



COMMUNIQUE No. 32

November 2020

The OTC directors, unable to travel interstate for their normal face-to-face meeting in Adelaide, met via Zoom on Saturday, 7 November 2020. The following items formed part of the agenda:

Cultural Training

Cultural training, facilitated by Indigenous Allied Health Australia, for directors, staff and assessors, has been deferred to April 2021 depending on the COVID-19 travel restrictions.

Program Accreditation Committee (PAC)

One new program has undergone accreditation.

One existing program is currently undergoing an accreditation assessment.

Four accreditation site visits have been scheduled for 2020. With the impact of COVID-19, these are being managed with education providers.

Mandatory reporting will focus on how education providers are impacted by the COVID-19 and any significant changes being made to programs.

Existing conditions on programs will remain in place.

Overseas Qualification Assessment Committee (OQAC)

OQAC continues to improve its processes and procedures for internationally-qualified practitioners to ensure they are competent to practise independently in the Australian health environment.

Updated templates for the development of a supervised practice plan as part of the Stage 2 process have been developed and are available on the OTC website.

Governance and Strategic Affairs Committee (GSAC)

Risk management receives ongoing attention in the development of processes and procedures to mitigate risks identified by the OTC.

Constitution

The constitution has been revised to include National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Occupational Therapy Network (NATSOTN) as a sponsoring organisation.

Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum (HPACF)

The meeting of the Forum scheduled for 13 November 2020 will be via Zoom and attended by Associate Professor Lynne Adamson and Mr Kim Bradbury.

Occupational Therapy Australia

The directors acknowledged with sadness the passing of Rachel Norris who had been the OTA's CEO for a number of years. Ms Norris was acknowledged for her dedication to the profession, particularly her networking and connection with OTC, Ahpra and other related occupational therapy organisations.

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Occupational Therapy Network (NATSIOTN)

Members of NATSIOTN joined the meeting to provide mutual introduction of both organisations following the changing of the constitution to include NATSIOTN as a sponsor to nominate one of its members to the board of the OTC.
