

Community of Practice Conference **Agenda**

4 November 2026

11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (AEDT)



Location

Virtual (Links Provided)



Agenda	Speaker(s)	Time
Acknowledgement of Country and Opening Acknowledgement of Country followed by an opening address from APAC's CEO and Board Chair.	Adjunct Professor John Dunn Mr David Ensor	11:00 a.m.
Psychology Board of Australia Keynote Keynote presentation and address from Ms Rachel Phillips, Chair of the Psychology Board of Australia.	Ms Rachel Phillips	11:30 a.m.
Preparing the Future Workforce: Leadership Priorities (Panel) A plenary panel chaired by APAC, bringing together senior leaders from across the psychology sector to consider the priorities and shared responsibilities involved in preparing a capable, sustainable and trusted future workforce.	Adjunct Professor John Dunn (APAC) Dr Kelly Gough (APS) Ms Shannon McNeair (AIPA) Ms Tegan Carrison (AAPi) Professor Karena J. Burke (HPA)	12:00 p.m.
Lunch Break		12:45 p.m.
Developing a National Placement Framework – What is Involved? Led by the Australian Psychology Placement Alliance (APPA), this interactive workshop will explore the opportunities and challenges involved in developing a National Placement Framework. With placement capacity a key constraint on psychology workforce growth, the session will consider how a more coordinated national approach could support sustainable placement pathways, strengthen collaboration and address existing challenges in supervision and resourcing.	Dr Sonja Pohlman (APPA) Dr Vincent Oxenham (APPA) Mr Gregory Buck (APPA) Ms Cathrine Grimsgaard (APPA) Ms Johanna Allsopp (APPA)	1:15 p.m.
From Standards to Practice: Advancing Cultural Safety in Psychology Education This presentation will explore the outcomes and achievements of the Australian Indigenous Psychology Education Project (AIPEP) and APAC Cultural Safety Project partnership (2025–2026), highlighting their contribution to advancing cultural safety in psychology education. The session will also introduce the revised and expanded AIPEP Framework and its role in supporting culturally safe education and training practices.	Ms Belle Selkirk (AIPEP) Ms Jody Kamminga (AIPEP) Ms Katrina Newnham (AIPEP)	

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Harnessing Digital Technologies in Simulation-Based Learning This case study will explore how emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence (AI), natural language processing (NLP) and virtual reality (VR), can enhance simulation-based learning in psychology education. Drawing on research, the session will examine opportunities to overcome limitations in cost, scalability and realism, while strengthening students' capabilities, confidence and readiness for professional practice.	Dr Elizabeth Pizarro-Campagna	2:00 p.m.
Preparing the Future Workforce: Student Panel This panel will bring together psychology students to share their experiences, perspectives and expectations of the education and training pathways preparing them for professional practice. The discussion will explore what is working well, where challenges remain and how student perspectives can help inform the future of psychology education and training.	Miss Annabel M. Sproul Mr Myles Ikin Mr Matthew Craig Mr Dylan Henry Ms Debbie Haynes	
Rest Break		2:45 p.m.
Psychologically Literate Problem Solving: The Basis For Sustainable, Quality Psychology Education and Training. This presentation will explore the role of psychologically literate problem solving as a foundation for sustainable, high-quality psychology education and training. The session will consider how embedding problem-solving capabilities throughout undergraduate and postgraduate education can strengthen professional preparation, support diverse career pathways and contribute to community wellbeing.	Emeritus Professor Tony Machin Hon. Professor Jacquelyn Cranney	3:00 p.m.
The Safe Practice Partner: Embedding a Psychotherapy Training Chatbot Platform Into Psychology Curricula. This presentation will explore the use of Client 101, a chatbot-based simulation platform designed to support the development of foundational psychotherapy skills in a safe and scalable learning environment. Drawing on two years of research with postgraduate psychology students at the University of Melbourne, the session will highlight how virtual clients can support clinical skills development, reflective practice and learning in high-risk scenarios.	Associate Professor Chelsea Hyde Associate Professor Kaye Frankcom	

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Keynote Speaker: Professor Danny Liu

This keynote will explore how artificial intelligence and emerging digital technologies are reshaping education and the capabilities students will need for the future. Drawing on practical examples and cross-sector experience, the session will consider how educators can prepare students for an increasingly digital world, equipping them with the knowledge, skills and confidence to navigate technological change, embrace new opportunities and engage with emerging technologies responsibly.

Professor Danny Liu

3:45 p.m.

Event Recap and Close

Adjunct Professor John Dunn
Mr David Ensor

4:30p.m.

With thanks to: Australian Association of Psychologists (AAPi), Australian Indigenous Psychologists Association (AIPA) Australian Indigenous Psychology Education Project (AIPEP), Australian Psychology Placement Alliance (APPA), Australian Psychological Society (APS), Heads of Psychology, Australia (HPA), and the Psychology Board of Australia (PsyBA).