The Australian Psychological Society (APS) is the peak professional organisation for psychology, representing more than 24,000 members. In 2019 we strove to support our members and amplify the role of psychologists and psychological science.

The online version of the APS Annual Report includes infographics and imagery. To access the report, visit www.psychology.org.au/APS-Annual-Reports/2019
It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Australian Psychological Society’s 2019 Annual Report. This has been a year of significant change and progress for Australia’s largest member organisation for psychologists, and there are many actions and efforts worth highlighting.

It was a great honour to be appointed as President in September 2018. I serve on the 25th Board of a Society that has been a constant during my 27 years as a practicing psychologist and as an APS member. I have always been motivated and enhanced by the quality of the content and professional engagement that comes out of the APS. To be given the opportunity to make a lasting contribution at this level is both humbling and energising, particularly considering the opportunities and challenges ahead.

When I stepped into the role, I followed Mr Anthony Cichello’s term. Anthony oversaw a challenging time in the APS’s history. This included the introduction of a new governance structure to achieve greater representation across the member groups, and the search for a replacement of Lyn Littlefield who had expertly guided the APS as Executive Director for a remarkable 17 years. Whilst the end of an era, this also provided an opportunity for new beginnings, with the appointment of the APS’s first Chief Executive Officer, Ms Frances Mirabelli.

Frances and I, along with the Board, have worked closely to build a new approach and a new direction for the APS. Members will have noticed a clear and deliberate thread running through all of our communications — whether that be face-to-face at conferences and meetings, via our digital and print messages, or through our media appearances. The message has been quite simple: that now, more than ever, we must come together as a profession. Because a united voice is far more powerful than a fragmented one.

The development of the APS White Paper: The Future of Psychology in Australia has been pivotal in this shift towards unity. This submission was informed by wide consultation, including through the establishment of the Medicare Benefits Schedule Expert Committee and the Industry Advisory Group, the latter of which includes representation from the regulator and accreditor. I am resolved to ensure that the APS provides a coherent position to government and these bodies have been central to achieving that coherence.

The APS White Paper was not without its challenges and there were times when we all had to remind ourselves of the importance of placing our clients’ interests at the heart of all decision-making. Robust debate ensued, however it was through this process that the APS was able to develop a well-constructed and practical plan for the future of psychology in this country. It has been well received by members, the profession at large and external stakeholders.

This was just the tip of the iceberg when it came to APS advocacy to government this year. An immeasurable amount of hours and research went into the development of more than 50 submissions. Another highlight was the submission to the Mental Health Productivity Commission’s investigation into the social and economic benefits of improving mental health in Australia. The APS made a range of recommendations, with priority given to prevention efforts, access, addressing services gaps, and workforce issues. We have also been keenly focused on the Royal Commission into Victoria’s Mental Health System, and the national Royal Commissions into aged care and the treatment of people with disability.

The APS’s strength and success has manifested itself in many other areas across the organisation.

- More than 7,500 psychologists took part in continuing professional development webinars offered by the APS Institute.
- The Institute also ensured that through their completion of the relevant Supervisor Training, over 100 psychologists maintained their status as a Board
Approved Supervisor whilst an additional 130+ psychologists successfully completed the training requirements to be granted this important status.

- More than 1,300 delegates took part in the four key APS conferences, along with over 1,400 of you who made the APS Congress in Sydney in September a huge success. It has been great to engage with members in person at all of these events.
- We cannot forget the incredible 417 member group events attended by 15,055 people, which once again highlight the enduring strength, relevance and popularity of member-driven activities.

Our member groups are integral to the APS’s relationship building, information sharing and consultation. Member groups have been involved in key discussions this year, including the development of the White Paper and the building of our Strategic Plan for 2018-2021. The Advisory Council – made up of a diverse cross-section of the membership – also played a big role in informing the priorities of the Strategic Plan that is currently being implemented by staff at the National Office. Two meetings were held over the last year and the Board is grateful for the time taken by members to share their views via these channels.

Our drive to educate the public on the purpose and benefits of psychology has not waned and in November 2018 our team, in collaboration with Swinburne University in Melbourne, produced the Australian Loneliness Report to coincide with Psychology Week. This report revealed that 1 in 4 Australians feel lonely – a statistic that chimes with the growing concern at a global level about the effects of social isolation. The report sparked considerable interest among the media and is still quoted in reporting many months later.

The APS has recognised the contribution of members and psychologists at the highest level through the breadth of our awards, from educational, science and practice awards through to branch and college awards, and more. These are an important part of highlighting the achievements of our colleagues and celebrating the profession, and I congratulate all recipients and nominees.

The APS’s reach and presence in the media has lifted, particularly since the start of 2019. Members will have seen, heard and read APS psychologists speaking to a range of issues, from the mental health of football players, to the impact of smartphone addiction, to the disturbing statistics around child and youth suicide. We aim to be relevant and timely in our response to social issues. I too have taken an active role in engaging with the media, and recently was proud to defend the role and expertise of organisational psychologists when their practice drew unfounded criticism. This is a deliberate strategy to clarify and amplify the role of psychologists, and will continue throughout 2019 and beyond.

I am grateful for the support and expertise that surrounds the role of APS President. I am incredibly fortunate to be joined by a Board of Directors who are passionate, driven and practical. Three new elected General Directors joined us after the AGM in September – Dr Sally Bradford as Early Career representative, Ms Kathrine Johansen as Division of General Psychological Practice representative and Mr Michael Di Mattia as College representative (excluding Clinical College) – whilst Dr Deborah Wilmoth completed her term. Ms Robyn Batten and Ms Mary Latham were reappointed as our independent non-executive Directors for Governance and Finance respectively. Ms Hannah Challis and Mr Geoff Gallas were appointed to the Board in early 2019 as non-independent non-executive Directors, following the conclusion of the terms of Mr Peter Zarris and Ms Ronita Neal.

A final word. Thank you to the staff at the APS for the energy, professionalism and fun that you bring to the task of supporting our members. Thank you to the thousands of volunteers who spend their precious personal time getting the APS message out to members through Branches, Colleges, Interest Groups, advisory groups and committees. And thank you to you – our members – for your contribution to this valued profession. We look forward to working with you to support and enhance your practice and studies, both now and well into the future.
When I began my role as CEO of the Australian Psychological Society in late July 2018, I came to the Society with two clear intentions. One was to strengthen operations and member engagement, and the other was to ensure that the APS remains the leading voice of psychology in Australia.

My first task was to consult and to listen. I spent countless hours meeting and corresponding with members, staff and the Board – exploring the current issues impacting psychologists and the profession more broadly.

Looking back, I know that these first few months were critical to achieving what I believe has been a positive shift in APS member engagement and services, and in raising the APS’s profile. There is little doubt that competing views from our diverse membership create challenges. I have heard – and continue to hear – a myriad of opinions about how to advance and improve the delivery of psychological services in Australia. But rather than using this as a reason to stall progress, APS President Ros Knight and I have been intent on finding ways to corral these competing views into effective action.

The Strategic Plan for 2018-2021, informed by member consultation and mapped out by myself and the Board, formed part of this approach. It lays out the direction for the APS, with four key pillars against which the organisation plans and delivers its activities. In this Annual Report you will find highlights from the year under each of these pillars: Leading the Way, Inspiring National Voice, Trusted Professionals and Advocates and Influences.

Underpinning the goals of the Strategic Plan is the statement of intent that we – both staff and members – will work together and use one voice to achieve each of the plan’s elements. The APS determinedly put this into action in the development of the APS White Paper: The Future of Psychology in Australia, submitted to government in June 2019 in response to the Medicare Benefits Schedule Review.

In developing this White Paper, the APS made every attempt to reverse the historical tide of concern about lack of consultation by reaching out to every member. The Committee methodically distilled your views into key themes resulting in 17 clear, actionable recommendations. We stated our vision to government but more importantly – in practical terms – we built a blueprint for delivery. The result: a program for change which, if adopted in full, has the potential to broaden the reach of all psychologists via increased sessions and treatments, and which could make much needed headway in halting the sustained spread of mental health problems across Australian communities. Thank you to everyone who contributed to its development.

Strengthening the voice of psychology has taken shape in other forms over the past year. I have travelled through each state and territory, meeting with ministers, their advisors, opposition leaders, bureaucrats, employers of psychologists, and representatives of educational institutions. At each meeting I have promoted the work of the APS, bringing to the table the needs of psychologists and clients. I have laid the foundations for strong relationships built on trust and transparency to ensure a strong future for the profession.

Whilst a lot of work has gone into amplifying the APS’s influence within Australia, so too has there been a focus on strengthening international relationships, and on understanding how we as an organisation – and the psychology profession in Australia – are perceived on the world stage. Ros and I represented the APS at conferences overseas, attending meetings and engaging in discussions on ways in which the international psychology community can come together to move the profession forward.

The British Psychological Society’s annual conference presented an excellent opportunity to participate in a full day forum with representatives from the psychological societies around the world. Born out of this forum was the idea to build an international campaign to promote the
role that psychologists can play in helping to tackle the climate change crisis. This, in turn, helped to inform the APS’s theme for Psychology Week 2019.

These relationship-building efforts have been coupled with an increased focus on marketing and communications. Our expanded team has streamlined the content coming out of the APS – both for members and the public – through revised scheduling of all our communications and via regular assessment of our website content. The APS’s presence in the media has also been a key focus, with a number of APS psychologists speaking to journalists across a range of issues as well as featuring on the weekly Macquarie Media radio network throughout the first half of 2019. Our presence on social media has increased as we tailor and craft messaging to suit our membership, the psychology community and the Australian community more broadly.

Services to our members have expanded, with the Member Services Centre now answering a wider range of enquiries, including those on national registration and CPD requirements. The Professional Advisory Service continued to provide significant support with close to 9,000 member contacts made on key queries about legal matters, Medicare and confidentiality. We continued to diversify our events and continuing professional development, with reviews conducted into existing webinars and the introduction of a new online course on suicide prevention. And a range of resources were developed and updated to meet member and community needs, including the launch of a new Student HQ and Early Career HQ for APS members.

Despite the headwinds facing both the APS and the profession – we have seen an uptick in membership numbers – growing to 24,361.

Whilst there have been a lot of changes at the APS, these changes have been made to strengthen the work that we do for our members. I want to thank the broad church that is our membership for your candour on how best to move the profession forward. Thank you to the staff who have played such an important part in this process of change, and to the Board and President for your support and guidance on how to achieve the goals set for the APS.
Membership in 2019

24,361 Members

BY LOCATION

BY EMPLOYMENT SETTING

FIGURES AS AT 31 MAY 2019

Full online annual report at www.psychology.org.au/APS-Annual-Reports/2019

Australian Psychological Society Limited
Achievements in 2019

The APS launched its Strategic Plan for 2018-2021 at the 2018 APS Congress. The key achievements and activities for 2019 are presented here under the Strategic Plan’s four pillar framework, which is built on a foundation of good governance. Connecting these pillars is a thriving society of psychologists who work together for the benefit of the profession and their clients.
Leading the way

The APS has been leading the way this year in the science and practice of psychology. As thought leaders in psychological wellbeing in Australia, the APS has lifted the profile of our profession whilst working to improve public psychological literacy.

Promoting expert members to inform public debate

The APS has taken a more confident and insistent public role this year. We have continued to strengthen our profile, promoting expert members to inform public debate.

Highlights

− An increased presence in the media from the President, CEO and members including via radio, digital and print.
− InPsych, distributed bimonthly to all members, provided relevant and engaging content from members and the wider psychology community.
− Wiley’s #top20article initiative featured the most downloaded articles by APS authors.
− APS Board director, Professor Tim Carey FAPS, featured on the two-part SBS documentary How ‘Mad’ Are You?
− The APS Response to the Productivity Commission Inquiry into Mental Health.

Enhancing public understanding and literacy

A key focus has been on engaging with the wider Australian community to increase understanding of psychology and the role it can play in their lives.

Highlights

APS psychologists spoke on the Macquarie Media radio network’s weekly Toward Change program in the first half of 2019 on a wide range of topics, including sleep, grief and anxiety in children.

More targeted social media activities were rolled out, with content tailored to the needs of both the public and psychologists.

Psychology Week 2018 campaign:

− The APS and Swinburne University produced ‘The Australian Loneliness Report’ based on a national wellbeing survey of adults. It revealed that 1 in 4 Australians report being lonely, which is having an impact on Australians physical and mental health, with depression, anxiety and poor sleep reported by those experiencing loneliness.
− More than 40 APS members signed up for the public launch held in Melbourne’s CBD, speaking to members of the public and handing out a loneliness tip sheet and information on psychology.
− Psychology Week received extensive media attention, with coverage on the ABC, Sky News, in the Herald Sun and The Age, as well as many other media and social media outlets.

Finding, exploring and adopting the right technology

The APS has been reviewing its systems across the organisation, finding better ways to manage the flow of information to members to ensure a seamless experience from sign-up to renewal.
Setting the agenda on public health and wellbeing has taken many forms this year. The APS has drawn upon the broad church of the profession to ensure psychologists are represented across all areas of public health, and has widened its reach and impact in Australia and internationally.

Setting the agenda on public health and wellbeing
In 2019 the APS has explored new partnerships and opportunities, carefully developing stakeholder relationships to ensure psychologists are granted an appropriate role in a range of organisations, settings and systems in Australian life.

Highlights
− The CEO met with a range of decision makers at state and federal levels, including government ministers, shadow ministers and bureaucrats to advocate for the work of all psychologists.
− Relationships were strengthened with the regulator and with the Chair of the Psychology Board of Australia to widen the flow of communication with the APS.
− APS staff represented psychologists on a large number of influential advisory groups and committees across areas including health service delivery, health workforce and regulation, aged care and child and family welfare.

Celebrating the diversity of the profession
Embracing the diversity of the profession and harnessing the different views of psychologists has been carried out via consultations with members and through diverse representations across APS publications.

Highlights
− APS Medicare Benefits Schedule Expert Committee, set up in February 2019. Committee members were independently selected by member groups, with a health economist and two consumer representatives also included.
− Advisory Council – made up of a diverse cross-section of the membership – met twice this year and played a large part in informing the priorities of the Strategic Plan.
− Industry Advisory Group, set up to ensure representation from interested parties, some of which include the Psychology Board of Australia, the Australian College of Applied Psychology, the Australian Clinical Psychology Association and the Institute of Practising Psychologists.
− Covering a broad range of topics in InPsych and linking APS psychologists in with the media to speak to their area of expertise.
− Making the case via submissions to Government that psychologists are experts in the assessment and treatment of mental health disorders.

An inspiring national voice
The President and CEO represented the APS at conferences abroad, attending meetings and engaging in discussions on how to strengthen ties with the international psychology community.

Highlights
− New Zealand Psychological Society conference in September 2018. An undertaking was made to work together on more joint activities.
− Visit at the National Office from the British Psychological Society’s outgoing President Nicola Gale and Chief Executive Officer, Sarb Bajwa, in September 2018.
− Participation in a full day forum at the British Psychological Society’s Annual Conference held in Harrogate, England in May 2019 on the role psychologists can play in helping to tackle the climate change crisis. Plans for an international campaign are now underway.
− APA Annual Convention in San Francisco in August 2018. Mr Anthony Cichello presented on Australian psychology as part of a panel of presidents of psychological member associations.
− International Union of Psychological Science in June 2018. Mr Anthony Cichello presented on the APS to the CEOs and Presidents of international psychological member associations.

Expert voice on the science and practice of psychology
The input from academic members provides the scientific platform for the profession’s endeavours and guides practitioners in their work. The APS Journals have continued to hold their position as respected sources of topical and impactful research across the different fields of psychology.

Highlights
− Australian Psychologist, Australian Journal of Psychology and Clinical Psychologist featured in Wiley’s #top20article campaign, which celebrates the authors of the top 20 most downloaded articles in the last 12 months.
Trusted professionals

Being trusted by our stakeholders and the community is fundamental to the success and advancement of psychology. To this end, the APS has been finding new ways to support members in their studies and practice, including through its services and continuing professional development.

Supporting members through our services

Considerable work has been done to expand and bring our member services up to date.

Highlights

- Member Services Centre was re-launched in March 2019 and now answers a wider range of enquiries on national registration, areas of practice endorsement, CPD requirements and membership administration.
- Professional Advisory Service – run by a team of highly skilled psychologists from across the different practice areas – received close to 9,000 member contacts, with the most common queries being about legal matters, Medicare and confidentiality.

Equipping members with the right tools

- Over 7,500 psychologists took part in the continuing professional development webinars offered by the APS Institute.
- In October 2018, the Institute offered a package deal for the three-part PsyBA-approved Supervisor Training to become a Board Approved Supervisor.
  - Several hundred psychologists completed all three parts and were granted supervisor status, whilst over 100 completed the Part-4 refresher course to maintain their status as a Board Approved Supervisor.
  - A new online course, ‘Suicide prevention: A practitioner’s guide’ was released in December 2018.

Publications and resources highlights

- InPsych was distributed bimonthly to over 24,500 members. Cover features included loneliness, non-suicidal self-injury, and the changing nature of work, and members were kept up-to-date on issues including mental health, education, ethics, law, and mentoring and supervision.
- The Power of the Minds – Celebrating 50 years of the Australian Psychological Society was published.

A range of resources were developed and updated to meet member and community needs, including:

- An updated literature review on evidence-based psychological interventions in the treatment of mental disorders
- A practice guide to support members in the assessment of young people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) backgrounds, along with updated practice guides and web resources
- Resources and templates to support members working in private practice
- Information sheets targeting members of the public about a range of mental health issues, including autism spectrum disorder and specific learning disabilities.

The following Ethical Guidelines were approved by the APS Board:

- Ethical guidelines for psychological practice with clients who disclose memories related to traumatic experiences
- Ethical guidelines for working with and in the media
- Ethical guidelines for working with young people

Bringing members together

In 2019, members took advantage of the professional support and networking – and reduced member rate – that come with attending APS conferences and Member Group events.

Over 15,000 member group registrants were recorded for over 100 Member Group events.

Colleges conferences

A total of 1300 delegates attended the College conferences in 2018-19.

- APS College of Clinical Neuropsychologists Conference, 8-10 November 2018, Brisbane, 236 delegates
- APS College of Educational and Developmental Psychologists Conference, 21-22 March 2019, Hobart, 185 delegates
- APS College of Health Psychologists Conference, 24-27 April 2019, Adelaide, 117 delegates
- APS College of Clinical Psychologists Conference, 24-26 May 2019, Melbourne, 816 delegates

2018 APS Congress

The APS Congress held in Sydney on 27-30 September at the International Convention Centre was a resounding success. Over 1400 people attended, with over 250 presentations delivered across 11 concurrent sessions.
Recognising member excellence and achievement

The APS presents more than 90 awards to recognise the contribution made by members and psychologists at the highest level.

**Highlights**

**Recipients of the 2018 APS Awards**

**President’s Award for Distinguished Contribution to Psychology in Australia**
Prof Nancy Pachana

**Distinguished Contribution to Psychological Science Award**
Prof Alex Haslam
Prof Kaarin Anstey

**Distinguished Contribution to Psychological Education Award**
Prof Kathryn von Treuer

**Media Award for Public Engagement with Psychological Science**
Prof Nick Haslam

**Outstanding Academic Mentor Award**
Prof Frank Dean

**Early Career Research Award**
Dr Fiona Kumfor
Dr Scott Griffiths

**Early Career Teaching Award**
Dr Dana Wong
Dr Kirsten Murray

**Award for Excellent PhD Thesis in Psychology**
Dr Kate Bartel
Dr Stephanie Wong
Dr Hannah Thomas

Rallying the next generation of psychologists

The APS achieved a considerable increase in student members in 2019.

**Highlights**

- Membership was made more affordable by reducing the fee for students from $85 to $55.
- The fee was waived for new members who are postgraduate psychology students.
- The online joining process was upgraded.
- A new Student HQ and Early Career HQ for APS members was launched to assist students and early career psychologists navigate those first steps in their psychology education and career.

The APS continued to be the national authority for the assessment of academic qualifications in psychology for migration, university entry into Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) courses and assessments of skilled employment history.

**Highlights**

479 assessments of psychology qualifications were completed:
- 152 for migration to Australia under the skilled migration categories of psychologist
- 312 for entry into an APAC course
- 15 for skilled employment history purposes
Advocates and influences

The APS is driven to advocate for equitable access to psychological services for all Australians. In 2019 this has been carried out via a range of activities – notably through over 50 submissions to government and via our representation on a wide range of influential advisory groups and committees.

Promoting the value of appropriate and effective psychological interventions

Mental health has been firmly on the agenda of governments this year – both at a federal and state/territory level. The APS has grasped this opportunity to engage with decision makers on the benefits of psychological interventions – and on service delivery and funding – to ensure equitable access.

An immeasurable amount of hours, research and consultation went into the APS’s advocacy work in 2019, with a particular focus on two large scale reviews of Australia’s mental health system undertaken by the Federal Government.

Highlights

The APS White Paper: The Future of Psychology in Australia was submitted in early June 2019, in response to the review of the Medicare Benefit Scheme. The White Paper is a blueprint for the Government to improve Medicare and the mental health system and makes 17 recommendations focusing on:

− increasing community access to, and affordability of, psychological services – notably through our call for an increase to 20 sessions from the current 10 sessions supported by Medicare, for all psychologists
− increasing treatment and care options
− reducing the burden that poor mental health creates for individuals, families, communities, governments and the economy.

The Australian Government announced in November 2018 that the Productivity Commission would undertake an investigation into the social and economic benefits of improving mental health. The APS Response to the Productivity Commission Inquiry into Mental Health, also submitted in June 2019, makes a range of recommendations, with priority given to prevention efforts, access, addressing services gaps, and workforce issues.

Expanding the profession’s reach and impact in the community

APS strategic advocacy and contribution to community wellbeing was supported through representation on a large number of influential advisory groups and committees. The APS voiced its expertise on a range of issues and areas where psychology plays a role.

Highlights

− National Aged Care Alliance
− Education Network
− Department of Veteran Affairs
− Department of Home Affairs Health Expert Advisory Group (HEAG)
− Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) Professions Reference Group
− Australian Digital Health Agency
− Department of Justice Victoria’s Work Development Permit Scheme
Advocating for psychology

In 2019, the APS’s strategic advocacy and contribution to community wellbeing was supported through the preparation of formal submissions to inquiries and reviews and via representation on a large number of influential advisory groups and committees.

Here you will find this influential work grouped into themes. Each theme outlines the APS’s position on this area in 2019, with selected submissions and representations listed to highlight the advocacy undertaken on behalf of all psychologists.

### Submissions

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<td>Education and Employment</td>
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<td>Social Issues</td>
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### Representations

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### Aged Care and End-of-Life

- Equitable funding for aged care residents to access mental health assessment and treatment service at a level similar to individuals living in the community.
- Increased input from psychological science and the profession into the aged care system, including reducing reliance on pharmaceutical measures for addressing behavioural issues and respecting self-determination.
- The importance of psychological care and oversight in the end-of-life decisions and processes.
- Advocating that changes to the laws in relation to assisted dying must never compromise the provision and resourcing of end-of-life and palliative care services.

### Highlights

**Submissions**
- APS response to the Department of Health’s Residential Aged Care Funding Model
- APS Response to the Mental Health Reference Group Report
- State based submissions to legislative changes regarding voluntary assisted dying such as the APS submission to the Queensland Inquiry into aged care, end-of-life and palliative care and voluntary assisted dying

**Representations**
- National Aged Care Alliance

### Child and Family Welfare

- Advocating for increased integration of psychologists and psychological science within the justice system.
- The critical role of psychologists in schools, including minimum ratios, and the ethical and legal issues to address the safe delivery of psychological services to children.
- The importance of ensuring the quality and safety of psychological care for people who have experienced childhood sexual abuse i.e. trauma-informed practice, psychological safety.

### Highlights

**Submissions**
− APS response to a review of Victoria’s Child safe Standards
− APS response to the Productivity Commission’s Inquiry into Mental Health
− Submission to Queensland Anti-Cyberbullying Taskforce

Representations
− DRANZEN
− Disaster Resilience Australia and New Zealand
− Education Network
− Psychologists in early intervention services (Victoria)
− Victorian Department of Education, Functional Behaviour Analysis Expert Group

Disability
• National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) service allocation and the intersection of the NDIS and mainstream health services and the emergence of services gaps created as a result of the criteria for a psychosocial disability.
• Addressing several barriers to the delivery of psychological services to NDIS participants.

Highlights
Submissions
− APS response to the National Disability Agreement Review: Productivity Commission Issues Paper

Representations
− Department of Veteran Affairs

Health Service Delivery
• Ensuring the delivery of psychological services is evidence-based and aligns with the practice of psychology.
• The structure and function of mental health services is informed by psychological science at the state and federal government level.
• Advocating for the protection of data and confidential psychological information.
• Ensuring there is a continued focus on implementing evaluation and measurement of mental health outcomes.

Highlights
Submissions
− APS White Paper: The Future of Psychology in Australia
− APS Response to the Productivity Commission Inquiry into Mental Health
− APS Response to the Draft National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Information Priorities
− APS Response to the Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs about the My Health Record System
− APS Response to the GP Mental Health Training Standards 2020-22

Representations
− Department of Home Affairs Health Expert Advisory Group (HEAG)
− National Rural Health Alliance
− National Workforce Agenda for the domestic and family violence, and sexual assault workplaces
− Child Sexual Assault Evidence Pilot
− ACS&QHC Primary Care Advisory Group
− Department of Human Services - Strategic Consultative Group
− Allied Health Treatment Cycle Clinical Expert Workshop

Health Workforce and Regulation
• Psychology Board, AHPRA and COAG ministerial council issues that impact on psychologists and the broader health workforce such as governance of the boards, system linkages, regulation of psychologists, mandatory reporting, legal requirements and other standards and policy issues.
• Remuneration for psychologists.
• Workforce planning and advocating for improved access to psychologists for people living in regional, rural and remote areas of Australia, including calls to support the training of psychologists in these areas.
• Advocating for the role of psychologists across sectors, including as experts in mental health, clinical governance, supervision and clinical oversight of other mental health workers.

Highlights
Submissions
− APS Response to Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Health Council regarding proposed reforms for mandatory reporting by treating practitioners and Regulation of Australia’s health professions
− APS Response to Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) regarding cultural competency
− APS Response to the Senate Community Affairs References Committee Inquiry into the Accessibility and quality of mental health services in rural and remote Australia
− APS response to the Public Consultation: Area of practice endorsement registration standard

Representations
− AHPRA Professions Reference Group
− Australian Digital Health Agency
Social Issues

- Advocating for social cohesion and combating racism and other forms of discrimination.
- Increasing the psychological responsivity to current and ex-service military personnel and advocating for improved system processes for the benefit of veteran mental health.
- Advocating for and supporting the cultural safety of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and reducing the health disparity between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

Highlights

Submissions
- APS response to the Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans’ Advocacy and Support Services Scoping Study
- Submission to the Inquiry into Intergenerational Welfare Dependence

Representations
- Department of Justice Victoria’s Work Development Permit Scheme

Workplace and Employment

- Elevation of psychological wellbeing of workers and the structure and regulation of workplace wellbeing and psychological health, including the management of psychological injuries.

Highlights

Submissions

Representations
- State Insurance Regulatory Authority
Professional collaboration and support

Member Groups, divisions and committees are integral to the APS’s relationship building, information sharing and consultation. Over 400 Member Group events were attended by 15,055 people in 2019, highlighting the enduring strength, relevance and popularity of member-driven activities.

Divisions

Division of Colleges
Ms Ros Knight (C)
Ms Frances Mirabelli (C)
Dr Amelia Scholes
Dr Brendan Meagher
Prof Jenny Sharples
Dr Catriona Davis-McCabe
Dr Vicki McKenzie
Miss Kerrilee Hollows
Dr Allison Clarke
Ms Heather Ikin
Mr David Williams

Division of General Psychological Practice (DGPP)
Ms Ros Knight (C)
Ms Frances Mirabelli (C)
Mrs Jay Anderson
Mr Gregg Chapman
Mrs Bernadette Davies
Dr Terence Kirkpatrick
Ms Jeni Kousoulinis
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Chair: Ms Virginia Ross
Members: 590

NSW Central Coast
Chair: Ms Susan McConaghey
Members: 282
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<th>Region</th>
<th>Chair</th>
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<tr>
<td>NSW Far-South Coast</td>
<td>Mr Stephen Brigham</td>
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<tr>
<td>NSW Mid-North Coast</td>
<td>Mrs Alira Bayndrian</td>
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<td>NSW North Coast</td>
<td>Kylie O’Brien; Ms Jane McGregor</td>
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<td>NSW Western Region</td>
<td>Mrs Margaret Johnson</td>
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<td>Riverina</td>
<td>Mr Daniel Hayes; Mr Curtis Madeley</td>
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<td>Shoalhaven</td>
<td>Dr Karen Donaldson</td>
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<td>South-West Sydney</td>
<td>Ms Adele Hall; Ms Mary-Anne Frahm</td>
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<td>Sydney</td>
<td>Adj A/Prof Amanda Gordon; Ms Natalie Mamone</td>
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<td>Northern Territory</td>
<td>Mr Scott Bevis</td>
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<td>Central Australia</td>
<td>Dr Mark Davis; Dr Kate Argentino</td>
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<td>Queensland</td>
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<td>Brisbane Area</td>
<td>Ms Jayne Crawley</td>
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<td>Bundaberg-Hervey Bay</td>
<td>Ms Karina Wegner; Ms Ing-Chen Chi</td>
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<td>Central Queensland</td>
<td>Miss Julie-Anne Cronin; Ms Helen Madell</td>
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<td>Far-North Queensland</td>
<td>Dr Kerry Francis</td>
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<td>Gold Coast</td>
<td>Dr Leah Pischek-Simpson; Dr Jessica Paynter</td>
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<td>Mackay</td>
<td>Ms Kathleen Elliot</td>
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<td>North Queensland</td>
<td>Ms Renee McAllister; Ms Carolyn Clark</td>
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<td>Sunshine Coast</td>
<td>Dr Sally James; Mrs Gretchen Mitchell</td>
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<td>Dr Paul McQueen; Dr Patricia Hoare</td>
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<td>Ms Shelley Rogers</td>
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<td>Tasmania</td>
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<td>Hobart</td>
<td>Mr Peter Nelson; Dr Philippa Cannan</td>
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<td>North-West Tasmania</td>
<td>Mrs Caroline Macleod</td>
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<td>Ms Olivia Boer</td>
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<td>Victoria</td>
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<td>Albury/Wodonga</td>
<td>Mr Paul Bizzotto</td>
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<td>Ballarat</td>
<td>Ms Jacqueline White; Ms Arijana Hostnjak</td>
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<td>Dr Geoffrey Denham; Miss Amanda Kelly</td>
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<td>Mr Stephen McAnulty</td>
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<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>Dr Peter Eide</td>
<td>5,739</td>
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<td>Mornington Peninsula</td>
<td>Ms Frances Malcolm; Dr Diane McGreal</td>
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<td>Outer Eastern Melbourne</td>
<td>Dr James Collett</td>
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<tr>
<td>South-West Victorian</td>
<td>Ms Susan Hook</td>
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<td>Western Australia</td>
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<td>Goldfields Esperance</td>
<td>Ms Christina Petz; Miss Melanie Crockett</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-West WA</td>
<td>Miss Bonnie Crosthwaite; Mrs Sharyn Jones</td>
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<td>Perth</td>
<td>Ms Lidia Genovese; Mrs Sandra Joyce</td>
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<tr>
<td>South-West WA</td>
<td>Ms Carol Morgan</td>
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<td>WA Great Southern</td>
<td>Mr Bill Webb</td>
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Recognising member contributions

In 2019 the APS awarded the status of Honorary Fellow, Fellow or Life Member to close to 40 members. This recognition reflects extraordinary contribution, significant contribution and over 50 years of membership respectively.

The grade of Honorary Fellow is bestowed on Fellows who have made an extraordinary contribution to the advancement of the APS and a distinguished contribution to the advancement of psychological knowledge or practice.

New Honorary Fellows
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New Fellows
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Assoc Prof Dawn Darlaston-Jones
Dr Janis Fairbairn
Ms Roslyn Knight
Dr Lynne Magor-Blatch
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Dr Helga Rowe
Mr Lewis Rumiz
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Mrs Robin Truda
Mr John Urbano
Mrs Pamela Williams Smith
Ms Helga Zimmermann

Queen’s Birthday Honours

Officer (AO) in the General Division of the Order of Australia
Professor Suzanne Kathleen Chambers AO MAPS for distinguished service to medical research, particularly in the area of psycho-oncology and to community health through patient-care strategies to assist men with prostate cancer.

Member (AM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia
Professor Jeannette Milgrom AM FAPS for significant service to psychology as a researcher, advisor and administrator, to education, and to professional organisations.

Medal (OAM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia
Mr Robert George Sharples OAM MAPS for service to community health as a psychologist.

2019 Australia Day Honours

Member (AM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia
Professor Jennifer McIntosh AM MAPS for significant service to medicine, particularly child developmental psychology.

Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the General Division
Mr David Chong MAPS for service to the Brazilian community in Victoria.
Ms Heather Gridley FAPS for service to community health.

Conspicuous Service Medal (CSM) Australian Army
Major James Burchmore MAPS for meritorious achievement in the development and implementation of mental health and suicide prevention initiatives for the Australian Defence Force.