



23 November 2011

**GASACT Part 3 Course - Sydney - 26 November - FREE for members!
Register Now!**

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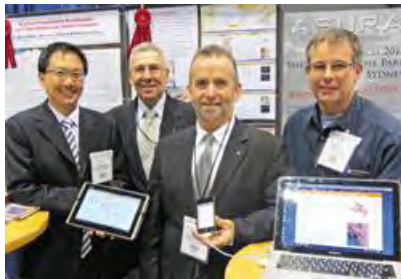
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President's Update

Congratulations to David M Scott (Lismore) and Alwin Chuan for their second prize in the Scientific and Educational Exhibit at the Chicago ASA Meeting.



I attended the Common Issues Group Meeting run this year by the American Society of Anesthesiologists where I met and congratulated Drs Alwin Chuan and David M Scott on their success in winning second prize for their regional anaesthesia app in the technology section. This is a tremendous achievement in such a prestigious event with a very large field of professional and highly regarded contenders. Well done.

Dr Alwin Chuan, Mr Peter Lawrence,
Drs Andrew Mulcahy and David M Scott.

The common interest group exchanged ideas and positions between the UK and Ireland, Canada, the US and ourselves on policy, economic and professional concerns affecting us all. Importantly, all member Societies now have a Lifebox program in operation which aims to save lives by improving the safety and quality of surgical care in low-resource countries through the purchase and maintenance of pulse oximeters. Each oximeter costs just US\$250 for the complete package including a robust oximeter, probes and educational materials. This project is strongly supported by the ASA through our Overseas Development and Education Committee and you can also contribute individually to this excellent cause through the [ASA website](#). Please consider supporting this worthy cause which is guaranteed to make a real difference.



Drs Andrew Mulcahy, Angela Enright and Rob Carpenter.

I also attended the annual New Zealand Anaesthesia Annual Scientific Meeting 2011 held in Auckland in early November. This was a most successful meeting with an exciting faculty of both local and international speakers. Dr Angela Einright from Canada, the current President of the World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists (WFSA), presented on the various activities of the WFSA in improving the safety of anaesthesia in developing countries including of course the Lifebox project.

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Sydney GASACT Part 3 Course

Saturday 26 November 2011 – Register now!

Do you want to know about being a VMO, Staff Specialist or working in a rural or international setting? Come along to the Sydney [GASACT Part 3](#) and learn about these issues and many more! The [program](#)

will also cover medical indemnity, income protection, informed financial consent and advice on setting up your practice. Also, for the first time ever the conference will be filmed and streamed live through ASA website. The video will also be available for download after the conference.

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ASURA

Sydney, 10-12 March 2012 – Register now!

An exciting program of regional anaesthesia topics will be presented at this [three day event](#). The application of ultrasound imaging has revolutionised and re-energised the practice of regional anaesthesia and we are fortunate to have an [international faculty](#) at the cutting edge of contemporary practice and teaching joining us in Sydney. The program includes the ASURA formula of small group teaching with the addition of [master classes and focused discussion groups](#). Due to the workshop format, numbers will be limited so get in early! [Registration is now open!](#)

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Health Fund Schedules

Dr Mark Sinclair, Chairman of the Economics Advisory Committee, has compiled a list of no gap schedules for private health funds. The schedule also includes MBS, DVA and the ASA/AMA values for the 2011/2012 period and is available by accessing the member's only area on the [ASA website](#).

Please be aware the schedules are provided as a guide only, and the rebates and values are based upon information provided by various individual organisations, as at 1 November 2011, and are subject to change without notice.

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Prosthesis List Advisory Committee

If you are interested in becoming an ASA representative for the Panel of Clinical Experts on the Prosthesis List Advisory Committee please contact [Gordana Stevanoski](#), ASA Policy Advisor, on (02) 9327 4022.

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History Feature of the Month

Intubation forceps which saw the world!

This pair of handcrafted intubation forceps travelled around the world! Do you want to know where they come from and where they have been? [Look on our museum's website](#).

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Chair of Anaesthesia

University of Melbourne

The Melbourne Medical School at the University of Melbourne is in the process of establishing a Chair of Anaesthesia. [Read about it](#) on the ASA website.

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2011 Refresher Course Lectures

American Society of Anesthesiologists

The American Society of Anesthesiologists has recently released the 2011 Refresher Course Lectures for their Annual Meeting held in Chicago, Illinois. This year the notes are available as a downloadable link and can be ordered directly from their website. The price is \$45 US dollars. Please note you will need to register as "New Guest Account for Non-ASA Members" in order to complete the online purchase. [Order the 2011 Refresher Course Lectures online](#).

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General Anaesthesia for Patients with Adjustable Gastric Band in situ

Deflate, ignore, or something in between?

The ASA receives questions from time to time regarding best practice in relation to patients presenting for general anaesthesia who have adjustable gastric bands in situ. To help the PIAC decide whether to investigate the issue further we would appreciate members' assistance via a brief [online survey](#). The aim of the questions is to gauge whether this is a live issue for anaesthetists at present, and to guide what issues should be investigated if further work is needed on this topic.

Thank you in advance for your participation in the [survey available here](#).

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Life After Fellowship

Reminder

The Society wishes to understand the workforce pressures and opportunities that are currently being encountered by our members. An online survey link was sent to you last week. If you have not already completed the survey I encourage you to participate in the [brief survey](#) now. As always, responses will remain completely anonymous after receipt. The collated anonymous results will then be analysed and provided to members.

Thank you in advance for your participation in the [survey available here](#).

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ASURA
AUSTRALASIAN SYMPOSIUM ON ULTRASOUND AND REGIONAL ANAESTHESIA
COORDINATED BY THE REGIONAL ANAESTHESIA SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

10 - 12 MARCH 2012
SHERATON ON THE PARK
SYDNEY

- ULTRASOUND TECHNIQUES IN THE PRACTICE OF REGIONAL ANAESTHESIA
- LECTURES BY INTERNATIONAL AND LOCAL FACULTY
- SMALL GROUP WORKSHOPS FROM BASIC TO ADVANCED SKILL LEVELS

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