



APAC BOARD COMMUNIQUÉ

October 2022

The APAC Board met on 11 October 2022 in person

Our post-Board communiqué is designed to give stakeholders a greater insight into the workings of APAC Board meetings.

The meeting began with an Acknowledgment of Country. We had nine Board members in attendance.

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 below. These are reported to the Psychology Board of Australia, which will then decide whether to approve each program for the purpose of registration.

Determinations

Determination type	Number of providers	Number of programs
Initial accreditation	2	4
Re-accreditation	3	53
Program monitoring	8	47
Programs in teach out	2	2
Change to accredited program title	1	1
Additional campus to deliver an accredited program	2	2
Addition of new program titles	1	1



Other business

The Board met to discuss strategy on 10 October and the morning of 11 October in order to develop APAC's Strategy Plan 2023–28.

At the Board meeting on 11 October, Directors appointed three new members of the Accreditation Assessment Committee (AAC): Associate Professor Linda Byrne; Professor Tony Machin; and Associate Professor Erin O'Connor. In addition, the Board co-opted Professor Jonathon Mason to the AAC until the end of 2025.

The Board also appointed 10 psychologists as APAC Assessors from 1 January 2023 until 31 December 2025, subject to a probationary period that expires on 31 December 2023. Some are academics, some practitioners, and some have both roles.

The Director leading the Cultural Responsiveness Working Party reported a high level of positive feedback from a wide variety of stakeholders on the draft cultural responsiveness guidance document. The working party will consider responses, with a final version to come to the Board for approval.

Directors were pleased to hear that APAC is in a healthy financial position. They increased accreditation fees for 2023 by 3 per cent, substantially lower than the current rate of inflation.

The Board received the auditors' report and management letter.

The Board approved an amended Parental Leave Policy. APAC will top up the government parental leave payment of 18 weeks' leave at the national minimum wage to full pay for staff on parental leave.

Directors discussed the question of cyber security in the light of the Optus incident. While they were assured that APAC was meeting its security obligations, they agreed to hear an expert presentation at the November Board meeting.

Professor John Dunn
Chair, APAC