

**APS CCLIN NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT
12th March 2010**

Dear postgraduate clinical psychology student,

Welcome to the fourth APS College of Clinical Psychologists (CCLIN) National Executive Committee (NEC) Student Representative report. As student representatives, we aim to give students of postgraduate clinical psychology degrees a voice at the national level about student issues that are relevant to the CCLIN. Below are some topics that we believe are currently the most relevant for postgraduate clinical psychology students:

APS CCLIN NEC Student Prize:

We would like to acknowledge Chien Hoon Gooi from the University of Sydney as an APS CCLIN Student Prize winner from 2009, as her name was not included in the last student report. Congratulations Chien! As part of their prize, winners from 2009 were invited to submit an abstract of their research. This process has been completed, and the abstracts will be published in the next issue of the *Clinical Psychologist* so keep an eye out.

The APS CCLIN Student Prize will be awarded again in 2010 to one student in their final year of clinical training from each Australian University based on their clinical skills, leadership, and relevance of their research to clinical psychology. We are planning to promote this to the universities in the upcoming weeks, and begin calling for nominations midyear. If your clinical staff are not aware of the prize, please let us know their details so that we can pass on the relevant information. This is a great initiative by the APS CCLIN NEC in recognising outstanding students in clinical training, and we hope to receive nominations from all universities in 2010.

Student Survey:

We will be launching an online student survey in the upcoming months to find out how the APS CCLIN can better meet the needs of its student members, such as organising special PD events, networking opportunities, and resources for students. We are hoping to develop a strategic plan for 2010-2012 to address areas of student need identified in the survey, and would therefore greatly appreciate your participation.

Student Representatives from Each University:

We have discussed the ongoing barriers in communicating student issues in clinical psychology with the student population, given the large number of clinical psychology programs. Late last year, we asked for volunteer Student Representatives from each Australian University that has a postgraduate clinical psychology program. Thank you to respondents from Griffith University and University of Wollongong. **If you are interested in being a student representative, please speak to your Clinical Director or email Carly Reid at carly.reid@curtin.edu.au.** We feel that having a contact person at each uni will aid in assisting communication each way from the CCLIN NEC student reps and the clinical psychology student population.

Student Membership

Reduced membership fees for new graduates entering the profession of psychology have been introduced from 11 February 2010 as part of a fantastic initiative by the APS Board of Directors to provide greater support to students and early career psychologists. Please visit the following website for details about the new fee structure: <http://www.psychology.org.au/membership/applying/#s5>

APS membership expires annually on 31 May. We would like to remind students that it is \$75 to become an APS Student Subscriber. If you already hold a Student subscriber membership to the APS, you can join the CCLIN for FREE just by filling in a form! However, if you are a full-time student of a postgraduate clinical psychology program and hold a grade of membership higher than Student Subscriber (e.g. Associate or Full Member) to the APS then you can join the College as a Student member, but will have to pay the subscribed annual College membership fee (which is currently \$80). The student membership form can be found at: <http://www.groups.psychology.org.au/cclin/join/> . CCLIN student membership allows you to access member resources of the CCLIN on their website and you will also be alerted to upcoming PD events.

Other issues in Clinical Psychology:

Endorsement of Specialist Title: As you may be aware, psychologists will be a part of the National Accreditation and Registration scheme which will commence on 1st July 2010. The Ministerial Council did not support the proposal for specialist recognition for the psychology profession under the national scheme, and instead proposed specialist endorsement of four specialisations, including clinical psychology. According to the PBA, an endorsement on registration indicates that a psychologist has expertise in an advanced area of practice in addition to the minimum level of psychological training required for general registration. The Board has submitted to the Ministerial Council for nine areas of practice endorsements, and a decision will be made shortly. Registered specialist psychologists in Western Australia can continue to use specialist titles for a period of three years following commencement of the National Scheme, after which time the issue of specialist registration will be reviewed. To find out more information about this scheme, please visit the website: <http://www.nhwt.gov.au/natreg.asp> .

Supervision: The CCLIN are continuing to discuss solutions to the problem of limited clinical placement availability. A working party has also been established to discuss supervision/professional development for students and new graduates, which has student representative involvement. We would love to have your feedback as a student on these issues, and will keep you updated on advances in this process.

Please direct any feedback/concerns/issues to us on:

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