



## Stat Report 2014/16

### MSAV | VPA | AHP Annual Conference

**Annual Conference is on Friday 30 May at 9am for a 9:30am start to 5pm.**

We have an exciting agenda covering topical industrial, political and professional issues!

Dr Rosemary Kelly will be joined by Craig McGregor, secretary of the Victorian Health Professionals Association (VHPA), and Paul Healey, assistant secretary of the Health & Community Services Union (HACSU) for our panel discussion on the state of public health in Victoria.

And with the State and Federal Budgets having been handed down over the last fortnight we're sure the panel discussion will be lively.

Don't forget we've secured David Davis, Victorian Minister for Health; Gavin Jennings, Victorian Shadow Minister for Health; and Colleen Hartland, the Victorian Greens health spokesperson to share their party's vision for public health in Victoria.

Make sure you have your questions ready!

We're also looking forward to hearing from First State Super who will speak about superannuation and the Low Income Super Contribution scheme.

Plus our very own Heidi Brown will be looking at bullying, discrimination and harassment; and how to best deal with these issues at work.

And the in-coming secretary of Victorian Trades Hall Council, Luke Hilakari, will attend to discuss the "We Are Union" campaign.

**The Annual Conference is free and open to all members.**

#### Conference Details:

**Date:** 30 May 2014

**Time:** 9am to 5pm

**Venue:** DownTowner on Lygon at 66 Lygon St, Carlton - [check it out on Google Maps](#)

**Door Prize:** By attending you're in the draw to win a Kindle donated by the ACTU

#### Confirmed Speakers:

- David Davis – Victorian Minister for Health & Ageing
- Gavin Jennings – Victorian Shadow Minister for Health & Mental Health
- Colleen Hartland – Victorian Greens spokesperson for health
- Dr Rosemary Kelly – Secretary, MSAV | VPA | AHP
- Craig McGregor – Secretary, Victorian Health Professionals Association

**Come to  
Conference for  
your chance to  
win a Kindle  
from the ACTU**

- Paul Healey – Assistant Secretary, Health & Community Services Union
- Luke Hilakari – Secretary-elect, Victorian Trades Hall Council
- First State Super

Check out the Agenda – [click here](#) | Register your attendance – [click here](#)

## The Budget and Cost of Living

Last week STAT Report had a number of articles on the various impacts of the Abbott Government's first budget on health care.

In this week's STAT Report we've collated a number of articles which discuss how Budget 2014 will impact Australia. These articles speak to a number of the concerns the Union has about the Budget and how the federal budget compounds the funding cuts contained in the Victorian state budget.

### **“Budget 2014: Is this the Australia we really want to be?”**

How you responded to last Tuesday night's budget speech would depend on your point of view, your preoccupations and your prejudices – political and otherwise.

If you were a clinical psychologist, you might have been disturbed by signs of the Prime Minister's short attention span. Chatting to his colleagues, giggling, looking distractedly about, he seemed unable to concentrate even for 30 minutes while his Treasurer made the speech of his life.

If you were a spin doctor, you'd have been deeply impressed by the whole thing. Knowing that governments generally benefit from an air of crisis, you'd have applauded the creation of “budget emergency” as a slogan (derided by economists at large, but what would they know about winning?) You'd have loved the many euphemisms for tax, especially “budget repair levy” – quite possibly the basis for a whole new chapter in the spin doctor's manual, that one.

Read the full piece by Hugh Mackay in The Age at:

<http://www.theage.com.au/comment/budget-2014-is-this-the-australia-we-really-want-to-be-20140516-zrevn.html>

### **“Why the federal budget is bad for health and worse for society”**

Despite government claims that the budget would be fair and all Australians would contribute to the “budget rescue job”, reality has not supported these claims. And this is bad news for health and social equity.

Income equality translates to health equality; evidence consistently shows disadvantaged Australians face greater risk of poor health and chronic disease. Men in the lowest socioeconomic quarter, for instance, die prematurely between the ages of 15 and 64 years at approximately twice the rate of those in the highest socioeconomic group.

This budget will have a direct effect on health equity because none of the budget items relating to the social determinants of health – employment, income, health services, education, welfare, housing and transport – are being dealt with equitably.

Read the full article by Fran Baum in The Conversation at: <http://theconversation.com/why-the-federal-budget-is-bad-for-health-and-worse-for-society-26451>

### **“Proposed medical research fund is unfair and unethical”**

Medical research is a significant winner in the federal budget: we're told, ([probably falsely](#)), that the government will establish the largest medical research fund in the world (\$20 billion by 2023). But whether creating this fund is ethical is another matter.

The medical research future fund will save money by [significant disinvestment in preventative and public health](#) measures and by the introduction of a \$7 co-payment for GP visits.

On the face of it, this is a significantly regressive move. [The evidence on co-payments](#), for instance, suggests they'll disproportionately [impact the socially disadvantaged](#) leading people

to avoid treatment until health conditions worsen and need more serious treatment, including hospitalisation.

Read the full article by Assoc. Prof. David Hunter in The Conversation at:  
<http://theconversation.com/proposed-medical-research-fund-is-unfair-and-unethical-26740>

### **“Economic modelling shows budget cuts will hit lowest-income earners hardest”**

A second analysis of the Abbott government's budget has concluded it will have the biggest impact on the lowest-income earners.

Ben Phillips, the principal research fellow at the National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling (Natsem), said most families would be financially worse off after the planned changes, even factoring in the proposed abolition of the carbon price.

The research, commissioned by the Labor opposition, follows the release of separate modelling by Australian National University public policy experts which showed working-age Australians at the lowest income levels will suffer the most pain from the budget.

Read the full article by Daniel Hurst in The Guardian:  
<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/may/20/budget-cuts-hit-lowest-income-earners>

### **“Working-age poor will suffer most pain from Australian budget”**

Working-age Australians at the lowest income levels will suffer the most pain from the budget, despite the government's rhetoric about everyone making a contribution, according to analysis by public policy experts.

The researchers said they sought to replicate the type of analysis included in successive federal budgets since 2004, but such estimates were omitted in this year's budget.

A Nielsen poll published by Fairfax Media on Monday showed 63% believed the budget was unfair, while just 33% believed it was fair.

Read the full article by Daniel Hurst in The Guardian:  
<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/may/19/working-age-poor-will-suffer-most-pain-from-australian-budget>

## **Changes to Membership Fees**

Each year the membership fees are reviewed and each year the Committees of Management agonise over the decision. This year, it was decided to raise fees by 2.5% to stay in line with rising costs to the MSAV, VPA Inc and AHP.

The following tables outline the subscription rates for the 2014/15 financial year for the MSAV, VPA Inc and AHP.

### **Subscription Rates for MSAV for 2014/15**

<b>Subscription Type</b>	<b>Total Payable</b>
<b>Full-Time Subscription</b>	
Annual	\$594.02
Direct Debit (per month)	\$49.51
Payroll Deduction (per week)	\$12.23
<b>Part-Time Subscription</b>	
Annual	\$356.29
Direct Debit (per month)	\$29.70
Payroll Deduction (per month)	\$7.34
<b>Sessional Subscription</b>	\$182.97
<b>Non-Working Subscription</b>	\$79.49

### **Subscription Rates for VPA Inc for 2014/15**

<b>Subscription Type</b>	<b>Total Payable</b>
<b>Full-Time Subscription</b>	
Annual	\$594.02
Direct Debit (per month)	\$49.51
Payroll Deduction (per week)	\$12.23
<b>Part-Time Subscription</b>	
Annual	\$356.29
Direct Debit (per month)	\$29.70
Payroll Deduction (per month)	\$7.34
<b>Sessional Subscription</b>	\$182.97
<b>Non-Working Subscription</b>	\$79.49
<b>Student Subscription</b>	\$29.88
<b>Private Practice Subscription</b>	
Annual	\$270.60
Direct Debit (per month)	\$22.55

### **Subscription Rates for AHP for 2014/15**

This year, the Committee of Management has decided to simplify the fee structure for the AHP, as well as raise fees by 2.5% to stay in line with rising costs to the organisation.

The following table outlines the subscription rates for the 2014/15 financial year

<b>Subscription Type</b>	<b>Total Payable</b>
<b>Full-Time Subscription</b>	
Annual	\$551.74
Direct Debit (per month)	\$45.98
<b>Part-Time Subscription</b>	
Annual	\$331.05
Direct Debit (per month)	\$27.59
<b>Sessional 1-Day Subscription</b>	\$110.33
<b>Pre-Registration Subscription</b>	\$105.90
<b>Non-Working Subscription</b>	\$79.43

You'll note that the 2-day, 3-day and 4-day Part-time Subscriptions have been removed from the fee structure in order to simplify the fee structure.

The Union knows that there are a number of members that hold 2-day, 3-day and 4-day Part-time Subscriptions who will be impacted by the change in the fee structure. For these members the new fee structure will commence when their current subscription concludes.

If you have any questions please contact either Rosemary Kelly or Paul Elliott on 9623 9623

## **Allied Health Forum Series by Department of Health**

Members may have been alerted to the "Sharing Advanced Practice in Allied Health" forum series being run by the Victorian Department of Health.

If you haven't heard about this forum series you should know that the Department is presenting forums aimed at 'showcasing' the range of advanced practice roles across allied health. The purpose behind the forum series, according to the Department, is to illustrate the "potential for allied health roles to enhance service delivery, improve patient care, and reduce costs across the sector".

It is important to note that this forum series serves the primary purpose of demonstrating how services can find ways of dumbing down their workforce and replacing highly skilled and trained professional staff with allied health assistants.

The Union is very concerned about this forum series and its potential to further encourage health services to replace highly trained and educated staff as the means for dealing with ever dwindling budgets.

The Union will attend a number of the forums to ascertain what information is shared and the kind of messages being distributed about how to 'reduce costs'.

## March for Medicare

The Abbott Government before the election promised no cuts to health but the government broke that promise by slashing health and hospital funding.

This Budget radically undermines the universal healthcare system and makes it unnecessarily expensive for Australians to get the medical attention they need when they need it.

The reality now is that patients' actual healthcare needs won't be met as the budget cuts will result in clinical health services being slashed.

Please join the **March for Medicare rally on 30 May at 5.30pm at the State Library** and stand up for Medicare.

To get more information: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1381880575405805/>

## Senate Inquiry into Australia's Innovation System

With a federal government that seems to have misplaced the importance of science to the future development of Australia, a landmark inquiry into Australia's innovation system has been secured by the ALP and the Australian Greens.

The Inquiry comes at a particularly important time as many of the solutions to the big challenges facing Australia will come from our science community and the innovation our science community generates. The Inquiry's terms of reference are very broad so as to capture the full breadth of the science community and its contribution to Australian life.

The Union is very clear about the importance of science to Australia, especially for the ongoing healthcare needs of all Australians, and will be making a submission to the Inquiry.

We strongly encourage individual members to make their own submission.

**Submissions to the Inquiry close on 31 July 2014.**

For more details about this important Inquiry and to make a submission visit: [http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/Economics/Innovation\\_System](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Economics/Innovation_System)

### **Preparing the Union submission**

If you're interested in assisting the Union in preparing its submission to this Inquiry please contact Alex Schlotzer on 9623 9623 or at [alexs@msav.org.au](mailto:alexs@msav.org.au)

## Your Union is on Facebook

Keep up to date with what's happening by liking us on Facebook

[Medical Scientists Association of Victoria](#) | [Victorian Psychologists Association Inc](#) | [Association of Hospital Pharmacists](#)



**ANNUAL CONFERENCE**  
**30 MAY 2014**  
**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER**



## Cracka Wines offer for Union Members

Cracka Wines, Australia's leading online wine retailer, offers union members the best possible prices on some fantastic wines - up to 75% off the RRP!

Here are just a few great reasons why union members should try Crackawines.com.au:

- They have one of the largest ranges in the country
- All the information you'll ever need to choose the right wine is available online
- Union members get an extra 5% off every wine order
- All orders are shipped direct from the winery (for just \$6.95 per case to most locations)
- The confidence of a 100% money back guarantee

Start saving and view their latest offers, by registering at [Crackawines.com.au/unions](http://Crackawines.com.au/unions)

## Benefits for Union Members

As a union member, you can take advantage of the collective buying power of more than 1.9 million members to get discounts on a great range of products and services.

ACTU Member Connect makes sure the products and services are from companies you can rely on to deliver high-quality products with reliable customer service.

There is more information about a range of other benefits union members can access at <http://www.memberconnect.com.au/> or you can call ACTU Member Connect on 1300 362 223.

## Share STAT Report

Is there a copy of STAT Report on your Union noticeboard or in your staff room?

If not print out a copy and leave it on the noticeboard or in the staff room for your colleagues.



[follow on Twitter](#) | [friend on Facebook](#)

Authorised by Rosemary Kelly, Executive Officer, Level 1, 62 Lygon St, Carlton South. Medical Scientists Association (03) 9623 9623 Association of Hospital Pharmacists (03) 9623 9624 Victorian Psychologists Association Inc (03) 9623 9625 Fax (03) 9663 8109 Email [enquiry@msav.org.au](mailto:enquiry@msav.org.au) A.B.N. 30 345 343 541 (MSAV), 72 520 393 213 (AHP), 87 851 818 075 (VPA Inc).

[unsubscribe from this list](#) | [update subscription preferences](#)