

# An exciting year ahead

**By the time you are reading this message the festive season will be a distant memory, but I trust you all had a chance to share some time with family and friends. To those of you that worked over this period, thank you is never enough.**

It is always a time to reflect on the year that has been and look forward to the year ahead. The last month or so leading up to the festive season was certainly busy. In mid-November our Chief Executive Sally Kincaid and I were able to share with our Western Australia members in their Rural Education Weekend in Bunbury. It may seem like the classic sporting cliché but events like this are a fantastic reminder of how critical our grassroots are in what we do as a Society. The ability to hear of what our colleagues are achieving in their local clinical settings, networking and building new professional friendships are vital aspects in building our tribe. Thank you to the WA members for having us over to share in their event. Following a submission from ASMIRT on the 'Senate Inquiry into the Availability and Accessibility of Diagnostic Imaging Equipment around Australia', we were given the opportunity to present to this inquiry and answer questions from Senators at Queensland Parliament House. We took the opportunity to promote the role of radiographers value-adding to the patient continuum and safety with ASMIRT's development of preliminary image evaluation (PIE). While it may have been at a more simplistic level to the complexities of medical imaging access, it was an opportunity for our Society to get the conversation and concept into the public arena at the highest level. This was yet another avenue for us to promote and strengthen our profession.

At the 12 December Board meeting, minutes of the meeting held 3–5 November were accepted as an accurate record and arising action items were reviewed and updated. Matters discussed included: our Constitution, website and database, redesign of the CPD program, scholarships, position statements and panel requests, Certificate of Clinical Proficiency in Mammography, a potential partnership with the British Institute of Radiology, Charles Sturt University course accreditation status and electronic online exam delivery system. Management, financial reports, membership statistics, tripartite committee proceedings and the *Journal of Medical Radiation Sciences* reports were noted.

In the week leading up to Christmas I had the fortune of meeting with our staff in Melbourne, having just moved into their new premises. The change in the environment and feel was very palpable and I hope will continue to support our staff in a positive environment for many years to come. Thank you to our management and professional staff in making this change happen.

There is a lot to look forward to in 2018, starting with our ASMIRT conference in Canberra over 15–18 March. This is our annual showcase of what our amazing professionals are achieving locally, nationally and internationally. Furthermore, it is another great opportunity to be inspired, meet new colleagues and build your professional network.

Some key areas of focus in 2018 include the 'go live' of our new website and the review of our panels and ensuring they are aligned with the future direction of our Society. Much of these will be a focus in Canberra. Our Board has committed to a bottom up review of our CPD program. We will also see the transition of our clinical examinations going online and the introduction of the PIE examination. There is no doubt 2018 will be a year of positive changes, and I thank you all for your patience and support as we commit to these changes.



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