From the president

Like so many large and sophisticated societies, the populations of Australia and New Zealand are not immune from the hazards of sleep disorders. A week does not go by without hearing in our media of a catastrophic event where sleep played a role. At one end of the spectrum, this may relate to a fatal motor vehicle accident in the early hours of a Sunday morning involving sleep deprived youth. At a more trivial end, it may be the loss of an AFL football team playing with a transmeridian hangover.

Recently, I attended the Australian Society of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery annual scientific meeting, where four excellent presentations were delivered by enthusiastic surgeons to a packed lecture theatre. I noted that none of the four speakers were ASA members, nor when I spoke with them later, did they feel any compulsion to become more active in the ASA.

These two instances illustrate that we need to promote the role that the ASA plays as the public face of sleep. We need to use the daily illustrations the media provide us with when we talk about sleep with students, our patients, “non sleep” industry, and, when time permits, with the media. In addition, we also need to encourage the active involvement in the ASA of as many craft groups as possible. Over the past 5 years, I have noted a large increase in the number of dentists involved with the ASA, either as financial members, or simply getting their feet wet by attending a postgraduate course attached to our annual scientific meeting. This practice should be encouraged in every possible way by all ASA members.

As you will see from the clinical chairs letter, the ASA executive is facing new challenges this year, one of which involves the evolving practices of our membership and that of industry. We are working closely with the Royal Australian College of Physicians ethical standards committee, to ensure that the public face of sleep medicine, namely the ASA, continues to be held in high esteem.

Matthew Naughton

From the secretary

Special Interest Groups:

After our meeting in Melbourne on May 5th it was decided by the executive to encourage the formation of other SIG groups. ASA Members had been approached and it is anticipated that we should have a Respiratory and a Neurology SIG up and running for our ASM in Perth, which is great news. I am always happy to hear from people with a burning desire to have another SIG (and are prepared to chair such a group)

Book Reviews:

The Book Review Template had been forwarded to those people who were currently reviewing books for the Newsletter. We have had one reviewer who did not find the template useful and instead wrote a one page overview. No other comments have been received as yet and we are hoping the template did reduce scoring time. After a request from one of the Book Reviewers for anonymity a request had gone out to the membership for their opinion about this. Approximately 12 responses had been received, offering varying opinions. After discussion amongst the Membership Committee and Executive it was decided that book reviewers should feel comfortable with their appraisal or decide not to undertake the review. It was agreed that every review should have a disclaimer saying “Reviews printed in this Newsletter are the opinions of the individual member of ASA who has undertaken the review, but does not necessarily reflect the view of all ASA members.”

Public Interface & Website

We have many requests for talks, papers on sleep and general help. As these requests are time consuming and we are an association for our members first and foremost we shall respond with standard letters and refer to other optional sites for information. It was agreed that a top priority should be to get some general information on sleep health on the web site, which would be available free to download and re-print if so desired. We are also aiming to have more standard information on our websites from the respective SIGs and follow the example of the Paediatric SIG.

Thank you,

Delwyn Bartlett
From the Clinical Chair

The committee met for the first time on 27 Feb 2006. The committee members are: myself (chair), Nick Antic (sleep physician), Peter Rochford (ASTA representative), Roy Beran (neurologist), Simon Smith (psychologist), Chris Pantin (dentist) and Bruce Whitehead (paediatrician). A number of issues were discussed and decisions not surprisingly were hard to come by. The terms of reference for the committee will be rolled out in the next couple of months. We discussed at length the inter laboratory scoring concordance programs that are currently available in Australia. Peter Rochford kindly circulated to the committee the Austin hospital's PSG quality assurance program. This is similar in its intent to the program that Andrew Thornton has devised, however the Austin program has different methodology. I suggest that laboratories contact either Peter or Andrew or both and be involved in this most important quality assurance initiative.

The guidelines for sleep studies in adults has been circulated to the ASA membership and to date it seems to have been well received. My understanding is that it will be published in the not-too-distant future in a peer-reviewed journal as a guideline statement from the TSANZ/ASA.

As yet I have not received membership input regarding clinical indicators for Sleep Medicine. I will try to circulate draft indicators for feedback within the next month or so. This is another important initiative that requires the involvement of all members.

A number of issues related to home sleep studies, shop front outlets for diagnosis and management of sleep disorders and the related issue of who can or should prescribe CPAP therapy continue to exercise the minds of members of the various TSANZ and ASA executive and committees. These are complex issues that will probably take considerable time to work through.

Accreditation of sleep laboratories is continuing and those laboratories that have been involved with this process have been positive about the constructive feedback from the accreditation teams. This is an opportunity for sleep laboratories to benchmark themselves and to improve the quality of their service. I would like to also remind sleep laboratories that accreditation of sleep laboratories will be a requirement in the near future for site accreditation of Sleep Advanced Trainee positions.

The Clinical Committee wishes to hear from the membership regarding any of the above or other issues.

Harry Teichtahl

From the Research Committee

The ASA Research Committee will be sending out a survey via email to all members of the ASA over the next few weeks to determine the research interests of the membership and the current state of sleep and circadian research in Australia. We are hoping for a large response from the membership, as the findings from this questionnaire will be used by the research committee in a number of initiatives.

We are developing a green paper of sleep and circadian research in Australia, with preliminary findings from the questionnaire being presented at the AGM at the next ASA meeting in Perth in October this year. Additionally, we plan on publishing the findings of the questionnaire in an Australasian-based journal.

The findings from the questionnaire and the subsequent green paper will also be used to help promote sleep and circadian research within Australia and New Zealand, in particular to funding agencies, government and user groups and the general public. The information we gather from the membership will be an invaluable tool to be used for lobbying funding agencies and government to increase the funding directed toward sleep and circadian research in Australia and New Zealand. Therefore we are asking for a response from all of the membership to ensure our report accurately reflects the current research interests in sleep and circadian rhythms in Australasia.

Naomi Rogers
From the Education Committee
Mildura community education seminar

The Education Committee recently undertook the first of its regional community education initiatives. The focus of this initiative is to increase community awareness of a range of sleep disorders targeting larger regional Australasian Communities. The first of these took place in Mildura on Friday March 31. This location was selected as our initial target because the Sunrayisia Sleep Disorders support group provided local infrastructure support necessary to effect this seminar.

This initiative proved to be an outstanding success. Over 200 people attended the afternoon seminar series reaching capacity at the venue. Unfortunately another 50-80 were advised that the forum was at capacity limiting the attendance. The afternoon was launched by the Mayor of Mildura, Mr Eddie Warhurst and Councillor Sue Nicholls. The general manager of the local hospital providing public and private sleep laboratory facilities supported and attended the session as well as Flanagen and Poole, the local CPAP distributor. The media were very supportive requesting a series of radio and television interviews as well as newspaper coverage.

Leon Lack spoke on insomnia, Laurie Cree spoke on sleep apnoea and I spoke on the restless legs syndrome. I would very much like to thank my co-speakers who made available their time in a voluntary capacity. Additional thanks goes to Eileen Pica (President of the Sunrayisia sleep disorders support group) as well as GSK, the Mildura Private Hospital and Flanagen and Poole who assisted in covering costs.

ASA Web Site

On other matters that ASA website will shortly support some educational material for healthcare professionals. A series of sleep related topics have been targeted and contributions have been put together by members of the educational subcommittee. This information will be made available outside the members area designed to deliver very brief, succinct and evidenced based reviews of key subjects. It is felt that exhaustive reviews with extensive literature citation will not be effective given the time constraints often imposed on our colleagues in general practice and in other health care disciplines.

I will keep you posted as to new developments

Darren Mansfield

Insomnia & Sleep Health SIG Report

In the next couple of months I shall be asking ISH SIG members for contact information and services in their respective clinics and hospital settings where it pertains to insomnia treatments, circadian rhythm desynchrony and research. This would enable individuals to look at the ASA website and know who to contact to make general bookings. The publically-accessible website will only refer to clinic numbers, or if a member is in private practice that number may also be made available. Then on a closed site for ASA members only (which will be established shortly) we will list telephone numbers, where we can contact colleagues personally who work in a specific area or are in another capital or centre to discuss treatments or patient referrals. We shall be running a postgraduate course prior to the ASM in Perth which is very exciting and we are waiting to confirm a well known overseas clinician and researcher in insomnia for that course and for our Insomnia Symposium. Your support would be greatly appreciated in raising the profile of insomnia.

Thank you
Delwyn Bartlett
Paediatric SIG News

Gillian Nixon moved from Starship Children’s Hospital in Auckland to the Melbourne Children’s Sleep Unit (MCSU) at Monash Medical Centre in Melbourne in March. Gill will be involved in the clinical work and research of the MCSU, plus has a university appointment with the Monash Institute of Medical Research, allowing her to plan and lead future research in paediatric sleep medicine. She also will continue to take part in sleep aspects of a large longitudinal study at the University of Auckland (the Auckland Birthweight Collaborative Study led by Professor Ed Mitchell), following the award last year of a grant from the Child Health Research Foundation in New Zealand.

Tanya Gulliver has commenced at John Hunter Children’s Hospital (coming from Queensland) joining Bruce Whitehead and the team in Paediatric Respiratory & Sleep Medicine. Joerg Mattes from Germany has also joined the team as the Respiratory & Sleep Fellow. Jodi Hilton remains on Maternity leave after the safe arrival of her second son - Kalen.

The first year intake for Graduate Certificate in Paediatric Sleep Science which is run at Princess Margaret Hospital and the University of Western Australia, have just graduated and included students from China, Singapore, New Zealand and Australia. The feedback from the students was very positive and an analysis of student satisfaction will soon be available on the course website. The 2006 course is about to commence and all places are filled. However, the 2007 course will commence in January (rather than April) and anyone interested should seek further information soon because we recommend enrolment by September 2006. Details including a demonstration of the course interface WebCT, can be found at: www.paediatrics.uwa.edu.au/paediatric_science

Margot Davey

Orofacial SIG

The Orofacial SIG has been working busily behind the scenes on many fronts. The symposium for the Annual Scientific Meeting in October is shaping up as another informative cross-specialty session again involving a surgeon, dentist and physician.

We are also currently considering several proposals for an Oro-facial SIG logo which will be launched on the website in the near future. Proposals for both the logo and symposium topics are still welcome.

We are also considering whether to endorse the recently released AASM practice parameters for oral appliances (SLEEP 2006;29:240-243).

See you in Perth!
Andrew Ng & Chris Pantin

Worldsleep07 report

In 2007 the ASA will not hold its normal Annual Scientific Meeting, but will incorporate this into Worldsleep07 so that resources, both scientific and financial are not split between two meetings. It is hoped that every ASA member will take the opportunity to come to this amazing international meeting that is being hosted by your Association.

Plans are well in hand, with a fascinating scientific programme being currently developed. An impressive array of Plenary Speakers have already confirmed including:

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<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>Charles Czeisler</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Sleep and Work Hours-Impact on Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Giulio Tononi</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>How The Brain Falls Asleep</td>
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<td>Pierre Maquet</td>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>Imaging The Brain During Sleep</td>
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<td>Ken-Ichi Honma</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>Circadian Rhythms and the Brain</td>
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<td>Thomas Roth</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Insomnia-Health Effects</td>
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<td>Tarja Porkka-Heiskanen</td>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>Sleep in Pervasive Developmental Disorders</td>
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<td>David Dinges</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Measuring Sleep Loss</td>
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<td>Colin Espie</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>Managing Insomnia</td>
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<td>Emmanuel Mignot</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Narcolepsy-New Insights</td>
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<td>Roseanne Armitage</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Sleep EEG, Gender and Mood Disorders</td>
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<td>Jan Hedner</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Vascular Effects of Sleep Apnea</td>
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<td>Jerome Siegel</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Sleep in Australian and other Interesting Mammals</td>
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<td>Thomas Pollmacher</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Sleep and Depression</td>
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<td>Arthur Walters</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Restless Legs – Impact and Management</td>
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<td>Allan Pack</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Genetics of Sleep Disorders</td>
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<td>Torbjörn Åkerstedt</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Shiftwork and Health</td>
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The Conference will start on Sunday 2 September 2007, with an opening ceremony and welcome drinks. The scientific programme will then run from Monday to Thursday inclusive, with a half day on Tuesday to allow delegates to do some sight seeing. A spectacular Conference Party will be held in the lagoon area on the Cairns foreshore on the Wednesday evening.

We are currently seeking submissions for symposia, and full details for this can be found at the web site www.worldsleep07.com. Abstract submission will be open from January – March 2007.

### Key Dates

- **Worldsleep07**
  - Call for Symposia: May – Oct 2006
  - Call for abstracts: January – March 2007
  - Notification of acceptance of abstracts: May 2007
  - Registration opens: January 2007
  - End of earlybird rate registration fee: June 2007
  - Accommodation booking deadline: July 2007
  - Pre-congress registration: August 2007
  - (after August 2007 registration must be made on site)

### Member Promotion of Meeting

We are calling on all members of ASA to help promote this meeting as much as they possibly can, both within Australia to colleagues with an interest in sleep, and overseas whenever you are contacting colleagues, or speaking at any Conferences. It is also very important to raise the profile of the Congress with the company representatives you talk to in the course of the year. Sponsorship and Exhibition income will be important to ensure registration fees are kept as low as possible.

If any ASA member is giving a sleep related paper at any meeting, either in Australia or overseas, it would be great if they could include some slides promoting the meeting at the end of their paper. Powerpoint slides can be downloaded from the ASA Web Site, or drop Stephanie an e-mail at the ASA office and she will arrange for these to be sent to you.

Promotional material is available for members to take with them to meetings. This varies from book marks to flyers and even Koalas with a message around their neck giving details of the meeting. Again, if you would like to take some material with you let Stephanie know and she will arrange for this to be delivered to you.

Various overseas meetings will be targeted for special attention, and booths will be taken at some of the larger meetings, while at others we will be including material in satchels. We will be calling for assistance at those meetings where booths are being taken, asking for members to help man the booths to promote worldsleep07 – this is a great opportunity to talk to people who you would not normally meet during the course of the conferences. As all those who assisted at APSS last year can confirm, it is not an arduous task and is a pleasant way to spend a morning, afternoon tea or lunch hour. So watch out for the e-mails requesting assistance closer to the larger overseas meetings.

Another way to promote worldsleep07 is to have information about it added to your e-mail signature, so that it automatically goes out with every e-mail you send. If you would like to do this please let Stephanie know and she will send you the necessary logos and instructions on how to download these into your signature.

We look forward to hearing from you with symposia, papers, registrations and offers to assist in promoting Worldsleep07.

*Ron Grunstein & John Wheatley*
Co Chairmen

### The Australian Society for Medical Research

The Australian Society for Medical Research (ASMR, http://www.asmr.org.au/) is a national society representing health and medical researchers in a broad range of fields. In addition to individual members, a number of Australian Scientific Societies are also affiliate members of the ASMR. It has been proposed and supported that ASA become an affiliate member of the ASMR also.

There are currently around 1,100 individual members of ASMR, and 46 affiliated societies and medical colleges, representing around 15,000 health & medical research scientists and around 98,500 Australian through associate membership. At the last meeting of the ASA Executive it was decided that ASA should become and Affiliated Society.

Each state branch of the ASMR hosts a number of events, including a science week with a one day scientific conference and dinner, careers seminars and professional development workshops. The ASMR also holds an annual national scientific meeting, which includes a bi-annual Australian Health and Medical Research Congress which brings together a number of specialist societies, thereby covering a broad range of scientific topics and fields. In addition, the ASMR interacts with various funding bodies including the NHMRC to promote stable scientific careers and opportunities for further career development, including appropriate training awards and scholarships. Also, “the ASMR plays a major role in lobbying the Government to provide adequate and sustained funding for health and medical research. The Society is able to act as an interface between the Government, other Institutions and medical researchers both to provide and to receive information on funding requirements.”

*Naomi Rogers*
Book Reviews

The Theorem: A Complete Answer to Human Behavior.
By Douglas M Arone

The first line of this book is “It all starts with a lie” (p. 18). By the bottom of the next page the author is suggesting that “In the womb, the fetus realizes two cycles of development” (p. 19). The author claims that the first of these occurs when the mother is resting or sleeping, primarily at night. He defines this cycle as the “First Fear Cycle of Development” (p.19). He goes on to explain that this is an extremely painful, unpleasant and horrific cycle of development for the fetus and that the fetus shows a high level of activity, remaining awake and alert, sleeping only occasionally out of complete exhaustion. The second cycle he defines as the “Euphoric Cycle of Development and states that the fetus spends most of its time sleeping, resting and growing. He states that this cycle occurs mainly during the day while the mother is active and that during the entire pregnancy the fetus alternates between the Fear Cycle and the Euphoric Cycle on a daily basis. In chapter 3 we learn that the fetus is fully conscious and makes several misinterpretations of its interuterine environment. The first, the author claims, is that the fetus believes that the mother is dying each time she is lying down to rest or sleep. The second is that the fetus believes that kicking, punching and moving around will save its mothers and its own life. Later, on page 31, we are privileged to learn that:

“No as if it were not enough to mislead the fetus into believing that its mother and itself are in the process of dying, Nature provides another event to even further reassure this belief. It is the initiation of independent fetal breathing. For simplicity and throughout the remainder of the book the initiation of independent fetal breathing will be defined as “fetal apnea.” The apnea is the most painful event the fetus will experience. What happens during fetal apnea is that for a short period of time, the oxygen supply to the fetus is cut off. In response to this, the fetal lungs expand and contract. Again this is a very painful event. Now, Nature has a very good reason for these fetal apneas, which will be explained later in this chapter. For now, what we are focused on is the fetal interpretation of this apnea. Of course, you could imagine if suddenly your oxygen supply were cut off, what the first thought that entered your mind would be. It is the same for the fetus, for now, it is essentially convinced its mother and therefore it also is in the process of dying.”

Have we lost you yet? No! Well let’s skip forward to chapter 8 (Sleep and Dreams) for some further enlightenment on this subject. The first line informs us that “The primary purpose of sleep is to review the developmental aspects of the two cycles of interuterine development and integrate that review into the individual’s daily rhythm” (p. 162). We also learn that:

“Therefore, other representations of the first few years of life will be included during this nightly review as well. With all that taken into account, however, it is important to realize that the neurons encoded with the two cycles of development will fire uninhibited, or are completely reviewed during slow wave or deep sleep. Therefore, when the sleeper wakes up, during this stage of sleep, kicking, screaming, fighting for their lives, and thinking they are about to die, this is nothing more than the neurons encoded with the First Fear Cycle of Development firing uninhibited and thus waking the sleeper. The process involved in this event, which is called sleep or night terror, will be explained later in this chapter” (p. 164).

If you manage to get further than the first few pages without thinking there is a serious problem with the logical basis of the book you would be doing well. If you are forced to read on the book becomes almost a comical litany of false logic that labours on and on for some 474 pages. However, it is not comical because it may actually be taken seriously by some people. In summary, the book is a good example of the sort of pseudoscience that has begun to pervade our culture under the guise of new age thinking and enlightenment. The book has absolutely no utility apart from perhaps as an example of how assumptions and pseudo logic can lead one up the garden path and well beyond. In hindsight one should have been alerted by the latter part of the books title “a complete answer to human behavior” a grandiose claim by itself!!

Gerard Kennedy

Reviews printed in this Newsletter are the opinions of the individual member of ASA who has undertaken the review, but does not necessarily reflect the view of all ASA members.

Australian Association of Consultant Physicians

The Australian Association of Consultant Physicians (The AACP) – held an annual general meeting in December 2005. The new and revitalised AACP is legally constituted and complies with ASIC requirements. The AACP has been registered for GST since 1 January 2006. AACP has written to all Specialty Society Presidents introducing the AACP, explaining their role on remuneration proceedings with the AMA, MBCC and Department of Health and Aging. We will also be involved with Workforce issues. They are seeking support from Specialty Societies and their members in encouraging all Fellows of RACP to become financial members of the AACP. The AACP Council has established a Secretariat and has registered premises in Sydney.
The Technical Reference Group has developed new Enhanced Physician Attendance Item (EPAI) descriptors and explanatory notes. They have met with the AMA, and held teleconferences with the AMA and Access Economics and are currently awaiting the report from Access Economics to be included in our submission.

The submission for EPAIs is well in progress. The new EPAIs numbers have been developed on the advice of the Department of Health and Aging. The Department is interested in new item numbers for current physician work. The existing physician attendance items 110, 116 and 119 will remain.

The AACP now has an Economist, Dr Robert Wilson, working with the Council and is in the process of developing a framework for submission for the new Enhanced Physician Attendance Items to the Department of Health and Aging. A Canberra based lobbyist has been approached to advise on the submission, prior to seeking a meeting with Minister Abbott in the near future.

Dr Sue Morey, Chair, RACP Workforce Committee has been seconded to advise the AACP on Workforce issues.

For further information please contact Dr Leslei E Bolitho, President AACP, lbolitho@netc.net.au

Other announcements


Do you have suggestions for improving this Newsletter? Would you like to review a journal article for the next newsletter issue? Are there mistakes on the association web pages? Please let Keith Wong know care of admin@sleep.org.au.

ASA Executive 2005/6

Apologies for omitting Philippa Gander from the Executive list in the last Newsletter and giving Darren Mansfield her job. Below is the correct version

President
A/Prof Matt Naughton, Prahran VIC
Immediate Past President
Prof Peter Cistulli, St Leonards NSW
Secretary
Dr Delwyn Bartlett, Camperdown NSW
Treasurer
A/Prof Peter Eastwood, Nedlands WA
Clinical Chair
A/Prof Harry Teichtahl, Footscray VIC
Conference Chair
Dr Craig Hukins, Woolloongabba QLD
Education Chair
Dr Darren Mansfield, Richmond VIC
Research Chair
Prof Philippa Gander, Wellington, NZ
Sleep Technologists Representative
Dr Angela Campbell, Wellington NZ
Executive Secretary
Stephanie Blower, Sydney NSW

Calendar of Events

17-22 June 2006  20th Anniversary Meeting of the Associated Professional Sleep Societies, Salt Lake City, USA.
3-8 September 2006  10th International Congress on Obesity, Sydney
Contact: enquiries@ico2006.com  Web Site: www.ico2006.com
12-16 September  18th Congress of the European Sleep Research Society, Innsbruck, Austria.
5-7 October 2006  19th ASM of ASA & ASTA, Burswood, Perth, WA
Contact: admin@sleep.org.au  Web Site: www.sleep.org.au
Closing date for abstracts is 16 July 2006.
2-6 September 2007 worldsleep07, Cairns Convention Centre, Cairns, Far North Queensland.
Contact: info@worldsleep07.com  Web Site: www.worldsleep07.com

Please also check our website for other meetings. http://www.sleep.org.au/meetings.html
The 19th Annual ASA/ASTA Conference will be held for the first time over three full days between Thursday October 5 to Saturday October 7 at the Intercontinental Burswood Resort, Perth, Western Australia. The meeting this year has tremendous depth in its guest speakers. Professor Mary Carskadon is Professor of Psychiatry & Human Behaviour, Brown University, Providence, USA, and will discuss circadian neuro-physiology and disorders, particularly in adolescence (sleep across time). Dr Mary Morell is Senior Lecturer in Sleep Physiology, National Heart & Lung Institute, Imperial College, London, and will highlight aspects of sleep in the elderly and will also discuss the association between heart failure and sleep. Dr Ian Colrain is Director of the Human Sleep Research Program, Associate Director of the Center for Health Sciences at SRI International and Associate Professor at The University of Melbourne. He will discuss the (patho)physiology of the sleep EEG. Pamela Minkley is the Manager of Ingham Regional Center for Sleep & Alertness and past president (1995-96) of the Association of Polysomnographic Technologists (APT). Pam was integral in the development of the sleep technologist accreditation examination for the Board of Registered Polysomnographic Technologists (BRPT). Bonnie Robertson is Vice President of Clinical Operations for REM Medical and is the current President of the BRPT. Both Bonnie and Pam will discuss developments in the BRPT and explore training and standards within the laboratory. There will also be local guest speakers, including Professor Colin Sullivan who will present the Helen Bearpark Memorial Lecture marking the 25th Anniversary of the use of CPAP for obstructive sleep apnoea.

There will be two Post-graduate Courses held on Thursday October 4. An Introduction to Insomnia course will provide a practical and clinical focus to the management of insomnia and with a Target Audience of General practitioners, sleep physicians, advanced trainees, nurses and scientists / technicians whose clinical practice includes patients with insomnia but who do not practice predominantly in this area. Cornerstones of Sleep Medicine Technology will review key elements in polysomnography and sleep technology and is directed towards Polysomnography technologists / scientists interested in the Board of Registered Polysomnography Technologists (BRPT) examination, nurses, sleep medicine trainees and sleep physicians wishing to gain / refresh knowledge in polysomnography interpretation.

Registration and Abstract Submission
This meeting will see the introduction of On-line Registration (available soon) with the option of hard copy registration still available. Abstracts will be submitted On-line with a Closing Date for submission of July 16, 2006.

Details of the meeting and Post-Graduate Courses are available and links for Registration and Abstract Submission will soon be available on the website www.sleep.org.au.

Craig Hukins