

**SUMMARY OF A MEETING OF THE
PSYCHOLOGY PROFESSION ADVISORY FORUM (PPAF)
HELD TUESDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2018¹**

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*)

It was noted that Associate Professor Suzanne Pitama (Associate Dean Māori, University of Otago) would be meeting with the Psychologists Board later in the week.

Reports from PPAF Members

NZCCP

The College reported that:

- They both sent and handed their BIM to the Minister of Health (Hon Dr David Clark) just before Christmas and have been invited to a meeting with him on 20 March.
- Some of the NZCCP Executive attended the Australian Clinical Psychology Association's new office opening in Sydney earlier in February. The College were supportive when ACPA was being established, sharing resources and information and they continue to have a strong reciprocal and collegial relationship with them. This was also a great opportunity to meet some other key people in the Australian psychology world including Bryn Grenyer, the current chair of the Australian Psychologists Board and Anthony Cichello, President of the Australian Psychological Society (APS).
- New Video Library: The College is about to offer NZCCP members (in any category) free access to 25 video recordings/year of the work of master therapists and different therapeutic approaches (from Psychotherapy.Net) for Continuing Professional Development. This is in conjunction with the Australian Clinical Psychology Association (ACPA), with whom they have a joint annual subscription to Psychotherapy.Net. These recordings have been selected specifically to enhance knowledge and skills in clinical psychology for NZCCP members. The College will be reviewing and revising the list each time they renew the subscription. In addition to this they have been able to offer members the short term opportunity to purchase an online course, Irvin Yalom and The Art of Psychotherapy, at a vastly reduced price.
- Strategic Plan Review: A meeting was held on February 19th to conduct the three year review of the College's strategic plan. It was a very productive day, during which all areas of focus were either reconfirmed or adapted slightly to fit with the changing times.
- Annual Conference: This year's conference will be held on March 17 & 18 in Nelson. "Nurturing change: Moving children and adults through adversity" will include keynote addresses from John Briere, Sophie Havighurst, and Russ Harris. The pre-conference workshops with John Briere (March 15 & 16) are on "Working with dysfunctional avoidance and self-endangering behaviours in adolescents and adults". There are also in-conference workshops with Russ Harris, Sophie Havinghurst, Kevin Ronan, and Wendy Kelly, and other presentations on Transgender, ACC, and Private Practice issues.

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.**

- Professional Development: Most of the College's branches continue to host regular regional workshops, the more recent ones including Adapting CBT for the treatment and prevention of emotional disorders in children presented by Paul Stallard in Auckland earlier this month, and Mastering the Clinical Conversation with Dr Matt Villatte, in Auckland and Wellington this week.
- Mental Health Inquiry: The College will be making a submission to the Inquiry, which will involve membership-wide consultation and they will also be requesting the opportunity to present to the panel in person.
- Other activities: Caroline Greig continues to participate in the Allied Mental Health Forum and Allied Health Aotearoa groups and to liaise with the ACC regularly.

NZPsS

The Society reported that:

- Their 50th Jubilee celebrations are in progress, and include:
 - Jubilee series of public lectures.
 - Free professional development for members.
 - Celebration of NZPsS history- videos of past-presidents.
 - Conference celebrations in Auckland in September (see below).
- Advocacy:
 - Briefing to the Ministry of Health
 - IEDP briefing to the Ministry of Education
 - NZPsS and NZEI Joint media release re nurturing young people's mental health earlier
 - Position statements being developed for NZPsS website
- Awards offered in 2018:
 - Early Career Goddard-applied psychology
 - Jamieson Award
 - Postgraduate student social justice research scholarship
 - Karahipi Tumuaki
- Professional Development for 2018 includes:
 - *Unravelling the mystery of addiction, substance use and associated compulsive behaviours: An integrated guide to formulation and treatment* (a two-day workshop presented by Matthew Berry).
 - *Improving outcomes with 'resistant' clients and enhancing motivation to change* (presented by Matthew Berry).
 - *Working with refugees and migrants* (coordinated by Ted Wotherspoon).
 - *Taking Action on Workplace Incivility*.
 - *Creating a Performance Culture* (presented by Gene Johnson).
- 2018 Jubilee Conference: *Te torino haere whakamua, whakamuri; The spiral of connection: Psychology in the past, present and future*. September 5 - 8, Owen G Glenn Building, the University of Auckland.
 - Academic Programme Convenors are Jade Le Grice & Angela Arnold-Saritepe.
 - Confirmed keynote speakers: Sautu Alefaio, Margaret Dudley, Anthony Grant, Philippa Howden-Chapman, and John Sommers-Flanagan.
 - The NZPsS will be launching electronic posters that allow interactive access through a touch screen.
- Publications:
 - Revision of the *Psychology and the Law* book is progressing well.

HoDs and PLs

The HoDs and PLs reported that:

- The programmes have been relatively quiet over summer.
- There were "spare" internships regionally and nationally this year.
- Paul Skirrow, John Fitzgerald, and Dougal Sutherland are working on a regional plan for placements for Clinical Interns. They are hoping to enhance the role the universities play in deciding where each Intern is placed and to reduce competition for spots.

DHB Professional Leaders

The DHB Professional Leaders reported that:

- They have not met since the last PPAF meeting (in November).
- They will be working this year on governance and the provision of psychological therapies.
- DHBs are increasingly expecting Psychologists to work at the top of their scope.

Psychologists Board

The Board reported:

Updates:

- It was noted that John Bushnell had been elected Chair of the Board, effective from February 21st.
- Further changes to the guidelines on Supervision are likely to be proposed, and consultation will follow.
- The call for more volunteers for the Gender Diversity group resulted in one new member joining.

APEX concerns re supervision involving dual relationships – A letter from APEX was circulated and discussed. The Board will consider what changes should be made to the Best Practice Guideline on Supervision, and will consult with stakeholders if any significant changes are proposed. It was unclear what APEX had included in their definition of “dual” relationships.

Professional development courses re working with victims of domestic violence (especially for psychologists working in the Family Court) – Steve Osborne and Frances Hamilton met with representatives of the “Backbone Collective” recently, and noted that the Collective believe it would be very helpful if the College and Society offered courses/workshops to psychologists working in the Family Court on working with victims of domestic violence.

Submission on the “End of Life Choice” Bill – John Bushnell updated the meeting on the Board’s submission, noting that not all psychologists would be competent to provide the services described in the Bill and recommending that practitioners wishing to do this work should first have to make a case for their competence to do so. John also noted that the Board will be reviewing how it has defined scopes of practice and how it is currently using them. New advice will be placed on the Board’s website, and stakeholders will be consulted regarding any significant changes that are proposed. It was noted that there seems to be growing sentiment amongst practitioners that having multiple scopes is not useful.

Other business

Revision of the Code of Ethics – It was noted that the Code of Ethics may be due for a review, given it has been unchanged in 16 years. The BPS has altered their code to be more aspirational, and have added lower level guidelines. It was agreed that the first step should be to ask the profession if the Code needs refreshing.

Next meeting

The next PPAF meeting will be held on May 22nd 2018.