift recovery from the recent bush fires that have since ravaged much of the state.

**Aldwin Suryo Rahmanto**

*Heart Research Institute, Sydney*

I was recently given the opportunity to attend the 16<sup>th</sup> SFRR(A) annual conference in Melbourne. Being only recently move to Australia, Melbourne is certainly different from Sydney - from its ever-crowded narrow street with the tram, to its lively rectangular-shaped city outlay. The highlight of this conference for me, was to be able to meet and get a feedback from the person whose name I see so often on the stack of paper on my desk! Also with diverse scientific program (redox proteomic, oxidative stress, thiol oxidation, etc) this conference put my scientific life in more real perspective, with much has been done and yet plenty more need an answer. So, I'd like to thank the SFRRA for making it possible for me to enjoy both social and scientific aspect of the conference.

**Shixiong Tan**

*School of Biotechnology and Biomolecular Sciences, University of New South Wales*

The 17th SFRR Australasia conference held in the city of Melbourne was my first free radical conference and it was a great experience. I would like to thank the organisers for providing travel funds to assist my attendance at the conference. Much of my research focuses on oxidative stress, so the conference provided a unique opportunity for me to learn about many of the facets of free radical research and its applications. As a third year PhD student, the conference offered a great opportunity to present my research as well as to interact with fellow researchers. It was fantastic to be able to talk to some of the leading scientists in free radical research about my project and science in general. The assortment of talks and posters at the conference helped raise my awareness of the diverse studies undertaken in the field of free radical research. I was particularly interested in the talks that discussed the superoxide-generating NADPH oxidases (NOX), as part of my PhD project focused on superoxide biology. The conference provided a really relaxed and friendly atmosphere, with the conference dinner being a personal highlight. Melbourne Zoo provided the perfect backdrop, for us to eat, drink and be merry, and of course discuss our favorite parts of the conference! I would definitely recommend this conference to students studying any aspect of free radical science.

**Naomi Stanley**

*Heart Research Institute, Sydney*

The 16<sup>th</sup> Society for Free Radical Research (Australasia) conference held in Melbourne, Australia from the 29<sup>th</sup> November – 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2008 marked my very first conference attendance. I was lucky enough to be granted a travel award to help fund my attendance and was intrigued as to what the conference would be like.

I was fortunate enough to be able to present work from my PhD in an oral presentation in the “Protein/Thiol Oxidation” section, which was dominated by my colleagues from the HRI. It was a wonderful, if nerve-wrecking, experience. I hope the other student presenters felt the same way, as I found their talks to be the highlight of my conference experience. I must admit I found the chemistry more than a little daunting, but also found that most of the talks, even those unrelated to my work, were stimulating ideas for my own research and giving focus to my project. For the first time in my scientific career I felt like a true scientist.

For that alone this conference was a wonderful and worthwhile experience. It was great to meet new people and forge new connections. I would like to thank the SFRR Australasia for providing me with the travel grant and inviting me to be a part of this broad and wonderful scientific community.

**Sarah Wood**

*ANZAC Research Institute, Concord Hospital, Sydney*

The 2008 Annual Conference of the SFRR(A) was held in Melbourne in late November. Participants were treated to beautiful weather, and a first-rate venue, the Bio 21 Molecular Science and Biotechnology Institute.

The conference opened on 29 November with two fascinating plenary lectures by Professor Nick Hunt of the University of Sydney and Professor Peipei Ping of the University of California. Professor Hunt, who is to be congratulated on receiving a Distinguished Service Award at the conference dinner, gave a brief history of radical and redox research in recent times since the formation of the international SFRR. Other plenary lectures throughout the conference were given by Professor Christian Schoneich, Professor Robin Smith, Professor Dennis Taylor, and Professor

Richard O’Hair whose talk on violations of the even-electron rule in gas-phase reactivity studies was very enlightening. Besides the invited speakers, we also enjoyed talks from many academics and students, as well as a range of poster presentations. I particularly enjoyed the sessions focussing on free radical chemistry, especially Dr Uta Wille’s exploration of potential amino acid damage by atmospheric  $\text{NO}_3^\bullet$ .

The highlights of the conference were not limited to academia – the conference dinner was held at Melbourne Zoo, with entertainment provided by local young musicians. I am told that karaoke later that night, in which quite a number of people participated, was highly amusing.

Thank you to the ARC Centre of Excellence for Free Radical Chemistry and Biotechnology and the other sponsors for supporting the meeting, and thanks to the University of Melbourne’s Bio 21 Institute for hosting the conference. Congratulations to the organisers, Professor Carl Schiesser and Dr Courtney Judkins on a very successful event! I’d like to thank the society for giving me the opportunity to attend and to present my work.

### **Tina Yang**

*School of Biological Sciences, University of Canterbury, Christchurch*

The Society for Free Radical Research Australasia (SFRRA) Conference is one of the key gatherings for international researchers to present their work in the free radical field. With support from the SFRRA, I was able to attend the 16th annual SFRRA conference held from 29<sup>th</sup> of November to 3<sup>rd</sup> of December, 2008 at the Bio 21 Molecular Science and Biotechnology Institute at the University of Melbourne in Melbourne, Australia. This was my first trip to Melbourne and I enjoyed both the conference and the city very much.



I presented part of the results from my PhD research as a poster (it was titled “intracellular glutathione protects human monocyte derived macrophages from  $\text{HOCl}$  insult”). During the presentation, I met many researchers with expertise in thiol oxidation and cell biology, whose comments have given me new ideas for further experiments and will be useful for the paper I am about to write up. Attending this conference not only allowed me to meet national/international researchers, but also become aware of the diverse studies happening in the field of free radical research.

Apart from the conference, I also enjoyed the city very much. I was particularly impressed by the convenience of the public transport system, creative art designs all over the streets, and both ancient and modern architecture. The foods there were also delicious (especially all those tropical fruits). I will definitely go back for a tour in the future. And I would like to thank SFRRA again for providing me with the travel grant enabling me to gain this memorable scientific and cultural experience.



## **Dates for your Diary**

### **Nov 18-22, 2009**

Society for Free Radical Biology and Medicine, 16th annual meeting

San Francisco, California, USA

For further information visit <http://www.sfrbm.org/16AnnualMeeting.php>

### **Dec 1-4, 2009**

SFRR(Australasia), 18th annual meeting

Sydney, Australia

For further information visit <http://www.redox-processes-sydney2009.org>

### **February 7-12, 2010**

Gordon Research Conference: Oxygen Radicals, Mechanisms That Underpin Redox Biology

Four Points Sheraton / Holiday Inn Express, Ventura, California USA

For further information: <http://www.grc.org/programs.aspx?year=2010&program=oxyrad>

### **March 17-20, 2010**

OCC 2010 World Congress: *Oxidants and Antioxidants in Biology*

TRANSLATIONAL REDOX SCIENCE

Santa Barbara, California, USA

For more information, please visit: <http://www.oxyclubcalifornia.org>

### **Nov 30 - Dec 2, 2010**

SFRR (Australasia), 19th annual meeting

Akaroa, New Zealand

For further information contact Mark Hampton ([mark.hampton@otago.ac.nz](mailto:mark.hampton@otago.ac.nz)) or Liz Ledgerwood ([liz.ledgerwood@stonebow.otago.ac.nz](mailto:liz.ledgerwood@stonebow.otago.ac.nz)).

# MINUTES OF 2008 AGM

Held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 5.00 pm at  
Auditorium, Bio21 Institute, 30 Flemington Road, Melbourne.

**Present:** SFRR(A) President Des Richardson, SFRR(A) Secretary Mark Hampton, and 36 other members of the Society and conference attendees.

## **1. Apologies**

David Pattison.

## **2. Minutes of 2007 AGM**

The minutes of the 2007 AGM published in the 2008 edition of the Society newsletter were passed as a true and accurate record of the meeting. There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

## **3. Report from Treasurer: David Pattison**

David's report was presented by Clare Hawkins.

### *2008 Treasurer's Report for the SFRR (Australasia)*

#### **Membership Summary**

##### ***Current Financial Members as of 28/11/2008:***

**2008:** 68 Australians, 22 New Zealanders; TOTAL = 90 (58 Full members and 32 Student members)

**2007:** 80 Australians, 20 New Zealanders and 1 Sri Lankan; TOTAL = 101

#### ***Comments***

1) 2008 membership numbers are down slightly on previous years, but this is primarily as a result of having the 2007 meeting in Japan, where membership of SFRR(A) was not included in the registration costs. I would like to thank all current financial members for rejoining the Society the hard way this year, and Mark Hampton for coordinating the collection of the New Zealand membership fees.

2) The loss of a large proportion of NZ membership fees due to foreign currency transactions and other bank charges was minimised this year, as Mark Hampton collected the fees and held them in a New Zealand bank account. These member fees were then used to pay the

majority of the travel awards to New Zealand recipients, thereby further reducing losses due to foreign currency transactions.

3) *REMINDER*: All registrants of the Melbourne meeting are members of SFRR(A) for 2009. Non-attendees of the Melbourne meeting will need to pay membership fees (Full, A\$40/NZ\$45; Student, A\$20/NZ\$22) via the Treasurer (David Pattison) for Australian members, or the Secretary (Mark Hampton) for New Zealand members. Following the success of recruitment from email reminders over the past two years, reminder emails will again be used in 2009 to encourage members that did not attend the Melbourne meeting to continue their financial membership. Latest membership forms are available at [www.sfrra.org](http://www.sfrra.org).

### **Summary of Accounts Activity (as of 28th November, 2008)**

#### **1. Cheque Account Bearing Interest**

##### *Deposits*

Australian membership fees: collected throughout 2008	\$2,400
Interest Accrued: from Cheque Acct	\$97.04
from Term Deposit	\$1,172.96
<b><u>Total Income (1/11/07 – 31/10/08):</u></b>	<b><u>\$3,670.00</u></b>

##### *Expenditure*

SFRR(I) 2007 Dues (paid January 2008)	\$610.13
6 SFRR(A) Travel Awards for Kyoto (\$800 each)	\$4,800
2 SFRR(I) Travel Awards for Beijing (\$750 each)	\$1,500
Austbrokers Liability Insurance (paid November 2007)	\$570.00
Account Service Fees (as of last Bank Statement, 31/10/07)	\$95.10
Secretary transfer expenses (postage from C. Hawkins to M. Hampton)	\$16.95
Deposit for Venue Hire for SFRR(A+J) Sydney 2009 meeting	\$1000.00
<b><u>Total Expenditure (1/11/07 – 31/10/08):</u></b>	<b><u>\$8,592.18</u></b>

#### **2. Term Deposit**

<b>Opening Balance</b> (as of 1/11/07):	<b><u>\$30,000</u></b>
On 23/04/08: Interest paid into cheque account	\$1,007.75
On 23/05/08: 7 month deposit at 6.70% matured	
Interest paid into cheque account	\$165.21
Reinvested for 8 months at 7.95% (matures 23/01/09)	
On 23/11/08: 6 monthly interest due in cheque account (not yet notified)	
<b><u>Total Interest Accrued (1/11/07 - 31/10/08):</u></b>	<b><u>\$1,172.96</u></b>

### **3. Overall Summary of Australian Accounts (1/11/07 – 31/10/08)**

**Opening Balance (1/11/07) of Australian accounts: \$45,011.21**

Cheque Account Bearing Interest: \$15,011.21

Term Deposit \$30,000

Total Income: \$3,670

Total Expenditure: \$8,592.18

Balance (Income – Expenditure): - \$4,922.18

**Closing Balance (31/10/08) of Australian accounts: \$40,089.03**

Cheque Account Bearing Interest: \$10,089.03

Term Deposit \$30,000

### **4. Summary of Holding Account in New Zealand**

#### *Deposits*

Membership fees collected throughout 2008: NZ\$649.00

Interest: NZ\$2.40

Balance to cover Melbourne travel awards to NZ members: NZ\$388.88

#### *Expenditure*

2 travel awards for Melbourne (NZ\$500 each) NZ\$1000.00

Balance (Income – Expenditure): NZ\$40.28

### **5. Items outstanding since last bank statement (31/10/08):**

**Balance (31/10/08) of Australian accounts: \$40,089.03**

#### *Deposits*

Advanced membership for 2009 \$40.00

#### *Expenditure*

Affiliate Membership ASMR (July 2008-June 2009) \$146.88

Public Liability Insurance – Austbrokers RWA Pty Ltd \$570.00

Balance to supplement Melbourne travel awards to NZ members: \$350.00

6 SFRR(A) Travel Awards, Melbourne (\$250 each) \$1,500

Engraving costs \$29.00

**Current Balance of Australian accounts (28/11/08): \$37,533.15**



## 6. Budget Considerations for 2009

### Estimated Income for 2009:

- membership fees	\$3,000
(estimated from ca. 100 Australasian registrants in Melbourne - 50:50 full:student ratio)	
- profits returned to the Society from Melbourne meeting	\$1,500
- interest from term deposit	
maturity of current investment (7.95%) in January	\$1,600
reinvestment (estimated from a 4% interest rate):	\$1,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>ca. \$7,100</b>

### Estimated Expenditure for 2009:

- ASMR affiliate membership	\$150.00
- Account service fees	\$100.00
- Public Liability Insurance	\$600.00
- SFRR(I) 2008 membership fees (due Jan 2009)	
90 members x US\$7 (ca. A\$11) = US\$630	\$980
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>ca. \$2,000</b>

### Maximum funds available for student travel awards to Sydney 2009 \$2,500

(estimated by aiming to keep total balance (cheque + term deposit) of ca. \$40,000)

End of Treasurer's Report. There were no specific comments upon completion of the report.

## **4. Report from Secretary : Mark Hampton**

Mark began by acknowledging the past efforts of Clare Hawkins as previous secretary, and particularly her organisational skills that made the transition relatively easy. He commented how closely the executive work together to keep the Society functioning, and also thanked senior members of the Society for their assistance, often at short notice, with tasks such as judging travel awards.

Mark has attempted to increase communication between members of the Society, and has made use of electronic mailing lists to send out regular news items on a monthly basis, or more often if there is a need. Current members are encouraged to send him relevant messages such as job adverts, conference notifications, awards to Society members or any other scientific or personal news items that may be of interest. He also commented that in 2009 he would make efforts to revamp the Society website with more direct linkages to members' home pages.

## **5. Report from President – Des Richardson**

Des began by thanking Carl Schiesser and Courtney Judkins for their organisation of an excellent annual meeting.

### (1) Future meeting schedules

#### 2009

It was announced that the 2009 Joint Meeting with SFRR Japan would be held at the University of Sydney from Dec 1–4. The organising committee comprises Roland Stocker, Michael Davies, David Pattison, Clare Hawkins, David Lovejoy and Des Richardson. It was also advised that the meeting would be held in conjunction with the Mutagenesis and Experimental Pathology Society of Australia (MEPSA).

Des also mentioned that there might be an opportunity for conference proceedings to be published in Redox Report, Free Radical Research or Int. J. Biochem. Cell Biol. General discussion ensued with some members commenting that they see little value in such initiatives, and others supporting the use of Redox Report as the official journal of the Society.

#### 2010

The site of the 2010 meeting was discussed, and representatives from Dunedin, led by Liz Ledgerwood, stated that following encouragement from other members of the society they were willing to organise the 2010 meeting. This appeared to be a popular choice.

Discussion quickly turned to the timing of the meeting. Proposals at the last AGM included considering moving the timing of the meeting to avoid clashes with the 2010 Joint SFRBM/SFRRI meeting in Florida (Nov 17-21). No other times were obvious, and there appeared to be clashes with teaching, grants and conferences at all suggested times, including the traditional late Nov/early Dec.

Discussion regarding the annual meeting continued, with comments that the length of the meeting should be as compact as possible (2-3 days), with the use of parallel sessions if registration numbers warrant it. Ian Dawes commented that the meetings have a strong mammalian focus and that we need to broaden membership interest. Roland Stocker agreed that we need to rethink Society meetings and make them attractive to interesting new groups. Courtney Judkins restated that the early December timing will continue to make this a difficult task.

Further discussions on the 2010 meeting will take place between the University of Otago contingent, and the executive will be advised. Discussion on the structure of the annual meetings will be necessary at the 2009 AGM.

(**Note:** Following discussions at the University of Otago Oxidative Stress Theme meeting in Dunedin (June 7-8, 2009) it was decided that Dr Liz Ledgerwood and Dr Mark Hampton would offer to organise the SFRRRA meeting in 2010, to be held in Akaroa from Tues 30 Nov to Thurs 2 Dec, 2010. The executive subsequently agreed to this proposal.)

## (2) Student travel awards

The travel awards continue to be popular with students with the Society receiving more applications than it is able to fund. The applications are scored on scientific merit by a panel of senior members of the Society. To ensure an equitable distribution, the executive have proposed the following guideline on the number of awards that a student may apply for:

1 National Award for travel to the SFRRRA meeting and 1 International Award for travel to the SFRRRI meeting over the duration of the student membership, but not in the same calendar year.

The executive acknowledged the important balance between assisting students from various locations to attend Society meetings and the recognition of our most talented students. This latter goal can be difficult on the basis of a student CV and an abstract that has input from supervisors and other senior colleagues. A proposal was briefly mentioned for a more prestigious award to a junior society member (up to 3 years post-PhD) for travel to a free radical meeting of their choice. This would also assist in boosting membership levels in the gap that currently exists between student and senior members. There was insufficient time to discuss further.

## (3) Expected Funds from Melbourne Conference

Carl Schiesser advised that it was too early to accurately predict the financial return, but he was expecting a small profit.

## **6. Other Business**

There was no other business. The meeting closed at 5.50 pm.

## **Annual Subscription Fees for SFRR(A) are due now!**

Please send the 2009 membership dues to the Treasurer (David Pattison) or you will not be able to claim the benefits of membership of the Society!

Membership of SFRR(A) entitles you to reduced registration fees of at a range of national and international conferences including the SFRBM meetings in the USA and SFRR(Europe) meetings.

Membership of SFRR(A) entitles you to all the benefits of membership of SFRR(International) as detailed below :

### **Benefits of SFRR Membership:**

- Issues of the SFRR and appropriate regional SFRR newsletters
- Reduced subscription rates, as appropriate, for the official Journals of the different regional societies
- Highly reduced registration fees for all SFRR educational activities (conferences, workshops etc)
- Reduced registration fees for regional SFRR educational activities
- Eligibility for SFRR scholarships, fellowships and travel awards, and (depending on region) regional scholarships and travel awards
- Access to the “Members Only” section of the SFRR website, which includes the Membership Database and access to the free radical knowledge database (Electronic Posters, Abstracts and selected Symposia presentations.
- Free advertising of appropriate conferences / courses / workshops in the SFRR Newsletter and online event calendar

Membership dues are A\$40 / NZ\$45 for full members, and A\$20 / NZ\$22 for student

Please don't delay – send in your membership fees today!

Application form and electronic banking details can be found on the following page.

### **NOTE FOR NEW ZEALAND MEMBERS:**

To avoid losses through transaction costs and foreign exchange, members have the option of paying directly into a New Zealand holding account. Email Mark Hampton ([mark.hampton@otago.ac.nz](mailto:mark.hampton@otago.ac.nz)) for account details. Please don't send cheques as he is currently on sabbatical in the UK.



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**Society for Free Radical Research (Australasia)**  
**2009 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM**  
**DUE NOW**

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

**e-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Research Interests** (short description for the 2009 membership directory):

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**Annual Fees:** Note: All delegates of the 2008 SFRR(A) meeting in Melbourne are financial members of the Society for 2009.

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

Electronic Funds Transfer

Account name : SFRR Australia

Account number : 06 2284 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 David Pattison, Treasurer, SFRR (Australasia)**  
**Heart Research Institute**  
**114 Pyrmont Bridge Road**  
**Camperdown**  
**NSW, 2050**  
**Australia**

\*Note: New Zealand members can contact Mark Hampton for alternate payment options.

**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:**

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