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**NEWSLETTER MARCH 2017**

*This newsletter has been prepared by Saskia van den Ende, Chair of the CEPNZ Subcommittee on Professional Affairs, and Jim Stinear, Chair of CEPNZ.*

A lot has been happening “behind the scenes”. The Board met on March the 18th, and made some important decisions. We want to share some of these with you in this newsletter.

Two major items on the Board meeting agenda were the invitation to join the Clinical Exercise Physiologists Registration Board (CPRB) <http://www.cprb.org.nz/> and establishing a working relationship with Sport and Exercise Science New Zealand (SESNZ). Considerable work has been conducted by the Board on your behalf to meet with the Boards of these two organisations and to work through the implications.

**Joining the CPRB**

Your Board considers that joining CPRB has many advantages. These include: uniting all clinical physiologists under one organisation in NZ; gaining immediate credibility with DHBs who are very familiar with the CPRB because they hire physiologists who are capable of achieving, and are required to achieve registration with the CPRB as part of their employment contract; and a pathway for clinical exercise physiologists to achieve regulation under the Health Practitioners Competency Assurance Act (HPCAA). The latter would help us to be become funded providers for ACC and health insurers. CEPNZ received a formal letter inviting us to join the CPRB. Membership of the CPRB would entail two of our Board members joining the CPRB Board, thus providing a voice and voting rights on the CPRB Board. The CEPNZ Board have agreed to join the CPRB. Work will now begin to achieve this goal.

Some revision of the CEPNZ Competency Standards has been made and approved by the CEPNZ Board to help our standards align with the other allied health professionals. The revisions did not alter the competency standards. The revisions removed the CEPNZ registration training pathway for an applicant with a bachelor’s degree who gained their initial clinical experience from a private clinic. This means that applicants must have gained their initial clinical experience from a clinic operated by a tertiary educational institution offering postgraduate degrees in clinical exercise physiology. Your Board considers a 4-year degree programme that includes extensive institution-delivered clinical training as the minimum qualification expected of a registered allied health professional in NZ.

**Working with SESNZ**

Stephen Burden and Jim Stinear attended a recent Board meeting of SESNZ. They proposed that SESNZ and CEPNZ amalgamate to link sport, high performance sport, and clinical exercise physiology. SESNZ would continue to advocate for its members engaged in the sport industry including certification of members engaged in high performance sport; while CEPNZ would advocate for clinical exercise physiologists and maintain the CEP register. Both organisations could co-host an annual continuing education conference. To some extent such a collaboration has merit. However, the CEPNZ Board was firm in its resolve to maintain complete autonomy and advocate on behalf of its members as allied health professionals, thus maintaining a distinction between the sport industry and the CEP profession. Co-hosting an annual conference may still eventuate. The Board will write to SESNZ to explain its position.

**New CEPNZ subcommittees**

Three subcommittees have been established: Research and Education, Legislative, and Professional Affairs.

The *Research and Education* committee is chaired by Sandy Mandic (University of Otago). Its members include Lynette Hodges (Massey University), and Avyn Rowlands (AUT Millennium). The committee’s aims are: to encourage members to be involved in research; to work with private clinics to establish externships for students; disseminate recent research articles to members; and organise annual continuing education seminars for members.

The *Legislative* committee is chaired by Stephen Burden (Wintec, Hamilton). Its members include Jim Stinear (University of Auckland), and Shohn Wormgoor (U-Kinetics, Palmerston North).The committee’s aims are: to initiate and maintain communication networks with legislators and private health insurers; lobby for access to public funding for CEP services; and evaluate the risks and benefits of pursuing regulation under the Health Practitioners Competency Assurance Act 2003.

The *Professional Affairs* committee is chaired by Saskia van den Ende (ExerScience Clinic Auckland). Its members include Hannah Lowe (The Cardiac Clinic, Tauranga), and Matt Wood (AUT Millennium).

The committee’s aims are: to raise public awareness of CEP as an allied health profession; guide members in regard to ethical practice promotion; engage with journalists and the media in disseminating information about CEP to the medical profession and the community.

**Administrative Secretary**

You are likely to already have been contacted by Tyler Elliot (Health & Performance Clinic, University of Auckland), our new administrative secretary. We are very fortunate to have Tyler working in this capacity. If you have any questions regarding CEPNZ or CEP in general, don’t hesitate to contact Tyler. If Tyler cannot help you he will refer you on to the appropriate person.

Email Tyler at: info@cepnz.org.nz

**Next Competency Examination**

Passing this examination is a pre-registration requirement. The next examination will be held in Auckland and in Palmerston North of the 22nd April, 2017. If you know of anyone planning to register with CEPNZ please have them contact Tyler Elliott as soon as possible. Tyler will confirm the date and venue in due course.

**AGM 2017**

This is likely to be the 14th of October. Put a note in your diary. Tyler will confirm the date and venue in due course.

**2017 Membership and Annual Practicing Certificate fees**

Tyler will soon be emailing fees invoices for 2017. Please attend to this promptly. Your voting rights at the AGM, and your name on the Register will only be retained if your fees are paid.

**CEPNZ Website**

The present website is very out of date. Graeme Sequeira (Manukau Institute of Technology) and Matt Wood (AUT Millennium) are planning a new website. The new website will include a list of registered members and their work addresses. Members of the public will be able to use the list to find their nearest registered CEP. The Professional Affairs subcommittee will regularly post information on the website. Please send me (Saskia) any news items, journal articles, or other items of interest relating to our profession that you think would be appropriate for the website.

Sincerely,

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