



PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

During the year from May 2000 to May 2001 IMSANZ has seen numerous developments.

The General Medicine document has now been produced and members are welcome to contact our secretariat to obtain copies for their own use and local distribution. Les Bolitho has prepared a presentation on the document which is available from him via email. In NZ the document has been quite widely circulated to Health managers, Politicians, and consumer groups. We have also been making non-physician groups aware of the document.

The larger and more challenging task of distribution in Australia is about to begin in earnest as Les Bolitho takes on the IMSANZ presidency.

We have continued to make progress with the General Medicine trainee group. Two of them, one from each side of the Tasman, attended the European Advanced Trainee course in Alicante with the support of Pharmaceutical company finance. The number of Advance Trainee presentations at our meetings continues to increase, and we have advocated promotion of General Medicine trainees as a necessity in future workforce planning in Australasia.

We have held a scientific meeting on the South Queensland coast at Twin Waters resort last September when the planned meeting for Fiji was cancelled because of the political situation there. This has interfered with our plans to support General Medicine in the South Pacific, though we will continue to keep this in mind.

We also held a meeting at Hunua, south of Auckland in March of this year. Both of these meetings were very successful. Grateful thanks, to the speakers and organisers of these meetings. They are having a good effect on building up the culture of the group. We thank our meeting sponsors for their generous support over the last twelve months.

The newsletter has been published twice in this period and continues to be a major means of communication about issues relating to General Medicine. Peter Greenberg is planning to retire from editorship soon, and Michelle Levinson will join Thom Thompson as they take over as editors. We wish Michelle all the best in this role, and offer our support.

There have been some secretarial issues relating to physical restructuring in the college which has led to some disruptions and challenges for the IMSANZ secretariat. Cherie McCune, who has done an outstanding job for IMSANZ retired last year and has been replaced by Lyn Aberly, who has slotted into a new role for her, in a very able way. We thank Cherie for all her good work, and welcome Lyn hopefully to a long career with IMSANZ.

We continue to lobby for the General Medicine cause through numerous channels with varying success.

We plan to increase slightly, and restructure Council a bit in the next twelve months. Bruce King has accepted the role of NZ Vice President, and I wish Les Bolitho all the best in his new role as IMSANZ president. I know he will continue to make an outstanding contribution to IMSANZ.

Neil Graham.
President.