Welcome to the final edition of the DPRET Communiqué for 2016. The aim of this communication is to inform APS members and colleagues in academia about the work of the DPRET Forum.

**Highlights of 2016**

**Submissions**

Several collaborative submissions from the APS and DPRET Forum were produced this year including responses to:

- Australian Government Department of Education and Training: Driving innovation fairness and excellence in Australian higher education paper
- Medical Research Future Fund Consultation for the development of the Australian medical research and innovation strategy and related priorities
- Australian Research Council: Engagement and impact assessment consultation paper
- Psychology Board of Australia: Proposed guideline for transitional programs
- Australian Psychology Accreditation Council: Third Consultation Draft on accreditation standards for programs of study in psychology
- Mapping of professional accreditation in the context of higher education regulatory and standards frameworks

**APS Congress**

The DPRET Forum sponsored a number of the 2016 APS Congress sessions including:

**Early Career Researcher Forum:** This forum was an informative and interactive session which aimed to provide early career researchers and supervisors/academic mentors with a range of strategies to assist with academic career progression. The Early Career Researcher Forum was particularly successful with the opportunity for the Forum members and other senior and late career delegates to give advice and support to the early career Congress delegates. This was received well by both parties. It is hoped that an extended networking opportunity for early career academics will be available at the next Congress.

**Innovation in psychology education: Opportunities, barriers and solutions:** This DPRET sponsored session presented a number of diverse perspectives from national and international leaders in psychology education. With the aim of discussing the barriers to, and innovation required to update and reinvent psychology education in Australia.

**The replication crisis: Open science, how it helps and what we all need to know and do:** The Forum was aimed at helping teachers, researchers and practitioners to understand the new requirements (open science practices) which include: preregistration, openness of research material, results and data.
Research Translation: Implications for psychological scientists and practitioners:
This session explored how psychological scientists and practitioners can contribute to the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Research Translation Faculty’s aim; translation of Australian health and medical research into government policy and practice.

The following sessions were also DPRET related and involved the input of the DPRET Forum and/or its working groups:

- **APS Journal Editors session**
- **Teaching and assessing critical thinking: Helping students become better thinkers:** This interactive workshop run by keynote speaker Professor Diane Halpern was designed to aid academic staff in teaching critical thinking to their students using the latest applications from cognitive research.
- **Innovation in psychology education: Innovations in practice:** This was an education related symposium which aimed to provide participants with samples of the national academic work on innovative approaches in psychology education currently being produced.
- **Two talks by our 2015 Distinguished Award winners:**
  - *A collision of ideas, expectations and outcomes* by Professor Shirley Morrissey
  - *E-psychology – a new paradigm for psychological practice* by Professor David Kavanagh
- **Winner of the 2015 President’s Award for Distinguished Contribution to Psychology in Australia,** Professor Justin Kenardy, gave a talk on *Can we prevent posttraumatic stress disorder.*
- **Winthrop Professor David Badcock gave the Fellow’s address:** *Psychology: Keeping it all together for the common good.*
- **The Individual Oral papers by our rising stars (Early career psychological scientists).**
- **Posters were presented by 30 of the 2015 APS Prize winners.**

Launch of the Australian Indigenous Psychology Education Project (AIPEP) Papers


1. AIPEP Curriculum Framework
2. AIPEP Guidelines for Increasing the Recruitment, Retention & Graduation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Psychology Students
3. AIPEP Workforce Capabilities Framework.

APS Science Awards

The selection of the 2016 winners was a challenging task given the outstanding field of candidates. Look out for an article on the 2016 APS Science Award winners in the February 2017 edition of *InPsych.*

If you would like further information about the APS Science Awards including how to apply or nominate candidates for 2017, please visit: [http://www.psychology.org.au/about/awards/](http://www.psychology.org.au/about/awards/)
News

APS refugee and asylum seeker policy activities

The DPRET Forum would like to highlight that the APS has had a long and active involvement in advocating for the health and human rights of refugees and asylum seekers on behalf of and with the support of our members.

These activities include the production of numerous submissions, media releases and resources in addition to a strong position statement and review paper.

To get involved, see the latest releases, or review some of the significant and extensive work being performed please follow this link:

https://www.psychology.org.au/community/public-interest/refugees/

Save the Date: AusPLaT - Australian Psychology Learning and Teaching conference

The Psychology and Education Interest Group met at the 2016 APS Congress and recommended that a psychology teaching focused conference be held in 2017.

Professor Tony Machin (University of Southern Queensland) and Professor Shirley Morrissey (Griffith University) will be co-chairing this conference.

The “AusPLaT- Australian Psychology Learning and Teaching” conference will be held 15-17 September 2017 at the Ipswich campus of the University of Southern Queensland.

This conference will run back-to-back with the Science of Learning Symposium which will be held in Brisbane: http://slrc.org.au/science-learning-experts-heading-queensland/

National Health & Medical Research Council (NHMRC)

In late November, the NHMRC and the Consumer Health Forum of Australian announced the release of their revised collaborative statement on Consumer and Community Involvement in Health and Medical Research. This revision was produced to encompass the increasing recognition and consideration of the place of consumers and the public in health research. The NHMRC has also announced the release of the proposed Guide on investigating and managing potential breaches of the code. This is a revision of the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research and is available to all for review and feedback using the NHMRC Public Consultation portal. Please use the following links for further information:


DPRET Forum Membership Change

The APS team would like to thank Winthrop Professor David Badcock, Associate Professor Jacky Cranney, Professor Simon Crowe, Professor Mike Kyrios and Professor Paul Martin for their contribution to the DPRET Forum from 2013 – 2016. Special thanks to Professor Tim Carey for Co-Chairing the Forum this year.
With the Forum members stepping down there will be an opportunity for expressions of interest for those hoping to join the Forum in 2017. The Expressions of Interest forms will be available soon, or contact science@psychology.org.au.

College Course Approvals

- The APS College Course Approvals will continue in 2017 whilst we await the new APAC accreditation standards, including for area of practice.

The DPRF Forum wishes you all a safe and happy festive season and looks forward to your feedback and collaboration in the New Year!

How you can become involved with DPRF

Have something that you would like discussed by the DPRF Forum, or have a query regarding the work of DPRF? We are happy to receive your feedback. Email the topic or query to science@psychology.org.au and we will endeavour to answer your query and/or raise the topic for discussion at the DPRF Forum.

Have you considered submitting your research to the APS journals?

Are you working on some interesting research that you think is within the aims and scope of one of the APS journals? Follow the links below:

Australian Journal of Psychology
Australian Psychologist
Clinical Psychologist
The Educational and Developmental Psychologist
Australasian Journal of Organisational Psychology
The Australian Community Psychologist

Not an APS member? Learn more about APS membership for academics and students here.