TSANZ

The Transplantation Society of Australia and New Zealand

2025 Newsletter

Contents

Editorial Comment 1
President's Message 2
Secretary's Report 5
Treasurer's Report 6
Advisory Committees and Working Groups Report 7
SPEC Report 9
ECC Report 10
Travel Reports 11
2025 ASM Highlights 19
2025 Award Winners 20
Grand Rounds in 2025 21
The Board 23
Past Presidents 24
Life Members 24
Scientific Program and Education Committee (SPEC) 25
Early Career Committee (ECC) 26
Advisory Committees, Working Groups and Special Interest Groups 27
Advisory Committees 27
Working Groups 30
Special Interest Groups 33

Editorial Comment

Assoc Prof Avik Majumdar

Dear TSANZ Members,

Haere mai tangata whenua.

TSANZ respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land across Australia and their deep connections to the country, sea, and community. We honour their elders, both past and present, and extend our respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Welcome to the 2025 edition of our Society newsletter. It has been another productive year, marked by a successful return to Canberra for the 2025 Annual Scientific Meeting. Congratulations to program convenors A/Professor Darren Lee and Dr Jeanette Villaneuva for overseeing an outstanding and high-calibre meeting, which again demonstrated the engagement of the transplantation community. The Solid Organ Transplantation Symposia (SOTS) continued to be well attended with excellent feedback. Thank you to the individual specialty SOTS convenors involved in delivering excellent programs this year; Professor Ulrich Stock (Cardiothoracic SOTS), Dr Rebecca Pearson (Cardiothoracic SOTS), Dr Caroline Tallis (Liver SOTS), Dr Katherine Stuart (Liver SOTS convenor), Mr Paul Robertson (Kidney/Pancreas-Islet SOTS) and Professor Henry Pleass (Kidney/Pancreas-Islet SOTS). Additionally, the inaugural Transplant Infectious Disease day was also

resounding success, and I would like to thank Dr Tina Marinelli, Dr Olivia Smibert and Dr Matthew Roberts for leading this new initiative. Thank you also to Dr Sakhee Kotecha and Dr Griffith Perkins who convened another excellent Frontiers and Challenges in Organ Transplantation course the preceded the main ASM program. I am pleased to report that 138 abstracts were submitted this year.

Our sincere appreciation goes to the tireless and dedicated efforts of Nieves Piaggio, Kim Rawson, Anne Wiseman, and Emily Larkins, whose hard work has been vital to the Society's accomplishments, as recognized by the Board.

As we bid farewell to 2025, I wish each of you all the best. May the coming year bring abundant opportunities for us to connect, collaborate, and further our mission of enhancing transplantation for those in need. Wishing you a joyful Holiday season ahead.

Best regards,

Avik Majumdar

President's Message

Professor Nicole Isbel
Chair, TSANZ

Dear all,

TSANZ extends its deepest condolences to all those affected by the tragic and senseless violence at Bondi Beach in December 2025. We stand with the families and friends who lost loved ones, the injured and survivors, the Jewish community, first responders, and the wider Waverley community. We also acknowledge the dedication and professionalism of the medical and healthcare staff who provided care in the aftermath. TSANZ condemns all forms of hate and violence and reaffirms its commitment to a safe, inclusive, and respectful community for all.

We reflect on 2025 as a year of significant activity and achievement for TSANZ, marked by the collective efforts and commitment of our members across a busy and productive year.

Firstly, thank you to our extraordinary staff – getting things done so efficiently and with great patience and good will. It would all fall down without you.

I would also like to thank the many members who contribute their time and expertise to the work of the Society, be that by involvement in advisory committees, special interest and working groups, or as reviewers for the Annual Scientific Meeting. For anyone who would like to be involved – please volunteer – it going to be a busy year ahead.

TSANZ has continued to work hard to increase engagement with the broader transplant and donation sector, and particularly the nonrenal organ groups. It is important to grow and retain the membership so that the Society is a truly representative body for clinicians, scientists and the research community. Membership categories have been revised to encourage all involved in donation and transplantation to join the Society. Please spread the word within your networks about the importance of having a voice. There is a lot happening in the next 12 months that is likely to have a major impact on the delivery of donation and transplantation services, and feedback is positively encouraged and welcomed.

Several important reviews have been undertaken in 2025.

The Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC) review of the Human Tissue Laws led by Commissioner Dr. Maeghan Toews, and alongside President the Hon Justice Mordy Bromberg is the first major review of the laws governing the use of human tissue since 1977. The current review is a once in a generation opportunity to make these laws consistent across the States and Territories, facilitate advances in technology and process (such as normothermic regional perfusion) and generally fit for purpose in the modern context. Dr Meaghan Toews presented at a Town Hall session at the ASM in Canberra and outlined the scope of the report. The Discussion paper has now been released and contains 49 proposals and asks 47 questions. The changes proposed are wide ranging and feedback from as many different viewpoints is critical. The Commission have been very open and responsive to feedback. Please take the opportunity to respond either directly to the ALRC (make a submission) or via the TSANZ (projects@tsanz.com.au). Submissions close on the 23rd January 2026.

The Independent Health Aged Care Pricing Authority (IHACPA) report into Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation has been completed and submitted. The project consulted with stakeholders including the chairs of the Advisory Committees and the TSANZ executive to examine the donation and transplantation process from end-to-end. There have been 15 recommendations made that will hopefully more closely reflect the true costs of retrieval and transplantation, with better data capture and more effective mechanisms of funding across the states and territories. Hopefully there will be better resourcing for areas that have been historically underfunded such as donor retrievals and outreach services.

Board, Committees, Special Interest and Working Groups.

There have been notable movements off and on some of the key TSANZ Committees. The Board would particularly like to thank and acknowledge Professor Kate Wyburn for her amazing leadership and vision and who has steered the Society so well in the many years she has served on the Council/Board. During her tenure as chair, she has fostered a cohesive and inclusive environment on both the Board and within the Society. Together with Helen Pilmore, Kate oversaw the structural change and establishment of TSANZ as a Company Limited by Guarantee with charitable status and worked hard to build strong links with all working in the solid organ transplant space. She stepped into the Past President role and will continue to bring wisdom to the Policy Portfolio. We would also like to thank the other retiring members of the Board for the very significant contributions they have made – Professor Helen Pilmore for her fantastic contribution and who is finally getting a break from TSANZ business, Associate Professor Kavitha Muthiah (so well organised as the Secretary), Professor Angela Webster as the NIKTT, RACP and VSEAC rep, A/Professor Lucy Sullivan who as co-chair of Scientific Program and Education Committee (SPEC) contributed so much towards the success of the annual scientific meetings and the championing of laboratory science; A/Professor Bronwyn Levvey for her valued representation of the Transplant Nurses Association members; Dr Tanya McWilliams who did a great job as the Aotearoa / NZ rep. Welcome to the new Board members; Professor Wai Lim (deputy chair), Ms Claire West (TNA representative), Dr Siah Kim, Dr Paul Manley, A/Professor John Whitlam and Mr James Rance. Looking forward to the coming year and working together.

Also important to acknowledge the work that Professor Wai Lim and Dr Lucy Sullivan did as Chairs of SPEC. Their hard work, grace under pressure (and so much patience!), amazing grasp of current clinical and laboratory science is an inspiration to the rest of us. Welcome to Dr Karen Keung and Dr Matt Sypek who with the rest of the SPEC team will take us forward with new vision to foster education and research support in the year ahead.

Thanks also to the Early Career Committee (ECC) retiring chairs Dr Georgie Irish and Dr Griffith Perkins – for their infectious enthusiasm and energy in supporting and advocating for emerging researchers and clinicians. Welcome to the new chairs Drs Lachlan McMichael and Amy Prosser.

Regular meetings with the Advisory Committee chairs has provided important feedback about current issues – particularly with workforce and sustainability of practice and data collection being highlighted. The TSANZ is preparing a response to the Organ and Tissue Authority regarding the implementation of the National Strategy, and these issues will be highlighted as priority.

The Society has been strengthened by the development of Special Interest groups and Working groups who have been very productive. Australasian Donor and Transplant Co-ordinators association will be joining the TSANZ as a Special Interest Group in 2026 and we welcome all the members who will come across to TSANZ. They will bring their valuable expertise and further strengthen the TSANZ. There will need to be a couple of small wording changes in the Constitution that will be discussed at the Annual General Meeting. Because TTS in in September and we need to table the financial documents, it is planned to hold a virtual AGM in June 2026.

Thanks to Dr Josh Kausman and the Finance committee. The Society is in a sound financial position and the opportunity to distribute some of the investment returns in a new grants program has just been announced and details are available on the website. There will also be an opportunity to make a tax deductable donation when you renew your membership.

The TSANZ Guidelines continue to be an extraordinary living document that provides up to date information that is invaluable to help guide clinical practice. Thanks to our fabulous Clinical Project Manager, Emily Larkins for her all her expert work to maintain this resource and to all the contributors that provide content.

Collaborations

TSANZ would like to acknowledge the ongoing strong and valued collaboration with The Organ and Tissue authority (OTA). OTA helps support the work of the advisory committees and working + special interest groups as well as many of the essential projects such as the TSANZ Clinical Guidelines. We look forward to working closely together in the coming year on several key issues but particularly the National Strategy for Organ Retrieval, Donation and Transplantation which was released in November 2024. Ongoing engagement from members is essential as the Strategy starts to take shape. TSANZ will continue to support and advocate for the funding and implementation of the strategy which provides a significant opportunity to address key areas which have been identified as areas of concern – equity and access to transplantation, need for data to help inform practice and mechanisms for change when barriers are identified, workforce sustainability and more.

TSANZ would also like to acknowledge the important work done by National Indigenous Kidney Transplant Taskforce (NIKTT) and the important work they continue to do to improve access to transplantation for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and to reduce serious gaps in health outcomes. TSANZ would like to congratulate NIKTT for the development of the Data Dashboard so that units can track their progress in important areas such as waitlisting for transplantation. Another very successful Gathering was held in Kaurna Yarta (Adelaide) with more than 120 people. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients, carers and health workers were able to share their stories and the communities concerns about living with kidney disease and the barriers and difficulties faced in their journey. The statement from the Gathering is available on the NIKTT website. We look forward to working together in 2026. The TSANZ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, and Māori Health Statement is almost ready for release and the important ongoing work with the Indigenous Health Implementation and Action Plan to also be released in 2026.

Education and Research

It was a year of many highlights.

The 43rd annual scientific meeting was back in chilly Canberra – by all measurements an outstanding success. There were 308 registrants and 138 abstracts submitted. SPEC and the meeting conveners (A/Prof Darren Lee and Dr Jeanette Villanueva) put together an interesting and wide-ranging program. The International speakers Professors Cameron Wolfe, Megan Sykes, Peter Nickerson and Roslyn Mannon were truly engaged

with the meeting and generous with their time and knowledge. There was a clear focus on innovation and nowhere better seen than in the Presidents Prize session. Congratulations to Dr Yashutosh Joshi who took out the Basic Science Presidents Prize and both People's Choice awards – I don't think this feat has been achieved before. Congratulations also to Dr Harry Robertson for the award of Presidents prize for clinical science. Well done to all the other award recipients. Science is alive and well in our corner of the world.

The pre-meetings go from strength to strength. The Transplant Infectious Diseases Day (conveners – Dr Tina Marinelli, Dr Olivia Smibert and Dr Matthew Roberts) tackled clinically relevant issues that impact all organ groups and great opportunity for information sharing not only from within ANZ but fantastic to have the international perspective from Professor Wolfe.

Solid Organ Symposia (SOTS) led by the TSANZ advisory groups for the liver and intestinal, cardiothoracic and kidney/pancreas groups–the SOTS are a great forum for interaction / knowledge sharing between subspecialty colleagues and in-depth debate on current controversies and advances in practice. We have received positive feedback about the value of these sessions, and they will be carried forward as an important part of the meeting calendar again from 2027. A big thank you to this year's SOTS convenors, Dr Caroline Tallis and Dr Katherine Stuart (Liver), Dr Rebecca Pearson and Dr Ulrich Stock (Cardiothoracic) and Prof Henry Pleass, Paul Robertson and Pat Siciliano (Kidney/Pancreas) and all of the amazing speakers that contributed towards the success of the SOTS this year.

Frontiers and Challenges in Organ Transplantation (FACT) (Conveners – Dr Griffith Perkins and Dr Sakhee Kotecha) put together a great program and lots of interaction with the local and international speakers and the audience. The numbers for the FACT Day are increasing, and this meeting continues to provide an important educational opportunity.

TSANZ would also like to thank the sponsors – in particular the Platinum sponsor Astellas and Gold Sponsor Thermo Fisher for their long-term commitment to transplantation and the TSANZ. Also, the ongoing collaborations with the Transplant Nurses' Association, Transplant Australia, Lungitude and Kidney Health Australia.

What's ahead: Grand Rounds will continue with a focus on becoming more interactive and a mechanism for updating members about key changes in guidelines and evolving areas of policy/ practice. The sessions are available off-line to members.

There will be no 2026 TSANZ Annual Scientific meeting as it will be held as part of the TTS 2026 31st International Congress of The Transplantation Society in Sydney 20-23 September. This will be a wonderful opportunity to attend cutting edge science, updates in clinical practice and interact with international colleagues. Abstracts will open in January and close March. Please spread the word and encourage as many of transplant community to submit abstracts and attend so that we can showcase the innovative and leading work done in Australia and Aotearoa / NZ

Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season and looking forward to working together again next year.

Regards

Nikky

Secretary's Report

Assoc Prof Avik Majumdar
Honorary Secretary, TSANZ

I am honoured to present my first report as the Honorary Secretary of The Transplantation Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ). I would firstly like to thank immediate past-Chair, Professor Kate Wyburn, for her outstanding leadership as well as A/Professor Kavitha Muthiah for her service and dedication as past Honorary Secretary. I would also like to thank Dr Tanya McWilliams, Mr Paul Robertson, Dr Lucy Sullivan, Professor Angela Webster and A/Professor Bronwyn Levvey for their invaluable contribution to the Society during their respective terms as Board Members. I am pleased and excited to be part of the current Board, Chaired by Professor Nikky Isbel and Professor Wai Lim as Chair-Elect, with Dr Joshua Kausman resuming his role as Treasurer and Professor Wyburn returning as Immediate Past President. Furthermore, I would like to welcome new and continuing Board Members Dr Siah Kim, Dr Paul Manley, Mr James Rance, Dr Handoo Rhee, Mr Paul Robertson, Dr Animesh Singla, Ms Claire West and A/Professor John Whitlam. It is a exciting time ahead and I am looking forward to working with this outstanding team.

The recent Annual Scientific Meeting in Canberra was a resounding success. The Solid Organ Transplantation symposia continued to be very well attended, and I am pleased to report that the inaugural Transplant Infectious Diseases Day was also tremendously successful. The ASM continues to be a highlight of the year and demonstrates the importance of fostering interdisciplinary and interspecialty connections in the transplantation community. I would like to thank Dr Lucy Sullivan and Professor Wai Lim for their amazing efforts and leadership of the Scientific Program and Education Committee (SPEC) as well as all SPEC members in delivering such a fantastic event. In 2026, we look forward to welcoming The Transplantation Society Meeting in Sydney which will be an exceptional opportunity for TSANZ members to engage with the international transplantation community.

In 2025 our membership continues to grow, and I hope that this growth continues across transplantation disciplines and we continue to be representative of the transplantation community in Australia and New Zealand.

I would like to express my sincere thanks for the tireless dedication of Nieves Piaggio, Kim Rawson, Emily Larkins and Anne Wiseman, whose indispensable efforts form the backbone of our society

As the year comes to a close, I wish you all a joyful holiday season and look forward with optimism to the year ahead.

Best regards,

Avik Majumdar

Treasurer's Report

Dr Joshua Kausman
Honorary Treasurer, TSANZ

The current financial position of the society remains stable. As of 31st October 2025, including monies held for OTA and NIKTT projects, net assets are $3,238,836.64.

Compared to 2023, in 2024 there were increased incomes from membership ($160,699 vs $150,294) and the ASM ($246,961 vs $226,577), but sponsorship was down ($291,000 vs $331,809). Expenses for the ASM were down from 2023 ($279,054 vs $335,260). Overall, for the calendar year 2024, the society enjoyed a surplus of $413,247.

The balanced, socially responsible investment portfolio managed by Findex Financial and Advisory Services holds $1,184,113 with a return of 4.5% for the 12mth to 30th Sept 2024 (7.5% since inception). Additionally,

$500,000 has been earning 4.75% in a term deposit with plans to increase this to $1,000,000 to further improve income, while ensuring sufficient funds remain for operating expenses in the at call account.

The TSANZ Finance Committee meets 3 monthly and is comprised of myself, chair elect (Prof Wai Lim), Board member/ SPEC member (Dr Siah Kim) and a Board appointed member with financial expertise (Mr Stuart McLeod). The committee maintains oversight of the TSANZ finances and risk management, advises on the approach to accepting donations and managing sponsorship, as well as responding to the aspirations of the society to provide additional funds for projects and support of our early career and research membership. In 2025 an additional $60,000 was allocated towards these projects and the committee will continue to review the society's capacity to return more to our members, while maintaining the financial security of the society.

2026 promises to be an exciting year, but with the replacement of our regular ASM with the TTS meeting, this also presents a potential for a significant reduction of income. Until conclusion of the financial outcome of the TTS meeting, the finance committee is taking a cautious approach to any increase in expenditure.

Thanks to all members of the finance committee as well as to Nieves Piaggio and the TSANZ administrative team and all members of the Board for their advice and support.

Advisory Committees and Working Groups Report

Professor Wai Lim
Deputy Chair, TSANZ
Chair, TSANZ Advisory Committees & Working Groups

It has been a year of significant progress and collaboration across the TSANZ Advisory Committees, Working Groups, Special Interest Groups and Subcommittees. Established committees have continued to deliver on important projects, including the proposed new kidney allocation algorithm, the development of a Kidney Machine Perfusion Position Statement, and guidelines for the use of Imlifidase in kidney transplantation.

These efforts are supported by our project managers, Emily Larkins, Kim Rawson and Sarah White, whose commitment and expertise have been central to advancing this work. We extend our sincere thanks for their leadership and dedication.

We also acknowledge the Organ and Tissue Authority (OTA) for its long-standing partnership, that started back in 2011, and which continues to underpin so many of our collective achievements.

Looking ahead, TSANZ remains focused on improving access to transplantation and outcomes for patients and families through evidence-based policy, innovation and collaboration. We thank all members, partners and stakeholders for their continued efforts to strengthen transplantation in Australia and New Zealand.

Summary of Key Milestones

- **The Kidney Allocation Algorithm Project, led by Sarah White**

  The final proposal and technical report were submitted to OTA in August 2025, with OTA formally accepting the report, with further consultation required for implementation in OrganMatch. Procedures are being put in place to undertake annual reviews, including impact on state-balancing, 12-months post-implementation.

- **Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC) Review of Human Tissue Laws**

  Various Advisory Committee's and Working Groups provided submissions to the ALRC Review of Human Tissue Laws Issues Paper. A discussion paper is due to be released for public consultation in the

coming months. The ALRC Commissioner is due to hand down the final report to the Attorney-General by 16 August 2026.

- **TSANZ Clinical Guidelines for Organ Transplantation from Deceased Donors**

  There were two updates made to the Clinical Guidelines in 2025, including version 1.14 released 30 June and version 1.15 released 12 November with important updates on infectious diseases (HBV, HIV, malaria, HHV8 and HTLV), renal cell carcinoma, paediatric kidney allocation tapering, revised ethical guidelines in version 1.14 and broad updates to the liver chapter, including benchmarking statement, emerging issues, including machine perfusion, transplantation of unresectable colorectal metastases, urgent listing process, paediatric split liver, PELD, and the share 35 process.

Emerging Issues for further discussion in 2026.

- **Workforce & Capacity**

  Reports from Advisory Committees on shortages of registrars and nurses, declining pancreas transplant activity, and retrieval capacity challenges highlighted by VSEAC.

- **Data & Allocation Systems**

  OrganMatch updates (urgent listings, paediatric bonus tapering, ABO-incompatible transplants) require close monitoring. Efforts are underway to standardise machine perfusion data collection.

- **Innovation vs Funding**

  Promising advances (cfDNA, machine perfusion, HOPE, NRP) require sustainable funding and national SOPs. Concerns remain about future activity-based funding models (from 2026).

Advisory Committee Highlights for 2025

- **CTAC**: Transition of urgent cardiac listings to OrganMatch; pilot heart transport trial with extended ischaemic times shows promise.
- **DSDC**: Preparing national machine perfusion data standards; ADTCA transitioning into a TSANZ SIG.
- **LITAC**: Reviewing liver guidelines, progressing CRC transplant protocols, supporting Adelaide's ILTS 2028 bid, and tracking NZ's NRP program (2026 start).
- **LTAC**: Working through OrganMatch "urgent listing" processes and alignment with lung's compassionate allocation model.
- **PITAC**: Concern over declining pancreas transplant rates and long SPK wait times (average of 2–3 years for blood group O).
- **PTAC**: Focus on paediatric donor utilisation, advocacy for NRP kidneys, and consideration of compassionate access to Imlifidase in selected cases.
- **RTAC**: Reviewing allocation rules (HIV/HBV NAT+ donors, prior living donors overseas, ABOi expansion) and finalising a machine perfusion position statement.
- **TTAC**: Implementing new readiness criteria for unsensitised patients, dashboard metrics, and planning a national lab workshop.
- **VCAAC:** Advancing clinical pathways and protocols for uterine transplantation and donation research.

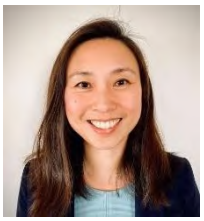
Commonwealth-Funded Projects

- NIKTT & Indigenous Australians Health Programme: National/state dashboard prototype released; further unit-level dashboards to follow.
- Engagement with Minister Butler's office and the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing on securing funding beyond 2026.

TSANZ thanks all committee members for their leadership and contributions, ensuring transplantation continues to evolve safely, ethically, and equitably across Australia and New Zealand.

SPEC Report

Dr Karen Keung and Dr Matthew Sypek
Co-Chairs of SPEC



This year marks the changing of committee members in SPEC, and we would firstly like to take this opportunity to extend our sincerest thanks to our outgoing committee chairs Lucy Sullivan and Wai Lim, along with Jeanette Villanueva who was also the co-convener of this year's ASM, for their contributions across the last 6 years. Their leadership in steering the committee to continue to provide quality education, promote and support scientific and clinical research, shaping of the new format of the pre-ASM courses and ASM amongst other TSANZ activities whilst fostering a great dynamic within the committee, will be greatly missed. We endeavour to continue the SPEC's dynamic work as Matthew Sypek (joint co-chair), Ahmer Hameed, Michael Collins and Jyotika Prasad join existing members Siah Kim and Karen Keung (joint co-chair).

The ASM returned to Canberra for first the first time in a decade with the early morning winter chill evoking a sense of nostalgia for many of us, harking back to a time when the ASM was held here annually. The inaugural Transplant Infectious Diseases Day led by Tina Marinelli, Olivia Smibert, and Matthew Roberts., was incorporated into the pre-ASM weekend and was extremely well received, with anticipation that this will be a regular inclusion. The Frontiers and Challenges in Transplantation (FACT) Update Course, organised by Griffith Perkins and Sakhee Kotecha, encompassed a comprehensive range of talks with a perfect balance across clinical science and medicine, and was rounded off by an excellent panel discussion focussed on career development with local and international clinician-scientists. The Solid Organ Transplant Symposium (SOTS), which was launched only last year to great reception, showcased key advancements and brought discussion to topical subjects across the concurrent sessions in the cardiothoracic (convened by Rebecca Pearson and Ulrich Stock), liver (Caroline Tallis and Katherine Stuart), and kidney-pancreas (Paul Robertson and Henry Pleass) transplant disciplines. With the ongoing support from Transplant Australia, the patient-centred session Reignite: from surgery to strength (convened by Siah Kim and Karen Keung), included a diverse panel of patients, caregivers and health professionals with a hybrid audience to facilitate patient access to this educational forum across Australia and New Zealand again had fantastic virtual attendance this year.

Darren Lee and Jeanette Villanueva led the ASM with 308 attendees, with one of the many highlights being the exceptional calibre of our international guest speakers comprised of Roslyn Mannon, Peter Nickerson, Megan Sykes, and Cameron Wolfe. The diversity of expertise that was reflected not only across their talks but also those of our local speakers, made it a great meeting.

We take this opportunity to thank all those above for their contributions to this year's pre-ASM courses and ASM, in additional we extend our warmest thanks to our session chairs, abstract reviewers and judges. We would like to also extend our gratitude and acknowledge our sponsors for their ongoing support to TSANZ, in particular our platinum sponsor Astellas and gold sponsor Thermo Fisher as well as Kidney Health Australia and

Lungitude Foundation for their support through the Awards. The President's Prize honours for 2025 were awarded to Yashutosh Joshi and Harry Robertson, the Josette Eris Award to Debbie Watson and the Ian McKenzie Award to Natasha Rogers.

As we round out the calendar year, we also thank our speakers who have delivered the four Grand Rounds sessions (updates on the HLA matching algorithm, panel discussion on paper publication, vaccination updates and reproductive health). We would like to specifically acknowledge the hard work of the Early Career Committee (ECC) towards the organisational aspects of the grand rounds and other educational events including the ASM program. They have been instrumental in fostering networking opportunities at the ASM for junior members of TSANZ with their contemporaries as well as more established researchers. On this note, we welcome the new ECC members who have joined this year, and also Lachlan McMichael and Amy Prosser into their new roles as joint co-chairs. We sincerely thank Georgina Irish and Griffith Perkins for their leadership of, and dedication to the ECC over the last few years.

As we enter 2026 with a new SPEC committee, we are taking the opportunity to alter the format of how we deliver education to the TSANZ audience, with a move from Grand Rounds to an 'interview with an expert' styled webinar or podcast, on a variety of medical and surgical topics relevant across organ types. This will also provide the perfect opportunity to disseminate new guidelines updates as they occur. We welcome any topics of interest for consideration from our TSANZ membership, as we will draft the 2026 program over the coming months.

With TSANZ's ongoing support for career development for its members, there will be new awards and funding opportunities in the coming year, beyond the existing repertoire of awards. Details will be made available in 2026 but will include immersion and learning travel grants with a focus on supporting acquisition of skills/clinical methods and collaboration opportunities, and research seed funding ('Kickstarter') grant opportunities.

The International Congress of the Transplantation Society will be returning to Sydney, Australia for the first since 2008, taking place from September 20 to 23, 2026. There will be specific TSANZ -led sessions to provide opportunities to showcase our local research and developments, which will include our President's Prize session.

Our new committee is looking forward to the year ahead and we hope to see you all in Sydney in September,

Karen Keung and Matt Sypek

ECC Report

Dr Amy Prosser and Dr Michael McLachlan
Incoming Co-Chairs of ECC

Dr Georgina Irish and Dr Griffith Perkins
Out-going Co-Chairs of ECC

The TSANZ Early Career Committee (ECC) has had a successful year, with a range of initiatives designed to support, connect, and promote our early career members. A major highlight was the Annual Scientific Meeting in Canberra. A milestone was the launch of the Early Career Network at the Saturday Early Career evening drinks. This Network aims to provide a formal mechanism for engagement and communication with TSANZ early career members please contact us at ecnetwork@tsanz.com.au

if you would like to get involved. The Meet the Researcher session was again a popular event, offering valuable insights from international speakers alongside leading local researchers and clinicians including

Natasha Rogers, Steven Alexander, Philip Clayton, and Nikky Isbel. Attendees valued the ability for mentorship and advice from leaders in transplantation. Additionally, despite the minus eight-degree weather, many members braved the cold to take part in the Fun Run. Special thanks go to Lachlan McMichael, Katharine Hegerty, and Transplant Australia for their excellent organisation of this event.

The ECC focused on other academic events, organising the Early Career Grand Rounds in July on "How to Get Your Papers Published: Insights from Inside the Editorial Process" featured contributions from Toby Coates, Rajiv Khanna, Monica Ng, and Germaine Wong. This session provided practical and candid tips on navigating the publication process and was greatly appreciated by attendees.

We would like to thank our outgoing members for their contributions - Atharva Kale, Eric Son, and Amir Shamshirian (with special acknowledgement to Amir for his contributions to social media). We warmly welcome our incoming members: Jacques Eastment, Alessandra Orsillo, Bradley Gardiner, Maddison Taylor, Craig Cooley, Rhea Navani, Sadia Jahan, and Samuel Neeling, as well as our new co-chairs, Amy Prosser and Lachlan McMichael.

Georgina Irish and Griffith Perkins

Travel Reports

Asia-Pacific Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics Association (APHIA) Annual Scientific Meeting, Bangkok, 5-7 February

Ms Eleni Tsiopelas

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to TSANZ for awarding me the generous TSANZ Travel Award, which supported my attendance at the Asia-Pacific Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics Association (APHIA) Annual Scientific Meeting 2025, held in Bangkok.

The conference offered a diverse range of sessions, including plenary talks, workshops, and interactive discussions on advancements in histocompatibility, immunogenetics, and cell therapy. The program was designed to foster collaboration, share innovative research, and explore new therapies and techniques shaping the future of our field.

I presented an oral poster based on insights gained from the APHIA Virtual Challenge, launched in April 2023. This challenge aimed to assess the proficiency of laboratories in evaluating HLA donor-specific antibodies (DSAs) and predicting virtual crossmatches (VXMs). Since the VXM has become a fundamental tool in the organ allocation process, there have been few structured opportunities to compare results across APHIA laboratories. While there were some inconsistencies in FLXM predictions, we observed over 90% correlation in DSA detection across the APHIA laboratories.

Key topics of focus included cellular immunotherapy, hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT), HLA genomics and clinical relevance, and solid organ transplantation. A particularly interesting presentation addressed the role of HSCT versus CAR T-cell therapies in relapsed large B-cell lymphoma (which accounts for 55-60% of all non-Hodgkin lymphoma in Thailand). Various CAR T-cell therapies and outcomes were discussed. Other compelling sessions included the challenges of delivering cellular therapies to transplant recipients and cancer patients, as well as the use of allogeneic T-cell therapy.

One highlight was a talk by Assistant Professor Gary Kohanbash from Childrens UPMC Hospital in Pittsburgh, who gave an insightful presentation on HLAs in glioma. His findings suggested that homozygous risk HLAs in the Asian population are better able to recognize driver mutations, leading to a lower incidence of glioma in this group compared to populations with White homozygous HLAs, which have less recognition capacity. The study also showed that HLA-C alleles are relevant in the incidence, prognosis, and presence of tumour drivers in glioma.

Overall, the experience was incredibly valuable, filled with engaging and thought-provoking discussions. The event was also an excellent opportunity to reconnect with colleagues, network, and exchange ideas, all while enjoying the tantalizingly delicious Thai cuisine and immersing myself in the rich Thai culture and entertainment at the Gala dinner.

Thank you again TSANZ for making this opportunity possible.

The International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation (ISHLT) 2025 Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, USA, April 27-30

Dr Sanjay Dutta

I was fortunate to be awarded a travel grant from TSANZ to facilitate my attendance at this year's ISHLT annual meeting, which was held in Boston, USA. The ISHLT annual meeting is the largest meeting dedicated to the field of heart and lung transplantation, and over 4,500 people attended this year's meeting.

I presented our research work regarding the outcomes of lung transplant following donation after circulatory death (DCD). I gave an oral presentation examining the impact of asystolic warm ischaemic time on lung transplant outcomes, and I also presented at one of the poster sessions showing that simultaneous lung and heart retrieval does not result in worse outcomes for DCD lung transplantation.

At this meeting there were several presentations by world experts, sharing updates and exciting developments in both basic science and clinical research work. Highlights included the presentation of 10-year survival data for DCD heart transplantation (which was pioneered by my supervisor and research laboratory members), showing no difference in long-term survival for transplantation recipients compare to recipients who received organs from brain dead donors. There was also an update provided on transplantation outcomes from the ISHLT Thoracic Organ Transplant (TTX) registry, the first with new data since 2018, with the specific focus of this year being outcomes following DCD transplantation. Other key presentations focussed on the benefit of temperature-controlled storage in lung transplantation, the use of ex vivo lung perfusion (EVLP) to recover lungs that would previously been unsuitable for transplantation, and the use of apixaban instead of warfarin for patients with left ventricular assist devices.

This was my first visit to the USA so in addition to attending the meeting I made sure to experience some of the cultural experiences available. I attended a Boston Red Sox baseball game on a sunny afternoon and while I did not understand the intricacies of the game, the experience of sitting in the stands with an oversized hotdog and drink was amazing. I was also lucky enough to get tickets to see the Boston Celtics in the basketball playoffs, and the crowd noise was unbelievable when they won the match to proceed to the next round. Running along the Charles River to visit Boston's famous universities and medical institutions helped to work off the number of fast-food chains I sampled that are unavailable back home.

My trip to Boston was an amazing experience and my attendance at the meeting allowed me to learn from world experts in the field. I am incredibly grateful for my supervisors Dr Mark Connellan and Professor Peter Macdonald for their support and guidance with my research work, and for TSANZ for their assistance in attending this meeting.

Dr Brad Gardiner

Thanks very much to the TSANZ for supporting my travel to ISHLT 2025. Boston is an amazing academic city where I was fortunate enough to spend 3 years completing a clinical/research fellowship at Tufts Medical Center from 2014-2017. This was my first opportunity to return to Boston since then, and it was an excellent opportunity to see how the city has changed and catch up with old colleagues!

The ISHLT annual meeting brought together several thousand delegates from around the world to share advances in heart and lung transplantation. It is a truly multidisciplinary meeting, with a strong infectious diseases track running throughout. This covered the breadth and depth of TID including sessions on donor-derived infections, the role of new diagnostics such as next generation sequencing, the impact of RSV, approaches to mollicute infections, updates in parasites such as Chagas, and the role of AI & machine learning in advancing transplant research. CMV, one of my key areas of clinical and research interest, featured strongly throughout the program. There were some excellent talks and research presentations, and I participated in the pre-meeting CMV symposium, where the latest data on diagnostics, treatment, prophylaxis, resistance and immune monitoring were discussed in the context of heart/lung transplantation.

I had the opportunity to present a poster which was entitled 'Comparing and combining global immune biomarkers to predict infections in lung transplant recipients, which evaluated the absolute lymphocyte & neutrophil counts, the Quantiferon®-Monitor and the mitogen component of the Quantiferon®-CMV assay alone an in combination to predict serious opportunistic infections in lung recipients. We found that the lymphocyte count was the most useful single test, although incorporating the 3 other biomarkers modestly improved predictions. Negative predictive values were high indicating that patients with high biomarker values were unlikely to experience serious opportunistic infections. These findings could inform clinical decision-making regarding immunosuppression dosing, intensity of clinical/virologic monitoring and antimicrobial prophylaxis.

Thanks again to TSANZ for supporting my attendance at this meeting. It was an excellent opportunity for networking with both fellow Australians and also colleagues from around the world. I look forward to seeing you at TTS 2026 in Sydney!

T-cell receptor (TCR) Meeting, Belgium, Antwerp, May 27 - 28

Ms Shivanjali Ratnaseelan

Thank you for awarding me with the TSANZ Travel Award which I used to attend the Antwerp T-cell receptor (TCR) meeting that occurred in Belgium during May of 2025. The meeting proved to be extremely insightful into the current work happening in the TCR field. It provided me with further knowledge on emerging technologies in the field, particularly the increased use of modelling algorithms to predict TCR-antigen interactions. The niche nature of the meeting allowed for me to learn about specific skills and techniques used in the field currently.

I was able to present two of my projects as posters which provided the opportunity to have conversations with multiple people from different areas of Europe conducting TCR work, allowing me to build my network. The interest that other scientists also showed in my work proved to be highly encouraging and rewarding. Additionally, the conference also allowed for our team to meet with our collaborators from London and make further progress on our projects together. As a PhD student, I found this experience extremely insightful, and I am grateful to the TSANZ team for awarding me with the travel grant that allowed me to travel to Belgium for this conference.

The 2025 International Congress of the International Liver Transplantation Society (ILTS), Singapore May 28 – 31

Dr Mark Ly

The International Liver Transplantation Society meeting is one of the most anticipated transplant meetings of the year. Held in Singapore this year, ILTS 2025 showcased the latest advances and cutting edge in liver transplantation science. Highlights of this conference included the role of robotics in liver transplantation,

long-term normothermic machine perfusion and using machine perfusion to repair and optimise grafts for transplantation.

Robotic and minimally invasive surgery in liver transplantation was a hot topic at ILTS 2025. Amongst all the engaging and inspiring talks in minimally invasive liver transplantation, the debate on robotic surgery in living donor donation between Dr Dieter Broering from Saudi Arabia (pro) and Dr Albert Chan from Hong Kong (con) was one of the most engaging and entertaining talks of the conference.

There was also a strong Australian presence in Singapore this year. Inspiring talks by A/Prof Carlo Pulitano and Daniel Babekuhl from the Centre of Organ Assessment Repair and Optimisation in Sydney described the arduous journey to support human liver grafts on long-term ex-vivo normothermic machine perfusion for beyond 3 weeks. Daniel was recognised for his efforts with the Young Investigator Award from the ILTS. Furthermore, Dr Anita Niu reported her novel findings on the transcriptomic profiling of grafts undergoing long-term ex-vivo normothermic machine perfusion.

Finally, Dr Robert Porte from the Netherlands and Davide Ghinolfi from Italy discussed and demonstrated the potentials of machine perfusion to assess and repair grafts for transplantation. These talks highlighted the revolutionary role of machine perfusion and the emergence of techniques to improve graft quality, as well as reduce recipient morbidity.

We look forward to seeing what ILTS 2026 has to offer!

Dr Anita Niu

I am grateful for the generous support of the TSANZ Travel Grant which allowed me to attend the 2025 International Congress of the International Liver Transplantation Society (ILTS) in Singapore.

I had the opportunity to present our study, led by my supervisor A/Prof Carlo Pulitano, on the transcriptomic profiling of human livers during long term normothermic machine perfusion as an oral presentation in the Basic Science and Translational Research session. The talk showcased our first results on perfusion of human livers for a world record of up to 7 weeks, highlighting the key transcriptomic pathways expressed during extended perfusion. It received strong interest, and it was an honour for our work to be highlighted in the Best of ILTS (Science) session.

Attending ILTS 2025 was an invaluable and eye-opening experience that allowed me to engage with the latest advancements in liver transplantation from a global perspective. The conference provided a unique opportunity to hear from international experts and connect with clinicians and researchers across the world. Some key highlights from the conference included the increasing integration of AI and robotics in transplantation, as well as learning about experiences with normothermic regional perfusion and living donor transplantations, which are areas we don’t get as much exposure to in Australia. Lastly, Singapore was a

vibrant and culturally rich city, and the people were incredibly welcoming, making the trip all the more enjoyable.

Overall, it was an inspiring experience, and I sincerely thank TSANZ for their support.

European Society for Organ Transplantation (ESOT) Congress, London, 29 June- 2 July

Assoc Prof Bronwyn Levvey

I was extremely grateful to receive a TSANZ International Travel Grant award to attend the European Society for Organ Transplantation (ESOT) 2025 Congress held in London from 29 June -2 July this year. My abstract titled 'Lung Transplant Outcomes Utilising Voluntary Assisted Dying (VA) Organ Donors: Lessons Learnt' was accepted for in the top 500 poster/ e-poster presentations at ESOT, and the very generous travel grant covered registration costs and most of my travel costs to attend the meeting. ESOT 2025 Congress centred around the very powerful theme of "Nurturing a sustainable transplantation journey" – recognising that the future of transplantation relies on more than just innovation and dedication, it really demands sustainability across all the participating sectors.

The congress was held at ExCel London, located at Royal Victoria Dock not from Canary Wharf and well situated on a trainline for easy access- it is part of London I have never visited before. The ExCel Building is huge- about 1 km in length- spanned across multiple levels- and resulted in many walking steps to and from the ESOT congress rooms to the train station each day, as they were located at the far end of the building to the entrance! The temperature in London was a very balmy (and humid) 28-32 degrees- much warmer than I expected – and the UK news constantly referred to the heat wave impacting much of UK and Europe, the lack of rain and need for household water saving measures (sounded very familiar to us Aussies!).

Despite my specialty being lung transplantation, and the predominance of renal and liver sessions, there were so many excellent sessions to attend. Some thought provoking and quality sessions that focused specifically on the conference theme I attended included:

- A Changing Climate-Challenges for Society, Healthcare Systems and Transplantation
- New Technology Fuels Sustainable Post-Transplant Care
- Workforce Sustainability: The Current, Clear Threat to Transplantation Services in Europe

These sessions highlighted challenges that all of us working in the basic science, donation and transplantation sectors are facing now and in the future. The session on New Technology was excellent, describing the pros and cons of using Artificial Intelligence (AI) with-in our everyday work practices, and its penetrance into so many parts of our everyday lives and how it is difficult to decipher what is 'real' and 'true'. I came away understanding that at least for now, AI is not going to take over all our roles, that AI can be extremely useful, and that personal communications and interactions with patients, and families, are still vital to optimising and improving patient outcomes.

The presentation on 'Improving with work Life of Transplant Professionals' given by Sir Stephen Powis- current UK Health Minister in the Workforce Sustainability Session highlighted a recent NHS survey of over 774,000 health care workers, and more specifically those working in organ donation and transplant roles that required 24/7 on-call (surgeons, physicians, nurses, allied health). Poor work-life balance, lack of proper remuneration, too many part-time surgeons, poor work cultures, lack of career progression and variation in work-force models were some of the barriers to a sustainable work-force that were identified. The NHS also interviewed patients from each transplant/health organisation, and they consistently reported a lack of social supports and psychological supports really impacted their post-transplant care, health and impact on their families.

The NHS Steering Group has developed a range of recommendations including one that focuses specifically on development of a 'national transplant workforce template to provide definitions of the skill mix for an effective, safe and resilient transplant workforce that is fit for current and future demands'. It will be interesting to watch over the next 2 years until the next ESOT Congress, as to how the NHS Steering Group implement their recommendations and what success they have in improving the sustainability of their transplant workforce.

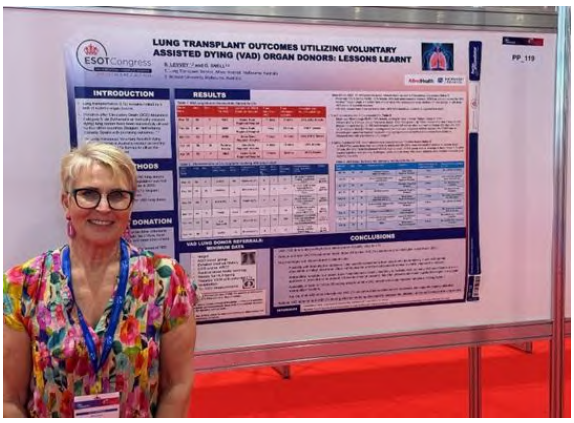
There were also excellent interactive and highly educational lung transplant/ cardiothoracic transplant and organ donation sessions I attended including:

- Chronic lung allograft dysfunction: what's next
- I, Robot: Serving cardiothoracic transplantation between machines and human-beings
- ECMO in Cardiothoracic transplantation: Our new best friend?
- Donor Organ Optimisation in Cardiothoracic Transplantation
- Advanced therapy delivery during organ perfusion- irradicating donor infections?
- Biomarkers, GEP, molecular biology and bioinformatics: costly toys or necessary tools?
- Organ Donation after Euthanasia (ODE) in Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID): One step further in decision-making.

The session on Organ Donation after Euthanasia/MAID was extremely relevant for me given my poster abstract reported our Australian lung transplant outcomes to-date utilising lungs from Voluntary Assisted Dying organ donors. Every presenter in this session highlighted the benefits of this donor pool but also acknowledged the various ethical and practical challenges their programs had faced at the start and even now as they push the boundaries of donation further.

Abstract sessions were well attended, and it was great to see a significant number of Australian researchers, transplant professionals and donation specialists presenting and attending the meeting. Overall, I was disappointed in the small number of nursing and allied health related sessions that featured in the program though it did appear there were a significant number of the posters that were authored by nurses/ allied health. Posters were available for viewing the whole of the congress, in print and as e-posters. I found it very beneficial talking to many other poster presenters and discussing their research and outcomes.

Overall, attending ESOT in London was a fantastic experience professionally and I cannot thank TSANZ enough for their Travel Grant and ongoing support. After a lovely, but all too brief, visit to the absolutely beautiful region of the Cotswolds post the conference, I returned to Australia filled with new knowledge, determination to continue working on improving the sustainability of our program, and some interesting ideas for future projects, to share with my lung transplant colleagues in Melbourne.



World Transplant Congress (WTC) San Francisco, 2-6 August

Mr James Hedley

A massive thank you to TSANZ for the generous travel award which covered the full cost for me to attend the World Transplant Congress in San Francisco, USA in August 2025. It was an exciting opportunity to showcase our new Australian deceased donor kidney allocation algorithm (KOALA) to the international transplant community. I presented on our novel approach to prognosis matching, and it was fascinating to learn about US perspectives where this has been deprioritised due to complaints of age discrimination.

The conference included presenters from around the world, from California all the way to New York, and even some other countries! Despite the US bias, it truly was incredible to hear experiences in transplantation from across the globe. A highlight for me was Dr. Borys Todurov's plenary about the challenges of transplantation in Ukraine during the Russian invasion. His stories were heartbreaking and really put some of the challenges we face back home into perspective. I loved hearing about some of their rapid innovations, including updating laws to prevent donation from casualties of war, removal of patents to allow improvised perfusion machines, and use of military drones to transport organs when helicopters were unavailable. Another highlight was having entire sessions dedicated to niche areas of research which is only possible on a global scale. Of particular interest to me were sessions on organ allocation, innovations in paired donation, and clinical decision making.

Outside the conference, a personal highlight was completing my most physically demanding accomplishment to date, climbing to the top of Half Dome in Yosemite National Park. The hike took longer than my flight and reached a quarter of the altitude but was well worth it! I am grateful to have had this amazing opportunity, especially since many others would not have been able to travel to the US as freely as I could. Thanks again TSANZ!

Mr Harry Robertson

With the generous support of the TSANZ Travel Award, I had the privilege of attending the World Transplant Congress (WTC) in San Francisco in July 2025. This congress was the largest international meeting I have attended, bringing together thousands of clinicians, scientists, and industry leaders across kidney, liver, heart, and lung transplantation. The breadth of the program, which spanned everything from cell therapy to policy, was both stimulating and a little overwhelming.

I was fortunate to present our paper "Renal-Agent: The first autonomous agent for renal pathology". This presentation generated interesting discussion around how artificial intelligence and agent-based frameworks could be applied to biopsy interpretation and how they may fit within future clinical workflows. It was encouraging to see genuine interest from both pathologists and transplant physicians in how such tools could support diagnostic reproducibility and efficiency.

The meeting highlights for me included thematic sessions on multimodal biomarker development, advances in computational pathology, and ongoing debates around the regulation and ethics of AI in medicine. Of relevance to my research was a plenary on integrative multi-omics, which provided useful context for how large US-based groups are designing validation pipelines for biomarker discovery.

Equally important was the opportunity to build connections. I was able to meet Professor Alex Loupy, Dr. Marta Sablik, and the Paris Transplant Group, whose work in risk stratification and precision diagnostics closely complements my own. These discussions opened the door to potential collaborations that may accelerate the translation of computational methods into clinically meaningful endpoints. Beyond this, informal conversations with peers from Europe, the United States, and Asia provided valuable perspectives on how different healthcare systems are approaching data integration, particularly in the context of national transplant registries.

The congress also encouraged me to think more broadly about my own career trajectory. Seeing the pace of global work on AI, biomarkers, and precision transplantation reinforced both the opportunities and the challenges for early-career researchers working at the intersection of computational and clinical science.

In summary, attending WTC 2025 was an invaluable experience. It allowed me to showcase my own research on autonomous pathology agents, learn from leaders across the field, and form new collaborations that will shape the next stage of my work. I am sincerely grateful to the TSANZ for their support in making this opportunity possible.

Miss Tennille Vitagliano

Thanks to the incredibly generous support of TSANZ, I had the privilege of attending the 2025 World Transplant Congress in San Francisco, USA, held from August 2–6. This was both my first time attending an international conference and my first visit to the United States, an unforgettable milestone in my professional journey.

Over the three days I attended, I was fortunate to present both a rapid-fire oral presentation and a poster, showcasing the exciting work we have been doing at The University of Sydney. I was so grateful for the positive feedback and thoughtful discussions that followed my session.

Beyond my own presentations, I attended several panel sessions featuring true “all-star casts” and had the surreal experience of seeing the faces behind many of the papers I’ve read and cited throughout my research.

A major highlight was deepening my understanding of living donor donation. I learned about the challenges that arise throughout the donor pipeline, from the initial inquiry stage to post-donation follow-up, and saw how these issues continue to have a significant impact on the community. There is a growing recognition of the importance of supporting prospective donors through education, mentoring, financial aid, and clear transitions to primary care. These themes came up again and again as key priorities.

As a basic science researcher stepping more fully into clinical spaces, I left feeling inspired. I was surrounded by passionate clinicians, nephrologists, transplant surgeons, biostatisticians, healthcare workers, students, and scientists, all united in the effort to address complex issues such as equitable access to waitlisting and transplantation, improving treatment options, prolonging organ viability, and developing strategies to increase the living donor pool.

I’m excited for the projects it has encouraged me to continue with in Australia, and of course, many thanks again to TSANZ for such a wonderful experience! Here's some fun pictures 😊

ASM 2025
Highlights
TSANZ
2025 Transplant Infectious Diseases Day (TID)

2025 Award Winners

During the Annual Dinner on 23 June 2025, at the 43rd TSANZ Annual Scientific Meeting, award winners were announced by TSANZ Vice President, Professor Nicole Isbel.

TSANZ Aviva Rosenfeld Award for Excellence in Patient Care in Transplantation

This award has been established in honour of Aviva Rosenfeld, the TSANZ Executive Officer from 1996 to 2015.

The Aviva award recognises an outstanding clinician (including physicians, surgeons, nurses, psychologists, social workers, other allied health Professionals) who has demonstrated excellence in patient care in transplantation.

Winner – CALINA TING

Josette Eris Memorial Award

In support of emerging female leaders in transplantation.

Winner – DEBBIE WATSON

TSANZ Ian McKenzie Prize for Outstanding Contribution in Transplantation

This prestigious award recognises researchers who have demonstrated excellence and exceptional contribution in the field of transplantation.

Winner - NATASHA ROGERS

TSANZ Award for the highest scoring abstract relating to Transplantation - Heart

Winner – WARREN PAVEY

TSANZ Award for the highest scoring abstract relating to Transplantation - First Nations People

Winner – WATHSALA MUNASINGHE

TSANZ Award for the highest scoring abstract relating to Transplantation – Gender Equity

Winner – TENNILLE VITAGLIANO

Lungitude Foundation Award - Sponsored by the Lungitude Foundation

Winner – SANJAY DUTTA

KHA Awards - Sponsored by Kidney Health Australia

Winner (Clinical Research) - TRACEY YING

Winner (Laboratory Research) - **ALEX GILBERT**

President's Prize (Basic Science) Winner – YASHUTOSH JOSHI	***President's Prize (Clinical Science)*** Winner – HARRY ROBERTSON
President's Prize People's Choice Award Winner – YASHUTOSH JOSHI	***President's Prize People's Choice Award*** Winner – YASHUTOSH JOSHI
Best Poster (Basic Science) Winner – NIRUPAMA VERMA	***Best Poster (Clinical Science)*** Winner – ALISON WEIGHTMAN
Early Career Researcher Award (Basic Science) Karli Shaw Daniel Babekuhl Matthew Jack Tunbridge James Besanko Yashutosh Joshi Cheng Sheng Chai Griffith Boord Perkins Taeyoung Son Jennifer Rigterink Amy Prosser	***Early Career Researcher Award (Clinical Science)*** Rachel Cutting Yashutosh Joshi Harry Robertson Charles William George Risbey Craig Coorey Nida Saleem Sanjay Dutta Alex Gilbert Brenda Maria Rosales James Hedley

Grand Rounds in 2025

TSANZ SPEC, with support of the Board has continued the interactive state-of-the-art educational virtual webinars which will provide a succinct overview of important clinical, translational and practical aspects of the spectrum of organ transplantation and are suitable for all members of the clinical and research community, including medical and surgical advanced trainees in transplantation. The webinars also provide an opportunity to interact and submit questions to the speakers and access to the recorded talks.

Professor Shilpa Jesudason
Updates on pregnancy post kidney transplant

Dr Nicole Gaffney
Updates on pregnancy post lung transplant

Followed by a Panel Discussion: Prof Shilpa Jesudason, Dr Nicole Gaffney, Dr Caitlin Cheshire (Cardiac Transplant Physician), Dr Rajit Narayan (MFM Obstetrician for Liver Transplant))

Grand Round #23

"Pregnancy after Transplant - the current state of play"

20 November 2025
4:00PM AEDT

Assoc Professor Ben Teh
Peter Macallum Cancer Centre

Dr Bradley Gardiner
MBBS FRACP PhD
Alfred Health

Dr Tina Marinelli
MBBS MPH+TM FRACP
Royal Prince Alfred Hospital

Grand Rounds #22

"Vaccination Update in SOT"

16 October 2025
4:00PM AEDT

Grand Rounds #21

Germaine Wong
Monica Ng
Rajiv Khanna
Toby Coates

24 July 2025
4:00PM AEST

Grand Rounds #20

Dr Rowena Lalji & Dr Ryan Gately

"Transplant Tinder- HLA matching, Equity and rethinking how we approach this for the future..."

25 March 2025
4:00pm AEDT

The Board

Professor Nicole Isbel
Chair

Professor Wai Lim
Deputy Chair

Associate Professor Avik Majumdar
Secretary

Dr Joshua Kausman
Treasurer

Dr Siah Kim
TSANZ Board Member

Dr Paul Manley
TSANZ Board Member

Mr James Rance
TSANZ Board Member

Dr Handoo Rhee
Surgical Representative

Mr Paul Robertson
ADTCA Representative

Dr Animesh Singla
TSANZ Board Member

Ms Claire West
TNA Representative

Associate Professor John Whitlam
TSANZ Board Member

Professor Kate Wyburn
Immediate Past President

Past Presidents

2022 - 2025	Kate Wyburn	2009 - 2011	Frank Ierino	1995 - 1997	Bruce Hall
2021 - 2022	Helen Pilmore	2007 - 2009	Josette Eris	1993 - 1995	Tom Mandel
2019 - 2021	Toby Coates	2005 - 2007	Philip O'Connell	1991 - 1993	Ian McKenzie
2017 - 2019	Steve Alexander	2003 - 2005	Randall Faull	1989 - 1991	Kerry Atkinson
2015 - 2017	Steve Chadban	2001 - 2003	Stephen Lynch	1987 - 1989	Anthony d'Apice
2013 - 2015	Geoff McCaughan	1999 - 2001	Mauro Sandrin	1985 - 1987	James Biggs
2011 - 2013	Peter Macdonald	1997 - 1999	Jeremy Chapman	1982 - 1985	Ross Sheil

Life Members

Associate Professor James Biggs AM
Dr Alex Bishop
Professor Jeremy Chapman AC
Professor Anthony d'Apice
Professor Bruce Hall
Emeritus Professor Vernon Marshall
Professor Ian McKenzie
Professor Emeritus Jacques Miller
Professor Anthony Monaco
Professor Emeritus Sir Gustav Nossal
Professor Ainslie Sheil
Emeritus Professor Keryn Williams
Associate Professor Charmaine Simeonovic

Scientific Program and Education Committee (SPEC)

Dr Karen Keung

TSANZ SPEC Co-Chair (2025-2027)

Dr Matthew Sypek

TSANZ SPEC Co-Chair (2025-2027)

Dr Michael Collins

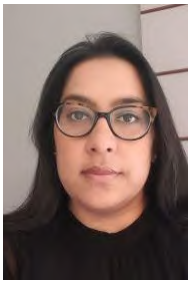
TSANZ SPEC (2025-2029)

Dr Ahmer Hameed

TSANZ SPEC (2025-2029)

Dr Siah Kim

TSANZ SPEC (2023-2027)



Dr Jyotika Prasad

TSANZ SPEC (2025-2029)

Early Career Committee (ECC)

Amy Prosser
Co-Chair

Lachlan McMichael
Co-Chair

Craig Coorey

Laura De Souza

Jacques Eastment

Bradley Gardiner

Katharine Hegerty

Donna Hickling

Sadia Jahan

Joshua Lee

Saskia Leibowitz

Rhea Navani

Samuel Neeling

Alessandra Orsillo

Aspasia Pefanis

Olivia Smibert

Maddison Taylor

Karen Waller

Advisory Committees, Working Groups and Special Interest Groups

Professor Wai Lim

Deputy Chair TSANZ

Chair Advisory Committees

Mrs Kim Rawson

TSANZ Project Manager

Advisory Committees

Cardiac (CTAC)

NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	NZ
Peter Macdonald	Robert Weintraub	George Javorsky (Chair)	Clare Fazackerley	Sarah Fitzsimons
Kavitha Muthiah	Jacob Mathew	Abbey Tahi	Amit Shah	Bryan Mitchelson
Paul Jansz	Hitesh Patel		Felicity Lee	Tom Pasley
Liarna Honeysett	Jodi Gillott		Agneta GeldenHuys	
Philip Roberts	Peter Bergin		Ulrich Stock	
Naomi Anderson	Chris Merry		Robert Larbalestier	
Claire Irving			Julie McLean	

Donor Surgeons Donor Coordinators (DSDC)

NSW	National	WA	SA	VIC	QLD	ACT	TAS	NZ	NT
Jerome Laurence	Caitlin Kolaric	Ronald De Roo	Eu Ling Neo	Michael Fink	Handoo Rhee	Narelle Comer	Sarah Cullen	Markus Schamm	Leigh Hill
Henry Pleass	Ryan Quade	Marie Schaumann	Bonny Kapelko	Georgie Callaghan	Niamh Farrell			Peter Swan	Philip Toonson
Mark Connellan	Alison Hodak	Arul Suthananthan		Bettina Clark	Fran Rourke			Lisa Craig	
Dexter Cornelius	Helen Opdam	Melissa Smith		Bulang He				Sharon Skinner	
Taina Lee				Justine Holloway				Owen Chesbrough	
Michael Boyle				Lauren Herd					
Animesh Singla (Chair)									
Nicola Seifert									

Immunology Transplant (ITAC)

NSW	VIC	QLD	SA
Bruce Hall	Frank Ierino (Chair)	Geoff Hill	Keryn Williams
Natasha Rogers		Ross Francis	Toby Coates
Stephen Alexander			
Alex Bishop			
Alex Sharland			
Paul Trevellian			
Geoff McCaughan			

Liver (LITAC)

NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	NZ
Michael Crawford	Robert Jones	Peter Hodgkinson	John Chen (Deputy Chair)	Luc Delriviere	Helen Evans
Susan Siew	Wing-Yee Lo	Caroline Tallis	Libby John	Arul Suthananthan	Louise Barbier
Simone Strasser (Chair)	Michael Fink		Jeyamani Ramachandran	Gary Jeffrey	Ed Gane
	Graham Starkey				
	Winita Hardikar				
	Adam Testro				
	Avik Majumdar				
	Marcos Perini				
	Liz Bannister				
	Marie Sinclair				

Lung (LTAC)

NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	NZ
David Darley	Glen Westall	Peter Hopkins	Mark Holmes	Sharon Lawrence	Sasiharan Sithamparanathan
Emily Granger	Bronwyn Levvey	Lesleigh Winks	Chien-Li Holmes	Michael Musk	James Rance
Mark Connellan	Miranda Paraskeva (Chair)	Michael Trotter		Ulrich Stock	
Liarna Honeysett	Greg Snell			Agneta Geldenhuys	
Claire Thomson				Sasha Bosich (Consumer Rep)	
				Meow Yaw	

Paediatric (PTAC)

NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	NZ
Michael Stormon	Bulang He	Rowena Lalji	Sally Kellett	Nicholas Larkins (Chair)	Chanel Prestidge
Nicolette de Rooy	Robert Jones			Adam Philipoff	Helen Evans
Stephen Alexander	Robert Weintraub				
Gordon Thomas	Ali Sahin (Consumer rep)				
	Miranda Paraskeva				
	Joshua Kausman				
	Liz Bannister				

Pancreas & Islet (PITAC)

NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	NZ
Paul Robertson	John Kanellis	Pat Siciliano (Consumer rep)	Toby Coates	Helen Pilmore
Germaine Wong	Thomas Loudovaris	Peter Yoon	Shantanu Bhattacharjya	Markus Schamm
Philip O Connell	Alan Saunder			
Henry Pleass	Stephen Thwaites			
Angela Webster	Tia Mark			
Natasha Rogers (Chair)	Roger Bell			
Taina Lee	Matthew Damasiewicz			
Wayne Hawthorne	Bill Mulley			

Renal (RTAC)

NSW	National	VIC	SA	QLD	WA	NZ	Organ Match
Mitra Burns (Consumer rep)	Ryan Quade	Peter Hughes	Michael Collins	Ai Lin Tan	Lloyd D'Orsogna	Paul Manley	Narelle Watson
Kate Wyburn	Alison Hodak	Sharon Ford (ANZSN)	Phil Clayton	Tina Coco	Nicholas Larkins	Reshma Shettigar	Luke Datson
David Gracey	Mark McDonald	Kathy Paizis		Ross Francis (Chair)	Wai Lim		
Tim Furlong	Rhonda Holdsworth	Manisha Chaubai-Menon (Consumer rep)		Scott Campbell			
	Helen Opdam	John Whitlam					

Tissue Typing Advisory Committee (TTAC)

VIC	SA	NSW	QLD	WA	NZ
Rhonda Holdsworth (Chair)	Lucy Sullivan	Narelle Watson	Alycia Thornton	Jon Downing	Heather Dunckley
Bronwyn Levvey	Tim Emery	Louise Goddard	Ross Francis		
Linda Cantwell	Luke Datson	Jonathan Moses			
Fiona Hudson					

Vascular Composite Allograft (VCAAC)

Uterine Transplant Guideline Development

NSW	VIC
Kate Wyburn	Sharon Ford
Rebecca Deans (Chair)	Karen Dwyer
Sue Nosworthy	Dominique Martin
Sydney Ch'ng	Frank Ierino
Anthony Marren	Deborah Neesham
Brigitte Gerstl	Rashi Kalra

Dana Georgevsky	Catarina Ang
Elena Cavazzoni	Amira Dkeidek
Henry Pleass	James Burt
Jana Pittman	Kate Stern
Karen Keung	Shami Kathurusinghe
Meredith Stone	Sonia Grover
Mianna Lotz	Tarana Lucky
Natasha Rogers	
Wayne Hsueh	

Working Groups

Adolescent & Young Adult Transplant Working Group

NZ	WA	VIC	TAS	NSW	NZ	QLD
Rachael Harry (Chair)	Jacqueline Soraru	Elizabeth Bannister	Matthew Jose	Sean Kennedy	Chanel Prestidge	Caroline Tallis
		Joshua Kausman				Melanie Aldridge
		Miranda Paraskeva				Laura De Souza
		Jeremy Fuller				

CF Liver & Multivisceral Transplant Working Group

INDIA	NSW	NZ	QLD	VIC
Rishi Bolla	Henry Pleass	Helen Evans	Paul Robinson	Mark Oliver (Chair)
	Anastasia Volovets	Jon Bishop	Peter Hopkins	John Massie
	Michael Stormon		Caroline Tallis	Tom Kotsimbos
	Keith Ooi		Peter Lewindon	Silvana Marasco
	Germaine Wong			Miranda Paraskeva
	Sheila Sivam			Greg Snell
				John Kanellis
				Kathe Holmes
				Robert Jones
				Avik Majumdar

Haematopoietic Cell Transplantation Sub-Committee

NSW	VIC	NZ	QLD	WA
Jonathan Moses (Chair)	Cathie Hart	Heather Dunckley	Alycia Thornton	Dianne DeSantis
	Janine Paris			

Guideline Advisory Panel (GAP) – Led By Emily Larkins

QLD	VIC	WA	NT	TAS	NZ	OTA	NSW	ACT	SA
Niamh Farrell	Meaghan Bruns	Kylie Monk	Leigh Hill	Kate Gray	Annette Flanagan	Luke Datson	Paul Robertson	Marilina Ripoli	Toby Coates
	Andrew Young	Nicholas Larkins			James Rance		Karen Keung		Bonny Kapelko
	Debbie Gregory						Kavitha Muthiah		
	Sharon Ford						Jessica Harvey		
	Julie Pavlovic								
	Kathy Paizis								
	Jodi Gillott								

Imlifidase Working Group (RTAC IWG)

NSW	NZ	QLD	SA	VIC	WA
Anne Taverniti	Ian Dittmer	Luke Droney	Phil Clayton	Kathy Paizis	Linh Truong
Kate Wyburn	John Irvine	Alycia Thornton	Rob Carroll	John Whitlam (Chair)	Lloyd D'Orsogna
Adrienne Cohen		Ross Francis	Lucy Sullivan	Fiona Hudson	Brittany Stevenson
Stella McGinn		Scott Campbell	Tim Emery	Louise Goddard	Nicholas Larkins
Narelle Watson		Tina Coco		Linda Cantwell	Wai Lim
David Gracey				Josh Kausman	
				Tim Furlong	
				Peter Hughes	
				Emma Van Hardeveld	
				Belinda Jones	

Kidney Allocation Working Group

TAS	NSW	QLD	SA	VIC	WA	ACT
Sarah White (Project Manager)	Kate Wyburn (Chair)	Scott Campbell	Phil Clayton	Rhonda Holdsworth	Nicholas Larkins	Kane Deering
	Narelle Watson	Ross Francis		Peter Hughes	Wai Lim	
	James Hedley			John Kanellis		
				Kathy Paizis		
				Matt Sypek		

LITAC Machine Perfusion Working Group

WA	NZ	SA	NSW	VIC	QLD
Arul Suthananthan (Chair)	Louise Barbier	John Chen	Simone Strasser	Robert Jones	Peter Hodgkinson
Luc Delriviere	Hannah Giles	Eu Ling Neo	Susanna Lam	Graham Starkey	Nick Butler
Adam Philipoff		John Thomson	Carlo Pulitano		

Liver Oncology Sub-Committee

NSW	VIC	NZ	QLD	WA
Michael Crawford (Chair)	Avik Majumdar	Louise Barbier	Caroline Tallis	Gary Jeffrey
Carlo Pulitano	Marcos Perini	John McCall	Nick Butler	
Jerome Laurence	John Chen	Peter Hodgkinson		
	Graham Starkey			

Living Donation Clinical Working Group

NSW	QLD	WA	VIC	NT	SA	NZ
Melanie Wyld (Co-Chair)	Nikky Isbel	Neil Boudville	John Kanellis	Kerry Dole	Alison Weightman	Paul Manley
Kate Wyburn	Michelle Harfield	Adam Philipoff	Darren Lee		Lachlan McMichael	
Sara Stoler			Amanda Robertson			
			Rosemary Masterson			
			Emma Van den Hardeveld			
			Peter Hughes			
			Karen Dwyer			

LITAC Machine Perfusion (LITAC MPWG)

WA	NZ	SA	NSW	VIC	QLD
Arul Sunananthan (Chair)	Louise Barbier	John Chen	Simone Strasser	Robert Jones	Peter Hodgkinson
Luc Delriviere	Hannah Giles	Eu Ling Neo	Suzanna Lam	Graham Starkey	Nick Butler
Adam Philipoff		John Thomson	Carlo Pulitano		

Quality of Care in Liver Transplant Working Group (QCLT WG)

VIC	SA	QLD	NSW	WA	NZ
Avik Majumdar (Co-Chair)	Libby John	Caroline Tallis (Co-Chair)	Simone Strasser	Gary Jeffrey	Louise Barbier
Winita Hardikar	Eu Ling Neo	Peter Hodgkinson	Susan Siew	Luc Delriviere	Dominic Ray Chaudhuri
Julie Pavlovic	Jeyamani Ramachandran	Fariha Balouch	Michael Crawford	Helen Jahshan	Helen Evans
Ruelan Furtado		David Melgar			
		Rebekah Ferris			

RTAC Machine Perfusion (RTAC MPWG)

VIC	QLD	NSW	SA	WA
John Whitlam (Chair)	Ross Francis	Kate Wyburn	Phil Clayton	Jagadish Jamboti
Bulang He	Scott Campbell	Ahmer Hameed	Ashvini Shekar	
Kathy Paizis	Handoo Rhee	Susanna Lam		

Xenotransplantation (XTWG)

NSW	VIC
Wayne Hawthorne (Chair)	Anjan Bongoni
Erin Fuller	Peter Cowan
Philip O'Connell	Hilton Gock
	Frank Ierino
	Evelyn Salvaris
	Tom Loudovaris

Special Interest Groups

Transplant Infectious Diseases SIG

WA	NSW	SA	VIC	QLD	NZ
Peter Boan (Chair)	Tina Marinelli (Co-Chair)	Matthew Roberts	Bradley Gardiner	Lana Sundac	Rebekah Lane
	Elke Woodhouse	Chien-Li Holmes-Liew	Olivia Smibert	Kanthi Vemuri	
	Karen Waller				

TSANZ Machine Perfusion SIG

QLD	NSW	VIC	WA
Handoo Rhee	Animesh Singla (Chair)	Greg Snell	Ulrich Stock
Ross Francis	Natasha Rogers	Bronwyn Levvey	Arul Suthananthan (LITAC MP Chair)
Scott Campbell	Kate Wyburn	John Whitlam (RTAC MP Chair)	
		Bulang He	