



Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand (PSANZ)

ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022



PSANZ Secretariat C/- Corp Comm Pty Ltd

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ABOUT US

The Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand. This bi-national multidisciplinary Perinatal Society was founded in 1983 and is dedicated to improving the health and long term outcomes for mothers and babies.

The Society fosters communication and collaboration between all those involved in perinatal research and in the care of the mother and baby during pregnancy, birth and the postnatal period and offers professional, political, administrative and educational advice.

OUR MISSION

The Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand (PSANZ) is a multidisciplinary society dedicated to improving the health and long-term outcomes for mothers and their babies. PSANZ encompasses and strongly encourages research focused on mothers and babies during pregnancy and at birth as well as the health of the newborn as its development continues after birth.

The Society embraces the full scope of activity and reflects the many disciplines within perinatology including:

- Neonatologists
- Neonatal nurses
- Obstetricians
- Midwives
- Epidemiologists
- Scientists
- Developmental therapists/psychologists
- Surgeons
- Pathologists
- Paediatricians
- Allied Health clinicians
- Consumers
- Other health professionals involved in perinatology

OUR AIMS

We aim to:

- Advance the theory and practice of Perinatology
- Encourage training and research
- Provide expert advice to government and other bodies
- Collaborate with all relevant organisations or professions
- Establish and maintain positive relationships with relevant international bodies

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



PRESIDENT
Prof. Caroline Homer



PAST PRESIDENT
A/Prof Lynn Sinclair



**INCOMING
PRESIDENT**
Miranda Davies-Tuck



TREASURER
Prof. Jonathan Hirst



SECRETARY
Dr Glenn Gardener



DIRECTOR
Ngaire Anderson



DIRECTOR
Jane Alsweiler



DIRECTOR
Billie Bradford



DIRECTOR
Tanya Nippita



DIRECTOR
Karli Treyvaud

GOVERNANCE

CONSTITUTION

The Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand operates according to a constitution and the rules which govern the Society.

INCORPORATION

The Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand Limited is an Australian Public Company, Limited by Guarantee. The company has an ACN, ABN and Tax File Number. In addition PSANZ has tax exempt status but is not entitled to receive tax deductible gifts.

The corporate key number is held by the President for the lodgement of documents to the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC). Any changes in Office Bearers need to be notified to the ASIC.

SECRETARIAT

PSANZ appoints a Secretariat service to undertake the administrative business of the Society under the direction of the Executive.

Organisations contracted to provide Secretariat services:

Corp Comm Pty Ltd

SUBCOMMITTEES

- Australian Preterm Birth Prevention Alliance
- Conferences and Meetings
- Consumer Advisory Panel
- Early Career Research (ECR)
- Early Life Nutrition
- Equity Subcommittee
- Fetal & Neonatal Workshop
- Long-Term Outcomes of High-Risk Babies
- IMPACT Network
- Perinatal Ethics
- Perinatal Palliative Care
- Perinatal Substance Use
- Policy Subcommittee

MEMBERSHIP

PSANZ membership is valid from 1 January to December 31. Members joining or renewing after October 1 will automatically roll into the next year.

New Zealand members

Members of the Perinatal Society of New Zealand (PSNZ) automatically receive membership to PSANZ.

The membership benefits are:

- Discounted registration and access to member only travel grant and scholarship opportunities for the annual scientific congress held in major centres across Australia and New Zealand
- Regular newsletter from the PSANZ Board of Directors
- Information about upcoming international perinatal meetings
- The Geoffrey Thorburn Visiting Lecture Series – an annual event
- Opportunity to access travel grants
- Award opportunities – the society has a well-established track record of fostering new research by the award of several prizes
- Opportunity to network and collaborate with colleagues across disciplines
- Opportunities to join and participate in PSANZ subcommittees and related activities Development of research capacity via IMPACT concept development workshops and Early Career Researcher committee support

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2021 - 2022

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to present the Annual Report for the Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand 2021-2022. It has been another fascinating and very busy year. In particular, I would like to start this report with a huge thanks to everyone. Starting with a thank you to those of you in clinical practice working on the front line of maternal and newborn health – I know it has been such a challenging year with restrictions, COVID-19 vaccination challenges, COVID-19 illness and all the difficulties associated working in a challenging clinical and learning environment.

Thank you to those of you working in discovery or foundational science – trying to keep your labs going, your research moving forward while at home and unable to access work spaces and laboratories. To those of you working in public health and health systems research – trying to keep your research going despite all the challenges and limitations, managing working at home, not being able to travel to research sites and getting caught up with everyone thinking you are an armchair epidemiologist. Thank you to our consumer members – hearing about all the difficulties in the health system and continuing to advocate for women and babies must have been such a challenge. Everyone has done all of this and more while working from home, schooling children at home, living with the uncertainty of COVID-19 infection and trying to keep life as normal as possible. What a roller-coaster the last 2 years have been. Thank you to all our members – the midwives, obstetricians, neonatologists, paediatricians, laboratory scientists, epidemiologists, other researchers, ethicists, health system managers, policy makers and consumers.

We all hoped that the latter half of 2021 and into 2022 would be different to the COVID-19 affected year that 2020 was. Sadly, for most people in the world that was not the case and both our countries have struggled with lockdowns, an inability to travel for leisure or work and the challenges of a vaccine roll-out. The bright news was that both Australia and New Zealand have managed to vaccinate almost all our populations. The challenge of vaccine equity remains and many countries in our region have low vaccination rates. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused a huge amount of heartbreak and disruptions in our nearest Pacific neighbours, especially this year Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Papua New Guinea. We also now know that COVID-19 particularly affects pregnant women which has made vaccination in pregnancy even more urgent. The COVID-19 issues affect us all – personally, professionally, socially and globally.

I sincerely thank the Board of Directors, members of sub-committees and other members for their commitment, enthusiasm and support over this last year.

CONGRESS 2022

As you know, in 2021 we held a hugely successful Congress in the new virtual format. We are so fortunate this year to be able to host a face-to-face Congress in beautiful Adelaide. What a wonderful opportunity to come together, to see one another, to share stories, projects and findings and also to rebuild and strengthen so many connections and friendships. You could feel the sense of

relief across the Congress just to have this opportunity. I know not everyone who would normally come to PSANZ could this time – especially our New Zealand friends – we do so hope that the Melbourne 2023 Congress sees a more open world.

The Congress was very successful. We had more than 450 delegates and the feedback was very positive. Thank you to the incredible local organising committee who were amazing – managing all the challenges of COVID-life and dealing with all the uncertainties in the months leading up to the event. A shout out and huge congratulations to the Team 2022, Michael Stark (Chair), Alice Rumbold, Kathy Gatford, Anneka Bowman, Danielle Pollock, Ashley Meakin, Amanda Poprzeczny, Luke Grzeskowiak (Corp Comm, Ben Thompson, Nick Green and Samara Violani). Thank you also to members, delegates and sponsors for supporting the society during these last 2 challenging years. Planning for Congress 2023 in Melbourne is well underway.

AWARDS

Awards are an important part of a PSANZ Congress. They enable us to recognise achievements and provide opportunities for growth.

- Nursing and midwifery – Esther Calje \$500
- David Henderson-Smart - Tayla Penny - \$5,000
- ECR Travel
 - o Nhi Tran - \$600
 - o Keeth Mayakaduwege - \$600
 - o Ingird Petersen - \$600
 - o Mercy Thomas - \$600
 - o Natalie Liu - \$600
 - o Sheridan Guyatt - \$600
 - o Jackson Harrison - \$600
 - o Claudia Pedulla - \$600
 - o Elyse Mead - \$600
 - o Sophie St Clair - \$600
- New Investigator Awards (NIA)
 - o Discovery Science - Poster: Beth Piscopo
 - o Epidemiology - Poster: Alexandra Roddy Mitchell
 - o Midwifery - Poster: Courtney James
 - o Allied Health - Poster: Sara Mustafa
 - o Neonatology - Poster: Kristina Sibbin
 - o Obstetrics - Poster: Natalie Liu
 - o Allied Health - Oral: Danielle Wilson
 - o Basic science - Oral: Claudia Pedulla
 - o Epidemiology - Oral: Madison Andrew
 - o Midwifery - Oral: Karen McLaughlin
 - o Neonatal Nursing - Oral: Rachel Jones
 - o Neonatology - Oral: Kate Hodgson
 - o Obstetrics - Oral: Elyse Mead

- Presidents NIA Awards
 - o Best Oral: Michael Tanner
 - o Best Poster: Sharmony Kelly
- Cerebral Palsy Award - Sian Williams
- Ritchie Centre Award - Keeth Mayakaduwege
- Lalitha Gupta - Melissa Lai
- Judith Lumley – Esther Calje

SUBCOMMITTEES

The activities of PSANZ are largely driven through the work of the subcommittees. Our current subcommittees are:

- Australian Preterm Birth Prevention Alliance
- Conferences and Meetings Subcommittee
- Consumer Advisory Panel
- Early Career Research
- Early Life Nutrition
- Equity subcommittee
- Fetal Neonatal Workshop
- Long-term Outcomes of High-risk Babies
- IMPACT Network
- Perinatal Ethics
- Perinatal Substance Use
- Perinatal Palliative Care
- Policy Subcommittee

A huge thank you to the chairs, members and those who attend and support the work of the subcommittees. In the last month, I have met with a number of the subcommittees and I will continue to do this to ensure that we all work together effectively for the benefit of PSANZ.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

All the members of our Board are volunteers – members of the Society who are willing to put time and effort into ensuring our success. We will have two new Board members after this AGM and I look forward to working with them as we go forward.

Our current Board is:

President – myself (Midwifery)

President-elect – Dr Miranda Davies-Tuck (Epidemiology)

Treasurer – Professor Jon Hirst, University of Newcastle, New South Wales (Basic Science)

Secretary – Professor Glenn Gardner (Obstetrics)

Immediate Past President – Lynn Sinclair (Neonatal Nursing)

Ordinary Member – Billie Bradford (Midwifery)
Ordinary Member – Ngaire Anderson (Obstetrics)
Ordinary Member – Jane Alsweiler (Neonatology)
Ordinary Member – Dr Karli Treyvaud (Psychology)
Ordinary Member – Dr Tanya Nippita (Obstetrics)
Co-opted member – Dr Calum Roberts (ECR chair)
Co-opted member – Natalie Merida (CAP Representative)

SECRETARIAT

Our Secretariat this last year and into the next year is Corp Comm led by Ben Thompson, Anna Smith and their team. Thank you to Ben and Anna and the team for your hard work over this last year – It has been another challenging and interesting year and we look forward to continuing to work effectively to ensure PSANZ is strong and effective.

THE FUTURE OF PSANZ

We are a multidisciplinary society dedicated to improving the health and long term outcomes for mothers and their babies. PSANZ encompasses and strongly encourages research focused on mothers and babies during pregnancy and at birth as well as the health of the newborn as its development continues after birth. We are as a Society, committed and determined to make a difference.

PSANZ will only ever be as good as its members, its sub-committees, its workshops and Congresses. We all can play a role in ensuring that we are a strong and vibrant society that is sustainable into the future. The last few years of COVID-19 have been especially tough and it is only through the support of our members that we have got through this time. Thank you to everyone who has hung in there, supported and contributed to the mission of PSANZ and to all the new members.

Being a not-for-profit organisation does not mean that we cannot make a profit – indeed we must and should as that is the only way we will have the resources to do the work that we know is so important. Please continue to support us – help us attract new members, ensure that Congress is a huge success by coming and encouraging others to come or join online and see what you can do to promote and support PSANZ to ensure we can achieve our visions for a better society. Together we will always be stronger.

Best wishes

Caroline Homer



CONGRESS 2022

The event featured over 600 registrants, including abstract presenters, guests, students, company representatives and online participants.

We can all agree it was fantastic seeing everyone together again and sharing their latest research and findings.

A big thank you from everyone at PSANZ for everyone who contributed. The PSANZ members, the presenters, chairs, judges, panellists, students, and volunteers all took time out of their busy schedules to help bring this congress together.

Thank you also to all our sponsors and partners for making this event happen in Adelaide.



**Better
Together**

Collaborative Care, Research & Guidelines

PSANZ 2022 Annual Congress | 15th - 18th May 2022
Adelaide Convention Centre | www.psanz2022.com.au

PERINATAL
SOCIETY
of Australia &
New Zealand
PSANZ

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Sub-committee	Online Report
Australian Preterm Birth Prevention Alliance	<i>Not available</i>
Conferences and Meetings	<i>Not available</i>
Consumer Advisory Panel	Download here
Early Career Research (ECR)	Download here
Early Life Nutrition	<i>Not available</i>
Equity Subcommittee	<i>Not available</i>
Fetal & Neonatal Workshop	<i>Not available</i>
Long-Term Outcomes of High-Risk Babies	Download here
IMPACT Network	Download here
Perinatal Ethics	Download here
Perinatal Palliative Care	Download here
Perinatal Substance Use	Download here
Policy	Download here
Stillbirth Centre of Research Excellence (Stillbirth CRE)	Download here

TREASURERS REPORT

The society has now recovered from its concerning financial position following the aftermath of the pandemic and the Adelaide meeting that did not make a major profit. The Society is now in a very solid financial position largely because of the unexpected high number of registrations for the Melbourne meeting and the resultant substantial (~\$40,000) profit. In addition, our membership numbers have grown substantially which has resulted in a significant increase in membership fees (currently A&NZ 636 members). The good outcome from the congress partly resulted from the solid sponsorship support as well as the very careful management by the LOC and Corpcomm of the >\$700,000 congress budget. The auditor's report for the year ending Dec 2022 has been received and approved and shows our equity position at \$297,126 at year end which is a decrease from the previous year (\$353,475). Our position post-congress has improved markedly to \$351,724 (19th June 2023). A very good position going forward toward the 2024 Christchurch meeting. It is important to note the significant proportion of our equity is held on behalf our subcommittees. This commitment has decreased due to the greater activity and expenditure of the sub-committee's post-pandemic. This is appropriate as these funds are to be used for their intended purpose of supporting subcommittee meetings and related activities. Our current financial position will allow us to continue running the congress comfortably (It is estimated that \$150,000 -160,000 is needed up-front for payments for organising the annual congress prior to significant registrations coming in). There is also sufficient equity to cover any years where the congress may not do as well as planned. The example of COVID highlights how important maintaining solid equity is for allowing for the ongoing running of our congress after any financial shortfall (funds for this contingency is held in the term deposit). The ongoing budget 2023/24 will largely be focused on the Christchurch meeting which will be supported by a generous assistance package negotiated with the Christchurch Congress Centre. This suggests we should make a small profit from this meeting. This and our growing membership should allow us to continue our activities and start some initiatives around raising the profile of the Society including a much needed website update. Some key points are summarised on the next page.

TREASURERS REPORT CONTINUED

Total equity (June 19th 2023)

Term deposit \$151,344

Cash \$140,426

Prepaid expenses toward congress and other debtors \$59,795

Total \$351,565

Of the total equity funds held for subcommittees represents \$149,134

Budget 2023-2024

Congress income \$40,000

Membership \$68,000

Prize contributions \$7,000

Sponsorships outside congress \$5,000

Total income 120,000

Expenses

Secretariate \$78,600

Office \$2,000

Prizes and awards (inc GDT travelling fellowship) \$18,000

Website and Media profiles 10,000

Auditing \$7,000

FAOPS Fees \$650

Total expenses \$116,250

Net Profit(loss) = \$4,750 (on the basis of the congress profit)

Thank you

Prof Jonathan Hirst





CORP COMM
EVENTS | ASSOCIATIONS | COMMUNICATIONS

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