Like so many professionals who are dedicating their lives and careers to simulation, Dr. Victoria Brazil came upon the field after training in another medical specialty. In her case, emergency medicine provided an introduction into the myriad ways that simulation improves patient care.

In January at the International Meeting for Simulation in Healthcare (IMSH), Brazil was awarded a Presidential Citation by the Society for Simulation in Healthcare (SSH), in recognition of singular talent as a medical educator, simulationist, and debriefer in teaching the world about tribalism in healthcare.

Brazil is an emergency department physician and medical educator, based in the Gold Coast, Australia, in the Emergency Department of the Gold Coast Health Service, and at Bond University Faculty of Health Sciences and Medicine where she is the Director of the clinical simulation program.

Her passion is connecting education with patient care - through healthcare simulation, technology enabled learning, and faculty development activities.

She prefers to lessen the distinction between “In Situ” and “center-based” simulation in favor of what she calls “translational” simulation – converting the education into improved practices in patient care as quickly as possible.

“It doesn’t matter to me about the setting, it’s the target,” she said. “The target is improving the patient outcome. We simulate the whole patient journey through an emergency scenario, and we benchmark several variables, including the time to CT scan, time to the operating theatre, the percent attendance of the trauma team. We test the system and aim to improve it.”

Prior to her current position, Brazil ran a company (Medical Education Solutions) that took simulation-based learning to centers throughout her native Australia.
She has become an active voice on social media: @socraticEM on Twitter and through her podcast SimulationPodcast.com.

And through it all, SSH has been a constant presence.

As the simulation community in Australia is small but growing, SSH has provided networking, career development, opportunities to train fellows in simulation and the ability to view simulation in a global context.

Not that she’d trade her part of the world for anything. Brazil lives right on the beach in The Gold Coast, where she enjoys running.

“It’s a beautiful part of the world,” she said.