

# NEWSLETTER

## New psych training coming to the Sunshine Coast in 2008

July has been buzzing with activity. Thank you to all the SCAPS committee members and those who have supported us with their attendance at the general meetings, workshops and information nights.

We kicked off the month of July with the presentation by Professor Mary Katsikis about the future of psychology on the Sunshine Coast. It was encouraging to hear that the University of the Sunshine Coast will be offering new psychology training in 2008. At this point in time the proposed courses that will be commencing are the first year of the Bachelor of Social Studies and Psychology, Psychology fourth year honours and first year of the Clinical Masters.



There has also been a considerable level of media promotion about the opening of a psychology clinic at the USC in 2008 which will offer opportunity for research, training, and clinical services to the community. At this point in time, the courses

will be focusing on the aspects of the mental health issues coinciding with the recent introduction of the Medicare reforms for clinical psychologists, but there will also be a progressive move towards integrating clinical and health psychology to meet the local needs. We wish Mary all the best in her endeavours to ensure that psychology on the

Sunshine Coast is well represented and continues to grow.



## PD News

From 1 July 2007, all APS members will be required to accumulate a minimum of 60 PD points over a two year period as a requirement of membership of the APS.

This will be a continuing requirement over two year cycles. The first cycle of the new PD program begins on 1 July 2007 and ends on 30 June 2009.

A complete PD information guide and the PD log sheet can be downloaded from the APS website at:

[www.psychology.org.au](http://www.psychology.org.au)

(under PD and Events). There will also be a facility to record the PD activities directly online at:

[www.psychology.org.au/Members/PDSummary.aspx](http://www.psychology.org.au/Members/PDSummary.aspx).

Please note that the PD Logging system is currently not available for the Non-College PD Cycle. This system will be available in late 2007. If you are experiencing any difficulties with PD logs, please contact the PD team at the APS National Office on (03) 8662 3300.

The SCAPS committee is devoted to providing ongoing professional development activities to assist our members with accessing opportunities to accrue the necessary PD points.

We encourage you to attend the general meetings which are worth one point. Then there is the September workshop, and the APS Conference, and a lot more ...

Cheers

Maggie

## Brief Solution Focused Therapy: When Less is More

The workshop, held on the 21 July, by Dr John Barletta on Brief Solution Focused Therapy was well attended by over 50 participants.

The feedback provided was most positive and an encouragement to the SCAPS committee to continue and organise ongoing professional development activities for our members.

We were astounded to hear how indeed brief a therapy can sometimes be with quoted statistics indicating an average number of sessions being between three and seven and a median of two.

Dr Barletta lived up to his promise of being informative and entertaining, and definitely highlighted the value of therapy that is client-driven, goal and problem-solving focused.



## Work Cover Changes

We ended the month with a presentation by Stacey Smith from Work Cover Queensland, informing us about the recent changes to the fee and service provision structure for clients presenting with psychological issues that are work related.

The fact that the fees have gone up, as has the opportunity to provide initial assessment and recommendation for services to prospective WorkCover clients without the prior approval were well received. We found out that although psychological services are indeed a very small proportion of the services offered, they are the most costly. Good to see that we are so highly valued!

### Peer support groups

#### Tony Collins

Eden Health Care Centre,  
46 Maple Street  
Cooroy  
5447 7473

#### Robyn Nolan

1st Mondays of the month at 5.00pm  
Coolum  
RSVP to check location  
5473 9547

APS Sunshine Coast Branch  
PO BOX 724  
MOOLOOLABA QLD 4557

Please email newsletter contributions to  
mb@maggiebailey.com.au

#### Office Bearers for 2006 – 2008

As a committee we will also meet on the second Tuesday of each alternative months – so please contact us if there is anything you would like to raise with us. Your committee contacts are:

Chair	Brad Levingston	brakerry@optusnet.com.au
Treasurer	Robert Neil	ptq@powertrainqld.com.au
Secretary	Maggie Bailey	mb@maggiebailey.com.au
Committee Member	Jacqui Ball	jba26386@bigpond.net.au
Committee Member	Lynette Cooper	lcooper1@ozemail.com.au
Committee Member	Deb Dewberry	deb.dewberry@centrelink.gov.au
Committee Member	Celia Dickson	celiadickson@ozemail.com.au

### Calendar of events

August 14	7.30pm	SCAPS General Meeting	Percy House Church St Maroochydore
<i>Presenters will be Brad Levingston and Jacqui Ball speaking on therapeutic interventions to clients with drug, alcohol and related personal difficulties.</i>			
September 22		Dr Gene Moyle Full-Day Workshop	University of the Sunshine Coast
<i>Setting the performance bar</i>			
September 26-30		APS National Conference	Brisbane
October 9	7.30pm	SCAPS General Meeting	Percy House Church St Maroochydore