

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

February 1992

Welcome to the 10th National AGM of the Australia and New Zealand Society for Cell Biology Incorporated. We are honoured to have had this well-planned meeting held in conjunction with the Australian Society for Electron Microscopy in view of our appreciation that, like the two sides of a coin, cellular structure and function are integrally related on all levels of biological organisation. This is the first time we have ever met in Western Australia and this fortunate collaboration, hosted by our representatives on the Planning Committee, Drs Miranda Grounds and George Yeoh, has made it all possible.

You may know that our Society was officially incorporated in the A.C.T. during the previous administration. The major reasons for this was to limit member liability and to allow our organisation to be recognized as a tax-exempt, non-profit scientific and educational organisation. Our current Executive Committee has also made a considerable amount of progress during its two-year administration.

We have held two very successful national meetings in Adelaide (1991) and in Perth (1992) and we sponsored a cell biologist for a Perth workshop held in 1990. By convening from time-to-time in areas outside of the largest metropolitan areas, cell biology can be enjoyed by a greater number of delegates, thus strengthening the ANZSCBI as a national organisation. We are grateful to the Perth organizers and to Dr. Keith Dixon for finding ways to hold these stimulating meetings with balanced budgets. We also acknowledge Keith's volunteer work for the ANZSCBI in putting out a quarterly newsletter over the past years. By obtaining corporate advertising he has succeeded in making the newsletter self-funding which has helped to hold our subscription costs down, making ours one of the least expensive scientific societies in the ANZ region.

We have submitted the ANZSCBI Constitution to legal review to make it comply with the new Associations Incorporation Act of 1991 as well as to make it more descriptive of our actual operation and this has required it to be extensively revised.

We have enlisted the help of one of Sydney's most distinguished graphics design firms to produce a new logo depicting fluorescein-labelled cytofilaments which will give our Society a more professional image.

We have purchased database software; our Secretary has cleaned up the membership list and entered it with a record of dues payments onto disk so the up-to-date information can be more easily transferred to the new Administration.

We have instituted new policies which will tighten up the Society's administration and facilitate the smooth transfer of duties to the incoming Executive Officers. We have also instituted the practice of Executive Meeting by Conference Telephone Call and have suggested ways to increase our membership.

Finally, we have participated in the formation of the Asian-Pacific Organisation for Cell Biology which will be holding its second Congress in Sydney at Darling Harbour in 1994, hosted by the ANZSCBI.

We have had a very fine and enthusiastic Executive Committee representing New Zealand and all of the states of Australia and I ask you to join me in thanking them for their participation in the running of our Society.

Judie Walton, Ph.D. Date

ANZSCB President 1990-1992