



KOOROC

- KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN -

The Official Publication of the Western Australian Pharmacy Students Association

WELCOME TO PHARMACY

Welcome 1st yrs to Pharmacy and welcome to WAPSA. What you're holding here is the KOOROC, our quarterly newsletter and this is our O-Week edition, something that was started up a couple of years ago to help welcome you young kids to our world of pharmacy.

But what is WAPSA? The Western Australian Pharmacy Student's Association is a student run association that represents pharmacy students across the state and is a branch of the National Australian Pharmacy Students Association (NAPSA). We are concerned with fostering the growth and development of pharmacy students, providing social and networking opportunities and also organise education courses.

WAPSA is also the voice of students and we are the link between students and the university as well as the wider pharmacy community. NAPSA has a strong presence on a national scale and has already had great influence on many issues in the industry.

We encourage students to get involved and be a part of pharmacy from early on. By attending our O-show in a couple of weeks time you can begin to meet older students and ask questions about what's ahead for you. For those who are keen you can attend the WAPSA Annual General Meeting (AGM) where we will be electing this years committee (should be exciting, this year there are 2 people going for president), and we need 1st yr representatives.

On from there I encourage students to become members of not only WAPSA but also ACP (Australian College of Pharmacy – FREE for students), The PSWA (Pharmaceutical Society of Western Australia) and to take up the free offer of Indemnity Insurance from PDL (Pharmaceutical Defence Limited)

Also go to our website and check out everything we have to offer, including the links page that will give you a great start in accessing resources in the pharmacy industry; and we're adding more all the time.

Also I'd just quickly like to mention the WAPSA Student Excellence Award which I'm sure you must have heard about by now. It's an award for final year pharmacy students however performance of a student throughout their course counts so I encourage you to start thinking of ways in which you can get involved throughout your time in pharmacy.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- NAPSA Congress
 - Social events 2011
 - WAPSA student excellence award
 - O-SHOW
 - CHARITY
- plus much more!**

WAPSA PRESIDENT
FRANK KAZANTZIS

WAPSA WEBSITE

KOOROC ONLINE





NAPSA CONGRESS IN WAGGA WAGGA:

NAPSA congress, where do I start - I guess with WE WON THE LES CASHEN TROPHY!!

For those of you who don't know what Les Cashen trophy is, it is an award given to the best branch on congress. If you are fortunate enough to attend congress in the future you will see what an honour it is to be awarded it and how sought after it is; there are rumours that other branches are flying over to WA with the intent to steal it.

Okay so what is congress?

Well, it is a six day event run in January of each year where approximately 260 pharmacy students from across Australia come together for a mixture of educational, social and competition events. This year Pharmers in Wagga Wagga had the privilege of hosting and Sean Dodd and his team did a fantastic job.

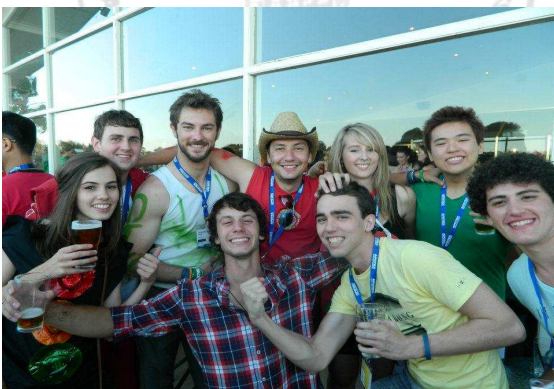
One great thing about congress is the willingness for people to talk to you and meet one another. Everyone is genuinely interested in where you come from and what you have to say. It makes it really easy to network which is very valuable. This was particularly easy with the style of social events that was set up including traffic light party (complete with fireworks and a little green car); B&S ball; battle night; wild wild west pub crawl; Australia day at the races; and the gala ball to close the week off.

Education events at congress are always very insightful with the nation's leading pharmacists coming to deliver speeches and be a part of our week. There are speeches on major topics such as rural & remote pharmacy, where pharmacy can take you, pharmacy industry, our place within the health sector and where our profession is heading as well as covering the smaller things such as resume writing, how to successfully do an interview and 'project STOP' - a government initiative. All these things are not only interesting but essential to our career as pharmacists. My personal favourite is the pharmacy forum where a presenter gives a panel of pharmacists a topic to have their say on, and then us students get a chance to have our say and ask the panel questions related to that topic.

Inter-branch competition is strong at congress and WAPSA did very well this year. Did I mention we won Les?! Kate Nevin made it into the Pharmacy Student Of The Year finals - a big achievement, congratulations. Also one of our students won the Spirit of Congress award for excellence across all aspects of congress [**ED: that student was Luke Vrankovich who wrote this article, well done Luke**]. Oh, and if they made participation trophies for the compounding challenge we would have got one.

To all the first year students reading this, I personally knew almost nobody going to congress my first time, but it was so worth going. I highly recommend at least talking to one of the executives on the WAPSA committee about it, I'm sure they will have just as high praise for the event. Start saving for congress 2013 in Hobart. I hope to see you all there.

Luke Vrankovich
WAPSA Social chair





SOCIAL CHAIR:

Hi everyone. Firstly a big congratulations to all 2011's fourth year students who graduated recently and to all new first years for making it into the course.

I myself came into the course not knowing anybody or anything to do with pharmacy so I know how all you first years feel. I found that one of the great ways to meet people was through the social events planned by WAPSA. You not only get to meet your peers and make friends that no doubt will last a lifetime, but you have a great time along the way. Social chair is a demanding position on the committee but no doubt one of the most rewarding.

2011 was a big year for WAPSA's social calendar with sell-out events throughout the year.

We kicked off the year with our orientation-type event - **O-show**. It was a fantastic night with pizza, drinks, games and great music all for a very cheap ticket. It started off calm as always with people being introduced to others then later in the night everyone let their hair down. This year O-show will be bigger and better, that I can promise you.

Next up was end of semester **Cocktail Party**, a great way to wind down after exams. Everyone dressed up and headed out to the brass monkey hotel for a classy night before departing on holiday.

Semester two came and saw our **Annual Gala Ball - An Evening of Elegance**. It is definitely the event not to miss with people even travelling from interstate to attend. Fine food and drinks accompanied the best dressed awards, HUGE door prizes and even a little dancing skit from various committee members. This year has the added bonus of the WAPSA student excellence award being announced on the night. Mid-semester WAPSA held a **Quiz Night** that great fun with stacks of prizes to be won.

The year finally came to an end and we all celebrated (or drowned our sorrows) at end of year **Pub Crawl**. This was the event where everybody said their goodbyes before departing, some of us for a few months.

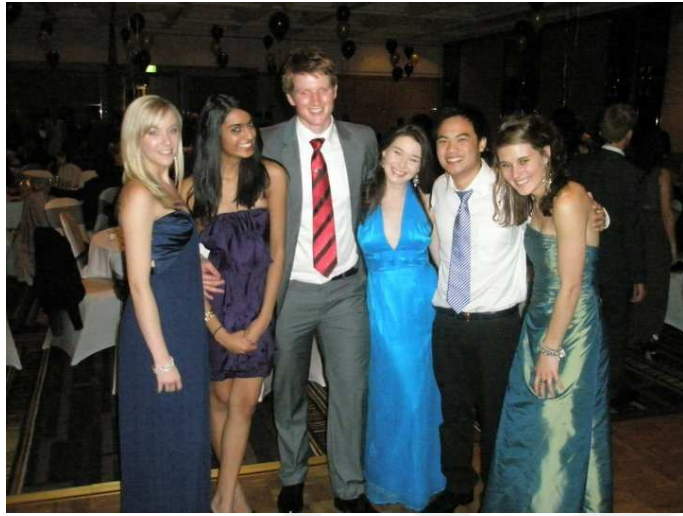
I had an amazing time planning the events and being a part of WAPSA in general and I would highly recommend it to everyone in pharmacy. It doesn't matter if you don't know anybody on the committee or even if you are shy, come up to the WAPSA room and say hello, we don't bite I promise! Best of luck for the year ahead.

Luke Vrankovich





O-WEEK 2012





RURAL & INDIGENOUS

What a big year it has been for WAPSA's Rural and Indigenous section! The absolute highlight of the year would have to be John Curtin Weekend.

John Curtin Weekend, better known as JCW, involved 17 eager volunteers from WAPSA making our way down to Bunbury for the weekend to do some volunteer work at non-profit organisations. Our help was very much appreciated, making the weekend a fulfilling one, whilst still allowing us to experience the hospitality that a rural town has to offer.

April and May were busy months in terms of workshops and education sessions. Curtin Volunteers had set up weekly classes; 'Ways of Working with Aboriginal People'. There was also a multi-disciplinary night conducted by WAALHIIBE - this session truly highlighted the importance of having adequate numbers of healthcare professionals in rural regions. During the month of May, WAALHIIBE had also organised a very informative Rural Clinical Placement Workshop, giving great tips on how to cope with being miles away from home while on placement.

A huge survey was also conducted across all NAPSA branches, to do with rural placements and it's shortcomings, in terms of communication and financial support. Rural placements are our focus this year, kicking it off with a rural themed NAPSA congress, held in Wagga Wagga, NSW. So this year, WAPSA too will aim to promote rural placements, and hopefully start to bring in ideas for improvement.

A bigger and better JCW is also something to look forward to this year, along with many more interesting education sessions and workshops.

Have a great first semester back at uni!

Yeemon Aung
Rural and Indigenous Chair



WAPSA WEBSITE:

After a long period of being under maintenance, our publications chair Alborz Shahsavand and president Frank Kazantzis have worked together to design our very own WAPSA website! This website allows all pharmacy students to see what WAPSA is all about, and for us to keep up to date with what's going on. In particular there is a great LINKS page that gives you great websites in the world of pharmacy. Check it out! You know you want to... Also don't forget to join WAPSA on facebook to stay up to date with all that is happening on the social front!

<http://wapsa.napsa.org.au>



O-SHOW



Pharmaceutical Society
of Western Australia Inc.

Come along and meet your fellow pharmacy students, make some friends and have some FUN!! Drinks and Food provided, and 1st yrs get a free WAPSA stubby holder on arrival.

Tickets are cheap so you have no excuse.

1st yr students	-	\$5
WAPSA members	-	\$10
Non members	-	\$15

Sponsored by the Pharmaceutical Society of Western Australia (PSWA) with representatives from their Early Careers Pharmacists Working Group attending on the night.

Date: 16th March 2012
Venue: Queens Park Recreation Centre
 (2 Centre St Queens Park WA 6107)

MEMBERSHIP AND SAVE

For you first year pharmacy students WAPSA membership is a must, at \$80 it seems expensive but the savings are there. The money raised from memberships also pays for NAPSA membership of which without we could not organise half of the events and services we do. Also the common room with all its appliances is financed through WAPSA, so at some point in the life of your course you'll be getting back something for your membership.

Savings/Opportunities:	/year	/course
• Dispensing Pack (for Pharmaceutics Labs) (Curtin Only)	\$ 10	\$ 10
• \$5 entry to O-show (with complimentary WAPSA stubby holder)	\$ 5	\$ 20
• Membership prices to all events	-	-
• Blackmores Certificate Course in 2nd year (WAPSA only)	\$ 20	\$ 20
• Discount AMH (2nd year and Pre-Reg textbook)	\$ 10	\$ 20
• NAPSA membership (National Aus. Pharmaceutical Students Ass.)	\$ 5	\$ 20
• IPSF membership (International Pharmacy Students' Federation)		
• Smith & Nephew Wound Care Course in 3rd year (WAPSA only)	\$ 20	\$ 20
• Discount Stitches 1st Aid Certificate and CPR course (WAPSA only)		
• Discount SUSDP textbook (1 st year second semester book)	\$ 5	\$ 5
• Student Exchange program opportunities		
• Opportunity to get tickets for NAPSA congress		
• Reduced Ball ticket prices	\$ 10	\$ 40

Plus much, much more!!!!!!!

Over the course you can save over \$ 150!!!

Membership also gives you the opportunity to attend events including the education courses and the NAPSA congress which are closed to NAPSA members, So help support the association that supports you.



CHARITY

One of our positions on the WAPSA committee is the Charity and Awareness chair who among other initiatives runs charity events throughout the year. One of the big ones is the Charity Cup which is a national competition where all 16 NAPSA branches across the country compete to raise the most money for a nominated charity. In 2011 this was the 'Day of Difference Foundation' that supports families of critically injured children.

WAPSA for the Day of Difference ran a massive campaign that saw us handover just over \$3000. We raise the most money of all the branches however did not win the charity cup as its based on a per member basis. In fact we raised so much that it was about 25% of the total raised by NAPSA.

The main event for the Charity cup was a scavenger hunt through the city where the theme was "Dare to be Different – Superheroes and Villains". Everyone wore their superhero and villain costumes and we all looked ridiculous running through the streets of Perth, some of us in skin tight costumes; but we raised lots of money for a great cause.

Following this WAPSA was involved in raising awareness for cystic fibrosis with a few students running in city to surf. This was spearheaded by our 2011 vice president Morlee Vekaria.

In second semester the charity event is the Vampire Cup where all 16 branches compete to gather the most blood donations. This is a valuable initiative that WAPSA gets involved in that actually saves lives. Unfortunately in the past we've struggled to get large amounts of donations however maybe this year can be an exception, but we'll need your help!





A MESSAGE FROM OUR SPONSORS

PDL is proud to sponsor the publication of KOOROC.

What is PDL?

PDL is not an insurance company but uses Guild Insurance Limited as underwriters to provide the Professional Indemnity cover that every pharmacist and pharmacy student needs.

PDL is a support organisation with a focus on risk minimisation and is wholly owned by its members. PDL supports all pharmacy schools, NAPSA as well as individual State student bodies, and assists pharmacy students with special needs.

The company is proud to be celebrating its centenary year having formed in 1912 when a group of chemists banded together to help a chemist in Echuca who supplied a powder to a customer who aspirated and choked on it. In court proceedings the chemist was ordered to pay £200, a large sum of money in those days. Pharmacy students are encouraged to have their own individual Professional Indemnity policy.

To apply for **complimentary** Pharmacy Students Insurance cover go to:

www.guildinsurance.com.au/professional-indemnity/overview/pharmacist

For more information about PDL visit

www.pdl.org.au



A CENTURY OF SERVICE
TO PHARMACY 1912-2012