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MEDIA RELEASE

New NAPSA Executive meets at Pharmacy Women's Congress

The 2010 Pharmacy Women's Congress, hosted by the Pharmacy Guild of Australia, was held over the weekend of August 20-22 in Hobart at the Wrest Point Casino and Conference Centre. NAPSA were privileged to have attended along with other professional bodies to learn from the wealth of pharmacy expertise and experience present. The weekend provided the first opportunity for the NAPSA executive to meet and plan for the 2010/11 term, since NAPSA's Annual General Meeting in early July.

The educational program for the weekend included several prominent speakers including Noeline Brown and Ita Buttrose who were both advocates for women in professional roles. Other key pharmacy leaders including Wendy Phillips and Toni Riley provided insight into the 5th Community Pharmacy Agreement.

Some highlights from the weekend included a panel of eminent women who discussed the 'glass ceiling effect' as well as strategies for succeeding in business and guides to financial planning. We were also fortunate to hear Marion Whalan speak on key facets of the new Pharmacy Industry Award and announce the launch of the Pharmacy Guild's Plain English Guide to this new award.

This weekend also saw the finals of the Pharmacy Guild Student Business Plan Competition. The finalists from the University of Sydney, Griffith University, and Monash University presented their winning plans to the congress and judges including NAPSA representative Daniel Bowtell (Vice President). The Pharmacy Guild Student Business Plan Competition provides students with the opportunities to utilise practical management and pharmacy applications, as well as providing an avenue for innovation and new ideas for the profession.

NAPSA would like to extend congratulations to all participants from universities around Australia, and would like to acknowledge the Monash University Team who succeeded in winning the 2010 Competition. Their innovative ideas included a genetic testing and forward focus pharmacy, and their approach to the presentation as potential investors made their plan stand out.

NAPSA would like to acknowledge the Pharmacy Guild of Australia for their support of NAPSA's attendance this year and thank them for their continuing encouragement and commitment to our organisation.

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Left to Right: Timothy Mizzi (Treasurer), Ashleigh Coome (President), Toni Riley (Pharmacy Guild of Australia), Sarah Sinclair (Secretary), and Daniel Bowtell (Vice President)