

placebo.

newsletter of the national australian pharmacy students' association

volume 16 issue 2

President's Report

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Since our last edition, NAPSA has held its annual Congress, hosted by the South Australian Pharmacy Students' Association (SAPSA). Two hundred and forty delegates from pharmacy schools around Australia gathered in Adelaide to celebrate all that it means to be a student of pharmacy. Jennifer Gordon and her fabulous team put together one of the most unforgettable congresses in NAPSA history and their hard work has not gone unnoticed. NAPSA were honored to have some of the most influential people in the industry in the lineup of educational speakers. Please turn to page 3 to read more about Congress!

The recent congress also served as the venue for a reunion of key NAPSA supporters and stakeholders. NAPSA's nine Past Presidents, Honorary Life Members and NAPSA alumni met with current National Councilors to engage in a day of planning and reflection. 2011 will mark NAPSA's 10th anniversary since reformation and it is the Executive's goal to ensure that the association continues to grow and flourish for many more years to come.

The outcome of the planning summit was for the current Executive to gain guidance on how to create a NAPSA with strong vision and drive for the next ten years and to strengthen NAPSA's position as the sole national pharmacy student body.

Themes of leadership, self-sustainability and policy platforms dominated discussion. Opportunity was also offered to all past presidents to reflect on the major achievements and greatest challenges within their term.

To finish up, NAPSA would like to announce the 'Day of Difference' as its new three-year partner for the annual Charity cup initiative. All branches will be battling it out during the month of April to raise as much money as they can to take out the prestigious Charity Cup.

Ashleigh Coome
National President

Autumn
2011

Editor's note

Welcome to the Autumn Edition of Placebo for 2011. This edition captures the all the energy and spirit from NAPSA Congress to share the NAPSA love with all our members. This edition also includes the normal branch and chair updates along with NAPSA's time at APP and some student exchange adventures. If you have something you would like to contribute to Placebo I would love to hear from you. Please contact me via email: publications@napsa.org.au.

Bethany Cooper
Editor

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Volume 16, Issue 2 – Autumn 2011

Placebo is the quarterly newsletter of the National Australian Pharmacy Students' Association (NAPSA).

Opinions expressed in Placebo do not necessarily reflect those of NAPSA, its Committees and Office Bearers, its members nor the Editor.

Please direct advertising and all other enquiries to the editor at placebo@napsa.org.au

Monash International Experience: USA

Over the summer holidays, while everyone was enjoying the sun and surf, I was lucky enough to spend one month in the heartland of America, Iowa. Everyone always asks "Why Iowa?" and the honest answer is that we just got put there! Together with Chole, I completed my International Experience in Pharmacy Unit. I spent a month in Des Moines, Iowa experiencing what pharmacy is like in a different country.

We departed Australia at the end of December and neither of us knew really what to expect. It turned out to be one of the best experiences of my life. The people in Iowa were incredibly friendly and helpful and we easily settled in to our accommodation. We also kept the thermostat in our apartment at a steady 20 degrees, while it averaged a balmy 0 degrees outside.

In terms of our Pharmacy work, we spent two weeks at a Walgreens and two weeks at a Medicap Pharmacy. Walgreens is a big supermarket chain, and the pharmacy is incredibly busy and understaffed. One of the biggest shocks I experienced was the drive-thru, where people didn't even need to get out of their cars to get their medication! I also found it weird that a pharmacy can sell cigarettes, alcohol and even have an ice-cream counter. Medicap, on the other hand, was a much smaller community pharmacy. We got a lot of patient counselling experience, as well as seeing many vaccinations (pharmacists are trained to give these in America).

On top of all the work, we also experienced everything Des Moines had to offer. We went ice-skating, snow tubing, built many snowmen and even had a visit to the gun shop. And following the placement, we spent three weeks (together with Kyall and Michelle who were doing the same thing in Kansas City) travelling through America from Los Angeles, to Washington DC, Boston and finally New York City.

Diana Sandulache
VPSA President



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The Pharmacy Guild of Australia

NAPSA Congress 2011 – NAPSA Rocks Adelaide



It's hard to believe that NAPSA Congress Adelaide 2011 was almost three months ago now! Oh how time flies when you are recovering from hosting a Congress! (Our Organising Committee did sleep for the entire month of February though so that might explain things). For those who did not attend (what were you thinking?!), it was an absolutely fantastic week full of education sessions and social activities with 240 pharmacy students from around Australia. This year Congress was hosted in lovely little Adelaide (home of the South Australian Pharmacy Students' Association – SAPSA, Farmer's Union Iced Coffee and Coopers Pale!), and marked a very special occasion – the 10th anniversary of the reformation of NAPSA. The theme of this Congress was "Reflection, Celebration, Progression", and we certainly reflected upon our profession and the last 10 years of NAPSA, celebrated (need I say more!), looked towards the future, and really considered where our profession was heading and what NAPSA could contribute.

Delegates stayed in college accommodation in beautiful North Adelaide, which was a short stroll (ok, definition of short may have been affected by how many hours of sleep you had achieved the night before) from the University of South Australia (UniSA), our education venue for the week and Platinum Sponsor of Congress. The Opening Ceremony kicked off with me in a Darth Vader helmet (lifelong dream achieved),

and featured guest speakers Adam Phillips and esteemed keynote Emeritus Professor Lloyd Sansom (Chair of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee), who flew all the way back from London to present an impassioned and inspiring session on the Future of Pharmacy. This session really set the scene for the week and challenged us all to consider the issues facing us today and how we wanted to practice pharmacy in the future. Other highlights in our education program included our inaugural Future of Pharmacy Forum on the final day (our Committee first had this idea back in 2009 so was so great to see the vision come to life and be so embraced by delegates

and panel members!), "Robbo" the outback pharmacist talking about Aboriginal health and cultural awareness, Emeritus Professor Colin Chapman presenting on the current nature of the intern year, a Woundcare update by Associate Professor Geoff Sussman and many, many more. We were incredibly privileged to hear from so many highly regarded individuals in the pharmacy world so special thanks to Alex once again for coordinating the program and to all the speakers who so generously donated their time to impart some of their wisdom onto the next generation of pharmacists. This is also evidence that in the last 10 years NAPSA has built up an incredibly strong presence

NAPSA National Council 10/11

President:	Ashleigh Coome, <i>Queensland University of Technology</i>
Vice President:	Daniel Bowtell, <i>Curtin University</i>
Treasurer:	Timothy Mizzi, <i>Charles Sturt University</i>
Secretary:	Sarah Sinclair, <i>University of Sydney</i>
Rural and Indigenous Chair:	Briohny Gillespie, <i>University of Canberra</i>
Education Chair:	Ezekiel Steindl, <i>Queensland University of Technology</i>
IPSF Chair:	Stacey Gough, <i>Curtin University</i>
Publications Chair:	Bethany Cooper, <i>Griffith University</i>
Pharmacy Awareness Chair:	Hannah Soon, <i>La Trobe University</i>
Industrial Affairs Chair:	Mark Aspden, <i>University of Canberra</i>

and support network within the industry which is a tribute to past committees. Attendance at the education sessions was phenomenal and we have received fantastic feedback proving that students enjoy the opportunity Congress offers to expand existing knowledge, gain a new perspective on the profession and learn something "outside of the classroom".

This year we also decided to hold a Congress "Shoeboxes of Love" (care packages) Drive for the victims of the Queensland floods, and given the short notice, we were absolutely overwhelmed by the response. We collected 48 boxes in total and were able to send them across to where they needed them most. Thankyou again to all delegates who brought them along, and it just goes to show what NAPSA can achieve when we work together.

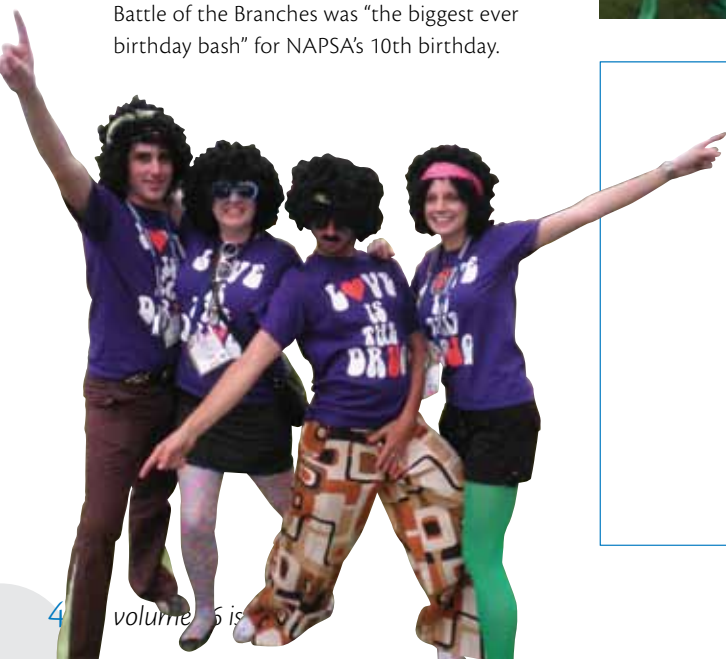
On the social side of things, our social program began with our Nerd Scribble Party themed Welcome Party at Higher Ground in our CBD, which was an absolute blast and a great way for all delegates to mix and mingle (and draw hilarious pictures on each other). The next night saw us split into groups, tie our allocated headbands around our afro wigs, and set out on our 70s themed "Love is the Drug – Make love not warfarin" Pub Crawl (see what we did there) in the East End of Adelaide. Everyone had a great time dancing/grooving the night away and we certainly turned a few heads along the way! The third day was Australia Day, and we celebrated with a Hottest 100 BBQ in the park (thankyou Alex and volunteers for cooking) and a chance to show your "Aussie Pride" with an Australian Party at night at the College. The next night was Battle Night, a tradition in which all Branches get dressed up in their allocated colours and compete against each other for ultimate bragging rights and points towards Les Cashen. The theme for this year's Battle of the Branches was "the biggest ever birthday bash" for NAPSA's 10th birthday.



Delegates competed in classic birthday party games such as "Pin the moustache on the drug lord" (I don't remember that as a child), boat races (or that) and it was a great moment to light up the cakes and hear 240 pharmacy students sing happy birthday to NAPSA! After a free night on Friday to explore the city and catch up on some sleep, the week came to a close with the Congress Gala Ball at the stunning Hilton Adelaide (themed the "Silver Ball" in reference to the iconic Malls Balls in Rundle Mall). This night was by far the highlight of the week and was a chance to dress up (with a touch of silver), say goodbye to new and old friends

for another year, and reflect on the week that was and the wonderful memories that will stay with us for life.

Congratulations again to those awarded prizes on the night: PSA/Alphapharm Pharmacy Student of the Year (PSOTY) NAPSA Wildcard – Zeke Steindl from QUTSPA, Organising Committee Appreciation Award – Jase Holdstock from BAPS, Spirit of Congress award – Erin Foster from QPSA, Education Award – Brendan Green from BAPS. Finally, congrats to Pharmer's Society for taking out the coveted Les Cashen award for the best Branch of Congress!



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Thankyou again to all of our generous sponsors (UniSA, PSA, PDL, Pharmacy Guild of Australia, AMH, MIMS, National Pharmacies, SAPSA, SHPA and Care Pharmaceuticals), as without them Congress simply would not have been possible. It has also been a pleasure to work with Ashleigh Coome and her incredible NAPSA Executive to help bring Congress together (and to answer my endless questions). Finally, thankyou of course to the wonderful and hardworking Adelaide Congress Organising Committee - you guys are absolutely amazing and I have enjoyed every moment of the last 18 months (and beyond!) working together.

Remember, when you are apart of NAPSA, you are apart of a nation-wide COMMUNITY of pharmacy students. These fellow members will become your future colleagues throughout your careers so make the most of your NAPSA membership to build up your network and we'll see you in Wagga Wagga 2012! (Doddy that's a shameless free plug, you owe me one!)

Jen Gordon
Congress Chair 2011

Any further questions, please contact Jen Gordon on gorja003@gmail.com

PS. In response to the final question in my post-Congress survey (Q. Do you want to make out with Macca? A. Yes/No/I want Sean Dodd to make out with Macca), the overwhelming majority of people answered C. Looks like you'll have to go to Congress 2012 to see that one!

Adelaide Congress Organising Committee (ACOC) 2011:

- Congress Chair – Jen Gordon
- Vice Chair – Anna Cooter
- Treasurer – Kate Fitzsimons
- Secretary – Stuart Benson
- Social Chair – Ayesha Platis
- Social Chair – Anh Ngo
- Education Chair – Alexandra Phillips
- Registrations Officer – Bianca Turner
- Publications Chair – Anne Dang
- Logistics Chair – Albert Michail

The five stages of loss/grief [of Congress coming to a close]*

By Professor# and Congress Toolie (so trust me on this) Jennifer Gordon



Denial

At this point you attempt to bring Congress home with you as you just can't admit to yourself that the week is over. You go on Facebook and madly scan your news feed for any Congress-related updates, join Congress-based groups (my fave- Do you want to make out with Macca?), comment on all your new friends' statuses and are constantly tagging and "liking" photos of Congress!

Anger

NO! Not back to reality! You hate reality! You wonder, was my life without Congress and 240 pharmacy students around me 24/7 always this boring???

Bargaining

"Ok ok" you say to yourself in a panic, "I'll organise a post-Congress trip, we'll all meet in a month in Melbourne and it will be just like Congress". But wait, you have to start uni then ...



Depression

Post-Congress Depression (PCD) sets in. Congress is over, uni is starting again soon, you miss your new found friends and your extended NAPSA family. At this point most Facebook status updates are along the lines of – "I wish I was back at Congress" or "I miss [insert Congress moment/new Congress friends]".

Acceptance

You realise that although Congress is definitely over for another year, you have had the time of your life and have met some amazing people. You start to spread the NAPSA love back home and begin the countdown for the next year's Congress. Bring on Wagga Wagga 2012!

* Validated in over five Congresses.

Probably not really a professor, she wasn't the last time she checked anyway.

FRED
WE KNOW PHARMACY

NAPSA Hits APP



NAPSA's executive and seven Committee Chairs met at the 2011 Australian Pharmacy Professional Conference (APP) on the Gold Coast over the weekend of March 17 to 20. NAPSA executive and chairs worked together to plan for the coming months, and to showcase the benefits of NAPSA membership to students and industry.

The weekend served as a unique opportunity to sign off on a three-year sponsorship deal with the Pharmacy Guild of Australia and its partner companies; Gold Cross, Guild Insurance and FRED Health. NAPSA is thrilled to be working with these companies for another three years, and are grateful for their continued support.

NAPSA were fortunate to have representatives attend the "State of the Industry Symposium" as well as the opportunity to attend many of the sessions within the educational program including the "network your way to ownership" breakfast.



NAPSA is grateful for the support of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia who provided registration and a complimentary exhibition booth for NAPSA to showcase our current initiatives to the industry. NAPSA look forward to APP 2012, and would like to congratulate the Queensland Branch of the Pharmacy Guild for hosting such a successful conference.

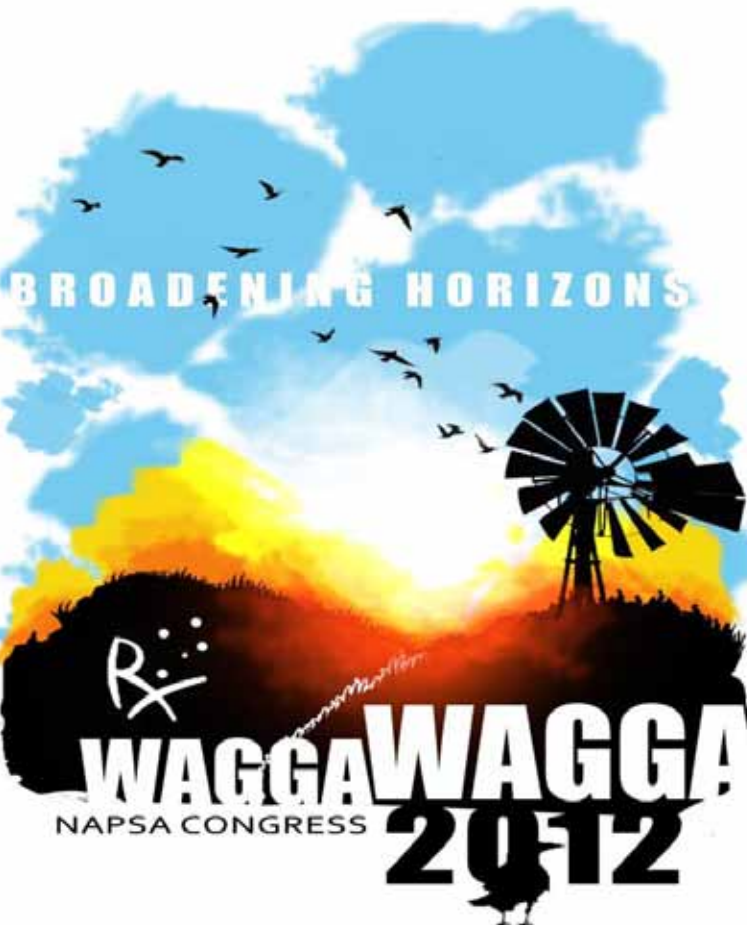
Sarah Sinclair
NAPSA Secretary 2010/11



PSOTY

Are you the next PSA Alphapharm Pharmacy Student of the Year?

To participate in this counselling competition
contact your local PSA branch on 1300 369 772.



NAPSA CONGRESS 2012 WAGGA WAGGA

22nd - 28th January

250 Delegates

14 Branches

7 Days

6 Nights

**The Biggest Week
of 2012**

**For further information,
Contact
napsacongress.wagga@gmail.com**

IPSF Japan Pharmaceutical Tour 2011

Konichi wa! I was lucky enough to be one of 20 students chosen from across the world to participate in a six day pharmaceutical tour of Tokyo. The tour started on February 13th with a Welcome Back Party from our host students. This was the perfect chance for us to meet everyone on the tour with students from the Czech Republic, Canada, Romania, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia and Australia. Our Japanese tour guides were warm, hospitable and dedicated to ensuring that our every need was met. They shared our fantastic sense of humour and were so eager to learn about our countries and experiences. We were divided into groups – with one student from each country in each group – which was an excellent way of getting to know everyone. Each day we toured



a different hospital, community pharmacy, university and pharmaceutical company. The day was broken up with sightseeing of Tokyo including popular tourist spots such as Tokyo Tower, Harajuku and Akihabara (electrical town). I have now mastered what I thought was the impossible – catching trains in Tokyo and lifting a 23kg suitcase up multiple flights of stairs! This was the second time I have visited Japan and I just fell in love again with the food, the culture and the people. The highlight for my trip was going up Tokyo Tower which



The students we met in Japan are all thankfully safe themselves but I know on behalf of all the Australian tour students, that we send our best wishes to them and their family during these times. I would recommend this experience to any student as it was invaluable and one I will treasure forever. In true Japanese spirit, minasan sayonara!

Claire Grant
QPSA President

stands 333m in the air and is a replica of the Eiffel Tower. The view was simply breathtaking and I was in awe of the sheer enormity of Tokyo city. I may have picked up souvenirs to remember my time but the people I met will forever hold my memories for this trip. I cannot finish without acknowledging the terrible tragedy that has struck Japan since we left.



Chair Reports

Education Chair

Hello fellow NAPSA members, I would like to introduce myself as your new NAPSA Education Committee Chair.



For those members who may not be aware, NAPSA in cooperation with each branch facilitate Blackmore's Introductory Complementary Health, Blackmore's Advanced Complementary Health, Smith & Nephew Wound Care, Stitches First Aid and CPR Refresher as well as the new Johnson & Johnson OTC course.

The Johnson & Johnson OTC course aims to equip pharmacy students with some of the skills which may give them an advantage when gaining employment in the pharmacy industry during their course. The program was trialed earlier this year with the cooperation of CaSPA.

Courses which have been held recently include Blackmore's Introductory and Advanced courses for JUCPSA as well as Stitches First Aid for SAPSA (thanks for being fantastic hosts for Congress 2011 SAPSA!).

One of the innovations which I have implemented during my time in this role is using a file sharing system to make course booking dates available live to all branch representatives. I have also made the booking forms for each of the courses available on the NAPSA website – www.napsa.org.au

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of NAPSA's training partners for their assistance in delivering these important member benefits and look forward to implementing further new courses in the next few months. I am looking forward to exciting times ahead (hope to see you all at Wagga Wagga Congress in January 2012!).

Please feel free to email me at ezekiel.steindl@connect.qut.edu.au if you have any suggestions or feedback.

Zeke Steindl
Education Committee Chair

Industrial Affairs Chair

Dear NAPSA members,



During the third quarter the IA committee has successfully held the online National Pharmacy Student Survey (NPSS) and now we are busy collating the results which should be ready midyear. Congratulations to the 5 randomly selected lucky winners who have won a Coles Myer vouchers by just completing the survey! Thank you to all of you who took the time to complete the survey, your involvement will assist NAPSA in making future decisions on what Australian pharmacy students believe is important to them and the industry.

I'd also like to thank participants of the NAPSA 2011 Adelaide congress for completing the congress survey – "Pharmacists Administering Immunisation". The overwhelming result was support for immunisation to be incorporated into the expanding role of pharmacists.

Next on the agenda for the IA committee is to review the current IA Handbook (a PDF of the handbook can be found on the NAPSA homepage: www.napsa.org.au).

If you have questions for me, please don't hesitate to shoot me an email to: industrial.affairs@napsa.org.au

Mark Aspden
Industrial Affairs Chair

IPSF Chair

Hi, I'm Stacey, current WAPSA President and incoming IPSF Chair :-). I took this position on knowing there is a lot of work to be done, and I was right. For the coming year, NAPSA needs to get the Student Exchange Program (SEP) going, and that is where my focus will be! I will also act as the Contact Person for IPSF to NAPSA. In order to get the SEP going again, I need as much help as I can get. I've already been chatting to pharmacists about the program, and will be producing an information leaflet for them. The largest hurdle the SEP faces is finding a pharmacy for the international student to complete their placement in. This information will hopefully allay any potentially interested pharmacists' concerns.



If you're interested in doing a placement overseas, then we need to have hosted a student the year before you can go. So if you're thinking about it, you need to contact me now so we can get things moving for you. There's heaps of info at www.ipsf.org. I've also put together a document detailing where you can work as a pharmacist. It will be available at www.napsa.org.au soon. I hope it answers any questions you've got about registering overseas. If there's a country you'd like added to the list, let me know and I'll see what I can do. I really hope to hear from heaps of interested travellers soon.

Stacey Gough
IPSF Committee Chair

Pharmacy Awareness Chair

Hi Everyone!

Welcome to another year full of great and exciting Pharmacy Awareness events in 2011.



Launching us into the 2011 Pharmacy Awareness Year is Charity Cup. Held in the month of April, Charity Cup is the NAPSA national fundraising effort, whereby branches host an innovative event to raise money for a particular charity. In 2011 and for the next few years, I am proud to unveil the new charity for our Charity Cup is...the Day of Difference Foundation! This is a very worthy charity that looks to support children with life threatening illnesses from the stages of emergency and intensive care, all the way to recovery.

Their mission is to provide family support, hospital resources, access to communications and accommodation, community engagement, and education in the acceptance of difference.

This foundation is able to reach out to some of the 68,000 children aged between 0–14 years that are hospitalised each year due to injury.

I am looking forward to hearing you all get involved for not only a worthy cause, but also to win the CHARITY CUP!

The second event on the agenda is Pharmacy Awareness Week. This presents a great opportunity for you to display the benefits of pharmacy and its services to the Australian public. Hopefully all branches are starting to brainstorm ideas for a presentation to put on for Rotary Club members. If you have any ideas, let your NAPSA rep know!

I would also like to mention that thanks to the valiant efforts of the Pharmacy Awareness Committee and NAPSA branches, as our very own Vampire Cup campaign has been chosen by IPSF as their international health competition campaign. Good work NAPSA!

This is all from me for now. I hope you are all looking forward to what is to come this year, and get involved to make it extremely successful!

Hannah Soon
Pharmacy Awareness Committee Chair

Publications Chair

Over the past few months Publications has bought you this Autumn edition of the Placebo which highlights the Adelaide NAPSA Congress.



The website is continuing to grow from week to week with additions in all areas.

The Community Pharmacy pages are a recent edition and contain content from the Pharmacy Guild of Australia. This is a very informative resource and has details about the National Student Business Plan Competition; Buying and Selling a Pharmacy;

Pharmacy Industry Award Assistance; Women and Young Pharmacists.

I am always looking for new inclusions and ideas for the Placebo (both photos and articles). Please contact me via email: publications@napsa.org.au

Bethany Cooper
Publications Committee Chair

Rural and Indigenous Affairs Chair

The Rural and Indigenous Affairs Committee is always looking for ways to better serve NAPSA members and spread the word on all things rural pharmacy. Recently, the 2011 Rural and Indigenous Affairs Survey was launched to all NAPSA members with the view of gaining an insight into pharmacy students' experiences of rural placements and Indigenous Health. With this information, we will work towards better preparing pharmacy students for rural placements and internships, and will endeavour to propose recommendations to standardise Indigenous Health and Cultural Awareness curriculum across all Australian pharmacy schools.



Do you know where you're going for internship? Going rural offers an exciting and range of diverse activities in both professional and social life. Become a valued member of the healthcare team and your local rural community, and really make a difference to people living in rural and remote Australia. Access a range of resources and information including scholarships and rural pharmacy locations at ruralpharmacy.com.au

Want to get more involved in rural health? Join your university's Rural Health Club and become one of the 9000 members of the National Rural Health Students Network (NRHSN) and team and have fun with multi-disciplinary health students working to improve health outcomes for rural and remote Australians. For details on your university's rural health club head to the NAPSA website.

Have you been on a rural placement recently? The Rural and Indigenous Affairs Committee want to know about it! Share your story and photos with other pharmacy students and professionals in upcoming editions of Placebo and Australian Pharmacist. Please email articles to briohnygillespie@gmail.com

Briohny Gillespie
Rural and Indigenous Affairs Committee Chair

Branch Updates

CaSPA

CaSPA, your friendly pharmacists, had an epic Congress Week in Adelaide and were proud to be able to send a record number of delegates this year. Yes, all seven of us, wore our orange shirts with pride as we took out motto very seriously and got friendly with the rest of the NAPSA crew. CaSPA would like to thank the Adelaide Congress Organising Committee for putting on such a fabulous week with an inspiring and diverse range of guest speakers that enlightened us to the endless possibilities within the pharmacy profession.

CaSPA members have had a busy start to the year, with a fantastic turn out at both Blackmores Introductory and Advanced Complementary and Alternative Medicines courses. Members enjoyed the

two days of education from Blackmores and look forward to applying this new knowledge. Students are also gearing up for Stitches First Aid Course very soon, and Smith & Nephew Wound Care later in the year.

CaSPA is teaming up with the UC Master of Pharmacy School to provide multidisciplinary students with a How to Get a Job Day in April which will see guest speakers from Ravens Recruitment, the Guild and many more, as well as a BBQ lunch.

Plans are well underway for The UC Annual Pharmacy Ball, which will be a night of mingling, fun and plenty of dancing! What a fabulous way to celebrate



the upcoming end of the Pharmacy year at UC, and we can't wait to report on how it went.

Briohny Gillespie
CaSPA President

BAPS

Welcome to the new BAPS year!

My name is Hannah Soon and I will be the Bendigo Association of Pharmacy Students (BAPS) President for the 2011 year. I am very much looking forward to this role, and can't wait to "get my BAPS out" as some Congress attendees may put it.

NAPSA Congress 2011 in Adelaide was a hit with BAPS (winners of the prestigious "Les" in 2010) and we were keen to get thoroughly immersed in the Congress spirit of things! Scribble night saw many bonds being formed and lasting remnants of the night in the form of permanent marker scribbles across all members; it was a great start to a great week. Having won



(tied with JCUPSA) the Battle of the Branches Award, BAPS is already starting to gear up for a very exciting January next year when Wagga Wagga's PHARMERS host the next Congress. I would like to thank the ACOC for a fantastic job they did organising this Congress, and also to the BAPS President 2010, Jase Holdstock, and the BAPS team for their valiant efforts in making every night memorable and worthwhile. I would also like to quickly

congratulate the NAPSA Appreciation Award winner, Jason Holdstock, and the NAPSA Education Award recipient, Brendan Green, on their efforts this year.

BAPS has many things planned for their 10th year, including lots of interesting and informative educational sessions, the 10th Annual Pharmacy Ball (which always draws people from many branches), Pharmacy Week events including a Cocktail night, lots of new merchandise and much, much more. Keep reading Placebo to stay updated!

We look forward to this year, and hope that you get the chance to interact with BAPS at some stage soon!

Hannah Soon
BAPS President



GUAPS

Since finishing up in 2010 GUAPS has still been quite active over the Summer break. The committee spent a lot of hours over the holidays signing up new members, collecting textbook orders as well as placement shirt orders. Providing discounted textbooks and placement shirts is one of the biggest benefits of becoming a GUAPS member.

In January two GUAPS delegates (aka the GUAPtastic Duo) attended the Adelaide

NAPSA Congress and had a fantastic time representing all the GUAPSies (who were unable to attend for various "legitimate" reasons). We made the most of been a duo going with a B1 and B2 theme and definitely rocked the congress colour of brown. The congress really was a tribute to the hard work of the Organising

Committee – thank you guys for such a fabulous week in Adelaide!

GUAPS was again invited to assist the Griffith University School of Pharmacy with Orientation Day.

This gave the committee the chance to promote GUAPS to all the first year students to get them keen to be involved. This definitely worked with more than

100 people turning up to our first social event of the year – a Trivia Night. I would like to thank the School of Pharmacy

who generously sponsored the event and also the 2010 GUAPS Committee for organising it.

The GUAPS AGM was held in March with new committee been elected for 2011. I would like to introduce myself as the GUAPS President for 2011 and to congratulate those students who have been appointed into the other committee positions. I'm looking forward to the year ahead.

Bethany Cooper
GUAPS President 2011



JCUPSA

JCUPSA has had a busy start for a new year! A huge thankyou goes out to our departing team members who done a fantastic job in 2010 and will be missed greatly. A new committee has been organised and is full of fresh and enthusiastic members who are excited to tackle their roles in the office.

- President: Hayley Foruria
- Vice President: Melanie Burgess
- Secretary: Emma McNevin
- Treasurer: Natalie Dodson
- NAPSA Representative: Tyler Goodine
- Social Reps: Ayden Grittin and Gemma Potter
- Education Chair: Teresa McMenomy
- Sports Rep: Natalie Tomson and Peter Ford
- IPSE: Mike McIntyre
- Industrial Chair: Bianca Scheppi



- Rural Indigenous: Bev Bhela and Erin Treston
- Pharm. Awareness Chair: Natalie Tomson

We recently had our pharmacy pub crawl, it was an enjoyable night everyone had a ball and dressed for the occasion with all the different year levels having to dress up as a colour, we are hoping to have another one sometime this year as it was a huge success.

We also had a Blackmores Complementary Medicines training day. We would like

to thank Blackmores for providing their expertise. The day was greatly appreciated by all those who attended.

That's what we have done so far this semester but have huge list of activities for next semester with interfaculty sport, another pub crawl and pharmacy ball coming up.

*Regards
JCUPSA*

OPSA

As we wave good-bye to our 2010 CSU Orange Pharmacy graduates we say BRING IT ON to the pharmacy students ready and willing to enjoy uni life with OPSA jn 2011. We hope to bring a whole new meaning to the word entertainment.

We signaled this new era by hosting an AGM electing excited and enthusiastic members to the committee, ready to make OPSA bigger and better than ever before.

Together we are planing new and fresh activities to bring in the new year which



started with a commencement dinner with our friends in Wagga Wagga. It was a night of inspiration and insight into the wonderful world that pharmacy has to offer us in the oh so near future.

We're also hosting a Glow in the Dark party just for some extra fun. But of course

we will assist in educating our pharmacists of tomorrow by hosting many educational activities along the way such as First Aid courses.

We will also be doing our best to work as one big group to raise as much money possible for Charity Cup by hosting a bar night for all the Allied Health students here in Orange.



And last but definitely not least OPSA is introducing something new and exciting for 2011. We will be hosting, for the first time ever a Pharmacy Ball, where the girls get all gowned up and the boys SUIT-UP!!

With all of this on the agenda OPSA is ready for one spectacular year!!

*Michael Rifkin
OPSA President*



Pharmers

Pharmers' came; they saw; and they conquered at NAPSA congress in rAdelaide in January. 25 keen Pharmers set off for one crazy, intense, full on week in Adelaide. Some of them had no idea what they were in for – no sleep, lost property (and then found again – Floss needs her valuables chained to her), no voices and 250 extra facebook friends all in one week. The highlight of the week was the beautiful gala ball, where we were awarded the winners of Vampire Cup for 2010 – 34% of our members donating blood at the Red Cross donor centres – awesome effort! We definitely made our mark in Adelaide by bringing LES CASHEN BACK TO WAGGA WAGGA!!! He had an unforgettable night at the gala ball, meeting his new friends and partying till the early hours of Sunday morning. He is now in Wagga enjoying the sights and keeping well hydrated. Congratulations to the ACOC for organizing the BEST WEEK OF 2011 – we will not forget it!



The WaggaCOC are working extremely hard and have things well in motion for the 2012 congress in Wagga. So start saving those \$\$\$ so you can all make it to come and visit us next year!

We held our AGM a couple of weeks ago and now have a great new looking committee with quite a few new faces. I would like to congratulate Pina O'Hare who is our President for 2011 and I wish

her and her committee all the best for their upcoming year! They have some great events in store for our members, with Cocktail Party our next big event on the 30th April, which is our event being held for Charity Cup – it's sure to be a hit!

Lauren Ryan
Pharmers' Past President

QPSA

What a summer it has been for the QPSA!! The year ended with our dreaded exams however the students pulled through and were able to enjoy a well deserved night of celebration. January saw 19 of our members eagerly travelling to Adelaide for NAPSA Congress 2011. We had an excellent group of students with both first time and regular attendees of Congresses. We thoroughly got into the spirit of dressing up over the week, dazzling everyone with our gold display at the Branch Night. There was such positive feedback from all that attended. While the troops looked a little bit worse for wear by the end of the week, it was agreed that an amazing time was had by



all. The QPSA committee has been busily planning the year to come kicking it off with an orientation BBQ for the 350 first year students joining pharmacy at UQ. It was a great opportunity for students to kick back and mingle with their cohort before starting lectures and tutorials. The first year students participated in a coating ceremony which is meant to establish a sense of professionalism in our young student pharmacists. The fourth year students have been realizing the grueling nature of full-time work while out on Quality Use of Medicines placements for the month of March. Needless to say, we will be most definitely savouring our last year of university. The QPSA is looking forward to unsurpassable year to come



with more pubcrawls, educational and inter-university events. The venue for our Annual Ball has been booked and we are eagerly preparing for our Welcome Back Party. I hope everyone has had a great start to the New Year!

Claire Grant
QPSA President

QUTSPA

QUTSPA finished off 2010 with the "License to Pharm" themed Half-way dinner for the 2nd year students & the Graduation dinner for the 4th years. Both events were immensely successful with close to full turn outs from both years.

We then started off this year by sending 13 of our members to NAPSA Congress in Adelaide where a tremendous time was had by all and left us all highly motivated and keen for the year ahead.

'O' week saw our QUTSPA president Zeke Steindl and a number of other members give a presentation to the 1st years to encourage them to join our merry band of QUTSPA Pharmers. This was followed up a couple of weeks later by our annual first semester pub crawl themed "B-Pharmers in Pyjamas". A number of students from each year level turned out to party through the pubs and streets of Brisbane in their PJ's.

Most recently we had our AGM on the 21st of March with our biggest yet turnout. This saw a number of members staying on and some fresh new faces joining us this year with many ideas for the rest of the year already flowing freely. These include but aren't limited to:



- A return to the Touch Football fields and Netball court for a rematch against QPSA
- More charity cup events to give us a good chance of following WAPSA's success in winning the 2010 NAPSA Charity Cup Trophy

- A new and exciting 3rd year event to provide a specific event for each year level.



We also adopted a new refreshed logo at our AGM to reflect the success and continuing evolution of our branch.

So here's to our biggest and best year yet!

Emma Shallcross
QUTSPA Publications Representative

SAPSA



As the host of the NAPSA Congress 2011, SAPSA is in an extremely upbeat frame of mind. We feel that Adelaide has an enhanced reputation due to the hard work and dedication of our beloved ACOC. Our city delivered fun, insight, glamour, plenty of sun an experience that fittingly held true to the motto - 'Reflection, Celebration, Progression.'

SAPSA attacked the week in yellow with the popular theme of 'Statin Wars'. After making some amazing new friends it has been really difficult walking around university and North Adelaide without that sting of nostalgia.

As we are different and our 2011 committee was elected in October 2010, the new crew has been working hard to ensure a successful year. With meetings, phone calls and emails a plenty the hectic



first few weeks are sure to go smoothly.

Orientation week gave us the chance to meet the first years and introduce them to the incredible organisation that is SAPSA. With the number of members rising, we are very excited about the BBQ and pubcrawl in the coming weeks.

With the fantastic education opportunities, charity cup, quiz night, Gala ball at Adelaide Oval and many more exciting events, 2011 is shaping up to be one to remember. Look forward to seeing many of you in Adelaide again to revel in the SAPSA love!

Chris Braithwaite
SAPSA President



SUPA

Back to uni, back on track! SUPA has been active with a kick start to the semester, whether it have been the mischievous nature of our O-week, the educational highlights from our Careers night or even the 1-up of a SUPA NiNtEnDo PuBcRaWl. Good times were had at each!

SUPA's careers night put our futures back on track as we had speakers from a range of different environments. Speakers ranged from Community, Hospital, Industry, Business ownership, Academia also to mention the PSA to give us an idea on who can support us when we leave uni. Hosted by our very own Annie Le and



Nicole Cerruto, the night was a success with many lessons learned about our careers in pharmacy.

Before we hop into our careers however, we must live the life of a student. Not just any student... the SUPA NiNtEnDo PuBcRaWl brought us back to our childhood days where everything seemed so simple; Mushrooms made us bigger, turtles made us smaller and Stars made us invincible!

Unfortunately not all of us had stars on the night and some people were at GAME OVER before the last pub. Many Mario's and Luigi's had made it to the last level (last pub) and finished the game (made it home) including the master of disaster Eric Chan who decided pre drinks started in the morning that day! A great effort was made by all as it was a 1-up of a night.



As much fun as SUPA has had at uni this year it is important to recognise the 1-up's of the past and by this I mean NAPSA Congress 2011, Adelaide. The memories of those chilled times will never leave, so many awesome memories packed into one of the best weeks of our lives. The union of all the branches created a great atmosphere and many new friends were made. I feel SUPA evolved this year with our cohort, barriers were broken, friends were made, and somehow BYE BYE BYE was played at the ball. Overall I hope we made a lasting impression on all branches across Australia as much as they have made on us. Thanks to everyone who made our stay a memorable one.

Michael Gould
President, Sydney University Pharmacy Association



TAPS

Hey Guys

Brownie from TAPS here. The Tasmanian summer never really gained momentum as the weather never really peaked above 20 degrees, so the lucky 16 students that got to attend congress in Adelaide were in for a rude shock. None the less TAPS were there in full force bringing back the Tassie pride that was evidently missing from the Gold Coast. The week was filled with fun, education and plenty of DJ Dim Simmers.



All those that attended made many new friends, who we are all dearly missing and can't wait to see again soon (So come visit us!!)

Upon return to uni, it was time for Uni O-Week. We held our stall at the annual TUU society's day where we managed to have another successful membership drive. O-Week was concluded with our beers, BBQ and beats O-Week Barrel where staff and students gathered together and had an afternoon of relaxation before the hectic semester ahead.



Coming up on the social calendar in the next three months is the Pharmacy/Engi cocktail party, First Year Welcome Party, Third Year halfway dinner and charity cup (for which will remain a secret in fear that Bubba Rifkin will steal our ideas). We also have a bunch of education sessions planned, with nearly all NAPSA courses booked as well as some other courses with the assistance of PSA Tasmania. It's going to be a massive year for TAPS, so keep your eyes and ears open for our next report

Ayden Brown
TAPS President

TEPSA

After the excitement of the TEPSA Winter Wonderland Ball, it was a quiet finish to 2010. We fare-welled our lecturers at an end of year bash at the Ski Club, with people celebrating the end of their exams and attempting to get the lecturers drunk to find out their results.

2011 has had a slow start so far, with the new TEPSA committee only coming together in the past few weeks. However, we have already planned our first event, the TEPSA Pharmacy Pubcrawl, which promises to be another crazy pubcrawl for which TEPSA are famous for in the Top End.

Future events that are in the pipeline include the second semester pubcrawl, the annual TEPSA ball, a quiz night and hopefully some form of education. The new committee are dedicated and we hope to see the majority of students studying pharmacy and health sciences getting involved this year.

Matilda Ramsey
TEPSA President

VP SA



Hi everyone,

Hope you've all had a wonderful summer holiday and are now in full swing for this year! Since last Placebo, back in November, VP SA hosted its annual end-of-exams boat cruise. However, this year, our cruise was a joint event with BAPS, which ensured the tickets sold out fast and the night was a perfect way to celebrate the start of summer. Then, in January, came Congress!! Unfortunately both me and Kyall were overseas in America (read all about it in another part of this Placebo!), but the VP SA contingent had an awesome time in Adelaide. From the Scribble party, to the Pub Crawl, Australia Day and of course, the Battle of the Branches, our delegates

had the time of their lives, and everyone is looking forward to

Wagga next year! After congress, VP SA began planning for one of the most important weeks of the year, orientation week. This year, we decided to do something a bit different and hired a sumo ring, renaming the week to VP SA's Sum-O-week! We also ran a BBQ and hired a slushie machine! All this effort proved worth it, when over 80 members joined in O-week, half of the first year level! Now, we're gearing up for Charity Cup in April, but not before our AGM in a few weeks, where the new committee will be elected. Looking forward to an even better year ahead!

Diana Sandulache
VP SA President



WAPSA

WAPSA is back for another awesome year and we are looking again at Charity Cup to kick off 2011. After taking out the innovation award and then the cup itself in the competitions first two years WAPSA is aiming to maintain its stellar record.

Also other events that we are working on to start the year are the O-SHOW to help introduce our 1st yr students to the wonderful world of WAPSA, cocktail party which is always a classy event and pharmacy awareness week.

Having returned from a NAPSA congress to remember we are energised and excited with a new committee that includes many new faces and ideas. Our first year students for 2011 are giving us what is looking to be record membership levels so we are looking forward to unprecedented involvement at our events.

The Adelaide congress for WAPSA was a standout with a large cohort of 1st yrs attending giving us the honour of being the largest branch at congress. We made the most of being so well represented and reached out to get to know as many people as possible. Also we were proud to see Spencer



Li and Vainavi Aurubind make it to the final for the NAPSA wildcard entry of the PSOTY competition.

Finally, on behalf of WAPSA thank you and well done to the Adelaide COC for a flawless week. The event went off without a hitch and was definitely a contender for best congress ever.

Frank Kazantzis
WAPSA President

