

A Climate for Change' a 2-day summit, with post-summit professional development workshops, that will inform, enliven and expand your understanding of addiction.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Annual General Meeting for the PSU : 15 Nov
- ATCA Annual Conference
- Convener's Report
- Seeding Grants Available
- A Climate for Change: An International Summit

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Psychology & Substance Use

An Interest Group of the Australian Psychological Society

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 2

NOVEMBER 2007

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Members will have received notice of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) for the Psychology and Substance Use Interest Group (PSU IG), to be held in Melbourne this month.

Date: **Thursday 15 November 2007**
Time: **5.00pm (EDST)**
Venue: **Park Hyatt Parliament Square Melbourne**

Nominations have been invited for the positions of *Convener, Secretary, Treasurer and Committee (6 positions)*.

All nomination forms should be returned no later than close of business on 7 November 2007 by mail to :

**APS Units Administrator,
APS National Office,
PO Box 38, Flinders Lane,
Melbourne VIC 8009.**

The venue and time for the AGM has been chosen as it coincides with the national conference of the Australasian Therapeutic Communities Association (ATCA), which will be taking place at the Hyatt from Wednesday 14 to Friday 16 November. (See following article Page 1)



ATCA Conference 2007

"PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE"

14-16 November 2007.
Park Hyatt, Melbourne,

This year ATCA celebrates its **21st Anniversary** and the 2007 conference plans to showcase the many positive contributions Therapeutic Communities have made to the treatment of drug and alcohol addiction in Australia & New Zealand.

The 2007 ATCA Conference will also demonstrate that Australia & New Zealand have formed alliances with international Therapeutic Community organisations and recognise the unique impact Therapeutic Communities have as an effective intervention for AOD and comorbid client groups.

To obtain a registration form, go to www.atca.com.au or 07conference@atca.com.au

Membership of the PSU IG is not restricted to psychologists, so why not plan to attend the ATCA conference, and come to the PSU IG AGM as well?

Seeding Grants Available

The current PSU IG Executive met recently to discuss possible activities, particularly at local and regional level, and is keen to encourage the establishment of local groups. Many of the other Interest Groups have active State/Territory or local groups, and we would like to encourage our members to think about starting a group at the local level.

To encourage this process, we are offering small seeding

grants to get you started.

What can you do to generate interest at your local level? What about gathering a few people around who are interested in psychology and substance use for a DVD night and discussion. *Little Fish, Candy* and *Pure* are just some of the films you might consider showing.

If you are interested, please contact us and give us your ideas.

Convener's Report 2007



Lynne Magor-Blatch & Debra Rickwood presented the PSU's Position Paper for discussion at the APS Conference in Brisbane recently

'The PSU as an Interest Group is set to play an increasingly important role in relation to substance use and mental health, families and child protection, drugs in sport and other areas of social debate.'



Dr Joel Porter, Director of the Pacific Centre for Motivation and Change and organiser of A Climate for Change

As is always the case with the Interest Group, we have been extremely busy doing things this year—but haven't been so good in getting the information out to everyone. So here goes

The development of the APS Position Paper has occupied us for much of the year. The process tends to be fairly lengthy when we are seeking to involve as many people as possible, and so far the authors include: Prof Debra Rickwood, Lynne Magor-Blatch, Dr Stefan Gruenert, Neos Zavrou, Amanda Akers, and Prof Richard Mattick.

The paper is still in development, but Debra Rickwood and I were able to present it for discussion at the recent APS Conference, where we received a good deal of valuable feedback from the audience. We are now in the process of adding in and collating the information. When this is completed, the paper will be distributed to all members for further comment, before being presented to the APS Board.

The Psychology and Substance Use Interest Group sponsored a forum during the 2006 APS Conference in Auckland. The forum, *Working with the complex client, is one approach better than another?* took the format of a case study, and included four different ap-

proaches to treatment, including the creative therapies of Dramatic Psychological Storytelling, developed by Dr Rob Allen, and presented by Carol Tutchener from Melbourne; and Interactive Drawing Therapy, developed and presented by Russell Withers, Auckland, New Zealand. Alternative approaches of Family Therapy and Motivational Interviewing were presented by Dr Malise Arnstein, family therapist from Canberra; and Dr Joel Porter, Director of the Pacific Centre for Motivation and Change, New Zealand,

We have also contributed significantly to AOD policy discussion, with a submissions prepared on behalf of the APS to the Commonwealth Government on treatment for dependence to Amphetamine-like substances and Cannabis. The PSU Interest Group also prepared a submission to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on the needs of families affected by substance use, which particularly looked at the concerns surrounding children living within families affected by substance use.

We have supported a number of conferences and forums over this past year, working

with DANA, and particularly promoting Motivational Interviewing training and conferences.

Drugs in sport has also become a "hot topic" this year, and we have tried to bring some sense to the debate through media releases and radio interviews, particularly as the "zero tolerance" approach has often been loudly promoted.

As noted on Page 1 (*Seeding Grants Available*) the Executive is very keen to encourage discussion at local, regional and jurisdictional level amongst psychologists and others working with clients with AOD issues. There are many psychologists working at organisational and private level, often without a huge amount of support, who are now finding themselves involved in working with people with substance use through the introduction of Medicare numbers for clients referred for mental health interventions.

Comorbidity of mental health and substance use disorders must be seen as the expectation, rather than the exception, and this is an area in which we want to support our members.

The PSU as an Interest Group is set to play an increasingly important role in relation to substance use and mental health, families and child protection, drugs in sport and other areas of social debate. We look forward to building the Interest Group over the next year with your support.

Lynne Magor-Blatch

A Climate for Change : An International Summit Advancing Theory, Research, Policy & Practice in Addiction 10-12 July 2008 Melbourne

'A Climate for Change' is a 2-day summit, with post-summit professional development workshops, that will inform, enliven and expand your understanding of addiction.

Look back at the past. Look forward to new ideas.

The world's leading experts in the field - who have brought cutting-edge theory, science, and practice to bear on the devastating problem of addiction - have been gathered together for this event.

See page 4 for more details.

For details of Program -

www.pacificcmc.com - summit@pacificcmc.com

Summit Venue

The Sofitel Hotel situated in the heart of Melbourne

Conferences, Workshops & Seminars of interest to the AOD field

6 December 2007

Disadvantage and Diversity: Australia's Welfare 2007 Conference

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
The Marque Hotel,
102 Northbourne Ave Canberra
02 6244 1287
conference2007@aihw.gov.au

10-11 December 2007

Teenagers and Risky Behaviours

Hotel Ibis, Melbourne
ausmed@ausmed.com.au
www.ausmed.com.au

Conferences 2008

8-10 February 2008

Conference on Sentencing

Of interest to people with an interest in sentencing and its aftermath
National Judicial College of Australia
Canberra
(02) 6125 6655
sentencing@law.anu.edu.au

20-24 March 2008

43rd National Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous: Keep it simple

Stamford Grand Hotel, Glenelg, South Australia
aaconventionadelaide2008@gmail.com
www.aaconventionadelaide2008.cjb.net

26-29 March 2008

World Congress of Health Professions The future now: challenges and opportunities in health

Perth Convention Exhibition Centre, Western Australia
www.worldhealthcongress.org

27-28 March 2008

10th Social Research Conference on HIV, Hepatitis C and Related Diseases

National Centre in HIV Social Research
University of New South Wales, Sydney
nchsr.arts.unsw.edu.au/conference2008.html
nchsr_conf@unsw.edu.au

22-23 May 2008

5th National Homelessness Conference

Adelaide Convention Centre, Adelaide
www.homelessnessaustralia.org.au

23-25 June 2008

Club Health 2008

5th International Conference on Substance Use, Nightlife and Related Health Issues

www.clubhealth.org.uk/conference

10-12 July 2008

Additions Summit - a climate for change

Melbourne
www.pacificcmc.com
summit@pacificcmc.com

1-3 September 2008

2nd International Conference on Alcohol and other Drug Related Brain Damage

Email registration of interest
events@adf.org.au

20-22 October 2008

Viral Hepatitis Conference 2008

Brisbane
www.ashm.org.au

Workshops & Seminars

14-16 November 2007

Primary Health Care and Outreach Training Course

Cost \$380
email:
Wendy.Machin@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au

15 November 2007

Safer Injecting Workshop

02 9360 2766
email:
Wendy.Machin@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au

16 November

Talking Point Seminar: Alcohol and other drug related brain impairment

142 Gertrude St Fitzroy
The seminar is free.
All welcome, bookings essential
(03) 8413 8413
info@turningpoint.org.au

26 November 2007

Research Update on Current Developments in the Addictions Field: International, National and South Australian Perspectives

Room G.11B, Education Development Centre, Milner St, Hindmarsh, ADELAIDE.
Cost: Free (bookings are essential)
[manders.aaron\[at\]saugov.sa.gov.au](mailto:manders.aaron[at]saugov.sa.gov.au)

29 November 2007

ANCD Hobart Consultation on Drug and Alcohol Issues

8.30-11 am Grand Chancellor Hotel,
1 Davey St Hobart
RSVP by COB Monday 26th
November 2007
Ph (02) 61669600 Fax (02) 61622611

6 December 2007

Comorbidity Coordinated Care Forum, organised by the Alcohol and Drug Foundation ACT (ADFACT)

Canberra

The Forum will bring together experts and practitioners from Australia and New Zealand, together with two renowned International specialists, Dr Kenneth Minkoff and Dr Christie Cline, to discuss comorbidity initiatives in Australasia, and to review models of care and their application in the Australian context.

The Forum includes a Panel Session, chaired by David Crosbie, CEO, Mental Health Council of Australia, with Australian and New Zealand experts in the area of comorbidity research and practice.

Presentations will then be provided by Dr Kenneth Minkoff and Dr Christie Cline who will introduce the Comprehensive, Continuous, Integrated System of Care (CCISC) Model for organising services for individuals with co-occurring psychiatric and substance use disorders.

The CCISC Model is designed to improve treatment capacity in systems of any size and complexity, ranging from entire states, to regions or local government areas, networks of agencies, individual complex agencies, or even programs within agencies.

Enquiries to: Lynne Magor-Blatch, Clinical Director Client Services, ADFACT.
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The newsletter provides us with another avenue for professional development, and we were thinking it would be good to focus in on particular themes in our newsletters. This also provides members with a greater chance to contribute, and indeed this idea will only truly work through members contributing their diversity of knowledge and experience.

With the new Medicare numbers, many psychologists are reporting increased referrals from GPs where substance use is an issue. These are people who have not previously received specialist interventions. If you are seeing people now through referral from General Practice, please share those experiences. This will be the focus of the next newsletter.

Complete contributions are welcome, but so too are ideas that we can compile into a combined article. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please contact Lynne Magor-Blatch at

clinical.dir@adfact.org

Psychology and Substance Use Interest Group

The Psychology and Substance Use (PSU) Interest Group offers members an opportunity to engage with other psychologists who share an interest in substance use issues. The group aims to be of relevance to psychologists in a broad range of settings, including research, policy development, clinical work within the drug and alcohol system, and clinical work in other settings. We are always looking for ways the group can be of practical benefit to members, and we encourage members to become involved in whatever way they can. One important way is through the establishment of PSU groups in each jurisdiction—so if you are interested in bringing a group together in your area, we are keen to support you and provide help through the provision of seeding grants.

A Climate for Change : An International Summit

All in one place. For one seminal event. Plenary addresses, in-depth workshops, interactive presentations and panel discussions -

Steve Allsop
Alex Blaszczyński
Carlo DiClemente
Dennis Gray
David Hodgins
Harold Kalant
Ian MacEwan
Alan Marlatt
Barbara McCrady
Thomas McLellan
William Miller
Theresa Moyers
Ann Roche
Doug Sellman
Howard Shaffer
Constance Weisner
Ted Wilkes
Allan Zuckoff

Post-summit workshops will feature - David Hodgins, William Miller, Theresa Moyers, and Allan Zuckoff

Groundbreaking.
Provocative.
Unprecedented.

Counsellor, psychologist, psychiatrist, academic, social worker, mental health professional, policy maker, corrections worker—this is the event for you.

Post Summit Workshops
12 July 2008 - 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Carlo DiClemente
Addiction and Change: Matching Interventions to the Process of Change

David Hodgins
Fundamentals of Gambling Problems and their Treatment

William Miller
Introduction Motivational Interviewing: The Basics

Theresa Moyers
Using Client Language to Improve MI

Practice: An Advanced Workshop for Practitioners

Allan Zuckoff
Engaging the Difficult-to-Engage: Motivation, Change and Co-Existing Disorders

The Summit is co-sponsored by the PSU Interest Group.

Call for Abstracts
Original evidence-based research is required for consideration. Broad and diverse topics consistent with the conference theme:
Advancing Theory, Research, Treatment, Policy and Practice in Addiction are encouraged.

Closing Date for Abstract Submission 15 April 2008
For more information and details of Program see:
www.pacificcmc.com -
summit@pacificcmc.co