

**SUMMARY OF A MEETING OF THE
PSYCHOLOGY PROFESSION ADVISORY FORUM (PPAF)
HELD TUESDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2017¹**

Representatives of the New Zealand Psychologists Board, the New Zealand College of Clinical Psychologists, the New Zealand Psychological Society, the (university training programme) Heads of Department and Programme Leaders, and from the DHB Professional Leaders attended this meeting in Wellington.

Cultural Competence (*Updates re each organisation's cultural competence activities*)

The Board have received a few nominations for the proposed Māori Cultural Advice Reference Group, and will be discussing how best to progress the development at their meeting on February 22nd. (See further information under Board's report below.)

Reports from PPAF Members

NZCCP

The College reported that:

- They had their first Council meeting for the year yesterday. It was very well attended and they covered a lot of ground including reports from the strategic planning subgroups and developing a tagline, which are all making great progress.
- Paul Skirrow commented on the College's behalf to the Human Rights Commission's review of 'Seclusion and Restraint'. He is now working on a submission to the Mental Health Act and Human Rights Discussion Document.
- They are working on feedback to the Guidelines Group for their New Zealand Autism Spectrum Disorder Guideline Supplementary Paper relating to ethnic culture.
- As part of their goal of developing strategic alliances, they have become a member of the Rural Health Association Aotearoa NZ (RHAANZ) and their representative to this group, Leigh Anderson, is attending their upcoming conference in Wellington at the end of March.
- They are also in the process of becoming a member of the Health and Safety Association of New Zealand (HASANZ).
- The Psychology Workforce Task Force group met again this morning and of note is Malcolm Stewart's wonderful work on the Psychology Career "Pipeline" Pathway: Issues and Possible Solutions. The group is to have its next meeting at the Ministry of Health on Tuesday 23 May 2017.
- This year's Journals are in the planning phase with the themes of Trauma (June) and Leadership (December).
- They are planning a leadership workshop in early October presented by Marlene Thorne, Dee Ramsel, and Dr Connie Schroyer from the Society of Psychologists in Management (SPIM). This will be free to NZCCP members and will be presented in Auckland and Christchurch.
- The flyer and call for papers for their annual conference, "Working with Complexity, Clinical Psychology in the Digital Age", have been circulated far and wide. The conference is scheduled for 29 and 30 July in Queenstown, and includes a preconference workshop on 27 and 28 July, entitled Co-existing Problems in the 21st Century/Digital Age and presented by Matthew Berry. There is also an impressive list of keynote speakers and other workshop presenters including Dr Mary Aiken who is an Adjunct Associate Professor at University College Dublin, Geary Institute for Public Policy, and Academic Advisor (Psychology) to the European Cyber Crime Centre (EC3) at Europol. Mary's work as a cyberpsychologist inspired the CBS primetime television series 'CSI: Cyber' and she is a producer on the show. Her recent book, *The Cyber Effect* was selected by the Sunday Times as a 2016 book of the year in the 'Thought' category, and the international science journal *Nature* listed *The Cyber Effect* in the top 20 books of 2016. Other presenters include Terry Huriwai (Manager, Te Hau

¹ **Note: This summary is based on draft minutes that have yet to be formally adopted as a true and accurate record. Each participant has, however, reviewed the draft minutes and no substantive corrections have been proffered.**

Marire Programme, Te Rau Matatini), Associate Professor Simon Adamson, Judge Tim Black, Professor Richie Poulton, Dr Kirsten Davis, and Dr Steven Leicester (who leads 'eheadsace', a national teleweb service providing online youth mental health interventions across Australia).

NZPsS

The Society reported that:

- They recently made a submission to the Human Rights Commission on seclusion and restraint.
- They are working on a response to the Vulnerable Children's Bill.
- They have been advocating on behalf of practitioners working for the Ministry of Education
- Moana Waitoki attended the Asia Pacific Forum in India.
- They will be offering the new "Postgraduate Social Justice Research" Scholarship this year.
- Nominations have been called for the new student representative to replace Michele Blick.
- They will be offering the following awards in 2017:
 - Early Career Goddard-Research and Scholarship.
 - Dame Marie Clay Award.
 - Karahipi Tumuaki.
- Their Professional Development for 2017 includes:
 - A series of free workshops for Family Court practitioners.
 - A seminar on digital communication and ethics.
 - A joint offering with ACC providing an introduction to working with clients with sexual violence trauma. This was offered in cities in 2016 and is now being offered in regions
 - A workshop on TBI.
- Their 2017 Conference is in Christchurch, with keynotes by Devon Polaschek, Gil Reyes, Ruth Mann, Suzanne Pitama, and Michael Corballis.
- Te Manu Kai I Te Matauranga and the Professional Practice book are selling very well. NZCCP has published a review of Te Manu in their Journal and is also reviewing the Professional Practice book.
- Planning for the NZPsS 50th Jubilee in 2018 has begun.
- A business continuity plan is being developed to better deal with the aftermath of earthquakes following the recent "Kaikoura" quake in November. (The NZPsS office building is one of 80 to be re-examined by order of the WCC.)

Sharing of client information: Some NZPsS members have expressed concerns re having to share info with MSD that might identify clients. NGOs contracting to MSD have to hand over client level info or they may lose their contract. The NZPsS is likely to make a submission to MSD re the ethical issues that arise.

HoDs and PLs

The HoDs and PLs reported that:

- The training programmes have all started again, but otherwise there is nothing significant happening at present.

DHB Professional Leaders

The DHB Professional Leaders reported that:

- The Professional Leaders will meet again next month. They plan to discuss the storage of psychometric information in the "cloud", and psychologists' role in MDTs.
- APEX has been quite active of late (e.g., re training budgets and supervision provision in DHBs).

Psychologists Board

The Board reported:

Updates:

- *Neuropsychology scope consultation (next steps)* – The Board are pulling an expert panel together to refine the draft core competences to ensure they are "core". A final round of consultation re core competences and grand-parenting will then follow. It was suggested that the Board consider having non-neuro specialists on the panel; otherwise there may be a

“guild- like” risk. It was noted that two Secretariat members will be participants, which should mitigate that risk.

- *Best Practice Guideline development* – The resource document on “Coping with a Client Suicide” will be going to Board with some revisions especially around cultural section. Supervision also revised to better deal with tailoring to complexity/need. The “Informed Consent” guidelines have had small changes made to sections around culture. The Board will also discuss possibilities for future guideline development.
- *Annual Board elections* – Ann Connell and Monique Faleafa were both re-elected by acclamation for 2017.
- *Board appointments 2017* – Bev Burns’ term ends later this year, so there should be a call for nominations issued by the Ministry of Health (depending on any delays caused by the election, which is set for September 23rd).

The involvement of psychologists in “Safer Practice through Effective Communication” (SPEC) de-escalation and restraint training – The Board received a letter from APEX expressing concern about psychologists being required to participate in this training. It was noted that APEX have apparently not polled their members on this issue, as not all are concerned and some are actively engaged with and supportive of the training. It was also noted that Health & Safety law may require an employer to ensure that any employees who may find themselves in a position where they may have to participate in a restraint must be properly prepared to do so safely. Those present noted there is no expectation that psychologists will become part of restraint teams. The ethics behind participation are not simple, and in some ways it is “how you put the question”. Psychologists could have a valuable role to play in de-escalation. The training was likened to CPR training – everyone needs it, but an individual should always defer to any experts present in an actual event. Finally, it was noted that nurses also have a therapeutic relationship with their clients, yet they routinely engage in such training.

Progress on the establishment of an “Asia-Pacific Psychology Alliance” (APPA) and future representation from NZ – The recent communications from APPA working group were noted. The Board remain keen to be involved in this project, and were pleased to see the APAA leadership’s recognition of the need for the involvement of regulators. It was agreed that a regular update of these meetings would be provided by the NZPsS (likely by providing copies of Moana Waitoki’s routine reports). This will also become a standing item on each PPAF agenda.

Nominations for the Board’s Accreditation Committee – The committee is looking to co-opt a member who has bicultural expertise. Nominations will be accepted until March 3rd.

APC (online renewal) problems – The new online renewal system has proven to be quite “buggy” and so practitioners may experience some problems with it. The secretariat is working with the IT providers to get all the bugs sorted, and asked that all PPAF members spread the word and ask their colleagues to be patient. The Board is confident that, once the system is operating properly, it will be very simple to use.

Guest

Ted Christiansen, Principal Advisor for the Ministry of Health (Health IT Investment and Standards, Technology and Digital Services) spoke to the group about the government’s responsibilities re the storage of health data. He focussed on the need to mitigate any security risks, which the Ministry largely drives by establishing rules and standards. The Cabinet have recently been pushing for the increased use of new technologies, including offshore ‘cloud’ storage. Ted’s team now review applications for such storage, and can grant exemptions to agencies who can demonstrate that they have adequate safeguards in place. They expect agencies to have conducted a thorough risk analysis and to have produced a Risk Register. He mentioned also that a new, more streamlined version of their application process is expected to be launched in March 2017. [Ted also mentioned that HISO standard 10029-2015 is their “bottom line”, and referred us to the “Patients First” website, which has useful resources such as a “Baseline General Practice Security Checklist”.]

Next meeting

The next PPAF meeting will be held on 23 May 2017.