



IN THIS ISSUE

Our "Life Long Learning in Pharmacy" Success	1
Intern Year Blueprint Working Party	2
Review of APC Standards for the Accreditation of Programs to support Pharmacist Administration of Vaccines	2
International Accreditation Steering Committee	3
Review of Accreditation Education Standards	3

Your chance to have a say in the next set of standards for pharmacy students and interns	3
APC intends to Close the Gap on Indigenous health	4
HPAC Forum - Interprofessional Collaborative Practice in action	4
New APC Examinations Committee	5
Innovative computer-based delivery of the APC KAPS examination across the globe	5
Save The Date! Lloyd Sansom Lecture Series	6

Our "Life Long Learning in Pharmacy" Success - it's a wrap!

In July, APC hosted the 12th international Life Long Learning in Pharmacy (LLLP) Conference in Brisbane. This was the first time this conference had been held in Australia, and we drew over 230 delegates from 17 countries to explore *Shaping tomorrow's practitioners today.*

The four-day event included over 120 sessions, involving speakers from across the globe sharing their knowledge and expertise from their various countries and jurisdictions about the direction in which pharmacy education is heading, the opportunities with continuing professional development, the types and styles of leadership that make a difference to pharmacy in around the world, and the important elements needed to achieve interprofessional collaboration and practice.

The conference included pre-conference workshops, plenary sessions, contributed papers and posters, and finished with a "Prophetic". As our CEO Bronwyn Clark, who was the Host Committee Chair, reflected: "What triggered a lot of discussion was the 'prophetic' in which pharmacy students and staff explored hypothetical issues with a prophecy about where



pharmacy and pharmacy education needs to be."

"The next generation is the cohort we need to take notice of and work so closely with as they are the generation that will take our profession forward in bold ways as new technologies, online systems and opportunities not seen before will become their pharmacy 'bread and butter'," she said.

Keynote speaker Prof Zubin Austin reminded delegates that collaboration is not just about leadership, experience and resilience but also about being pragmatic, adaptable, holistic and outward looking. Other Keynote speakers explored topics on professionalism, curriculum development, teaching and learning, coaching and interprofessional communication.

We were commended this year for delivering a thought-provoking program as well as a sense of fun, as delegates thoroughly enjoyed the inclusions of a classic Australiana Trivia quiz and Australian Wildflower-inspired Gala Dinner.

“A very hearty congratulations and a big thank you for hosting such a terrific meeting.....one of the best conference programs I’ve attended in years.”

Following this successful 12th event, we have now handed over the LLLPharm baton to Dublin, scheduled for July 2020. For more information on the conference see www.lllpharm2018.com.



Host Committee Left to right: Kirstie Galbraith, Gabrielle Sutton, Bronwyn Clark, Rhonda Clifford, Brett Simmonds, Anna Turello, Jacqueline Bond, Lisa Nissen, Beverley Glass.

Review of APC Standards for the Accreditation of Programs to support Pharmacist Administration of Vaccines

The APC Council is about to consider the recommended updates and amendments to the current APC Standards for Accreditation of Programs to support Administration of Vaccines. APC’s review of the Standards is nearing completion and will be presented at the next meeting of the APC Council. This has followed consultation with State Health Departments. The release of the [National Immunisation Education Framework for Health Professionals](#) by the Commonwealth Government in December 2017 combined with the expanding role of pharmacists in administering vaccinations and questions raised by degree program providers, prompted the review to ensure the standards are contemporary and relevant for this emerging area of pharmacy practice.

Intern Year Blueprint Working Party

The Intern Year Blueprint project, a project funded by the Pharmacy Board of Australia (the Board) and implemented by APC, has now finished.

The project has resulted in a new assessment blueprint which will become the framework to determine future options for assessing pharmacy interns in Australia against the newly-introduced [2016 National Competency Standards Framework for Pharmacists in Australia](#).

A collaborative effort by many stakeholders to guide the project consultants enabled the development of a meaningful blueprint for the three organisations involved in intern assessments – the APC, the Board and the Intern Training Program (ITP) providers.

The next steps in the Blueprint implementation will be to develop a strategy to determine the most appropriate and effective type of assessment for each competency from the range of choices described in the Blueprint, and to identify the organisation with the prime responsibility to develop and administer the assessment. This work will be carried out by a joint working party between the APC and the Board, with meetings commencing in August.



APC hosts international CPD Accreditation Steering Committee

The Life Long Learning in Pharmacy (LLLL) CE/CPD Accreditation Steering Committee met face to face for the second time at QUT in Brisbane just prior to the successful 12th International LLLP Conference. APC CEO Bronwyn Clark hosted this group of seven countries involved in CPD accreditation across the globe.

Since the inaugural meeting of this group in 2016, two workgroups have been focussing on two key projects:

Mutual Recognition Guidance; and a CPD Quality Framework. This meeting in Brisbane allowed the groups to present their work and discuss next steps. The next get together in person will be held prior to the 13th International Life Long Learning in Pharmacy conference to be hosted in Dublin, Ireland from 2 – 6 July 2020.

Names: Left to Right:

Mike Rouse, Accreditation Council of Pharmacy Education (ACPE) USA; Catriona Bradley, Irish Institute of Pharmacy (IIOF) Ireland; Phil Emberley, Canadian Council on Continuing Education in Pharmacy (CCCEP) Canada, Art Whetstone, Canadian Council on Continuing Education in Pharmacy (CCCEP) Canada; Beth Ward, Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) Great Britain; Kat Hall, Centre for Inter-Professional Postgraduate Education and Training (CIPPET), University of Reading, United Kingdom; Sarah Drumm, Irish Institute of Pharmacy (IIOF) Ireland; Elizabeth Johnstone, Pharmaceutical Society of New Zealand (PSNZ) New Zealand; Avril Lewis, South African Pharmacy Council (SAPC) South Africa; Panjasaram (Vassie) Naidoo, South African Pharmacy Council (SAPC) South Africa; Vincent Tlala, South African Pharmacy Council (SAPC) South Africa.

Attended but not in photo: Peter Halstead, Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) Australia, Bronwyn Clark Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) Australia

Review of Accreditation Education Standards

Watch this space for your chance to have a say in the next set of standards for pharmacy students and interns.

This month we have commenced our review of the current Accreditation Standards for Pharmacy Degree programs, Australia and New Zealand. The most recent set of standards were last reviewed in 2012, and a cyclical review ensures that the standards that underpin programs for pharmacy degrees continue to prepare students to engage in contemporary pharmacy practice.

Alongside this, the standards that underpin the Intern Training Programs that intern pharmacists undertake as part of their pathway to full registration with the Pharmacy Board of Australia are also being reviewed.

This project will run over the next 12 months and will include public consultations with the community and key stakeholders to seek input into the development of these new standards for the profession.

We have been delighted with the response from the profession and other stakeholders to an Expression of Interest for membership of the Professional Reference Group, which will provide expert guidance and commentary to facilitate this process and ensure that the consultation process is robust and engaging. The members of the Professional Reference Group will be announced in mid-August.

APC intends to Close the Gap on Indigenous health

The APC is one of 37 organisations determined to close the gap and achieve equity in health outcomes between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and other Australians by 2031.

As a signal of this intent, APC's President, Associate Professor Sue Kirska attended the launch of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme Statement of Intent and signed alongside leading Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health organisations.

Other organisations that also committed to this statement included entities working to implement Australia's regulation scheme for health practitioners; AHPRA, all National Boards and all accreditation authorities.

The work behind the Statement of Intent has been led by the National Scheme Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Strategy Group in close partnership with a range of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and experts. The group shares a commitment to ensuring that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have access to health services that are culturally safe and free from racism so that they can enjoy a healthy life, equal to that of other Australians, enriched by a strong living culture, dignity and justice.

APC CEO Bronwyn Clark, who Chairs the Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum said this Statement of Intent will be far reaching. Between us, we work with partners and stakeholders that will help extend this commitment even further because it's a commitment we must see through over the next 13 years.

"For the accreditation authorities in the National Scheme, developing

accreditation standards that assist with recruitment and retention of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples into our health professions, and assist education providers to ensure students are able to deliver culturally safe care in the future, is an important role that we are uniquely placed to undertake.

"Our accreditation responsibilities mean we can assure that this work gets done from the get go," Bronwyn said.

"Our work reaches all education providers with accredited programs, and in turn, the students and graduates of those programs," she said.

At APC's June 2018 Council meeting, Ms Janine Mohamed, CEO of the Council of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives led a discussion on how APC can contribute to Closing the Gap. Her insights were valuable as we move progressively on our commitment to this work which is being enhanced through an additional workstream within our Strategic Intentions. This workstream is designed to Equip our people with the understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to progress "Closing the Gap" with our Communities. This will commence with ensuring all Council, staff and Committee members are trained in cultural safety and understanding of indigenous health disparities.

Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum – Interprofessional Collaborative Practice in action

The Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum (the Forum) has just published its [Strategic Plan](#) and its progress on projects that meet the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the Scheme).

The Forum's members are accreditation authorities operating within the Scheme. We are one of the fourteen members, and our CEO Bronwyn Clark is the Chair of the Forum.

The agenda for the Forum's latest meeting was ambitious but achievable. The Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency's (TEQSA) CEO Anthony McClaren and Dr Karen Treloar, Director Engagement Group joined the Forum to discuss the intersecting and complementary roles and responsibilities of Forum members with respect to the Scheme, and TEQSA, as Australia's national quality assurance and regulatory agency for higher education. The Forum will continue to work with TEQSA on issues of mutual interest, with the next meeting scheduled for later in 2018.

The Forum also met with the National Rural Health Commissioner, Emeritus Professor Paul Worley. Forum members discussed a range of issues with Professor Worley related to rural health, including the implementation of the rural generalist program and how accreditation will assist in this development.

In the meantime, APC is leading a project on development of Inter-Professional Education (IPE) guidance documents to accompany the Forum's agreed 2015 Interprofessional learning definitions and competencies which are available [here](#). This approach follows a similar pathway taken by the Forum's equivalent body in the US (<http://healthprofessionsaccrreditors.org/>), which is the collaboration of 24 health profession accreditors in the US. Our connections through our US colleagues the Accreditation Council of Pharmacy Education have allowed us to be involved in their development of this guidance.

A Communique from the July 2018 Forum meeting is available [here](#).

New APC Examinations Committee

A continuous improvement of the methodology of our APC exams is underway following the first meeting of the new APC Examinations Committee. This Committee comprises experts in assessment, psychometrics and high-stakes examinations, including those from other professions. For a list of members please see [here](#).

The Committee was re-formed this year to assist APC with quality, integrity and defensibility in the administration of the high stakes exams for interns and overseas trained pharmacists. Currently APC delivers four types of high-stakes examinations for more than 2000 candidates across the globe.

The Committee also shared their expertise and ideas on the latest developments for contemporary assessment methodology as a benchmark for our current practices. The next meeting to be held later this year will continue this review and benchmarking by delving more deeply into the methodology of preparing the examination papers and subsequent analysis

Innovative computer-based delivery of the APC Knowledge Assessment of Pharmaceutical Sciences (KAPS) examination across the globe

APC is looking at expanding a new Knowledge Assessment of Pharmaceutical Sciences (KAPS) exam model that offers the exams across four days. The KAPS exam is delivered in multiple venues internationally for pharmacists with an overseas qualification who are seeking to migrate to Australia and pursue employment as a pharmacist. We currently deliver this in over 28 venues in 17 countries.

Recently we introduced more flexibility and options for a KAPS exam to enable us to better service the increasing demand, by delivering the exam over four days.

This change required the Examinations Team to develop processes and procedures to ensure fairness for candidates by ensuring the exams were similar in content while concurrently developing processes to protect the security of examination papers.

Following an evaluation and analysis of the extended KAPS exam delivery schedule, results showed there was an improved experience for candidates through better demand management strategies for location and session times, while ensuring fairness when comparing the examination papers. Based on the recent results of this work, this model of offering examinations across four days will continue with our forthcoming exam sessions.

We have finalised our Examinations schedule for 2019, which is now on our website. All our examinations are delivered by computer-based delivery, and more information is available [here](#).

Or follow us on twitter to get your reminders! [@AusPharmCouncil](#)

APC Australian Intern Written Examination 2019 (Aus Only)

Sunday 10 February 2019
Sunday 7 April 2019
Sunday 1 June and Sunday 2 June 2019
Sunday 28 July 2019
Sunday 20 October 2019
Sunday 1 December 2019

APC CAOP Examination 2019

Aus/NZ and UK:
Sunday 10 and Monday 11 February 2019
Sunday 28 and Monday 29 July 2019
Sunday 1 and Monday 2 December 2019

Fiji:
Friday 8 February 2019
Friday 26 July 2019

APC KAPS Examination 2019

Sunday 7 April - Wednesday 10 April 2019
Sunday 23 June - Wednesday 26 June 2019
Sunday 20 October - Wednesday 23 October 2019

PCNZ WE Examination 2019

Sunday 3 March 2019
Saturday 6 July and Sunday 7 July 2019
Sunday 22 September 2019

Save The Date!

Emeritus Professor Lloyd Sansom AO Lecture Series No.2 Tuesday 27 November 2018

Following popular demand, APC is looking forward to hosting our colleagues and partners in Canberra on Tuesday 27 November 2018, for the next occasion in the Lloyd Sansom Lecture Series.

This year our invited speaker is Professor **Debra Rowett PSM**.

Debra is Discipline Leader: External Relations School of Pharmacy and Medical Sciences at the University of South Australia and Director of the Drug and Therapeutics Information Service (DATIS), Repatriation General Hospital, Adelaide.

Debra is a highly regarded pharmacist who has worked extensively in the area of quality use of medicines, inter-professional practice, health policy and workforce development in Australia and internationally. She has been at the forefront of academic detailing training and implementation in Australia and is a member of the national Drug Utilisation SubCommittee of the Australian Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC). Debra is also an Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Queensland and has published widely.

From 2014 – 2017 Debra was the President of the Australian Pharmacy Council. In 2016 Debra was credentialed as an Advanced Practice Pharmacist in Australia and was awarded the prestigious SHPA Fred J Boyd award from the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia.

Join us at the Majura Park Conference Centre, Lancaster Place, Majura Park, Canberra to hear Debra speak at 4pm on Tuesday 27 November 2018, and adjourn for light refreshments at 5pm.

Save the date!