

placebo.

newsletter of the national australian pharmacy students' association

volume 15 issue 3

President's report

contents.

1. President's report
2. Where are you now?
3. National Rural Health Students' Network
4. 64 Days in to an Unknown Land: Dust, Dogs and a Deserted Island
5. Pharmacy Awareness Week
Womens Congress 2010
6. Charity Cup
- 6-7. Chair reports
- 8-15. Branch updates



July was a month of new beginnings for NAPSA. We not only saw a new council elected to office, but also the commencement of a three-year business plan which will shape and direct our association into the future. Along with the business plan comes new objectives and ideas to grow NAPSA. However, not all things have changed. The national council elected to maintain our motto 'Connecting tomorrow's pharmacists' at the Annual General Meeting held in Adelaide. We did our best to promote this by networking, planning and brainstorming.

It all kicked off early Friday morning with the 2009/2010 Fourth Quarter meeting. The outgoing national council, made up of two representatives from each affiliated branch, discussed such topics as the restructure of pharmacy awareness week and the results from the NPSS survey. These results are able to be viewed on the NAPSA website (www.napsa.org.au).

A professional development session was held on Friday afternoon to inform the council of the latest pharmacy issues. Grant Kardachi, President and National Board Member of Pharmaceutical Society of Australia South Australia Branch and Michael Robertson, Branch Director of Pharmacy Guild of

Australia South Australia Branch both delivered interesting presentations explaining and deciphering the details of the Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement (5CPA) and National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (NRAS). I would like to thank both Grant and Michael for their time.

Saturday was the much anticipated day of elections. The new executive team was elected first up, and it gives me great pleasure to announce Daniel Bowtell (Curtin University) as National Vice President, Sarah Sinclair (University of Sydney) as National Secretary and Timothy Mizzi (Charles Sturt University) as National Treasurer.

This term we have a 6 new committee chairs, all fresh faces to council. They bring with them a myriad of ideas and goals, as well as a tonne of enthusiasm! I would like to welcome Teresa McMemory (Education Chair), Mark Aspden (Industrial Affairs Chair), Stacey Gough (IPSF Chair), Hannah Soon (Pharmacy Awareness Chair), Bethany Cooper (Publications Chair) and Briohny Gillespie (Rural & Indigenous Chair) to our NAPSA family.

After all the business was out of the way, we could get down to some fun. Saturday

WINTER
2010

Editor's note

Welcome to the Winter Edition of Placebo for 2010. This edition introduces the brand new 2010/2011 Executive and Committee. You can also catch up on two of the major NAPSAs events; Charity Cup and Pharmacy Awareness Week. If you have something to contribute to future editions of the Placebo I would love to hear from you. You can contact me via email: publications@napsa.org.au

Bethany Cooper
Editor

placebo.

Volume 15, Issue 3 – Winter 2010

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

President's report continued ...

night we formally welcomed our incoming council at the AGM Gala Dinner, held at the National Wine Centre. We were joined by Grant Kardachi and David Ng from PSA (SA and NT) and Neil Dimech from Pfizer on behalf of the Fred Hollows Foundation. Neil gave a fabulous presentation on his trip to the aboriginal communities in Northern Territory, which was enlightening as we were able to witness where our charity cup donation was really making a difference.

The Pharmers' Society from Wagga Wagga were successful in their bid to host NAPSA Congress 2012. This Congress will be the first held outside of a major metropolitan area and will help to raise Rural Pharmacy awareness to our NAPSA members. In addition to this, NAPSA plans to increase awareness of rural pharmacy by revamping the role of our Rural and Indigenous Health Committee. We also plan to increase our global profile by hosting more international pharmacy students as a part of the International Pharmaceutical Students' Federation (IPSF) Student Exchange Program.

Since AGM, NAPSA has also had representatives attend several forums, including the Future of Pharmacy Stakeholders Forum and Workforce Planning Project Symposium.

Some challenges facing the profession which were discussed include an oversupply of pharmacists, a shortage of intern positions and lacking infrastructure to provide the key cognitive services that the profession requires. Over time the resulting initiatives from these forums will be published. If anyone has any queries please feel free to contact me.

Ashleigh Coome
NAPSA President

Where are you now?

When I was elected as NAPSA President in mid 2007, many people told me that this was just the beginning and that I had my whole career ahead of me and I thought to myself, yeah yeah they all say that... Well a lot has happened between now and then and it wasn't until I had finished my presidency, graduated from uni, registered as a Pharmacist and have now finally started working that those words are ringing loudly in my head!

For my pre-registration placement I chose to go rural and move four hours north of Perth to Geraldton which is a regional centre with about 6 pharmacies. I found getting out the city to be an extremely rewarding experience and would recommend it to anyone.

Whilst at university I was enlisted in the Australian Army as a pharmaceutical officer and was offered an undergraduate scholarship. Having now registered I received my first posting order which was for a two year period of service at Robertson Barracks Medical Centre (RBMC) in Darwin. As I had never been to Darwin before I was excited about the move and excited about finally being able to serve as a pharmacist in the Army. I have been working here at RBMC for about seven months now and the things I have learnt and the opportunities I have been presented with have been both many and diverse.

Since starting work I have completed my officer training course at the Royal Military College at Duntroon in Canberra which involved being trained in basic soldier skills including weapons, navigation, first aid, communication, personal administration as well as the administration of the soldiers that work in my chain of command. I will shortly be going on a two month logistics training course interstate where I will undergo further logistics and management training which will involve additional training in operating a pharmacy in the field and in a barracks environment.

Being a pharmaceutical officer in the Army does not just involve work as a pharmacist, you are part of a community and as part of your unit. You may be tasked with various other roles outside of your profession. I myself run the therapeutics committee at Robertson Barracks, I have been trained as a fire warden, undertaken training in suicide awareness and mental health and have done work in internal auditing and this is just in my first six months! I love pharmacy and being able to use my profession in this unique and challenging fashion is a decision I do not regret for one second!

Paul Buise
NAPSA President 2007/2008

Principal supporter of NAPSA



**The Pharmacy
Guild of Australia**

National Rural Health Students' Network

The National Rural Health Students' Network (NRHSN) represents over 9,000 medical, nursing and allied health students from 29 university based rural health clubs across Australia who are dedicated to improving health outcomes for rural and remote Australians. This July saw the coming together of over 400 multidisciplinary health students in Alice Springs for the NRHSN's annual National Universities Rural Health Conference (NURHC), which provides professional networking and education opportunities to NRHSN members. The theme for this year's conference was Central to Health, 'Mperpantemwerre' in the local language of Arrernte, and describes the convergence of students, health professionals and stakeholders in Central Australia to work together on improving healthcare in rural and remote Australia.



Photography by Lachlan Gordon

The conference was officially opened with everyone placing a handprint on the Mperpantemwerre banner, which hung at the entrance to the Alice Springs Convention Centre. The banner symbolises the commitment we as students are making in working together toward our shared goal of equality in healthcare for all Australians.

With Master of Ceremonies Ernie Dingo keeping us entertained throughout the three days, we were all inspired by some truly incredible keynote speakers. Just a few of the 12 keynote speakers included the Hon Warren Snowdon MP, Minister for Indigenous Health, Rural and Regional Health and Regional Services Delivery; Sabina Knight, Remote Area Nurse; Malarndirri McCarthy, NT Member for Arnhem; Dr Alyssa Vass, Health Educator; and Andrew Roberts, known simply as Robbo, who was definitely the highlight of the conference for me and many other pharmacy students. Robbo is a pharmacist who lives and works in a remote community in WA. He is



Photography by Lachlan Gordon

employed by Ngaanyatjarra Health Service, an Aboriginal Community-Controlled Health Organisation, and provides pharmacy services to 11 clinics spanning thousands of kilometers across Central Australia. Traveling over 50,000 km per year, Robbo visits remote Aboriginal communities providing a diverse range of services including clinical advice, stock management, continuity of care and on-site medication reviews.

Keynote addresses were supplemented by a variety of workshops and student presentations, which provided excellent educational opportunities for the students in attendance. Of course, all this hard work was balanced by a full social program, including a Welcome Night with professional networking; the infamous Golden Windmills, where each rural health club has 2 minutes to

impress the judges with their singing, dancing and acting abilities; and the formal dinner which was held at Oorminna Homestead.

Everyone who attended NURHC this year had a fantastic time and took back with them the buzz and excitement of feeling like they can make a difference to the health outcomes of rural and remote Australians, despite the challenges that face us as the health professionals of tomorrow.

I encourage you all to contact your university's rural health club and get involved in rural and remote health. It is truly rewarding.

*Briohny Gillespie
Canberra Rural Allied Health and Nursing
Collective Member
Rural and Indigenous Affairs Committee Chair*

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:	Teresa McMemony, <i>James Cook University</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>

64 Days in to an Unknown Land: Dust, Dogs and a Deserted Island



'When you cut the skin, we are all the same colour on the inside'. As Joanne, relayed this to me on day 16 I felt an overwhelming sense of inspiration and elevated energy for what was ahead.

Before I started my 64 day adventure through the depths of the Galiwink'u community, Elcho Island (North East Arnhem land), I had only a miniscule idea as to what I was about to take part in. Nine weeks of clinical placement with Menzies School of Health Research, working on the 'Scabies And Strongyloides Project', was almost definitely going to test me, but how much?

As an urban society dweller, I set out with an open mind. Gladly so, as not having a firm grasp of rural indigenous communities, the facilities and conditions that people deal and live with everyday of their lives far from shocked me.

Back home (Wagga Wagga, NSW) seemed worlds apart from Elcho and really put things in to perspective for me. The people here have a great spiritual beauty and are largely accepting of the balanda (white people) population in the community. At day eight I was adopted in to a local family on the island and within hours to days, was known to the community as Djanbuy's daughter, who was helping the fight against Scabies and Strongyloides.

The housing in the community is far from adequate with as many as 15–20 people sharing a three bedroom home and the vast array of children on the island is far beyond belief. The population stands at approximately 2,000 with 500 of those being under five and 1,000 under 15. It seems the social norm for women on the island is to start a family from a much younger age than a non-indigenous women, with paid employment being a delayed priority until later in life.

In 2010, I did not expect to come across a society where there was still a sense that a Man's opinion was slightly more valid to that of a women, like that of the 1950s. The women on the island are strong women however final decisions regarding the family in many cases may be over ruled by the male population.

Many children on the island are 'Failure to thrive', and their medical profiles are some what poor. Whilst working in the community, I have experienced first hand these happy and joyful Djamarculi (children) and the medical conditions that they face. As an upcoming health professional you feel compassion and sympathy but also wonder at the thought of chronic conditions that may develop later in life due to a poor start. These Djamarculi (children) have really taken a place in my heart and is one of the things that I will not forget about my time on the Island.

As part of an urbanised demographic we have regular access to fresh fruit and vegetables, medical and dental services and routine garbage disposal. The Galiwink'u community has three general stores, a local clinic and a locum dentist that visits once a month. The islands supplies are shipped in on a barge from Darwin once a week and if patients need to have an xray or specialist medical appointment they may be waiting for as long as a week to travel an hours flight to the nearest centre, Gove. This I experienced first hand after descending from the steps of the plane and twisting an ankle, four weeks into my trip.

Mini skirts, tights and the latest fashion trends of Vogue, Marc Jacobs and Calvin Klein are the norm for urban westernised culture. If a woman is seen wearing an item too tight, too far above her knees or too revealing on the Island, this may be classified as a sexual connotation and is frowned upon by other community members. Once a girl hits puberty a more liberal attire is preferred, which includes skirts worn close to the ankle. As I sit here writing this article at Day 45 I realise how strong this aspect of being culturally appropriate is once again, as I hear the story of a co-worker having a carton of milk thrown at her early this morning for wearing moderately tight three-quarter pants whilst riding a bike.

The experience of learning a new culture and language although challenging at times has been almost a soul searching experience.

The Galiwink'u placement with Menzies has been like no other and one that is far from forgetting. From my workplace being a portable tent from BCF (boating camping and fishing), working in rain, humidity and the unforgettable red dust, to having to learn a new language and cooperating with a translator to enable communication with my patients. Living without modern comforts, moving the portable tents day after day and administering medication consecutively in a



remote and isolated location does test your patients but I believe has made me that much of a stronger person.

In the two months that I have been here I have learnt an incredible amount in regards to rural and remote health, indigenous culture and how I feel about the issues of economic development in places like that of the Galiwink'u community. The pristine surroundings, amazing sunsets and views that are almost untouched is something that has made my experience all that more rewarding. Seeing dolphins off the cliffs, hand woven baskets being created and flying over land that has not been cultivated is nothing less than astonishing.

To Menzies School of Health Research, my co-workers TK, Alison, Roslyn, Bundalah, Jeffery, George, Geraldine, Mark, Kenny, Bill, Marilyn, Wuapalay, Djillerr, Amanda, Veronica and Lauren, I would like to say thankyou for helping to provide me with an experience and adventure through North East Arnhem Land that I will never forget.

Clare Smith
Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga



pharmspace2010

INTERN CAREERS FAIR APRIL - OCTOBER

sponsored by  NAPSA TerryWhite chemists®

Get your perfect intern position with Pharmspace 2010!

- Open from April - October 2010
- View & apply for intern jobs all over Australia
- Community & hospital positions available
- Access all the main employer groups & jobs
- Access the most intern jobs in one place at the one time
- Compare job opportunities & benefits
- Email alerts for jobs matching your preferences
- 100% FREE!

Register now at

www.pharmspace.com.au



Pharmacy Awareness Week

Pharmacy Awareness Week was executed across all branches of NAPSA between the third and 17th of May. We opted to give branches the choice of one of two weeks in the hopes that this would provide more flexibility for students around their university schedules. The theme nominated by myself and NAPSA for PAW was 'Find a Pharmacy' which is a new initiative of the Pharmacy Guild. It allows users to seek out the pharmacy closest to them that provides the specific service/s they require. It's a well researched scheme and will hopefully improve the public's awareness of Community Pharmacists as Primary Health professionals and promote the growing services of our local pharmacies.

In the past two years I have been with NAPSA I am noticing a slight change in PAW plans and events. It is great to see some branches



moving from the idea of a the 'Shopping Centre Mall' and trying new initiatives like informative seminars for Lion's Clubs and attending Careers Fairs. As important as it is to hold the more traditional stands and campaigns in public arena's, I personally believe that as the Pharmacy Agreements outline initiatives that focus on patient care and medicinal education so too should we as Pharmacists of the near future. That said,

I commend all branches who put in the effort to organise an event, gather props and resources, set up and pack up and draw a crowd. I understand first hand the time that goes into these events and as the facilitator of PAW I truly appreciate your effort and hope your fellow colleagues take their hats off to you all, in the same way I do. I hope that in the future, with the re-development of the NAPSA Business Plan and with your much anticipated feedback that Pharmacy Awareness Week will morph into an event that completely fulfills its aims: to promote the awareness of our profession to the public in an educational and interactive manner.

Rachel Rhodes
Immediate Past Pharmacy Awareness Chair

Womens Congress 2010

The 2010 Pharmacy Womens Congress was held in Hobart at the Wrest Point Casino and Convention Centre on the weekend of August 20-22. The congress was hosted by the Pharmacy Guild of Australia and NAPSA were privileged to attend with other industry representatives. This weekend was also the first opportunity for the NAPSA executive to meet and plan NAPSA initiatives and brainstorm ideas for the coming months.

The educational program for the weekend was themed 'Reaching New Heights' and the speakers reflected these ideas in their presentations. Notable speakers included Kos Scavos, President of the Pharmacy Guild, Toni Riley, Pharmacy Guild and Chair of the Health Economics Committee, Marion Whalan, Ita

Buttrose and Noeline Brown. Some highlights from the weekend included a panel of notable women including Wendy Phillips who discussed the 'glass ceiling effect' of women in leadership roles and strategies for succeeding in business.

The weekend also saw the finals of the Pharmacy Guild Student Business Plan Competition which saw finalists from the universities of Monash, Griffith and Sydney present their plans to the delegates. The competition promotes entrepreneurship and readies students for the challenges of community pharmacy ownership as well as providing an avenue for innovative and new ideas. There were nine entries from pharmacy schools across Australia, and the three top plans were selected to attend the congress and present their winning plans to the judges, including guest judge, NAPSA Vice President Dan Bowtell. NAPSA would like to extend a huge congratulations to all of the participants from universities across Australia, and especially to the team from Monash University who were successful in winning the 2010 competition. Their innovative ideas included a genetic testing model and a forward focus pharmacy.



The weekend included a 'dine around' at some of Hobart's finest restaurants and a formal dinner held in the Wrest Point ballroom. NAPSA would like to acknowledge the Pharmacy Guild for their continued support of NAPSA's attendance this year and for their continuing encouragement and commitment of our organisation.

Sarah Sinclair
NAPSA National Secretary



Charity Cup

April of 2010 saw pharmacy students from all NAPSA branches unite to organise and carry out a month of fundraising for the NAPSA Charity Cup. The NAPSA council of 2010 agreed that the beneficiary of this event would again be The Fred Hollows Indigenous Foundation. Last year we raised over \$7,000. This year we have raised ... more than that!

I personally find these kind of events ridiculously thrilling – I'm not sure what it is that pushes my buttons when I give a chunk of money to someone but the feeling is addictive. I cannot wait to present the cheque to TFHIF in July and find it a fitting way to farewell NAPSA and conclude my time here. I noticed many of the PA chairs from around the country also share this passion with me and have come up with some inspirational and very successful charity cup events. Many were modeled on last years successes but hey, if it aint broke why fix it? We had everything from scavenger hunts, to trivia nights,



commemorative shirts and a highly original idea of having a shirt painting party. When I look through the feedback from branches and the cheques that are slowly dwindling in, I think it is phenomenal what a little bit of effort and teamwork can achieve for those in need. Remembering that it only costs \$25 to restore eyesight, it's obvious that many folk of indigenous rural and remote communities will be rightful recipients of your hard work.

Awards are presented to the branches who have raised the most money (relative to the



size of their branch) and also to the branch who had the most innovative idea for an event. I can guarantee you that the race for both is tight between particular branches for both honours – but the true reward is the participation and contribution you have all made. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to this initiative. I look forward to presenting the deserving branches with their awards – in the meantime continue to pay the good deed forward people.

Rachel Rhodes
Immediate Past Pharmacy Awareness Chair

Chair reports

Education Report

Education was slow off the mark, however is now pushing forward nicely. Blackmores has been very keen to maintain the wonderful relationship it has with NAPSA and is looking forward to the upcoming Education Term. Branches that have not sent in preferred dates should do so as soon as possible, especially as Smith & Nephew has made a request that they have 2 months notice. Remember that these courses can be book as far in advance as beginning of 2011. I know timetables have not been decided, however, the full day course can be run on a weekend and the 2-3 hour courses can be run of an afternoon. I hope every branch gets involved. Research is also being done into providing more education evenings for our NAPSA members from other service providers. Melinda Foulkes from VPSA was kind enough to forward me contacts for J&J and Ego pharmaceuticals. I have also been in contact with the PGA to find out if we can provide an OTC course for our members. The



first education evenings are coming up shortly and I hope they run smoothly.

Teresa McMenemy
Education Chair

Industrial Affairs

Hello fellow NAPSA members, my name is Mark Aspden and I hail from the CASPA branch at the University of Canberra in the nation's capital. I'm pleased to introduce myself as the Industrial Affairs



Chair for the 2010/11 NAPSA term. During the next year I will be working closely with the NAPSA team as the link between the pharmacy industry and you guys (the students!).

This year I plan to continue with the National Pharmacy Student Survey (NPSS), that is to be conducted online in the upcoming months with some fantastic prizes to be given away just for participating. By completing the survey, you provide NAPSA will valuable information that helps NAPSA act on current issues that students believe are important and also allows

NAPSA and your local branches to serve members better.

The Student Pharmacist in the Workplace handbook will also be updated in the upcoming months and will be made available on the NAPSA website.

In general I also will attempt to keep readers up to date on current industry news and events via press releases on the NAPSA website. If you have any questions or comments, you can email me at itsrainingred@hotmail.com

Mark Aspden
Industrial Affairs Chair

IPSF

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 Chair

Pharmacy Awareness

My name is Hannah Soon, and I am a pharmacy student from La Trobe University, Victoria (BAPS). I wish to introduce myself also as the newly elected Pharmacy Awareness Chair for the 2010/11 term.



I'm very much looking forward to the new challenges I will face as part of the NAPSA National Council, and in particular as the new Pharmacy Awareness Chair.

Pharmacy Awareness is a critical area which aims at promoting pharmacy and its services to not only our students, but the Australian community whilst ensuring our role in the efforts to actively improve the health of people nationwide.

During my term as Pharmacy Awareness Chair, I hope to get all branches more enthused and involved in this promotion and hope that the new upcoming and exciting changes to our Charity Cup and Pharmacy Awareness Week will be facilitated smoothly in. Since its establishment in 2008, the Charity Cup has helped many indigenous Australians through its donations to The Fred Hollows Indigenous Foundation. As of 2011, we will be changing this charity and it is still yet to be unveiled. NAPSA is looking forward to this change, and anticipate a valuable relationship with the new charity – we will keep you posted on the details soon to come! Pharmacy Awareness Week will also undergo some changes, and I hope that you welcome these changes which will hopefully make the public more aware of the

great profession we, as students, have entered. For any questions or queries please contact me at hy.soon@hotmail.com. Hope you enjoy the new NAPSA year!

Hannah Soon
Pharmacy Awareness Chair

Publications

Hello everyone, my name is Beth Cooper and I'm very excited to introduce myself as the Publications Chair for the 2010/11 term. I'm looking forward to the challenge that this position will provide over the next year.



During the coming months I will be continuing the hard work that Sarah has put into developing the new website. I will be working with each of the committee chairs and the executive to bring the most relevant and up to date information to our members.

Along with maintaining the website, Publications will be producing four new Placebos. We will be encouraging members to view these online through the website to reduce the number of hard copies printed. I am also hoping to produce an enewsletter using the new template.

If you have any ideas or submissions for the Placebo please don't hesitate to contact me at bethany.cooper10@gmail.com. New ideas, photos and articles are always welcome.

Bethany Cooper
Publications Committee Chair

Rural and Indigenous

I am delighted to introduce myself as NAPSA's Rural and Indigenous Affairs Chair for 2010/2011. Having grown up in rural NSW, this role is something I am truly passionate about, as I have experienced firsthand the difficulties and complexities associated with healthcare in rural and remote communities and the crucial role our valued health professionals play in such areas.



Now in my final year of Pharmacy at the University of Canberra, my passion for rural and Indigenous health has continued to strengthen. As young pharmacists, I feel we have a unique opportunity to improve the health outcomes for Australians living rurally and remotely, and to really make a difference in closing the gap in life expectancy of Indigenous Australians.

This term I hope to inform and educate our members about the great benefits of undertaking a placement or employment in a rural or remote setting. As I write this article from Bulman, a remote Aboriginal community in NT, I feel so lucky to be able to have this experience and to meet people I would never have the opportunity to in a metropolitan setting.

I look forward to providing pharmacy students with the information and skills required to take that extra step and experience life outside metropolitan pharmacy and contribute to the wider Australian public.

Briohny Gillespie
Rural and Indigenous Affairs Chair



Branch updates

BAPS

Taking the reins from the one and only 'Fittler' will be a big job... but I will do my best regardless. I am Jason Holdstock, the new president of BAPS.

As promised the prized Les Cashen was unveiled and, as expected, the interest in NAPSA has grown with many of the

students, including the first years, intrigued and showing great interest.

It is clear this enthusiasm for getting involved has spread, with this year already having proved some success with our annual events – Barefoot Bowls and the allied health Pub Crawl themed 'Bloods and Crips' – showing a pleasant surprise with the increase in numbers of students getting involved.

A BAPS Trivia Night was re-launched this year, marking the commencement of NAPSA's involvement in BAPS' social calendar of 2010. It was run by our new national councillor, Hannah Soon, and was a successful night with students from across the university competing in a bid to raise money for Charity Cup's The Fred Hollows Foundation.



Still to come in 2010 is our 9th Annual Pharmacy Ball, Cocktail Party and End of Year Function and various educational events which many students in the student body are waiting in anticipation for.

Looking forward to a great 2010/11 term working with NAPSA,

Jason Holdstock/Hannah Soon
BAPS President/BAPS National Councillor



CaSPA

Winter has well and truly arrived in Canberra and our members are getting cosy in their CaSPA hoodies. With the recent CaSPA AGM, we sadly say goodbye to our former executive. I would like to thank them for all their hard work over the previous year; Hamza Zoghbi (President), Kathleen Tran (Vice President), Amanda Moore (Treasurer), Susie Brew (Social Coordinator) and George Nonas (National Councillor). It will be sad to see them go, however we wish the previous executive and all the students graduating in September 2010, good luck in their upcoming final exams, and all the best for their future careers.

This brings me to introduce the new CaSPA executive and I am very excited to take on the role as President. Our new Vice President, Steph Salvage and I look forward to guiding CaSPA and its members through a great year with plenty



of educational and fun social activities. Taking care of business is Treasurer Monish Dayal, and representing CaSPA as National Councillor is Mark Aspden. Jess Bolton has enthusiastically taken on the role as Social Coordinator and has many exciting plans to inject some fun into the chilly Canberra winter.

As the 2009 cohort prepare for final exams to finish off their first year, CaSPA eagerly await the arrival of the new 2010 cohort in August. We plan to welcome them with an orientation day BBQ, a social dinner with the 2009 cohort and plenty of exciting opportunities for training and networking throughout the semester.

Briohny Gillespie
CaSPA President

GUAPS



GUAPS kicked off the semester with the "Back to School" Boat Cruise. Many students welcomed back the semester in their best school attire, while enjoying some great drink specials on board. Everyone who attended had a terrific night. A thanks goes to the 2009 GUAPS Committee for organising the event; the Lion Retail Group for sponsoring the event; and also to all students who attended for making the event a success.

Towards the end of March the 2010 GUAPS Committee members were elected at the AGM. The new committee is very enthusiastic with plenty of ideas for the coming months.

During April GUAPS ran several small events to raise money for Charity Cup. Each year level had a BBQ and a scavenger hunt. This was also a good chance for GUAPS members to catch up with others in their year and get to know their new year level representative. The committee also donated a large amount



of baked goodies for a bake sale. This was held on campus and proved to be very popular amongst the students.

Recently for Pharmacy Awareness Week GUAPS held an information night for all pharmacy students. The topic for the evening was Codeine Rescheduling. On behalf of the GUAPS Committee I would like to thank our speakers; Gregg Mapp, community pharmacy owner and Mirikai founder; Lee Forman, community and hospital pharmacist; and Tim Logan, from the Pharmacy Guild of Australia, Qld Branch.

Events for the coming months include an end of semester pub-crawl and a graduation dinner. We are also in the process of organising new placement shirts for the Masters students.

Bethany Cooper
GUAPS NAPSA Councillor

JCUPSA

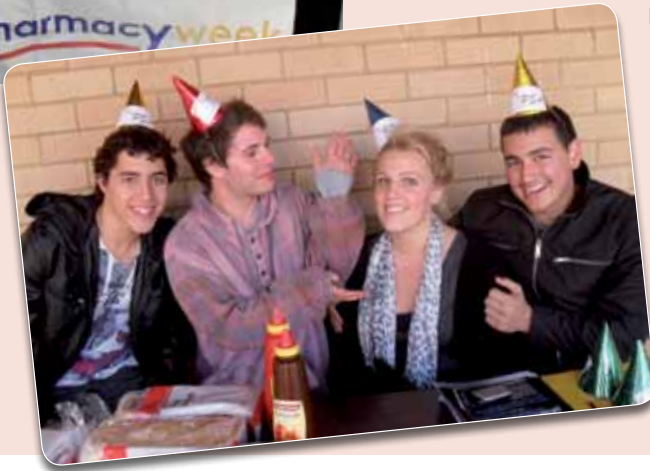
JCUPSA has had quite a busy semester! We moved into our brand new office in our brand new Pharmacy Building which was very exciting. We started out with our annual Pharmers on the Grass; band was excellent! Very popular and huge success! As this year is the 10th year anniversary of the Bachelor of Pharmacy course at JCU, we decided that it would be a great fundraiser for charity cup to sell commemorative shirts. The shirts were very popular and students helped raise over \$500 for the Fred Hollows foundation. For our pharmacy awareness week event, Rachel Rhodes and myself presented a seminar to the Lions Club of Castle Hill of Townsville on the services that pharmacists offer the community. We covered everything from home medicines reviews, dosage aids, national diabetes service scheme and diabetes management plus many more. We received a very good response from the club and they found the session very informative. Pharmacy participated in interfaculty sports this semester, proudly being led by MVP and captain Rachel Rhodes, all teams played extremely well. Unfortunately we didn't actually win anything, but the mens basketball team came second which is a huge achievement for us! Looking forward to an exciting next semester for JCUPSA which our Pub Crawl and Pharmacy Ball coming up!

Jayne de Luca
President



OPSA

Our new OPSA committee, now headed by Michael Rifkin was a product of our AGM and revealed our enthusiastic committee members for 2010. It is going to be an exciting year for pharmacy students at CSU!



Semester 1 started in cocktail style with the commencement dinner for pharmacy students hosted by CSU Orange and including students from CSU Wagga Wagga. We were treated to a panel of professionals from retail to hospital, academia and industry, who shared their experiences and answered our questions about every aspect of pharmacy. Information and inspiration for all who attended – giving everyone more of a clue about post-university pharmacy!

Pharmacy awareness week was a fantastic experience for CSU OPSA members, involving pharmacists from CSU and the local community. We focused on providing information to the public about the exciting prospects of e-pharmacy

services and pharmacy's role in providing health information.

OPSA will be hosting a harbour cruise for the health sciences this year to incorporate



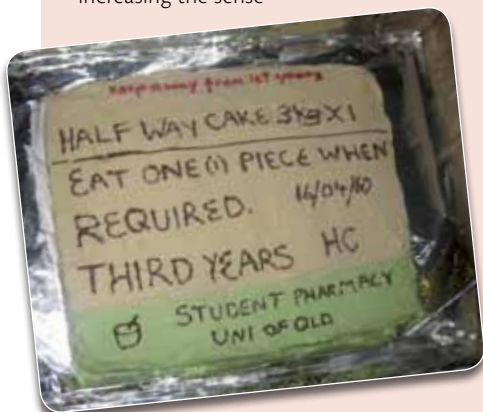
students studying physiotherapy and dentistry at CSU Orange. Allied health in full force!

OPSA has a busy few months ahead with educational and social events to help balance out the stress with some fun. It's great to have such an enthusiastic team of committee members and student members to counteract the sub-refrigerator temperatures here in the central west!

Sarah Bowen
OPSA 4th Year Representative

QPSA

It has been a time of new beginnings for the QPSA with the official move to our new campus at the Pharmacy Australia Centre of Excellence (PACE). First year students participated in a "Coating Ceremony", a new approach to increasing the sense



Halfway dinner cake made by student Hannah Catlin

of professionalism in our young student pharmacists. Not long into semester, we were kicking back and celebrating the new year with our "Annual Welcome Back Party". With drinks flowing, a good night was had by all. Fourth years completed their Quality Use of Medicine (QUM) placement, pleased with having made industry contacts for their intern year. The third years celebrated making it half way through the course with a dinner, drinks and karaoke night – we're happy they all have day jobs! Pharmacy Awareness Week was marked with a Charity Cup Trivia Night raising over \$300 for The Fred Hollows Foundation with students triumphant over the staff team! Thank-you to Andrew French and Jennifer Murray for spearheading the student display at Indooroopilly Shopping Centre and projecting a friendly face for pharmacy. Our "Pharmacy and Industry Career Fair" showcased companies and job prospects



for the future of pharmacy. Merchandise has been busy with books, placement shirts and our new QPSA hoodies. These have proved popular with staff and students and are sure to keep them warm and toasty this winter. It has been an eventful first semester and we wish all students good luck with the forthcoming exams!

Claire Grant
QPSA President

Pharmers

Hello all NAPSA kids!

For those who have not been lucky enough to meet me, I am Lauren Ryan and am the 2010 Pharmers' President.

With our first semester exams done and dusted, everyone is ready and back into our second semester of our B. Facebook ... oh wait, I mean ... Pharmacy degree that's it!

We have been busy spreading the Pharmers' love to the rest of Wagga Wagga, with our 'Historic tour' taking place last term. Our theme this year was inspired by Fred Hollows, with WHAT YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO SEE. As usual, everyone was in the spirit of the night, having people dressed up as some of our "favourite" lecturers, to others breaking out the budgie smugglers on what was a cold night (not a pretty sight). Our Secretary Pina (like Colada) even started the Kevin 11 campaign, but much to her disappointment was an epic fail! All proceeds from the night were donated to the Fred Hollows Foundation.

The freezing weather that we knew would hit this winter saw us use our initiatives and have a merchandise drive for our own hoodies. These were a huge success, with our awesome merchandising officer designing a logo that even Britney wants a piece of. Yes sorry guys I did make a Britney Spears reference.

We held our Pharmacy Awareness Week campaign in the local Marketplace the



first week in May. We were lucky enough to have the support from our Associate Head of School, who is also a registered Pharmacist come down and help us in promoting Pharmacy. The public showed interest and it was very rewarding for us to have a Pharmacist there to offer professional advice.

This semester is set to be hectic, with our Annual Ball set to amaze all, with our 'Red Carpet' theme. The girls are still trying to find a dress in Wagga somewhere, with luck we won't have people in the same dress, or there may actually be tears! As per usual, the guys aren't too fussed with their looks, although rumour has it there are some people going to try pull off the Dumb and Dumber look ... I will keep you posted on how that goes!

With all our Pharmers' Love,

Lauren Ryan
Pharmers' President

SUPA

Hey. My name is Michael Gould the new President of SUPA 2010-2011. I have been working in community pharmacy for 5 years and have had many challenges, however none greater than that I feel I now face, in my term as President. I look forward to working with NAPSA and the university to uphold the best interests of students throughout their University lives.

This year SUPA members have had two Blackmores Courses, a Smith and Nephew Wound Care Course and have a Stitches First Aid Course coming up.

University isn't always about education but also social experience which upholds the strong morals deep within each pharmacy



student. SUPA has supported this through various events ranging from the 'scribblishous' PUBSCRIBBLE crawl to the Triumphant Trivia night. Whichever the event, it was a memorable experience to have had.

With those great experiences we come back to the future. It will be SUPA's goal to continue to support the pharmacy student in any way possible. Classic events such as the pub-crawl, cruise, trivia night, career night, first aid certificate, wound care, Blackmores, sports and the prestigious gala ball will continue to prosper in the future. With the enthusiasm and daringness of the new committee, who knows what else is to come but one thing is for sure is that it will be one spectacular year.

Michael Gould
SUPA President 2010/2011

placebo.
brought to you with the help of



A U S T R A L I A N
Pharmacist

QUTSPA

This years AGM saw the unanimous promotion of Zeke Steindl from Sponsorship Representative to take over the reins as President from Ashleigh Coome. Congratulations to Ashleigh who was recently elected to NAPSA President.

On the charity front special mention must go to the amazing and tireless efforts of MC Michael Thorp and all committee members involved in organising a spectacularly successful QUTSPA Annual Trivia Night. In what has become a much anticipated annual event on the QUTSPA calendar this year's trivia night saw an unprecedented number of participants,

and a vigorously healthy sense of competition between student and staff factions. Money flowed freely on the night and in total QUTSPA was successful in raising \$425, for the Fred Hollows Foundation.

QUTSPA members celebrated the start of what is sure to be another stunning semester with their traditional pub crawl. The P-Plater fancy dress theme enticed many interesting entries – including special guest appearances by Picasso, and Dennis Fergusson. As the last pubcrawl to alight from the old guild bar all students made it a night to remember – and a morning after to forget as lecture theatres remained mysteriously empty until well into the afternoon.



In addition to this QUTSPA's formidable netball and touch teams have further celebrated wins in the local competitions under the leadership of Sports Rep Tommy Lam. The purchase of QUTSPA jerseys was made possible through the securement of a recent Guild grant ensured not only did we win, we did it in fine style.

It is pleasing to be able to report on the successes of such a relatively young branch of NAPSA – with heads down now for another successful semester we look forward to bringing you further updates from over the counter.

Heather Sullivan
QUTSPA Secretary



TAPS

The past three months has been a very busy time for TAPS which has seen a wide variety of social and educational events being held. Some of the social events include the 3rd year half year dinner, 1st year welcome party and the TAPS cocktail party. For the second year running the cocktail party was held with Engineering and Nursing and is one of the biggest nights on the Uni social calendar.

The night was held at cascades gardens and around 250 people turned up to mark the occasion.

TAPS also partook in pharmacy awareness campaign as part of pharmacy awareness week. We set up a stall in Centrepoint arcade in the heart of the Hobart CBD. TAPS also took part in the Pharmacy Horizons program (a program that gives students an insight into the options for practising pharmacy once entering the workplace). As a part of this we also had a guest speaker, Mike Tivloski come into the school and talk to us about pharmacy in the military.

Coming up next on the TAPS calendar is the annual pharmacy ball. The night is planned to be held at Moorilla estate and

guests will arrive by cruise departing from the Brooke St pier. Also planned for the next few months are the TAPS trivia night, end of year pub crawl and a variety of NAPSA education courses.

Ayden Brown
TAPS President



SAPSA

With the mid semester break having quickly passed us by, and Charity Cup month was rapidly drawing to a close, SAPSA's big event to raise money for Fred Hollows was approaching us fast. On our 'Sailing towards a better future: Eye Eye Captain' Cruise, 170 Students dressed up and spent the evening partying it up on a 3 storey ship around Port Adelaide, with an after party at the local pub. Many a student dressed up, and the ship was flooded with an assortment of sea related costumes ranging from Pirates to some 'Sea-men' to a group of some of the more inventive sapsa members. Overall the night was a huge success, and we raised well over a grand to donate, and likely fed a number of the inhabitants living in the waters below due to the responsible consumption of alcohol.

Not long after, SAPSA's Annual quiz night was set into motion. While there was a



lot of work that went into the night, and the PSA decided to remove the PSOTY portion of the night to a later date, the evening went off without a hitch, with students across the all the years competing against each other. Inevitably, the genius of NAPSA's own secretary Scuba Steve held out to win the event, however the most impressive performance of the night was undoubtedly the two first years who had the other 8 members not rock up and so competed against the other years all on their own. To their credit, they did not come last even against overwhelming odds, which I personally think embodies much of the sapsa spirit of never giving up; reminds me of a challenge that BAPS and SAPSA have for 2011 congress and a certain les mortar!

Ahem, Anyways...

With first aid, Woundcare, Blackmore's, IPSF congress, SHPA presentations, community pharmacy forums, BBQ's, annual Students' Ball, pubcrawls, PPAD, PSA initiatives and a plethora of other fun things in the future that are on all our minds, SAPSA is having a terrific year and all the hard work from the committee is greatly appreciated!

Cheers,
XX SAPSA XX



VPSA

Hi everyone,

My name's Diana and I'm the VPSA President for 2010/2011. Already, the year's looking amazing, with one of the best committee's VPSA has seen in a while. Our year started off with the Fred Hollows Charity Cup, for which VPSA ran a Trivia and Acoustic Night, as well as a BBQ. The trivia ran very smoothly, thanks to our amazing Event Coordinator, Kee-Lin and everyone else that helped out. Pub Crawl came next, this year's theme being "Suit up for Barney Stinson". Everyone dressed up very snazzy, the boys in suits and the girls in beautiful dresses. Together, we went from venue to



venue till late at night, and then had to wake up for our meeting the next day! Pharmacy Awareness was also a success, at Northlands Shopping Centre, were we ran a stall for a day. In terms of trainings, Mel's been busy organizing a very successful J&J training for 1st years, and Wound Care training



for 3rd years. The entire committee is now running full steam ahead to organize Allied Health, our biggest night of the year, for next semester, as well as all the other events we have planned! It's been a big year for VPSA and it's only going to get bigger!!

Diana Sandulache
VPSA President

TEPSA

2010 has started off strong for TEPSA with several events completed with huge success! Our main events for first semester have included several BBQ's for our members, including our welcome back BBQ and sign up day, the first of three soccer matches between the pharmacy and engineering students, the NAPSA Charity Cup Colour Blind party and Pharmacy Awareness Week Stall.

There have been several changes for students at Charles Darwin recently, as our student union has only recently reformed.



TEPSA has been actively assisting the new Charles Darwin University Student's Association in its efforts to encourage CDU Students to become more involved in university life.

TEPSA's strong links with the Engineer's society have continued this year, with our regular soccer matches becoming a tri series supported by CDU Sports. The first soccer match was held in Week 6 and had a very good turn out! Students from all over the university came along to check out the good tunes, food and soccer match. The game was a very close and low scoring, with both teams giving it their best shot to become Game 1 champions. A special mention goes out to Matilda Ramsey, TEPSA secretary, who was frequently one of the only girls out on pitch, making life very difficult for the opposing team! Unfortunately after a long game the Engineer's prevailed, scoring 1-0 against the pharmacy team.

TEPSA hosted a Colour Blind Party for Charity Cup this year, which was an



outstanding success. The party was held at Pirates Bar on the university campus, and involved students from all over the university painting white singlets with bright coloured paint then attending the party. A good time was had by all who attended as the many interesting photos prove!

We have several more events already planned for semester 2, hopefully it will make for an even more interesting semester 2!!!

Lani Florance
TEPSA President.

WAPSA

We've been super busy this semester. We've run our annual first year's party, O-show, with more than 100 people turn out. The Cocktail Party was also a hit, with ninety people. We've got end of sem all planned with a geriatric themed evening at a bowls club. Should be another fantastic night.

To repeat last year's efforts, WAPSA went hard core for Charity Cup. We held an "Eye'm on a Boat" themed Eye Spy evening. We basically had an Amazing Race through the city (dressed like pirates, seaweed etc.) and finished up at Club Red Sea. The best dressed was a seagull – it was quite special. We also raffled a ball ticket, a cocktail party ticket, a hamper donated by Ego and a night at the Novotel Langley hotel in



Perth. Needless to say, we raised a decent amount of cash and hope to take out the cup this year, following last year's win of the initiative prize.

We haven't managed to get Pharmacy Awareness Week up and running, but are planning it next semester. I've had a chat to the unit co-ordinator for the third year's pharmaceutical practice unit, and it looks like third years who spend a couple of hours on the stall will get the 5% credit assigned to 'pharmacy awareness' so that's pretty awesome.

Mr Bowtell and myself will be gracing NAPSA AGM with our presence. Looking forward to Radelaide.

Stacey Gough
WAPSA President





pharmacy
australia congress
Melbourne Convention Exhibition Centre
28-31 October 2010



Pharmaceutical
Society of Australia

EARLY CAREER PHARMACIST BREAKFAST PIMP MY CAREER

Friday 29 October 2010 • 7am to 8.30am
Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre
Cost: \$40.00

This breakfast will provide you with the skills and knowledge to advance your pharmacy career, and will use the seven star pharmacist concept to help you reach your potential. You will learn resume writing, dressing for success and interview tips and techniques.



Register at www.pac10.com.au



pharmacy
australia congress
Melbourne Convention Exhibition Centre
28-31 October 2010



Pharmaceutical
Society of Australia

EARLY CAREER PHARMACIST COCKTAIL PARTY

Friday 29 October 2010 • 8pm till late
Feddish Cafe Bar and Restaurant, Federation Square
Cost: PSA Members \$30.00 • Non Members \$40.00

Catch up with old friends and make new ones at this not to be missed event. A great networking and social function aimed at pharmacists and students in the early stages of their career.



Register at www.pac10.com.au