



Stat Report 2016/22

VPA Inc. AGM and PD – 14 September

The next VPA Inc Professional Development seminar will be held in conjunction with the VPA's Annual General Meeting on 14 September. The professional development seminar will be run by Dr Megan Chapman commencing at 2pm with a light lunch and AGM commencing from 12.30pm.

VPA Inc PD Seminar: How I wonder what you are: Psychology and infant mental health in Neonatal Intensive Care

Dr Megan Chapman is a senior clinical psychologist and co-ordinates the Infant Mental Health Program at the Royal Children's Hospital. She spends much of her time with sick babies and their families in neonatal intensive care, while also being the chief investigator for the ROBIN study, researching how infant-parent relationships develop in the neonatal intensive care environment.

Megan will talk about working with infants and their families in neonatal intensive care, and introduce infant mental health concepts which apply to this work. She will also talk about the ROBIN study, and the journey from clinical role to clinical-researcher.

Date: 14 September

Time: Light lunch and AGM starts from 12.30pm with the PD seminar commencing at 2pm

Venue: Treacy Centre - 126 The Avenue, Parkville

Make sure you save your spot and RSVP today at enquiry@msav.org.au

Barwon Health, St John of God and Clinical Labs

The Union is warning the Andrews Government that a new worrying trend of 'trading' public sector pathology services between private pathology companies means more and more scientific jobs are being lost out of public health care. The most recent example is the sale of St John of God's public pathology service to Australian Clinical Labs, which will result in 100 to 200 jobs being lost in Geelong.

Private pathology providers like Australian Clinical Labs and Dorevitch make profits by slashing the scientific workforce and centralising work in huge laboratories, usually located in Melbourne. This has the effect of diminishing the quality of public pathology services, a vital clinical service in Victoria's hospitals.

The MSAV has received legal advice that the sale of St John of God pathology to Australian Clinical Labs will have the effect of severing the pathology services contract with Barwon Health. In effect, after the sale there will not be a contract with Australian Clinical Labs.

Before even entering into negotiations with Barwon Health for a pathology service contract Australian Clinical Labs has made a decision to axe up to 200 public health sector jobs.

The result of privatising public pathology means necessary, well paid jobs for health professionals have been lost in the Latrobe Valley, Gippsland, Bendigo, Ballarat, Frankston and now Geelong.

Unfortunately some private pathology providers are not interested in quality healthcare standards with evidence showing a repeated strategy of stripping hospital laboratories of testing and scientists. The loss of local pathology testing can put other key clinical services at risk like emergency departments, obstetrics and oncology through delayed turnaround times and other quality standards deteriorating.

Scientists are speaking with one voice asking the Andrews Government to save jobs in Geelong and do something to stop the continued privatisation of public pathology and the stop damage it is causing.

If the Andrews Government really wants to improve services in public hospitals and boost jobs in Victoria he must urgently intervene to end the privatisation of public pathology services.

The Union will continue to advocate for the Andrews Government to resume a public sector pathology service in Barwon Health, thereby saving up to 200 jobs and maintain quality health care standards.

Bargaining at Cabrini – It's Time to Vote

Cabrini management have finally put a draft agreement to you for a vote. The recommendation from the union is to vote "yes".

Most of the changes are positive, with only one identified negative change

What's in the offer?

As previously advised, the offer contains the following:

- Agreement to expire 1 October 2017
- Pay rises of 1.5% from 1 October 2015 (in addition to the 1.5% already received) and 3% from 1 October 2016
- A greater range of certificates from Health Professionals in case of illness (any AHPRA certified professional)
- Domestic violence leave of 5 days per annum
- Laundry allowance for those staff required to wear uniforms (backdated to date of requirement to wear uniform)
- Improved PD arrangements (pro rata leave for all part-time staff, increase in allowance to \$700 and \$900 per year for full time staff, \$420 and \$600 for part-time staff working 0.6 or less))
- Car parking charges to be capped at a max of \$2 per day with increases to be no more than CPI
- Slightly better definition of part time worker providing greater security around rostering

The negative

There is one change that Cabrini have included that would be regarded as a negative: Capping statutory declarations for personal leave at two per year.

Other changes

In addition, there has been much reformatting of the agreement – correcting typos and other errors from the previous agreement - and moving content from appendices at the back of the agreement into the body of the agreement. These changes are neutral in nature and do not impact on entitlements but contribute to making the agreement more readable and accessible.

On balance, we believe that the offer is quite acceptable

What's next?

An electronic ballot of all employees covered by the agreement will be conducted between Monday 29 August and Wednesday 31 August. The MSAV encourages you to vote YES

Got a question? Contact Matt Hammond by email to matth@msav.org.au or call 9623 9623 if you'd like to chat about it.

Latrobe Regional Hospital brings microbiology back in-house

The Union is getting reports that microbiology will be brought back in-house to Latrobe Regional Hospital.

This is a major victory for MSAV members at Latrobe Regional Hospital and for the Union. It demonstrates what we can achieve when we work together and keep up the pressure on hospital administrators, Boards and the Government.

This decision reverses the damage that was caused in the first instance through shifting testing to Melbourne and making scientists redundant. Let's not forget that the MSAV was attacked by both Dorevitch and the Latrobe Regional Hospital for publicly criticism that this decision would lead to a deterioration of health care standards.

It means that necessary, well-paid jobs are retained in the Latrobe Valley and it means that more vital clinical pathology services are done in house drastically improving quality and turn-around times, all of which ultimately benefits patients.

As more information about this becomes available we will pass it on in future editions of STAT Report.

People's Inquiry into Privatisation: Giving communities a voice

Australians have always been proud of our public institutions - Medicare, the ABC, our hospitals and schools. But our public services are under threat by politicians who want to privatise them so companies can run them for profit.

The Turnbull Government has directed the Productivity Commission to conduct an inquiry into how to further privatise our public services, without looking at whether handing over control of our services to corporations is in the best interests of all Australians.

But we think communities should have a say over how our services are run, and for whose benefit.

That's why we're supporting the People's Inquiry into Privatisation initiated by Public Services International (PSI) Australia along with the Union submitting its own submission. We want to start a national conversation about the impacts of privatisation, and talk directly with communities about the services they need.

Lodge your own submission at: <http://www.peoplesinquiry.org.au/submissions>

Get more information at: <http://www.peoplesinquiry.org.au/> or check out the Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/peoplesinquiryintoprivatisation>

Notice of Nominations for MSAV Council

Notice is hereby given to all Members of the Medical Scientists Association of Victoria that nominations for election to the MSAV Council are now open. To be eligible to nominate you must be a financial member of the MSAV.

The positions that are open for election are:

- President
 - Vice President
 - Treasurer
 - Six (6) Councillors
-

Note that the President, Vice President, Treasurer and six (6) Councillor positions are two (2) year terms.

Candidates must have two (2) financial members support the nomination.

To obtain a nomination form please email enquiry@msav.org.au with the position for which you are nominating.

Nominations must be received by the Returning Officer in writing no later than 5pm on 28 September 2016.

Completed nominations can be sent to:
The Returning Officer
Level 1, 62 Lygon St
Carlton South, VIC, 3053

Notice of Nominations for AHP Committee

Notice is hereby given to all Members of the Association of Hospital Pharmacists that nominations for election to the AHP Committee are now open. To be eligible to nominate you must be a financial member of the AHP.

The positions that are open for election are:

- Two (2) Members of the Committee

Note that the two (2) Committee positions are for two (2) year terms.

Candidates must have two (2) financial members support the nomination.

To obtain a nomination form please email enquiry@ahpv.asn.au

Nominations must be received by the Returning Officer in writing no later than 5pm on 28 September 2016.

Completed nominations can be sent to:
The Returning Officer
Level 1, 62 Lygon St
Carlton South, VIC, 3053



Support the Healthy Futures campaign

The Union strongly believes that climate change is union business. We know that climate change threatens our health by increasing the risks of heatwaves, bushfires, droughts and storms, displacing people and straining our health systems.



And right now HESTA and First State Super (FSS), Australia's biggest health industry super funds, are investing our money in fossil fuels - coal, oil and gas.

Join us in asking HESTA and FSS to divest from fossil fuels at www.healthyfutures.net.au/divest.

Worth Reading: The untold story behind the 1966 Wave Hill Walk-Off

“[Fifty years ago](#), the Gurindji people of the Northern Territory made their name across Australia with the 1966 [Wave Hill Walk-Off](#).

It was a landmark event that inspired national change: equal wages for Aboriginal workers, as well as [a new Land Rights Act](#).

Although it took another two decades, the Gurindji also became one of the first Aboriginal groups to [reclaim their traditional lands](#).

Many people know a small part of the walk-off story because of the song [From Little Things, Big Things Grow](#) about 200 stockmen, house servants and their families who walked off Wave Hill Station on 23 August 1966, in protest at appalling pay and [living conditions](#).”

Read the entire article by Felicity Meakins on the ABC website at:

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-08-19/the-untold-story-being-the-1966-wave-hill-walk-off/7764524?section=analysis>

Worth Reading: ‘Be careful posting images online’ is just another form of modern-day victim-blaming

“The [revelations this week](#) of yet another vile website where men and boys trade in the non-consensual images of women and girls has police and many in the broader Australian public concerned about these harassing behaviours.

Yet some of the media and public discussions of these image-sharing websites and forums also show a disturbing similarity to other examples of sexual harassment or violence against women.

Many, it would seem, are all too ready to [shift the blame towards the victims](#). Advice circulating via various public statements, [media coverage](#) and [school-based education resources](#) repeatedly tells girls and young women to “be careful what you share” because these images will be “out there forever”.”

Read the entire article by Anastasia Powell in The Conversation at:

<https://theconversation.com/be-careful-posting-images-online-is-just-another-form-of-modern-day-victim-blaming-64116>

Worth Reading: We need to talk about the Senate

“Malcolm Turnbull’s government, like Tony Abbott’s before it, and Kevin Rudd’s from 2008 to 2010, sits well short of an upper house majority. Once again, legislative success depends on extremely creative cat herding.

The recent craze of tut-tutting about modern politicians lacking the will for reform – oh, bring back the giants of old! – ignores the root cause of policy inaction: the upper house. The Abbott government’s first budget, whether it tickled your fancy or not, did not lack ambition. On the contrary. But its most adventurous elements were unable to get onto the statute books, thanks to the Senate.”

Read the entire article by Peter Brent in Inside Story at: <http://insidestory.org.au/we-need-to-talk->

Join the Union

Are your workloads increasing? Are your stress levels increasing? Are you doing longer hours at work? Join the Union for work pain relief!

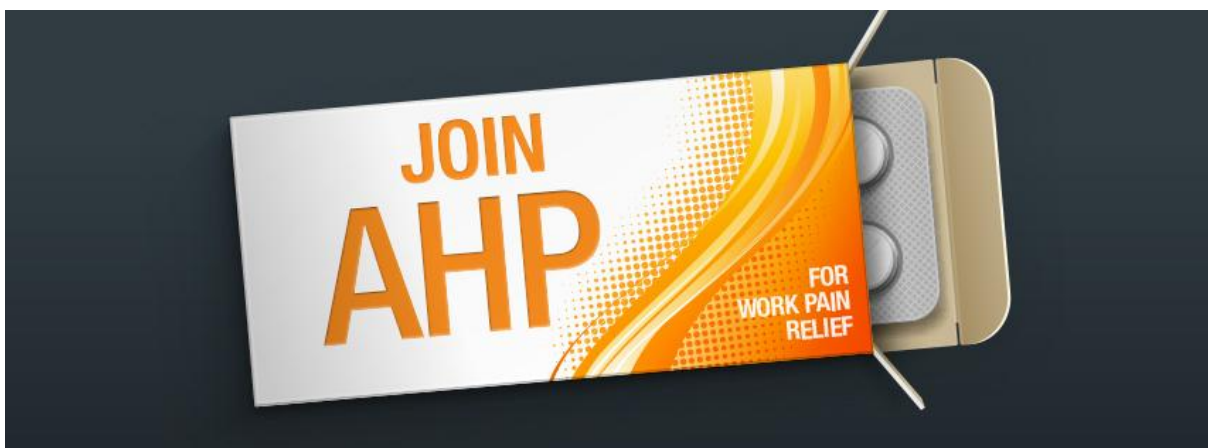
To protect our professions and stand up for our rights at work we must strengthen our collective voice and strengthen our bargaining position by increasing our membership. And you can help right now by sharing one of the images below through Facebook.



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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](#)



Get the most out of the Union's website

The Union's website has a number of special features for members. These features, like the Members section and the Forums, require you to have a log-in and password.

But to ensure that your privacy is protected we have created the website in such a way that you will need a separate log-in and password for the Members section and the Forums section. It might seem to be inconvenient but it does better protect you and your private information. It also means that we can be more certain about the source of a hack if such an event is ever to arise.

Australian Unions Member Benefits app

Over the last month Australian Unions launched some new and exclusive Member Benefits - did you see our recent email telling you about this? If not, check your inbox! Search for "Lifestyle Rewards" for your login code.

Our program has expanded to include:

- Discounted movie tickets for Village, Hoyts, Palace and Event cinemas.
- Discounted electronic gift cards including major theme parks, zoos and aquariums.
- A discounted accommodation booking site.
- A new secure member only website and smart phone app.

All this is free to all members of affiliated unions. If you have not got a login and would like join in [register for Member Benefits now.](#)



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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.

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