



Australian Council of Deans of Health Science Meeting

Thursday 28 July 2022

By Zoom

NOTES

Chair: Professor Michelle Lincoln, University of Canberra

Present

Australian Catholic University	Elspeth Froud
Canberra University	Michelle Lincoln
Charles Darwin University	Dominic Upton
Charles Sturt University	Michael Curtin
Deakin University	Jenny Watts
Edith Cowan University	Natalie Ciccone
Flinders University	Chris Brebner
Griffith University	David Neumann, Jim Woodburn
La Trobe University	Russell Hoye
University of Melbourne	Bruce Thompson
James Cook University	Anne Jones
Queensland University of Technology	Patsy Yates
The University of Adelaide	Rachel Gibson
University of NSW	Lisa Keay
University of Southern Queensland	Marion Gray
University of Queensland	Blake McKimmie
University of Sydney	Mark Halaki
University of Tasmania	Nuala Bryne
University of Southern Queensland	Marion Gray
University of WA	Rhonda Clifford

Apologies

Central Queensland University	Michelle Belligan
University of Newcastle	Charlotte Rees
Monash University	Terry Haines
RMIT	Catherine Itsiopoulos
Curtin University	Adrian North
Edith Cowan University	Moira Sim

University of SA	Roger Eston, Shylie McIntosh, Esther May
University of Southern Queensland	Glen Coleman
University of Sydney	Josh Burns
University of Queensland	Pauline Ford, Bruce Abernethy
Charles Sturt University	Megan Smith
James Cook University	Lee Stewart
University of Tasmania	Denise Fassett
University of Wollongong	Paul Stapley
Western Sydney University	Greg Kolt

In attendance

Jen Coulls, Executive Officer ACDHS

Helen McFarlane, Policy Officer ACDHS

Rachel Yates, Policy Director HPESG (for item 2)

Ass Prof Michelle Bellon (for item 3)

Professor Andrew Baillie, Professor Elise Baker and Professor Vinicius Vavalheri (for item 4)

The meeting opened at 2.35pm

	<p>Welcome, introductions and apologies</p> <p>The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.</p> <p>Apologies were recorded (as above)</p> <p>Proxies for members were noted.</p>
1.	<p>Previous meeting</p> <p>Confirmation of notes of previous meeting The notes of the meeting 26 May 2022 were accepted.</p> <p>Business Arising The action register was considered, noting items awaiting further action or completed.</p> <p>Aged Care Workforce Modelling Study project No EOIs have been received (closing 1 August). Member views were sought about the lack of interest in the ACDHS sponsored Aged Care Workforce Modelling Study project. It was generally felt that the piece of work was too complex and might be better suited for those with primary expertise in health economics, ie a PWC, KPMG</p> <p>Action: Feedback to be provided to Terry Haines with a view to re-considering in 2023.</p>

2. Key issues and sector development

HPESG – Rachel Yates, Policy Director Health Workforce, Universities Australia

Key points discussed during the meeting:

Clinical education and placements

UA has written to the new Health and Education Ministers, Mark Butler and Jason Clare, to outline the role of universities in health workforce formation and their role in addressing current health workforce need. The letter requested policy settings to support this. In the shorter term this includes:

- changes in university funding to support a greater volume of health professional students;
- compacts with health services to support sufficient clinical placement capacity; and
- financial support to upskill qualified but non-working domestic and international health workforce through short courses and micro-credentials.

In the medium to longer term this includes

- policy support for partnership approaches between health/care services and universities to build expanded clinical placement capacity in settings of workforce need; and
- development of a cross-portfolio, multi-stakeholder forum to determine and implement a sustainable clinical education and workforce plan so that all parties involved are aligned.

The letter also calls for the new government to fully support the March 2022 Federal Budget announcements regarding clinical education funding to universities.

New national NDIS workforce plan

The Albanese government has committed to a new NDIS workforce plan as part of its NDIS review and in light of consideration of Australia's broader jobs and skills needs. The new plan will supersede the former NDIS national workforce plan 2022-2025. The former plan included a specific domain regarding allied health student NDIS placements. Further details, including consultation opportunities, will shortly be made available from DSS.

Workforce

UA is working to identify ways that universities could contribute to health workforce growth and sustainability, including options to address more immediate pandemic-related health workforce needs. A "*Universities and Health Workforce*" policy paper has been developed and has been discussed with HPESG. Ideas will inform messages at the September Jobs and Skills summit and UA's longer term HPE workplan.

Digital Health

On 26 May and 14 July UA attended two virtual roundtables with the Australian Medical Council (AMC) and Health Education England (HEE) regarding opportunities/challenges in digital health for educators and health services. UA is talking with HEE on 1 August to look at further options for collaboration on digital health and broader matters of health professions education.

Members expressed the challenges of changing a culture within accrediting bodies of "prescribed hours", but recognised that there has been some incremental movement towards an 'outcomes' approach.

<p>3.</p>	<p>Update: National Roadmap for Improving the Health of People with Intellectual Disability – Curriculum Development Associate Professor Michelle Bellon (ACDHS rep)</p> <p>The Intellectual Disability Education and Training Advisory Group (Advisory Group) was established in December 2021, and meets bi-monthly. Feedback has helped inform the development of the Capability Framework policy objective and scope, scoping and gap analysis (conducted by Uni of Queensland), membership of the specialist drafting group, and feedback on the monitoring and evaluation framework.</p> <p>A focus group of six people with lived experience of ID will be engaged to consult and inform the project (expected in August).</p> <p>Other key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of a Framework Drafting Group. The Drafting Group will be responsible for refining the core capability areas (previously agreed by the Advisory Group) and reshaping them into capabilities with associated learning outcomes and resources, to deliver an Intellectual Disability Health Capability Framework in the second half of 2023. • An update on work to assess the current inclusion of disability health within curricula. Additional allied health professions suggested by the EAG have now been included in assessment. The report was due to be finalised by end June; and • Extensive discussion of the project evaluation framework and the extent to which impact of the curriculum framework can be assessed given project timeframes. <p>The next advisory group meeting will be held in September 2022.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Visitors - Conjoint Allied Health Professors Professor Andrew Baillie, Professor Elise Baker and Professor Vinicius Vavalheri</p> <p>The Professors briefed members about the genesis, role and goals of the Group who strongly advocate for conjoint positions in allied health, seeing them as (amongst other things) an important pathway for clinician researchers.</p> <p>The publication of a Position Statement (provided in the meeting pack) has resulted in raising the profile of such positions. The Group works closely with the Chief Allied Health Officer and has attracted the interest of the Academy of Health and Medical Sciences. The Group is keen to work more closely with ACDHS.</p> <p>Key points of discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The challenges for universities in the structure/governance of such shared positions. • Recognition that it needs to be a true partnership between health service and university based on shared goals. • The opportunities for encouraging PhD candidates. • Shared learnings. • A mechanism for bringing universities and health services together. • Increasing the awareness of allied health within the executive levels of health services.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some members expressed a negative experience of such positions and doesn't suit everyone, others expressed its potential for building research capacity through more 'junior' roles and are actively exploring within their institutions. <p>Potential for working together:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The development of a joint statement/principles for ACDHS and PAH best practice. PAH assisting with identifying research themes. <p>Action: For Executive discussion</p> <p>The Chair brought to Members' attention the Allied Health Research Register which has been developed by the Chief Allied Health Officer's Allied Health Industry Reference Group in conjunction with the PAH, noting several topics for ACDHS/PAH action.</p> <p>Action: Members to consider the Register and provide feedback to the ACDHS Executive by 20 August.</p>
<p>4.</p> <p>4.1</p> <p>4.2</p>	<p>Any other business</p> <p>October meetings in Sydney The Executive Officer reminded members to register their attendance asap for the:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> October Council meeting Symposium in Sydney. Council dinner. Symposium <p>ACDHS incorporation – update Member consultation on the Draft constitution opens on 1 August for 2 weeks.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Information items</p> <p>The Secretariat and Finance reports was noted.</p>

The meeting closed at 4.20pm

Next meeting: Thursday 20 October, Sydney Masonic Centre, 66 Goulburn St, Sydney followed by dinner.