

20
24

INAUGURAL

EBAANZ & BAA EYE & TISSUE BANKING CONFERENCE

5-6
MARCH :: MELB, AUS

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Sponsor:



Hosts:

Lions Eye Donation Service at the Centre for Eye Research Australia, the Bone Bank at Barwon Health, Donor Tissue Bank of Victoria, and Lifeblood VIC.

Conference Committee:

Convenors: Dr Heather Machin and Chris van Diemen

Committee: Chantel Bartolo, Bronwyn Cohen, Kellie Hamilton, Amila Peiris, Brendon Sullivan, Andrew Tracy, and Gavin Van Der Meer.

Day of event volunteers and supporters:

Prue Armstrong, Maria Christofi, Terry Couper, Prema Finn, Tyler Gaudion, Mike Green, Janine Hope, Georgina Lademann, Rachael Linedale, Gavin de Loree, Richard Ly, Michael O'Neill, Gus Raj, Katy Sadler, Deb Stracey, and Jenna Vartiainen.

Schedule & Speakers

5-6 MARCH 2024

Keynote Speaker

Brian Philippy

Brian Philippy has served as an eye banker since he was 18 years old. Finding endless fulfillment in this profession by helping others, Brian has achieved the goal of doing what he loves for a living. His service started with decontaminating instruments for sterilization and assembling recovery kits back in 1997. Since then, he's held positions in recovery, evaluation, eligibility determination, quality, allocation, and logistics. For seven years while holding a role of Director of Quality and Technical Operations in Norfolk, Virginia, Brian held a concurrent series of roles, including Consultant and Director of Operations for Vision Share, a cooperative allocation agency in the US. Collecting and analyzing data for continual process improvement also brings him joy. For the Eye Bank Association of America, Brian serves on the Medical Advisory Board, Accreditation Board, Statistical Reporting Committee, and an ever-evolving array of subcommittees. For the Global Alliance of Eye Bank Associations, Brian is a Data Champion and is currently involved in a large eye bank mapping project.



These commitments and efforts earned Brian the EBAA's Leonard B. Heise Award in 2021. Brian currently serves as Director of Business Development at Lions Gift of Sight in Saint Paul, Minnesota. His wife is the Director of Distribution, Quality, and Donor Services at the Lions Medical Eye Bank of Eastern Virginia. His daughter, Kendra, is a Donor Coordinator for Lions Gift of Sight and his other daughter, Hailey, is pursuing a degree from the University of Minnesota (his alma mater).

Program: Tuesday 5th March

Subject to change

Text Colours: Black = Invited Speaker, green = abstract presenter

Clock	Time (minutes)	Topic	Speaker
08:30 – 09:45	75	Session 1: Keynote Session. Chair: Chris Van Diemen (VIC)	
08:30 - 08:40	10	Ac. to Country and BAA Opening	Chris Van Diemen (VIC)
		EBAANZ Opening	Lisa Buckland (WA)
		Host Welcome	Keith Martin and Heather Machin (VIC)
08:40 - 09:05	25	Now What? Evolving Eye Banking in a Changing World	Brian Philippy (USA)
09:05 – 09:10	5	BAA	Christopher van Diemen (VIC)
09:10 – 09:15	5	EBAANZ	Lisa Buckland (WA)
09:15 – 09:30	15	Blood Bikers Australia	Peter Davis (QLD)
09:30 - 09:45	15	Q & A	
09:45 - 10:05 (20 minutes) Morning Tea			

10:05 - 12:00	115	Session 2: Chair: Bronwyn Cohen (VIC)	
10:05 - 10:30	25	OTA	Lucinda Barry AM (ACT)
10:30 - 10:55	25	TGA	Dennis Dowhan (ACT)
10:55 - 11:10	15	WHO Up-date	Marisa Herson (VIC)
11:10 - 11:15	5	GAEBA	Heather Machin (VIC)
11:15 – 11:20	5	WUTBA	Martin Börgel (Germany)
11:20 - 11:45	25	Tissue Banking Around the World	Martin Börgel (Germany)
11:45 - 12:00	15	Q & A	
12:00 - 13:00 (60 minutes) Lunch (LEDS Tours)			

Program: Tuesday 5th March

Subject to change

Text Colours: Black = Invited Speaker, green = abstract presenter

13:00 - 14:30	90	Session 3: Chair: Chantel Bartolo (VIC)	
13:00 - 13:15	15	Corneal surgery practice in Australia – a questionnaire	Aine O' Connor (NSW)
13:15 - 13:30	15	Malaria risk for tissue donors: what do we need to assess?	Candice Leighton (QLD)
13:30 - 13:45	15	Walking through the mist of misconceptions surrounding organ and tissue donation among Māori in New Zealand	Maureen Watson (NZ)
13:45 - 14:00	15	Is the grass greener? A personal account of working as an Organ Donation Specialist then moving to Tissue Donation and Banking	Britt Miller (QLD)
14:00 - 14:15	15	Eye Bank Efficiency Index – a valid measure?	Aine O' Connor (NSW)
14:15 - 14:30	15	Q & A	
14:30 – 15:00 (30 minutes) Afternoon Tea			

15:00 – 16:30	90	Session 4: Chair: Kellie Hamilton (VIC)	
15:00 - 15:15	15	Data analysis and visualisation	Matt Ellis (VIC)
15:15 - 15:30	15	Family ties, changes of heart and mind, and finding the most recent decision; adventures in approaching for consent	Phillippa Lazenby (QLD)
15:30 - 15:50	20	Donor Pool Management	Flavia Russell (NSW)
15:50 - 16:15	25	Voluntary Assisted Dying	Larna Woodyatt (VIC)
16:15 - 16:30	15	Q & A	
Event Drinks session: Loop Bar 18:30 >			

Program: Wednesday 6th March

Subject to change

Text Colours: Black = Invited Speaker, green = abstract presenter

Clock	Time (minutes)	Topic	Speaker
09:00 – 10:30	90	Session 1 Chair: Amila Peiris (VIC)	
09:00 - 09:20	20	Decellularisation of heart valves	Gary Rockl (Canada)
09:20 - 09:40	20	Amnion	Diletta Trojan (Italy)
09:40 - 10:00	20	3D Virtual Tissue Bank for Patient-Specific Allograft Selection	Huynh Nguyen (QLD)
10:00 - 10:20	20	A comparison of endothelial cell density and rate of cell loss in phakic versus pseudophakic donor corneas stored in organ culture medium	Jelena Kezic (WA)
10:20 - 10:30	10	Q & A	
	90		
10:30 - 11:00 Morning Tea			

11:00 – 12:30	90	Session 2: Chair: Deb Stracey (NSW)	
11:00 - 11:20	20	The Growing Role of Research and Development in Eye Banking	Sean Poppoff (USA)
11:20 - 11:40	20	Consent for research donation and allocation	Dominique Martin (VIC)
11:40 - 12:00	20	From Tissue Banking to Biobanking: Perspectives from both sides	Samantha (Sam) Higgins (VIC)
12:00 - 12:10	10	Consent practicalities when allocating to research	Sharn Dowsett-Moeahu (NSW)
12:10 – 12:20	10	The evolving role of eye and tissue banks in tissue allocation to research	Heather Machin (VIC)
12:20 - 12:30	10	Q & A	
	90		
12:30 - 13:30 (60 minutes) Lunch (LEDS Tour)			

Program: Wednesday 6th March

Subject to change

Text Colours: Black = Invited Speaker, green = abstract presenter

13:30 -14:45	75	Session 3: Chair: Gavin Van Der Meer (VIC)	
13:30 - 13:45	15	Screening and Triaging Potential Donors at the Queensland Tissue Bank	Abbey McDonnell (QLD)
13:45 - 14:00	15	Diagnosis of Sepsis and Bacteraemia as a Criteria for Donation	Nick Nuttall (QLD)
14:00 - 14:15	15	Corneal endothelial degeneration in dogs – new treatments for old diseases	Cameron Whittaker (NSW)
14:15 - 14:30	15	Status of Eye banking in Central, Southern and Eastern Africa	Else Draheim (QLD)
16:30 - 16:45	15	Q & A	
	75		
14:45 – 15:15 (30 minutes) Afternoon Tea			

15:15 – 16:00	45	Session 4: Chair: Michael O'Neill	
15:15 - 16:00	45	Abstract Award	Bronwyn Cohen/Gavin Van Der Meer
		Wrap-up Thank you/and house-keeping	Chris Van Diemen/Lisa Buckland

Speakers

Invited and abstract

Lucinda Barry AM (ACT)



Lucinda is an engaging leader whose career has been purpose-led in making a real difference in the Australian community. She has held leadership positions in the Australian Government, the Australian Public Service and in healthcare. Lucinda was honoured and humbled to have her significant service to health policy in executive roles recognised when she was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in the Australia Day Awards 2023. Lucinda started her career as a Registered Nurse specialising in Emergency and Major Trauma before becoming a Director of Nursing. Her career moved into public policy which led to her becoming the Prime Minister's senior advisor in health and social policy for three years – a highlight of her career. She has been the CEO of the Australian Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation Authority since 2017, leading the Australian Government's national program to increase organ and tissue donation for transplantation. Lucinda is actively involved in national and international collaboration across governments and provided national leadership throughout the pandemic. She is privileged to lead a program she is passionate about and is life-changing for people who need a transplant and their families.

Martin Börgel (Germany)



Martin Börgel grew up in Recke/Münsterland. After training as a paediatric nurse and working for two years at the St. Franziskus Hospital in Münster, he studied business administration in Osnabrück, specialising in healthcare. After receiving his diploma, he worked for several years as an auditor for Solidaris Unternehmensberatung Köln, where he was responsible for the expert audits of the Eurotransplant and DSO foundations. Since 2002 he has been managing director of the German Society for Tissue Transplantation (DGFG), which until 2007 operated as DSO-G, a subsidiary of the German Foundation for Organ Transplantation (DSO). Since 2002, Martin has built the DGFG from a 3-man company into the largest tissue network in Germany with 14 tissue banks and more than 65 tissue coordinators covering all parts of Germany and realizing half of all donated, processed, and transplanted tissues (cornea, amniotic membrane, heart valves, blood vessels, bones and ligaments). The DGFG is a non-profit organization with four university hospitals and one protestant hospital as shareholders. Martin Börgel is a member of the European Eye Bank Association (EEBA), President of the European Association for Tissue and Cell Banks and General Secretary of the World Unit of Tissue Banking Associations (WUTBA).

Speakers

Invited and abstract

Lisa Buckland (WA)



Lisa Buckland is the Business and Quality Manager of the Lions Eye Bank of Western Australia, located at the Lions Eye Institute in Perth. She has been part of the eye banking sector since 1994. Lisa, who has a background in nursing, science, manufacturing practices and human resources, also worked with the Australian Air Force. She has a post-graduate qualification in Eye Banking and Quality Management. Today, she is the Chair of the Eye Bank Association of Australia and New Zealand and represents the Association on external panels including the Australian Commonwealth Government Organ and Tissue Authority's Clinical Governance Committee.



Peter Davis (QLD)

Peter is the Founder of Blood Bikes Australia, setting up the organisation in 2019. Before that, Peter spent 40 years as a cartographer, then 5 years as a bus driver. Being an avid motorcyclist he was inspired by Blood Bikes UK, deciding to start a similar volunteer service in Australia. In 2019, Mater Pathology in Brisbane became his first partner facility.

Dr Dennis Dowhan (ACT)



Dr Dowhan did his PhD in Biochemistry at University of Queensland and post-doctoral work at Baylor College of Medicine USA. Career research interests focused on the role of steroid/nuclear receptors, transcriptional co-factors and epigenetics in regulating transcription and alternative splicing in the context of hormone-dependent cancers. Dennis has worked as a Scientific Evaluator at Office of the Gene Technology Regulator and the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme, and since 2018 as a Senior Evaluator in Toxicology and the Blood Biologicals and Infectious Disease Unit at the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

Speakers

Invited and abstract

Sharn Dowsett-Moeahu (NSW)



Sharn brings to the NSW Tissue Bank 12 years' of Forensic Medicine experience, in positions ranging from Post Mortem Technician to Operations Manager. During this time he was a qualified eye enucleator, and a Designated Officer for Forensic Medicine. Sharn holds bachelor qualifications in law and biological sciences specialising in forensic science, is a qualified Agile Project Practitioner, a Foundational Change Manager with Mortuary Theatre certification and is currently completing a Masters of Business Leadership. As the Manager of the NSW Tissue Bank, he is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the tissue bank as well as ensuring that the Bank complies with current Good Manufacturing Practice (cGMP) as the Production Nominee. Sharn has a passion for policy review, redesign and process improvement.

Else Draheim (QLD)



Else works at the Queensland Tissue Bank, in Brisbane, Australia, where she began her career in Tissue Banking in 2019. The Queensland Tissue Bank is the largest and most diverse tissue bank in Australia. It retrieves eye, skin, musculoskeletal and cardiovascular tissue. Her current position involves all aspects of tissue donation ranging from donor screening, to consent conversations, tissue recovery and graft production. Prior to her career in tissue banking, Else worked with the Queensland Ambulance Service and as a histopathology scientist. Outside of work, she can be found spending time with her partner and their three children. Else represents EBAANZ on the Vision 2020 Australia Global Working Group and joined the GAEBAs Executive in 2023 after representing GAEBAs and EBAANZ at the COESCA-OSK Conference in Mombasa.

Matt Ellis (VIC)



Matthew is the Operations and Quality Manager at DonateLife Victoria and is tasked with the evolution of their quality assurance program and data analytics. Prior to this, Matthew was Deputy Head, Physiology Services at Alfred Health, managing Australia's preeminent clinical and research physiological laboratory. He has also worked as a lab accreditation assessor for the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand and has a vested interest in quality improvement of healthcare provision.

Speakers

Invited and abstract

Kellie Hamilton (VIC)



Kellie Hamilton is Manager of Research & Development at the Donor Tissue Bank of Victoria (DTBV), part of the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine. Kellie has been with the organisation since the beginning of 1995 when she undertook a BSc Honours project. During her 29 years at DTBV she has had multiple and varied scientific roles, including the development of the Bank's freeze-dried product range, and has gained a thorough knowledge of tissue bank regulation. She works with the team of DTBV staff to ensure that the tissue processed is of the highest quality and that the organization is continually improving.

Marisa Herson (VIC)



Since graduating from Medicine in 1979 in Brazil, Dr Herson has worked across Australia, South America and Israel in medicine and donation and transplant fields, particularly in skin, cell culturing and GMP management. After receiving a PhD and moving to Melbourne in 2007, Dr Herson has held positions as Head of the Donor Tissue Bank of Victoria and academic positions with Monash and Deakin University. Today Marisa is an expert advisor and consultant across several human biologicals and products, working on projects with milk banks in Australia and New Zealand, the Canadian Hema-Quebec Scientific and Medical Advisory Committee, the Australian Organ and Tissue Authorities Eye and Tissue Advisory Committee and the World Union of Tissue Banking Associations (WUTBA) where she was Secretary from 2014-2021. In 2015 she was nominated as a member of the WHO Advisory Panel on Human Cell, Tissue and Organ Transplantation and provided expert input to a number of consultations. As of 2018, she is an expert member to the WHO Taskforce on Human Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation where she has co-chaired the Global Action Framework for Tissues for Transplant (GAFTT) Working Group.

Speakers

Invited and abstract

Samantha (Sam) Higgins (VIC)



Samantha is the Quality Manager of the Victorian Cancer Biobank (VCB), a network of five Tissue Banks with a Central Operations node located across Melbourne. With a diverse career across forensic, post-mortem tissue-banking and biobanking sectors, Samantha uses her 20+ years' experience and a collaborative networking approach to create quality-backed research impacts and strengthen lasting cross-institutional research partnerships. Samantha holds a BSc (Pathology) and MSc (Biomedical Science) from The University of Melbourne and holds professional appointments including Secretary, Australasian Biospecimen Network Association; NATA Technical Assessor (Biobanking); and Vice-chair, ISBER Standards Community of Practice.

Jelena Kezic (WA)



Dr Jelena Kezic completed her PhD at the University of Western Australia in 2008, examining the role of macrophages in autoimmune uveoretinitis. This was followed by postdoctoral fellowships investigating mouse models of ocular inflammation at the Casey Eye Institute in Portland, Oregon, and at Monash University and the Centre for Eye Research Australia in Melbourne. After 2 years lecturing at the University of Zagreb in Croatia, Jelena returned to Perth in 2020 to commence a new position as transplant coordinator and research fellow at Lions Eye Bank of WA. Her research is examining ways to optimise donor cornea preparation and explore novel therapeutics to improve the longevity of endothelial grafts.

Phillippa Lazenby (QLD)



Phillippa has a Ba. of Medical Laboratory Science and a Masters of Public Health and Tropical Medicine from JCU. She has worked as a multidisciplinary scientist in public, private and military settings. In 2006 she started in haematology (in Brisbane) before having ten amazing years as the Senior Scientist / Acting Production Supervisor in the Bone Marrow Transplant / Cellular Therapies Laboratory at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, preparing haemopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow, cord blood and HPC apheresis for transplant. She started at the Queensland Eye Bank in 2016 as a scientist responsible for donor assessment, retrieval and processing of eye, skin, and musculoskeletal tissue, before becoming part of the integrated Queensland Tissue Bank and performing the role of ocular lead for the transition process. Since 2020 I have been a Donation Supervisor in the Donation and Recovery Team.

Speakers

Invited and abstract

Candice Leighton (QLD)



Candice commenced at the Queensland Tissue Bank (QTB) in 2008 as a production technician manufacturing musculoskeletal tissue, before moving into the donation and recovery team in 2010. Candice now leads a team of scientists and nurses who assess suitability of potential donors, seek consent from donor families and perform tissue recovery where consent is obtained. Working in a multi-tissue bank, she is involved in donation, recovery, allocation and distribution of ocular, musculoskeletal, skin and cardiovascular tissue. As a part of the Organ and Tissue Donation Service in Queensland, Candice has strong links with DonateLife Qld as well as the Biotherapeutics Association of Australasia where she sits on the Council. Candice's strength is her patient focus; supporting donor families to make an informed donation decision as well as striving to ensure that all recipient patients have equitable access to tissue grafts in a timely manner. In her spare time, Candice enjoys spending time with her two dogs competing in dog sports events most weekends.

Dr Heather Machin (VIC)



Dr Heather Machin is an ophthalmic nurse and Head of the Lions Eye Donation Service. She also manages the CERA Biobank and project leads on the Hygelix and BIENCO projects, as well as managing her own research across eye banking and nurse workforce development. She has worked in over 30 countries, previously with ORBIS International's Flying Eye Hospital, as consultant to Fred Hollows Foundation NZ and is a past Lions Corneal Fellow. She is Chair to the Global Alliance of Eye Bank Associations; representative to the Lions Clubs International Eye Bank Working Group; Member of the Australian Organ and Tissue Authorities Eye and Tissue Advisory Committee; and a co-developer of the WHO's Global Action Framework for Tissue in Transplantation. She holds a PhD on corneal exportation, an MBA, a Ba.Nursing, a Grad.Cert in Professional Communications and public relations, and is a certified PRINCE 2 Project specialist.

Speakers

Invited and abstract

Professor Dominique Martin (VIC)



Dominique is Professor in Health Ethics and Professionalism in the School of Medicine at Deakin University. Her research primarily focuses on ethical issues relating to donation and transplantation of organs and tissues, nephrology, and research involving potential deceased donors. She represents Oceania on the Council of The Transplantation Society and has served as an ethics consultant to the Australian Organ and Tissue Authority and the World Health Organization. (VIC)

Professor Keith Martin (VIC)



Professor Keith Martin is a clinician scientist ophthalmologist and Professor and Head of Ophthalmology at the University of Melbourne. He was previously Professor and Head of Ophthalmology and Deputy Director of the Centre for Brain Repair at the University of Cambridge. His research is focused on developing new strategies to protect and regenerate the optic nerve in glaucoma, the leading cause of irreversible blindness worldwide. He was first in the world to demonstrate gene therapy and stem cell therapy could reduce retinal ganglion cell death in an experimental model of glaucoma. A gene therapy for glaucoma developed in his lab is currently being progressed towards human clinical trials by a major pharmaceutical company. He has extensive experience in optic nerve injury models, including multiple animal models of glaucoma, retinal gene therapy and all relevant surgical techniques. He is an experienced supervisor and mentor to graduate students, post docs and clinician scientists. Clinically, he specialises in the medical and surgical management of advanced glaucoma.

Abbey McDonnell (QLD)



Abbey is a Senior Scientist at the Queensland Tissue Bank. I have been working at QTB since October 2019 in the Donation and Recovery team, after completing my Bachelor of Science at the University of Queensland. As part of my role at QTB, I am involved in all stages of donation, recovery, allocation and distribution of musculoskeletal, cardiovascular, skin, and ocular tissue, including screening for potential donors, seeking consent from families, liaising with surgeons, and performing tissue recovery. When I am not working, I love to read and spend time with my partner and two sausage dogs.

Speakers

Invited and abstract

Britt Miller (QLD)



After completing Bachelor degrees in Applied Science and Nursing, Britt worked as an Intensive Care Nurse, it was in this role that she developed an interest in palliation and end of life care. In 2009 Britt relocated from Canberra to Brisbane and started working with DonateLife QLD as a Donation Specialist Coordinator. Britt worked in this role for 14 years providing comfort and hope for families at the end of their loved one's life. With a short stint as a Transplant Coordinator for the QLD Kidney Transplant Service Britt took up a position at the QLD Tissue Bank in the Donation and Recovery Team in 2022.

Nick Nuttall (QLD)



Medical Scientist with forty years' experience as a general scientist, biochemist before specialising in Microbiology in 1989. Reopened the Queensland Eye Bank in 2006 and became its Director in 2009. First eye banker to join BAA (then known as ATBF). Became the inaugural Director of the Queensland Tissue Bank in 2012. Ostensibly retired in 2019 before being lured back into the workforce on several occasions to become a serial retiree. Honoured with EBAANZ Life Membership in 2023. Presently enjoying a semi-retirement option as a born-again microbiologist at his old lab at Pathology Queensland Central Laboratory at Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital.

Dr Huynh Nguyen (QLD)



Dr Nguyen obtained PhD in Biomedical Sciences at UQ in 2008. He then worked as a postdoctoral research fellow in tissue banking from 2008 to 2010. He joined Queensland Tissue Bank (QTB) Production team in 2010 and promoted to Production and Operation Supervisor in 2016. During that period, his mainly focused on tissue retrieval and production, staff training, and small research projects on biomechanical properties of bone and tendon. From 2020 to present, he is a research and product development officer at the QTB. His current research interest is the application of 3D technologies in tissue banking. He also runs product development projects.

Speakers

Invited and abstract

Aine O'Connor (NSW)



Aine O'Connor, originally from Dublin, Ireland, now resides in Australia. With a background in haematology and blood transfusion, she shifted gears to eye banking in July 2023. Since then, she's been navigating the complexities of ocular health with a mix of curiosity and determination. Aine plays an important role in the oversight and allocation of research tissue to research partners. Her interest in improving eye banking processes drives her interest in vision science research.

Michael O'Neill (QLD)



Michael is the Director of Queensland Tissue Bank (QTB), a state-wide service responsible for donor identification, consent, recovery, production, and distribution of human tissues for transplant. With services across four tissue types, QTB is the largest and most diverse tissue bank in Australia. Prior to working at QTB, Michael gained extensive experience in management consulting within the health sector, tailoring his expertise in clinical service redesign, organisational transformation, health policy and program planning and management. With qualifications in Business and Health Science through the Queensland University of Technology, he is aware of the opportunities and constraints placed on the business of healthcare, particularly the complexity of the tissue sector.

Amila Peiris (VIC)



Amila has over 20 years of experience in GMP-regulated environments across both sterile and non-sterile pharmaceutical manufacturing as a GxP documentation specialist, training coordinator, production lead and site manager. He is Highly specialised in lean/six-sigma principles, Human Resource Management and Business Management. During his career, he has successfully led many organisations through regulatory audits and various improvement projects whilst overseeing planned medicine production. Joining recently with tissue banking, Amila is passionate about helping patients and their communities through end-of-life donations, while ensuring DTBV maintains the highest industry standards at its production facility and the products that it produces. Amila is excited about innovations in the cadaveric allograft field and optimistic about increasing donor numbers to help more individuals in future.

Speakers

Invited and abstract

Sean Poppoff (USA)



Sean Poppoff is the Executive Director of Lions Gift of Sight. In this role, Sean is charged with leading the eye bank as it seeks to fulfill its mission to restore sight by providing tissue for research and transplant, conducting independent research and development, and educating the next generation of ophthalmologists and eye bank professionals. Sean has a BA in Economics from the University of California San Diego. Prior to joining Lions Gift of Sight, Sean was the Department Administrator for the University of Minnesota's Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Neurosciences, and he previously held positions at the University of California San Diego, the University of Washington in Seattle, and the Center for Integrative Brain Research at Seattle Children's Research Institute. Sean, his wife, Haylee, and their four children and one grandchild live in Cottage Grove. Haylee and Sean are members of the Cottage Grove Lions Club.

Gary Rockl (Canada)



Gary is a Spécilaiste en innovation des tissus humains at Héma-Québec, Montreal. He is Father of 2 amazing adult children and roommate to 1 stubborn cattle dog. He has worked for 16+ years in ocular and non-ocular tissue banking. He is the Chairperson of the Canadian Blood Service - Eye and Tissue Data Committee, and Co-Chairperson of the Canadian Donation and Transplantation Research Program - Transplant Tissue Research and Development Committee.

Flavia Russell (NSW)



Flavia is a dedicated professional and has committed over 11 years to the NSW Tissue Bank. In her role as a Tissue Donor Coordinator, she specializes in the assessment of potential donors, diligently navigating conversations with families assisting them in making the decision to donate while grieving. She is a fervent advocate for Organ and Tissue donation and derives immense satisfaction from providing the gift of life and the chance to enhance the quality of life for recipients. Beyond her extensive experience, she brings a profound sense of empathy and commitment to every interaction, understanding the far-reaching impact of these decisions on individuals and communities.

Speakers

Invited and abstract



Dr Diletta Trojan (Italy)

Dr Trojan is the Director of Fondazione Banca dei Tessuti del Veneto, Italy. She is a member of the EATCB, Prsident of the Italian Association of Tissue Banks and Board Member of Società Italiana di Medicina e Chirurgia Rigenerativa. She has background and training in research, quality management, and has a background in biology, Pathology, Microbiology, Genetics, Anatomy, Histology and a PhD from the Università Pierre et Marie Curie – Hopital Saint Antoine (Paris).

Deb Stracey (NSW)

Deborah Completed her Diploma of Nursing in 1991, she then worked in many fields of transplant at St Vincent's Hospital including Cardiothoracic and Renal, she then spent 12 years in Bone Marrow Transplant / Haematology where she fulfilled roles such Nurse Educator, Clinical Nurse Specialist and Clinical Nurse Consultant. In 2002 Deborah completed her ICU Certificate and spent many years working in this speciality. In 2006 she became the Clinical Nurse Consultant in Oncology at The Northern Cancer Institute at North Shore Private. She started at Australian Biotechnologies as a Donor Coordinator in 2015 and transferred to Australian Tissue Donation Network with the Femoral Head Donation Program in 2016. Deborah completed her Certification in Tissue Banking Specialisation in 2016 and Commenced the Masters in Donor Health Care Pilot Course with the University of Amsterdam which she completed in 2018. Deborah completed her MBA in 2020 and is enjoying her role as the Executive Director of Australian Tissue Donation Network. Deborah is passionate about donation and transplantation in Australia.



Gavin Van Der Meer (VIC)

Gavin is the Production Scientist / Manager of the Barwon Health Bone Bank, University Hospital Geelong. He has over 20 years' experience in human blood and tissue banking including whole blood production, umbilical cord blood donation, processing, cryopreservation, living donor femoral head banking and biomedical research. He has held several positions in the field including past-President of BAA, member of OTA's Eye and Tissue Advisory Committee and BAA representative to the World Union of Tissue Bank Associations.



Speakers

Invited and abstract



NZ National Eye Bank

Maureen Watson (NZ)

Maureen joined the New Zealand Eye Bank in 2020 after escaping from a research lab where she spent many years obsessing over delicious imaging modalities and concluded that micro-CT is the most beautiful of them all. Maureen considers herself a fledgling in the Eye Banking world and is sure that there will always be new things to learn and that surprising challenges will just keep popping up.

Dr Cameron Whittaker (NSW)



Dr Whittaker is a specialist veterinary ophthalmologist. After initial training at Sydney University and the University of Florida, Cameron was an Assistant Professor at The Ohio State University. After moving back to Australia, Cameron established Eye Clinic for Animals (ECA) in Sydney in 2000. ECA is now the largest private veterinary ophthalmology practice in Australia. Despite being a private practice, ECA are passionate about research as it relates to improving the quality of canine ocular healthcare. ECA has published a number of world surgical firsts for canines, including the world's first case series of DSEK in dogs.

Larna Woodyatt (VIC)



Larna Woodyatt is a Donation Specialist Nurse at Grampians Health Ballarat and DonateLife Victoria. For over eight years, Larna has provided clinical and education services to her Health Service colleagues to ensure the best possible care for potential organ and tissue donors and their families. She has a background in Intensive Care Nursing and is passionate about choice at end-of-life.

SAVE THE DATE!
WEBS2024
September 25th 2024
Jakarta, Indonesia
Taking place concurrently with the 9th Biennial Scientific Meeting of the Asia Cornea Society.

Logos for AEBA (Association of Eye Banks of Asia) and GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR THE EYE BANKING INDUSTRY are visible at the bottom of the banner.

Information

COVID:

The conference will take place within a hospital education centre. Therefore, we will follow the COVID-19 rules that apply at that time, as directed by the hospital. If you are feeling unwell, we ask that you do not attend the conference.

Dates and Times:

Tuesday 5th: Registration opens at 8am, for an 8:30am conference start time. Closing at 4:30pm.

Wednesday 6th: Registration opens at 8:30am for a 9:00am conference start time. Closing at 4:30pm.

Venue:

Martin Auditorium and Education Centre, Level 4, Smorgan Family Wing (SFW), Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital (RVEEH), 32 Gisborne St, East Melbourne, 3002. <https://eyeandear.org.au/>

When inside the hospital, take the green lifts (as that is SFW). Do not take the blue lifts.

Trams: There are two tram stop outside the hospital, servicing 4 different lines.

Tram Stops: 11, 12

Tram Lines: 11, 12, 30, 109

Cocktail Function:

This is included in your ticket price. If you cannot make it, please inform our registration team on arrival. The ticket includes a drinks and canopies package. The details are:

Tuesday 5th, 6:30pm – 7:30/8pm.

The Loop Bar: <https://www.looprooftopbar.com.au/>

Rooftop - Level 3 & 4, 23 Meyers Place, Melbourne, VIC 3000.

Note: There is no lift at the venue so delegates will need to walk the 3 flights of stairs to get to the Rooftop.

A venue wristband will be provided upon arrival, though feel free to still wear your delegate badge.

Extra tickets: Extra tickets are available should you wish to bring along another person (\$60). Please email: conference2024@ebaanz.org to arrange.

Facility Tours of Lions Eye Donation Service

Tours are available at lunch time on the 5th and 6th (they take 15 minutes). To join a tour, please use the sign on sheets that are located on the registration table. Make sure you meet at the registration table at the day/time you've selected, ready for the tour.

Environmental Responsibility:

We are taking every step to ensure this event is ecologically friendly. For that, we are not printing out individual programs or materials. QR or weblinks will be provided for you to download the final program on your arrival.

The caterers will use, where possible, ecological packaging.

A co-mingle recycling bins is available behind the auditorium.

What to bring:

Please bring along your own refillable water bottle, keep cup, writing paper and pen.

Mobile Phones:

Please put your mobile phone onto silent during the conference presentations.

Wi-fi:

The Wi Fi QR information is located on the wall adjacent to the registration desk.

Information

Catering:

The event has catered for morning tea, lunch, and afternoon tea. Those who have requested a special meal will be alerted to the pick-up point on arrival.

Should you wish to refill your water bottle, you will find the zip tap in the kitchen area, behind the auditorium.

Coffee shop and snacks:

For pre-event or additional drinks/food, there is a coffee shop on the ground floor.

Bathrooms:

Bathrooms are located at the Level 4 lift lobby area, adjacent to the registration area, and behind the auditorium, close to the kitchen.

Sharing your contact details:

The Convenor will provide your name and email other delegates in a post-event mailout list. If you do not want your details shared, please notify our Registration Team on your arrival.

Photos:

We will be taking group and crowd photos throughout the event. The photos may be used in the EBAANZ-BAA and/or VIC host's event reports and/or social media. Please let our Team know if you do not want your photo image used.

Gifts and awards:

Invited guest speakers will be presented with a small gift as a token of our appreciation.

One lucky abstract presenter will be provided with a gift in celebration of their winning abstract.

A helping hand:

The conference has been organised by members in Victoria who have volunteered their time to make sure the conference is a success. In return, our Victorian volunteers ask that all speakers and delegates help make their life as easy as possible by placing their food/drink containers and any waste into the provided bins. This will make a huge difference to the volunteers and ensure they can return to the auditorium for the sessions as soon as possible.

After the event:

In the weeks after the event, Kellie Hamilton (from DTBV) will email you an attendance certificate, along with a link to a post-event survey.

Collegial engagement:

We ask that all delegates refrain from interrupting speakers during their presentation and hold questions until the Q&A sessions, or as directed by the session Chair.

We actively encourage respectful debate and discussion during the Q&A sessions; however, we will not tolerate abusive or disrespectful behaviour towards other speakers, delegates, volunteers, or venue staff. In such cases, delegates may be asked to leave the conference.

Side meetings:

For your reference, on the 6th, there are 3 private side meetings taking place at the venue. They will be sharing the communal catering area (WUTBA/EBAANZ Medical Directors/BIENCO). These are invite only meetings.

If you need help: If you need help or have special needs, please ask our team at our registration desk. If it is unmanned, you can text our Conference Convenor, Heather Machin on 0412 581 881. Heather will find someone to help you. When you text, add your name to the message along with your question.

Note: *EBAANZ-BAA provides a platform for speakers and sponsors to showcase their knowledge, research, organisation, or group, and promote knowledge exchange. Presentations are not an endorsement and speakers and sponsors may or may not reflect the views of EBAANZ-BAA.*

Code Red Procedure

Staff member discovering fire or smoke

A Code Red emergency could be discovered by person or detected automatically by an installed fire detection system.

In general, lifts in the fire affected building are not to be used whilst a Code Red emergency is in progress.



Staff member discovering fire or smoke



Implement R.A.C.E.



Remove

- Look after your own safety
- If safe, move any one in immediate danger, move to an area of safety (eg. Past the first set of fire doors)



Alert

- Activate Manual Call Point (break glass alarm)
- Dial the emergency campus number and notify 'Code Red and location' details to Switchboard staff or the Emergency Coordinator and;
- Alert people in the immediate area- notify and follow the instructions issued by the local Warden.



Contain

- If safe, close doors and windows in the immediate threat area
- If safe to do so (including patient considerations), turn off medical gases and electrical equipment in the vicinity, but leave lights on
- If small fire and it is safe, a staff member who is trained in use of a fire extinguisher may attempt to extinguish the fire



Exit

- If in immediate danger move to an area of safety, usually past the next fire doors or into an emergency stairwell



Emergency Numbers used at Eye and Ear

- Main Campus (Gisborne Street) **22-22**
- Outlying Buildings (Clendon, Morrison Place, Edward Neild) **22-22**
- On the Park (St Andrews Place) **22-22**

Emergency Respond Procedures



FOR ALL EMERGENCIES DIAL 22 22

State Code, Details and Location of Incident
 Report to Area Warden for All Emergencies
 Do Not Put Your Safety or Others Safety at Risk

Code Colour	Action
RED Fire Alarm Activation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check area for fire/smoke (use action cards) Report findings to Warden
RED Fire or Smoke Sighted Dial 22 22 and...	Start RACE Actions RESCUE - anyone from immediate danger if safe to do so ALERT - break manual call point (break glass alarm), alert other staff. CONFINE - close door/s to confine fire EXIT - to safe area as per area Evacuation Plan
ORANGE Evacuation Dial 22 22 and...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evacuate as per department evacuation plan Area Warden will direct route, and delegate headcount
Assembly Areas	Evacuate as per department Evacuation Plan MAIN CAMPUS - corner of Morrison Place & Victoria Parade - corner of Gisborne & Albert Street PARK CAMPUS - William Haines Court - corner of Cathedral Place Lansdowne St
BLUE Medical Emergency Call Dial 22 22 and...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State type of incident, Code Blue <u>or</u> MET call, & room number if applicable Begin CPR/First Aid if trained to do so Remain with casualty until the team arrives Assist as required
YELLOW Internal Emergency Dial 22 22 and...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove self and others from harm Restrict access to area if required
PURPLE Bomb Threat (threat may be received via phone call, email, sms suspect object or mail) Dial 22 22 and...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If threat by phone prolong call, ask questions, DO NOT hang up call DO NOT touch suspicious article(s) Keep letter/document, avoid unnecessary handling Minimise use of mobile phones, pagers in threat area only If a search of the area required take direction from the Area Warden & Emergency Coordinator Use Bomb Threat Checklist kept by phones
GREY Occupational Violence & Aggression Dial 22 22 and...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activate Duress Alarm if unable to use phone Hand over valuable, drugs or cash if demanded Remove self and others from harm Follow directions from the Code Grey Response Team
BLACK Personal Threat Dial 22 22 and...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activate Duress Alarm if unable to use phone Security to control area until Police attend Completed the Offenders Checklist
BROWN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remain in work area Await instructions from Area Warden and Emergency Coordinator
STAND DOWN	Formal recognition the code incident is over. Provided by the responding emergency services in consultation with the Emergency Coordinator