



FROM THE CEO

This year is off to a positive start as the Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) stays focused on continuous quality improvement and collaboration with various stakeholders following a year in which we concentrated on responding to the Accreditation Systems Review within the National Registration Scheme for health professions.

Firstly, I would like to thank all those who took the time to make submissions to the review, which will help shape the future of health professions accreditation in this country.

Over the coming months the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council (AHMAC) and Health Ministers will consider the recommendations from the Independent Reviewer of the Accreditation Systems Review, Professor Michael Woods, whose final report was submitted to AHMAC on 30 November last year. AHMAC's final report will be publicly released in due course.

The Accreditation Systems Review has posed questions about reduction in regulatory burden and duplication within health professions accreditation and standard-setting. As Chair of the Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum, I am working with all 14 health profession accreditation authorities within the National Scheme to work towards alignment of principles, and where possible harmonisation, across the regulated health professions.

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This year will see APC bringing our international pharmacy education colleagues to Brisbane when we host the 12th International Life Long Learning in Pharmacy conference, 6 - 9 July. We are very proud to be bringing this premier pharmacy education event to Australia for the first time, and thank our generous sponsors for assisting with this. I hope you can come and join us - for more, see below and share [our conference](#) with your colleagues.

Bronwyn Clark
DipPharm, MClInPharm, FPS GAICD

New leadership of APC Council

It's a new era for APC with Associate Professor Sue Kirska being elected President of APC for a two year term.

Sue is currently the Director of Pharmacy at Monash Health and has worked at a number of major health services as a clinical and operational pharmacist, and has also spent some time outside of pharmacy working in clinical governance.

As a previous President of the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia, Sue has a long history with the APC as a previous member of the Accreditation Committee and APC Vice President. Sue has a special interest in Oncology, Quality Use of Medicines, patient safety and antimicrobial stewardship.

In addition, Professor Iqbal Ramzan has been elected Vice President for a two year term. Iqbal has recently stepped down as Dean of Pharmacy at the University of Sydney, a position he held for over 12 years. Previously he has held the position of President of the Council of Pharmacy Schools, and Chair of the Australian Pharmacy Leaders Forum. Iqbal has a long history with the APC as a previous member of the Accreditation Committee, and has been an APC Councillor since 2015.

Thank you to Professor Debra Rowett PSM, Outgoing APC President

After 14 years of dedicating herself to the vision and purpose of the APC, Professor Debra Rowett's governing role in APC has come to an end. Debra has dedicated her skills and expertise to our organisation, growing our business and influence in pharmacy education and accreditation.

Deb originally came to APC Council as the Chair of the Pharmacy Board of South Australia and then went on to chair the APC Accreditation Committee for over a decade. In 2015 she took over the reins from John Low to become APC President where she has been an inspiring and visionary leader. She has also been recognised for her contribution to the pharmacy profession through many other awards and is a role model and leader to many within Australia and across the globe.

Deb continues her role as Discipline Leader: External Relations School of Pharmacy and Medical Sciences at the University of South Australia and Director of the Drug and Therapeutics Information Service (DATIS), Southern Adelaide Health Network.

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www.lllpharm2018.com



Lloyd Sansom AO leaves legacy at Australian Pharmacy Council

Another valuable contributor to the pharmacy education sector in Australia is also moving on from APC. Following 35 years of serving the APC, Emeritus Professor Sansom AO stepped down from the APC Council late last year. Professor Sansom has played a key role in overseeing the quality of pharmacy education in Australia during his distinguished career as an educator, policy advisor and researcher.

Lloyd's strategic vision laid the foundation for the establishment of the Australian Pharmacy Examining Council and the subsequent integration with the Council of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities which would become the Australian Pharmacy Council. His wisdom, enthusiasm and passion for what pharmacists can contribute to patient care assisted APC to flourish and become a leading international pharmacy accreditation and assessment organisation.

Lloyd's legacy remains with the APC in the Emeritus Professor Lloyd Sansom AO Distinguished lecture series, the inaugural lecture which he delivered himself in November 2017. Over 70 invited guests attended his lecture and reception. Two previous APC Presidents were in attendance, Mrs Elizabeth Frost OAM and Mr John Low, and were recognised with the unveiling of meeting rooms in the APC offices named after them.

A valuable and rich pharmacy journey – APC podcast with Prof. Lloyd Sansom AO.

www.pharmacycouncil.org.au/podcasts



Emeritus Professor
Lloyd Sansom AO

Mr John Low and
Mrs Elizabeth Frost OAM



APC Review of Accreditation Standards

We have recently begun discussions with the Pharmacy Board of Australia to scope out and plan the review of the standards that underpin pharmacy education and intern training programs. This is a cyclical review to ensure our standards reflect contemporary issues in the pharmacy profession and that graduates who gain general registration as a pharmacist are well prepared with the relevant knowledge and skills to deliver effective pharmacy care to the community.

As of June this year, we will start to collaborate and consult with all the stakeholders involved in pharmacy education and training as well as employers, consumers, other health professions and government policy makers.

APC Insights and the APC website will keep you informed of the progress of the review and detail opportunities for input into the development of the new standards.

Adoption of National Competency Standards Framework for Pharmacists in Australia 2016

As of 1 January 2019, all pharmacy intern written and oral examinations conducted as part of the Pharmacy Board of Australia's registration examinations, will be based on the revised competency standards.

The Board and APC have jointly announced that the revised *National Competency Standards Framework for Pharmacists in Australia 2016* (the revised competency standards) will be implemented in the assessment of pharmacy interns. This should be of interest to current and future interns, intern training program (ITP) providers and other interested stakeholders.

Until then, the 2010 competencies will continue to be the basis for the pharmacy intern written and oral examinations. This is to ensure natural justice and procedural fairness to all interns who start the internship process during 2018.

The APC is also providing separate advice to ITP providers, including that all ITP and workplace-based assessments in 2018 can continue to be based on the 2010 competencies to allow for a 12 month transition to activities and assessments based on the 2016 competencies from 1 January 2019.

APC Examinations Committee - Expression of Interest

The APC is re-establishing an Examinations Committee to provide oversight and scrutiny of our examination methodology. This is to ensure integrity and defensibility of the almost 3000 written exams we deliver annually.

As successful completion of these exams is necessary in the journey to become a registered pharmacist, it's imperative that our methodology, processes and content are valid, reliable and contemporary. Expressions of interest are currently being sought from people with expertise in examinations and assessments, and those who believe they can make a valuable contribution to delivering our high quality examinations.

Please refer to our website for the [EOI form](#).

Further information or questions can be directed to Glenys Wilkinson recruitment@pharmacycouncil.org.au

Life Long Learning in Pharmacy 2018 – Early bird closes 30 April!

We have been busy and productive with the planning for Life Long Learning in Pharmacy 2018. We are well and truly in full swing!

We have had an overwhelming response to our call for abstracts proving that there is no shortage of knowledge in the continuum of pharmacy education and professional development. Thank you to all of our contributors who submitted abstracts. We are looking forward to reviewing all our authors' valuable contributions.

We have a remarkable team of international and national keynote speakers leading our plenary sessions and our inaugural pre-conference workshops. This includes Zubin Austin, Catriona Bradley, Gabrielle Brand, Gloria Dall'Alba, Kari Franson, Ralph Altieri, Karen Whitfield, and Debra Rowett.

Our online registration portal is open with early bird prices. We're already receiving a very positive response from our delegates indicating a very successful event for all stakeholders involved. You can find everything you need know on our [website](#). Early bird prices end on the 30th of April.

We look forward to seeing you at LLLP2018!

For they are Jolly Good Fellows ...

We are very proud to announce the recent recognition at the highest levels for two of our APC Executive.



In late 2017, our CEO Bronwyn Clark was designated as a **Fellow of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS)** for distinction in the profession of pharmacy. Fellowship is awarded to members who have made an outstanding original contribution to the advancement of pharmaceutical knowledge or attained distinction in the science, practice, profession or history of pharmacy. This adds to Bronwyn's recognition as a Fellow of the Pharmaceutical Society of New Zealand from 2012. Bronwyn first practised in the United Kingdom in the 1980s, and is very humbled to be further recognised by the RPS for her career that spans the globe.



Also in late 2017, our Executive Director Professional Services Glenys Wilkinson successfully completed the program of study to be admitted as a **Fellow of the Australasian College of Health Service Management**. Fellowship is the highest membership category awarded in the College and is considered a significant professional achievement to members who have demonstrated they have the knowledge, attitudes, conceptual and communication skills to be recognised as a senior manager and leader in the health industry. This achievement equips Glenys to bring contemporary knowledge about health policy, education and research, leadership and governance to her position within the APC.



**LIFE LONG
LEARNING IN
PHARMACY
2018**



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