Dear Members,

In this issue of our newsletter, I would like to emphasise the importance of professional development and keeping up to date with developments in professional practice, as well as with new resources and tools available for use in research and practice. Recently I purchased a new Windows 8 touch screen home computer, and it has taken me a while to get used to this upgrade in technology. At times I have felt very out of touch, especially since my son was the one who set it up for me so quickly while I watched on in both awe and confusion!

In professional practice with individuals with brain impairment, new developments are constantly occurring and new technologies and resources are becoming available all of the time. It is an important function of ASSBI to keep our members updated with new developments in this area, and I invite you to check our website for our products (e.g., “Memory Disorders: New Types, Assessment Techniques & Interventions”, a 3-disc DVD of presentations given by Dr Suncica (Sunny) Lah, Dr Laurie Miller and Dr Kylie Radford), as well as our upcoming workshops (e.g., “Goal Training Workshop” by Helen Badge on 7th November) and webinars (e.g., “Are You for Real? Feigning, exaggeration & overwhelm: A review of current approaches and problems in clinical and medico-legal settings”, which will be presented by Dr Jan Ewing on 2nd October 2014). We hope that you have a look at what is available and that you benefit from the many resources that we offer.

Finally, if you have any questions, feedback or suggestions for the society, or suggestions regarding the improvement or expansion of our resources, please feel free to e-mail me or our Executive Officer Margaret Eagers-Rickit.

Best wishes and enjoy the Spring weather

David Shum, President

ASSBInewsletter
Australasian Society for the Study of Brain Impairment
September 2014
Issue 48
Working together to improve the lives of people with brain injury

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WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT

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Best wishes and enjoy the Spring weather

David Shum, President

EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT

The 2015 Membership renewal was due on 1st July 2014. Please renew or join now.

Cheers

Margaret Eagers-Rickit, EO

SOCIAL MEDIA

Like us on Facebook, Follow ASSBI on Twitter
Join Psychwire and follow ASSBI. Become a contact on LinkedIn

DEAR ASSBI,

Innovations in Student Placements – Encouraging a Stronger Interest In Working In Neurology

ASSBI has for many years successfully supported students in conducting neurological research. It provides opportunity for students to present research through journals and conferences and is well resourced through access to an experienced group of world renowned researchers. The challenge from a clinical practice perspective is in encouraging students to select neurology as a career pathway and in instilling a lifetime interest in working with people with neurological disability. Practices such as Inter Professional Education are particularly relevant to the field of neurology where the complexity of patient issues can often be more successfully addressed by shared input across a number of health professionals. The more we learn about such placements that can stimulate student interest in neurology the more opportunity we will have to encourage new clinicians in joining the rest of us in this highly rewarding area of professional
practice. As such I would urge ASSBI to encourage submission of abstracts and journal articles from Universities around innovations in student placements.

Janet Wagland
Manager, Services For Younger People Brightwater Care Group (Inc.)

NEWS
ARTICLE IN PRESS – Journal of Clinical and Experimental Neuropsychology
Kelly, M., McDonald, S., & Kellett, D.

Development of a Novel Task for Investigating Decision Making in a Social Context Following Traumatic Brain Injury

What the study is about
Assessment and interventions targeting social skills following traumatic brain injury is a growing area of research. Decision making is one important facet of social functioning, and it is commonly a problematic area for people with traumatic brain injury (TBI). We developed a new task (Social Decision Making Task) to allow for the assessment of decision making specifically within a social context following TBI.

What we did
A group of participants with TBI were compared to a group of healthy control participants on the Social Decision Making Task (SDMT). To complete the task well, participants needed to learn who the ‘friendly’ players were in a computerised game of toss, that is, who returned the ball to them most often. Participants also completed a non-social decision making task, the Iowa Gambling Task (IGT) as well as a number of neuropsychological and social cognition tests.

What we found
Consistent with predictions, participants with TBI made poorer decisions on the SDMT than the control group, however, the two groups were not different in their performance on the non-social decision making task, the IGT. We were unable to show any relationship in performance on the SDMT and the IGT, suggesting the two tasks measure different constructs. No significant relationships in performance were observed for the SDMT and social cognition (e.g., emotion recognition, theory of mind) or executive functioning (e.g., working memory and reversal learning).

What next
The SDMT offers a new way of examining decision making within a social context following TBI. We hope that future research can determine whether people with certain types of brain injury are more likely to have difficulty with social decision making as measured by the SDMT, and also determine what other factors may play a role in making good social decisions.

For more information contact; Michelle Kelly mkelly@unsw.edu.au

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A BIG THANKS go to all of you who completed our online survey about our continuing education program.

If you offered to partake of your wisdom and didn’t give your details can you please email admin@assbi.com.au so Miriam can get in touch.

If you would like to see someone give a workshop in your State or know of anyone coming to Australia in 2015 who would like to give a workshop or webinar for ASSBI members, please email either Miriam Poole or Margaret Eagers-Rick at admin@assbi.com.au and we will endeavour to organise a full/half day workshop or a one hour webinar.

Current Webinar Series
The next webinar in the series will go to air on 7th October 2014 with Jan Ewing but you can still sign up for the previous ones and watch “on demand”.

7 October: The problem of feigning and exaggeration by Dr Jan Ewing
2 December: Fatigue and Sleep Disturbance following TBI by Prof Jennie Ponsford

IMPORTANT: Don’t forget that the webinar is for watching only and the material is not to be used in its entirety to train staff in your organisation. The speakers put a lot of time into preparing these webinars for YOUR continuing education.

REGISTER NOW
You can still register for the undernoted and watch “on demand”

- A User’s Guide to PsychBITE by Prof Skye McDonald
- Training communication partners how to interact with people with TBI: Assessment and treatment considerations by Prof Leanne Togher
- TBI and Depression by Prof Jim Malec

“STUDENTS CORNER”
Check out the ASSBI Students page on our website

Getting to know your fellow Student Ambassadors and learning about their current research!

Dr Elizabeth Beadle
Student Ambassador 2013-2014

Lizzie is a Clinical and NeuroPsychologist from Griffith University. She commenced her PhD in February 2013 and is interested in identity after a moderate to severe TBI in adulthood. Specifically, she is interested in if/how identity changes after TBI, how this influences psychological adjustment, and the cognitive factors that underlie these identity processes. She is also the project coordinator of a NHMRC project examining different approaches to learning after TBI.

Title of project: Neurocognitive and psychosocial factors related to changes in self-identity after traumatic brain injury

Supervisors: A/Prof Tamara Ownsworth (principal); A/Prof Jenny Fleming (external); Prof David Shum (associate);

email: elizabeth.beadle@unconne ct.edu.au

- Effect sizes: How to calculate them, interpret them and generally make sense of them by Dr Michael Perdices

Workshops:
Friday 7th November – full day – Adina Apartment Hotel, Melbourne
Helen Badge: Goal Training Workshop
Information on workshop and Helen: http://www.cvent.com/d/x4qvs7
Register: http://www.cvent.com/d/x4qvs7/4W
Dr Ros Boyd and her team will be presenting "Move it to improve it": A Multi-Modal web based intervention for children with Cerebral Palsy and Acquired Brain Injury as a full day workshop in MARCH 2015. I will email details out to one and all when a date has been set.

**CONFERENCES**

**INS/ASSBI 5th Pacific Rim Conference**

The ASSBI 38th Annual Brain Impairment Conference is collaborating with the International Neuropsychological Society’s mid-year Meeting on 1-4 July 2015 and will be held in Sydney at the Sofitel Sydney Wentworth and is convened by Prof Jennie Ponsford.

Keynote speakers and ½ day workshop presenters are: Professors Leanne Carey (AUS), Terrie Inder (USA), Mark Sherer (USA) and A/Prof Angelle Sander (USA).

Workshops will also be given by Profs Roy Kessels and Luciano Fasotti (NL) and Prof Jan Copeland, A/Prof Nadia Solowij (AUS) and A/Prof Raul Gonzalez (USA).

Prof Barbara A Wilson from the UK will present a 1 hour breakfast seminar.

Prof John Hodges (UK & AUS) will give a keynote address, A/Prof Paul McCrory will give the Opening Address A/Prof Tamara Ownsworth (AUS) and Dr Ann Watts from South Africa will give the ASSBI and INS Presidential Addresses.

We will be showcasing the speakers in this and future newsletters. To download a flyer and to get information on the conference as it comes through go to [http://www.assbi.com.au/conference_2015.html](http://www.assbi.com.au/conference_2015.html)

**A/Prof Paul McCrory**

**Opening Address**

MBBS PhD FRACP FACSP FACSM FFSEM FASMF FRSM GradDipEpidStats

Paul McCrory is a consultant neurologist and sports physician who specialises in traumatic brain injury and sports neurology. He is a NH&MRC Practitioner Fellow at the Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health in Melbourne, Australia. He worked as a team physician for 15 years in the national Australian football competition and advises a number of sports internationally with regard to brain injury policy advice. He is a founding member and chair of the Concussion in Sport Consensus Group and is a member of the Concussion/Mild TBI Subgroup for the US NIH, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke.

A/Professor McCrory will be giving the Opening Address on Wednesday evening entitled: Short and long term consequences of sports concussion - media myth or scientific fact?

**Prof Barbara A. Wilson**

**1hr breakfast seminar**

OBE, Ph.D, D.Sc., CPsychol, FBPSs, FmedSci, AcSS

The Oliver Zangwill Centre, Ely, Cambridgeshire, UK

Barbara Wilson is a clinical neuropsychologist who has worked in brain injury rehabilitation for over 36 years. She has won many awards for her work including an OBE for services to rehabilitation in 1998 and two lifetime achievement awards, one from the British Psychological Society and one from the International Neuropsychological Society. In September 2011 she received the Ramon Y Cahal award from the International Neuropsychiatric Association. In November 2014 she received the Distinguished Lifetime Contribution to Neuropsychology Award from the National Academy of Neuropsychology. She has published 22 books, over 270 journal articles and chapters and 8 neuropsychological tests. She is editor of the journal “Neuropsychological Rehabilitation” which she founded in 1991 and in 1996 she founded the Oliver Zangwill Centre for Neuropsychological Rehabilitation. A rehabilitation centre in Quito, Ecuador is named after her. She is currently president of the Encephalitis Society and on the management committee of The World Federation of Neuro Rehabilitation. The Division of Neuropsychology has named a prize after her, the Barbara A Wilson prize for distinguished contributions to neuropsychology. She is a Fellow of The British Psychological Society, The Academy of Medical Sciences and The Academy of Social Sciences. She is honorary professor at the University of Hong Kong, the University of Sydney and the University of East Anglia.

Barbara will be giving a breakfast workshop entitled: Writing for publication: Papers, chapters, books

Barbara will also be participating in an invited symposium with Prof Kessels, Prof Fasotti and A/Prof Ownsworth.

**A/Prof Tamara Ownsworth**

**ASSBI Presidential Address & invited symposium**

A/Prof Tamara Ownsworth is a clinical neuropsychologist with 18 years of clinical and research experience in the brain injury field. She was awarded the National Health & Medical Research Council Public Health Fellowship in 2002 and is now based in the School of Applied Psychology at Griffith University. Tamara is President Elect of the Australasian Society for the Study of Brain Impairment and a Chief Investigator in the NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence on Brain Recovery. She is also a Committee...
Member of the Neuropsychological Rehabilitation Special Interest Group of the WFNR and on the Editorial Boards of Neuropsychological Rehabilitation and Brain Impairment. Her main research interests relate to metacognition, psychological adjustment and rehabilitation after brain injury. A/Prof Ownsworth will give the ASSBI Presidential Address entitled: To err is human: to self-regulate after brain injury, divine.

Tamara will also be participating in an invited symposium with Profs Kessels, Fasotti and Wilson.

39th Conference

The 39th Annual Brain Impairment Conference will be held in Hong Kong on Wednesday 28 to Friday 30 September 2015 and convened by Prof David Shum – more details to follow.

ASSBI’S JOURNAL

BRAIN IMPAIRMENT

Library Subscriptions - Please encourage your organisation to subscribe to the journal. It’s easy – just go to our website www.assbi.com.au and follow the links to the journal.

The Editors are looking for peer reviewers; if you wish to be a reviewer please email ASSBI.

Now we are with CUP we have moved to on-line access only from July 2014. Robyn Tate and Jacinta Douglas Co-editors, Brain Impairment

PsycBITE™

Learn more about evidence based practice; understand more about scientific evidence underpinning remediation and rehabilitation: Become a rater for PsycBITE.

What is PsycBITE?

PsycBITE is a world-class, living e-resource that archives all published literature on psychological treatments for people with chronic diseases and disorders from acquired brain impairment. Launched in 2004, PsycBITE updates the literature monthly. It currently archives 4,000 empirical papers.

ASSBI RESOURCES

We have a plethora of ASSBI manuals and resources available free, free to members and for sale on Treatment, Assessment and Norms. We also have Non-ASSBI books and products as well as Resource Links.

We filmed the workshop that was held last year in Melbourne with Sunny (Suncica) Lah, Laurie Miller and Kylie Radford. This 3 disc DVD of presentations entitled “Memory Disorders: New types, Assessment techniques & Interventions” is available for the great price of $110.

Check out the ASSBI Resources page on our website to read more about our resources and order.

WEBSITE

The ASSBI website is a very important tool for distributing information. Please let me have your feedback at admin@assbi.com.au Is it user friendly?

There are photos of the various committees, reports on the 2013, 2012 and previous conferences. There is also Information on the 2015 conference.

There are also links to ASSBI’s Facebook, Twitter and Psychwire pages.

Margaret Eager-Rickit

Executive Officer

LOOKING FOR BOOKS?

Go to AMAZON via the ASSBI website, buy all sorts of books and help out ASSBI at the same time.

ASSBI would like to thank Michael Perdices for purchasing through ASSBI’s Amazon site.
HMC is Qatar’s premier non-profit specialist healthcare provider, currently with eight hospitals and an ambulance service.

Exciting, new and rewarding career opportunities are now available at HMC as we enter an unparalleled phase of expansion with the planned opening of three new highly specialized facilities and a transitional research center, all designed to provide the safest, most effective and compassionate care to the population of Qatar.

We believe in excellence in healthcare, education and research with each supporting the other to provide world-class quality patient care in a safe and healing environment.

We are looking to appoint full time Consultant & Senior Consultant Neurologists to join our Academic Health System on a permanent basis.

The Academic Health System partnership will enable multidisciplinary teams to address key research questions and ensure rapid translation into clinical practice.

We would like to hear from consultants with at least three years clinical experience particularly those with an interest in Epilepsy and Stroke Neurology.

Our consultants are responsible for organizing, monitoring, and maintaining the services provided in order to achieve the highest possible level of patient care with optimum utilization of the available resources.

You will develop work plans for specialists and other members of the team and performs all relevant interventions related to your field of specialization. You will also perform health education through orientation and scientific presentations.

Job Requirements
At HMC we expect our Consultants to have either:

Arab Board of Health Specializations
USA - The American Board of Physician Specialties (ABPS)
UK - GMC/CCST Specialist Register - Membership of The Royal College of Surgeons
Canada - Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons RCPSC
Australia - Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) Specialist Register
New Zealand - Medical Council of New Zealand Specialist Register
Germany - Facharzt - Specialist Certificate

Specialist registration from other countries will be considered after an equivalence review

Senior Consultants should have held a Consultants post for a minimum of six years

What do we offer?
- Generous tax free salary
- Housing allowance
- Opportunity to apply for a faculty appointment.
- Subsidized healthcare for you and your family
- End of Service Award
- Round-trip annual leave ticket per year to your point of hire
- 50 paid vacation days per year
- Educational support for children
- Relocation support
- Country orientation
- Language skills support

At HMC we value your skills, qualifications and experience and there has never been a better time to consider a career with us.

We are expanding and modernizing our patient care offering with brand new state of the art facilities.

If you would like to be part of our team and feel your qualifications, skills and experience is a good match for this position we encourage you to contact us using the Apply button below.

For an informal discussion in the strictest of confidence please email your contact information to our physician recruitment specialist courtney.charles@ae.ibm.com or visit www.healthcarejobs.hamad.qa

THIS IS A PAID ADVERTISEMENT
ASSBI MEMBERSHIPS
RENEWALS ARE DUE 1 JULY 2014 FOR 2014/2015

✓ Cost is only $150 ($257 for 2 yrs)
✓ Cost for students is only $80 ($144 for 2 yrs)
   (send id proof to admin@assbi.com.au)

Advantages of being an ASSBI member include:

✓ Substantial discount off registration fees for the 2015 INS/ASSBI conference in Sydney
✓ Discounted registration to all ASSBI workshops and the webinar series
✓ Access to Brain Impairment online
✓ 4 Newsletters per annum
✓ Access to previously published papers with normative data on tests for children, adults and older adults.
✓ If you refer someone to ASSBI and they join you will receive a 10% discount on any ASSBI run workshop or webinar

Information on Membership can be found at www.assbi.com.au.
Not sure if you are financial? go to the website to find out.

MEMBERS please go to the members page to update your profile, you can also add a photo, you are also able to contact other members via email.

Margaret Eagers-Rickit
Executive Officer

ASSBI EVENTS
ASSBI Conferences/Workshops
For flyers and registration information for ASSBI Conferences and Workshops go to www.assbi.com.au

2014
WEBINAR SERIES
1 hour 12.30-1.30
Cost varies go here to find out
Register here for 1 or more

Webinar: The problem of feigning and exaggeration
Date: October 7, 2014
Speaker: Dr Jan Ewing

Workshop: “Goal Setting Workshop”
Date: 7 November, 2014
Venue: Adina Apartment Hotel, Queen Street, Melbourne
Speaker: Helen Badge

Register Now

Webinar: Fatigue and Sleep Disturbance
Date: December 2, 2014
Speaker: Prof Jennie Ponsford

2015 - July 1-4
INS/ASSBI 5th Pacific Rim Conference. 38th Annual Brain Impairment Conference in conjunction with INS mid-year meeting
Venue: Sofitel Wentworth Hotel, Sydney,
Convenor: Prof Jennie Ponsford

Workshop: “Move it to improve it”: A Multi-Modal web based intervention for children with Cerebral Palsy and Acquired Brain Injury
Date: March 2015
Venue: Sydney venue tbc
Speaker: Prof Ros Boyd and her team
An email will go out with more details shortly

2016 - May
39th Annual Brain Impairment Conference
Date: 28-30 September 2016
Venue: Hong Kong
Convenor: Prof David Shum

Webinars “on demand”:
1. A User’s Guide to PsycBITE by Prof Skye McDonald
2. Training communication partners how to interact with people with TBI by Prof Leanne Togher
3. TBI and Depression by Prof Jim Malec
4. Effect sizes: How to calculate them, interpret them and generally make sense of them by Dr Michael Perdices

OUTSIDE EVENTS

2014
9th World Stroke Congress
Venue: Istanbul, Turkey
Date: 22-25 October 2014
Contact: www.worldstrokecongress.com

2015
AD/PD 2015 Mechanisms, Clinical Strategies and Promising Treatments of Neurodegenerative Disease
Venue: Nice, France
Date: 18-22 March 2015
Contact: www.kenes.com/adpd

The 12th Conference of the Neuropsychological Rehabilitation Special Interest Group of the WFNR (NF-SIG-WFNR)
Venue: Daydream Island, Whitsundays, Australia
Date: 6th and 7th July 2015
Contact: M. Eagers-Rickit
www.mers.vpweb.com.au

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

HMC is Qatar’s premier non-profit specialist healthcare provider, currently with eight hospitals and an ambulance service.

Exciting, new and rewarding career opportunities are now available at HMC as we enter an unparalleled phase of expansion with the planned opening of three new highly specialized facilities and a transitional research center, all designed to provide the safest, most effective and compassionate care to the population of Qatar.

For more information click here or go to www.healthcarejobs.hamad.qa

See advertisement on page above.