



ANNUAL REPORT 2009





The Australian Psychological Society Limited

Level 11, 257 Collins Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

PO Box 38
Flinders Lane VIC 8009

P +61 3 8662 3300

F +61 3 9663 6177

E contactus@psychology.org.au

W psychology.org.au

CONTENTS

15th APS Board of Directors	4
EXECUTIVE REPORTS	7
President's Report	8
Executive Director's Report	9
Financial commentary and overview of financial results	10
THE YEAR IN REVIEW	13
1. Strengthening member satisfaction with the Society	14
2. Advancing the discipline and profession of psychology	18
3. Actively contributing psychological knowledge for enhancement of community wellbeing	28
REPRESENTATION, SUBMISSIONS AND FUNDED PROJECTS	35
Representation for psychologists	36
Submissions	37
Funded projects	39
THE MEMBERSHIP AND MEMBER GROUPS	41
Member statistics	42
Member groups	43
Branches	43
State Committees	44
Colleges	47
Interest Groups	50
Member contributions	51
2009 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT	57

15TH APS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors governs the Society and has overall responsibility for pursuing the mission of the APS, determining the Strategic Plan that guides the Society's endeavours, monitoring implementation of the Strategic Plan, and developing a resource base to support activities. The Board is the ultimate decision-making and policy-setting body. It is also responsible for the financial viability of the Society and for ensuring compliance with statutory requirements applicable to a company. The President and all other non-executive Directors are elected by APS members to act in what the Board considers are the best interests of the Society, being the interests of the membership as a whole.

PRESIDENT



Professor Bob Montgomery FAPS

Bob Montgomery is in full-time private practice on the Gold Coast in clinical, health and forensic psychology, and is a member of those three APS Colleges. He often runs professional development workshops for psychologists and other professional groups and frequently contributes to electronic and print media. His 40-year career in psychology has been spent about equally in professional practice and academic positions, which he believes has benefited both. He is Adjunct Professor in Psychology at the University of the Sunshine Coast, where he contributed to the establishment of their new psychology program. In 2009 he was appointed as Vice-President of Allied Health Professions Australia, of which the APS is a member organisation.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Professor Lyn Littlefield OAM FAPS

Lyn Littlefield was appointed as Executive Director of the APS in July 2001 and has overseen a huge growth in the organisation since that time. She has been a member of the Society since 1980 and is a member of the APS Colleges of Clinical Psychologists, Counselling Psychologists, and Community Psychologists. Lyn was previously the inaugural director of the Victorian Parenting Centre and Head of the School of Psychological Science at La Trobe University, where she established the first professional doctorate in clinical, child, adolescent and family psychology and currently holds a professorial appointment. She is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the Australian Institute of Management, and currently sits on a number of Boards.



Professor Simon Crowe FAPS

Simon Crowe is Professor of Neuroscience and Clinical Neuropsychology in the School of Psychological Science at La Trobe University. He has a PhD in the neurobiological basis of memory and has also completed a training program in clinical neuropsychology at the University of Melbourne. He is a member of the APS Colleges of Clinical Psychologists, Clinical Neuropsychologists and Forensic Psychologists. He was Editor of the *Australian Psychologist* from 2000–2005. He was elected to Fellowship of the Society in 2003. He was elected to the APS Board of Directors from 2005–2007 and from 2009–2011, and also served as Vice-President during 2007 and 2009.



Associate Professor Erica Frydenberg FAPS

Erica Frydenberg has had a long professional association with the APS as past Chair of the Victorian Branch and as a Fellow of the Society. She has more recently been Chair of the Fellows Advisory Group, a member of the Governance Committee of the Board, and a member of the Professional Development Advisory Group. Her professional career has included practise in mental health in the United Kingdom, extensive practise of school psychology in Victoria, and, since the 1990s, a position as an academic at the University of Melbourne where she is an Associate Professor. She is a member of the APS Colleges of Clinical, Organisational, and Educational and Developmental Psychologists.



Ms Anne Lipzker MAPS

Anne Lipzker is a clinical psychologist, completing her psychology education in Montreal and Melbourne. She is currently the Coordinator of Child and Adolescent Mental Health on the NSW North Coast and is active in NSW statewide planning for programs such as Early Intervention, Youth Mental Health, Children of Parents with Mental Illness and Perinatal Mental Health. Continuing her long association with professional development, rural and regional practice and workplace issues, Anne currently chairs the APS Board of Director's Advisory Groups on Professional Practice and Professional Development, and is honoured to be the Board's representative with the Australian Indigenous Psychologists Association.



Professor Kate Moore MAPS

Kate Moore is a member of the APS Colleges of Organisational Psychologists and Health Psychologists, and a past Convenor of the Psychology of Relationships Interest Group. Kate is Chair of the Finance and Investment Committee, Deputy Chair of the Professional Development and Accreditation Committee, and an APS Director on the Mental Health Professionals Network Ltd. She is an experienced academic and clinician whose research interests range across depression and anxiety, stress and coping, and strategies to promote wellbeing. She is currently Head of Psychology at Charles Darwin University, and is President of the Stress and Anxiety Research Society and President-Elect of the Asian Psychological Association. She is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and sits on several education and health Boards.



Professor Trang Thomas AM FAPS

Trang Thomas is Professor of Psychology at RMIT University and a member of the APS College of Counselling Psychologists. She is currently on the Board of Alzheimers' Australia, Victoria and has been on the Boards of the National Health and Medical Research Council, SBS, Council for Multicultural Australia, Council for Adult Education, and Victorian Casino and Gaming Authority. Trang has been an Assistant Human Rights Commissioner of Australia and a member of the National Committee of Psychology, Australian Academy of Science.



Dr Robyn Vines FAPS

Robyn Vines is Adjunct Senior Research Fellow in the Department of General Practice, School of Primary Health Care, Monash University and Chair of the APS Public Issues Advisory Group. She practises as a clinical psychologist in regional NSW, is a Fellow of the APS and member of the APS Colleges of Clinical and Counselling Psychologists. She has previously held senior positions in university student services both overseas and in Australia, was Chief Investigator on a Federal Government evaluation of psychological services in primary care and Senior Research Fellow at Charles Sturt University. Robyn has also held appointments as Senior Clinical Psychologist at University College Hospital, London and at the University of Newcastle's Centre for Rural and Remote Mental Health in Orange.



Professor Trevor Waring AM FAPS

Trevor Waring is a clinical psychologist and a Conjoint Professor of Psychology at the University of Newcastle where he is also the Chancellor. He was a member of the NSW Psychologist Registration Board for 14 years, the last 11 serving as President. He was also the foundation Chair of the national Council of Psychologist Registration Boards. Trevor's clinical experience includes 17 years as a clinical psychologist in a major outpatient psychiatric service, 12 years as Director of the Hunter Institute of Mental Health and Deputy Director of the Hunter Centre for Mental Health Studies, in addition to working in part-time private practice for 30 years.

“

It was no coincidence that we were able so promptly to mount such a wide-ranging and effective response to the Victorian bushfires to assist the survivors and their helpers.

”

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Professor Bob Montgomery



In my campaign for the position of President-Elect, I said we – psychology, you and me – were living in interesting times. This past year for the APS has borne that out, in spades. You will find detailed reports of our activities

throughout this Annual Report and I encourage you to read them.

I will address only a couple of the highlights of the APS year, as I have experienced it. Most prominent was our response to the Victorian bushfires. It was a coincidence that the Disaster Preparedness and Response Reference Group (DPRRG) was meeting at that time, but it was no coincidence that we were able so promptly to mount such a wide-ranging and effective response to assist the survivors and their helpers. APS communications staff performed beyond the call, to install the bushfire link on our web page and arrange the resources behind this. Several years of work by members of the DPRRG were reflected in the quality and usefulness of the resources made freely available through that site. DPRRG is blessed by the strength of our internationally known participants, who took part in a one-hour live TV broadcast from Federation Square. This was one of the best hours of Australian television I have seen. We also invited Victorian psychologists and other health professionals to a two-hour briefing on post-disaster responses. It was packed out with late-comers sitting on the floor and delivered some of the best professional development (PD) I've seen to over 600 people. If you missed it, it's available on a DVD that your APS Unit could well use as a PD exercise. Our efforts were ultimately recognised in a letter of appreciation from the Minister for Health, Nicola Roxon.

We subsequently became involved in designing and delivering the training for post-disaster workers in collaboration with the Australian Centre for Posttraumatic Mental Health. These events added momentum to the process of completing a Memorandum of Agreement with the Red Cross, which will allow interested APS psychologists to take Red Cross training and become part of the

volunteer response in the immediate aftermath of a disaster. We will be working with the Red Cross on training practitioners to assist people in the longer period after a disaster, essentially helping survivors to utilise their own self-recovery skills. For the inevitable minority of survivors for whom this will be insufficient, appropriately trained psychologists will be a vital resource in helping them to overcome serious post-traumatic difficulties. Once again we have clear evidence of the dire shortfall in numbers of qualified psychologists in Australia.

The need for an increased psychological workforce has also been illustrated by the high and rising uptake of Medicare items for psychological services throughout the year, well in excess of that anticipated. The only reliable data available indicate that many of the people making use of these rebates were previously simply unable to obtain psychological treatment. In my own practice, we bulk bill around half of our patients and their needs are not trivial. We will all need to be scrupulous in adhering to Medicare procedures and maintaining the quality of our services through appropriate PD to ensure the continued Medicare funding of these important services to the community.

For the APS, I was one of the hosts at a roundtable on racism against Indigenous Australians, organised by the Australian Indigenous Psychologists Association, which the APS fostered into existence last year. This was an inspiring event, likely to be recognised as a landmark in the development of relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. I recommend you obtain a copy of the Declaration from this roundtable, share it around, and as an APS psychologist feel proud of what your Society is doing.

The APS successfully facilitated the comprehensive review of education and training of psychologists. We held a roundtable on homelessness. The list goes on.

These are only the tip of the iceberg that is the submerged mass of APS activity. Read the communiqués, attend the meetings, take part. To paraphrase, ask not what the APS is doing for you or psychology, but what are you going to do? The times don't look like getting any less interesting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Professor Lyn Littlefield



The profile and recognition of the APS as the leader in psychology in Australia has substantially increased this year, with the Society enjoying enhanced status with government, other professions and the public through our involvement in a number of important initiatives. The most significant of these was the immediate and sustained contribution of the APS to the disaster recovery effort following the devastating Victorian bushfires this year. The increased standing of the Society is borne out through regular invitations to undertake significant projects, sit on influential committees and provide media commentary.

We are in an unprecedented period of change and this year has brought some particularly significant challenges in the external operating environment for psychology. The most prominent of these is the impending National Registration and Accreditation Scheme, which could result in major changes for practising psychologists and the accreditation of psychology education and training programs. The APS has been vigorously involved in protecting the rights and standards of practitioners through representation on relevant committees, numerous consultation processes and major submissions to government bodies. There is particular concern to protect the process of accreditation of university courses from government influence under the Scheme. The Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) has been appointed as the accrediting body for psychology under the new scheme and this development has certainly shored up psychology's protection, but significant concerns remain.

The APS has taken a proactive approach to protecting the standards of psychology education and training in the face of increasing workforce shortages and inconsistencies in the two current pathways to registration, through developing a new model of psychology education and training this year. The model introduces an alternative '5+1' pathway to registration to replace the existing '4+2' pathway. This represents significant progress towards the ultimate goal of a single pathway to registration involving a minimum education standard of a Masters degree, and underscores the APS' determination to maintain high standards for the discipline and practice of psychology.

The Medicare Better Access initiative continues to be a huge success, with sustained growth in the community

uptake of services from psychologists that has far exceeded expectations. This year's Federal Budget announced the introduction of mandatory continuing professional development (CPD) for all Better Access providers, which will assist in assuring the quality of services delivered under the initiative. We are hopeful that the yet-to-be-finalised CPD requirements will align with the APS PD system, which has this year introduced changes to continue to improve practitioner standards.

In response to significant challenges facing the Australian health care system, the Australian Government has undertaken a number of key health reform processes through the Health and Hospitals Reform Commission, and the National Primary Health Care Strategy and Preventative Health Taskforces. We are awaiting the outcomes of these reform processes, but it is clear that they are likely to result in far greater roles and support for allied health practitioners, including psychologists. It is fortunate that I have been invited to sit on two influential ministerial committees associated with these reforms, which has enabled me to bring a psychological perspective to the deliberations.

The enhanced profile and influence of the APS is dependent on a strong member base, which this year has expanded by over six per cent to 17,580 members, indicating the Society's relevance to Australian psychologists. A greater focus on the needs of the membership has been supported by an increase in National Office staff in this area. To address some of the more prominent member concerns this year, a concerted effort has gone into encouraging diversity within the psychology profession by working with the APS Colleges and other member groups to raise the profile of psychology's contribution across a wider range of settings than just mental health.

The APS has brought energy and focus to the many challenges this year and has grown in stature as the result of its perseverance and achievements. Importantly, the Society remains in a strong financial position despite the global economic crisis. The Society's achievements have been realised due to the strategic leadership of the Board of Directors, the commitment and diligence of National Office staff, and the willing and helpful participation of the many members who contribute substantial time and effort on a voluntary basis. To all I give my sincere gratitude for another highly successful year for our Society.

FINANCIAL COMMENTARY

Barry Whitmore – General Manager and Chief Financial Officer



Overview

The activities of the Society during the 2008-09 year resulted in a surplus of revenue over expenditure of \$1,451,812, representing 9.7% of total revenue (2008: \$1,752,666).

Revenue increased by 8% to \$14,956,249, while expenses increased by 11.7% to \$13,504,437. The generally good economic conditions in Australia in the past few years have contributed to the Society's recent strong financial results.

During this current period of severe economic uncertainty it is unlikely that the Society's financial growth will continue at the levels experienced in the past two years. However, despite the current economic downturn, the Society's strong financial position established during the past few years will enable it to continue to undertake initiatives in line with the Strategic Plan.

Revenue and expenditure

Consistent with the Society's continuing aim of reducing the proportion of total revenue that is derived from membership subscriptions, this year membership fees were 40.8% of total revenue compared with more than 60% five years ago. The Society's activities have expanded significantly during this time, largely funded by revenue from sources other than membership subscriptions.

Some of the major movements in revenue and expenses in 2009 compared with 2008 include the following.

- Membership subscription income increased by 8.6%, mostly attributable to an increase in member numbers of almost 6.5%.
- The ever increasing activity of the Society's member groups, achieved as a result of the significant voluntary contribution of members, is reflected in an increase in revenue of 36.1% and a 29% increase in related expenditure.
- Advertising revenue from *InPsych* and State Newsletters increased by 30.5%, a reflection of the fact that these publications reach an ever increasing number of psychologists. Production and distribution costs increased by 11.8%, largely the result of a rise in the number of members receiving copies of each publication.

- An increased focus on liaising with government and other external bodies with the aim of raising the profile and standing of psychologists and psychology has continued. Related expenditure has increased by 17.2% in 2009.
- Net expenditure related to the accreditation and approval of psychology courses increased by 79.9%. This was a reflection of more reviews of courses undertaken in the 2008-09 year than ever before.
- Revenue from professional development (PD) activities increased by 18.5% as the Society continued to focus on providing an expanded range of PD opportunities for members. Associated costs related to PD increased by 36.9%.
- In line with the Society's strategic objective of enhancing the standing and profile of the APS, expenditure on marketing and media activities increased by 46.1%.
- The Society continued its support of Indigenous Australians undertaking postgraduate training in psychology, with two scholarships funded during the 2008-09 year in part through sales of Indigenous artwork via the Bendi Lango initiative.
- In line with the Society's ongoing commitment to actively contribute psychological knowledge for the promotion and enhancement of community wellbeing, expenditure in the public interest area increased by 72.4%.
- Corporate services expenditure increased 16.7% compared with 2008. Major items giving rise to this increase include additional occupancy costs (in particular rent and depreciation of the fit-out, related to additional space being leased to house the National Office), as well as a write-down in the value of the APS investment property.

Cash flow and liquidity

The Society's cash position continues to be strong, ending the year with a 14.8% increase from 2008.

The statutory financial report is included at the end of this Annual Report.

OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL RESULTS

Detailed statement of income and expenditure – twelve months ended 31 May 2009

	2009 \$ Revenue	2009 \$ (Expense)	2009 \$ Net Revenue/ (Net Expense)	2008 \$ Revenue	2008 \$ (Expense)	2008 \$ net Revenue/ (Net Expense)
MEMBER BENEFITS						
APS member groups / Units	1,105,240	(1,619,668)	(514,428)	812,180	(1,255,730)	(443,550)
<i>InPsych</i> and State Newsletters	255,249	(489,381)	(234,132)	195,541	(437,794)	(242,253)
Website	-	(157,015)	(157,015)	-	(190,539)	(190,539)
Meet the Members functions	-	(6,925)	(6,925)	-	(15,520)	(15,520)
Products and services	552,680	(27,589)	525,091	563,166	(102,542)	460,624
PsychXchange recruitment service	308,132	(28,310)	279,822	313,370	(24,715)	288,655
Referrals service	333,757	(100,320)	233,437	294,332	(90,900)	203,432
TOTAL MEMBER BENEFITS	2,555,058	(2,429,208)	125,850	2,178,589	(2,117,740)	60,849
PSYCHOLOGY – DISCIPLINE AND PROFESSION						
Liaison with government and other external bodies	3,982	(353,917)	(349,935)	10,773	(301,916)	(291,143)
Course accreditation and approval	174,571	(329,328)	(154,757)	130,125	(216,159)	(86,034)
APS journals, Conference abstracts and proceedings	188,649	(557,205)	(368,556)	178,760	(505,443)	(326,683)
APS Awards Program	-	(65,752)	(65,752)	-	(48,062)	(48,062)
Indigenous psychology education support	30,568	(38,878)	(8,310)	305,913	(328,387)	(22,474)
Professional and workplace support	100	(399,064)	(398,964)	50	(366,075)	(366,025)
Professional development – events and administration	644,446	(783,062)	(138,616)	543,906	(571,939)	(28,033)
Assessments of qualifications	520,521	(283,177)	237,344	424,462	(229,021)	195,441
Marketing / Media	16,293	(267,350)	(251,057)	13,316	(182,985)	(169,669)
Conferences	608,202	(514,846)	93,356	790,893	(706,832)	84,061
Ethics	14,213	(65,288)	(51,075)	8,687	(55,718)	(47,031)
TOTAL PSYCHOLOGY – DISCIPLINE AND PROFESSION	2,201,545	(3,657,867)	(1,456,322)	2,406,885	(3,512,537)	(1,105,652)
COMMUNITY WELLBEING						
Psychology in the public interest	755	(165,180)	(164,425)	2,075	(95,790)	(93,715)
National Psychology Week	-	(146,965)	(146,965)	1,011	(148,412)	(147,401)
APS involvement in government-funded health and wellbeing projects	2,968,034	(2,968,034)	-	2,619,364	(2,597,498)	21,866
TOTAL COMMUNITY WELLBEING	2,968,789	(3,280,179)	(311,390)	2,622,450	(2,841,700)	(219,250)
GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT						
Governance and executive management	-	(906,024)	(906,024)	-	(833,965)	(833,965)
TOTAL GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT	-	(906,024)	(906,024)	-	(833,965)	(833,965)
CORPORATE SERVICES						
Human resources, finance, IT and administration	-	(1,690,684)	(1,690,684)	-	(1,472,751)	(1,472,751)
Depreciation and other property charges	-	(1,158,956)	(1,158,956)	-	(969,218)	(969,218)
Interest and other income	1,134,625	-	1,134,625	1,026,336	-	1,026,336
TOTAL CORPORATE SERVICES	1,134,625	(2,849,640)	(1,715,015)	1,026,336	(2,441,969)	(1,415,633)
MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS including processing of new member and reinstatement applications, as well as maintenance of member records	6,096,232	(381,519)	5,714,713	5,612,955	(346,638)	5,266,317
TOTAL	14,956,249	(13,504,437)	1,451,812	13,847,215	(12,094,549)	1,752,666



Another year of significant change in the external operating environment for psychology has required a sustained and energetic focus.



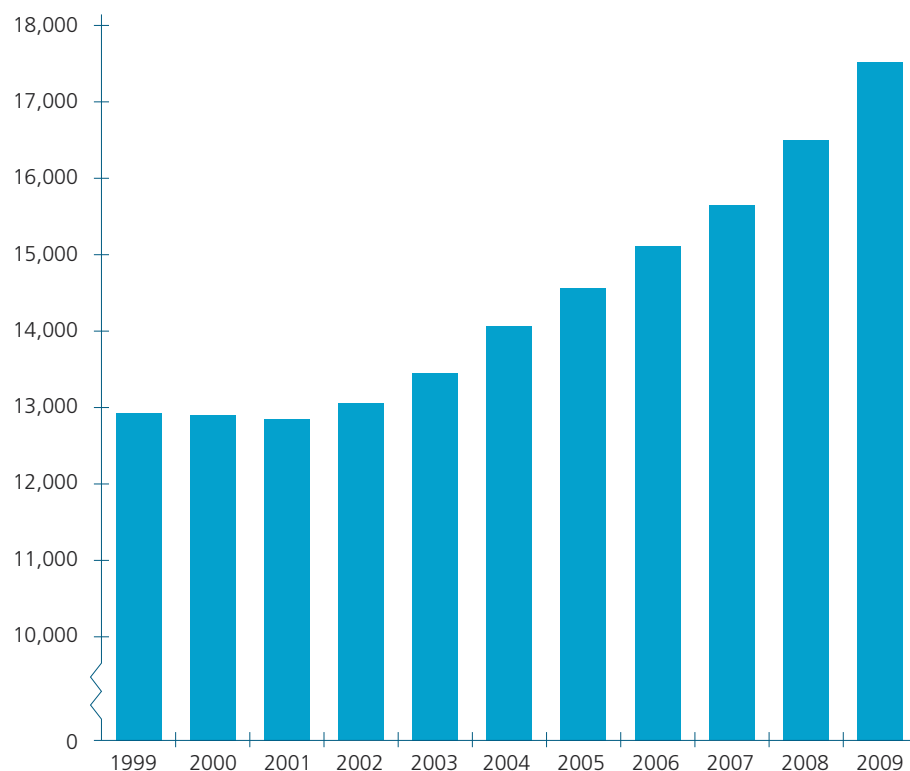
THE YEAR IN REVIEW

1. STRENGTHENING MEMBER SATISFACTION WITH THE SOCIETY

The strength of the APS is dependent on attracting and retaining a high representation of Australian psychologists within the member base. This achievement has been reliant on the Society being relevant and accessible to psychologists and endeavouring to meet their needs and concerns.

Sustained growth in APS membership

The APS has continued to increase its membership base this year, reaching a high of 17,580 members that represents a six and a half per cent increase on last year's figures. The APS has shown sustained growth in membership numbers over the last eight years, which has coincided with a deliberate policy for the Society to become more externally focused. This policy has been energetically enacted by increasing promotion and support for the discipline and profession of psychology, and advocating for psychological services and the application of psychological expertise in the interests of community wellbeing. During this period, unprecedented interest in psychology has been shown by government, other professions and the public, and this has been accompanied by greater numbers of psychologists wishing to identify with the peak national body for the profession of psychology. In addition to its increased external focus, the Society has worked hard to attune and respond to psychologists' needs and concerns, and believes this is reflected in the sustained growth in APS membership.



Membership numbers have shown sustained growth over the last eight years

HIGHLIGHTS

Review of APS Units to ensure they meet members' needs

A formal governance review of the Units structure and function within the APS – the State Committees, Branches, Colleges and Interest Groups through which the Society's membership and activities are organised – commenced at the end of 2008. This review is the second part of the governance review of the Society that commenced in 2005 and entailed an exhaustive examination of the previous system by which the APS was governed. This second phase is assessing whether the current Units represent the most effective way to meet the diverse needs of the APS membership. The structure by which the Society's membership and activities are organised needs to reflect the rapid change in the external environment for the profession and discipline of psychology, and ensure that the APS fulfils its primary function of serving its members and meeting their needs in this period of change.

A Committee to undertake the review was appointed, comprising an independent Chair with expertise in the governance of organisations, members from each type of APS Unit, previous Board members and Fellows of the Society. The methodology for the APS Unit review has closely followed the successful process that was used for the first stage of the governance review, comprising both research into similar professional associations and extensive consultation with Chairs of Units and the broader APS membership. The timeline for completion of the review is not fixed in recognition of the importance of extensive consultation with the membership and member groups, however, it is hoped that the review will be nearing completion by early 2010.

Increase in student members to strengthen the future of the Society

In March 2009 the membership subscription for students was reduced significantly to encourage more student members to join the Society, resulting in an overwhelmingly positive response. Over the subsequent three-month period a total of 386 students from across Australia joined, representing all but one of the 37 universities offering an APAC-accredited course. There was particular interest from psychology students in Queensland universities, with 53 new student members from Central Queensland University and 51 from the University of Southern Queensland. Many of the new student members are studying a postgraduate course in psychology, and have taken the opportunity to join their respective Colleges as student members. The future of the Society will be strengthened by this marked influx of tomorrow's psychologists.

1. STRENGTHENING MEMBER SATISFACTION WITH THE SOCIETY *(cont.)*

Increased access to Board members

The initiative to enable members to have the opportunity to become acquainted with the APS Board of Directors resulted in two successful 'Meet the Members' forums this year. The forums were held in the evening prior to two regular meetings of the Board. The first was in Darwin in August 2008, where approximately 35 members took the opportunity to meet with their Board representatives. The second forum was held in Perth in April 2009 with approximately 60 members in attendance.

Responding to member concerns

The heightened media debate regarding the Medicare split between clinical and general psychologists in the lead up to the 2009 Federal Budget stimulated an increase in members' concerns that the Society was giving favourable treatment to one sub-specialty of psychology and not adequately representing the diversity of the profession. In response to these developments, the APS established a Working Group of both College and non-College members to enable direct input from the membership on this issue. The task of the Working Group has been to identify the current concerns among the APS membership and to assist in finding satisfactory strategies to address these concerns.

Recognition of longstanding members

Following on from last year's initiative to recognise members with 10, 20 and 30 years of cumulative APS membership, the Board of Directors approved the proposal to issue commemorative membership certificates to APS members who had held membership for a cumulative period of 40 years. This completed the sequence of milestone years up to 50-year members who are granted the status of Life Member of the Society.

Improved member benefits and services

Communications with members

InPsych, the bimonthly bulletin of the APS, has continued to improve in editorial quality and design this year. Each edition provides a cover feature on a pertinent psychological topic and articles on professional practice matters, training and research issues, concerns in areas of public interest, and aspects of membership. The State Newsletters have continued to provide local news and information on forthcoming events and this year have included a report on current activities of the National Office in each edition. The fortnightly email, *APS Matters*, has continued to provide members with the latest news, current Society activities and an insight into matters the Executive Director is engaged with through her regular column.

New online services

A number of new online services have been introduced this year to increase functionality and efficiency for members, including:

- Online voting for APS Board elections
- A new APS Medicare providers register with search function
- An upgrade to PsychXchange to provide additional functions
- National Psychology Week order form and Events Calendar

Find a Psychologist

The APS Find a Psychologist service enables the general public and health professionals to simply and efficiently find psychologists in private practice across Australia for referral. The number of members listed on Find a Psychologist this year reached an all-time high of 2,517, and analysis of online search data indicates there are consistently over 800 searches per day.

PsychXchange

The APS PsychXchange website advertises national and international employment and business opportunities for psychologists, and has clearly been established as the major Australian search mechanism for both recruiters of psychologists and those seeking employment. This year a total of 1,471 jobs were advertised, representing over 120 advertisements per month.

Malpractice insurance

Combined malpractice, public and products insurance is offered to members at substantially reduced rates through the broker for the malpractice insurance facility, Aon. This year, Aon continued to run risk management seminars to APS Branches across Australia and kept up its publication of the email news bulletin, which provides clarity about insurance issues and information on ways for members to reduce their risk.

Good Thinking Program

The Good Thinking Program is designed to recognise an APS psychologist as the most professional provider of psychological services, and provides use of the logo and branded products. This year 158 new members joined the program.

APS Advantage Program

APS members have continued to benefit from the APS Advantage package which offers personal benefits and preferential rates and services from a range of leading providers. These include a Gold Credit Card from American Express, an AMP Affinity home loan offer, Qantas Club membership, Hertz discounted rental rates, and ING Professionals Life and Living Benefit Plan and Professionals Income Protection Plan.

2. ADVANCING THE DISCIPLINE AND PROFESSION OF PSYCHOLOGY

Another year of significant change in the external operating environment for psychology has required a sustained and energetic focus on some particular challenges, as well as the regular work of representing, promoting and advancing both the discipline and profession of psychology.

Review and proposal of a new model of Australian psychology education and training

In the context of both international and local pressures to review the current system of psychology education and training, the APS Board established a national Reference Group of senior academics, practitioners and Registration Board members to conduct an analysis of future training needs of the discipline and profession, and to canvass a wide range of possible education and training models that might best meet those needs. The Reference Group has grappled with the need to address the equivalencies of the two current pathways to registration to ensure that there are uniform nationally consistent high standards. It also held as a requirement the need to retain the psychology profession's longstanding status as a science and to aim for the ultimate goal of raising the Australian education standard to the minimum equivalence of international training standards, which is a Masters degree.

Through a comprehensive process of analysis, consultation and debate, the Reference Group achieved consensus on a proposed new model of psychology education and training. The model involves the introduction of an alternative '5+1' pathway to registration as a transitional arrangement to replace the current '4+2' pathway, incorporating a fifth year of university training followed by a one-year accredited workplace internship under probationary conditions. The model retained the currently available Masters and Doctorate degrees for specialist psychology training. To support the new '5+1' pathway, a fifth year accredited Graduate Diploma of Professional Psychology will be established, which incorporates coursework and professional skills training in the core capabilities and attributes for professional practice, and provides the foundation for the one-year internship. The new model was presented to the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) for endorsement and incorporation into the Course Accreditation Standards. It is hoped that the model will be adopted under the new National Registration and Accreditation Scheme.



The APS National Psychology Education and Training Reference Group at work

Advocacy for appropriate arrangements under the new National Registration and Accreditation Scheme

The impending National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for the Health Professions – due for implementation in July 2010 – will result in major changes to current arrangements for the registration of psychologists and the accreditation of their education and training programs.

Since the Scheme was first mooted in 2006, the APS has engaged extensively in consultations to represent the psychology profession, in order to protect existing standards and the needs and rights of practitioners. The advocacy campaign on behalf of the psychology profession has been particularly extensive and sustained this year during the process of development of the legislation that will govern how the registration and accreditation functions of the national Scheme will be conducted. As part of this process, the APS has sought legal advice and broad input from APS Colleges, State Committees and appropriate Advisory and Reference Groups in preparing submissions regarding the legislation. Although some aspects of the legislation are still being finalised, it is clear that the Scheme will influence the nature of psychological practice in wide reaching ways such as how information about practitioners is collected and stored, how practitioners are investigated and disciplined for misconduct, and how much control the government has over setting the standards for psychological training and practice. The Society's role in protecting the existing standards and safeguards of the psychology profession during this extensive process has been vital.

Establishment of a community representation policy

A policy to invite the participation of community representatives to enhance the development and implementation of designated APS activities was finalised in early 2009. The inclusion of the views and perspectives of community representatives is aimed at informing APS decision-making and enhancing the education and ongoing training needs of psychologists. In the mental health and health sectors, the utilisation of consumers and carers' experiences is now a common benchmark for the development and delivery of services and to inform professional practice.

The first implementation of the new policy was to engage the Chair of the National Private Mental Health Consumer Carer Network, Janne McMahon, as a community representative on the Board of APAC, which is the national body responsible for accreditation of university psychology courses that is a partnership between the APS and the Council of Psychologist Registration Boards. This community representation brings a consumer and carer perspective to the Board of APAC and its responsibilities in ensuring the quality of psychologists' education and training. The establishment of the APS policy on community representation will also allow the Society to engage representatives to have input on projects influencing psychological service delivery and to sit on specific time-limited taskforces associated with APS policy and activities.

2. ADVANCING THE DISCIPLINE AND PROFESSION OF PSYCHOLOGY *(cont.)*

MAINTENANCE OF HIGH STANDARDS OF PSYCHOLOGY EDUCATION AND PRACTICE

Expert program development and accreditation

In the last financial year, the APS Program Development and Accreditation Committee (PDAC) and accreditation staff provided a wide range of expert accreditation services and advice to APAC. On behalf of APAC, assessment teams conducted accreditation of courses in 16 Schools of Psychology, the highest number of assessments ever conducted in a 12-month period. Forty-nine higher degree programs were assessed during the year, and accreditation assessment visits were made to four Australian programs located offshore. The APS also sent College course approval assessors to review each of the specialist postgraduate professional programs undergoing course approval. In addition, the APS provided expert advice regarding continued development of the APAC Rules for Accreditation and Accreditation Standards for Psychology Courses, revised versions of which were published in August and November of 2008. The APAC Accreditation Assessment Handbook was also revised and an updated second edition published in April 2009.

Assessment of overseas qualifications

The APS is contracted as the national assessing authority in Australia for assessment of overseas academic qualifications in psychology for the purpose of migration. The APS determines the level at which an applicant's qualifications are comparable to an Australian program of study that has been accredited by APAC. This service is for people who are seeking to migrate to Australia under the General Skilled Migration Categories, register or work as a psychologist in Australia, or enter an accredited psychology course in an Australian university. Over the past year there was a 16 per cent increase in the number of applications for the assessment of psychology qualifications compared to the previous year, and applications were received from all over the world. A total of 593 assessments were undertaken, made up of 208 migration (up by 16%), 121 registration (up by 3%), 32 employment (down by 3%), and 232 course entry assessments (up by 28%). Of the migration applications, 133 met the minimum requirements – a success rate of 64 per cent compared with 66 per cent for the previous financial year.

New ethical guidelines to assist practice

The Ethical Guidelines Committee continues to review existing guidelines and generate new ones to assist members to manage ethical concerns when dealing with particular client groups or workplace situations. This year the Guidelines for working with young people were finalised following a long period of consultation and compilation. These Guidelines will provide a valuable resource for psychologists working with young people, especially when working with children of separated parents.

Matters managed by the Ethics Committee

The APS Ethics Committee was chaired by Professor Alfred Allan until September 2008, when his second two-year term came to a close. Associate Professor William Warren has been the Chair of the Ethics Committee since September 2008. For this reporting period, 37 ethics matters were received by the National Office, of which 13 were forwarded to a Psychologist Registration Board for investigation in the first instance. The remaining 24 cases were considered by the Ethics Committee, with three subsequently withdrawn, one on hold, 11 cases completed and nine matters currently under investigation. Of the 11 completed cases the outcomes comprised two expulsions, four reprimands, four where membership was reinstated, and one where application for membership was granted.

Promoting high standards of private practice management

The Private Practice Management Standards (PPMS) were developed in 2005 to support psychologists in private practice to implement best management processes. Supporting materials included a PPMS web-based Self-Assessment Instrument, and a set of resources to support improvement in areas identified as requiring attention. Members continue to make use of this resource with 1,796 members having completed the self-assessment to date. In the next 12 months the APS intends to revise these management standards to incorporate recent changes in private practice, such as the obligations associated with the introduction of Medicare items for psychologists and the new professional development requirements. In revising the PPMS, a process for member input into the revision will be adopted.

Assessment of eligibility to provide clinical psychology services under Medicare

Over the year, 505 applications for assessment of eligibility for membership of the APS Clinical College were received by the Medicare Assessment Team. During this period, 438 applicants were assessed as successful and 87 were required to undertake an Individual Bridging Plan (IBP) of further training and/or supervised experience in order to meet eligibility criteria. (Note that the addition of these two figures is higher than the number of applications received, as some applications received prior to the beginning of the reporting period became successful due to completion of IBPs.)

2. ADVANCING THE DISCIPLINE AND PROFESSION OF PSYCHOLOGY *(cont.)*

INCREASED SUPPORT FOR THE DISCIPLINE OF PSYCHOLOGY

Encouraging excellence in psychology through the APS Awards Program

The APS offers a range of Awards each year that encourage and reward excellence in psychology. Recipients of APS Awards in 2008 are detailed below.

APS President's Award for Distinguished Contribution to Psychology in Australia

Emeritus Professor Gina Geffen AM FAPS, University of Queensland

Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award

Professor Richard Bryant FAPS, University of New South Wales

Distinguished Contribution to Psychology Education Award

Associate Professor Jacquelyn Cranney MAPS, University of New South Wales

Early Career Research Award

Dr Derek Arnold MAPS, University of Queensland, Dr Shayne Loft MAPS, University of Queensland, and Dr Allison Waters MAPS, Griffith University

Pearson Education and APS Early Career Teaching Award

Dr Winnifred Louis MAPS, University of Queensland

Excellent PhD Thesis in Psychology Award

Dr Jason Bell, University of Western Australia, Dr Nadine Kasparian MAPS, University of Sydney, and Dr Jee Hyun Kim, University of New South Wales

APS Prize

Awarded to the student with the best results in each fourth year psychology course at 37 universities across Australia with APAC-accredited programs

Preparation for hosting the International Congress of Applied Psychology in 2010

The premier international forum for applied psychology, an event only held every four years, will be hosted by the APS in Melbourne in 2010. This year, considerable work has gone into preparing for the 27th International Congress of Applied Psychology (ICAP 2010), which will be held at the newly built Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre from 11–16 July 2010. This is the first ICAP to be held in the southern hemisphere since the conventions began in 1920, and is likely to be the only opportunity for many years to come for Australian psychologists to participate in this impressive international event on their home soil. The Congress is expected to attract over 3,000 delegates from around the world and will feature eminent keynote speakers and invited symposia chairs whose work is at the cutting edge in their specialist fields of applied psychology.

Presentation of the 2008 APS Annual Conference: *Psychology Leading Change*

The highly successful 43rd APS Annual Conference was held at the Grand Chancellor Hotel in Hobart from 23 to 27 September and attracted 794 delegates. A major theme of the Conference was the role that psychology can play in addressing the challenge of climate change, with the opening keynote address presented by leading UK environmental psychologist, Professor David Uzzell. The stimulating Conference program combined three other keynote presentations with 25 professional fora, 27 symposia, 141 individual papers, 62 posters and seven workshops.

Continued improvements to APS journals

The three flagship journals of the Society, the *Australian Psychologist*, *Australian Journal of Psychology* and *Clinical Psychologist*, continued to demonstrate strong growth over the last year. The Thompson ISI 5-Year Impact Factor for 2008 increased for the *Australian Journal of Psychology* to 1.048 from .914 in 2007, whilst the *Australian Psychologist* increased to 1.007 from .814. In addition, the *Australian Journal of Psychology* is now published quarterly, up from three issues per year. The APS College and Interest Group journals have also progressed this year, with the APS launching a new College of Organisational Psychologists online journal, titled *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Organisational Psychology*.

Reintroduction of e-newsletter, *Uni Matters*

This year saw the reintroduction of *Uni Matters*, the bimonthly brief email alert service for academic members of the APS that covers developments in teaching, education and research in psychology. *Uni Matters* also includes news about psychology, teaching materials and support, developments in course accreditation and approval, and research news.

Submissions to reviews of research and higher education

The APS has responded to two major reviews in the university sector that have occurred over the last year, the Excellence in Research for Australia Initiative and the Bradley Review of Australian Higher Education. Submissions focused on highlighting the importance of psychology as a hub science and greater transparency and accountability for the funds that universities receive for psychology training. A full list of submissions tendered this year in support of the discipline of psychology can be found on pages 37-39.

Continued →

2. ADVANCING THE DISCIPLINE AND PROFESSION OF PSYCHOLOGY *(cont.)*

EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF PSYCHOLOGISTS

Increasing the supply of trainee psychologists

The APS has continued to administer the Australian Government-funded Mental Health Postgraduate Scholarship Scheme that supports clinical psychology trainees with culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) backgrounds, those with Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) heritage, or those who reside in rural, regional or remote localities. This year the scholarship scheme was expanded to include an additional 24 full-time scholarships for rural, regional and remote students. For the 2009 application round, 111 scholarships were awarded – 68 full-time and 43 part-time scholarships. Twenty-six of the successful applicants were CaLD students, 11 were ATSI students, and 74 were students from rural, regional or remote localities.

Improving psychology students' training in alcohol and other drug problems

The APS continued to administer the federally-funded nationwide clinical placement and supervision scheme for postgraduate psychology students, which aims to develop a capable workforce to deal with co-morbid mental health and alcohol and other drug (AOD) problems by addressing the shortage of psychologists in AOD services. For this reporting period, a total of 36 placements for APAC-accredited postgraduate professional programs' students were arranged, including seven placements in rural areas. AOD services now receive incentive payments for hosting placements, and questionnaires have been developed and distributed to all parties involved in the placements as part of an evaluation of the scheme. Funding for the project has been extended to November 2009 when the results of the evaluation will be reported.

Increasing the number of Indigenous psychologists

The Bendi Lango Foundation Bursary is an APS initiative that aims to increase the number of Indigenous psychologists through financial support of Indigenous psychology students. The 2009 Bendi Lango Foundation Bursary was awarded to Natasha Perry of Newcastle, NSW. Natasha has a BPsych (Hons) from the University of Newcastle, and has worked as an intern psychologist with Autism Spectrum Australia and Centrelink in regional locations with many people of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander background. Natasha commenced a Master of Clinical Psychology degree at the University of Newcastle in 2009 and plans to specialise in working with children and adolescents.

HIGH QUALITY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Extended range of professional development workshops

The APS organised an extensive program of high quality professional development (PD) seminars and workshops this year, much of which was delivered through the APS Units. A total of 73 PD events were organised through the National Office as compared to 58 in the previous year, representing an increase of 26 per cent. In addition, 587 endorsements for other PD workshops were processed, an increase of 81 per cent on the number the year before. This year the APS introduced advanced and master class workshops across various topics that have been very well received. The APS continues to investigate, pilot and offer different PD delivery modes, particularly to assist access for those members in rural and remote locations. Offerings this year have included increased delivery of web streamed PD on various topics, and video and audio recording of workshops organised by the National Office. Other web-based modalities are being investigated, together with collaborative opportunities for online PD with the American Psychological Association.

New PD points allocation system

A new PD point system introduced for the 2009-11 PD cycle has been designed to encourage members to engage in high quality continuing education activities. The new system offers a higher allocation of points per hour for more interactive PD activities that incorporate active learning. Coupled with this change is an increase in the minimum number of points required to 90 points per two-year PD cycle. To assist with implementation of the new PD system, a new PD Information Guide has been developed together with new endorsement guidelines and application forms.

Professional development study tours to international locations

The aim of the APS international PD program is to increase awareness of international practice, cultural differences and needs, and to build collaborative networks and a sharing of knowledge. Two highly successful international PD study tours were offered by the APS this year – in October 2008, 25 people joined the study tour to Italy and in January 2009, 27 people participated in the study tour to Vietnam and Cambodia.

2. ADVANCING THE DISCIPLINE AND PROFESSION OF PSYCHOLOGY *(cont.)*

GREATER ADVOCACY AND SUPPORT FOR PRACTITIONERS

Specific support in work sector contexts

The National Office has three advisors to offer support and advocate for members in three workplace contexts – private practice, the public sector and non-government organisations (NGOs), and in school settings. This year, the private practice advisor has developed a number of resources to assist practitioners, including a checklist of pertinent issues for psychologists making the transition to private work, guidelines for participation in a Medicare compliance audit, and a set of self-care resources for private practitioners. The public sector and NGO advisor has conducted two surveys of psychologists in this sector to inform advocacy, which have involved ascertaining their intentions regarding ongoing employment, current professional development provisions and employment conditions. The advisor has also developed policy documents regarding privacy, note-taking and access to records. A set of guidelines for the provision of services by school psychologists has been developed this year by the psychologists in schools advisor. In addition, recommendations regarding the management of psychologists' files in school settings have been developed.

Advice on professional practice matters

The Professional Advisory Service offers advice to members on issues encountered in the course of professional practice, and has this year responded to 5,103 telephone and email queries. The major topics of enquiry have been file management and access to records, assessment and treatment issues, ethical and legal concerns, and aspects of practice management including contracting.

National profile of the psychology workforce

The National Psychology Workforce Survey is a collaborative initiative between the APS and the Council of Psychologists Registration Boards. The survey was conducted to provide a comprehensive profile of the Australian psychology workforce to inform future healthcare decision making and workforce planning. It was distributed to all registered psychologists in 2008 and was responded to by 11,897 psychologists, representing 46 per cent of all psychologists in Australia. The survey data is currently being analysed and the results are anticipated to be published in a peer-reviewed journal in early 2010.

Support for practitioners providing Medicare services

The APS provides an advisor to respond to email and telephone enquiries from practitioners who are delivering psychological services under the Medicare Benefits Schedule. The majority of advice sought concerns the nature of allowable services, referral processes, and billing and claiming processes. The advisory service provides a monitoring function and enables the APS to advocate for practitioners' concerns directly with the government.

Submissions on policy and practice

In addition to responding to formal requests and calls for submissions, the APS constantly monitors government policy and specific initiatives that impact on professional practice, and prepares submissions to advocate for psychology practitioners and specific client groups. Apart from major responses to proposals for the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme, submissions this year have included a focus on the vital role of psychologists in hospitals, community facilities and primary care for the National Health and Hospital Reform Commission, advocacy for practitioners and protection of privacy for an inquiry into compliance audits under Medicare, and recommendations for appropriate classification structures to the NSW WorkCover Authority. The psychological needs of specific client groups were the focus of submissions to the National Disability Strategy and the Department of Health and Ageing regarding the new Autism Spectrum Disorders initiative. A full list of submissions tendered this year in support of psychology practitioners can be found on pages 37-39.

Advocacy through influential national partnerships

The Mental Health Professionals' Association (MHPA) is a collaborative group of the four key professional groups involved in mental health care that includes the APS. MHPA received funding to produce a national multidisciplinary education program to improve collaborative care, and this has been undertaken by a specially formed company, the Mental Health Professionals Network. It is planned to deliver 1,200 workshops across Australia.

The APS has supported the large and influential Allied Health Professions Australia (AHPA) on a number of multidisciplinary projects for which AHPA has received funding. These include a shared care in chronic disease management project and the establishment of an Indigenous Allied Health Network.

The APS is one of 19 national peak health organisations representing over 100,000 frontline health professionals working in primary health care to form the National Primary Health Care Partnership (NPHCP). The NPHCP aims to provide an advocacy body and communications platform for practitioners in the Australian primary health care sector.

3. ACTIVELY CONTRIBUTING PSYCHOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE FOR ENHANCEMENT OF COMMUNITY WELLBEING

An increased focus on heightening awareness of psychological expertise and its role in enhancing community wellbeing has this year seen the Society maximise a number of opportunities to influence public debate and improve psychological services.

HIGHLIGHTS

Response to the **Black Saturday Victorian bushfires**

The expertise of specialists within the APS membership and staff at the National Office combined in a significant contribution to the disaster recovery efforts in response to the devastating Victorian bushfires in February this year. The APS devoted considerable resources to support both the bushfire survivors and those who were assisting them, and the work will continue for some time due to the sheer scale of the disaster. It has been estimated that up to 2,000 people may experience some form of mental health condition as the result of the fires.

In the immediate aftermath of the bushfires, the APS established a register of over 800 Victorian psychologists who were willing to assist, and worked with authorities to coordinate the provision of psychological assistance as required. A Disaster Recovery Briefing was organised by the APS to orient psychologists and other health professionals to the field of disaster response in the context of the fires. A number of information sheets and other resources were developed by the APS and made available from the website to both assist people providing psychological support and to provide direct information to people affected by the fires. To contribute to community recovery, the APS participated in public events and provided psychological advice and information to community newsletters. The APS worked with State and Federal Governments and the Australian Centre for Posttraumatic Mental Health to develop a training package to up-skill mental health professionals to respond to the large numbers of people whose mental health has been affected by the bushfires. The coordinated and effective response to the Victorian bushfires has enabled the establishment of models of care that can be used to respond to future disasters.



The APS Disaster Recovery Briefing was attended by over 600 people



The APS participated in 'The City Cares' event at Melbourne's Federation Square, organised to show support to people affected by the bushfires

Historic formation of the Australian Indigenous Psychologists Association

The Australian Indigenous Psychologists Association (AIPA), a new body established under the auspices of the APS, was officially launched at the APS Annual Conference in Hobart in September 2008. With 39 Indigenous psychologists in Australia – many of whom are high profile people – this represents an historic achievement for Australian psychology. It is anticipated that AIPA will provide the leadership to achieve equitable participation of Indigenous people within psychology. Given that Indigenous people constitute 2.5 per cent of the population, the current number of 39 Indigenous psychologists is only 10 per cent of what it should be.

AIPA has as its vision that:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples will have access to high quality psychological assistance
- Psychological assistance will be grounded in holistic Indigenous perspectives and the social determinants of health
- Psychology in Australia will be culturally responsive to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander values and belief systems
- Numbers of Indigenous entrants into undergraduate and postgraduate psychology programs, including programs across all specialties, will increase substantially
- AIPA will become the professional body responsible for quality control of workshops and training programs with respect to the application of psychology in Indigenous contexts.

AIPA members are already much in demand individually and as a group, for media comment, student mentoring, cultural competence training, and partnerships with local communities. An invitation by the Australian Human Rights Commission for AIPA to join the leadership group of the Close the Gap campaign has put psychology and mental health firmly in the picture of the major national Indigenous health equality campaign.



APS Past President Amanda Gordon and members of the Australian Indigenous Psychologists Association at the official launch of the Association last September

3. ACTIVELY CONTRIBUTING PSYCHOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE FOR ENHANCEMENT OF COMMUNITY WELLBEING *(cont.)*

Presentation of the inaugural APS Annual Oration

The inaugural APS Annual Oration was presented by psychologist, social researcher and novelist, Hugh Mackay, in Sydney on 12 November during National Psychology Week 2008. Hugh is a longstanding Fellow of the APS who has made a lifelong study of the attitudes and behaviour of Australians, and is the author of eleven books – including five bestsellers – in the field of social analysis. The oration, titled 'Is it beyond our control?', was presented to a large and enthusiastic audience at the Sydney Hilton. Hugh discussed the rapid and ongoing changes that have impacted on Australian society over the last 25 to 30 years, and argued that the human psyche has not been prepared for the extent of change to the socio-cultural landscape. His oration was an insightful and thought provoking presentation that underscored the increasing relevance of psychology in a world with escalating political, economic and environmental challenges.

Contribution to addressing climate change

Through a number of initiatives over the last year, the APS has fostered a greater involvement by psychology and psychologists across the spectrum of environmental issues and challenges facing Australians and the global community. A major theme at the 2008 APS Annual Conference in Hobart was the role that psychology can play in addressing the challenge of climate change. A further initiative was the preparation of an APS Position Statement on psychology and the natural environment, which was printed and distributed to relevant government agencies and non-government organisations. The APS has also contributed to the Federal Government's Strategic Review of Climate Change Programs and has participated in numerous forums, highlighting how psychology can contribute valuable perspectives to address this serious environmental threat.

National Psychology Week 2008

The 2008 National Psychology Week proved to be the largest of these annual events yet, with over 600 activities organised by APS Branches and individual psychologists ranging from displays to information sessions and public forums. The Week commenced with the release of a nationwide survey of more than 4,400 people which was designed to identify what events and situations irritate Australians most and what methods they use to deal with them. The survey results were used to promote media awareness of what psychologists offer to the public, which resulted in over 100 media hits in print, radio, TV and online.

Guidelines for the use of restraint and seclusion strategies in the disability sector

This year the APS has worked with the Victorian Office of the Senior Practitioner in Disability on the development of national guidelines for the use of psychological interventions to reduce the need for physical and pharmacological restraint. A national reference group of psychological experts in the sector was established and has met regularly to inform the guidelines. The first stage of the project was the production of a discussion paper to assist the consultation process in developing the guidelines, which are expected to be available in late 2009. It is hoped that this work will provide the platform for the establishment of an APS Interest Group on disability that will provide valuable input to initiatives relevant to the work of psychologists in this area.

Contribution to the Science Meets Parliament forum

The APS sent two representatives to the 2009 Science Meets Parliament forum in March. The purpose of the event is for parliamentarians to make direct contact with Australian scientists, so they have the opportunity to hear about their research and work being undertaken, and to be briefed first-hand on selected topics of community concern. The APS representatives provided a psychological perspective to a number of parliamentarians on three relevant topics – obesity, climate change, and unemployment and the global financial crisis.

User-friendly and informative Tip Sheets

The APS has developed a range of Tip Sheets to inform the public about common psychological issues and how psychologists can assist with their management. The Tip Sheets are available for purchase from the APS and are provided to clients by psychologists, GPs and other health professionals. This year, the following new Tip Sheets were developed with expert input from APS members:

- Understanding and managing anxiety
- Talking with children about the environment
- Understanding and managing psychological trauma
- Understanding and managing relationship problems.

Promoting psychology through the media

The APS developed 27 media releases throughout the year, providing psychological knowledge and advice in response to topical issues of public concern, and publicising psychological research of interest to the community. The APS media referral service managed over 500 media enquiries throughout the year, connecting journalists with APS psychologists with expertise in particular areas and experienced in media presentation.

3. ACTIVELY CONTRIBUTING PSYCHOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE FOR ENHANCEMENT OF COMMUNITY WELLBEING *(cont.)*

DEVELOPMENT ROLES IN FUNDED PROJECTS FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Expansion of KidsMatter and headspace mental health programs

The two major Australian Government child and youth mental health programs in which the APS is a development partner, have both seen consolidated gains and expansion on a national scale over the past year.

The pilot program of KidsMatter – the Australian primary schools mental health initiative – is undergoing formal evaluation, but favourable preliminary findings have meant that plans for a national expansion of the program are proceeding. Models of dissemination have been investigated to enable more primary schools across Australia to formally implement and maintain KidsMatter, and to more effectively link the initiative with educational policy and priorities. This will increase the longer-term sustainability of this comprehensive child mental health promotion, prevention and early intervention program.

headspace, the National Youth Mental Health Foundation, is an initiative to promote early and effective interventions for young people aged 12 to 25 years with mental health and substance use problems. The primary goal of the education and training aspect for which the APS has responsibility is to improve the uptake and delivery of evidence-based interventions by a range of service providers who work with young people. Seven education packages have been successfully developed and implemented through workshops at 30 headspace sites across Australia, contributing significantly to this effective new model of collaborative care for youth mental health.

Development of resources to support the Autism Spectrum Disorder initiative

The Australian Government provided funding for the development of printed and electronic resources to support health practitioners in delivering services under the Helping Children with Autism package. The APS received funding to develop resources to educate psychologists about current approaches to assessment and intervention for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). Resources will also be developed to inform parents and health professionals about the role of psychologists in the assessment and treatment of children with ASD.

Training for allied health providers assisting people who attempt suicide

This Australian Government pilot project under the Better Outcomes in Mental Health Care program aimed to assist GPs in supporting patients at high risk of suicide because of an attempted suicide or self-harm. The APS was engaged to develop a training package and clinical support to up-skill allied health providers to offer immediate and increased intensity of support and treatment to these patients over a short period. The training was delivered via a DVD with online assessment, and to date 105 clinicians have successfully completed the training.

Training for allied health providers delivering telephone-based cognitive behaviour therapy

A second pilot project under the Better Outcomes in Mental Health Care program involved a trial of telephone-based CBT interventions in rural and remote areas for people with mild to moderate depression and/or anxiety. The APS was engaged to develop and disseminate the training for allied health professionals providing telephone-based CBT and to provide clinical support to practitioners in the trial. The training was delivered through a webinar medium, with 98 practitioners successfully completing the training.

Training in post-disaster mental health response

The APS has been integrally involved in the development and dissemination of an education and training package to up-skill mental health professionals to respond to the mental health needs of communities affected by the Black Saturday bushfires. The training package is funded by the Victorian Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, and is being rolled out through the bushfire-affected Divisions of General Practice and DHS regions.



On behalf of its members and the profession, representatives of the APS sat on a range of government and non-government organisation advisory groups and committees this year.



REPRESENTATIONS,
SUBMISSIONS AND
FUNDED PROJECTS

REPRESENTATION FOR PSYCHOLOGISTS

On behalf of its members and the profession, representatives of the APS sat on a range of government and non-government organisation advisory groups and committees this year. Many of these were high profile committees providing advice to the Australian Government on policy, practices and services relevant to psychology.

The Executive Director was a member of the following government or related advisory, reference and working groups in 2008–2009.

Australian Government

- National Advisory Council on Mental Health
- National Mental Health Workforce Advisory Committee
- National Primary Health Care Strategy Taskforce
- Professions Reference Group – National Registration and Accreditation Scheme
- The Forum of Australian Health Professions Councils
- Access to Allied Psychological Services – Expert Review Group
- KidsMatter Primary Implementation Advisory Group
- KidsMatter Early Childhood Implementation Advisory Group
- headspace – Foundation Executive Committee; Advisory Board

Other entities

- Allied Health Professions Australia – Executive Officer and Chair, Management Committee
- Mental Health Council of Australia – Board; Audit and Compliance Committee
- Mental Health Professionals Association
- Mental Health Professionals Network – Board
- National Primary Health Care Partnership
- *beyondblue* Perinatal Mental Health Project – Pathways to Care Working Group

The Manager Strategic Policy and Partnerships represented the APS on the following committees in 2008–2009.

- National Primary Health Care Partnership
- Mental Health Professionals Association
- Mental Health Professionals Network
- Victorian Bushfire Psychosocial Recovery Reference Group
- Bushfire Cross-Professional Education and Training Working Group

The Manager Professional Issues represented the APS on the following committees in 2008–2009.

- Allied Health Consultative Committee, Department of Veterans Affairs
- Professions Reference Group, Private Health Insurance Branch, Department of Health and Ageing
- Mental Health Reference Group, Worksafe Victoria
- Electronic Health Record Reference Group, Health Informatics Society of Australia
- Insurance and Financial Services Association and Mental Health Associations Stakeholder Committee
- Advisory Committee on Functioning and Disability Data (ACFADD), Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
- National Allied Health Classification Committee (NAHCC)
- Stakeholder Reference Forum, National e-health Transition Authority (NEHTA)

The Manager Strategic Projects and Liaison represented the APS on the following committees in 2008–2009.

- *beyondblue* Clinical Practice Guidelines for Depression and related Disorders – Guidelines Expert Advisory Committee
- Palliative Care Knowledge Network Expert Reference Group
- Lifeline Bereavement Support Group Standards and Practice Project – Expert Reference Group
- Pharmacy Guild Medication Compliance Advisory Panel
- Expert Advisory Group on Perinatal Mental Health – Pathways to Care Subcommittee
- Disciplinary Leadership Capacity for enhancing the professional education of multidisciplinary mental health workforce – Advisory Group
- Mind the Gap: Physical and mental health co-morbidities education and training package – Advisory Group

The Manager Science and Education represented the APS on the following committees in 2008–2009.

- Community Services and Health Industries Skills Council Articulation Models for the Mental Health Sector Project Industry Reference Group
- The Forum of Australian Health Professions Councils

The Manager Professional Development represented the APS on the following committee in 2008–2009.

- General Practice Mental Health Standards Collaboration

SUBMISSIONS

A number of submissions were prepared by the APS and tendered in response to formal inquiries, reviews, reports and consultation papers. Some submissions resulted in an invitation to present at a public hearing. In addition, other formal submissions were prepared for consideration by government departments.

Submissions and presentations to Inquiries

- Inquiry into Immigration Detention in Australia, House of Representatives Joint Standing Committee on Migration, August 2008
- Protecting children from junk food advertising (Broadcasting amendment) Bill 2008, Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs, October 2008
- Inquiry into Obesity in Australia, House of Representatives Health Committee, December 2008
- Inquiry into the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for Doctors and other Health Workers, Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs, April 2009
- Inquiry into Compliance Audits on Medicare Benefits, Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs, April 2009; supplementary submission, May 2009
- Inquiry into Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament, House of Representatives Joint Standing Committee on Treaties, May 2009

SUBMISSIONS

Submissions to government reviews, reports and consultation papers

- Excellence for Research In Australia Initiative, Australian Research Council, June 2008
- National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission, June 2008
- Homelessness Green Paper, Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, June 2008
- National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for the Health Professions, Health Workforce Principal Committee, September 2008
- Proposed registration arrangements: National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for the Health Professions, Health Workforce Principal Committee, October 2008
- Improving maternity services in Australia, Department of Health and Ageing, October 2008
- National Disability Strategy, Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, November 2008
- Proposed arrangements for handling complaints and dealing with performance, health and conduct matters: National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for the Health Professions, Health Workforce Principal Committee, November 2008
- Proposed arrangements for information sharing and privacy: National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for the Health Professions, Health Workforce Principal Committee, December 2008
- Other matters for inclusion in Bill B: National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for the Health Professions, Health Workforce Principal Committee, December 2008
- Proposed arrangements for accreditation: National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for the Health Professions, Health Workforce Principal Committee, December 2008
- National Preventative Health Taskforce, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, December 2008
- Review of Higher Education, Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, January 2009
- Proposed arrangements for specialists: National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for the Health Professions, Health Workforce Principal Committee, February 2009
- National Primary Health Care Strategy, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, Feb 2009
- Clinical placements across Australia: Capturing data and understanding demand and capacity, National Health Workforce Taskforce, February 2009
- Health education and training: Clinical training – governance and organisation, National Health Workforce Taskforce, February 2009
- Because Mental Health Matters, Victorian Government Mental Health and Drugs Division, April 2009
- Health Workforce Competency Principles, Victorian Government Department of Human services, April 2009
- National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, May 2009
- Review of Better Outcomes Access to Allied Psychological Services, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, May 2009

Submissions to government departments

- Application of the model of chronic disease self-management for poorly controlled diseases to GP Super Clinics, August 2008
- Allied health assistant project, Queensland Health, October 2008
- 2009 Federal Budget submission, Australian Government Department of Treasury and Finance, December 2008
- Development of resources to support the Helping Children with Autism initiative, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, December, 2008

FUNDED PROJECTS

In the past year, the APS has received funding from the Australian Government and other entities to undertake a number of projects. The funding has enabled the employment of staff to undertake the projects under the supervision of National Office staff and with the guidance of appointed project reference groups. The APS received external funding for the following projects in 2008–2009.

Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

- Better Access to Mental Health Care – Allied Mental Health Consultant
- Better mental health in Indigenous communities – identification of services
- Better Outcomes, Access to Allied Psychological Services – post-disaster mental health training
- Better Outcomes, Access to Allied Psychological Services – suicide risk training and clinical support
- Better Outcomes, Access to Allied Psychological Services – telephone CBT training and clinical support
- headspace – National Youth Mental Health Foundation
- Helping Children with Autism initiative – development of resources
- KidsMatter – Australian Primary Schools Mental Health Initiative
- KidsMatter preschool adaptation and development of resources
- Mental Health Postgraduate Scholarship Scheme administration
- Supervision of postgraduate placements in alcohol and other drug services administration

New South Wales Psychologists Registration Board

- Workforce scoping study

“ The voluntary contributions of APS members are essential to the functioning of the organisation and have been a vital factor in the Society’s achievements this year. ”

THE MEMBERSHIP AND MEMBER GROUPS

THE MEMBERSHIP AND MEMBER GROUPS

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

The APS has continued to increase its membership, reaching 17,580 members this year. This represents an increase of 1,079 (6.5%) from last year. The Associate Member grade had the largest proportional increase since last year (up by 530; 14.1%), followed by Student Subscribers (up by 134; 8.2%), and then Members (up by 422; 4%). The other grades remained reasonably static.

The membership figures below are all as at 31 May 2009.

Membership by State/Territory and grade

GRADE	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	O/S	TOTAL
Honorary Fellow	-	5	-	1	-	-	5	-	-	11
Fellow	5	45	2	34	15	5	72	14	4	196
Member	289	3,487	86	1,510	627	203	3,643	872	261	10,978
Associate Member	115	1,624	47	937	128	52	989	317	72	4,281
Affiliate	9	85	2	52	9	4	67	7	15	250
Student Subscriber	49	444	27	479	111	13	551	108	21	1,803
Foreign, Teacher and Professional Affiliates	3	13	-	2	4	-	17	-	22	61
TOTAL	470	5,703	164	3,015	894	277	5,344	1,318	395	17,580

Membership by gender

GRADE	FEMALE	MALE	TOTAL
Honorary Fellow	1	10	11
Fellow	76	120	196
Member	7,989	2,989	10,978
Associate Member	3,557	724	4,281
Affiliate	194	56	250
Student Subscriber	1,539	264	1,803
Foreign, Teacher and Professional Affiliates	36	25	61
TOTAL	13,392	4,188	17,580

Membership by primary employment setting

Independent practice	5,609	31.9%
Government	4,199	23.9%
Private sector	2,465	14.0%
Tertiary education	1,654	9.4%
School sector	1,220	6.9%
Not employed		
Student	1,349	7.7%
Not currently in workforce	714	4.1%
Retired	370	2.1%
TOTAL	17,580	100.0%

Membership by age

Under 30 years	2,046	11.6%
30 - 39 years	4,612	26.2%
40 - 49 years	4,231	24.1%
50 - 59 years	4,236	24.1%
60 years and over	2,455	14.0%
TOTAL	17,580	100.0%

MEMBER GROUPS

The current membership structure of the APS consists of over 140 different groups that provide representation, professional development activities and networking opportunities for members. The groups cluster into three different categories – Branches, Colleges and Interest Groups. The Chairpersons and Committees of these groups provide an important point of connection for psychologists to the Board of Directors, the National Office and external organisations, based on geographic location and/or professional expertise. Committee members of APS groups contribute an enormous amount of time and energy on a voluntary basis, and their contributions are vital to the operations of the Society. To support the important work of these individuals the National Office has increased the staff support for member groups and developed manuals for State Committee, Branch, College and Interest Group office bearers.

BRANCHES

All members are automatically allocated to one of 40 State and Regional Branches across Australia. The function of Branches is to undertake member activities, particularly professional development, and to coordinate communication and networking at the local level. Some of the significant roles Branch Committees have undertaken in the past 12 months include raising awareness of the Mental Health Professions Network (MHPN) interdisciplinary workshops, organisation of National Psychology Week research and promotional activities, and liaison with relevant local organisations.

APS Branches and their Chairs

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Australian Capital Territory Dr Timothy Carey

NEW SOUTH WALES

Illawarra Ms Cinzia Gagliardi
New England Mr Warwick Olphert
Newcastle Mr Cecil Thompson
NSW Central Coast Mr George Dieter
NSW Far-South Coast Mr Will Pitty
NSW Mid-North Coast Ms Wendy Oxley
NSW North Coast Ms Jane McGregor
NSW Western Region Dr Louise Roufeil
Riverina Dr Gene Hodgins
Shoalhaven Dr Paul Casey
South-West Sydney Mr Eddy Fracarossi
Sydney Mr Mark England

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Northern Territory Dr Peter Forster

QUEENSLAND

Brisbane Area Mr Santo Russo
Central Queensland Ms Julie-Anne Cronin
Far-North Queensland Mr Ian Ritchie
Gold Coast Mrs Eda Beck
Mackay Ms Tonya Plumb
North Queensland Ms Suzy Dormer
Sunshine Coast Mr Brad Levingston
Toowoomba Dr Maxine O'Brien
Wide Bay Burnett Mrs Tracy Bauer

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

South Australia Assoc Prof Jacques Metzger

TASMANIA

North-West Tasmania Ms Christina Chamley
Northern Tasmania Ms Lib Heyward
Hobart Mr Peter Nelson

VICTORIA

Albury/Wodonga Ms Leanne Casey
Ballarat Assoc Prof Suzanne McLaren
Barwon Mrs Jane Reynolds
Bendigo Dr Pamela Snow
Gippsland Mr Christopher Wilson
Melbourne Mrs Wendy McDonald
Mornington Peninsula Dr Elizabeth Celi
South-West Victoria Ms Kelli Garrison

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WA Great Southern Ms Jennifer El Hassani
Goldfields Esperance Ms Christina Petz
Mid-West WA Mrs Kim Weatherston
Perth Ms Leonie Coxon
South-West WA Mrs Margaret Rutter

MEMBER GROUPS *(cont.)*

STATE COMMITTEES

The Chairs from each Branch of the APS make up the State Committee for each State and Territory. Each State Committee elects a State Chair, who attends regular State Chairs Forums and plays a major role in the communications between the Board of Directors, the National Office and other State Chairs. This year, the eight State Chairs met with the nine College National Chairs to discuss areas of mutual concern and to facilitate improved communications between these key member representatives. Each State Committee has a Newsletter Editor who is responsible for producing the State Newsletter for all members in that State. The State Newsletters include various communications on general membership concerns as well as professional development activities of Branches, Colleges and Interest Groups in the State. Additionally, each State Committee appoints a Political Liaison Officer (PLO) who works with the National Office to identify State-related legislation and policies that impact on psychologists. The PLOs met early in 2009 for a one-day information training session with senior staff at the National Office.

Chairs' reports

Australian Capital Territory

The ACT State Committee is now in its second year and has an enthusiastic and dedicated group of Committee members. Monthly professional development meetings are offered by the Branch and are attended by an increasing number of members. The ACT is also continuing to develop peer consultation groups, which are becoming increasingly popular with members. The State Newsletter is even more informative and interesting to read this year than last and the Committee works hard to make each issue interesting, relevant and enjoyable for members. Our major plans for the future are to keep providing affordable, accessible, relevant and regular professional development for members, and to strive to give our Branch the most updated information from National Office.

Chair: Dr Vivienne Lewis

New South Wales

Branches throughout NSW have been active this year, organising workshops and seminars for members' professional development. A number of successful events were organised for National Psychology Week that received coverage in the local press. Some Branches have established active peer consultation groups that are providing important networking opportunities for members. The NSW State Convention was held in May this year and provided a wonderful opportunity for members to come together in Sydney to participate in presentations with a strong practical focus, drawing upon the diversity of expert APS practitioners. The NSW/ACT Branch Chairs developed an exciting and rewarding program with not only professional development opportunities but great exposure to peer networking and social interchange.

Chair: Mr Jonathan Munro

Northern Territory

The NT Branch has held regular monthly meetings and organised a number of informative professional development activities for members in conjunction with Charles Darwin University. Approaches have been made to local professional associations representing social workers, occupational therapists and GPs with a view to offering appropriate PD opportunities across all memberships. Two successful events were organised for National Psychology Week 2008, including a public talk on the subject of the psychology of terrorism. A number of members will be participating in the APS Annual Conference to be held in Darwin this year. The Asia Pacific Psychology Conference is being held in Darwin in 2010 and we hope to have significant involvement in the event.

Chair: Dr Peter Forster

Queensland

The Queensland Branches have been active in organising professional development events for their local members throughout the year, including workshops covering psychopharmacology, the management and treatment of autism spectrum disorders, co-morbid anxiety and depression, and addictive behaviours. Networking functions and peer support groups have provided collegiate opportunities for members. A number of successful National Psychology Week events were held throughout Queensland last November. In addition, the Brisbane and Central Queensland Branches organised a psychology courses and careers expo that was well attended.

Chair: Dr Andrea Lamont-Mills

South Australia

The State Committee has continued its lobbying efforts regarding opposition to certain aspects of the SA Psychological Practice Bill, and has represented the APS in the Inquiry into the redevelopment and sale of the Glenside Mental Health Hospital campus. A highly successful function to launch National Psychology Week 2008 was held in an Adelaide gallery and opened by Federal parliamentarian and psychologist, Amanda Rishworth. An awards ceremony was held for SA College sections at the AGM, where seven members were honoured with awards. Plans for the coming year include organising a psychology careers night for SA university Honours psychology students.

Chair: Associate Professor Jacques Metzger

Tasmania

The State Committee has assisted Branches in their activities and made several contacts with government and statutory authorities on issues affecting the profession over the year. Initiatives have included lobbying on confidentiality issues in schools, providing support to members around confidentiality and file access in the legal system, establishing linkages between Divisions of General Practice and private practitioners, and having a significant presence at the national conference of the Australian Guidance and Counselling Association. This year we have facilitated the establishment of a section of the College of Educational and Developmental Psychologists in Tasmania, and we plan to organise joint professional development with the State group of the APS Child, Adolescent and Family Interest Group.

Chair: Mr Darren Stops

Continued →

MEMBER GROUPS *(cont.)*

Victoria

The Victorian Committee has contributed to the lively ongoing debates this year about training models and pathways to registration in psychology, and the implications of national registration. The Melbourne Branch has been active in hosting forums for discussion on Medicare issues, as well as hosting a very successful National Psychology Week Expo in central Melbourne and establishing a Test Library and Resource Centre for members. In the regional areas, Branches tend to focus on providing both professional development activities and networking opportunities. In many cases, APS-auspiced events in the regional areas create opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration (e.g., among local GPs, social workers and psychiatrists), and promote psychology and awareness of local psychology services during National Psychology Week.

Chair: Dr Pamela Snow

Western Australia

This year has seen a re-engagement of the State Committee with College Chairs in WA after a period where this had lapsed. The goal is to enable shared concerns and interests to be discussed and addressed, and to ensure professional development activities are made available to all APS members whether or not they are College members. The refocusing of College Chair involvement has resulted in good outcomes. Another major achievement this year was the organisation of a webstreamed workshop on psychopharmacology that was streamed to 16 sites across WA and attracted 61 participants. The event enabled professional development to be accessed by a wide range of psychologists from diverse locations across the State.

Chair: Mr Alan Plumb

State Political Liaison Officers

Australian Capital Territory	Mrs Anne Goyne
New South Wales	Mrs Agnes Levine
Northern Territory	Mrs Bernie Davies
Queensland	Mrs Eda Beck
South Australia	Mr John Baranoff
Tasmania	Mrs Christina Brown
Western Australia	Ms Lidia Genovese

State Newsletter Editors

Australian Capital Territory	Ms Elizabeth Durbock
New South Wales	Mrs Agnes Levine
Northern Territory	Mr Peter Laming
Queensland	Mr Steve South
South Australia	Mrs Sally Metzer
Tasmania	Ms Linda Burrows
Victoria	Ms Eva Gory
Western Australia	Mr Warren Blackman

COLLEGES

The APS Colleges represent nine specialty areas of psychology. The group structure for Colleges includes a National Committee and State Section Committees. Each State Section Chair is automatically on the National Committee of the particular College. The National College Chairs meet several times a year at face-to-face forums or audio conferences to discuss matters that relate to Colleges. Issues of discussion over the past year have included national registration, the model of education and training for psychology, the two-tiered Medicare structure, and recruitment and retention of members in all Colleges.

Chairs' reports

College of Clinical Neuropsychologists

There has again been a steady rise in College membership in the past year, with the biggest increase in Victoria reflecting the relative concentration of training programs in Melbourne. A significant focus of activities has been on enhancement of the professional development program and development of resources for College members. A College newsletter has been established to keep members updated with College issues, events and activities. This year's College Conference, the theme of which was 'New Horizons in Neuropsychology', was designed to present members with the opportunity to consider the directions for neuropsychology within Australia. The keynote speaker was Greg Lee from the Medical College of Georgia, who is a specialist in epilepsy research. A significant development this year has been the increase in student representation at a national level, which is an important way of ensuring ongoing communication and support for students of neuropsychology.

Chair: Associate Professor Stephen Bowden

Members: 326

College of Clinical Psychologists

The National Executive of the Clinical College has continued to meet regularly throughout the year and has contributed significantly to the numerous debates within the APS and the psychology profession. In particular, the College has provided input into the APS review of its Units and the governance of Colleges. The College also prepared a submission to the Senate Inquiry into men's health, highlighting the various psychological issues related to this area. In order to provide greater recognition of outstanding clinical psychology students, the College has this year developed and implemented a Student Prize which will assist in encouraging excellence in tomorrow's clinical psychologists. Next year will see the development of an examination for entry into the College for applicants seeking membership via the non-standard route. The introduction of this method of assessment will ensure that the process is rigorous and fair.

Chair: Dr Deborah Wilmoth

Members: 2,807

College of Community Psychologists

The Community College continues to maintain a profile of active engagement and its State Sections have hosted a busy schedule of professional development events and meetings. The NSW section has been working in partnership with the Mental Health Association of NSW Inc to develop a clearinghouse for support groups in NSW. Other projects carried out by section members are: group work with Sudanese communities in western Sydney; health education research on co-occurring mental illness and cannabis use; and homelessness issues for people living with mental illness. The College is very proud of its journal, *The Australian Community Psychologist*, which continues to attract a growing audience of international contributors and readers. The journal has gained an ISSN and has moved to its current online format, which enables access by an international audience. Members of the College continue to contribute to research and the profession internationally.

Chair: Professor Grace Pretty

Members: 86

Continued →

MEMBER GROUPS *(cont.)*

College of Counselling Psychologists

The National Executive has been very active this year clarifying and promoting the discipline of counselling psychology through various submissions and representations about the research and practice base of counselling psychology. Portfolio groups have been established on the National Executive to focus on specific domains of counselling psychology, including marketing, membership, professional development, submission writing, Medicare, conference activities, the College journal, student awards, and the website. A key initiative of the marketing group was the adoption of the slogan, 'Counselling psychologists – catalysts of change', for the 2009 year. Bookmarks, pens and paper pads have been produced to distribute, free of charge, to members and the public. The National Executive is investigating the possibility of running a major conference in counselling psychology in 2010 with an international keynote speaker.

Chair: Ms Elaine Hosie

Members: 652

College of Educational and Developmental Psychologists

This year the National Committee has sought to establish greater consultation and improved communication with State Committees and members, and to establish links with States where we do not have Committees. As part of this process, the College has re-established its newsletter to all College members as a vehicle of information and dialogue. In addition, the College has conducted a survey to establish the interests and needs of members in training and other College activities. We have continued to provide a forum for College research in the College journal, and have plans to improve the quality and reach of the journal in the coming year. Another major activity for 2009 involves organising the national conference of the College to be held in Melbourne.

Chair: Dr Terence Bowles

Members: 333

College of Forensic Psychologists

This year the College has decided to pursue a number of strategic objectives, including increasing the number of members, informing stakeholders and key decision makers of the specialist services forensic psychologist can deliver, creating more professional development and supervision opportunities, and improving communication between the national committee and members of the College. A College newsletter has been established, *The Profiler*, which will improve communication with members the College. The major activity of the year was the 2nd Forensic Psychology Conference that was held in Melbourne in February 2009. This highly successful event provided members with a large range of professional development opportunities and was also a valuable recruitment exercise for the College. The College has started planning for the 2011 Conference and will also be actively involved in the 27th International Congress of Applied Psychology in 2010.

Chair: Professor Alfred Allan

Members: 310

College of Health Psychologists

During the last part of 2008 and this year, the College has focused on promoting itself to students in Victoria and SA through presentations by enthusiastic early career members. This has maintained the interest in our current courses at a difficult time when more students are choosing clinical programs over other specialty areas. The Victorian Committee has continued to run successful PD activities throughout the year on topics such as healthy weight management and mindful eating that have been well attended by health and other psychologists. Plans for the coming year include promoting more activities in NSW, Queensland and Tasmania, and introducing College awards for students in health psychology. The College will continue with its marketing plan that focuses on five areas – encouraging membership, student interest, courses, jobs and a media profile.

Chair: Dr Lina Ricciardelli

Members: 295

College of Organisational Psychologists

The College is now halfway through a three-year transformation plan that is significantly reshaping the way the College operates and how it meets member needs. The business of the College is driven through a set of initiatives determined annually, and the National Committee meets monthly to monitor progress. More than 60 College members are involved in the various initiatives. Highlights for the year included the high calibre presentations at the 8th Industrial and Organisational Psychology Conference, the establishment of a media panel to help raise the profile of the College, the development of an audio-visual library of recordings of local PD events, and the ever improving high quality of the College journal and newsletters. The College will have a particular focus on ICAP 2010 and the opportunity it will provide for Australian organisational psychologists to meet up with their colleagues from overseas.

Chair: Ms Gina McCredie

Members: 488

College of Sport Psychologists

This year the College established important links with the Asian South Pacific Association of Sport Psychology, with the result that all College members have now become members of this regional association. Communication with members was enhanced through the College's newsletter, *The Sporting Mind*, and through the College's revamped website. A program of high quality professional development was presented for members through contributions to the annual conferences of the APS in Hobart and Sports Medicine Australia (of which the College is a constituent profession). As part of the annual Visiting Scholar Scheme, the College organised a three-State tour by Peter Terry, who spoke on his work with athletes at the Beijing Olympics. Plans for the coming year include the development of the sport psychology stream for the Annual Conference of Science and Medicine in Sport, to be held in Brisbane in October 2009, and a significant contribution to ICAP 2010.

Chair: Mr Timothy Hannan

Members: 90

MEMBER GROUPS *(cont.)*

INTEREST GROUPS

The APS Interest Groups provide a mechanism for members to network and discuss areas of mutual interest. These areas of interest cover specific therapeutic theories and approaches, workplace-related areas, and adjunct areas of interest beyond specific psychological practice. Similar to the Branches and Colleges, the Interest Groups offer PD activities to members, and some also have regular newsletters. Currently there are 32 Interest Groups, with a steady growth of new areas of interest being proposed for consideration by the Board of Directors. Five new Interest Groups were established this year – Deafness and Psychology, Family Law and Psychology, Neurofeedback and Psychology, Psychologists in Oncology, and Trauma and Psychology.

APS Interest Groups and their Convenors

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and Psychology

Ms Carmen Cubillo (to Jan 2009)
Members: 212

Buddhism and Psychology

Ms Liana Taylor
Members: 362

Child, Adolescent and Family Psychology

Ms Jacqueline Reid
Members: 917

Christianity and Psychology

Dr Ivan Atkinson
Members: 345

Coaching Psychology

Mr Peter Zarris
Members: 604

Deafness and Psychology

Mr Damien Howard and
Ms Louise Munro
Members: 34

Evolutionary Psychology

Mr Andrew Kaw
Members: 55

Family Law and Psychology

Mr Vincent Papaleo
Members: 151

Gay and Lesbian Issues in Psychology

Dr Damian Riggs
Members: 109

Narrative Theory and Practice in Psychology

Ms Susan Corby
Members: 111

Neurofeedback and Psychology

Mr Jorge Aroche
Members: 73

Personal Construct Psychology

Assoc Prof Richard Bell
Members: 51

Psychoanalytically-Oriented Psychology

Mr Giac Giacomantonio
Members: 479

Psychologists for Animal Welfare

Ms Annmaree Wilson
Members: 64

Psychologists in Oncology

Dr Kerry Tiller
Members: 104

Psychologists for Peace

Dr Susie Burke
Members: 105

Psychology and Ageing

Assoc Prof Nancy Pachana
Members: 330

Psychology and Complementary and Alternative Medicine

Dr Peta Stapleton
Members: 170

Psychology and Cultures

Ms Peggy Lee (acting)
Members: 101

Psychology and the Environment

Mr Paul Saunders
Members: 61

Psychology from an Islamic Perspective

Mrs Shehzi Yusaf
Members: 34

Psychology of Men and Masculinities

Mr Marshall O'Brien
Members: 44

Psychology and Substance Use

Ms Lynne Magor-Blatch
Members: 158

Psychology of Relationships

Dr Ross Wilkinson
Members: 316

Rehabilitation Psychology

Dr Kathryn Nicholson-Perry
Members: 206

Rural and Remote Psychology

Mrs Ailsa Drent
Members: 165

Sufism and Psychology

Ms Fleur Bonnin
Members: 29

Teaching, Learning and Psychology

Assoc Prof Jacquelyn Cranney and
Dr Lucille Zinkiewicz
Members: 156

Telephone and Internet-Based Counselling and Psychology

Dr John Jacmon
Members: 135

Transpersonal Psychology

Dr Jonathan Tandos
Members: 100

Trauma and Psychology

Mr Michael McLindon
Members: 387

Women and Psychology

Dr Raelynn Alvaez-Wicklein
Members: 143

MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS*

A large number of APS members participated on Committees, Taskforces, and Advisory, Reference, Working and Conference Organising Groups this year. Members bring to these groups a range of relevant skills and represent a balance of geographic regions, specialist knowledge and employment contexts, ensuring a diverse range of opinions are considered in policy making. The Board wishes to acknowledge the efforts of all members who have willingly given their time to these groups, as well as those who have contributed time and effort to the running of State Committees, Branches, Colleges and Interest Groups, and the editing of State Newsletters and APS journals. The voluntary contributions of APS members are essential to the functioning of the organisation and have been a vital factor in the Society's achievements this year.

BOARD COMMITTEES

Ethics

Prof Alfred Allan (C)
(to Sept 2008)
Assoc Prof Bill Warren (C)
(from Sept 2008)
Ms Sharon Bent
Dr Deirdre Drake
Dr Elaine Hart
Assoc Prof Ann Knowles
Prof Lyn Littlefield
Prof Tony Love
Mr Mick Symons

Finance, Investment and Audit

Prof Kate Moore (C)
Prof Simon Crowe
Mr Keith Irvine
Prof Lyn Littlefield
Prof Bob Montgomery
Mr Mike Shaw
Mr Barry Whitmore

Governance

Prof Bob Montgomery (C)
Dr Adrienne Bennett
Ms Sue Carter
Prof Simon Crowe
Assoc Prof Erica
Frydenberg
Prof Lyn Littlefield
Prof Trang Thomas
Prof Trevor Waring
Mr Barry Whitmore

Risk Management

Prof Lyn Littlefield (C)
Prof Simon Crowe
Prof Bob Montgomery
Dr Robyn Vines
Mr Barry Whitmore

BOARD ADVISORY GROUPS

Membership Recruitment and Retention

Assoc Prof Erica Frydenberg (C)
Dr Martin Boulton
Dr Nicola Burton
Dr Sandy Gordon
Ms Elaine Hosie
Mrs Agnes Levine
Prof Lyn Littlefield
Mr Harry Petropoulos
Dr Bob Rich
Prof Trang Thomas

Professional Development

Ms Anne Lipzker (C)
Dr Erica Frydenberg (C)
Ms Michele Colman
Dr Tim Connell
Prof Lyn Littlefield
Mrs Wendy McDonald
Dr Monica O'Kelly
Ms Oriana Tokatlidis
Ms Daiva Verbyla
Ms Robyn Vines
Assoc Prof Stephen Woods

Professional Practice

Ms Anne Lipzker (C)
Mrs Joanne Abbey
Mr John Alder
Prof Alfred Allan
Dr Penny Brabin
Mr Michael Burge
Dr Simon Crisp
Dr Christopher Duffy
Ms Bev Ernst
Ms Vidula Garde
Ms Amanda Gordon
Prof Lyn Littlefield
Ms Ronita Neal
Dr Kathryn Nicholson-Perry
Mr David Stokes
Dr Ronnie Zeussman

Continued →

*All details are as at 31 May 2009.

THE MEMBERSHIP AND MEMBER GROUPS

MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS *(cont.)*

BOARD ADVISORY GROUPS *(cont.)*

Public Interest

Dr Robyn Vines (C)
Dr Eugene Aidman
Dr Susan Ballinger
Ms Robyn Bradbury
Dr Susie Burke
Dr Grace Couchman
Assoc Prof Pat Dudgeon
Ms Heather Gridley
Prof Lyn Littlefield
Prof Bob Montgomery
Assoc Prof Joe Reser
Professor Debra Rickwood
Dr Louise Roufeil
Assoc Prof Meg Smith

Science, Academia and Research

Prof Simon Crowe (C)
Prof David Badcock
Dr Terry Bowles
Assoc Prof Jenny Bowman
Assoc Prof Jacquelyn Cranney
Prof Patrick Heaven
Dr Maria Kangas
Prof David Kavanagh
Prof Ottmar Lipp
Prof Lyn Littlefield
Prof Peter Lovibond
Prof Kate Moore
Dr Iain Montgomery
Assoc Prof Nancy Pachana
Dr Janette Perz
Assoc Prof Graham Tyson
Dr Nicholas Voudouris

TASKFORCES

Professional Development

Certificate in Private Practice Management Taskforce

Dr Monica O'Kelly (C)
Dr Penny Brabin
Mr Richard Kasperzyk
Mr Chris Mackey
Mr Les Posen
Mr David Stokes
Ms Daiva Verbyla

Points Allocation and Endorsement

Ms Anne Lipzker (C)
Assoc Prof Erica Frydenberg
Prof Lyn Littlefield
Ms Orania Tokatlidis
Ms Daiva Verbyla

Structure and System for APS PD

Ms Anne Lipzker (C)
Ms Ros Knight
Prof Lyn Littlefield
Ms Orania Tokatlidis
Ms Daiva Verbyla

International PD

Dr Robyn Vines (C)
Assoc Prof Erica Frydenberg
Mrs Wendy McDonald
Dr Monica O'Kelly
Ms Daiva Verbyla

Professional Practice

Defining Professional Practice

Dr Ronnie Zeussman (C)
Ms Joanne Abbey
Dr Penny Brabin
Ms Ronita Neal
Dr Kathryn Nicholson-Perry

Overseas Psychologists Mentoring

Dr Kathryn Nicholson-Perry (C)
Ms Joanne Abbey
Ms Vidula Garde

Quality Supervision

Mr John Alder (C)
Ms Bev Ernst
Dr Christopher Duffy

REFERENCE GROUPS

Disaster Preparedness and Response

Assoc Prof Joe Reser (C)
Prof Richard Bryant
Dr Susie Burke
Ms Bev Ernst
Dr Rob Gordon
Ms Kerrie Kelly
Prof Lyn Littlefield
Prof Bob Montgomery
Dr Doug Paton
Prof Kevin Ronan

Environmental Threats and Climate Change

Dr Susie Burke (C)
Dr Kelly Fielding
Dr Rob Hall
Dr Tim Kurz
Prof Margot Prior
Assoc Prof Joe Reser
Prof Debra Rickwood
Prof Helen Ross
Ms Karen Spehr

National Psychology Education and Training

Prof Lyn Littlefield (C)
Prof David Badcock
Assoc Prof Jacquelyn Cranney
Prof Simon Crowe
Ms Kaye Francom
Em Prof Gina Geffen
Prof Patrick Heaven
Prof Ed Helmes
Ms Judy Hyde
Prof David Kavanagh
Prof Mike Kyrios
Prof Peter Lovibond
Prof Paul Martin
Dr Iain Montgomery
Prof Pip Pattison
Prof Clare Pollock
Prof Trang Thomas
Dr Nicholas Voudouris

Private Practice

Ms Bev Ernst (C)
Ms Christina Anderson
Dr Elizabeth Celi
Ms Leonie Coxon
Mr Joel Curtis
Mr Ted Graham
Ms Lib Heyward
Ms Nesli Karadeniz
Prof Lyn Littlefield
Ms Gaynor Perry
Dr Bruce Stevens

Psychologists in Schools

Prof Lyn Littlefield (C)
Dr Marilyn Campbell
Mr Ted Campbell
Mr Bill Campos
Dr Margaret Donnelly
Mr Alan Dowsett
Mrs Sue Edwards
Ms Elaine Hosie
Mr Alan Plumb
Ms Kate Prescott
Ms Anita Smith
Mr Darren Stops
Ms Sophie Takmakis
Dr Monica Thielking
Ms Vicki Trethowan

Public Sector and Non-Government Organisation

Mr David Stokes (C)
Ms Morag Budiselik
Mr Arthur Crook
Ms Carla Day
Mr Allan Dowsett
Dr Christopher Duffy
Ms Bev Ernst
Ms Lynda Katona
Prof Lyn Littlefield
Ms Roslyn McIntosh
Mr Glen Menezes
Mr Hamish Millard
Mr Rinaldo Minniti
Col Peter Murphy
Ms Jane Nursey
Mr Darren Stops
Mr Frank Tinney
Ms Susan Ruth Whitelaw

MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS *(cont.)*

CONFERENCE ORGANISING GROUPS

APS Annual Conference

Scientific Program 2008

Prof Jeff Summers (C)
Dr Raimundo Bruno
Prof Gerry Fogarty
Prof Anthony Love
Dr Frances Martin
Dr Iain Montgomery
Prof Kate Moore
Dr Nicholas Voudouris

Scientific Program 2009

Prof Kate Moore (C)
Ms Denise Dickson
Dr Peter Forster
Prof Ottmar Lipp
Prof Anthony Love
Assoc Prof David Mellor
Dr Mary Morris
Prof Jeff Summers
Dr Nicholas Voudouris

International Congress of Applied Psychology 2010

Conference Organising Committee

Prof Paul Martin (Congress Chair)
Prof Mike Kyrios (Scientific Program Chair)
Prof Lyn Littlefield (Secretary General)
Ms Amanda Gordon
Ms Elaine Grant
Assoc Prof Mike Knowles
Prof Kate Moore
Prof Bob Montgomery
Prof James Oglhoff
Prof Trang Thomas
Dr Nicholas Voudouris

Scientific Program Committee

Prof Mike Kyrios (Scientific Program Chair)
Dr Terry Bowles
Dr Marie Caltabiano
Ms Kerrie Clarke
Dr Michel Daffern
Dr Geoff Denham
Assoc Prof Ian Glendon
Ms Amanda Gordon
Ms Elaine Grant
Ms Heather Gridley
Mr Tim Hannan
Prof Ed Helmes
Ms Daiva Verbyla
Ms Kathryn von Treuer
Dr Nicholas Voudouris

JOURNAL EDITORS

The Australian Community Psychologist

The Australian Educational and Developmental Psychologist

Australian Journal of Counselling Psychology

Australian Journal of Psychology

Australian Psychologist

The Clinical Psychologist

Dr Lauren Breen

Dr Terry Bowles

Dr Geoffrey Denham

Prof Patrick Heaven

Assoc Prof Nancy Pachana

Prof Justin Kenardy

COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

Australian Indigenous Psychologists Association (AIPA) Steering Committee

Assoc Prof Pat Dudgeon (C)
Mrs Yolonda Adams
Prof Elizabeth Cameron-Traub
Mrs Yvonne Clark
Mr Graham Gee
Dr Christine Gillies
Mrs Amanda Hart
Assoc Prof Dennis McDermott

AIPA-APS Working Group

Ms Anne Lipzker (C)
Prof Elizabeth Cameron-Traub
Assoc Prof Pat Dudgeon
Ms Amanda Gordon
Ms Heather Gridley
Prof Bob Montgomery
Mr Barry Whitmore

Constituent Units Review

Ms Sue Carter (C)
Prof Jim Bright
Mr Ted Campbell
Assoc Prof Roger Cook
Ms Denise Dickson
Prof Gerry Fogarty
Prof Mike Kyrios
Mrs Agnes Levine
Prof Lyn Littlefield
Assoc Prof Jacques Metzger
Prof Grace Pretty
Dr Damien Riggs
Dr Louise Roufeil
Dr Bruce Stevens
Mr Barry Whitmore

Ethical Guidelines

Assoc Prof Marie Joyce (C)
Dr Elizabeth Allworth
Assoc Prof Jane Goodman-Delahunty
Ms Heather Gridley
Mr Graeme Kane
Assoc Prof Ann Knowles
Mr Mick Symons
Prof Don Thomson
Dr Dianne Vella-Brodrick
Assoc Prof Bill Warren

Fellows

Assoc Prof Erica Frydenberg (C)
Dr Sandy Gordon
Mrs Rosemary Laver
Prof Lyn Littlefield
Prof Marita McCabe
Dr Fred Orr

Periodicals

Prof Simon Crowe (C)
Dr Terry Bowles
Dr Lauren Breen
Dr Geoffrey Denham
Prof Patrick Heaven
Prof Justin Kenardy
Prof Lyn Littlefield
Assoc Prof Nancy Pachana
Dr Nicholas Voudouris

Program Development and Accreditation

Dr Iain Montgomery (C)
Prof Vicki Anderson
Prof Don Byrne
Assoc Prof Roger Cook
Assoc Prof Jacquelyn Cranney
Assoc Prof Janet Fletcher

Prof Alison Garton
Assoc Prof Craig Gonsalvez
Prof Lyn Littlefield
Assoc Prof Jacques Metzger
Prof Kate Moore
Dr Shirley Morrissey

Prof Pip Pattison
Prof Grace Pretty
Assoc Prof Clive Skilbeck
Assoc Prof Graham Tyson
Dr Nicholas Voudouris

APS REPRESENTATION ON BOARDS

Australian Health Professions Association

Prof Bob Montgomery – Vice-President
Prof Lyn Littlefield – Executive Officer; Chair of Management Group

Australian Psychology Accreditation Council

Prof Trevor Waring – Chair
Prof Simon Crowe
Prof Lyn Littlefield
Prof Trang Thomas
Dr Iain Montgomery (observer)

Mental Health Professionals Network

Prof Lyn Littlefield
Prof Kate Moore

“

Despite the current economic downturn, the Society's strong financial position established during the past few years will enable it to continue to undertake initiatives in line with the Strategic Plan.

”

2009 ANNUAL
FINANCIAL REPORT

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The Directors present their report on the results of The Australian Psychological Society Limited ABN 23 000 543 788 (the Society) for the financial year to 31 May 2009 and the state of affairs of the Society at that date. The names, qualifications and experience of the Directors in office at the end of the financial year are on pages 4 and 5 of the Annual Report.

Principal activities

The principal activities of the Society during the year were the advancement of the scientific study and the professional practice of psychology. There were no significant changes in the nature of these activities during that period.

Operating and financial review

The net profit for the year ended 31 May 2009 is \$1,451,812 (2008: \$1,752,666 profit).

The review of the operations during the financial year and the results of those operations are noted elsewhere in the Annual Report.

Risk management

The Society takes a proactive approach to risk management. The Board is responsible for ensuring that risks, and also opportunities, are identified on a timely basis and that the Society's objectives and activities are aligned with the risks and opportunities identified by the Board.

The Board has established a separate Risk Management Committee to assist the Board to manage risk. From time to time the Board may also convene separate committees to further examine specific issues and risks, and have that committee report back to the Board.

The Board has a number of mechanisms in place to ensure that management's objectives and activities are aligned with the risks identified by the Board. These include the following:

- Board approval of a Strategic Plan, which encompasses the Society's vision, mission and strategy statements, designed to meet stakeholders' needs and manage business risk
- Implementation of Board-approved operating plans and budgets and Board monitoring of progress against these budgets
- The establishment of the Finance, Investment and Audit Committee, which assists in discharging the Board's responsibility to manage the organisation's financial risks. The Committee advises the Board on such matters as the Society's liquidity, interest rate and credit policies and exposures, and monitors management's actions to ensure they are in line with Society policy.

Dividends

No portion of profit in any year shall be paid to members by way of dividends, bonus or otherwise.

Significant changes in the state of affairs

There were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Society during the year ended 31 May 2009 not otherwise disclosed in the Annual Report.

Likely developments and expected results

The Society intends to continue with its existing activities and consider possible new activities that are consistent with its objectives.

Indemnification and insurance of directors and officers

During or since the financial year, the company has paid premiums in respect of a contract insuring all Directors, office bearers and employees of the Society against costs incurred in defending proceedings for conduct involving:

- (a) A wilful breach of duty; and
- (b) A contravention of sections 182 or 183 of the *Corporations Act 2001*, as permitted by section 199B of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

The total amount of insurance contract premiums paid was \$13,474 (2008: \$14,790).

Registered office

The registered office of The Australian Psychological Society Limited is located at:
Level 11, 257 Collins Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Employees

The Society employed 70.3 full-time equivalent employees (including staff contracted to work on various externally funded projects) as at 31 May 2009 (2008: 59.6).

Corporate governance

The Board of Directors governs the Society and has overall responsibility for pursuing the Society's mission, determining the Strategic Plan and priorities, monitoring implementation and developing a resource base to support the Society's activities. The Board is the ultimate decision-making and policy-setting body. It is also responsible for the financial viability of the Society and ensuring compliance with statutory requirements applicable to a company. To assist the Board to fulfil its role and responsibilities various Board Committees, Advisory Groups, Reference Groups and Member Forums are appointed each year.

The Society's Constitution provides for the Board of Directors to be comprised of the President, Executive Director, six elected General Directors and up to three Directors appointed by the Board. The Executive Director is appointed by the Board. Every second year a President-Elect is elected to the Board to assume the role of President for a term of two years commencing at the end of their one-year term as President-Elect. Each General Director is elected for a term of three years and each Additional Director appointed by the Board is appointed for a term of one year. Profiles of members of the Board of Directors as at 31 May 2009 are included at the front of this Annual Report.

All Directors must comply with the Board's code of conduct. This code covers issues such as the requirement to act in good faith, duties of due care and diligence, conflict of interest, proper use of power and information, independence, confidentiality and the obligation to uphold the law.

The Board meets at least six times a year for scheduled meetings. The Board is committed to holding at least two of these meetings outside of Melbourne, with the remaining meetings held at the Society's National Office in Melbourne.

Day-to-day management of the organisation's affairs and implementation of corporate strategy and policy initiatives are the responsibility of the Executive Director. The Society's company secretary is Barry Whitmore who has been a member of both the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia and CPA Australia for more than 20 years.

DIRECTORS' REPORT *(cont.)*

Directors' meetings including Committee meetings

(1 June 2008 to 31 May 2009)

The number of meetings of directors (including meetings of Committees of directors) held during the year and the number of meetings attended by each Director were as follows.

	COMMITTEES							
	Directors meetings		Finance, Investment and Audit		Governance		Risk Management and Compliance	
	H	A	CMH	A	CMH	A	CMH	A
R Montgomery *	10	4	5	3	4	3	1	1
A Gordon	4	4	3	3	1	1	1	1
L Littlefield	10	10	5	5	4	3	2	2
Q Black	4	1						
S Crowe	6	6	2	2	3	3		
E Frydenberg	10	10			4	4	1	1
A Lipzker	10	10						
I Montgomery	4	3					1	1
K Moore	10	10	5	5				
T Thomas	10	9			4	4		
R Vines	6	6					1	1
T Waring	9	9			3	2		

H = Number of meetings held whilst in office CMH = Number of Committee meetings held whilst a member of that Committee
A = Number of meetings attended

* R Montgomery was on leave of absence from the Board from September 2008 to February 2009, a period during which five Directors' meetings were held, as well as two Finance, Investment and Audit Committee meetings and one Governance Committee meeting.

Auditor's declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration, as required under section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001*, is set out on page 84.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors.

Dated at Melbourne this 27th day of August 2009.



B MONTGOMERY
President



K MOORE
Director

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2009

INCOME STATEMENT – Year ended 31 May 2009

	NOTE	2009 \$	2008 \$
REVENUE	3	14,956,249	13,847,215
EXPENSES			
General services and benefits for members		(8,293,647)	(7,164,553)
Marketing, promotion and publications		(1,698,176)	(1,529,078)
Governance, administration and occupancy (a)		(3,512,614)	(3,400,918)
TOTAL EXPENSES		(13,504,437)	(12,094,549)
PROFIT FROM CONTINUING ACTIVITIES		1,451,812	1,752,666

(a) includes depreciation and rental expenses

The above Income Statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

BALANCE SHEET – as at 31 May 2009

	NOTE	2009 \$	2008 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	11,232,808	9,781,484
Trade and other receivables	6	1,966,740	1,507,161
Prepayments	7	276,791	267,624
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		13,476,339	11,556,269
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	8	1,088,345	504,545
Investment property	9	1,500,000	1,600,000
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		2,588,345	2,104,545
TOTAL ASSETS		16,064,684	13,660,814
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	10	5,365,641	4,490,185
Provisions	11	579,428	473,870
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		5,945,069	4,964,055
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Provisions	11	43,268	72,224
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		43,268	72,224
TOTAL LIABILITIES		5,988,337	5,036,279
NET ASSETS		10,076,347	8,624,535
MEMBERS' EQUITY			
Retained earnings	13	10,076,347	8,624,535
TOTAL MEMBERS' EQUITY		10,076,347	8,624,535

The above Balance Sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2009 *(cont.)*

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY – Year ended 31 May 2009

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Balance at the beginning of the year	8,624,535	6,871,869
Total income for the year recognised directly in equity	-	-
Profit for the year	1,451,812	1,752,666
BALANCE AT THE END OF THE YEAR	10,076,347	8,624,535

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

CASH FLOW STATEMENT – Year ended 31 May 2009

	NOTE	2009 \$	2008 \$
Cash flows from operating activities (a)			
Receipts from customers and members		17,489,193	16,356,496
Payments to suppliers, employees and others		(15,963,535)	(14,490,881)
Interest and other costs of finance paid		(139,345)	(114,699)
NET CASH FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	5	1,386,313	1,750,916
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		826,679	632,776
Rent received		161,248	157,413
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(922,916)	(160,143)
NET CASH FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		65,011	630,046
Cash flows from financing activities			
NET CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		-	-
Net increase in cash held		1,451,324	2,380,962
Cash at beginning of financial year		9,781,484	7,400,522
CASH AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	4	11,232,808	9,781,484

(a) In the 2008-09 financial year approximately \$1.5m was paid to the Society by the Australian Government as funds to be forwarded to scholarship holders under the Mental Health Postgraduate Scholarship Scheme Clinical Psychology Initiative administered by the Society on behalf of the Australian Government. This amount is included in the Cash Flow Statement as part of the 'Receipts from Customers and Members' figure, however given the basis upon which the funds have been provided to the Society they have not been recognised as revenue. Similarly, payments of these funds to scholarship holders have been included in the Cash Flow Statement as part of the 'Payments to suppliers, employees and others' figure, but have not been recorded as an expense.

The above Cash Flow Statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2009 *(cont.)*

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS – Year ended 31 May 2009

NOTE 1: Corporate information

The financial report of The Australian Psychological Society Limited (the Society) for the year ended 31 May 2009 was authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the directors dated 27 August 2009.

The Society is a company limited by guarantee, does not have share capital and is incorporated in Australia.

The nature of the operations and principal activities of the Society are described in the Directors' report.

NOTE 2: Statement of significant accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation

The Financial Report is a general purpose Financial Report, which has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*, Australian Accounting Standards and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board. The Financial Report has also been prepared on a historical cost basis, except for the land and buildings that have been measured at fair value.

The Financial Report is presented in Australian dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest dollar.

(b) Summary of significant accounting policies

(i) Compliance with IFRS

The Financial Report complies with Australian Accounting Standards and the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

(ii) New accounting standards and interpretation

Australian accounting standards and interpretations that have been recently issued or amended but are not yet effective have not been adopted by the entity for the annual reporting period ending 31 May 2009. Those relevant to the Society are outlined in the table below.

Reference	Title	Summary	Application date of standard	Impact on the APS financial reports	Application date for the APS
AASB101 (revised) AASB 2007-08 and AASB 2007-10	Presentation of financial statements	New titles for components of a full set of financial statements	Annual period beginning on or after 1 Jan 09	The amendments are expected to only affect the presentation of the Society's financial report and will not have a direct impact on the measurement and recognition of amounts under the current AASB 101. The Society has not determined at this stage whether to present the new statement of comprehensive income as a single statement or two statements.	Year ended 31 May 2010

(ii) New accounting standards and interpretation (cont.)

Reference	Title	Summary	Application date of standard	Impact on the APS financial reports	Application date for the APS
AASB7	Financial instruments: Disclosure	Finance cost and finance income to be presented gross on the face of the income statement and disclosures in the notes to be updated if the breakdown into finance income and finance costs is also provided in the notes to the financial statements.	Annual period beginning on or after 1 Jan 09	The amendments are expected to only affect the presentation of the Society's financial report and will not have a direct impact on the measurement and recognition of amounts under the current AASB 7. There is no immediate impact on the Society as finance revenue is currently disclosed in the notes and finance costs have been deemed to be immaterial.	Year ended 31 May 2010

(c) Income tax

The Commissioner of Taxation has ruled that all income derived is exempt from income tax.

(d) Property, plant and equipment

Depreciation is provided on a straight line basis on all property, plant and equipment other than freehold land and buildings, with freehold land and buildings (held as investment properties) measured at fair value. Major depreciation periods are:

- Plant and equipment: 3 to 8 years
- Leasehold improvements: Lease term

Impairment of non-financial assets

The entity assesses impairment of all assets at each reporting date by evaluating conditions specific to them and to the particular asset that may lead to impairment. If an impairment trigger exists the recoverable amount of the asset is determined. Given the current uncertain economic environment, management considered that the indicators of impairment were significant enough and as such these assets have been tested for impairment in this financial period.

(e) Investment property

Initially, investment properties are measured at cost including transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, investment properties are stated at fair value. Gains or losses arising from changes in the fair values of investment properties as determined by an independent expert are included in the Income Statement in the year in which they arise.

(f) Leases

Operating leases are leases under which the lessors effectively retain substantially all of the risks and benefits of ownership of leased items. Payments made under operating leases are included in the determination of the operating result for the year.

(g) Branches, Colleges and Interest Groups

The financial result of the activities of the Society's Branches, Colleges and Interest Groups are included within the Society's operating profit.

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2009 *(cont.)*

(h) Revenue recognition

Revenue is recognised and measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable to the extent it is probable that the economic benefit will flow to the Society and the revenue can be reliably measured. The following specific recognition criteria must be met before revenue is recognised.

(i) Sale of goods

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when goods are shipped to the customer.

(ii) Rendering of services

Revenue is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of a contract or contracts in progress at balance date or at the time of completion. Stage of completion is measured by reference to labour hours incurred to date as a percentage of total estimated labour hours for each contract which is determined by a set quotation with the customer.

(iii) Interest revenue

Revenue is recognised as interest accrues using the effective interest method.

(iv) Membership subscriptions

Subscriptions related to the reporting period are recognised when these have been received from members.

(v) Rental revenue

Rental revenue from the investment property is accounted for on a straight line basis over the lease term.

(i) Employee entitlements

Provision is made for employee benefits accumulated as a result of employees rendering services up to the reporting date. These benefits include wages and salaries, annual leave and long service leave. Superannuation contributions are made for employees at 10% (9% for 'casual' employees) in compliance with government legislation.

Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and long service leave expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date are measured at their nominal amounts. All other employee entitlement liabilities are measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflow to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. In determining the present value of future cash outflows, the interest rates attaching to government guaranteed securities which have terms to maturity approximating the terms of the related liability are used.

(j) Other taxes

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST except:

- where the GST incurred on a purchase of goods and services is not recoverable from the taxation authority, in which case the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense item as applicable; and
- receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of receivables or payables in the balance sheet.

Cash flows are included in the Cash Flow Statement on a gross basis and the GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities, which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority are classified as operating cash flows.

Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority.

(k) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and short term deposits in the balance sheet comprise cash at bank and in hand and short term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less.

For the purposes of the cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalents consist of cash and cash equivalents as defined above, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

(l) Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables, which generally have 30-60 day terms, are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest methods, less an allowance for impairment. Given the short term of these assets fair value on recognition generally remains the fair value until these are extinguished.

Collectability of trade receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis at an operating unit level. Individual debts that are known to be uncollectable are written off when identified.

(m) Income in advance

As identified in Note 1(h), membership subscription revenue must be recognised in the relevant reporting year it relates to. Therefore, any subscription revenue received prior to 31 May 2009 which relates to the subscription period 1 June 2009 to 31 May 2010 is recognised as income in advance at 31 May 2009.

The timing of the receipt of payments for work undertaken on externally funded projects is typically set out in the project contract. Payments received, and amounts due and receivable, up to 31 May 2009 which have not been earned are recognised as income in advance at 31 May 2009, and will only be recognised as income when the Society has met the conditions set out in the project contract.

(n) Other Creditors

Other Creditors are carried at amortised cost and due to their short term nature they are not discounted. They represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Society prior to the end of the financial year that are unpaid at the end of the financial year and arise when the Society becomes obliged to make future payments in respect of the purchase of these goods and services. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

2009 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2009 *(cont.)*

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS – Year ended 31 May 2009

NOTE 3: Revenue and expenses

Operating profit for the year has been determined after:

	2009 \$	2008 \$
(a) Revenue from operating activities:		
Membership subscriptions	6,083,166	5,507,451
Newsletters, Branch, College and Interest Group revenue	1,016,163	699,462
Referrals revenue	333,757	294,332
Event registrations (Conferences and workshops excluding those run by APS Units)	1,174,062	1,126,392
Advertising and commission	1,015,819	966,907
Assessment of qualifications	520,521	423,865
Externally funded projects revenue	2,968,034	2,545,141
Application fees	7,443	99,915
Other operating revenue	887,055	890,030
	14,006,020	12,553,495
(b) Revenue from non-operating activities:		
Rental revenue	161,248	157,413
Interest revenue	773,462	711,657
Gain on investment property revaluation to fair value	-	125,000
Other non-operating revenue	15,519	299,650
	950,229	1,293,720
TOTAL REVENUE	14,956,249	13,847,215
	2009 \$	2008 \$
(c) Charging/(crediting) the following items:		
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	339,116	229,809
Loss on restatement of investment property to fair value	100,000	-
Wages and salaries	4,534,225	4,118,142
Superannuation costs	444,810	420,092
Provisions:		
- Long service leave	53,084	36,016
- Annual leave	65,928	153,543
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	-	588

NOTE 4: Cash and cash equivalents

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Cash at bank	1,732,808	281,484
Term deposits	9,500,000	9,500,000
TOTAL CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	11,232,808	9,781,484

Cash at bank earns interest at floating rates on daily deposits rates. Term deposits are made for thirty to ninety days and earn interest on the respective short term deposit rates.

The total shown in this note equates to the Cash Flow Statement.

NOTE 5: Reconciliation of cash flows

For purposes of the Cash Flow Statement, cash includes cash on hand and in banks and investments in money market instruments. Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Cash Flow Statement is reconciled to the related items in the balance sheet as follows.

	2009 \$	2008 \$
a) Reconciliation of profit for the period to net cash flows from operating activities		
Profit for the period	1,451,812	1,752,666
Plus/(minus) non-operating items:		
Interest revenue received	(826,679)	(632,775)
Rental revenue received	(161,248)	(157,413)
Plus/(minus) non-cash items:		
Depreciation	339,116	229,809
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	588
(Gain)/Loss on restatement of investment property to fair value	100,000	(125,000)
Change in assets and liabilities:		
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(459,579)	(742,909)
(Increase)/decrease in prepayments	(9,167)	(50,856)
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	875,456	1,346,626
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	76,602	130,180
NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	1,386,313	1,750,916

b) Financing facilities

The Society has access to overdraft facilities secured by mortgage over freehold land and buildings

Facilities used at reporting date

Bank overdraft

-

Facilities unused at reporting date

Bank overdraft

20,000

Total facilities

Bank overdraft

20,000

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2009 *(cont.)*

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS – Year ended 31 May 2009

NOTE 6: Trade and other receivables

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Advertising, products, sponsorship and commission	164,237	90,716
Externally-funded projects	1,455,475	1,242,971
Allowance for impairment loss	(2,827)	(2,827)
	1,616,885	1,330,860
Other debtors	349,855	176,301
	1,966,740	1,507,161

Trade debtors, and other sundry debtors, are non-interest bearing and, with the exception of receivables arising from externally-funded projects, have payment terms of fourteen days.

Externally-funded projects are based on contractual arrangements with the Australian Government or statutory authorities and all related receivables are considered collectible.

Fair value and carrying amount: due to the short-term nature of these receivables, their carrying value is assumed to approximate their fair value.

Movements in the allowance for impairment loss were as follows.

	2009 \$	2008 \$
At the beginning of the financial year	2,827	2,827
Charge for the year	-	-
Amounts written off	-	-
AT 31 MAY	2,827	2,827

At 31 May, the ageing analysis of trade receivables is as follows.

	Total \$	0-30 days \$	31-60 days \$	61-90 days \$	91+ days \$
2009	1,619,712	1,029,547	568,853	7,724	13,588
2008	1,333,687	511,766	45,077	5,694	771,150

Whilst some trade receivables are past their due date none of these amounts are considered impaired.

NOTE 7: Prepayments

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Prepayments	276,791	267,624

NOTE 8: Property, plant and equipment

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Plant and equipment		
At cost	1,769,321	1,566,076
Accumulated depreciation	(1,343,444)	(1,137,121)
	425,877	428,955
Leasehold improvements		
At cost	1,309,225	589,554
Accumulated depreciation	(646,757)	(513,964)
	662,468	75,590
Total property, plant and equipment		
Cost	3,078,546	2,155,630
Accumulated depreciation and amortisation	(1,990,201)	(1,651,085)
	1,088,345	504,545

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Reconciliation		
Plant and equipment		
Carrying amount at beginning	428,955	545,618
Additions	203,245	97,123
Disposals	-	(588)
Depreciation expense	(206,323)	(213,198)
	425,877	428,955
Leasehold improvements		
Carrying amount at beginning	75,590	29,182
Additions	719,671	63,020
Depreciation expense	(132,793)	(16,612)
	662,468	75,590

The Society assessed at 31 May 2009 whether there is any indication that any of the above assets may be impaired. There is no indication that an impairment loss is present, that is where the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount.

NOTE 12: Lease commitments

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Operating leases – the Society as Lessee		
Commitments are as follows:		
Not later than one year	832,243	780,738
Later than one year and not later than five years	2,318,162	3,069,680
TOTAL OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS	3,150,405	3,850,418
Operating lease expenses recognised as an expense during the period	787,030	617,550

Operating leases – the Society as Lessor

The Society has entered into a commercial property lease for the lease of its investment property. The lease agreement currently provides for either the Lessor or Lessee to terminate the tenancy arrangement by providing three months notice to the other party. The agreement also provides for a fixed annual increase in the rental charge.

NOTE 13: Retained earnings

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year	8,624,535	6,871,869
Profit from ordinary activities	1,451,812	1,752,666
RETAINED EARNINGS	10,076,347	8,624,535

The Society is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly each member of the Society undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Society in the event of the same being wound up during the time that he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member, for payment of debts and liabilities that the Society contracted before he or she ceases to be a member, and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories amongst themselves such amount as may be required but not exceeding twenty dollars.

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2009 *(cont.)*

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS – Year ended 31 May 2009

NOTE 14: Key management personnel disclosure

Details of key management personnel

		2008-09 \$ remuneration (including superannuation)
<i>(i) Non-executive directors</i>		
R Montgomery	President from 1/10/2008 (on leave of absence from Sep 08 to Jan 09 inclusive)	18,494
A Gordon	President until 1/10/2008	11,990
Q Black	Retired 1/10/2008	5,995
S Crowe	Commenced 1/10/2008 (acting President from Sep 08 to Jan 09 inclusive)	18,748
E Frydenberg		18,494
A Lipzker		18,494
I Montgomery	Retired 1/10/2008	5,995
K Moore		18,494
T Thomas		18,494
R Vines	Commenced 1/10/2008	12,499
T Waring		18,494

(ii) Executives

L Littlefield (Executive Director)

B Whitmore (General Manager and Chief Financial Officer)

Compensation of key management personnel

Aggregated compensation of key management personnel was as follows.

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Short-term employee benefits	622,679	590,096
Long-term employee benefits	14,568	14,313
	637,247	604,409

NOTE 15: Auditor's remuneration

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Amounts received or due and receivable by the auditors for:		
- an audit or review of the Financial Report of the entity	22,000	22,000
- an audit or review of a special-purpose Financial Report related to course accreditation	1,318	1,150
- an audit or review of various externally-funded projects (as required by project contracts)	1,000	2,850
- tax compliance advice	900	850
	25,218	26,850

NOTE 16: Related parties

The Society engages a wide range of suppliers in carrying out its business. The following payments were made to Directors of the Society for the supply of services identified below and all transactions to which the payments relate were on normal terms and conditions.

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Erica Frydenberg provided professional development services to the Society	500	nil
Simon Crowe provided professional development services to the Society	nil	4,200
Amanda Gordon provided professional development services to the Society	nil	1,400
Robert Montgomery provided professional development services to the Society	nil	1,400
Kate Moore provided consultant services related to APS conferences	nil	12,960
Iain Montgomery received sitting fees for participation on government-funded scholarship selection committees	nil	2,727

The above transactions only reflect those transactions incurred during the tenure of the respective Director.

NOTE 17: Contingent assets and liabilities

There are no contingent assets or contingent liabilities of a material nature as at balance date.

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2009 (cont.)

NOTE 18: Financial instruments and financial risk management objectives and policies

Financial instruments

The Society's principal financial instruments include investments in cash, trade and other receivables and trade and other payables. The accounting classification of each category of financial instruments as defined in Note 2(l) and 2(m), and their carrying amounts, are set out below:

31 May 2009	NOTE	Loans and Receivables \$	Financial Liabilities at amortised cost \$	Total Carrying Amount \$
Financial Assets				
Trade and other receivables (current)	6	1,966,740		1,966,740
Financial Liabilities				
Trade and other payables (current)	10	-	1,102,595	1,102,595

31 May 2008	NOTE	Loans and Receivables \$	Financial Liabilities at amortised cost \$	Total Carrying Amount \$
Financial Assets				
Trade and other receivables (current)	6	1,507,161		1,507,161
Financial Liabilities				
Trade and other payables (current)	10		907,838	907,838

The Society's investments and obligations expose it to market, liquidity and credit risks. The nature of these risks and the policies the Society has for controlling them and any concentrations of exposure are discussed below.

Risk management

The Board of Directors has overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of the risk management framework. The Board provides principles for overall risk management, covering market risks, credit and liquidity risks. The objective of these policies is to support the delivery of the Society's financial targets whilst protecting future financial security. The Board does not have a policy to use derivatives.

The Board also oversees how management monitors compliance with the Society's risk management policies and procedures.

(a) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of the Society's financial instruments will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk comprises three types of risk: interest rate risk, other price risk and currency risk.

(i) Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cashflows of a financial instrument, will fluctuate due to changes in interest rates. The Society's exposure to interest rate risk arises due to its investments in cash and cash equivalents.

The financial assets and financial liabilities of the Society that are not included in the tables below are non-interest bearing and are therefore not subject to interest rate risk. This includes Trade and other receivables and Trade and other creditors.

The objective of managing interest rate risk is to minimise the Society's exposure to fluctuations in interest rates that might impact its interest revenue and cash flow. To manage interest rate risk, the Society invests the majority of its cash in short-term deposits for varying periods of between 30 days and 90 days, depending on the short and long-term cash requirements of the Society which is determined based on the Society's cash flow forecast. This consideration also takes into account the costs associated with breaking a term deposit should early access to cash and cash equivalents be required. Cash is not locked into long-term deposits at fixed rates so as to mitigate the risk of earning interest below the current floating rate.

The Society does not have any borrowings.

The following table sets out the carrying amount and effective interest rate, by contractual maturity, of the financial instruments that are exposed to interest rate risk:

Year ended 31 May 2009	<1 year \$	Totals \$	Weighted average effective interest rate %
Financial Assets			
<i>Short term deposits:</i>			
Fixed rate	9,500,000	9,500,000	7.06%
<i>Cash and cash equivalents:</i>			
Floating rate			
Cash and cash equivalents	1,732,808	1,732,808	4.40%
Year ended 31 May 2008	<1 year \$	Totals \$	Weighted average effective interest rate %
Financial Assets			
<i>Short term deposits:</i>			
Fixed rate			
Short-term deposits	9,500,000	9,500,000	7.05%
<i>Cash and cash equivalents:</i>			
Floating rate			
Cash and cash equivalents	281,484	281,484	4.45%

Interest on financial instruments classified as floating rate is repriced at intervals of less than one year. Interest on financial instruments classified as fixed rate is fixed until maturity of the instrument.

Sensitivity analysis

As the Society has cash investments at balance date and is likely to continue to invest cash, any increase in prevailing interest rates would have a positive impact on the Society's earnings. Any decrease in interest rates, whilst reducing the Society's earnings, is unlikely to have a material negative impact on earnings or the Society's ability to achieve its strategic and operational objectives.

Taking into account past performance, future expectations, economic forecasts, and management's knowledge and experience of the financial markets, the Society believes it is reasonable to use a sensitivity of +/-50 basis points. At 31 May 2009, if interest rates had moved as illustrated in the table below, with all other variables held constant, the impact on the profit and the impact on equity would have been as follows:

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2009 *(cont.)*

Financial Period	VARIABLE RATE INSTRUMENTS			
	-50 basis points		+50 basis points	
	Profit/ (Loss) impact \$	Equity Impact \$	Profit/ (Loss) impact \$	Equity Impact \$
31 May 2009: Total increase/ (decrease)	(62,533)	(62,533)	62,537	62,537
31 May 2008: Total increase/ (decrease)	(50,591)	(50,591)	50,557	50,557

(ii) Other Price Risk

Other price risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of the transacted financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate risk or currency risk), whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual financial instrument or its issuer, or factors affecting all similar financial instruments traded in the market.

The Society is not exposed to other price risk.

(iii) Currency Risk

Currency risk is the risk that the fair value or future cashflows of a financial item will fluctuate as a result of movements in international exchange rates. The Society is not exposed to movements in the value of foreign currencies.

The Society does not enter into any hedging transactions.

(b) Credit Risk

Credit risk is associated with those financial assets of the Society which comprise trade and other receivables. Credit risk refers to the risk that a counter-party will default on its contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the Society.

The Society only trades with recognised and credit worthy third parties.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at balance date to recognised financial assets is the carrying amount, net of any provisions for impairment of these assets, as disclosed in the balance sheet and notes to the financial statements. The Society monitors receivables balances closely and whilst there are significant amounts owing from The Australian Government, as set out in Note 6 to the accounts, we do not assess there is any risk as to their collectability.

(c) Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk arises from the financial liabilities of the Society and the Society's subsequent ability to meet its obligations to repay its financial liabilities as and when they fall due. The Society's objective is to maintain an appropriate cash asset balance to fund its operations.

The Society's liquidity risk is minimal due to the active monitoring and management of the Society's high levels of cash and cash equivalents.

(d) Fair Value

The fair value of cash and cash equivalents and non-interest bearing monetary financial assets and financial liabilities approximates their carrying value. All financial assets are due and receivable, and financial liabilities due and payable, within 12 months of balance date.

The carrying amount and net fair values of financial assets and liabilities at balance date are as follows:

	2009		2008	
	Carrying amount	Net Fair value	Carrying amount	Net fair value
On-balance sheet financial assets				
Cash	1,732,808	1,732,808	281,484	281,484
Trade and other receivables	1,966,740	1,966,740	1,507,161	1,507,161
Short-term deposits	9,500,000	9,500,000	9,500,000	9,500,000
	13,199,548	13,199,548	11,288,645	11,288,645
Financial liabilities				
Trade and other creditors	1,102,595	1,102,595	907,838	907,838
Fees in advance	4,263,046	4,263,046	3,582,347	3,582,347
	5,365,641	5,365,641	4,490,185	4,490,185

NOTE 19: Interest in jointly controlled entity

The Society and the Council of Psychologists Registration Boards [Australasia] Inc (CPRB) hold joint control of the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council Limited (APAC). APAC, a public company limited by guarantee, was incorporated on 2 December 2005 to establish standards of education for the training and registration of psychologists throughout Australia, and to assess whether Schools of Psychology of Australian universities meet these standards. As at 31 May 2009 the Society's share of assets and liabilities and profit or loss of APAC is not material to the financial report of the Society.

NOTE 20: Significant events after balance date

No other matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year that have significantly affected or may significantly affect:

- (i) the operations of the Society;
- (ii) the results of those operations; or
- (iii) the state of affairs of the Society in subsequent financial years.

DIRECTOR'S DECLARATION

In accordance with a resolution of the Directors of The Australian Psychological Society Limited, we state that in the opinion of the Directors:


- (a) the financial statements and notes to the financial statements of the company are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
 - (i) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 31 May 2009 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
 - (ii) complying with accounting standards and corporations regulations; and
- (b) at the date of this Statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors.

Dated at Melbourne this 27th day of August 2009.



B MONTGOMERY
President



K MOORE
Director

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

Independent audit report to members of The Australian Psychological Society Limited

We have audited the accompanying financial report of The Australian Psychological Society Limited, which comprises the balance sheet as at 31 May 2009, and the Income Statement, Statement of Changes in Equity and Cash Flow Statement for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the directors' declaration.

Directors' responsibility for the Financial Report

The Directors of the company are responsible for preparation and fair presentation of the Financial Report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the *Corporations Act 2001*. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the Financial Report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Financial Report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These auditing standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the Financial Report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the Financial Report. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the Financial Report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, we consider internal controls relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the Financial Report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal controls. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our audit we have met the independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*. We have given to the Directors of the company a written auditor's independence declaration.

Auditor's opinion

In our opinion:

1. The Financial Report of The Australian Psychological Society Limited is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
 - (i) giving a true and fair view of the financial position of The Australian Psychological Society Limited at 31 May 2009 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
 - (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.
2. The Financial Report also complies with International Financial Reporting Standards issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

Dated at Melbourne this 27th day of August 2009.



ERNST & YOUNG



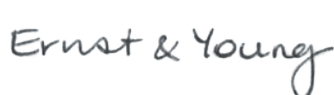
FIONA CAMPBELL
Partner
Melbourne

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

Auditor's independence declaration to Directors of The Australian Psychological Society Limited

In relation to our audit of the Financial Report of The Australian Psychological Society Limited for the financial year ended 31 May 2009, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* or any applicable code of professional conduct.

Dated at Melbourne this 27th day of August 2009.



ERNST & YOUNG



FIONA CAMPBELL

Partner

Melbourne

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY



Printed using vegetable based inks onto recycled paper by
Printgraphics Pty Ltd under ISO14001 Environmental Certification.

