

NZSSD Presidents Report

Patrick Manning, June 2009

It is a pleasure to provide this final report to you all. I will keep it brief. The Society is in good order however the next few years could be demanding in terms of keeping the new initiatives that have been instigated viable with our current limited income stream.

The major news items to report are:

1. NZSSD Executive to have national representation.

The next Executive will have representatives from different regions of New Zealand. This makes putting together an Executive much easier but potentially creates issue with respect to meetings. Constitution amendment required to reduce the number of required face to face meetings per year. This will allow for regional issues to become much clearer to the Executive.

2. NZSSD Medical Director

At last we have a Medical Director beginning from this meeting onwards for the next 12 months. This has taken a significant amount of time to sort out but finally the contract is signed and sealed for the next 12 months. A funding stream needs to be identified for this position to be an on-going reality.

3. NZSSD signs contract with ENCDR for Secretariat services

A contract for 1 year has also been signed for the next 12 months for the Edgar National Centre for Diabetes Research to provide secretariat services to NZSSD. This will substantially reduce the workload of the Executive.

4. Membership

Membership has slowly increased from 320 to 360 members over the last 2 years. An initiative has been introduced to increase primary care membership which is having a good effect.

5. Financial Position

The Society has a total of ~\$240K compared to ~\$140K 3years ago.

6. Xenotransplantation

The Minister has approved the trial for xenotransplantation to proceed. It is important that NZSSD try to be involved in the steering group to determine the efficacy of this research.

7. Workforce

The workforce survey results are now on the website and the Minister has been informed of the results and NZSSD's concern about the inadequacy of the workforce and the regional variability.

8. Newsweet

I would like to thank Nicole McGrath for her editorship of Newsweet over the past few years. She has created an excellent series of publications. Nicole has recently resigned from this post and the new Executive will be looking at finding a replacement.

9. Strategic Plan

The NZSSD Strategic Plan has been reviewed and updated. All of the objectives and targets that had been set 2 years ago have been achieved. The next Executive will need to review the Plan again and set their own goals and targets for the next few years.

10. Diabetes New Zealand

The relationship with DNZ has been very strong over the last few years and both Societies work together in a cooperative and successful manner. This will be enhanced further with the NZSSD Medical Director providing advice to DNZ.

11. Conference 09

This conference has been extremely well organised and I would like to thank Steph Farrand and her organising committee for their hard work. The introduction of the Primary Care stream and the Registrars Course has been a great idea and hopefully will continue in the future.

Finally I would like to thank all the members of the Dunedin Executive who have worked tirelessly for the Society over the past 5 years. I wish the next Executive all the best and hope that the Society continues to go from strength to strength.