



ePlacebo

National Australian Pharmacy
Students' Association



Congress 2019

March / April 2022 Edition

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President's Report

Dear NAPSA members,

I hope that everyone has had a great start to the university year, and has had a chance to rest over the long weekends that we have had!

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia's annual conference, the Australian Pharmacy Professional Conference and Trade Exhibition (APP), was held at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre from March 24 to 27 2022. I would like to thank the Pharmacy Guild of Australia for inviting the NAPSA Executive Directors and I to attend APP 2022, and hosting such an engaging and inspiring event for the profession.



Verity Boustead
2021/22 NAPSA National President

NAPSA offered three all-inclusive scholarships to APP for pharmacy students who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to, as well as have strong aspirations for, working in community pharmacy. Jade Craig, a fourth year student from Curtin University, Western Australia; Shannon Lee Allender, a fourth year student also from Curtin University, Western Australia; and Renee Buckland, a fourth year student from James Cook University, Queensland, were the successful applicants of the NAPSA APP Scholarship. Our three scholarship recipients will be writing up a piece on their experiences for the next edition of ePlacebo, so keep an eye out!

At APP 2022, NAPSA and The Pharmacy Guild of Australia hosted the annual NAPSA Alumni Networking Event on Friday March 25th. I would like to thank Tamara Ali, the NAPSA Alumni Chair, and the Pharmacy Guild of Australia for organising this standout event that provided NAPSA members and Alumni to connect and share their professional journeys and endeavours. For more information on the 2022 NAPSA Alumni Networking Event, please refer to the report written by Tamara Ali in this edition of the ePlacebo.

Throughout the last six weeks since Monday 14th March, the NAPSA Branches have been raising money for Myeloma Australia. I would like to thank Ellen Jeon, the NAPSA Pharmacy Awareness Chair, as well as all of the NAPSA Branches for all of their hard work thus far, and we look forward to continuing to support Myeloma Australia throughout the last two weeks of 2022 NAPSA Charity Cup. For more details on the NAPSA Charity Cup thus far, please read the report authored by Ellen Jeon further on in this ePlacebo edition.

In early March, NAPSA renewed its Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Locum Co. Alongside Director of LocumCo, Sue Muller, I am proud to announce that this MoU includes the Rural Placement Scholarships, which awards ten scholarships up to \$1,000 to students currently enrolled in a full-time pharmacy degree and who are looking for an opportunity to gain valuable experience working in a rural location.

President's Report

At the beginning of April, NAPSA hosted a [webinar with LocumCo](#) on rural pharmacy job opportunities and how students can work as a Locum Pharmacist once they are registered. This webinar also launched the 2022 NAPSA and LocumCo Rural Placement Scholarships, which you can apply for [here!](#)

March saw NAPSA establish an [MoU with Raven's Recruitment](#). NAPSA and Raven's Recruitment are proud to reveal that this MoU will provide NAPSA members with extensive educational opportunities as well as exclusive insight into the Raven's Recruitment Pharmacy Salary and Market Report.

At the end of April, NAPSA hosted a [webinar with Guild Super](#) on budgeting, finances and owning a pharmacy. The webinar featured two keynote speakers, Ben Fagan, the Allied Health Partnership Executive for Guild Super, and Robert Hughes, a Director at Pitch Partners; and covered various topics including financial budgeting while you are at uni and moving into full-time work; superannuation; and pharmacy ownership. Y

As the 2021/2022 NAPSA Board of Executive Directors and myself approach our last two months in office, we have opened up [applications for the 2022/23 NAPSA National President position and Executive Director roles](#). On behalf of NAPSA, I encourage all members to apply for the Board, as it is an excellent opportunity to represent students on a National Level, and ensure their future is prosperous.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me at president@napsa.org.au with any questions or suggestions. Thank you!

Verity Boustead
2021/22 NAPSA National President

Pharmacy Awareness

This was the first time following COVID-19 that we were able to announce the charity of the year, and we were delighted to be able to do so.

We were able to contact a few non-profit organisations for the Charity Cup. After careful study, Myeloma Australia was selected as the charity of the year. The tournament's major goal is to raise awareness of Multiple Myeloma and to demonstrate that we are still here, ready to support the community and help for the greater good.

Several meetings with Myeloma Australia were held to plan the event, with the goal of engaging students in their best interests and developing outstanding outcomes. However, following a discussion with NAPSA and the presidents of all branches, we agreed to remain with the notion of each branch leading the event to enhance their engagement with students. The discussion with the NAPSA branch presidents also provided an excellent opportunity to address some of the conditions to the event's success.

This Charity Cup 2022 was different from previous ones in that we held a workshop to understand Myeloma before commencing the fundraising events, and there was also a walkathon to support Myeloma patients in Australia to enhance students' knowledge of the disease and how we can support them. We had great support from the Myeloma Australia team. I'd like to thank Elie Hawkins, NAPSA Education Executive Director, in particular for her assistance in organising the Myeloma Awareness Workshop. She put in a lot of effort and time to make this happen.

The event also provides an opportunity for each branch to showcase their potential. Each student branch was doing an excellent job as the activities and events progressed. All of the presidents were also happy to share their branch's knowledge and experience. Overall, it helped the growth of other branches' events and the awareness of multiple myeloma.

It is also a great opportunity for students attending this tournament to understand more about the disease and get involved in advocacy efforts, which will be a fantastic learning experience for them. We hope that students will be able to put their knowledge to good use in the community, and we are delighted to be able to support them in their advocacy efforts.

Charity Cup 2022 will promote awareness for Australians living with myeloma, and we hope to raise funds through our event to support Myeloma Australia in continuing their activities. After the event, we are sure that all of the students will be able to improve the way they educate and represent the general public.

We are very thankful for the support from all of this, and we are looking forward to continue our collaboration with NAPSA and NAPSA branches. We will also continue to be open to your ideas and suggestions. We will continue to work with NAPSA and NAPSA branches to ensure that each branch's event is a success and that the students have a positive experience.

Rural Spotlight

Last Winter I had the opportunity to experience a rural placement in Weipa through the Centre for Rural and Remote Health (CRRH). Throughout the duration of my 4 week block I worked between the community pharmacy and the Integrated Health Service. I was welcomed with open arms and felt as though I was one with the community in no time. Providing outreach services to local Indigenous communities and visiting communities on day trips allowed me to yarn with elders. In my time at these communities I educated residents on the importance of medication compliance, and in return they educated me about the Cape's sacred history.

I was only familiar with working in metropolitan community pharmacies prior to this placement. Seeing the significant impact the rural community pharmacy has on their patients, in comparison to metropolitan locations, highlighted the importance of the profession. As the doctors were booked out for weeks, the local residents turned to the Pharmacy as a primary healthcare need to avoid "Clogging up" the Health Clinic. This exposure allowed me to become familiar with local residents on a first name basis, and vice versa.

In all honesty, I wasn't very optimistic that I would enjoy such a long time away from home. Being originally from a small rural town however, I began to feel a sense of familiarity which allowed me to embrace and appreciate the unique community for what it is. Overall, I couldn't recommend a rural placement such as this one enough and it has made me further appreciate the profession and excited me for the projection of my future career as a Pharmacist.

-Kayla O'Kane, Fourth Year Pharmacy Student,
James Cook University

Have you recently gone on a rural or regional placement? Write about your experience in 100-200 words, and you can be featured in the next edition of the ePlacebo!

Please email any written submissions + photos to rural.indigenous@napsa.org.au



NAPSA Mentoring Program

NAPSA is beyond excited to be hosting more students into the Alumni mentoring program. The mentoring program was initiated in 2021 and has gained more spotlights from students around Australia, as well professional pharmacists who are willing to support the growth of students' professional experience and knowledge. The program encourages students to form connections with pharmacy alumni with experience in areas including hospital, community, industry, rural practice, academia and research.

Students will have the opportunity to meet with their mentor over the course of the year. The alumni chair will assign mentors and mentees with similar interests. Students will meet with the mentor over video call or in-person, and can organise regular meetings to best suit their schedules.

If this sounds like you, please fill in the survey link below. Please contact our Alumni Chair Tamara Ali via the email address if you have any questions.

NAPSA Mentoring Program: Mentor sign up form

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/IFAIpQLSeQ4ohQ8JvP5iST9f7GnWDFi6mnQB52RWYgu7O5_fYeZo370Q/viewform?usp=sf_link

NAPSA Mentoring Program: Mentee sign up form

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/IFAIpQLSfLo5Lg2MuRj3TeIWct8TIWCXFYHZ9PhIm57fVNKLh9YOG_kQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

Tamara Ali

Napsa Alumni Chair 2021/22

alumni@napsa.org.au



UTSPA

David, UTSPA President

About David:

Masters of Pharmacy, Final Year of a 2 year degree. Very Involved as I am the president.

2022 Highlight so far? Upcoming Events?

We had a really good mixer with other graduate health societies. We had a decently successful trivia night and we are concurrently running a good mentorship program.

Next big upcoming event: Charity cup event.

What's so fun about being on the UTSPA Committee?

Our Committee members are all super laid back and really fun and interesting.

UoNAPS Update

Myah Westbury, Social Chair

2022 Highlights:

My semester one 2 week placement was definitely a highlight University wise! Outside of uni just being able to travel and do things again has been such a highlight!

Upcoming Events from UoNAPS

We've just started planning our ball actually! We definitely will have more social events prior to the ball but it's good to get in early and organise our end of year ball!

Myah's Pharmacy Thoughts

I've worked in a pharmacy for almost 6 years!! My most recent placement I was lucky enough to go rural at Port Macquarie! (sadly it did rain everyday) I made some great friends from allied health degrees, participated in some amazing cultural/ educational activities, my favourite being the sailability activity, I also was in an amazing pharmacy located in a medical centre which gave me something new to see and experience!! The pharmacy I was at took me out on a few HMR's which were really interesting. It's been great to finally be back on campus and learning this year... not just online.

How's life back on campus been?

Being back on campus has been so great to put names from zoom to faces and just to be there and do things again is great! It's a big work and study load like every year but it's great to be in person and hands on.

About Myah

University of Newcastle. I'm from Croudace Bay! I am in my 3rd year of a Bachelor of Pharmacy Honours. Involved in UoNAPS for 2 years, last year I was a year rep and this year I am social chair!



Committee Vibes?

Everyone is so welcoming and we all get along so well no matter what year group!! It's such a sense of community!

TAPS Update

Ellah Haberle, Publications Chair

2022 Highlights:

We have had a slow start to the years. So far we have organised and undertaken a walk to raise funds for Myeloma Australia as part of our commitment to Charity Cup. Our committee also organised a small order of novelty drink bottles for fundraising which had huge interest and sold out quickly. Our first official event of the year was a pub crawl which helped us celebrate the start of a new year. While we had a small turnout, it was encouraging to see the enthusiasm of those who attended. Our most recent event was a new event facilitated by the School of Pharmacy and Dr Daniel Hoyle. This event was the Tasmanian Pharmacy Student of the Year final which ran smoothly and we can see the potential for it to expand in the future. A cocktail party was afterwards to celebrate the event and participants.



About Ellah

Bachelor of Pharmacy with Applied Honours-4th (and final) year. I've been on the committee for two years (1st year and again in my fourth)

Ellah Haberle, TAPS (Tasmanian Association of Pharmacy Students), University of Tasmania

Pharmacy Thoughts?

This is such an important time to be advocating for pharmacists' roles and studying pharmacy. As we have seen over the last two years and the implication of a pandemic, pharmacists are front and centre and accessible for patients.

We should take advantage of the increased need for quality pharmacists; continuing to build trust within our community.

TAPS Committee Vibes

Our committee has expanded this year with new positions such as a social chair and pharmacy awareness chair. This is something we are super excited about as we now feel we can offer more to our members with these dedicated positions. This could not have happened without the work of our past president- Madison Johnston



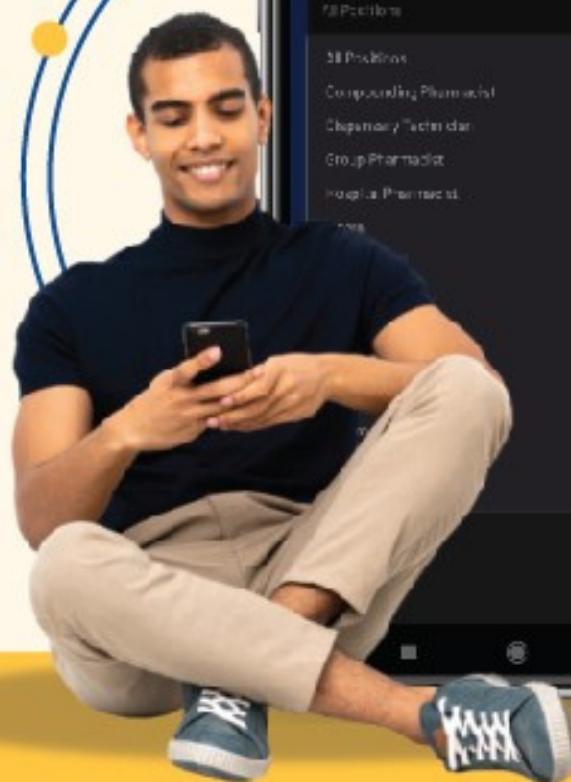
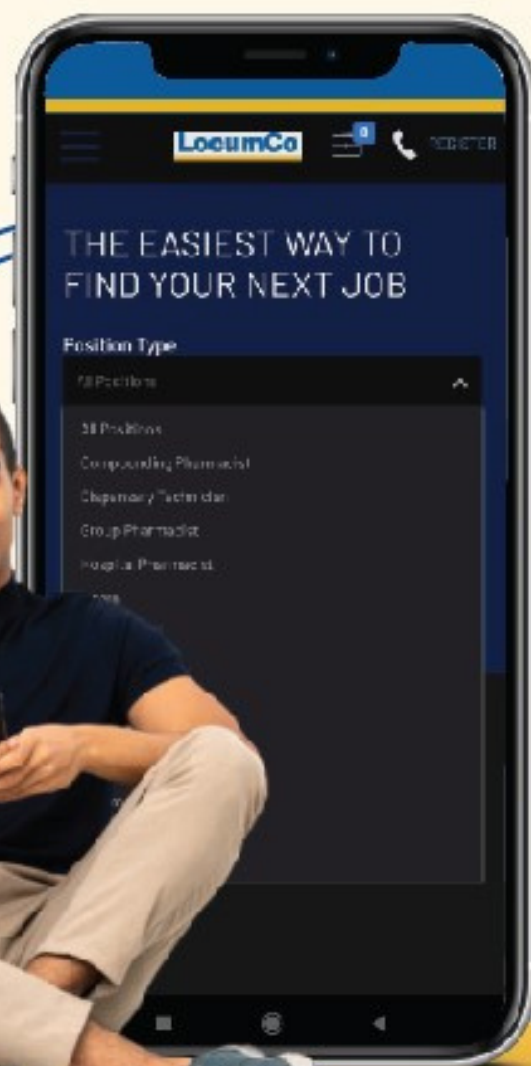
Next big event?

TAPS Trivia Night!



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Intern case study example

A customer asked an intern for a dietary potassium supplement. Without seeking supervisory assistance, the intern provided potassium permanganate with little instruction.

The customer dissolved some in water and swallowed the mixture which resulted in severe burning and ulceration of the mouth and the oesophagus.



Key learning objectives:

- The Pharmacy Board's registration standards require the direct supervision of interns by a pharmacist holding general registration.
- Potassium permanganate (Condy's crystals) was once used in solution to treat fungal infections and superficial wounds. It has now been replaced by more effective agents.
- The intern in the case study would have been unfamiliar with this compound and should have sought advice and input from a pharmacist.
- Interns should always refer to a pharmacist for advice and approval.
- Any intern making an error in the practice of pharmacy should report this to their preceptor and to PDL to ensure the professional indemnity policy will assist if the matter escalates.

Have a question? You can email us at info@pdl.org.au or call 1300 854 838



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CULTURAL RESPONSIVENESS TRAINING: AVAILABLE FREE TO ALL SHPA MEMBERS

SHPA has announced 12 months access for all SHPA members to the **Indigenous Allied Health Australia's (IAHA) Cultural Responsiveness** online training modules, which are tailored to Australian healthcare professionals.

Chastina Heck, Nywaigi Mamu Bidjara woman and member of the SHPA Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Leadership Committee, says the program has been developed as a starting point to make individuals more culturally aware and workplaces a culturally safe and responsive environment.

'It is important to ask: is my workplace a culturally safe environment for those who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People, and for those of diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds?

'Considering these questions frequently and year-round, not just on national days of awareness and action, is crucial to living the pledge to close the health and life expectancy gap experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.'

[FIND OUT MORE | ACCESS THE TRAINING MODULES](#)



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*Full registration excluding Cocktail Party (valued at \$745)

The PSA intern training program has thoroughly prepared me for my career post-intern year.

The staff and tutors at the PSA were incredibly helpful and supportive during the uncertainties of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Erin Cooper
2021 PSA Intern
of the Year

PSA intern training program

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PSA Upcoming Events

For more information on any of the PSA's Upcoming Events, check out their website - <https://www.psa.org.au/networking-events/all-events/>

May 2022

New South Wales

11, 31 - Immunisation Practical Workshop

25 - Live Webinar: Are you ready for SafeScript NSW

Northern Territory

05 - Immunisation Practical Workshop Digital

Queensland

03 - Management of insomnia in community pharmacy practice

10 - End of Life Workshop for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People

11 - Management of insomnia in community pharmacy practice

28 - Immunisation Practical Workshop - Brisbane

Victoria

03, 11, 20 - Immunisation Practical Workshop Melbourne

20 - Victorian Annual Therapeutic Update 2022

20 - Wound Care Workshop - Melbourne

Western Australia

27 - Immunisation Practical Workshop - Perth

28 - WA Annual Therapeutic Update 2022

June 2022

Victoria

01, 16 - Immunisation Practical Workshop Melbourne

Published by Madison Johnston
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