



## MEDIA RELEASE

### NAPSA AGM 2003

20 July 2003

During the period 18-20 July the National Australian Pharmacy Students' Association held its Annual General Meeting at the School of Pharmacy, Curtin University, Perth. Hosted by the Western Australian Pharmacy Students' Association, the event saw delegates from eight of Australia's nine pharmacy schools learn about and participate in the direction of NAPSA.

According to newly-elected NAPSA President Joseph Whitehouse (SA), "With a highly motivated and competent Executive Committee the future of NAPSA is certain to be fruitful. I am very excited about the election of the new National Council and the results of the weekend's discussions." Immediate Past President Adam Phillips commented that "I am glad to see the future of NAPSA looking so bright and that the last two years of everybody's hard work in re-establishing the Association have paid off. NAPSA is now in the hands of a great new set of people who will take the Association forward with ease."

The newly-elected Executive also consists of Vice-President Ghassan Zammar (WA), Treasurer Alice Kochman (Qld) and Secretary Tara Hehir (NSW). Other Office Bearers elected were International Pharmaceutical Students' Federation Liaison Officer Catherine Hughes (SA) and Honorary Publications Officer Mike Page (WA).

Students were welcomed to the programme by Acting Head of School at Curtin, Professor Bruce Sunderland, WAPSA President Amanda Davies and outgoing NAPSA President Adam Phillips. The first day of the event was a day of training for the delegates encompassing a detailed summary of the various pharmaceutical organisations and corporate entities of Australia; the history of NAPSA; and the sub-committees and goals of NAPSA. Other issues presented during the weekend included inter-relations between the different constituent pharmaceutical student organisations, industrial affairs, variance of the curriculum structure between schools of pharmacy and the upcoming Congress to be held in Perth in January, 2004.

The AGM allowed for future leaders of the pharmaceutical profession to breed new ideas and enhance awareness to students concerning pharmacy practice and political direction. The highlight for many attendees, however, was the annual NAPSA AGM Dinner, this year hosted by WAPSA at the Red Herring Restaurant in East Fremantle. The event was well-attended by local pharmacy academics, representatives of the professional organisations and pharmaceutical wholesalers, WAPSA members and of course, the new NAPSA National Council. Thanks in no small part to the support of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia (Western Australian Branch), the function was a huge success.

The Association plans over the next year to strengthen its links with the professional organisations and raise its own profile through public campaigns. The weekend saw further consolidation of the past two years' work in re-establishing the Association and development of plans and policies that will ensure the sustainability of NAPSA into the future.

**Images attached**

NC-at-red-herring.jpg:

*The new National Council with some other participants at the AGM Dinner*

joe-whitehouse-and-amanda-davies.jpg:

*The new NAPSA President with WAPSA President, Amanda Davies*

**Contact**

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