



AuPS News

March, 2011

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AuPS Website

<http://www.auaps.org.au>

Overseas opportunities for AuPS members

Exchange visitor program between the Australian Physiological Society (AuPS) and the Scandinavian Physiological Society (SPS).

Objective

The exchange lecture program has the dual purpose of participation of the exchange lecturer (EL) in the annual meeting of the society and of providing the EL with an opportunity to visit several departments in the hosting region. The EL of the year is chosen by the Australian and Scandinavian societies in alternate years.

Procedure

The exchange visitor program with regard to visits by **Australian** scientists to Scandinavia is implemented by the **SPS** General Secretary as follows:

1. Normally, the process is started by the **SPS General Secretary** more than 10 months before the annual meeting.
2. From the themes of the main SPS annual meeting, the Chair of the Scientific Organizing Committee and the **SPS General Secretary** identify either a theme or a list of two or more potential Australian scientists suitable as plenary lecturers and/or symposium participants.
3. Based on the theme or the list the **AuPS** selects the EL of the year. The selected Australian EL should generally be a member of the AuPS.
4. The **SPS** invites the EL for the specific dates of its main meeting.
5. The EL accepts (i) to provide a title of the presentation, and (ii) to spend additional time in Scandinavia visiting more than one department, preferably departments in more than one country.
6. The EL provides to the SPS a list of specific departments that she/he may wish to visit, and for availability.
7. The **SPS** announces the name of the selected EL to its members via SPS Newsletter and encourages members to request a departmental visit and to indicate possible time frame.
8. The **SPS** selects the Scandinavian departments to be visited by the EL.
9. The **SPS** reimburses costs of travel, registration and accommodation of the **Australian EL** in connection with the SPS main annual meeting.
10. The **SPS** reimburses costs of travel within the Nordic countries, while the host departments cover local expenses (hotels etc.).
11. The **SPS** generates a provisional timetable, which is sent to the EL for approval and of a final timetable to be sent to host departments responsible for local arrangements.
12. After the visit, each host department without unnecessary delay submits to
13. the **SPS** a short visit report (½ page) to which the schedule
14. of meetings with named young physiologists are attached (½ page). Visit reports are forwarded to the **AuPS**
15. The AuPS will generally place an upper limit on the total reimbursement it provides for travel and hotel accommodation which will be agreed with the Scandinavian EL beforehand.

16. The AuPS EL will be asked to provide a brief account of his visit suitable for publishing in the AuPS News Letter.
17. The SPS EL will be invited to submit a manuscript on the topic of his/her talk which, after review, will be published in the Proceedings of the Australian Physiological Society and an identical version in Clinical and Experimental Physiology and Pharmacology. The AuPS EL will be invited to submit a review on the topic of his/her talk which, after review, will be published in the Acta Physiologica.



A mirror image of this procedure is used for visits of Scandinavian scientists to Australia.

AuPS President, David Allen has been selected by the Scandinavian Physiology Society as the 2011 exchange visitor.

Annual Meeting Bergen, Norway • August 12 – 14, 2011

<http://www.uib.no/biomedisin/en/resources/conferences-and-seminars/scandinavian-physiological-society>



SCANDINAVIAN
PHYSIOLOGICAL SOCIETY



Federation of Asian and Oceanian Physiological Societies

Membership

Proposed candidates for FAOPS Council (2011-2015)

Position	Name	Country	Term served
<u>Executive Committee</u>			
President	Julie YH Chan	Taipei	Second
Past-President	Y Okada	Japan	Second
1 st Vice President	BR Park	Korea	First
2 nd Vice President	To be proposed by PST*	Thailand	-
Secretary General	Harbindar Jeet Singh	Malaysia	second
Treasurer	David Cook	Australia	Second
<u>Council members</u>			
	Arif Siddiqui	Pakistan	First
	Xiao-Min Wang	China	First
	G. Ilavazhagan	India	First
	Arie Moran	Israel	Second
	S. Zahedi Asl	Iran	First
	Nipon Chattipakorn	Thailand	First

*The Physiological Society of Thailand

The internationalisation of science continues to intensify. The formal commitments of AuPS are to IUPS and FAOPS where we are represented by Caroline McMillen and David Cook respectively. We need a continuing focus on the IUPS and FAOPS meetings and activities to ensure that our international connections continue to strengthen and develop.



Perth 2011 Joint AuPS/ASCEPT/HBPRCA Meeting

Perth Convention Centre: 4-9 December 2011.

Key dates are as follows:

- Sunday December 4, AuPS-registration, welcome reception and AuPS lecture
- Monday 5 Dec - Wednesday 7 Dec, AuPS Symposia and free communications; joint symposia with ASCEPT and HBPRCA.
- Combined conference dinner - Wednesday Dec 7 (evening)
- Thursday Dec 8 - Friday Dec 9 - HBPRCA sessions

AuPS Invited Lecturer: Prof. Mark Hargreaves,
Dept. Physiology, The University of Melbourne, Vic 3010 Australia

Symposia

Proposer/Chair	Symposium Title
Potocnik	Regulation of intracellular Calcium signalling in Vascular tissue
Pillow	The role of inflammation in the development of respiratory related disorders
Fernandes	Challenges in Pharmacology and Physiology education
Ju and Vandenberg	Cardiac Arrhythmia mechanisms
Hool and Vandenberg	Abnormalities in ion transport and signaling in muscle ageing and disease
Hill and Van Helden	Mechanisms underlying Vascular dysfunction in Disease and Injury
Ravenscroft	Functional consequences of genetic muscle conditions
Broer	Epithelial transport - expanding the boundaries
Hool	Elucidating abnormalities in cardiac metabolism
Molenaar and Delbridge	Fundamental mechanisms of function of the normal and diseased heart
Morrison	Being a Small Baby or Being Born Preterm: Which is worse is for your health?
Hargreaves and McKenna	Exercise and cardiovascular function in health and disease

The full programme will be posted after abstracts submission has closed and the programme committee has met.

Breaking news about this exciting meeting is available at: <http://www.aups.org.au/Meetings/201112/>

Local Organisers

- **AuPS** [Don Robertson](#) and [Livia Hool](#), University of Western Australia.
- **ASCEPT** - [Ian Mullaney](#), Murdoch University, and [Lynette Fernandes](#), University of Western Australia.
- **HBPRCA** - [Doug McKittrick](#), University of Western Australia.



PACE-Net Newsletter

N. 1 – February 2011

FEAST members,

As it will be of interest to many of you, the first newsletter from the EU project PACE-Net is attached. The purpose of PACE-Net is to develop a Pacific-Europe network which will establish a bi-regional dialogue on science and technology between the Pacific and Europe.

The newsletter includes an article on the first bi-regional platform and workshops on Health and the Environment to be held in Brisbane from July 4th-8th 2011, as well as opportunities for organisations in the Pacific to participate in FP7 programmes.

If you live or work in the Pacific, are interested in working in the Pacific, or have research interests that you think may be applicable to the Pacific, and would be interested in joining the network, please fill in the application form on the website: www.pacenet.eu.



The EU's relations with the Pacific

It has been a sad start to the year with two well respected members of the Society passing on.

Vale, Malcolm Sparrow (1937-2011)

Malcolm Sparrow was an erstwhile member of the society.

A distinguished former member of the Department of Physiology at UWA passed away last weekend. Malcolm Phillip Sparrow was a highly regarded scholar whose work was at the forefront of research into basic mechanisms of airway smooth muscle development and pathology. He supervised many PhD students who went on to distinguished careers. Malcolm and his students made important contributions to a number of areas of muscle physiology and pharmacology, including cardiac muscle plasticity, the contractile proteins and regulatory pathways in smooth muscle, and the role of the endothelium in airway hyper-responsiveness. In the later stages of his career, he and his PhD students pioneered the use of confocal microscopy to study the morphological and neurotransmitter development of fetal airways and published a suite of landmark publications on this topic. Malcolm is survived by his wife Joy and 4 children. Our condolences go to all family and friends.

Professor Mark Rowe

1943-2011



When Emeritus Professor Mark Rowe was killed in a cycling accident in Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park on New Year's Day, Australia lost one of its finest neuroscientists. Academia, too, lost a person of rare and unshakeable integrity, while his friends lost a convivial, generous and cultivated man.

Mark Rowe was a scientist with an enormous body of achievement but also with a profound love of concert music and opera, art and architecture. Sport and athleticism were also important to him.

Mark Joseph Rowe was born in Sydney on February 18, 1943, the eldest child of Clyde and Dorothy Rowe. Clyde, an accountant and bank manager, had played first-grade rugby union for Northern Suburbs and Dorothy was a dynamo who, when securing a position as a librarian in the NSW public service, reduced her age by 20 years. Because of his father's occupation, Mark's childhood was peripatetic: attending primary school in Narrabri and secondary school with the Marist Brothers in Maitland and Parramatta.

He enrolled in the pharmacy course at Sydney University in 1960, concluding with an honours year in pharmacology with the charismatic Dr Ted Johnson, who clearly saw great potential in his young student and cultivated the rigour of thought that remained Rowe's lifelong characteristic. After an MSc period in the laboratories at Callan Park Mental Hospital, Rowe moved to the fledgling school of physiology at the University of NSW for PhD research.

After submitting a thesis of Proustian proportions, Rowe sailed to the US with his wife, Janet (nee Lockhart), a research biochemist. There, supported by a postdoctoral fellowship of the US Public Health Service, he spent 18 productive months in the neurobiology laboratory of Australian Nobel laureate Sir John Eccles in Buffalo. There, he met Robert Schmidt, who, having earlier been an Eccles

PhD student at the Australian National University in Canberra, had recently taken a chair of physiology in Kiel, Germany. Rowe then spent a year in Kiel on a fellowship from the Alexander von Humboldt-Foundation. Late in 1972, the Rowes returned to Sydney, where he took a lectureship at the University of NSW and began a stellar career, which led to a professorship in 1988 and one of the elite Scientia chairs in 2001.

Over that time, he published more than 110 research papers, secured 45 substantial research grants and supervised almost 30 higher-degree and honours students. His international reputation was immense. Rowe studied the sensory nervous system, the means by which the brain receives reliable information about the inner world of our bodies and the external world. Most of his efforts were directed towards the skin and the ways we perceive indentation, pressure and vibration but he also studied the electrical sensors in the bill of the platypus and the sensors around bones.

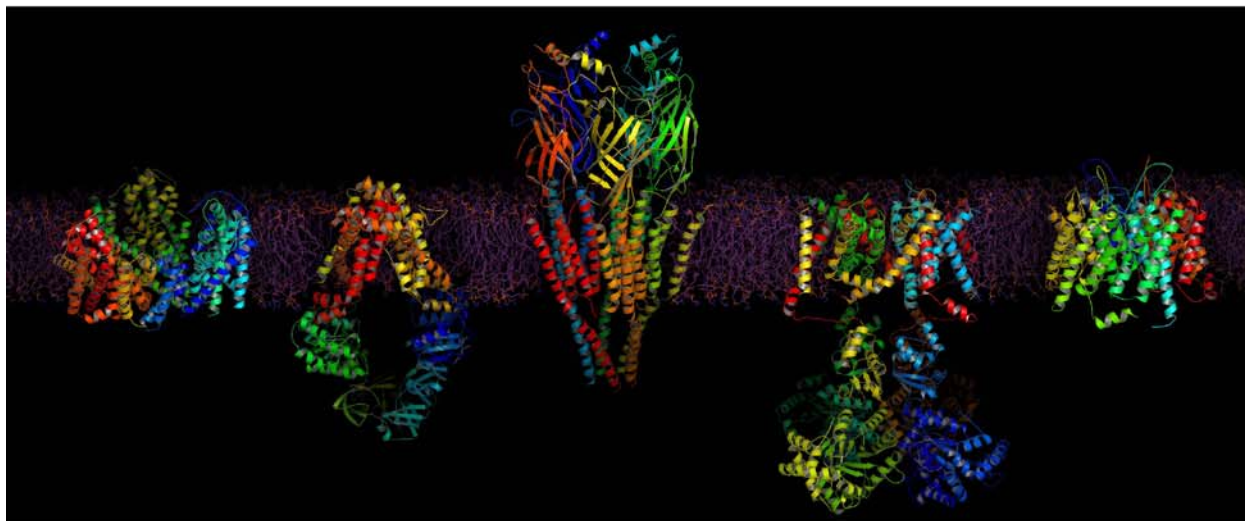
He was always quick to adopt new methods of both discovery and analysis and never shirked experimental or conceptual difficulties. One such task was his determination to simultaneously record from primary nerve cells in the spinal cord and cells in the upper parts of the brain to which they were functionally linked. He did so, with astonishing success.

What he found should revolutionise the way in which we understand the sensory and motor operations of the nervous system.

In addition to his formidable moral and intellectual calibre, Rowe was very generous. This was reflected in his hospitality. With Janet as the mastermind (and Mark the proud barista), the Rowes' dinner parties were legendary: the wines were always "masked" and great store was set by accurate appraisal and identification. And not only the wines. Whenever music was played, it was, with a notable exception, "blind".

That exception, especially when those dinners ran to the small hours, was an almost obligatory playing of Elgar's *Pomp and Circumstance No. 1* and the closing scene of Wagner's *Götterdämmerung* - at high volume.

Mark Rowe is survived by his 99-year-old mother, Janet, children Clare and Lachlan, sister Alison and brother Gerard.



The Gage Conference on Ion Channels and Transporters

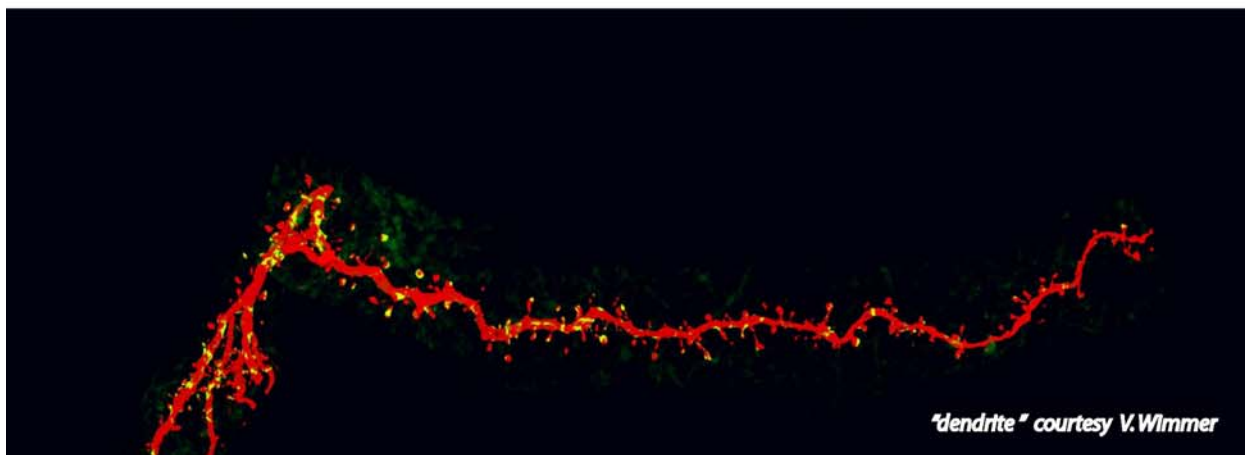
Canberra Boys Grammar School, ACT
18-20th April 2011

This is a biennial meeting, continuing the earlier series of Curtin Conferences organised by Peter Gage and encompasses all aspects of the biology of ion channels and transporters - including molecular mechanisms, regulation, physiology, neurophysiology, pharmacology and pathology. We will invite registration and abstract submission in early 2011.

Organising Committee

Brett Cromer, Angela Dulhunty, Louise Tierney, Jamie Vandenberg, Renae Ryan, Dan Markovich, David Adams

Further Information: <http://www.gageconf.org.au/>
email: brett.cromer@rmit.edu.au





ASELL Advancing Science by Enhancing Learning in the Laboratory

- Improve the quality of learning in your laboratory classes
- Join a community of practice that supports teaching and learning
- Access the database containing peer-reviewed, educationally and technically sound experiments
- Showcase your best labs
- Get advice on improving a lab
- Work towards publishing

ORGANISING COMMITTEE:

- Sassan Asgari
- Kelly Matthews
- Robyn Evans

SPONSORED BY:

- Faculty of Science Teaching & Learning Committee

ASELL objectives

The ASELL project aims to improve the quality of learning in undergraduate science laboratories by making available student-tested, peer-reviewed experiments which are both scientifically and educationally sound

QLD-ASELL Biology Workshop Program

The first QLD-ASELL Biology Workshop will be held on the 9 - 10th June, 2011 at The University of Queensland, St Lucia campus, Brisbane.

Universities are invited to send 2-person team(s) (each team composed of one academic and one student). This workshop will include a mixture of discussions and laboratory-based activities. You are welcome to attend the workshop to test drive biology practical classes from various institutions and/or submit one of your own for peer-evaluation.

Special guests:

- ALTC fellow, Les Kirkup. Les has published extensively on designing, embedding and sustaining innovative inquiry-oriented laboratory programs in large enrolment first year classes and has first-hand experience of trialling the ASELL approach
- Anthony Harradine. For 27 years Anthony has been trying to better understand his failings as a teacher and a learner. Sound depressing? Surprisingly, it's a lot of fun.

The goal of these workshops is to create a national database of peer-reviewed experiments.

The cost of the workshop is AUD\$605 (AUD\$550 plus GST) per team. The workshop fee covers registration and food

QLD-ASELL Biology Workshop

Date: June 9 - 10, 2011

Location: The University of Queensland, St Lucia Campus, Brisbane

Enquiries: robyn.evans@uq.edu.au

Due Date for Expressions of Interest: Monday, 31 January 2011

Register your interest: www.surveymonkey.com/s/ASELL



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA

What, how, why

Background

Scientists in Schools is an initiative of the former Chief Scientist, Dr Jim Peacock. Funding for the program is provided by the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations and this has been supplemented by funding from CSIRO. *Scientists in Schools* is managed by CSIRO Education.

The aim of *Scientists in Schools* is to create and support long-term professional partnerships between scientists and teachers. Its purpose is to promote a deeper understanding of the importance of science in our society for students and teachers, and through them, the wider school community.

The definition of a scientist for this program includes any professional who is actively engaged in the fields of science and/or technology. It includes engineers, mathematicians, IT professionals, applied scientists and medical practitioners amongst others.

Participation

Scientists in Schools began in July 2007 with a target of 100 teacher-scientist pairs by National Science Week (August) in 2007 and 500 pairs by the end of 2007. These targets were achieved, and there are currently over 2000 partnerships across Australia.

Participation by schools is spread across government, Catholic and independent sectors and includes a fairly even split of primary and secondary schools. Almost half the schools involved are from outside major cities, including some remote schools and at least four identified indigenous schools. Scientists come from federal, state and local government organisations, universities and the private sector in all States and Territories.

How does it work?

The key word to the program is flexibility.

Both scientists and teachers register on-line, giving contact details and some indication as to the type of preferred partnership (and preferred location in the case of the scientist). The *Scientists in Schools* team looks at the registrations and personally matches the teacher and scientist based on the information provided.

The scientist and teacher are then sent an email with both sets of contact details and some support materials. It is then up to the pair to get in contact with each other.

Once in contact, the scientist and teacher decide between themselves how they will proceed based on their respective workloads, the scientist's expertise, the curriculum and the school needs. There are as many variations in partnerships as there are partnerships themselves. Some scientists visit the school once a year, some never and some once a week. It very much depends on the participants.

The *Scientists in Schools* team provides support for the partnerships through resources, ideas, contact, various gatherings and workshops.

Some examples

- ❖ An Antarctic scientist in Hobart has formed a long-distance partnership with a primary school in Townsville, sending regular emails to the students about his research and answering their questions.
- ❖ A Queensland materials scientist sends regular email newsletters to his partner teachers with information on interesting science news, ideas for activities and just to keep in touch.
- ❖ A primary school in Esperance, working with a climate change scientist in Canberra, has extended their program to develop links with scientists from throughout their local community.
- ❖ A Melbourne vet pathologist is conducting workshops for the teachers at his partner school on topics such as animal dissections.
- ❖ A South Australian defence scientist and his partner teacher are coordinating a science fair at a local primary school, including providing training to students, teachers and parents.
- ❖ A NSW energy scientist organised for his partner teacher to undertake research at his workplace during her school holidays.
- ❖ All 10 Year 6/7 students at a school on Hamilton Island spent two days in Townsville visiting 'their' environmental scientist and his colleagues.
- ❖ A plant genetics scientist in Canberra is mentoring students at a local high school who are completing high-level science projects.
- ❖ A Western Australian defence scientist is spending half a day each week running an extension science class at his local primary school.

Why Scientists in Schools?

From the scientists

"A lack of scientists in the future will mean we are not able to innovate and develop. *Scientists in Schools* is an investment in Australia's long term future." (Tas)

"The flexibility is great. I am glad that we are able to come up with a structure that works well and is convenient for both parties." (Vic)

"Our problems are often uniquely our own, we need keen young scientists of our own to solve them." (Vic)

"Children see things from a different perspective - they can help you to look at your work with excitement and awe again, and that has been very valuable to me." (Vic)

From the teachers

"Not only have the students discovered that science is fun, we have all developed a working relationship with a ...very accomplished scientist." (Qld)

"*Scientist in Schools* has provided opportunities for students to develop understandings and skills necessary to function productively as problem-solvers in a scientific and technological world." (Vic)

"The teachers are excited to have [our scientist] on hand to extend the science curriculum and develop their own knowledge and skills for transfer to the students." (Qld)

"The opportunity to visit our partner's labs was a highlight. It re-energised me as a teacher and re-energised my thinking in relation to what's possible." (Qld)

Further information

More information about the program, including online registration forms, showcases of successful partnerships and contact details, is available at

www.scientistsinschools.edu.au



Bureau of Animal Welfare

Training courses on offer in 2011

Dates, times, venues & cost

- All training sessions will be held at DPI Attwood, 475 Mickleham Rd Attwood (Melways ref. Map 5 K3).
- Free parking is available.
- Bookings for all sessions are limited to 18 attendees. Chairs training will only run if there are a minimum of 6 attendees registered 1 week prior to date of training.
- Contact Alan Fried to register: alan.fried@dpi.vic.gov.au or 9217 4425. Please indicate any dietary or special access requirements.
- A full refund will be given for cancellations with more than 10 working days' notice. No refunds after that time.

COURSE	DATE	ROOM	TIME	COST
Introductory AEC	9 March 2011	Woodlands Room	1.30—5.00	Free
	21 June 2011	Stephens Room		
	19 September 2011	TBA		
Advanced AEC	25 March 2011	Woodlands Room	9.30—4.30	\$40 (GST incl); lunch and notes provided
	22 September 2011	TBA		
Institution	11 April 2011	Woodlands Room	9.30—1.00	\$30 (GST incl); lunch and notes provided
	13 September 2011	TBA		
Chairs	11 April 2011	Woodlands Room	1.30—5.00	\$40 (GST incl); lunch and notes provided
	13 September 2011	TBA		

AuPS Sustaining members



This issue of AuPS News was compiled by Simon Potocnik with many thanks to the generous contributors.

The next issue of AuPS News will be distributed to members in June 2011. All contributions for AuPS News should be sent to: newsletter@auaps.org.au by the end of May, 2011.