



AHPA News Update

End year 2007

8th National Allied Health Conference

Work has started in planning the 8th National Allied Health Conference which will be held at the Realm Hotel in Canberra from Thursday 13 to Saturday 15 August 2009. The themes of the Conference are likely to be around Policy, Workforce and Innovations in Multi-disciplinary Care. Potential keynote speakers will be contacted in the new year and the dinner will be held at Old Parliament House.

Key Issues

Meetings with decision-makers

AHPA has, during the last six months, continued its series of meetings with decision-makers and key persons in allied health. At a meeting with Peter Carver there was a discussion on National Registration. The Management Group met with Judy Daniel, Assistant Secretary, Primary Care Chronic Disease Branch, Primary and Ambulatory Care Division, Department of Health and Ageing. Judy was accompanied by Dr Phuong Pham, Director, Primary and Ambulatory Care Division. Other meetings were held with Bennie Ng, Medicare adviser to the then Minister of Health, and Nicola Roxon when she was Shadow Minister. The Management Group also held a teleconference with Rosalie Boyce.

We hope to meet with Nicola Roxon, Minister for Health and Ageing, once she has settled into her new role to discuss issues relevant to allied health professionals. A Briefing Paper for the incoming Minister has been developed as a basis of the discussions we hope will take place during 2008.

AHPA's role in policy forums

During the past few months AHPA has had representatives at a range of strategic meetings and forums, including:

- Indigenous health workforce stakeholder workshop
- Consumers Health Forum of Australia

And AHPA nominated representatives to the National Patient Charter of Rights Reference Group and to Cancer Australia reference groups.

AHPA looks forward to welcoming more new members during 2008 and continuing to support allied health professionals throughout Australia by providing a national voice for allied health.

AHPA extends greetings of the season and wishes you a very successful 2008.

For information about the AHPA, check the website: www.ahpa.com.au