



AuPS News

September, 2012

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<http://auaps.org.au>

Behind the Scenes of AuPS

By Robyn Murphy

As we head into September things really start to get busy behind the scenes of the Society. This piece is a summary of what is going on, along with some requests to help smooth administration.

Scientific Meeting: Abstracts and registrations are open for the Sydney meeting, which means we are keeping our IT Manager, Editor (one in the same person, Dave Davey), Membership Officer and Treasurer busy with processing applications and submissions. As many of you know, each abstract is read, edited and approved by the Editor, a huge task and one that becomes mammoth following the final day of abstract submission, as the large proportion of abstracts appear during the final 24 hour period. As such, submission of abstracts prior to the actual closing date is greatly appreciated. Once abstracts leave your desk, they require significant work in compiling them ready for the programming committee to meet and decide on the final program for the meeting. We aim to have this completed by the end of October, which means a larger team are kept busy during that month.

AuPS Membership: As we approach the deadlines for registration and submission of abstracts for the upcoming Meeting, it is also apt to raise the issue of membership. Each year we have a number of new (provisional) members join AuPS. The process of becoming a member requires an application, fee payment and endorsement by a current AuPS member. New members (and supervisors of new student members) should note that the administration of this process can take some time. This requires those applying for membership with the aim of coming to the meeting in Sydney to plan ahead so that the registration and submission deadlines can be met. We appreciate everyone's efforts to minimise delays by having applications submitted early. There are also a number of 'members' currently retained on our lists who have failed to pay their membership fees for up to several years. We would hope that members keep up with their yearly fees regardless of whether they intend on attending the annual meeting. In the coming weeks we will contact you again to request payment of your fees. Those continuing to not renew their membership fees will be removed from our database and mailing lists.

AuPS Awards: Whilst the end of September sees the closing date for the Michael Roberts Award, October is also the time when postdoctoral and student members are submitting their applications for prizes and awards. Once all applications are in, they need to be judged and so Council (typically) are called upon for such tasks, bringing a larger team into the mix.

Other Activities: There are three further activities occurring within the Society between now and the end of October. Firstly, there will be a call for the various vacancies on Council, including Officers, and voting will be set for 24 October, a date dictated by the Constitution and the date of the AGM (5 December). Secondly, the call for symposia for our 2013 meeting will be made. This of course brings a further group of AuPS members into the hub of activity, as 2013-Geelong Waterfront plans are well underway. Finally, the Constitution amendments are still being worked on and I would hope that we can have this finalised and the formal voting take place to accept the changes before the end of October. Further communication on this will be via email to members.

I hope this insight keeps you informed and also appreciative of the continued dedication of so many of our members to keep the activities of the Society vibrant. Further details about dates for the items I have mentioned above can be found in this Newsletter and of course our website remains current with the attention it receives from our busy Webmaster. As I write, our Associate Editor Glenn Wadley is busy getting together this Newsletter. Since its introduction, I think it remains a wonderful link for AuPS members and hope members do also!

See you in Sydney.
Robyn Murphy
National Secretary

Sydney 2012 Joint AuPS/PSNZ/ASB Meeting

Student Mixer

Monday, December 3, 6:00-8:00pm

At the *White House*, UNSW campus

Enjoy food and a drink over a leisurely 2 hours, whilst meeting new friends and catching up with colleagues not seen since last year.

Cost: Mixer tickets are not included in the registration fee. \$10 per student and guests.



Sydney 2012 Joint AuPS/PSNZ/ASB Meeting

**2012 Sydney - Australian Physiological Society/ Physiological Society of New Zealand
and Australian Society for Biophysics - 2-5 December.
University of New South Wales, UNSW Kensington Campus, Sydney**

AuPS invited lecturer:

Prof Joe Lynch: Queensland Brain Institute; School of Biomedical Sciences, Univ. Qld.

Invited plenary speakers:

Prof Håkan Westerblad - Scandinavian Exchange Lecturer, Karolinska Inst. Sweden.

Prof Lutz Birnbaumer - National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, USA.

Symposia with international speakers

- New insights into cardiac Ca²⁺ handling and excitability
- Physiology education
- Advances in methods for intestinal motility
- Molecular insight via advanced fluorescence microscopy
- Cystic fibrosis: Today and tomorrow
- Bridging the gap between molecular reductionism and physiology- the usefulness of 'omics'
- Spectral imaging in physiology – a highlight of techniques
- Integrative physiology of the heart
- Perinatal asphyxia: adaptation and consequences
- A vignette of TRP ion channel physiology
- Calcium signalling in microdomains essential to normal cell function
- Science at the high performance computing frontier
- Muscular adaptations to exercise: mechanisms at play
- Brain dysfunction and translational neurophysiology
- Autonomic physiology - nutrient sensing in the GI tract
- Skeletal muscle in health and disease
- Developments in auditory and vestibular physiology
- Ion Channels: from Structure to Function and drug targets
- ***Conference Dinner on Sydney Harbour***
- ***Student dinner networking***
- ***Free communications & Poster Sessions with awards***
- ***UNSW campus accommodation options***

Breaking news about this exciting meeting is available at: <http://aups.org.au/Meetings/201212/>

Local organizing committee contact: c.riordan@unsw.edu.au

Abstract/registration commences: 27 August 2012

Deadline/end of early-bird registration: 21 September 2012

A.K. McIntyre Award

Sponsored by SDR Clinical Technology

The Society's prestigious A.K. McIntyre award, named in honour of the Society's first President, is awarded annually to a member of the Society who is judged to have made significant contributions to Australian physiological science over their pre-doctoral and early post-doctoral years.

Applicants must be financial Ordinary Members of the Society, and must normally have completed their doctoral degree not more than 7 years prior to the time of their application (PhD graduation after 1 November 2005). They must be proposed by two financial members of the Society, who should each provide a statement of not more than 500 words summarising their achievements. The applicant should also provide a curriculum vitae which includes any involvement with AuPS, along with a list of published works, including conference proceedings.

The Prize consists of a medal and the sum of \$1000. The prize winner will be announced at the AuPS-ASB-PSNZ meeting in Sydney in December.

The application deadline is 31st October 2012.

Eligibility and selection criteria can be found here: <http://aups.org.au/Prizes/McIntyre.html>

Please email applications to the National Secretary, Robyn Murphy secretary@aups.org.au

Michael Roberts Award

Sponsored by Wiley-Blackwell

The Michael Roberts Excellence in Physiology Education Award is an award bestowed periodically by the Australian Physiological Society in memory of Professor Michael Roberts who was a lifelong passionate and dedicated advocate of physiology teaching and education. The award is intended to recognise AuPS members who have demonstrated a sustained performance of excellence in the delivery of physiology education at the tertiary level, and make a contribution to the teaching activities of AuPS.

The recipient of the Michael Roberts Excellence in Physiology Education Award in 2012, will receive a medal and a cash award, and will be invited to deliver a keynote lecture at the Educational Symposium at the 2012 AuPS Sydney Meeting.

The application deadline is 30th September 2012.

Eligibility and selection criteria can be found here: <http://aups.org.au/Prizes/Roberts.html>

Please email applications to the National Secretary, Robyn Murphy secretary@aups.org.au

AuPS PhD student publication prize

Sponsored by SDR Clinical Technology

An annual award for the best original paper published by an AuPS member during the course of their PhD studies.

The Prize consists of a \$500 cheque. The prize winner will be announced at the AuPS-ASB-PSNZ meeting in Sydney in December. The paper must be published (on paper or online) between 30th September 2011 and 1st October this year.

The application deadline is 31st October 2012.

Eligibility and selection criteria can be found here: <http://aups.org.au/Prizes/PhDpublication.html>

Please email applications to the National Secretary, Robyn Murphy secretary@aups.org.au

AuPS Postdoctoral publication prize

Sponsored by SDR Clinical Technology

An annual award for the best original paper published by an AuPS member during their first 4 postdoctoral years.

The Prize consists of a \$500 cheque. The prize winner will be announced at the AuPS-ASB-PSNZ meeting in Sydney in December. The paper must be published (on paper or online) between 30th September 2011 and 1st October this year.

The application deadline is 31st October 2012.

Eligibility and selection criteria <http://aups.org.au/Prizes/PostDocPublication.html>

Please email applications to the National Secretary, Robyn Murphy secretary@aups.org.au

AuPS Council Elections

The next Annual General Meeting (to be held in Sydney, 5 December 2012) will see three new Councillors and two Officers appointed.

Matthew Watt, Yue-Kun Ju and Daniel Markovic were elected as Councillors in January 2010 (2009 AGM) and so their terms finish at the next AGM. We greatly appreciate the work that Matt, Yue-Kun and Daniel have performed on the Society's behalf.

Robyn Murphy has held the position of National Secretary since 2010. With the pending approval of the Constitution, the position of National Secretary-elect will be introduced. Peter Thorn has served as Treasurer since January 2010 and his term of office expires at the upcoming AGM.

The National Secretary is now seeking nominations for three regular Councillor positions, National Secretary-elect and Treasurer. Nominations are due 5 October 2012 and the election date will be 24 October 2012. Newly elected Councillors and the Treasurer will assume their 3 year positions from the 2012 AGM. The National Secretary-elect appointment will be effective from the 2012 AGM with the person taking up the role of National Secretary at the 2013 AGM.

Dave Davey has been the Editor of the Society for almost 3 years. The National Secretary would like to hear from anyone interested in the role of Editor, noting that this appointment is made directly by Council. The main role of the Editor is to handle abstracts associated with the annual meetings.

Please take the time to consider offering your services to the AuPS Council. If you would like to know more, please feel free to contact any current Councillors – contact details can be found on the website (<http://aups.org.au/About/council.html>) or in the Newsletters.

Postcard from Chicago – Josh Edwards



The midwestern United States is commonly referred to as one big flat cornfield on the way to someplace more exciting. Within however, lays the third largest city in the country, Chicago. It is an amazing city and my new home. In the south-west side you find Rush University Medical Center, where I am working with Prof Lothar Blatter on excitation-contraction coupling and mitochondria dysfunction in cardiac muscle.

Many years ago, I was fortunate to be taken in by Prof George Stephenson at La Trobe University (Melbourne) where he, along with Prof Graham Lamb and many others, patiently taught me a lot about the process of excitation-contraction coupling in skeletal muscle during my Honours and PhD years. I was hooked. During this, I became interested in fluorescence microscopy and was happy to accept my first postdoctoral training position at The University of Queensland with Dr Bradley Launikonis. During this time I was able to utilise new imaging techniques and develop an even greater interest in skeletal muscle physiology (and a tolerance to Bundy rum).

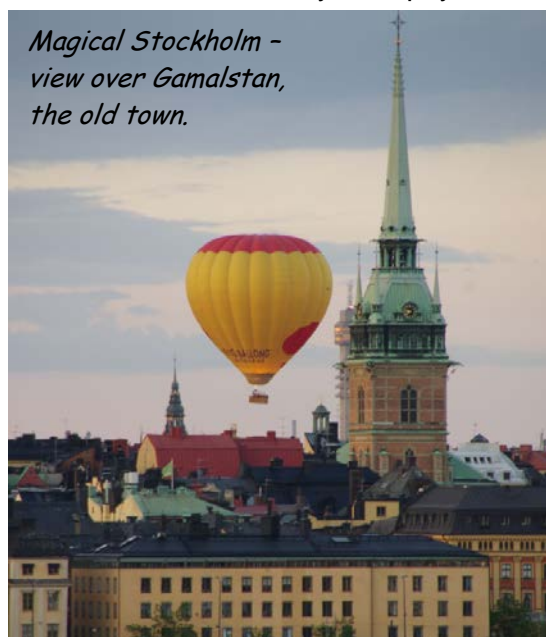
Cardiac muscle physiology always interested me and I wanted to live overseas. The USA was ideal to combine fluorescence microscopy and cardiac muscle physiology. So here I am in Chicago, enjoying life and all the challenges that come with the new research. Surprisingly there is an Aussie Rules Football Club (Chicago Swans) right down the road and although great fun, it has quickly reminded me I am no longer 18.

My 1st US birthday was recently celebrated and I was asked “What is life as a postdoc overseas like?” Living overseas, learning about a new culture, making new friends and colleagues is pretty fun. And when your job interests you, it is a pretty cool job, even if you are almost deported because The Department of Immigration gets your information wrong.

Josh Edwards will be presenting work at the upcoming AuPS meeting in Sydney on cardiac alternans. He was awarded a CJ Martin postdoctoral training fellowship at the start of 2012.

Notes from the International Biochemistry of Exercise Conference 2012

A contribution from Robyn Murphy

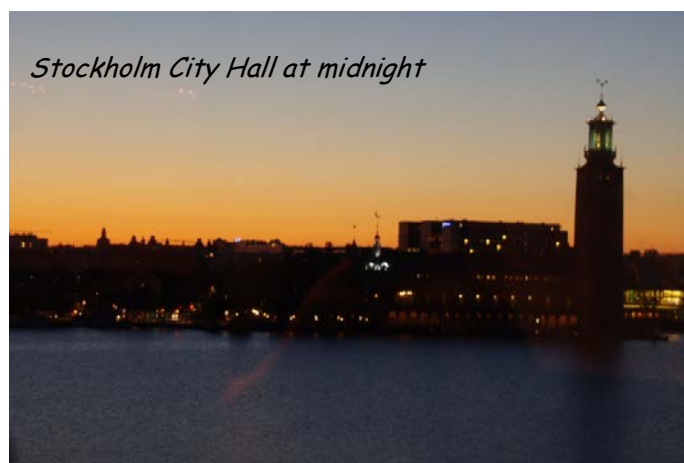


Magical Stockholm - view over Gamalstan, the old town.

The triennial International Biochemistry of Exercise Conference (IBEC) was held in Stockholm in June this year. The group of local organisers included the AuPS-Scandinavian Exchange Lecturer, Hakan Westerblad, who will deliver a keynote presentation at the 2012-AuPS-ASB-PSNZ conference. IBEC was held at GIH (The Swedish School of Sport and Health Sciences), which has a superb location nestled between the Olympic Stadium and vast greenery. 2012 marked the centenary since the Summer Olympics were held in Stockholm. The Stockholm forests allowed for early morning runs and sightseeing before the daily schedules began. One attendee even spotted a deer in the forest whilst out for a run – he was still within the city of Stockholm!

Australia has a long standing reputation for research in the fields of exercise and muscle physiology, and as such there was a high representation of Australian and indeed AuPS members amongst the invited speakers. The photos below show AuPS members at the Conference dinner.

The location of the dinner was splendid. The balcony overlooked water toward the Stockholm City Hall, where the Nobel Prizes (not Peace Prize, which is in Oslo) are presented. The photo to the right was taken at 'twilight', which on 20 June was about midnight. In fact the day did not get any shorter and the sun was fully in the sky by 3 am. A personal highlight was to visit the renowned Karolinska Institute and visit the hall where the winner of the Nobel Prize for Physiology/Medicine delivers their Nobel Laureate Lecture. Apparently even Karolinska staff have little luck of getting a seat, although the organizers do now provide audio of the talk to the crowds that wait outside the hall.



Stockholm City Hall at midnight

A further highlight during the scientific program was an unscheduled and unexpected guest visit by Per-Olaf Astrand, now 90 years old and considered one of the founders of modern exercise physiology. Despite Prof Astrand entering the auditorium mid-way through a student's presentation the audience could not help but give a standing ovation. Credit to the student who stopped his 10 min presentation until all was settled and then perfectly picked up cue to continue.

It was such a shame to have to leave Stockholm on the longest day of the year, to return to Australia on the shortest day of the year!



A few of our AuPS members enjoying the Conference dinner and sights from the Balcony



I|U|P|S|2013

21–26 July 2013 Birmingham, UK

**37th Congress of the
International Union of Physiological Sciences**

<http://www.iups2013.org/>



**9th Molecular Biology of
Hearing and Deafness
Conference**

June 22-25, 2013

Stanford University Campus

mbhd2013.stanford.edu

- **Early Registration: January 9, 2013**
- **Abstract Deadline: April 17, 2013**
- **Travel stipends for students and postdocs available. Visit website.**
- **Questions? Send email to:**
mbhd-2013@stanford.edu

<http://mbhd2013.stanford.edu/>

MEMBRANE TRANSPORTERS
AND THEIR ROLE IN HUMAN DISEASE

December 6TH 2012

a satellite of the

Sydney 2012 Joint AuPS/PSNZ/ASB Meeting

WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

*Authors submitting abstracts must register.
Registration deadline is November 1st 2012.*

Dr Adelle Coster,
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School of Mathematics & Statistics
University of New South Wales
Sydney NSW 2052
Fax : +61 2 9385 7123
Email : treasurer@biophysics.org.au

For more information <http://aups.org.au/>

A request for scientific equipment donations:

The following request was made to AuPS; if any members would like to assist please see the details below:

I am a doctoral student in Italy; currently preparing to defend my thesis in two months and return to my home country, Nigeria; where I have a faculty position in a Physiology department.

I would like to know if there is a scheme by the AuPS to assist third world scientists via direct equipment donation or facilitating it through AuPS members.

If there is such a scheme, would you kindly let me know how to go about this please?

If there isn't such a scheme, is it possible we (my home Physiology department) make a formal application to AuPS to help reach out to members who have research equipment they are willing to give away as a form of science charity? It is quite likely that there are AuPS members who have old or not-in-perfect-shape equipment that they would like to see gone from their laboratories.

We are a small group of deprived yet aspiring scientists; we would appreciate almost any useful equipment in the life sciences even if we may have to pay for little repairs. And of course we would be responsible for shipping.

Thank you.

Dott.Ayodele Oyadeyi [<mailto:ayodele.oyadeyi@uninsubria.it>]

Laboratory of Cellular & Molecular Physiology Dept of Biotechnology & Life Sciences University of Insubria Via Dunant 3, Varese 21100 Italy

Mobile- +39 3332024867

Website <http://www.dbsm.uninsubria.it/fisio/>

17th International Congress of the World Muscle Society

9-13 October 2012 • Perth, Western Australia

For more information

www.wms2012.com

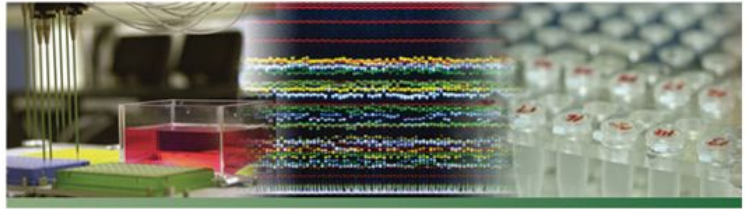
First Australian Conference on Physiological and Physical Employment Standards.

In November of 2012, the Centre for Human and Applied Physiology (University of Wollongong), in collaboration with the Defence Science and Technology Organisation, will be running the First Australian Conference on Physiological and Physical Employment Standards. This conference will be held at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra (November 27th-29th, 2012).

The focus of this conference is upon the development, implementation and justification of physiological and physical employment standards within physically demanding occupations. Scientists from around the world will present their research relating to the development of these standards, and discuss problems and solutions concerning the relationship between these standards and the optimisation of a capable workforce whilst minimising workplace injuries. The nature of this meeting, the range of keynote speakers and their presentation topics, all fall within the realms of human and applied physiology, ergonomics, occupational health and safety, and occupational and environmental medicine. For this reason, we believe that some members of the Australian Physiological Society may be very interested in attending, or even presenting a paper at this meeting.

You may visit the conference web site via the following link:

<http://www.uow.edu.au/health/AusPES2012/index.html>



25th - 28th November 2012, Adelaide Convention Centre

The Australian Health and Medical Research Congress is pleased to announce the following Plenaries will be speaking at the 2012 AHMR Congress in Adelaide!



Prof Colin Sibly
University of Manchester



Prof Elaine Dzierzak
Erasmus MC Stem Cell
Institute



Dr Craig Logsdon
MD Anderson Cancer
Institute

We are also pleased to announce that **Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand** will be joining the AHMR Congress and will be hosting a one day program.

Looking forward to welcoming you to Adelaide in November!

AH&MR Congress Organising Committee

www.ahmrcongress.org.au

Find us on [Facebook](#)



DIIS RTE Brussels Alert: EU Research Priorities & Opportunities 2013

The purpose of this alert is to inform a wide range of Australian stakeholders about EU Research Priorities for the 2013 work programme of the EU's Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7) as well as opportunities for cooperation in specific thematic areas of interest to you.

EU Research Priorities: Orientation Papers

The European Commission has recently published a number of 'Orientation Papers' setting out the expected research themes for the 2013 work programmes of the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Development (FP7). These can be found under "Orientation Papers 2013" on: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/fp7_documentation/

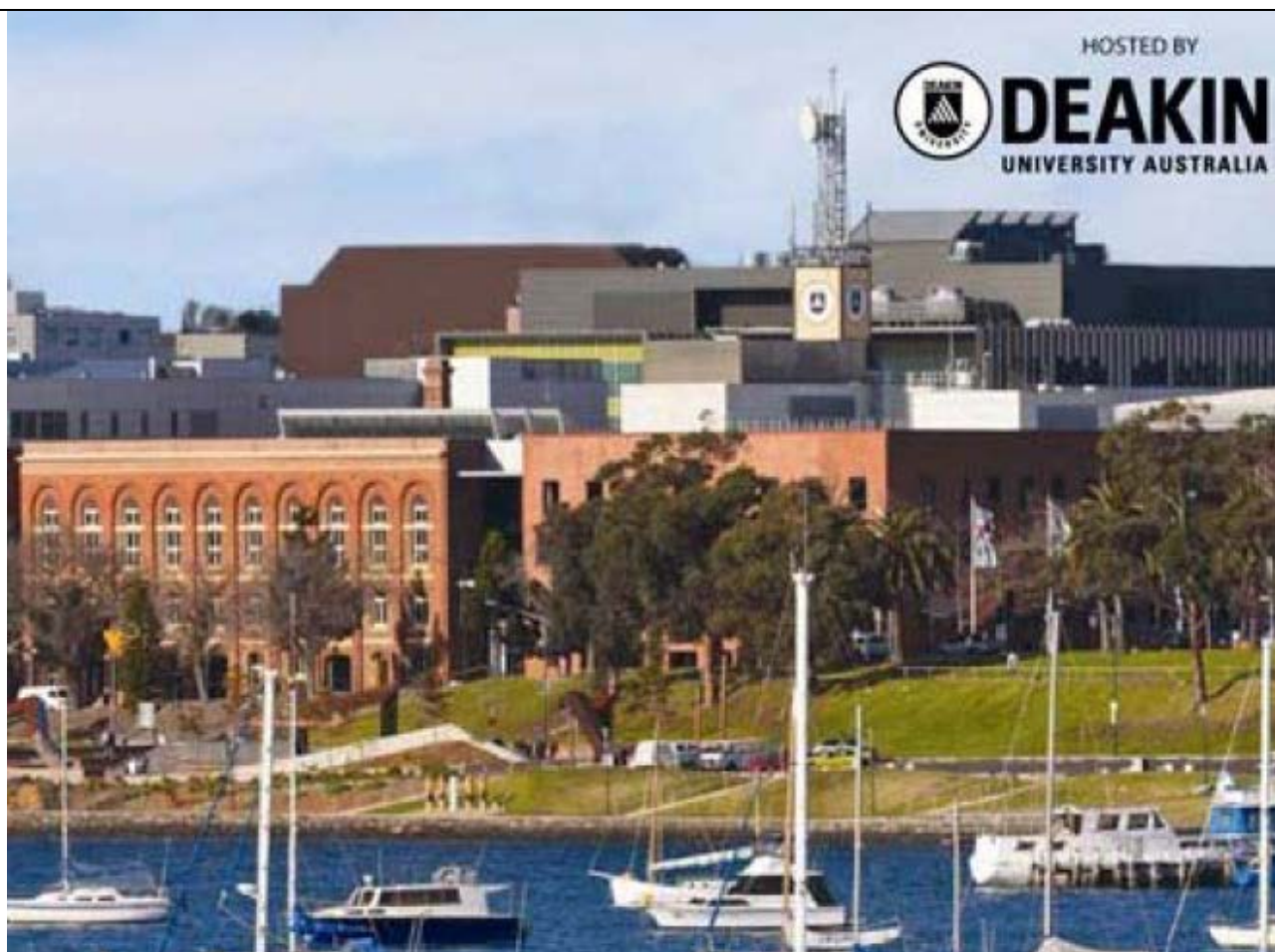
AuPS Supporters



2013 Australian Physiological Society Meeting 8-11 December 2013.

Deakin University Waterfront Campus, in Geelong, Victoria.

Upcoming call for symposia: mid October 2012



This issue of AuPS News was compiled by Glenn Wadley with assistance by Robyn Murphy, Simon Potocnik and with many thanks to the generous contributors.

The next issue of AuPS News will be distributed to members in December 2012.
All contributions for AuPS News should be sent to: newsletter@auaps.org.au before the end of November.