



From the new editor

There have been a number of changes in the team producing *Microbiology Australia* this year. Corinne Rann, who has edited the journal for the last 3 years, has resigned due to pressure of other commitments. Corinne has done an excellent job and the editorial board and ASM members thank her for her dedication and the excellent journal she has produced.

I have now taken over from Corinne and look forward to continuing the tradition of previous editors in providing a top quality journal for ASM members.

I have recently retired from my position as Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Nursing at Sydney University where my main teaching areas were infectious diseases and infection control.

In addition to research papers, my experience in publishing has extended to the publication of an undergraduate textbook *Microbiology and Infection Control for Health Professionals* which I co-authored with Dr Gary Lee. My background is in biochemistry and molecular biology and currently my main interests are in infectious diseases and the epidemiology of hospital acquired infections.

There are two new coordinators for Young Bugs Banter. Natalie Marcello has resigned and Catherine Gangell has taken



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her place. Catherine is starting her honours year at University of Western Australia this year. Please contact her with any news 'from the west'. Wendy McDonald has stepped down as National Student SIG coordinator but will stay on to help with news and views for Young Bugs. Wendy's place as National Coordinator is being taken by Joanne Clarke who has nearly finished her PhD at Macquarie University. We take this opportunity to thank both Wendy and Natalie for the interesting and enjoyable news of young members they have provided each issue in Young Bugs Banter

and look forward to more of the same from our new representatives.

Microbiology Australia is the major publication of ASM and the aim is to produce a quality journal which meets the needs and interest of all members. We shall continue the format of selecting a theme and guest editor for each issue and inviting papers on that topic. The May issue will focus on bioterrorism and July on non-medical mycology.

Short papers on other topics are always welcome. As well I would like to encourage members to submit laboratory reports – perhaps detailing a new method or modification of an existing method that you can share with other members. Comments and suggestions are welcome and can act as a forum for exchange of ideas.

In future it is planned to encourage recipients of the student BD awards to publish their work in *MA*. The orations from the annual conference will also be published and the first of these – the Rubbo oration for 2002 on *Helicobacter pylori*, presented by Professor Adrian Lee – appears in this issue.

As I start my term as editor I wish to thank all the people who have helped me to produce this first issue, in particular the guest editor Martin Playne whose expertise in the field of probiotics has made this issue so interesting.

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