



AuPS News

September 2013

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Michael Taylor, John West and Peter Bishop attending the inaugural Australian Physiological Society (APS, as it was then known) Meeting at The University of Sydney in 1960.

The 2013 Meeting will be hosted by Deakin University at the Waterfront campus in Geelong. See page 5 for details.

More images from the 1960 APS Meeting can be found on pages 12-17 of this newsletter.

Member Profile - David Davey Honorary Member and I.T. Manager



I stumbled into physiology through doing an introductory course as a co-requisite for biochemistry studied as a part of a science degree at McGill University, in Montréal, Québec, Canada, where I was born and raised. Physiology fascinated me and struck me as more challenging than biochemistry or the basic sciences I had studied in my first two years. Honours in physiology and a PhD followed, with my main interest being excitation-contraction coupling in skeletal muscle.

Mathematics had always interested me, and I found I could leave examinations knowing I would gain 100%. That continued to my final undergraduate year where I studied Abstract Algebra, a course which no doubt played an important rôle in how easy computer programming seemed a few years later. But physiology exams always left me feeling there was a lot more to learn!

An aspect of my degrees at McGill at both the end of the honours and PhD programmes was the "comprehensive examination". These involved a panel of Professors of Physiology in an oral examination able to pose any question they chose. My first one was truly traumatic, and I left the room devastated by how little I seemed to know. But the second one, 5 years later was one I was prepared for - lots more study, discussions in the lab and coffee room, some teaching experience all contributed to a much broader knowledge and logical base. I left that examination thinking "now I am a physiologist!"

I have often felt that the lack of anything akin to a comprehensive examination in Australian PhD programmes is a great pity. Many of our graduates seem to be world experts in a very narrow research area, with limited knowledge of their broad discipline or beyond. Reading recently that many people in the corporate sector say that Australian PhD graduates do not make good employees may be symptomatic of the narrow study track limited to one research area.

My post-doc years were first in Anatomy at McGill where I attempted calcium autoradiography in skeletal muscle, and later in Bristol where I did some studies on T-tubes. While there, the conflicts in Northern Ireland dominated the news, and I drew parallels with the separatists in Québec. *Je suis arrivé à réaliser que je ne voulais pas retourner à cela, en dépit d'une offre d'emploi à l'Université McGill.* Applications to many places led to a number of offers - that from Monash University was most interesting.

My stay at Monash was productive through collaborations with Richard Mark, and Colin Gibbs and their colleagues leading to papers in J. Physiol. and in J. Anat. which remarkably were both accepted without alteration. I presented work at the 1973 UNSW meeting of APPS in what turned out to be the last presentation, after 5pm, on Friday afternoon. It was well attended, led to interesting questions, and immediately thereafter I was approached by Liam Burke from Physiology at the University of Sydney which resulted in me moving there. At the time I thought that move might be for a couple of years rather than to my retirement. That APPS free communication was a turning point of some magnitude.

In my early years in Sydney, the Department took APPS meetings very seriously. A day was set aside where everyone attending a meeting, and that meant almost everyone, would present their talk to the entire staff. The critiques were often pretty brutal, but ensured the presentations at the meetings were of a high standard. It was also an excellent opportunity for everyone to learn what everyone else was doing.

It wasn't long before I was Local Secretary of a meeting (1976), an elected member of Council (1976-9), Associate Editor (1976-78), and Acting Editor (1977). Up until 1975, production of the Proceedings involved typesetting using the then standard printing method using Linotype machines and lead casting. Proof booklets were prepared for the meetings, and at the end of the discussion following each oral free communication, those present voted on whether or not the abstract should appear in the final Proceedings. During the period I was Associate Editor I orchestrated the replacement of this slow and expensive production process by photo-offset printing of "camera ready" abstracts. This was still pre-word processing, so the standard involved specifying the "golf ball" to be used in the IBM Selectric typewriters in common use at the time.

This editorial experience led to involvement in the lead-up to and execution of the 1983 meeting of IUPS in Sydney. With Roger Dampney's assistance I edited the Proceedings, the first to take advantage of computer based indexing, complete with a keyword index.

In 1989, my partner Annick Anselin and I purchased the yacht *Windclimber* and over the summer break sailed to Lord Howe Island. Later I took a few months long service leave and we sailed up to the Great Barrier Reef. Sailing became an important escape from the frenetic lifestyle in Sydney.

By 1998 my involvement with University administration had become moderately significant. I was head of Department of Physiology, became the first Head of School in the newly formed School of Biomedical Sciences (now School of Medical Sciences), was an Associate Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, and on the University's Budget Advisory Committee, which meant getting to know the then Vice Chancellor, Gavin Brown, quite well. That year, following a number of visits to Hobart for Conferences, Annick and I purchased a property south of Hobart with a long-term plan to retire there. Once we owned the property, the idea of moving there grew more and more attractive, especially as my University commitments seemed only to grow, budget problems got progressively worse, and the Sydney traffic congestion became a dominant negative factor.

In mid 2000 I left the University, taking a long spell of accumulated long-service leave before my formal retirement in 2001. Our departure was fairly clean cut: last day at the University on Friday; on Monday Annick and I sailed out of Sydney Harbour on *Windclimber* bound for points north. A little over six months of cruising later, we sailed into Little Oyster Cove, which our

Tasmanian house overlooks, having made a circumnavigation of Hinchinbrook Island our turning point.

In 2001 I was asked to consider taking over the Editorship again which I did the following year, not entirely appreciating the agenda to cease printing hard copies. In practice the task grew to moving to an electronic society, with on-line submission of abstracts, web based publishing, on-line registration for meetings, on-line membership applications, all of which required a web-based membership database, email communication with members, and major dependence on the Society's web site. The combined tasks of Editor, webmaster and taking over a number of responsibilities, e.g. maintaining the register of members, which used to be the responsibility of the National Secretary, and managing subscription payments, which used to be done by the Treasurer, became too much even for a retiree and led to the creation of the new I.T. Manager and Webmaster positions.

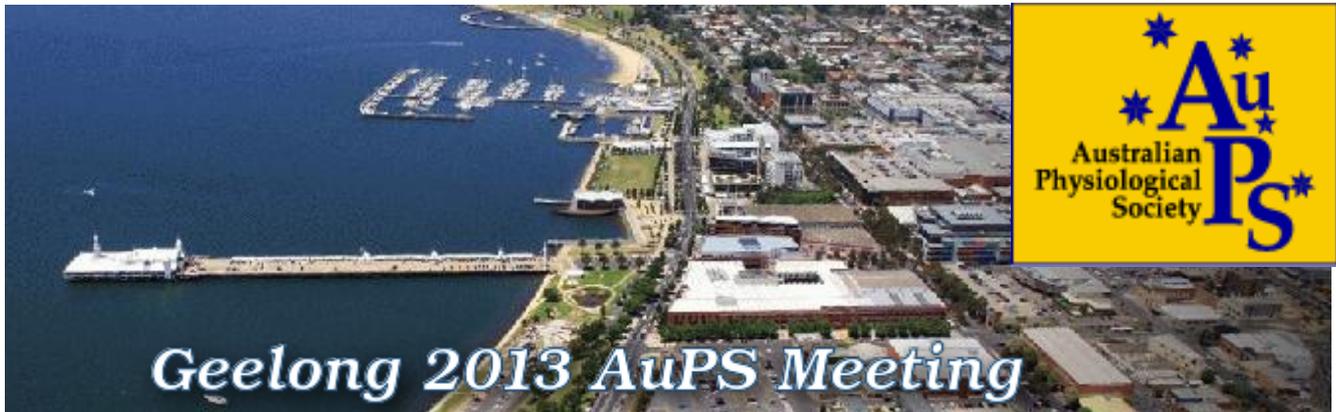
In 2006, a disastrous clash with Sally Jane led to my replacement as Editor by Anuwat Dinudom. Then in 2008 I took over again until this year when Anuwat took on the task again.

All the while since 2002 I have been doing the I.T. Manager's job, which tends to have grown as the process of becoming an electronic society has continued. When combined with the Editorship, there have been times when AuPS has been all consuming of my time.

That is not to say I am otherwise idle. Some research with Liam Burke has continued, leading to a few publications. Annick and I have been active in organising chamber music concerts in our local community hall, which have become remarkably successful, attracting world-class musicians. These are now in their 10th year, encompassing nearly 40 concerts. Annick was a major player in establishing a regional arts group, of which I am now Treasurer. I am also Treasurer of our Community Hall Management Committee, and Webmaster of the Cruising Yacht Club of Tasmania. The claim by some retirees when asked if they have found something to do after ceasing paid employment is often, "I don't know how I found time to do to work!" I understand that sentiment.

Reflecting on APPS/AuPS, I have put a lot into it, but it has been rewarding from that first free communication 40 years ago. I also wonder about who it was thought I had the skills to bring about the change to an "electronic society". Because they were definitely wrong. Almost all the skills I have applied have been learned since 2002. When I look back at that time, I realise I did not even know what I needed to learn! Just like my early study of Physiology.

Dave is an Honorary member and I.T. Manager of AuPS. Most members will know Dave in his role as Editor if they have submitted abstracts to our Scientific meetings.



**2013 Geelong - Australian Physiological Society - 8-11 December.
Deakin University, Waterfront Campus, Geelong, Victoria**

AuPS Invited Lecturer: Prof Gordon Lynch

Basic & Clinical Myology Lab, Dept. of Physiology, The University of Melbourne.

The Role of Physiology in Understanding Muscle Wasting, Adaptation and Plasticity

Invited Plenary Speaker: Prof Bjorn Knollmann

E-C Coupling & Cardiac Arrhythmia lab, Vanderbilt University, School of Medicine.

Calcium and Arrhythmia: From Genes to Teens to Better Drugs

Excellence in Physiology Education Lecture: A/Prof David Saint

Department of Physiology, Medical School, University of Adelaide.

Learning and teaching - the rear view mirror and the road ahead

Research Symposia (with over 10 international speakers!)

- Aquaporin channels in the nervous system as therapeutic targets
- Cardiac injury and stress - environmental and endogenous influences
- Dietary protein in health and disease
- Epithelial membrane transport
- Gastrointestinal Function and Metabolism
- High intensity intermittent exercise and training
- Intricacies of type 2 diabetes
- Molecular control of skeletal muscle health in exercise and disease
- Molecular physiology of inherited heart diseases
- Neurocontrol: Exercise and disease
- Of mice and men - translating biological signals into functional regulation
- Physiological roles of noncoding RNA in muscle
- Releasing pattern of pituitary hormones
- Sarcoplasmic reticulum proteins in myopathy

Physiology Education Symposium

- Peer-to-Peer: the use of “peers” in Physiology Education

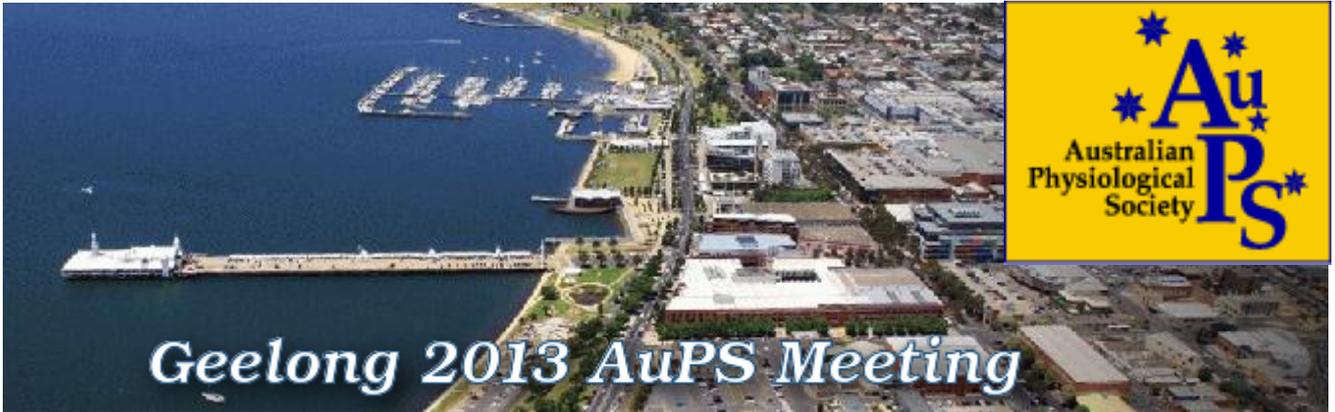
- **Conference Dinner at the spectacular Pier restaurant on Corio Bay.**
- **Student mixer for fun, networking and more...**
- **Free communications & Poster Sessions with awards**
- **Convenient local accommodation options**

For the latest meeting info go to: <http://aups.org.au/Meetings/201312/>

Abstract/registration commences: 2nd September 2013

Deadline/end of early-bird registration: 27th September 2013



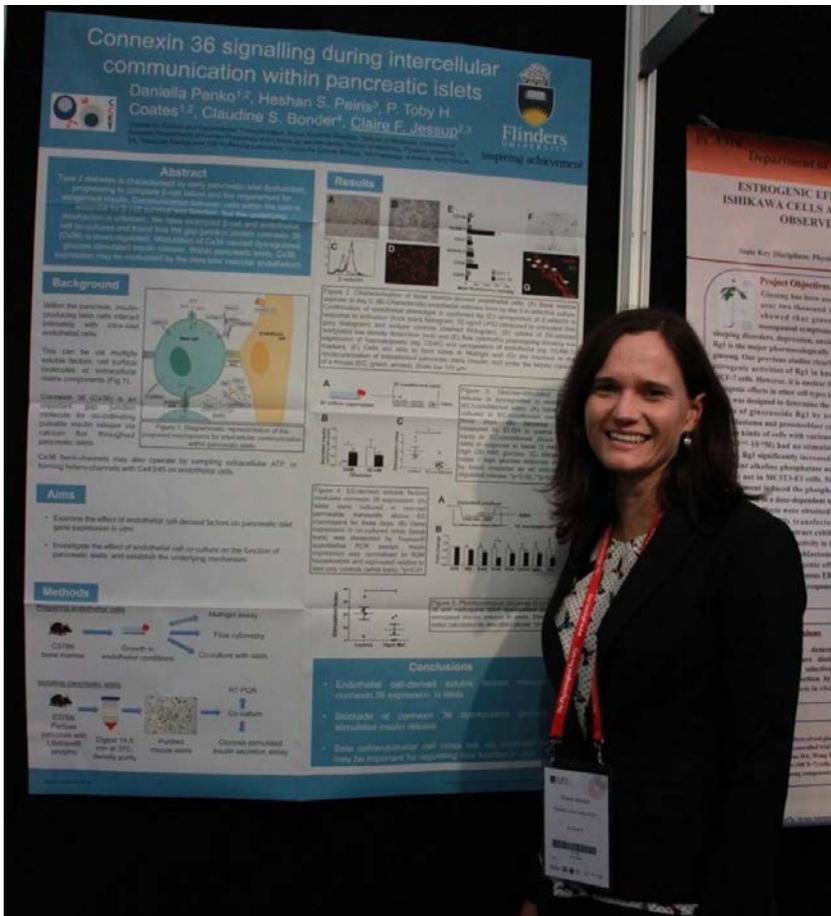


Geelong 2013 AuPS Meeting

Proudly sponsored by



Report from AuPS/AAS travel grant winner Dr Claire Jessup



I write to thank the Australian Academy of Science through the Australian Physiological Society for supporting my travel to attend and present at the 2013 International Congress of Physiological Sciences in Birmingham, UK.

Attending the meeting was a wonderful experience. As an early-mid career researcher, it was invaluable to me to hear from the world leaders in various fields of cellular physiology. I presented my work on "*Connexin 36 signalling during intercellular communication within pancreatic islets*" during the first poster session of the meeting. I was impressed at the level of interaction during the poster sessions, and numerous international scientists visited my poster to discuss similar interests.

A highlight for me was a keynote address from Prof Takayuki Asahara from Japan, who spoke about Endothelial Progenitor Cells (EPCs) – a cell type that we are currently investigating for their potential in improving pancreatic islet transplantation. Prof Asahara discovered these cells in 1997 (while working out of hours against his supervisor's advice that he was wasting his time!), and to hear him summarise the progress in the field to date was an amazing opportunity.

Thank you for allowing me to attend this conference. I learnt an enormous amount during my short trip, and am more inspired than ever to develop the therapeutic potential of EPCs for diabetes and islet transplantation.

Claire received \$2000 from AAS via AuPS to present her research at the 2013 IUPS Congress in Birmingham.

Report from AuPS/AAS travel grant winner Dr Amanda Craig



In July, I was privileged to attend the International Union of Physiological Societies (IUPS) congress in Birmingham, UK, thanks to the generous support of the Australian Academy of Science, in conjunction with the Australian Physiological Society. This was my first attendance at an IUPS congress; a colleague had described it as the World Cup of Physiology, occurring every four years with qualifying rounds being held before the big event. The analogy held true and I was overwhelmed by the continuum of eminent physiologists that I had the pleasure to listen to and interact with.

The congress was held over five days with an array of satellite meetings occurring on the preceding days. The scientific program was outstanding, beginning with a choice of keynote speakers, followed by up to 12 concurrent morning sessions. The lunch-breaks included focus meetings for career development and specialist techniques, followed by a further 12 concurrent afternoon sessions. The

evenings consisted of keynote lectures and over 400 poster presentations daily. I doubt there was a session that did not whet the interest of any physiologists or pseudo-physiologist.

For me, a particular highlight was the 2013 Paton Prize Lecture delivered by Professor Geoffrey Burnstock. His resolve during the battles/debates (including the unfortunate death of a colleague on stage in the midst of one of those debates!) over his controversial findings in purinergic signaling through ATP was inspiring. He urged us all not fold to popular belief if our research points towards a novel finding or theory. His love of science and his enthusiasm was truly inspirational and clearly affected many of us in the audience, as there was that lovely hum of positive chatter and smiling faces as we left the lecture theatre.

This was a wonderful experience and I am already looking forward to 2017 in Rio de Janeiro.

Amanda received \$2000 from AAS via AuPS to present her research at the 2013 IUPS Congress in Birmingham.

A.K. McIntyre Award

Sponsored by SDR Scientific

The Society's prestigious A.K. McIntyre award, named in honour of the Society's first President, is awarded annually to a member of the Society who is judged to have made significant contributions to Australian physiological science over their pre-doctoral and early post-doctoral years.

Applicants must be financial Ordinary Members of the Society, and must normally have completed their doctoral degree not more than 7 years prior to the time of their application (PhD graduation after 1 November 2006). They must be proposed by two financial members of the Society, who should each provide a statement of not more than 500 words summarising their achievements. The applicant should also provide a curriculum vitae which includes any involvement with AuPS, along with a list of published works, including conference proceedings.

The Prize consists of a medal and the sum of \$1000. The prize winner will be announced at the AuPS meeting in Geelong in December.

The application deadline is 31st October 2013.

Eligibility and selection criteria can be found here: <http://aups.org.au/Prizes/McIntyre.html>

Please email applications to the National Secretary, Robyn Murphy secretary@aups.org.au

Michael Roberts Award

Sponsored by Wiley-Blackwell

The Michael Roberts Excellence in Physiology Education Award is an award bestowed periodically by the Australian Physiological Society in memory of Professor Michael Roberts who was a lifelong passionate and dedicated advocate of physiology teaching and education. The award is intended to recognise AuPS members who have demonstrated a sustained performance of excellence in the delivery of physiology education at the tertiary level, and make a contribution to the teaching activities of AuPS.

The recipient of this Award in 2013 will receive a medal and a cash award, which will be presented at the Conference dinner at this year's AuPS Geelong conference, and will be invited to deliver a lecture during the Educational Symposium at the 2014 AuPS Brisbane Meeting.

The application deadline is 30th September 2013.

Eligibility and selection criteria can be found here: <http://aups.org.au/Prizes/Roberts.html>

Please email applications to the National Secretary, Robyn Murphy secretary@aups.org.au

AuPS PhD student publication prize

Sponsored by SDR Scientific

An annual award for the best original paper published by an AuPS member during the course of their PhD studies.

The Prize consists of a \$500 cheque. The prize winner will be announced at the AuPS meeting in Geelong in December. The paper must be published (on paper or online) between 30th September 2012 and 1st October this year. The award must be used to present work at a conference. Winners will be reimbursed after providing a copy of an invoice of conference expenses.

The application deadline is 31st October 2013.

Eligibility and selection criteria can be found here:
<http://aups.org.au/Prizes/PhDpublication.html>

Please email applications to the National Secretary, Robyn Murphy secretary@aups.org.au

AuPS Postdoctoral publication prize

Sponsored by SDR Scientific

An annual award for the best original paper published by an AuPS member during their first 4 postdoctoral years.

The Prize consists of a \$500 cheque. The prize winner will be announced at the AuPS meeting in Geelong in December. The paper must be published (on paper or online) between 30th September 2012 and 1st October this year. The award must be used to present work at a conference. Winners will be reimbursed after providing a copy of an invoice of conference expenses.

The application deadline is 31st October 2013.

Eligibility and selection criteria <http://aups.org.au/Prizes/PostDocPublication.html>

Please email applications to the National Secretary, Robyn Murphy secretary@aups.org.au

AuPS Council Elections

The next Annual General Meeting (to be held in Geelong, 11 December 2013) will look to fill the following vacancies on Council: one ordinary member, one Student representative and one appointed position – IT Manager.

Brad Launikonis served as an ordinary member on Council for one year and at the 2012 AGM took on the three-year term of Treasurer. This leaves a vacancy for an ordinary Council member.

The two-year term on Council of our current student representative, Divya Mehra, expires at this year's AGM. If you are a student member and are interested in nominating for this position, please get in touch with the National Secretary. The representative is elected by Student members, and a vote will be called for if more than one person expresses interest

The National Secretary, Robyn Murphy, is now seeking nominations for the Councillor positions (ordinary member – 3 years, and student member – 2 years). These will be due 4 October 2013 and the election date will be ~28 October 2013. Newly elected Councillors will assume their positions from the 2013 AGM. Send nominations to secretary@auaps.org.au.

Since the instigation of the position of IT Manager, this has been held by Dave Davey – over 11 years (see Dave's profile in this Newsletter to obtain some insight into how the role came about). The National Secretary would like to hear from anyone interested in the role of IT Manager, noting that this appointment is made directly by Council. Dave would be more than happy to talk with anyone who might be interested to explain in more detail what this role covers.

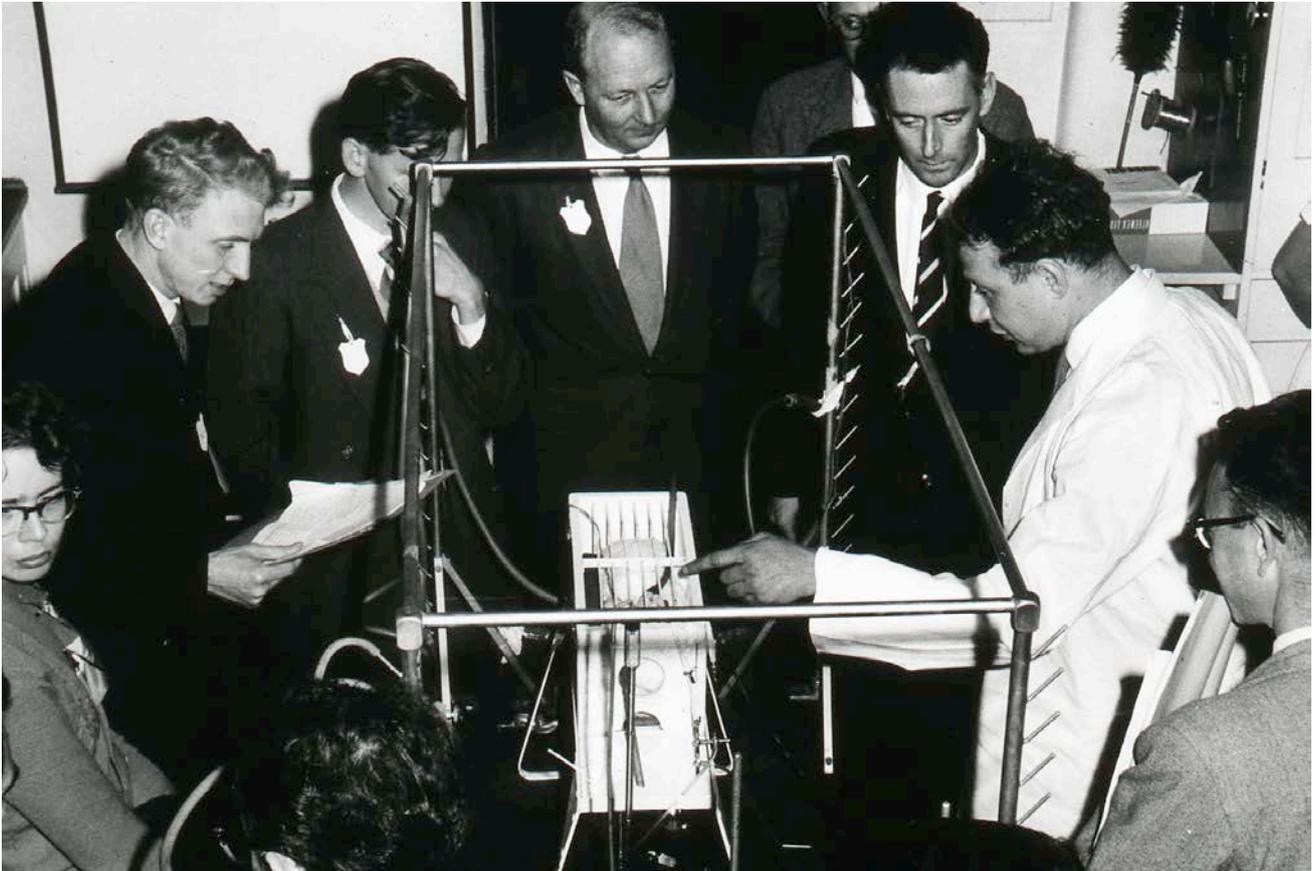
Please take the time to consider offering your services to the AuPS Council. If you would like to know more, please feel free to contact any current Councillors – contact details can be found on the website (<http://auaps.org.au/About/council.html>) or in the Newsletters.

From the archives:

Inaugural Meeting of the Australian Physiological Society in Sydney, 1960.

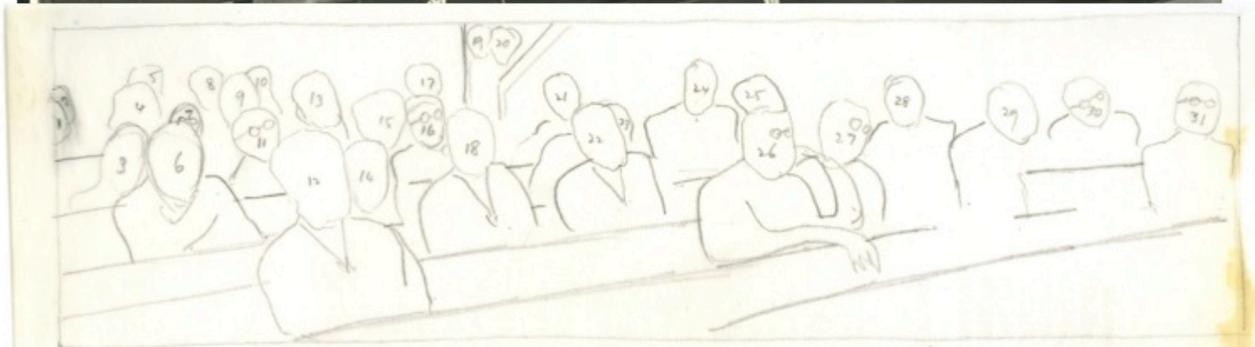
The following people will be reading papers and/or giving a demonstration during the Inaugural Meeting of the Australian Physiological Society

V. Aberdeen	D.G. Lampard
G. Alexander	A.K. Lascelles
E.F. Annison	D.H. LeMessurier
G.T. Archer	R.A. Leng
P.J. Bentley	W.R. Levick
P.O. Bishop	W.V. Macfarlane
M.H. Blunt	D.L. MacIntosh
Helen Boyd	F. Magni
K. Brandon	I.C.A. Martin
B. Breyer	L. Martin
M.G. Brush	E. Mason
W. Burke	E.H. Morgan
G. Burnstock	B. Morris
J.H. Calaby	C.T. Murray
V. Chang	O. Oscarsson
L.B. Cobbin	V.J. Parks
F.C. Courtice	Jocelyn N. Pennefather
I. Darian Smith	J.W. Phillis
D. Davies	R.B. Porter
A.J. Day	B.J. Potter
I.S. de la Lande	I. Pugsley
Barbara J. Dennis	M.J. Rand
J.C. Eccles	R.A. Robertson
R.M. Eccles	A.G. Sandison
J.V. Evans	T.W. Scott
E.P. George	P. Shepherd
M. Griffiths	W.J. Simmons
Judith A. Harvey	S.L. Skinner
W.R. Hayhow	M.G. Taylor
J. Hayward	G. Thorburn
J.P. Hogan	R.H. Thorp
Mollie E. Holman	J. Tille
J. Hubbard	G.M.H. Waites
J.C.D. Hutchinson	R.G. Wales
I.G. Jarrett	R.A. Westerman
E.A. Johnson	R.F. Whelan
I. Kaldor	I.G. White
D.I.B. Kerr	R.R. White
P.I. Korner	Manika Wodzicka
W. Kozak	



Geoff Waites, Paul Korner and colleagues

Can members help us fill out some of the missing names from the audience????



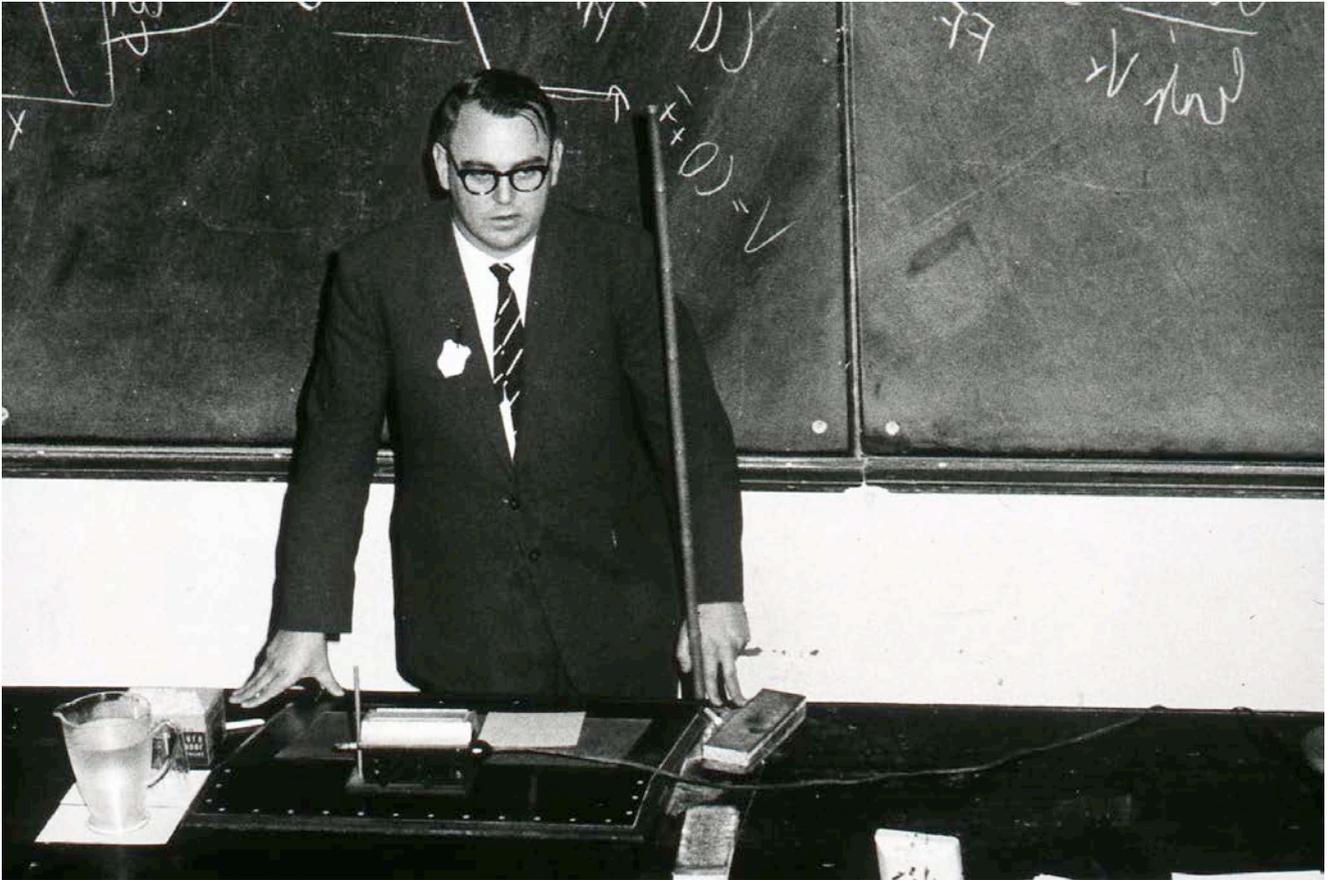
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|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. | 8. <u>AJ Day</u> | 15. | 22. <u>R. Rushmer</u> | 29. <u>H. Le Messurier</u> |
| 2. | 9. <u>DI Kerr</u> | 16. <u>KT Zurichy</u> | 23. | 30. <u>AK McIntyre</u> |
| 3. <u>W Simmons</u> | 10. | 17. <u>IW McDonald</u> | 24. <u>DW Lampard</u> | 31. |
| 4. <u>Barbara Dennis</u> | 11. <u>FC Courtice</u> | 18. <u>DL Wilhelm</u> | 25. <u>B.M. Johnstone</u> | |
| 5. <u>RA Westerman</u> | 12. <u>W. Burke</u> | 19. | 26. <u>MG Taylor</u> | |
| 6. | 13. <u>IS de la Lande</u> | 20. | 27. | |
| 7. | 14. <u>M. Blunt</u> | 21. | 28. | |



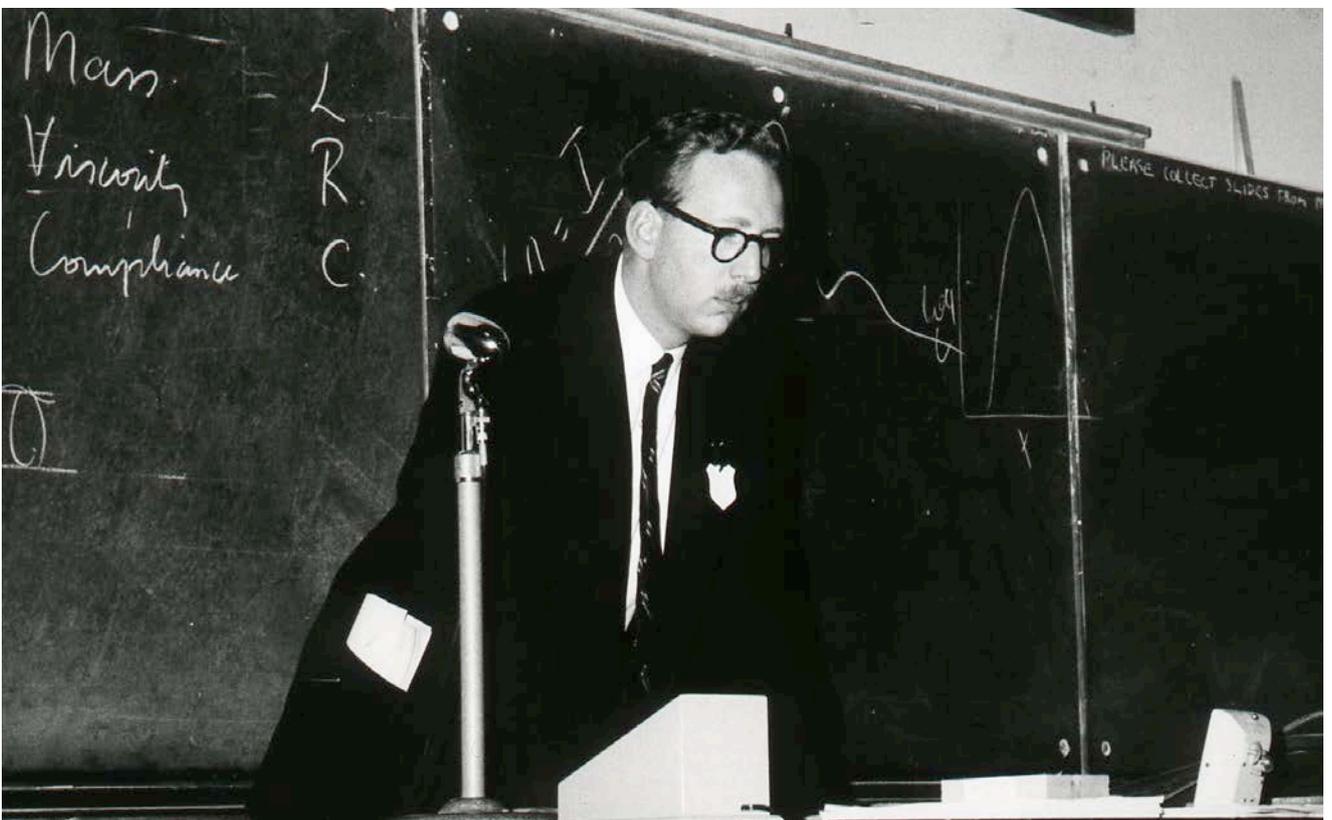
Peter Bishop, Colin Courtice and Robert Rushmer in discussion



Peter Bishop, Robert Rushmer, Geoff Thorburn and Colin Courtice



Geoff Thorburn giving a presentation



Michael Taylor addressing the Meeting

THE PHYSIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

INAUGURAL DINNER

.....

TOMATO SOUP

..

CRUMMED BREAM

..

ROAST TURKEY

Potato Straws

Green Peas

Carrots

..

PEACH MELBA

..

COFFEE

Held

at

Sydney University Union

The University

Sydney

Friday, 27th May, 1960.

7.30 p. m.

Paul Korner and ... (can members identify the gentleman on the right?)



Images supplied by Roger Dampney and Cindy Guy.



The 37th Annual Conference of the Australian Society for Biophysics

Sunday 24 to Wednesday 27 November at the RMIT City campus, Melbourne.

- For more information contact Gary Bryant, chair, gary.bryant@rmit.edu.au
- Or visit <http://www.biophysics.org.au/Meetings/2013/index.html>

JSPS Invitation and Postdoctoral Fellowships for travel in 2014-2015

The Australian Academy of Science, in association with the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), invites applications from Australian researchers to undertake Invitational and Postdoctoral Fellowships in Japan during 2014-2015. Postdoctoral Fellowships are for a period of twelve to twenty-four months; Invitational Fellowships are either short term, for fourteen to sixty days, or long term, for two to ten months.

Researchers in any field of natural sciences, including mathematics, technology, engineering and medicine may apply.

Applications in the humanities and social sciences are also accepted but ONLY for the Postdoctoral Fellowships. Medical doctors without a doctorate are not eligible to apply for the Postdoctoral Fellowship.

Applications close on Friday 27 September 2013.

Please see website for information and guidelines -
<http://www.science.org.au/internat/asia/index.html>

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF EXERCISE & IMMUNOLOGY

11TH ISEI 2013 SYMPOSIUM 9 - 12 SEPTEMBER 2013

NEWCASTLE CITY HALL, NEWCASTLE, NSW, AUSTRALIA

EXERCISE IMMUNOLOGY: PRESCRIPTIONS FOR HEALTH



Important Dates to Remember	
Registrations & Abstracts Open	10 February 2013
Abstract Submissions Close	10 May 2013
Abstract Acceptance Notified	10 June 2013
Early bird registration fees close	10 June 2013
Full registration fees close	10 August 2013
Late registration fees apply after	10 August 2013
ISEI Symposium Travel Scholarships	See ISEI website for application
ISEI Symposium Corporate Sponsorship	See ISEI website for prospectus



FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE 2013 ISEI SYMPOSIUM SEE OUR WEBSITE: www.isei.dk

AuPS Supporters



This issue of AuPS News was compiled by Glenn Wadley and with many thanks to the generous contributors.

The next issue of AuPS News will be distributed to members in December 2013. All contributions for AuPS News should be sent to: newsletter@auaps.org.au before the end of November.