

This issue of *AUSA POST* touches on the topical issue of diving safety and related initiatives taken within AUSA. The "AUSA OHS Scholarship" is introduced together with a call for nominees. We welcome 15 new members to AUSA and reflect on the Adelaide AVCC OHS Conference.

DIVING SAFETY

The great white shark attack and death of biologist Jarrod Stehbens off Adelaide's Glenelg beach on 24 August 2005 has prompted unprecedented discussion and cooperation between Dive Safety Officers (DSO's) in Australian Universities.

14 DSO's plus a few other interested parties met in Canberra on 28 November 2005 and agreed to: establish an Australian and New Zealand Diving Association (ANZSDA) to represent this highly specialised "industry"; decide the best method of developing properly-accredited scientific diver courses and accredit Instructors and; liaise on best practice management of dive records and equipment.

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OHS CONFERENCE

The AVCC OHS Conference was held at the University of Adelaide on July 5-8 2005. The theme for the conference was "Make a Real Difference: Uncork real benefits for your institution". The conference provided an opportunity for the 102 delegates to learn and share experiences on how OHS

practitioners are making a difference, not only in dealing with day-to-day OHS practices, but also in modelling modern management practices (such as quality management, continuous improvement and consultation/staff participation) throughout their institutions.

Our thanks are extended to the University of Adelaide and the Conference Organising Committee for their hospitality and efforts and in hosting the July conference. Delegates enjoyed a professional, high quality conference. The high calibre of papers was a credit to the presenters involved.



The next conference will be in Melbourne on 4-6 July 2007.

AUSA OHS SCHOLARSHIP

AUSA members are invited to nominate for the inaugural AUSA OHS Scholarship for 2006/7. All members of one year standing are eligible to receive the award worth up to \$5,000. Nominations are due 2nd June. For details visit the AUSA website.

NEW MEMBERS

AUSA welcomes the following new members:

Adrian Brown, Lincoln, NZ
Colin McDonald, CSIRO
Dianne Dickeson, Uni of SA
Alison Jones, CSIRO
Kam Yiu Kuen, Hong Kong Polytechnic

Shelley Farr, CSIRO
Ellen Manning, Wollongong
Patricia Francis, Griffith
Graeme Millard, New Zealand International Campus
Cherryl Kolbe, Charles Sturt
Harry Basle, CSIRO
Phillip Pennington, CSIRO
Suzanna Holmes, ADFA
Gerard McMillan, Australian Institute of Marine Sciences
Ross Hansen, Griffith

AGM AND ELECTIONS

The AUSA Annual General Meeting coincided with the Adelaide conference and was attended by 45 members.

The election of officer bearers resulted in the following appointments:

President: Jon D'Astoli,
University of Sydney
Secretary: Mike Rafferty,
University of Western Australia
Treasurer: Kevin Newton,
University of Adelaide
New Zealand Liaison: Lew Holmwood, University of Victoria, Wellington
Communications Officer:
Campbell Lee, UTS.

OHS HALF SCHOLARSHIP SCAM

Members are alerted to the risks involved in accepting half-scholarship being offered by OHS Daily News. Consumer Affairs Victoria has issued a Public Warning Notice about this at on-line at:

www.consumer.vic.gov.au

Follow:

- Scams and Alerts (RHS)
- Choose Bevan Crowley....

AUSA WEBSITE

Visit the AUSA website for all information about AUSA.
<http://www.ehs.uts.edu.au/AUSA/>