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6th Australian Military Medicine Association Conference – Melbourne, 1997

by Nader Abou-Seif

The sixth AMMA Conference was held at the Hotel Sofitel in Melbourne over the weekend of the 29th to 31st August 1997. There were approximately 120 registrants, which, disappointingly, was less than the previous year. Delegates came from all States in Australia.

There was a positive response from the delegates as to the quality of papers presented, which, as in previous years, covered a board range of topics and disciplines.

Our keynote speaker, Captain Mo Treadway, the USAF Air Combat Command Flight Surgeon of the Year, presented an excellent and timely paper on 'The Khobar Towers Bombing' which reinforced both the need for adequate preparedness and the realisation that paperwork tends to be forgotten during emergency situations.

The Weary Dunlop Award this year being awarded to Wing Commander Tracy Smart, whose subject 'Fast Women' was presented with the panache that only Tracy can deliver (and possibly, get away with!).

The highlight of the social program was the address by Ron Wambeek, whose inspiring and entertaining presentation once again reminded us that we have lessons to learn from those who have gone before us. The opportunity to 'network' and from and renew friendships was once again a highlight.

The Conference was again well supported by a number of sponsors without whom the organisation and conduct of the meeting would not have been possible. Our thanks, again are due to:

- Smith Kline Beecham
- Abbott
- AVL Medical Instruments
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- MIMS Script
- Pfizer
- Schering Plough

The conference organisers would like to thank all those who attended for their support during the meeting, and would like to encourage all members to join them in supporting next year's conference in Sydney.