

  
**NEWS**  
**LETTER**

Edition 1 – August

2004

Welcome to *AGTS Newsletter*, a new initiative for all members produced by the executive.

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**THE LATEST**

**FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Dear AGTS Members,

Welcome to the first edition of the AGTS Newsletter which, along with our website, we hope to use as a vehicle to enrich your participation in our Society. As you can see, the council has been active in a number of areas. We have arranged for each state capital to receive funding for an evening Gene Therapy session to be arranged by each of the state committees. In Sydney, we have co-hosted a seminar by David Curiel, with the details provided elsewhere in this newsletter. Most excitingly, we will be participating as a society in the AHMRC meeting to be held at the Convention Centre in Sydney in late November (details below). We are organising international and national speakers for a session on Friday, 26 November 2004. I urge all students and members to submit an abstract or two and come and participate. Without your support, we cannot hope to maintain the momentum our Society has generated over the last five years. Finally, planning is well underway for next year's annual meeting 27-29<sup>th</sup> April in Melbourne and I would encourage you now to place the dates in your diary. Please don't hesitate to contact members of the council for any suggestions regarding upcoming meetings or ways that we can enrich the Society.

The field of gene therapy remains vibrant and I wish you all success in your research.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. John Rasko,     President

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**AGTS JOINS FORCE WITH ASMR**

AGTS, together with 29 other societies will be participating in the AHMR conference to be held at the Convention Centre on **21<sup>ST</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> November 2004**

An AGTS Symposium:

Poster session:

Deadline for oral presentations *9 August*, Posters *17 September*, Honours students posters *20 September*. More info: [www.ahmrcongress.org.au](http://www.ahmrcongress.org.au)

Two \$250 prizes will be awarded for the best student posters.



## TOP GENE THERAPISTS VISIT OZ

Big names in gene therapy from the US have recently visited Australia, including Professor Inder Verma, from the Salk Institute, who has visited Brisbane and Sydney organised by the Australian Biotech. Dr. David Curiel visited Sydney under the sponsorship of the AGTS and CSIRO Molecular Science.

## SPECIAL SEMINAR

4:30PM AUGUST 19<sup>TH</sup> 2004

At- CSIRO MOLECULAR SCIENCE, 11 JULIUS AVE NORTH RYDE

**DAVID CURIEL, MD, PhD**

on

## DELIVERY; THE KEY TO GENE MEDICINES OF THE FUTURE

Dr Curiel has been an international pioneer and a major contributor to the area of targeted gene delivery, predominantly using adenovirus vectors. His work has demonstrated principles that may well be applied to a range of future gene medicines.

A copy of the slides from this talk will appear on the members only webpages.



## OTHER GENE THERAPY MEETINGS

XII Annual Congress of the European Society of Gene Therapy  
Tampere, Finland, November 4-7<sup>th</sup> 2004. [www.esgt.org](http://www.esgt.org)

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## MATERIAL FOR AGTS NEWSLETTER

Members or members' unit who may have something to share should forward your Material to [d.wei@uq.edu.au](mailto:d.wei@uq.edu.au).

Thank you.

Dr Ming Wei,  
Secretary, AGTS