



Australian  
**Atherosclerosis**  
Society Inc.

## Australian Atherosclerosis Society

Welcome to the quarterly e news, with an update on the eligibility criteria for the AAS Trust Travel Awards along with 2 wonderful reports from those that have benefited from these awards. In addition we have an exciting opportunity for the students and early career researchers who have published recently to be acknowledged thanks to a new incentive put forward by the Young Investigator Committee.

Included in this e-News:

- AAS Trust Awards – Revised Criteria
- Young Investigator Commended Paper Award
- AAS Trust Award Report – Sudichhya Shrestha
- AAS Trust Award Report – Michelle Headland
- Upcoming Conferences
- ACvA

**Belinda Di Bartolo, Editor**



### **AAS Trust Awards - Revised Criteria**

The AAS Trust Travel Awards are to assist with travel to an international conference. Applicants must apply in the Round in which their conference date falls. Applicants will be able to receive funds retrospectively. Applications will be assessed together and ranked by the Trustees after the close of each Round. The successful applicants will have been ranked as the top two in each Round. Consideration will be given to the prestige of the conference, its alignment with the aims and mission of the AAS and the type of presentation that is being given (i.e. poster/oral). Applicants must show evidence of abstract acceptance and presentation type.

### **Eligibility criteria**

1. Must be a current financial member and a member for at least 2 consecutive years

2. Currently enrolled in a PhD or less than 10 years postdoctoral
3. Less than 5 years postdoctoral for medical graduates

Two travel awards will be available every 6 months valued up to a maximum value of \$1500 each.

Round one: for travel between January 1st and June 30th. Applications close on April 30th.

Round two: for travel between July 1st and December 31st. Applications close on November 1st.

**These changes will be effective as of July 1st 2016.**

### **AAS Young Investigator Commended Paper Award**

This \$500 award has been initiated by members of the AAS Young Investigator Committee in recognition of an outstanding publication by a young investigator member of the AAS community. The award will be presented at the upcoming Joint Scientific Meeting between AAS, HBPRCA, AVBS in Hobart 7th-10th December 2016.

### **Eligibility criteria**

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. Students or early researchers (<5 years post-doc)
2. Principal author(s) including first author and joint first authors
3. Research article accepted and published within the past 18 months (01 Jan 2015 – 30 Jun 2016). Please note that review articles are not eligible
4. AAS current member at the time of application
5. Will attend the Joint Scientific Meeting in Hobart 7th-10th December

### **Dates**

Applications will open in August coinciding with registration for the Joint Scientific Meeting.

Awardees will be notified in November and presentations will occur at the Joint Scientific Meeting in December.

### **AAS Trust Award Report - Sudichhya Shrestha**

#### **ATVB/PVD Scientific Session May 5th-7th 2016, Nashville, Tennessee**

I am very grateful to have received the AAS Student Travel Award which allowed me to attend and present my research at the ATVB/PVD Scientific Session 2016 in Nashville, Tennessee. This three-day international conference was held at the Omni Hotel, located in the heart of Nashville. With an attendance of over 1000 professionals with wide-range of interests in lipids, atherosclerosis, thrombosis, vascular biology, genomics and peripheral vascular disease, ATVB/PVD Scientific sessions provided a platform for investigators to exchange



new research and insights in the form of invited lectures, discussion forums, oral and poster presentations. The concurrent sessions on apolipoproteins and lipid metabolism as well as lipoprotein metabolism and therapeutic targets were of great interest to me.

I was awarded a poster presentation where I was able to discuss my research with leading researchers in the field of lipids and metabolism. I found the ATVB poster sessions very interactive and was quite fascinated with the amount of feedback that I received from experts working on HDL as well as professionals particularly working on inflammation in vascular biology. I also received valuable suggestions that will definitely help me plan my future research.

In between scientific sessions, ATVB Early Career Committee also held Early Career Sessions which focused on the aspects of grant writing, setting up new lab, mentorship, etc. I found the Luncheon Workshop for effective presentation and the session on Speed networking: Coffee, Careers and Communication quite helpful. These events gave researchers and professional an opportunity to meet experts in their field, exchange ideas, network and interact in a relaxed and informal manner. Other than the scientific sessions, I also had a wonderful time sightseeing in Nashville which is known for its music and warm southern hospitality. I was able to immerse myself in the music and culture of this lovely city.

### **AAS Trust Award Report - Michelle Headland**

**XIII International Congress of Obesity (Vancouver, Canada) May 1st-4th 2016**

Thank you to AAS Trust for travel funding to enable me to attend and present a poster at the XIII International Congress of Obesity (Vancouver, Canada) hosted by the World Obesity Federation in partnership with the Canadian Obesity Network.

The International Congress of obesity (ICO) has held from the 1st to the 4th of May 2016. Over 200 speakers covered six subject tracks, including 'From Genes to Cells', 'From Cells to Integrative Biology', 'Determinants, Assessments and Consequences', 'Clinical Management' and 'Populations and Populations Health'. I particularly enjoyed the presentation as a part of the 'Clinical Management' stream as I am currently performing a dietary intervention study looking at the long term effect of various forms of energy restriction. The plenary speakers across the conference were all very informative with the presentation by J.P Despres of particular interest to me, which discussed the link between clinical and public health messages to the science behind obesity and cardiovascular disease. A World Obesity Federation Award winner Rachel Batterham gave a presentation focusing on exploiting the gut to treat obesity and type 2 diabetes which I enjoyed as



it covered an area which I have previously not had large amounts of exposure too. The poster session, which was spread across two days was well attended and included many presentations ranging from drug and clinical interventions to reduce obesity levels, to the efficacy of public health interventions.

I would like to thank the AAS trust for the financial assistance that enabled me to travel to Canada to attend this conference.

## Upcoming Conference Information



**The 3rd World Congress on Clinical Lipidology** will take place in Brisbane, Australia on 10-12 February, 2016. The 2017 Congress will cover the state of the art educational lectures in the field of clinical lipidology, focusing on practical lipid management including difficult to treat hyperlipidemias, genetic dyslipidemias, screening, dietary and nutraceutical approaches and case studies. Major emphasis will be given to new therapeutics, diagnosis and

management of high risk patients.

Register now for Clinical Lipidology and Join us in Brisbane where prominent speakers will exchange their updated information and guidelines in the treatment of lipid disorders.

**Early bird Registration: Details coming soon**

**The 5th International Congress on Lipid Metabolism & Atherosclerosis (ICLA 2016)** and the

52nd Fall Conference of the Korean Society of Lipidology & Atherosclerosis will be held at Conrad Seoul Hotel in Seoul, Korea on September 9~10, 2016



Ziad Mallat (Chair) and Christoph Binder (Co-Chair) look forward to welcoming you to the Fiesta Americana Condesa, Cancun, Mexico from March 11-14, 2017. <https://www.fusion-conferences.com/conference54.php>



## Australian Cardiovascular Alliance

The ACvA officially launched on Tuesday November 24th, 2015. To learn more about this important initiative, read the press release and become a member, visit

[www.ozheart.org.au](http://www.ozheart.org.au)