**Bird Attains Landmark Achievement**

Dr. Ollie Bird, a Medical Officer Instructor at the RAF Centre of Aviation Medicine, recently attained a landmark achievement in hypobaric chamber operations. Dr. Bird, who has served at the Centre of Aviation Medicine at RAF Henlow since its opening 18 years ago, undertook his 1,000th chamber run on 3 October 2016. He has instructed generations of aircrew from all three services in physiology and aviation medicine. This particularly significant and unique achievement will likely never be achieved by anyone else again in the future.

Wing Commander Ian Mollan, OC Aviation Medicine Training Wing, said "Dr. Bird’s is an excellent instructor, his expertise and teaching to generations of aircrew have truly made a positive impact to improve flight safety. This remarkable milestone of 1,000 chamber runs comes very shortly after his 500th centrifuge spin earlier this year. We are all very grateful to have such a skilled professional providing outstanding support to our aviators for the past two decades.”

Whilst on a visit to the RAF Centre of Aviation Medicine, Major General Bricknell, Director of Medical Policy, Operations and Capability, HQ Surgeon General congratulated Dr. Bird and presented him with a Civil Service Award.

Air Commodore Clare Walton QHP, Air Officer Medical Operations and Commandant of RAF CAM, stated "Dr. Bird’s wealth of experience and teaching to aircrew is second to none. With his dedication and work well beyond the call of duty, he has undoubtedly reduced the risk to life in our aviators. I would like to congratulate him on this outstanding achievement.”

Dr. Bird has been a member of the Aerospace Medical Association since 2003.

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**News of Members**

Prof. Michael Bagshaw, M.B., FFOM, D.Av.Med., was recently awarded the Guthrie Memorial Medal by the Royal Army Medical Corps for his exceptional support and advice to Army Aviation for 13 years in his role as Honorary Civilian Consultant Adviser in Aviation Medicine. He is a Past President and Fellow of the Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA), a Past President of the Airline Medical Directors Association (AMDA), and received the George J. Kidera Award from the AMDA, as well as the Louis H. Bauer Founders Award in 2008, and the Boothby-Edwards Award in 2011, both from AsMA. He currently holds an Airline Transport Pilot license and is a flight instructor and flight examiner. Formerly Director of Aviation Medicine at Kings College London (now Emeritus) and Visiting Professor at Cranfield University, he is an Aeromedical Adviser to Airbus and to NetJets Europe.

**New Members**

Alexander, Hattie; Fort Walton Beach, FL
Alabaid, Fahad; Kuwait City, Kuwait
Alston, Tristan; Oak Harbor, WA
Bahn, Yoochang; Dongdaemun, South Korea
Banks III, John; Pittsburgh, PA
Bhatt, Kunj; Lodi, NJ
Calladine, Robert; Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Castrovinci, Philip; Allentown, PA
Cataman, Elena; Chishinau, Moldova
Cornac, Alain; Blagnac, France
Douglas, David; Davis, CA
Eisenbrey, David; Shelby Township, MI
Fletcher, Eliot; Houston, TX
Gregory, Jennifer; Virginia Beach, VA
Hancock, Benjamin; Indianapolis, IN
Harrison, James; Anacortes, WA
Hayes, Sally; Arlington, VA
Kim, Dongsoo; Cheongju, South Korea
Mader, Thomas; Cooper Landing, AK
Mayoral Sanz, Pedro; Madrid, Spain
McCoy, Robert; Granville, OH
Mitchell, Stuart; Gatwick, West Sussex, United Kingdom

See ‘New Members’, p. N75

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In Memoriam: Alan Benson

Alan J. Benson, B.Sc. (Hons.), M.Sc., M.B. Ch.B., FRAeS, has passed away. He had been an AsMA member since 1968 and a Fellow since 1977. Dr. Benson received his medical qualification from the University of Manchester, England, United Kingdom, and joined the staff of the Royal Air Force (RAF) Institute of Aviation Medicine, Farnborough, United Kingdom, in 1956. He headed the Vestibular Physiology Section (1962-1980), the Behavioral Sciences Division (1975-1990), and the Special Senses Division from 1990 until his retirement in 1991. But he continued to work at the Institute as a part-time consultant with teaching, research, and managerial commitments.

Dr. Benson was an internationally recognized authority on spatial disorientation (SD) in flight. During his career, which spanned over 40 years, he investigated such topics as basic and applied research on vestibular mechanisms of etiologic significance in SD; the clinical study of aviators with SD; the analysis of military and civil aircraft accidents in which SD was implicated; improving the SD training of aviators by the design of training devices (rotators) and the preparation of a training video; and the writing of definitive texts on SD for medical and non-medical personnel. Dr. Benson was instrumental in improving the training that aviators receive about spatial disorientation in the UK and other NATO countries. His opinion and advice were sought by military and civil organizations in both the UK and abroad on accidents in which spatial disorientation was implicated. He also lectured extensively on the topic throughout the world.

In addition to his work on SD, in collaboration with colleagues from North America and Europe, Dr. Benson was involved in studies of vestibular adaptation to weightlessness that were conducted on the SLI, D1, and the IML1 Spacelab missions. He also carried out work for the European Space Agency (ESA) on the design of the Space Sled and facility requirements for physiological and neurophysiological research in the ESA Attached Pressurized Module for the Space Station.

During his long and distinguished career, Dr. Benson received many honors, including the Longacre (1975), Liljencrantz (1992), and Gillingham (1999) Awards from AsMA. In 1988 he received both the Yearsley Medal of the Royal Society of Medicine and the W. S. Smith Prize of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers.

For a full biography please refer to Aviat Space Environ Med. 1999; 70(7):723.
when chemotherapy permitted. She deployed to sea on major military exercises and attended AsMA meetings, including San Diego in 2014 and the Scientific Program Committee in Houston in 2015. Jane had multiple publications, including a chapter in Ernsting’s “Aviation & Space Medicine” this year. She is co-author on an abstract submitted for the Denver meeting. At that meeting her role in respect of pinning on her husband’s Past President pin will be performed by her stepsons, Robert and Christopher.

Scholarships to 2017 ICASM Offered
The 2017 International Congress of Aviation and Space Medicine (ICASM), will be held in Rome, Italy, in the Fall of 2017. The Italian Association of Aerospace Medicine and the National Association of Assistants and Controllers of Air Navigation have announced the VII edition of the scientific prize “I Guidoniani.” The scholarship prize will be 2,000 Euro for the best original paper in the field of medicine, psychology, or engineering, regarding man in atmospheric/spatial flight, and 2,000 Euro for the best original paper in the field of medicine, psychology, or engineering concerning human factors in air traffic control. Scientists below the age of 35 with a degree in medicine, biology, psychology, or engineering are eligible. Completed and signed applications should be submitted online to: segreteria@aimas.it or faxed to: 06.99331577. The deadline for applications is the 15th of June 2017. The full application form can be downloaded from: http://www.aimas.it/docs/premio_guidoniani_2017.pdf.

ALPA Announces ALPA-PAC Awards
Capt. Tim Canoll announced several ALPA-PAC honors during the plenary session of the ALPA Board of Directors meeting in mid-October, including the winner of the J. J. O’Donnell trophy, which recognizes the Master Executive Council (MEC) that has most prioritized the Political Action Committee (PAC) over the past year. The 2016 J. J. O’Donnell Trophy for Excellence in Political Action went to the pilots of United Airlines. Also recognized were the six MECs in the running this year; the top three, Hawaiian, Sun Country, and United, were given applause. ALPA-PAC also recognized the Key Men Society, the highest honor awarded by the PAC. There were 24 Local Executive Councils (LECs) with the highest percent of PAC participation among their membership honored.


Baxter Honors Students with Young Investigator Awards
As part of continued efforts to celebrate and promote innovative research that aligns with its mission to save and sustain lives, Baxter honored 17 graduate students and postdoctoral fellows with the 2016 Young Investigator Awards. The Young Investigator Awards seek to stimulate and reward research applicable to the development of therapies and medical products that help resolve critical medical needs. The Young Investigator Award, now in its eighth year, has recognized more than 60 young scientists and engineers, some of whom have gone on to participate in Baxter’s Technical Development Program—a 2-year training program focused on developing high-potential, entry-level technical professionals. Young Investigator Award applicants were chosen in a variety of product categories, including renal, surgical care, and fluid systems, after demonstrating their practical understanding of the therapeutic areas. To select the award winners, Baxter evaluates candidates based on several criteria measures, including the quality of the research itself, whether the candidates were primarily responsible for their own research, and if the research aligns with acute and critical care medical technology. Winning projects of this year’s award program include perioperative monitoring of blood coagulation to bet-
ter understand the causes of hemorrhage; finding resolutions for problems associated with islet transplantation for Type 1 diabetes; and the development of a fluorinated nanoparticle for longitudinal monitoring of cancer, among others.

NIOSH Releases List of Hazardous Drugs in Healthcare

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recently released its 2016 list of hazardous drugs in healthcare settings, updating the list to include 34 added drugs. Healthcare workers who prepare or give hazardous drugs to patients, such as those used for cancer therapy, as well as support staff, may face individual health risks when exposed to these drugs. NIOSH estimates 8 million U.S. healthcare workers are potentially exposed to hazardous drugs in the workplace. The new document is the latest version of the hazardous drug list first published by NIOSH in 2004 as an appendix to the document “NIOSH Alert: Preventing Occupational Exposure to Antineoplastic and Other Hazardous Drugs in Health Care Settings.” This list categorizes drugs into the following groups: 1) antineoplastic drugs; 2) non-antineoplastic hazardous drugs; and 3) drugs with reproductive effects. The latest version of the list includes 34 drugs not found on previous lists, five of which include the manufacturer’s safe-handling warnings. General guidance on engineering controls and personal protective equipment for various activities that may be encountered in healthcare settings has also been updated. NIOSH made previous updates to the list in 2014, 2012, and 2010.
—Please visit http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/updates/upd-10-06-16.html for more on this.

Mayo Clinic & MIT Receive Grant for Physical Sciences-Oncology Center

Mayo Clinic and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) have been awarded a 5-year grant from the National Cancer Institute (NCI) to support a Physical Sciences-Oncology Center (PS-OC). Researchers hope to learn more about the physical parameters that limit drug delivery into brain tumors and use this information to build models that will help physicians better predict how the body will distribute a particular drug to brain tumors and help them select the best drug to treat each patient based on their unique tumor. Mayo Clinic and MIT are among 10 institutions selected to participate in the NCI Physical Sciences-Oncology Network. The network supports innovative ideas that blend perspectives and approaches from the physical sciences, engineering, and cancer research, with the goal of improving the understanding of cancer biology and oncology.
—Please see http://newsnetwork.mayoclinic.org/discussion/mayo-clinic-and-massachusetts-institute-of-technology-receive-grant-to-support-physical-sciences-oncology-center/ to read more about this.

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Want more info on the annual meeting?
Visit www.asma.org/scientific-meetings/asma-annual-scientific-meeting - links are in the left-hand column.
Monash University Researcher Wins Clinical Innovation Award

Dr. Dana Wong, a neuropsychologist at the Monash Institute of Cognitive and Clinical Neurosciences (MICCN), has been awarded the 2016 ASSBI Early Career Clinical Innovation Award for her submission, “The Monash Memory Skills Group: integrating clinical training and research into clinical service delivery for people with acquired brain injury.” The Australasian Society for the Study of Brain Impairment (ASSBI) is a multidisciplinary society dedicated to improving the quality of life of people with brain impairment and their families. Its Early Career Clinical Innovation Award, presented for the first time this year, recognized The Monash Memory Skills Group led by Dr. Wong and offers rehabilitation for patients with acquired brain injury (ABI), such as stroke and traumatic brain injury, who have memory problems. Through this initiative, clinical training and research has been incorporated into a memory group for the first time in Australia. Since its 2014 launch at the Monash Psychology Centre in Notting Hill, the Memory Skills Group has helped to improve everyday memory functioning for patients with ABI, as well as equipping MICCN’s clinical neuropsychology and clinical psychology students with the skills to deliver this type of rehabilitation in their future practice.

—Please visit http://www.monash.edu/medicine/news/latest/articles/miccn-researcher-wins-2016-assbi-clinical-innovation-award for more on this.

OxyHeal Provides Hyperbaric Chamber Systems to Allegiance Health

OxyHeal® Medical Systems, Inc., and OxyHeal International®, Inc., delivered two state-of-the-art hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT) chamber systems to the Henry Ford Allegiance Health System. One chamber model is a large 12-patient rectangular hyperbaric chamber, and the second model is a 3-patient vertical cylindrical chamber. These modern hyperbaric chambers will significantly enhance wound healing services and assist with other medical conditions where HBOT is the primary and adjunctive standard of care.

—Please see http://www.oxyheal-international.com/hyperbaric-news/102-allegiance-health-receives-new-rectangular-and-cylindrical-hyperbaric-chamber-systems to read more about this.

Upcoming Calls for Papers


Future AsMA Annual Scientific Meetings

April 29-May 4, 2017: Sheraton Denver Downtown; Denver, CO
May 6-10, 2018: Hilton Anatole Hotel; Dallas, TX
May 5-9, 2019: Rio All Suites Hotel; Las Vegas, NV

Corporate News Bites

Air Canada: Air Canada announced it has opened a Maple Leaf Lounge at Newark Liberty International Airport. The new lounge, Air Canada’s third in the U.S., is located beyond security near Air Canada gates, giving eligible Air Canada and Star Alliance customers a calm atmosphere to relax or work prior to their flight. To read more, please visit http://aircanada.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=43&item=1068.

David Clark: David Clark has introduced the new DC ONE-XH to its leading line of helicopter headsets. The DC ONE-XH has all of the same advanced technology and comfort features of the recently introduced DC ONE-X Series headsets, but features a 5-ft extended coil cord with U-174/U plug and advanced M-55 electromicrophone for helicopters. To see more about this product—please see http://www.davidclarkcompany.com/news.php?newsid=88.

United: United Airlines announced a new team, integrating all customer-facing functions in the company, to focus on improving the travel experience. Kate Gebo will lead this new organization as senior vice president of Customer Service Delivery. In this newly created position, Gebo will oversee all of United’s customer-facing teams from booking to landing. For more on this, please see http://newsroom.united.com/2016-10-19-United-Lifts-Travel-Experience-With-New-Integrated-Customer-Service-Team.

Upcoming FAA AME Seminars

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For more, visit: http://www.faa.gov/other_visit/aviation_industry/designees_delegations/designee_types/ame/seminar_schedule/.

MEETINGS CALENDAR

Nov. 6-10, 2016: 64th International Congress of Aviation and Space Medicine (ICASM 2016); New Delhi, India. For more, visit http://www.icasm2016.co.in/.

Nov. 15-17, 2016: SPACECOM – Space Commerce Conference and Exposition; Houston, TX. For more information, please visit http://www.spacecomexpo.com.


April 4-6, 2017: Arvind Chaturvedi Colloquium on Postmortem Forensic Toxicology in Aviation; Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center, CAMI, FAA, Oklahoma City, OK. Registration is due by December 16, 2016. For info, please see the Colloquium announcement.