

Dear Colleagues

Last month we enjoyed a very successful RACS ASC in Brisbane – thank you to the convenors Andrew Barbour and Iain Thomson (Upper GI), Thomas O' Rourke (HPB) plus George Hopkins and Jason Free (Obesity Surgery) - I'm sure all those who attended will agree that there was a great scientific and social program. The Section dinner was held (together with Transplant Surgery) at the spectacular Queensland Gallery of Modern Art.

This year the funds generated by the investment of the Upper GI, HPB and Obesity Surgery Fund enabled the Obesity Surgery College visitor Mr Shaw Somers to visit several centres in New Zealand and Australia prior to the ASC which was greatly appreciated by those centres. When the return on that fund is sufficient this support can be offered to further Section visitors in the future.

The Section website can be viewed at [http://www.surgeons.org/member-services/interest-groups-sections/upper-gastrointestinal-\(gi\),-hepato-pancreato-biliary-\(hpb\)-and-obesity-surgery/](http://www.surgeons.org/member-services/interest-groups-sections/upper-gastrointestinal-(gi),-hepato-pancreato-biliary-(hpb)-and-obesity-surgery/) and this site has direct links to the ANZGOSA/ANZHPBA/OSSANZ sites, the ANZGOSA audit and the Bariatric Surgery Registry.

The next ASC will be held in Adelaide (8 -12 May 2017) and the convenors are Tim Bright (Upper GI), Jacob Chisholm (Bariatric) and John Chen (HPB). I'd like to thank these convenors for accepting the time consuming and important task of preparing the program for the Congress. In 2018 the ASC will be held in Sydney (7 – 11 May).

**Current Committee Members are:**

|                   |                                   |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Ross Roberts      | Chair                             |
| Wendy Brown       | Deputy Chair                      |
| Neil Merrett      | Committee Member                  |
| Val Usatoff       | Committee Member                  |
| George Hopkins    | Committee Member                  |
| Arthur Richardson | Committee Member                  |
| Gary Crosthwaite  | Committee Member                  |
| Jacob Chisholm    | ASC 2017 Convenor (Bariatric) SA  |
| Tim Bright        | ASC 2017 Convenor (Upper GI) SA   |
| John Chen         | ASC 2017 Convenor (HPB) SA        |
| Garett Smith      | ASC 2018 Convenor (Bariatric) NSW |
| David Links       | ASC 2018 Convenor (Upper GI) NSW  |
| Vincent Lam       | ASC 2018 Convenor (HPB) NSW       |

Some new committee members will be appointed in October this year and all members of the Section are eligible for a position on the committee if interested.

Please approach any of the committee if you would like an issue discussed or tabled at the ABM during the next ASC.

Finally I would like to thank Janet Devlin (Administrative Officer), Philip Vita (Manager, Fellowship Services) of the College Fellowship Services for their hard work plus Graham Spooner (Manager Library & Information) for his work in improving access to online journals for members.

Ross Roberts

Chair Upper GI, HPB and Obesity Surgery Section

### **Upcoming meetings**

ANZGOSA/SUGSS Combined Meeting Intercontinental, Double Bay, Sydney. 9 & 10 September 2016

Australasian Gastro-Intestinal Trials Group Annual Scientific Meeting Sofitel Melbourne on Collins, 14 – 16 September 2016

15<sup>th</sup> World Congress of ISDE – Singapore 19 – 21 September 2016

IFSO World Congress Rio de Janeiro September 28 – October 1<sup>st</sup> 2016

ANZHPBA Annual Meeting Sheraton Mirage Resort, Gold Coast. 24, 25 & 26 October 2016

OSSANZ Conference Doltone House, Jones Bay Warf, Sydney. 27 – 28 October 2016

RACS ASC 2017 Adelaide (8 -12 May)

RACS ASC 2018 Sydney (7 -11 May)

International Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association 13<sup>th</sup> World Congress, Geneva. 3 – 7 September 2018