ASMMIRT 2016 – Convenor’s Welcome

On behalf of the Australian Institute of Radiography and the conference committees, it is with great pleasure that we invite you to join us in Brisbane for the 11th Annual Scientific Meeting of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy (ASMMIRT), 22-24 April 2016.

The 2016 meeting will be driven by the theme: *Rise and Shine – Imaging and Therapy in the New World*. We believe that the vision of Rise and Shine fits perfectly with the current direction of our profession and the mantra of Brisbane city itself.

In just under a month’s time, the spotlight will be firmly centred on the combined NZIMRT and AIR conference in Wellington. Scheduling the 2015 conference mid-year provides a unique opportunity to leverage the buzz and momentum generated at The Cloud 2015, and build on this for ASMMIRT 2016.

ASMMIRT returns to Brisbane for the first time since 2001. Our profession has grown exponentially during this time across many different areas: technology, standards, governance and identity. Brisbane too, has grown up. Termed Australia’s ‘new world city’, Brisbane boasts a unique blend of culture, diversity and prosperity as a destination.

As we approach the 11th edition of ASMMIRT, one of the fundamental goals of the organising team is to continue to strengthen and build on the existing ASMMIRT reputation. The ASMMIRT brand has historically prided itself on elements of innovation, integrity and professionalism, all built around a strong scientific programme and an entertaining, engaging social calendar. In addition to these features, we also have a range of novel ideas for the meeting, and without giving too much away, they are sure to engage, inspire and dazzle all of your senses.
As our dedicated conference committees continue to meticulously plan aspects of the meeting, the lessons learnt from previous ASMMIRTs provide important guidance as we move forward. Keeping a close eye on the national and international scientific conferences taking place and identifying key trends and concepts that we should aim to include in our programme, is also a key ingredient.

The management of responsibilities has been divided across three committees.

The Scientific Committee (Chair – Tim Way) is progressively compiling an impressive list of industry leading invited speakers. These speakers will form the spine of the ASMMIRT 2016 scientific programme. We are very excited to be able to announce the first cohort of speakers at the launch event at The Cloud 2015 closing ceremony and via social media.

The Organising Committee (Chair - Allison Dry) has an unparalleled calendar of social events planned that cater for all tastes and interests. Paired with the Gala Dinner/Welcome drinks combination will be interactive collection of concurrent activities on the Thursday night. You will be pleasantly surprised with the diversity of options available.

The trade exhibition is shaping up to be engaging, informative and exciting; satisfying your thirst for information about new technology and providing the opportunity to directly network with product and application specialists and industry experts.

Social media will be an integral part of how we engage, inform and communicate with delegates at ASMMIRT 2016. In particular, Twitter, is emerging as the social media platform of choice during scientific meetings, worldwide. It provides a unique chance to be able to showcase our conference to our healthcare colleagues all around the globe. The hashtag of #ASMMIRT2016 is already being tweeted, and I would encourage everyone to become involved.

We are very pleased to announce that ASMMIRT 2016 will also include a stand-alone student conference on Friday 22 April 2016. This provides the young guns of our profession the chance to rise up and shine a light on their enthusiasm and passion for achieving results in their early career. In what is an ASMMIRT-first, the student committee (Chair – Tom Steffens) will conduct an early careers half-day seminar on Saturday 23 April.

We encourage you to save the dates in your calendar (22-24 April 2016). For those of you travelling to The Cloud 2015 in Wellington, please join us for the ASMMIRT 2016 launch presentation at the closing ceremony.

We look forward to welcoming you in Brisbane.

Yours sincerely,

Adam Westerink

ASMMIRT 2016 Convenor