

## ***From the President of Asthma Australia, Mr Ian JW Adams***

The Research Symposium convened on 19 March 2010 by Asthma Australia's National Medical and Scientific Committee was a significant event. It brought together some of the key respiratory researchers in Australia and confirmed the vibrant and significance of asthma research currently being pursued. The report of the presentations by each speaker provides an integral part of the picture of this vital work.

Asthma Australia is the recognised national community voice of Australians with asthma and linked conditions and their carers. It comprises the Asthma Foundations from each Australian state and territory working together on national policy, advocacy and programs and promoting research. It is a national, nongovernment, incorporated body with no political affiliations.

The vision of Asthma Australia is to free the community of asthma. Our mission is to work together to help people with asthma and linked conditions to breathe better. We do this by providing asthma information, education, training and advocacy in the community and promoting research.

The Asthma Foundations across Australia have worked together in one way or another for over 50 years and researchers have been part of that history since the very beginning. During the past 12 months, the Foundations have been working together to build a strong national voice for people with asthma and linked conditions and their carers. New national strategic directions have been developed and research is one of the five priority goals, encompassing medical and scientific research; social and marketing research; and communication with the community about research.

On behalf of Asthma Australia, I extend sincere appreciation to each of the Research Symposium speakers and all participants for giving of their time to address important issues associated with asthma and respiratory research in Australia.

Asthma Australia will use this report in communicating with the Australian community about research activity and progress in helping people with asthma and linked conditions to breathe better and to create a community free of asthma.

## **Acknowledgement**

Asthma Australia acknowledges with respect the traditional owners of the land now called Brisbane on which the Symposium was held and to express appreciation for the enduring importance of the history and culture of these peoples.