



Rx

MARCH 2011



KOOROC

- KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN -

The Official Publication of the Western Australian Pharmacy Students Association

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome Pharmacy students to a new year of WAPSA. We are hoping 2011 can continue on from a stellar year in 2010 with many of the events and activities you know and love along with some new inclusions ahead.

I'm excited about this year as we have seen some promising signs of what's to come. Our first event of the year, the O-show, sold out 3 days before it was held, which has never been done before. The membership from the 1st year students is 50% up on this time last year, a phenomenal achievement, and all this is also following a congress where WAPSA was the most represented branch with 32 delegates.

So what's the big deal about all this I hear you ask? Well the more involvement and memberships we get from you, the students, the more we can give back in terms of bigger and better events, more benefits, and better representation.

After this great start I urge you all to keep up the enthusiasm throughout the year. For those who missed out on O-Show tickets, coming up is the NAPSA Charity Cup, raising money for the Day of Difference Foundation. There is plenty of info in the pages ahead and I'd like to urge you all to participate and give what you can. The Competition has become not only a big event in the NAPSA calendar but also a major point of pride for WAPSA, having won last year and taking away the innovation award the previous year. The scavenger hunt was an unbelievable success last year and the charity itself is well worth getting behind.

Also ahead throughout the year are the standard WAPSA events including staff v students volleyball and soccer, the quiz night, pub crawl, the education events which include the two new Ego skin care and Johnson & Johnson OTC courses. We can't also forget the WAPSA Annual Ball which is the centrepiece of the WAPSA calendar.

There are plenty of other benefits for members, including the chance to go on exchange through IPSF, to attend the IPSF congress, as well as the NAPSA congress, discounted books and the new drug brief subscription.

For those who are wondering how or why to get involved don't be shy, come past the common room, take a seat, buy a coke, have a chat and take a look around at all the pamphlets, posters, and notices. There is usually committee members in there that are more than happy to have a chat about what's going on.

Remember- your year reps are always there to hear your opinions and take your questions about WAPSA as well as sell tickets for events.

Frank Kazantzis
- WAPSA PRESIDENT 2011



WAPSA COMMITTEE 2009









WAPSA held its Annual General Meeting on Monday the 7th of March, and the 2011 council was elected. With new and familiar faces, the new committee looks to bring a tonne of enthusiasm and fresh new ideas. Congratulations to all who got elected and a big thank you to all who attended the AGM.

INTRODUCING

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

<p>Frank Kazantzis President [3rd year]</p> 	<p>Morlee Vekaria Vice President [3rd year]</p> 	<p>Treasurer Charles Palmer [3rd year]</p> 	<p>Secretary Nomiki Melas [3rd year]</p> 
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THE REST OF US (OFFICERS):

<p>Luke Vrankovich Social [2nd year]</p> 	<p>Sharon Menezes Community Awareness [2nd year]</p> 	<p>Daniel Rocco Education [2nd year]</p> 	<p>Stacey Gough NAPSA Liason [4th year]</p> 
<p>Yeemon Aung Rural & Indigenous [2nd year]</p> 	<p>Alborz Shahsavand Publications [2nd year]</p> 	<p>Priyanka Barve IPSF [2nd year]</p> 	<p>Hina Yawary KOOROC Editor [3rd year]</p> 

YEAR REPRESENTATIVES:

1st year: Kukyoung (Bobbie) An
Mirna Dorkham

2nd year: Ashleigh Lawrence
Sunila Rajan

3rd year: Nathan Kwong
Lex Wallis

4th year: Rebecca Abel, Te Kai Saw

Curtin GEM: Peter Santos
Thai Truong

UWA: Flavia Nguyen
Rebecca Head

Murdoch: Farah Maimoun
Karin Zabaneh



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EDITOR'S NOTE

If you're a second year student, please kindly close this newsletter and focus on whatever your lecturer is saying, because, and I cannot emphasise this enough, **SECOND YEAR IS FREAKIN HARD!!!** To everybody else, hello and welcome to yet another year of scary compounding labs, confusing drug names (Hydrochlorothiazide!! REALLY??), incomprehensible mechanisms of action, and general loss of wealth (Mee goreng in the WAPSA room costs HOW MUCH?!!!). As a third year student, I can assure you that there IS a light at the end of the tunnel when it comes to the pharmacy course, and by the time you pass the course's half way point, all the 8am lectures that you thought were ridiculous and could not possibly have anything to do with the course except as to allow us to experience the joys of all nighters with red bull and mother, actually begin to connect and make sense when you begin learning about what it's like to work in "real life". Therefore, my advice is to study to understand, and not to learn, and to also get involved with as many pharmacy related events as possible, because the connections you make during your time here may be the ones that last through into your professional career.

I guess that's my two cents for this issue- Until next time,

Hina Yawary
KOOROC Editor



UPCOMING EVENTS

SEMESTER ONE:

- **CHARITY CUP EVENT (15th of April)**

Come and support a great cause in an exhilarating scavenger hunt around Perth

- **STUDENT VS. STAFF SOCCER MATCH**

Any interest in participating in this exciting event on the WAPSA calendar held later this semester should be forwarded to your year reps. Truly a great day ☺

- **END OF SEMESTER PARTY**

Stay tuned for this event. Beautiful settings and a great night out looks to be a great way to end yet another tough bout of study.

SEMESTER TWO:

- **WAPSA ANNUAL GALA BALL (August 6th)**

The premier event on the WAPSA event calendar, this year's ball will be held at the Pan Pacific Hotel. A night not to be missed!!



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- **STUDENT VS. STAFF VOLLEYBALL**

Anyone looking for victory against the staff should notify their year reps

- **COCKTAIL PARTY**

Come and enjoy some fancy cocktails and finger food.

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Interview with Professor Anton Dolzhenko

1. To the students that don't know you, what did you study in University?

I first studied Pharmacy as an undergraduate student in Russia and then continued and did my PhD in Medicinal Chemistry.

2. Why did you choose to lecture at Curtin University?

It's such a beautiful campus. I like the city and the weather, I previously spent 6 years in Singapore doing research and some lecturing and the weather here is much nicer.

3. What do you enjoy about teaching the most?

I enjoy teaching Medicinal Chemistry as it's more of an open study. More drugs are being invented and are being studied. I enjoy teaching it because that's where I did my research and pharmaceutical chemistry is a more conservative study.

4. Why did you choose to be a lecturer? Who or what influenced you

It's a long story! I realized early on that I didn't want to work in a pharmacy; I was more interested in the research aspect. At school and university I was interested in the sciences but the main person that influenced me was a professor I met in my undergraduate studies. In actual fact I'm still in contact with him today. I like the idea that in research I'm doing something important, that I'm able to see the result in front of me- it's very addicting.

5. What were your goals when you were a university student?

I always intended to get involved with research. I like that research lets you find answers to things that are unclear, and unknown to science.

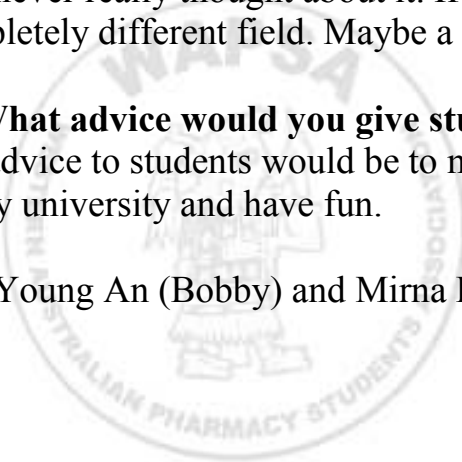
6. If you weren't a lecturer or involved in research, what else would you be?

I've never really thought about it. If I wasn't doing what I do now I think I'd be in a completely different field. Maybe a diplomat? Very different I know.

7. What advice would you give students?

My advice to students would be to make the most out of the opportunities you're given. Enjoy university and have fun.

By KukYoung An (Bobby) and Mirna Dorkhom





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ON SALE FROM THE WAPSA ROOM

- 1ST YEAR WAPSA MEMBERSHIP \$80

- T-SHIRTS \$25

- STUBBY HOLDERS \$5

STICKERS \$2

- CANS OF DRINK \$1

- NOODLES 80¢

- OTHER SNACKS AND CANDY 20¢

EDUCATION

A big hello to everyone from the Education Chair for 2011! My name is Daniel, I'm currently a second year student and I'm looking forward to a very educational, albeit tough, year. Because education is cool. That's why we're all at uni..... right?!!!

Now, for all you noob students (and the uninformed returning ones), my job as Education Chair is primarily to organise education sessions for WAPSA members. These sessions tutor you on things that will help you with both your future pharmacy endeavours and, if you're working in a pharmacy, these programs help increase your product knowledge. This year, WAPSA plans to host sessions for *Ethical Nutrients* (first years), *Blackmores* (an introductory course for second years), *Blackmores advanced course* (for fourth years), *Smith's Wound Care* (third and fourth years) and *Stitches First Aid* (fourth years). This year, WAPSA is proud to present two NEW courses, the *Johnson and Johnson's OTC course* (For the lucky first years) and the *Ego skin care course* (for third years).

In order to attend these courses, you must be a WAPSA member. I urge you all to become a member, because the benefits really do add up in the long haul. How I hear you say?

These courses look great on your resumé, as attending them shows you're dedicated to furthering your education, a requirement that extends even after you're registered as a pharmacist, and gives you an extra qualification. And, let's face it; every resumé could use some of those. So, hurry up and join WAPSA if you haven't already and take advantage of this!!

Additionally, I'll be organising the Pharmacy Forum for 2011, which is where representatives from various pharmaceutical bodies such as drug companies, the SHPA and other organisations visit and provide information on the various aspects of pharmacy. I'm hoping you'll all attend (**read: attendance is compulsory if you value your life**).

I'm usually looking for an excuse to stop studying and talking about WAPSA is more legitimate than the ones I usually come up with, so feel free to ask me any questions about the current education system.

Good luck with your studies, and I hope this year brings you an even greater knowledge of the occupation you have chosen for the rest of your professional career.

Daniel Rocco
- Education Chair 2011



A NOTE FROM UWA

So everyone is back into the thick of it all in the UWA Master of Pharmacy program and it's pretty full on already! Congratulations to all the second year students for making it through to our last ever trimester; I think we all deserve a giant pat on the back for surviving this far. It's been an intense journey, sometimes fun and sometimes ridiculously stressful but now that the end is near, I'm sure everyone is glad to have stuck with it. Welcome back to all the first years as well, fresh from their community pharmacy placements – hope it was a good learning experience for all.

Starting their combined classes with the medical students, the first years are now entering the eye-opening world of infectious disease and pathology – where spelling bacteria correctly is the name of the game and tardiness is a crime, punishable by Liam O'Connor's death stares. Alongside population health studies and learning the ins-and-outs of drug chemical structures, the first years certainly have a lot to juggle so keep on it guys! Before you know it, it'll be exam time and you'll still be reading the handout on the Island of New Chadwick. Hope your pharmacy journeys are progressing well; it's good to see you guys making yourself at home around the pharmacy building!

Research, research, research seems to be what the second years are eating, breathing and crying about late at night and with everyone well into their projects, all I can say is GOOD LUCK! As well as a research project, it's time for nursing home reviews and home medication reviews so put on your most appropriate grandparent-friendly outfits and prepare for some war stories and pictures of grandchildren to accompany your resident interviews. What a great opportunity to experience the medication review aspect of pharmacy, it's a valuable skill so I hope you all learn a lot and have a good time. Find some time in between all this study and work to enjoy our last semester as UWA Masters students, so many of us are taking off to different places for our internships so I hope you all take the time to have a chat with someone you may not have gotten to know in the last two years and make the most of this chapter of your lives.

Once again, it's a busy time for everyone here at UWA so here's hoping we all make it to the end of this trimester! A big hello and welcome back to all our other pharmacy student colleagues, hope you guys are enjoying your studies! Until next time...

Michelle Tran
UWAPSA Secretary 2011





NAPSA Congress 2011 Report- rADELAIDE

A Week of Pure Awesomeness!

A reflection by Luke Vrankovich

At the start of each year NAPSA holds its annual congress, a gathering of pharmacy students from each branch across Australia. Each year sees congress hosted by a different NAPSA branch with the 2011 congress organised by SAPSA (South Australian Pharmacy Students' Association). The host city of Adelaide saw some 240 students come together for a week crammed with a variety of educational and social events, with the partying continuing to the early hours of each morning.

WAPSA was the best represented branch in Adelaide with 32 delegates fighting for the coveted Les Cashen award for the most united and enthusiastic branch. Even though WAPSA didn't end up being awarded the Les Cashen trophy, there were delegates to be particularly proud of, most notably being Vaisnavi Aurubind and Spencer Li who made it through to the PSOTY (Pharmacy Student of the Year) finals.

Many who had attended this event in previous years, such as Monty Kanungo (as loud and proud as ever) and Frank Kazantzis, really contributed to the congress atmosphere and helped first years get into the congress spirit.

A nerd themed scribe party kicked things off at congress with the first of our opportunities to meet people and form a network of friends. The week's events included a 70's themed 'love is the drug' pub crawl, Australia day BBQ, Australian party (equipped with a 'dancing' kangaroo), battle of the branches and a night out on the town. The highlight event was definitely the gala ball on the final night. This saw delegates looking their sharpest for photos before letting loose on the dance floor.

The educational events were as intriguing as they were insightful. There was a 'future of pharmacy' forum which consisted of a panel of leading pharmacists who gave their expert opinion whilst the students discussed various problems associated with our profession. Also there were speeches which gave us further insight into a pharmacist's role in wound management, diabetes education, smoking cessation, mental healthcare, drug and alcohol addiction, continuity of care and many more interesting topics.

To all first year pharmacy students; don't let the fact that you don't know many other students deter you from attending 2012 congress. You will meet new people, make new friends, learn about our profession and have a great time while doing it. Congress week is an amazing experience. You can listen to the stories that the delegates have to tell but until you experience it yourself you can't fully appreciate it; so start looking forward to the 2012 congress in Wagga Wagga.

O-show has been and gone but there are many more awesome events to look forward to throughout the year including charity cup scavenger hunt, end of semester cocktail party, quiz night, semester 2 pub crawl and of course the semester 2 themed gala ball. Any thoughts or suggestions you have feel free to facebook either myself or WAPSA to voice your opinion.





O-SHOW

The WAPSA O-show is the annual start-of-year party thrown as a big welcome to the first years joining us in pharmacy! It is also, of course, a great excuse for students from all other years, including GEM, to all get together and just have a great night.

The much anticipated event was held at the Queen's Park Recreational Centre, on the 18th of March, with its hall being filled to its full capacity of 120 or so eager party goers. The night kicked off at about 7.30pm when Luke Vrankovich's (the Social Chair) excellent punch was brought out, and Monty Kanungo (a.k.a. DJ BrownSound) started cranking the beats.

There was a great turn out of students from all year groups, which made our custom of boat racing even more interesting as we split up into teams representing each year group. This involved whole lot of cheering and frantic sculling of drinks!

The rest of the night consisted of huge amounts of pizza, a free flow of drinks, lively chattering and mingling, and not forgetting to mention the WAPSA boys' rendition of Eagle Rock!

All in all, kudos to everyone that showed up, the WAPSA committee for lending a hand where necessary, and especially to Luke, for working ever so hard to make the night a great success! With the many new friendships formed that night at the O-show, and a fantastic party to start off WAPSA's social year, one can only imagine how great the rest of 2011 is going to be!

Yeemon Aung

Rural and Indigenous Chair





CHARITY CUP 2011

Charity cup is an annual campaign, where all fourteen affiliated NAPSA branches from across Australia participate in fundraising efforts during the month of April. This year, NAPSA welcomes the Day of Difference Foundation as its new partner for the Charity Cup initiative, which will enable pharmacy students to create a difference in the lives of critically injured children.

The Day of Difference Foundation was established six years ago by the Delezio family. After his young daughter Sophie was involved in a serious accident, Ron Delezio and his wife Carolyn saw the need for greater support and equipment in hospital to assist children with life threatening injuries and their families, on the journey from intensive care to recovery. The foundation seeks to provide family support, hospital resources, access to communications and accommodation, community engagement, and education in the acceptance of difference.

The Charity Cup is awarded to the NAPSA branch that through an innovative event raises the most amount of money for the charity. Last year we were awarded the Charity Cup for the most money raised by an individual delegate, and in 2009 WAPSA was awarded the Innovation Award for this particular event. WAPSA is fast become a group to be reckoned with and we hope this year will reflect this again.

WAPSA will be doing a raffle and lunchtime BBQ's in the month of April. The main event will be held on **Friday the 15th of April**, so be sure to SAVE THE DATE! Be prepared to act heroic (or not) dressed in your finest "Day to be Different Superheros and Villains" themed outfits as we invade Perth city in a scavenger hunt styled event ending at a venue to be advised. It's a fun way to raise money for a worthy cause, so I hope to see you all there!

Sharon Menezes
Charity and Community Awareness Chair

CARTOON STRIP



By: Nathan Kwong