



APAC BOARD COMMUNIQUÉ

August 2020

The APAC Board met on August 3rd, 2020 via Zoom.

This is the first of what we hope will be a regular series of post-Board communiqués designed to give stakeholders a greater insight into the workings of the APAC Board. I welcome feedback on whether this is helpful.

With all eleven Board members in attendance online, the meeting began with an Acknowledgment of Country.

Accreditation business

The Board considered recommendations from the Accreditation Assessment Committee (AAC) on a wide range of matters including cycle and out-of-cycle accreditation reviews, monitoring of accredited programs, annual reports, programs placed into teach out as well as a range of more administrative decisions such as changes to existing program titles. The type and number of determinations made by the Board are shown below. These are reported to the Psychology Board of Australia who will then make a decision to approve each program for the purpose of registration.

Determination type	Number of providers	Number of programs
Accreditation / re-accreditation	4	5
Program monitoring	8	39
Programs in teach out	12	38
Change to accredited program title	1	13
Addition of new program titles	2	24
Additional campus to deliver an accredited program	2	3

As part of our accreditation business, the CEO and Accreditation Manager provided the Board with an update on the 2020 accreditation process, focussing particularly on the challenges and outcomes of moving to online site visits due to COVID-19. It was noted that APAC's assessors and staff, as well as the Higher Education Providers involved, were all adapting to the new process well and that feedback to date had been very positive.

The CEO presented the outcomes of a survey of Higher Education Providers concerning recent changes to their programs over the last three years.

Standard operational business was also discussed. This included reports from the CEO and from myself as Chair. We have both have attended a number of relevant stakeholder meetings in recent months, all by videoconference. This has enabled us to discuss the impact of COVID-19 with key stakeholders including PsyBA, HODSPA and the APS. It has been very encouraging to see the level of support and co-operation between all of these stakeholders at this challenging time.

The next meeting will be held in September and as it stands it will be via Zoom.

Professor John Dunn

Chair, APAC