

WWW.HEALTHPROMOTION.ORG.AU



MEMBER COMMUNIQUE

MAY 2016

The AHPA® branches, Board and its committees work hard throughout the year to support and promote the health promotion profession and advocate for good health promotion policy, research and practice. This Communiqué provides an opportunity to keep you informed about what's been happening since the End of Year Update in 2015 with reference to the AHPA® Operational Plan.

A highly skilled & sustainable health promotion workforce

Conferences: The Connecting the Dots: Tradition to Innovation, Making it Matter conference is not far away now with the program available at: <http://ahpa2016.com.au/program/>. There is a great range of keynotes and many interesting sessions and don't miss the workshops on Sunday 19th June - <http://ahpa2016.com.au/workshops/>. Registrations are growing steadily but we still hope to see more people supporting AHPA's major conference. At least one conference scholarship per branch has been provided over the last three years.

AHPA® is active in planning for the World Public Health Congress 2017. Board Member Andrew-Jones Roberts is representing the Board on the Conference Organising Committee. AHPA® is also ably represented on the Scientific Committee with Dr Nikki Percival (QLD President), Associate Professor James Smith (NT Branch President), Associate Professor Jonine Jancey (HPJA Editor in Chief) and Professor Li Ming Wen (NSW Branch) all participating. See the Congress website for more information <http://www.wcph2017.com/>

Mentoring: A national approach to mentoring has now been adopted allowing sharing of resources and access to a larger pool of mentors. The Mentoring Committee is currently assessing the 50 plus applications seeking mentors. Outcomes should be available soon.

Professional Development: Local professional development opportunities are the touchstone of the work of AHPA® branches and advocacy has been a big focus. NSW held a short advocacy seminar as part of their annual members' meeting, conducted by Dr Becky Freeman from Sydney Uni and a joint SA-WA webinar: "Advocacy, health promotion and social media - slacktivism or real action?" was also held in May.

Jane Martin, Obesity Policy Coalition and Ben Hubbard, former Chief of Staff to Julia Gillard were the presenters at an AHPA® Victoria advocacy event. The event provided plenty of opportunities for networking and questions and the event and Q&A session were recorded and will be available on the AHPA® website. The NT Branch has held two networking events leading to the establishment of a journal club. These have focused on 'ethics in health promotion' and 'ethics in Indigenous health promotion practice' respectively. Members of the Australasian Evaluation Society have also enthusiastically participated in these events.

Professionalisation: With AHPA® now approved by IUHPE as the National Accrediting Organisation the process of accrediting health promotion practitioners is moving apace. An online provider is being sought, as applications will be completed online. Communications, training, business model and regulatory issues are all being progressed. It is hoped the process can commence in the second half of 2016. AHPA's work on professionalisation will be presented at the IUHPE Rio conference. Check out the CompHP website if you want to see the competencies we'll be using: <http://www.iuhpe.org/index.php/en/comphp>. These are very aligned to those developed in Australia.

Research, Evaluation and Evidence Translation: March saw the release of the inaugural 'virtual' issue of the HPJA on the topic of Climate Change and Health Promotion. This makes our journal more widely available and raises awareness on this important issue. Visit the website to see more <http://www.publish.csiro.au/nid/293/aid/20759.htm>! We have also received lots of positive feedback on the special issue on Ethics in Health Promotion, edited by Prof Annette Braunack-Mayer from the University of Adelaide and A/Prof Stacy Carter from the University of Sydney. The REET committee is also exploring the future publishing needs of the journal. Editor in Chief Associate Professor Jonine Jancey led a successful webinar at the end of 2015 on writing abstracts for the conference. The next virtual issue will be released mid-year, so look out for that.

