



Welcome to the sixth issue of the Australian Society for Simulation in Healthcare's (ASSH) newsletter. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep members informed of what is happening in the rapidly changing world of healthcare simulation in Australia. This newsletter provides an opportunity to provide information and also for you to share your experiences with others engaged in the use of simulation to improve healthcare.

1. Message from the Chair: Brian Jolly

I have had a most stimulating and enjoyable year as Chair of ASSH. During that time ASSH has engaged with a number of projects at government level, including the latest (see below). ASSH has also begun to revise its terms of reference to give members easier access to governance. The support staff Andrea Coulsell and Peter Hill have done an outstanding job in securing these projects and ensuring they run smoothly.

One of these is the establishment of a Simulation in Health Directory. I am very pleased to announce the launch of the Simulation in Health Directory at SimHealth next week. The launch of the directory is the first phase of the development of the Simnet.net.au portal (live from 11 September) which will provide a valuable interactive resource enabling inter-professional relationships and the sharing of simulation education resources.

The Simulation in Health Directory is the first national database of its kind in Australia providing a searchable database of Simulated Learning Environment (SLE) programs and providers.

The directory was developed through a national survey of SLEs completed in May 2012. A total of 147 on-site simulation providers in universities, TAFEs, hospitals and other health facilities across a number of health professions were identified. SLE programs and providers not yet included on the database are encouraged to register (see details below on how you can register your program).

The Simulation in Health Directory includes the following information for each listed SLE provider and program:

1. A general description of the SLE program or provider
2. Contact details so that you can contact the SLE program or provider for more information
3. A list of course categories available at the SLE provider or program including professional discipline, area of practice, topic and level
4. A list of common SLE courses and delivery methods



5. A list of accredited SLE courses, for example for professional college training programs
6. Information regarding the research undertaken by the SLE
7. List of the SLE technologies used by the SLE program/provider

The Simulation in Health Directory is managed by the Australian Society for Simulation in Healthcare (ASSH) with funds provided by Health Workforce Australia (HWA) as an Australian Government Initiative.

The project is part of HWA's Simulated Learning Environments (SLE) program which is helping raise awareness of simulation training opportunities and expertise in the areas of clinical training, research and patient care on a national basis.

How can SLEs register?

For more information and to be included in the directory, please contact Andrea Coulsell - The ASSH Project Officer

A Project Fact Sheet for the Simulation in Health Directory is attached.

We have also made much progress in working with our umbrella organisation Simulation Australia, to align the goals of the two organisations, in increasing memberships and in meeting the challenges of international and local fiscal pressures on our Conferences. To this end as a trial for 2013 we have arranged to run the SIMTECT and SIMHEALTH Conferences, in parallel, in Brisbane. By the time you read this we will have appointed a conference management organisation to assist us with this task. We want feedback from the membership, as we approach those conferences, and after they have been held, on how the collaboration worked for you; what benefits and challenges it presented, and if and how we should continue to take this forward.

After the AusSETT program, and ASSH's contribution, simulation in healthcare education is in a much more vibrant position in Australia. You may have noticed that Hunter Valley Health, and The University of Newcastle, now my employer, opened 'Chameleon', a new \$2 million Simulation and Clinical Skills Centre based at the John Hunter Hospital, right across from the even newer Hunter Medical Research Institute. There was also a major development at The University of Technology Sydney. These are just two of a stream of simulation facilities that will emerge across the country over the coming year as the result of the hard work and increased support of federal and local governments, health authorities, and academic and clinical staff, many of whom are ASSH members. I hope I'm not overstating the case to say this was, and will continue to be, a fantastic achievement. It was notably grounded in the foresight of senior members of ASSH



who persuaded ministers and others of the value of simulation to the health workforce.

The next phase of education developed by HWA will be the National Health Education and Training in Simulation program (NHET-SIM) see <http://www.nhet-sim.edu.au/> . It is very fitting that a major contributor to this crucial development, along with many ASSH members, is Debra Nestel, who will be your next Chair . In the year of the Olympics, I think it is more appropriate to hand over an ASSH flame to her, rather than a baton, as many of you who share UK heritage will know, we dropped ours. We all need to perfect our technique and train hard, and that is the major role that simulation will play in the 21st Century.

i am very much looking forward to working with my colleagues in Newcastle on some curricular developments that will showcase the real advantages of an approach to learning using simulation.

Best Wishes to you all and have a very productive next year.

Brian Jolly

Chair

2. ASSH Executive Committee - Elections:

ASSH Executive Committee for 2012-2013:

We are pleased to announce Michelle Kelly has been appointed to the position of Chair Elect for 2012-2013.

Office Bearers are:

Debra Nestel - Chair

Brian Jolly - Past Chair

Michelle Kelly - Chair Elect

Peter Hill - Treasurer

Andrea Coulsell - Secretary

Alisha Fisher - CEO Simulation Australia

Members of Good Standing are:

Leonie Watterson

Marcus Watson

Kirsty Freeman

Dylan Campher

Stephanie O'Regan

Julian van Dijk

Tess Vawser

Stuart Marshall



Jennifer Weller

Member of Good Standing vacancy (pending vote count)

Please remember the ASSH AGM is on Wednesday the 12th of September at the Hilton Hotel in Sydney at 5pm-6pm - Level 4, Room 5. We look forward to welcoming many members to the AGM.

3. SimHealth 2012 conference: Next week

After dinner speaker:

We are very pleased to announce our dinner speaker for this year is Assistant Professor Pamela Andreatta. Pamela works in the department of Obstetrics & Gynecology at the University of Michigan Medical School and travels extensively for work and research in rural Africa. Many of you may know Pamela as she has been a regular attendee of the SimHealth conference for many years. We hope to see you at the conference dinner on Wednesday evening the 12th of September at 7pm. The dinner is conveniently held at the Hilton hotel to avoid the need for travel.

4. Research awards:

Since 2011, the University of Technology Sydney has sponsored the Research Awards. A prize to the value of \$250 will be awarded for each of the following:

Overall best abstract

Best technical abstract

Best abstract

Best research abstract

Best poster (voted by delegates at the conference)

The Research awards will be announced at the conference dinner on Wednesday evening.

Final program:

The SimHealth scientific final program can be viewed [here](#).

Please keep up to date with conference information by visiting our SimHealth 2012 conference website.

Julian Van Dijk

2012 Scientific Convenor

Simulation Australia Networking Event:



5. Networking Events

Simulation Australia is hosting a series of Networking Events around Australia. One of these events coincides with SimHealth. Details are:

Date: Monday 10 September 2012
Time: 5.00pm - 7.00pm
Venue: Sydney Hilton

A great way to meet other people who are involved in our simulation community. Come and find out how modelling, simulation, and training is used across industries including: Health, Resources, Defence, Transport, Emergency Management, and Training.

Simulation Australia /ASSH Members - \$20 per person
Non Members - \$30 per person

Registrations are required to enable the correct catering to be arranged. Please advise any dietary requirements in your registration.

Please click here to register: <http://e.mybookingmanager.com/E81933431154880>
Your ASSH membership renewal:

6. ASSH membership and SimHealth registration fee

Please note: Your SimHealth full conference registration fee includes a 12-month membership to ASSH.

ASSH membership also includes individual membership of Simulation Australia and full member benefits of the International Society for Simulation in Healthcare (SSH).

You will receive a letter advising of your ASSH membership via email. All new and renewed membership information will be sent to you shortly.

If you are not attending SimHealth and would like to renew your ASSH membership you can renew on-line by clicking on the link below
<http://mybookingmanager.com/asshmembership>

Credit card facilities are available. Note - Please make any cheques payable to "Simulation Australia Ltd".

Activating your SSH prepaid coupon - New codes:



ASSH is an affiliated organisation of the International Society for Simulation in Healthcare based in the United States. This allows ASSH to offer a discounted SSH membership rate to ASSH members. It is important to note that ASSH membership includes full member benefits to the International Society for Simulation in Healthcare (SSH). SSH membership is valued at \$165.00 USD. SSH membership includes access to the Simulation in Healthcare Journal, Listserv, and networking and curriculum sharing opportunities. Please note: ASSH members must register their SSH membership by logging onto the SSH website and joining as a member by using the prepaid coupon supplied with your membership letter. This process generates a 'zero' cost invoice and activates your SSH membership with SSH.

Some ASSH members have experienced difficulties in activating their SSH prepaid code in the past and we have been working with SSH to develop a new process to make this easier. Stay tuned for further details on this new process and your new code!

If you need further assistance please contact Andrea Coulsell via email Andrea@simulationaustralia.org.au

7. ASSH Newsletter:

Do you have a news item or story that you would like to share with other ASSH members? Can you tell us about new and interesting developments at your workplace? Would you like to provide your profile for the next newsletter? Please submit your news items, stories or profile for the next edition of the ASSH Newsletter to one of the ASSH Executive Committee members. Submission deadline for Issue 7 is October 18th 2012.