

The Australian Hand Surgery Society

THE HANDSHAKE



NEWSLETTER

President's Report

As we wind up (or down) to the end of the year, there are some society questions to act on soon, and some others to think about over the summer break.

The more urgent things include planning your attendance and participation in the 3rd combined AHSS/ASSH meeting that will be held in Maui from May 1-4. Eugene Ek and Randy Bindra together with Sanj Kakar and Claire Manske are convening the meeting.

Registration and abstract submission are open now via <https://www.assh.org/2024-assh-ahss/s/>

The venue is the beachfront Westin Hotel on Ka'anapali Beach. While the tragic wildfire devastated nearby Lahaina in August, Ka'anapali wasn't affected, and the local residents are welcoming tourists back to Maui. The social calendar for the meeting will include Hand Surgery's version of the President's Cup on the Thursday at Royal Ka'anapali Golf Club and a feast on the Friday night of the meeting.

The academic programme will be comprehensive and includes plenary and breakout sessions. Eugene and Randy will be contacting members to participate as moderators and speakers. Please get your abstracts together and submit them early and contribute to what is our annual meeting for this year and sure to be a great opportunity to

catch up with our American friends. Please contact Eugene, Randy or myself either directly or through the society if you have any questions.

In addition to the recent communication about the upcoming meeting, you will see in your inbox a survey from the AHSS. As a board we are aiming to remain aligned with the priorities of the membership and this survey will help guide the direction the board takes with respect to expenditure and effort on behalf of the society. Please fill this out – it is only a brief survey. It is an opportunity for the membership to have direct input into the decisions made on your behalf by the board.

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David McCombe
AHSS President

The other pressing issue to consider is whether to seek nomination for the AHSS board and other important roles within the society. At next year's meeting, Jeff Ecker will be retiring from the board after 8 years of service including being both Secretary and President. Randy Bindra will also be stepping down as a Director having served 4 years. The society is grateful to both Randy and Jeff for all of their work during what has been a challenging period for the society and have both made their marks upon the society. As a result there will be a vacancy for the President Elect position and also for non executive directors. We also have vacancies for other non-board positions that will contribute to the society. We have a strong society with enormous talent within the ranks of the membership and volunteering some time is a rewarding way to give back and grow the society. If you have any interest in participating in either the board or other roles, please contact me (President@ahss.org.au) or Jenny Green (secretary@ahss.org.au).

As to the longer term issues, the Board has been working on a number of fronts to improve the governance and financial security of the society. As Jenny's report in this newsletter has detailed, under Libby Anderson's direction we have undertaken a review of our financial position, which happily is secure, and also have looked to review our current constitution to streamline the process of election and also to ensure compliance with current standards of corporation governance. There is further work to be done on budget expenditure and constitutional reform. When we have put together clear proposals as to both of these areas we will be circulate these so we can enact them – probably at the 2025 meeting rather than next year.

Please contact the society if you have any concerns or questions – we will do our best to sort things out.

As the year comes to an end, I would like to thank the members of the board and the other members of the society who volunteer their time on various committees to ensure the AHSS continues to educate, foster fellowship and promote the practice of Hand surgery. I would like to especially thank our administrative staff, Trudy Wapling and Tracey Richter, who make it all work smoothly and without fuss.

Have a great and safe Christmas and Holiday break, See you all in Hawaii!



Secretary's Report

Jennifer Green, AHSS Secretary

Member Survey

You will have received a short survey from the AHSS Board. Please complete the survey as your feedback is vital to shaping the strategic direction of the AHSS – where the Board invests time, resources and member funds.

Constitution Update

The AHSS Board have received the first draft of the revised AHSS Constitution from Matthew Payne of HWL Ebsworth Lawyers. The Board will be informing the members of the proposed changes over the next 12 months with voting on the changes to take place at the 2025 AHSS meeting in Perth. The changes will include recommended processes for the election of officers to the board & possible changes to the terms of Board Members. The new constitution will comply with the Australian Charities & Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) recommendations. The ACNC is the government regulator to which AHSS is answerable.

State Hand Society Engagement

The AHSS Board aims to increase engagement and collaboration with the State Hand Societies. Over the next year the President and Board Members shall be providing a short update and opportunity for Q & A at State ASMs. Your feedback as to how AHSS can best support State Societies would be greatly appreciated.



Financial Strategy

The AHSS is fortunate to have Libby Anderson as the new Treasurer. Libby brings a valued skill set to the Board with a Bachelor of Commerce and has already completed a thorough review of AHSS finances and proposed several strategic questions to the Board (and the membership via the recent survey) as to how we should best utilise AHSS funds.



Meet a Member - Paul Jarrett - Active member AHSS

Why did you join AHSS?

Whilst I undertook my basic surgical training in Australasia, my advanced Orthopaedic training and Hand Fellowship were undertaken in the United Kingdom. On returning to Australia, I wished to become an active member of the Australian hand surgery community and believed being involved in the AHSS would contribute. The membership is very collegiate and the annual meetings are at a world class standard and it has been very enjoyable to be a member.



Do you have any particular areas of interest in hand surgery practice/research?

Ultrasound – Eight years ago, I trained in diagnostic and interventional ultrasound and have had a high-definition ultrasound machine in my practise since. It has been useful for my patients to have instant access to sonography. Particularly in the post-operative scenario, the surgeon knows the operative anatomy and immediately post-operative repair anatomy better than anyone else, so the operative surgeon is often the most useful person to be performing such ultrasounds. More recently I trained in ultrasound guided surgery in France which is an expanding field.

Endoscopic surgery – Dr Hofmann from Germany was kind enough to come to Perth for an endoscopic ulnar nerve decompression workshop many years ago. Soft tissue endoscopic surgery gives excellent intra-operative visualisation, and therefore good safety, whilst reducing soft tissue trauma and thus hopefully enabling a more rapid recovery or improved results compared to a more open approach. Since learning endoscopic nerve decompression, I have expanded soft tissue endoscopy in my practice into several areas such as tendon transfers including as EIP to EPL, compartment releases in chronic compartment syndrome and distal biceps repair all of which I have published on.

Lateral epicondylitis – my research group has previously studied scaphoid fracture and minimally invasive distal biceps repair and rehabilitation and we are currently moving on to studying “tennis elbow” and are about to commence a randomised trial comparing no treatment versus physical therapy versus surgery in patients with severe symptoms.

Where did you do Fellowship training and what were the highlights?

I undertook a BSSH interface (combined Plastics and Orthopaedic) at the Saint Andrews Centre for Plastic Surgery, Chelmsford, United Kingdom 12 months with Mr David Elliot, Mr Manu Sood and Mr Greg Packer. One highlight was the good volume of microvascular surgery given the relative lack of this during an orthopaedic training program. Another highlight was observing Mr Packer’s simplicity and clarity in operative surgery; each part of the operation had a very clear purpose with no faffing and whilst this is a common trait, he was especially good at it.

How do you define success?

Setting out to do something good, something that will make a difference, and achieving it, getting it right first time.

Who is your biggest inspiration and why?

It has been an honour to work with so many excellent surgeons during training and since. However, my biggest inspiration was Professor Rolfe Birche, from the Royal National Hospital in the United Kingdom, who unfortunately died earlier this year.

Technically he was an astonishingly good surgeon, a master diagnostician and he was wonderful with his patients, peers and juniors. He was a gifted educator and very generous with his time. However, what set him apart from others was his extraordinary curiosity in everything and everyone in life. This resulted in all interactions with him being intensely interesting and his breath of knowledge in medicine and in general was gargantuan. He made such a difference to so many people.

How has AHSS helped you throughout your career?

By introducing and connecting me to excellent hand surgery colleagues throughout Australia and globally, and consistently maintaining these friendships.

What have been your personal career highlights?

I am afraid my biggest highlight had nothing to do with hand or even orthopaedic surgery. Whilst a junior general surgery registrar, undertaking a night shift in New Zealand, I was walking down a corridor and heard a horrible groan from a patient's room. Popping into the room to investigate, the patient was barely conscious, and in a bad way. After getting his notes and involving the nurses, it turned out that the patient was near death with hypovolaemic shock after having been kicked in the abdomen earlier that day by a horse. Taking him straight to theatre for a laparotomy, being joined there by my consultant, I was guided through my first major abdominal surgery, removed his spleen and certainly saving his life. I liked the fact that being nosy resulted in a calamity being avoided.

What advice would you give to new Members of AHSS?

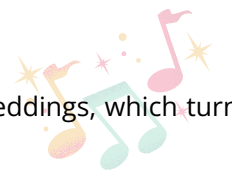
Network with your peers and be involved with things you think are important.

What advice would you give your younger post-fellowship self?

Find something(s) special professionally to keep you interested, as you're likely to be doing the same job for several decades. Whether it be a research or teaching based activity, or a sub-specialty. And don't universally say yes to things. Work out what is important for you and don't let less important things crowd out the most important things in both your professional and private life. People mentioned this to me when finishing training, but it took a few years to put this advice into action: after 3 years of being a consultant, I kept missing my swim squad as referrers would ask me to look after patients and I'd end up operating on them missing my swims. My wife said to me "Hey Paul, do you make time to shower every day" and of course I replied "Yes", with her replying "So you make time in your day for important things" to which I replied "Yes". To which she replied, "Is swimming important to you?" making a good point and thereafter I didn't miss my swimming.

Tell us a fun fact about yourself that not many people know?

I attended DJ night school a couple of years ago and have since been DJing at parties and weddings, which turns out to be wickedly fun. However, I shan't be giving up my day job any time soon.



The AHSS Executive Board

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General Board Member

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Secretary

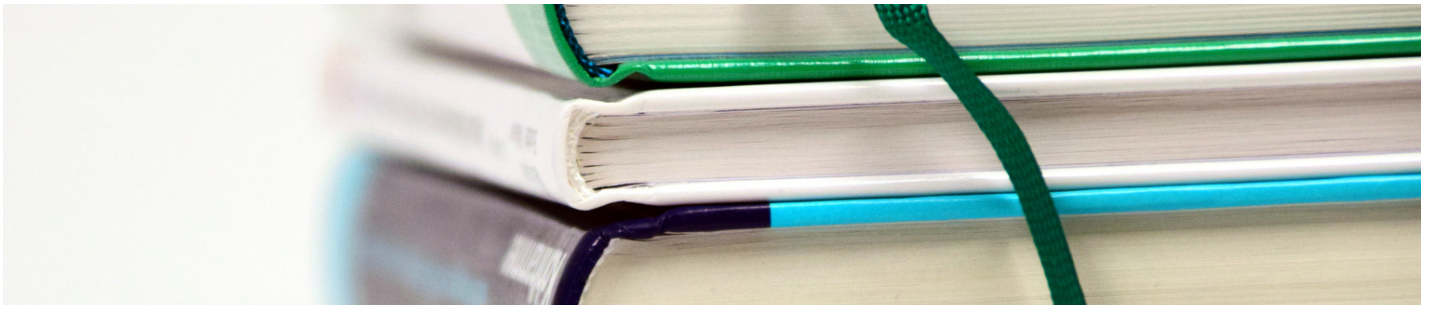
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Education Committee Update - Randy Bindra

2024 is shaping up to be a year for exotic travel for members of the AHSS!

The 2024 annual meeting of the AHSS from May 1-4 at the Westin Maui Resort will be an exciting educational event in combination with the ASSH in Hawaii. The robust scientific program in the mornings is balanced by free afternoons for making it an enjoyable island getaway. We will face off with the Americans on the podium at the Ashes competition and on the golf course at the Presidents cup. All sessions include a mix of free papers, invited expert talks and podium discussions for maximum interaction and learning experience. After the

devastating August fires in Lahaina-the island of Maui and the resorts are back to business as usual and encourage tourism to help bolster the rebuilding efforts of the island. Please show your support by attending in large numbers. [Here](#) is the website and [here](#) is the direct link to registration.

The Indian Hand Surgery Society (ISSH) have invited the AHSS as one of the guest societies to be a part of their annual conference from October 4-6, 2024, in Bengaluru (Bengalore). There will be an opportunity for pre and post organised tours to visit sights both in the south and the north with, of course, an opportunity to visit the Taj Mahal. Greg Couzens and Brett McClelland will coordinate the Australian participation- please reach out to them if you would like to be a participant.



2024 COMBINED MEETING OF THE ASSH AND THE AHSS



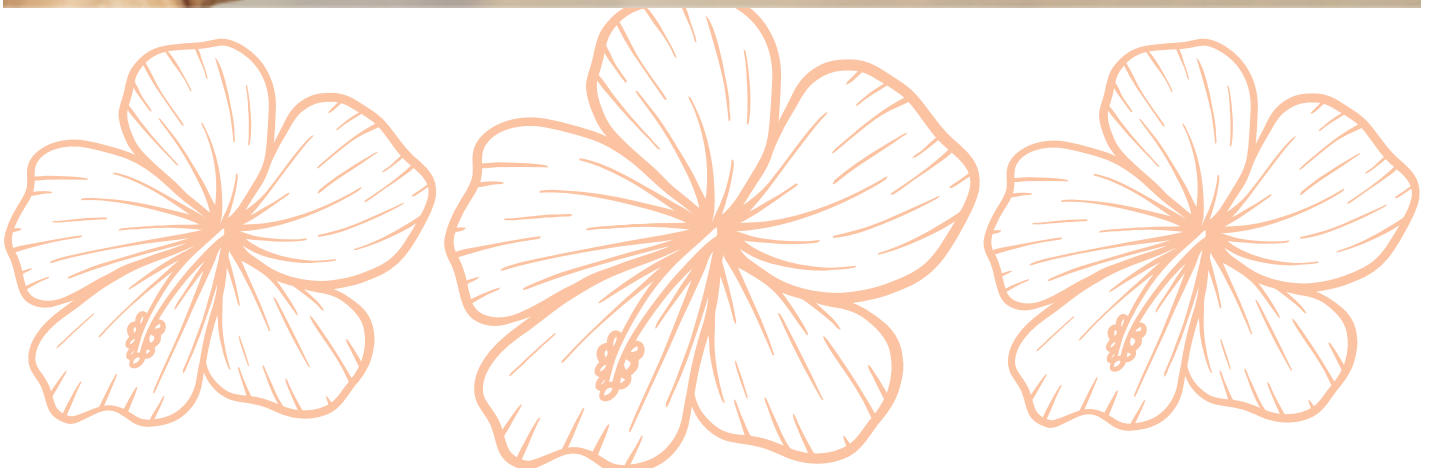
INNOVATIONS

ACROSS THE PACIFIC *in* HAND SURGERY

MAY 2-4, 2024 | THE WESTIN MAUI RESORT & SPA, KA'ANAPALI

Maui, Hawaii



An Update From The Convenor - 2024 AHSS ASM - Maui, Hawaii

It is with great pleasure that I invite you all to come and be part of the 2024 Combined ASSH/AHSS Meeting held in the beautiful island of Maui, Hawaii from May 1st - 4th, 2024. As many of you know, the island was devastated by wildfires in August, but we have been assured that the Maui community are rapidly rebuilding and by the time of the conference, it is expected that everything will be up and running as per normal. Our attendance the meeting will certainly be a great opportunity to support the local residents of Maui as they revive their community.



Eugene Ek

Randy Bindra and myself have been working hard with Sanj Kakar (ASSH) to come up with an innovative, interactive and stimulating program, covering all aspects of hand and upper extremity surgery with a truly distinguished faculty from both the

USA and Australia. We believe that we will have an exciting program that will live up to the theme of the meeting which is "Innovations in Hand Surgery".

Like all previous ASSH/AHSS meetings in the past, this will be another fantastic opportunity to reconnect with our American colleagues and exchange ideas, establish enduring friendships and forge collaborations, against the backdrop of one of the most stunning places in the world.

Abstract submissions will be opening soon. Please pencil the date in your calendars and we look forward to seeing you all in Hawaii in May 2024!



IFSSH Delegate Update - *Roland Hicks*

IFSSH Council Meeting in Toronto, Canada on 5th October 2023

I had the opportunity to represent our Society at the national Delegates of the IFSSH Council meeting on 5th October, 2023 during the American Society for Surgery of the Hand Annual Scientific Meeting which was held in Toronto, Ontario.

The nominations of the Hand Surgery Societies of Georgia and United Arab Republic were accepted and these Societies were welcomed as new members of the International Federation.

The IFSSH office bearers are now assisted by five Members-at-Large, representing the different parts of the world: The Member-at-Large for the Asia Pacific region is our own Greg Bain.

In the fifteen years since I was last at the Delegates' meeting the funds of the IFSSH have increased significantly and I am encouraged to learn that these funds are being put to good use for educational and communication purposes.

The Committee for Educational Sponsorship provided grants which enabled surgeons and therapists from low and middle income countries to attend meetings; surgeons from Bangladesh, the Philippines and Tunisia were able to attend the World Symposium on Congenital Malformation. In Minneapolis, Minnesota; surgeons, trainees and therapists were able to attend the APFSSH Congress in Singapore in May and WALANT education was facilitated in Africa.

It contributed to the 2023 Harold Kleinert Travelling Professorship, awarded to Poland, with Jin Bo Tang as the Professor.

It is also contributing to the costs of a textbook, "Current Practice of Hand Surgery", to be available at the IFSSH Congress in Washington in 2025.

The Communications Director, Jin Bo Tang, our AHSS Guest Professor in Canberra in 2010, reported on upcoming changes on the website, including uploading over 300 educational videos from the IFSSH 2022 London Congress. He requested news of international relevance, stories from Pioneers and photos from national meetings, etc. The IFSSH is on X (Twitter) and Instagram at @IFSSHAnd.

An IFSSH Finance Sub-committee has been formed, comprising Greg Bain, Paco del Pinal and Jorge Clifton, three of the Members-at-Large, to explore fundraising initiatives to support the Federation's commitment to enhance hand surgery education and communication.

Meetings

The 15th Triennial IFSSH Congress in London in 2002 was a great success on all fronts. The first in Person international hand surgery congress since the APFSSH in Melbourne in 2020, attracted 3,700 registrants, including 32 surgeons from 30 countries who did a travelling fellowship of British centres before the congress, who honoured 28 IFSSH Pioneers, including Michael Tonkin, and who had the choice of 1,700 presentations, including 500 free papers, and participated in a busy schedule of social events. A highlight for me was seeing the painting by Hans Holbein, the Younger, of King Henry VIII presenting the Royal Charter to the Guild of Barber Surgeons when I attended the IFSSH President's Dinner at the Surgeons Banqueting Hall. (The painting had been moved to a Welsh mine for safekeeping during the Blitz in World War II.)

Upcoming Meetings

The 1st Mid-Term Course in Hand Surgery will be in Quito, Ecuador from 31st January to 3rd February 2024, with an instructional course of lectures and workshops in English. If you go I recommend that you visit the Galapagos Islands.

The 16th Triennial IFSSH Congress will be in Washington, D.C. from 23rd to 28th March, 2025 in cherry blossom season. Planning is well advanced. Some of you will be approached to participate in symposia, moderate sessions, etc. A full social program is in preparation and registration fees will be equivalent to the fees in London. Similarly to London, a pre-congress travelling fellowship will visit East Coast hand surgery centres. The 17th Triennial IFSSH Congress will be in Singapore in 2028.

The Federation congratulated the Indian Society for Surgery of the Hand which is celebrating its 60th Anniversary this year.

The next Delegates Council meeting will be during the FESSH congress in Rotterdam in June next year.

Upcoming Meetings

FUTURE AUSTRALIAN MEETINGS

2024	Date	Location	Convenors
AHSS/ASSH Combined ASM	May 1-4	Westin, Maui, USA	Eugene Ek (AHSS) & Sanj Kakar (ASSH)
AOA ASM	Oct 13-17	Brisbane, QLD	
RACS ASC	May 6-10	Christchurch, NZ	
2025			
AHSS ASM	Apr 30 TBC	Perth, WA	Paul Jarrett & Sharon Chu

FUTURE INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

2024	Date	Location
FESSH	June 26-29	Rotterdam, The Netherlands
ASSH	Sep 19-21	Minneapolis, USA
ISSH	Oct 4-6	Bangalore, India
APWA	Nov 15-16	Taipei, Taiwan
2025		
IFSSH	Mar 24-28	Washington DC, USA
FESSH	June 25-28	Helsinki, Finland
APFSSH	Sep 10-13	Chennai, India
ASSH	Oct 9-11	Vancouver, Canada



AHSS Travelling Fellow



Brahman Sivakumar - 2023 AHSS Travelling Fellow

I had the privilege of being awarded the AHSS travelling fellowship for 2024 and chose to utilize it early in a trip to the United States in September and October of this year. My fellowship was focussed on gaining experience in the use of targeted muscle reinnervation [TMR] for pain reduction and myoelectric prosthetic control in upper and lower extremity amputees, an area in which I have some interest. Using the transfer of residual nerves to new muscle targets that have otherwise lost their function, TMR provides biological amplifiers for myoelectric detection once the target muscle reinnervates, and also decreases the formation of neuromas [by giving the nerves 'somewhere to go and something to do']. The majority of innovation and research in this field has occurred in the US, and is funded by the Department of Defence due to vast numbers of military veteran amputees.

I spent two weeks at each of Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, OrthoCarolina in Charlotte and Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago, and also managed to sneak in some research time at UCLA in Los Angeles, as well as attend the ASSH conference in Toronto.

MGH is huge [over 100 theatres!] and full of history – the Ether Dome, where the world's first anaesthetic was delivered in 1846, remains intact and functions as an auditorium for lectures and grand rounds to this day. I spent my time with Ian Valerio and Kyle Eberlin, plastic surgeons who have helped revolutionize this field, shadowing them in both clinics and theatres.

I then flew to Toronto for the ASSH conference, which lived up to its reputation as one of the premier educational meetings in our field. Highlights included the presidential speech by Jennifer Moriatis Wolf, watching our own Tanya Burgess present her work on complications following radiotherapy for dupuytren's disease in the best paper section, the spasticity symposium, and the TMR cadaveric pre-course.

From there, it was onto Charlotte, North Carolina. Southern hospitality is real, and I greatly enjoyed my time in the relaxed Queen City with Glenn Gaston and Bryan Loeffler of OrthoCarolina. I gleaned many insights from their multidisciplinary clinic and approach to

amputee care, and picked their brains about the Starfish procedure they have devised to provide individual digital prosthetic control in partial hand amputations.



I also spent a day at the Hanger Clinic, a leading orthosis company, learning from the prosthetists.

My final visit was with the godfather of TMR, Greg Dumanian, and his partner Jason Ko, at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago, Illinois, where I was able to discuss the basic science behind TMR, as well as witness their newer innovations.

It wasn't all work – I went to a couple of NBA games [including the Chicago Bulls season opener at the United Centre], saw the Bruins play at the TD Garden, did a number of city tours [including the amazing architectural tour in Chicago], ate out too much, and saw Hamilton in theatre. Most importantly, I made many friends, mentors and contacts from all around the world, who I look forward to visiting or vice versa in the future. I found the AHSS travelling fellowship an invaluable experience and want to thank the membership and board for this opportunity. I encourage others to undertake it should the opportunity arise.



AHSS MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

Dear AHSS Member,
If you haven't already done so, the AHSS Board would be grateful if you could take a short time to complete this Membership Questionnaire which has been designed to seek the membership's views as to the direction of the activities that the Society is undertaking on their behalf, and the success (or otherwise) of the board in communicating and achieving the society's goals. The survey will be anonymous.

Survey Link: [Complete Survey here](#)

Introducing the Western Australian Society of Hand Surgery

Dear Members of the National Hand Surgery Community,

We are delighted to introduce the Western Australian Society of Hand Surgery, a vibrant and dynamic group committed to advancing knowledge and expertise in hand surgery. With approximately 40 members, our society brings together professionals from both orthopedic and plastic surgical disciplines, fostering a diverse and collaborative community.

Connecting Through Four Annual Meetings

The foundation of our society's activities is our four annual meetings held throughout the year. These gatherings serve as a vital platform for our members to connect, share their expertise, and remain at the forefront of developments in hand surgery.

July: The Month of Our Annual Scientific Meeting

Every year, the most anticipated event on our calendar is the Annual Scientific Meeting, traditionally scheduled for the last weekend of July. This meeting is the highlight of our year, and we are excited to share the details of this year's event.

Esteemed Guest Speaker: Professor Lin, Cheng Hung Luke

In 2023, we have the distinct honour of welcoming Professor Luke Chen, the distinguished Chief of the Division of Trauma and Emergency Surgery at the renowned Chang Gang Hospital. Professor Chen is not only a renowned hand surgeon but also a pioneering figure in the field. He is credited with being the first Taiwanese surgeon to successfully perform bilateral forearm transplantation and the first arm transplantation in Taiwan. During the first day of our annual meeting, Professor Chen, in conjunction with esteemed members of the local surgical and hand therapy society, shared their invaluable insights and research findings. Professor Chen, in particular, delved into his profound knowledge of various topics, including the reconstruction of mangled upper extremities, top-to-fingertip transfers, and hands/forearms transplantation.

Hands-On Learning: Cadaveric Laboratory Dissection

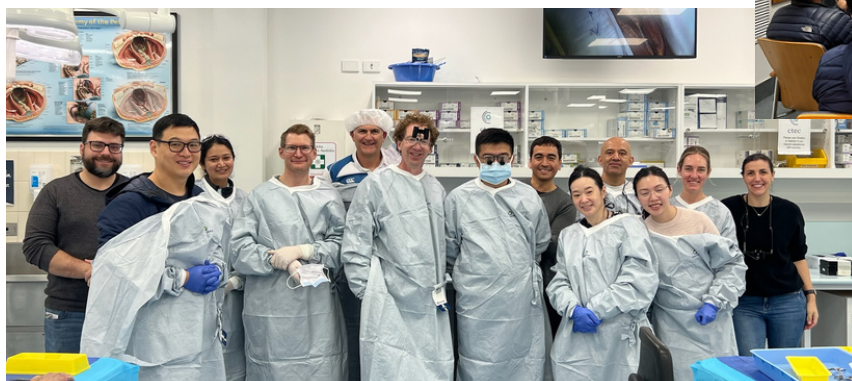
On the second day of the meeting, Professor Chen led a cadaveric laboratory dissection, providing local surgeons and trainee surgeons with a unique opportunity to learn and apply his techniques for flap and toe transfer surgeries. The event also featured live demonstrations of hand surgical techniques by local surgeons.

Looking Ahead to 2024

Our 2024 meeting promises to be an even more remarkable event, with a special focus on wrist arthroscopy. Registration for the meeting and abstract submissions typically open approximately two months before the event. We encourage all interested parties to mark their calendars for the last weekend of July 2024 and join us in Perth for what is sure to be an enlightening and enjoyable event.

The Western Australian Society of Hand Surgery warmly invites members of the national hand surgery community to join us for our annual ASM in 2024.

Warm regards,
Sharon Chu
President Elect,
Western Australian Society of Hand Surgery



Victorian Hand Surgery Society (VHSS) Annual Conference 2023

After 3 years of being unable to hold a face-to-face meetings in Victoria it was fantastic to be able to meet in person again for the 2023 Annual Meeting.

The attendance was fantastic with over 100 registrants, both surgeons and hand therapists coming to the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons for our one day event.

As our meeting is in November and the Australian Orthopaedic Association meeting was being held in Melbourne we had the great privilege of "sharing" their guests and had two fantastic international speakers giving up their time to speak for us.

Professor Ann Van Heest from University of Minnesota & Gillette Children's hospital and current President of the American Association of Orthopaedics. We were treated to two talks on congenital hand problems and associated syndromes and each of these talks generated wide discussion. It is clear she has a passion for her work, and it was inspiring listening to her.

Professor Scott Edwards Chief of Hand & Upper Extremity Surgery, Fellowship Director, University of Banner Medical Center, Phoenix Arizona.

Scott took on the daunting task of discussing DRUJ arthritis and carpal instability, focusing on scapholunate instability and reconstruction. Both of these topics remain unsolved and controversial and present us as clinicians significant challenges. His two talks stimulated a robust discussion about these issues and included a call to action to further investigate these difficult issues.

We also had Professor John Slavin a respected pathologist in Melbourne give us an update on bone tumours of the hand.

There were a breadth of talks from both surgeons and hand therapists from around Victoria and it was great to see the passion for treating hand and wrist problems from carpal tunnel, bone tumours, to fractures and hyperselective neurectomy. Everyone in attendance had something to take away from the day.

In my final event as President of the Society it gave me great pleasure in seeing new faces in the crowd as I pass my leadership on to Peter Maloney and incoming secretary David Syme, I know the society is in "good hands".

I look forward to more normal times when we can have our usual quarterly Tuesday night meetings and get together to foster that collegiality that we treasure.

Jason Harvey
President, VHSS



LEFT:
President Jason Harvey,
Professor Scott Edwards,
Professor Ann Van Heest,
Incoming President Peter
Maloney.

RIGHT:
Professor Scott Edwards



VHSS



香港手外科醫學會

HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR SURGERY OF THE HAND

18 Nov 2023

By E-mail

Secretary General and fellow members
Member Nations of APFSSH

Dear Sir / Madam,

Invitation to 2024 HKSSH Asian-Pacific Scholarship

On behalf of the Council of the Hong Kong Society for Surgery of the Hand, I am pleased to announce that the 2024 HKSSH Asian-Pacific Scholarship is now open for application.

This grant is intended to provide a one-off financial support to young hand surgeons from the Asian-Pacific region who wish to participate in the Annual Congress of our Society. Details of the Scholarship are as follows:

- Eligibility: Young surgeon in active practice of hand surgery and/or microsurgery applicable to orthopaedic practice
- Number of grants: 1
- Details: Registration fee of the Annual Congress and 2 nights hotel accommodation fee will be waived, with the following requirements:
 - o Participate in the Annual Congress of the HKSSH and the post-congress Week Programme (optional) personally.
 - o Present a scientific paper relevant to hand surgery or microsurgery applicable to orthopaedic practice during the Annual Congress.
 - o Participate in all social functions during the Annual Congress, depending on the travel restrictions and infection control measures.
- The applicant should be responsible for paying his/her own air ticket, transport fee and the remaining hotel accommodation fee during his/her stay in Hong Kong.
- To comply with local law on visitor visa entry, cash will not be granted directly to the applicant.
- Deadline for application: 31 December 2023, 17:00 (Hong Kong time).

To apply for this scholarship, please complete the attached application form and send it to the HKSSH Secretariat on or before the deadline at hksshsecretariat@gmail.com together with a brief curriculum vitae and an electronic copy (JPEG form) of your recent photo.

Successful candidate will be notified via email on or before 15 Jan 2024. Thank you for your interest in HKSSH Asian-Pacific Scholarship.

With best regards,

Dr Emily Yip
Honorary Secretary
HKSSH 2022-2024

[Application form](#)

Board Nominations Open

Dear AHSS Member,

Re: Australian Hand Surgery Society (AHSS) Board elections to be held at the AGM in Maui, Hawaii on 2 May 2024.

The positions of AHSS President-elect, and general Board member will become vacant and will be up for election at the Annual General Meeting to be held on the 2 May 2024 at the Annual Scientific Meeting in Maui, Hawaii USA.

Members who are interested in the role of President-elect or General Board member are invited to nominate for this position. Please contact the current President, David McCombe if you wish to know more about these roles. The AHSS Board meets every 3 months for a 1.5-2hr videoconference and holds a face-to-face meeting at the Annual Scientific meeting.

Please find the current terms of the Board Members below and consider applying, or nominating a colleague, for a future position on the AHSS board.

POSITION	NAME	ELECTED	ELECTION DUE
President	David McCombe	2022	
President-elect	Mark Ross	2022	2024
Immediate Past President	Jeff Ecker	2022	
Secretary	Jennifer Green	2022	2026
Treasurer	Libby Anderson	2023	2027
Board Member	Randy Bindra	2020	2024
Board Member	Sarah Tolerton	2022	2026
Board Member	Greg Bain	2022	2026

The AHSS constitution provides a transparent process to encourage all members to apply for a leadership role and contribute to the future direction of the AHSS.

Jennifer Green
Secretary
Australian Hand Surgery Society

[Nomination Form here](#)



Thank you to all members for your
continued support and
very best wishes to you,
your family and loved ones
for the
holiday season.
May it be merry and bright!

See you in 2024

