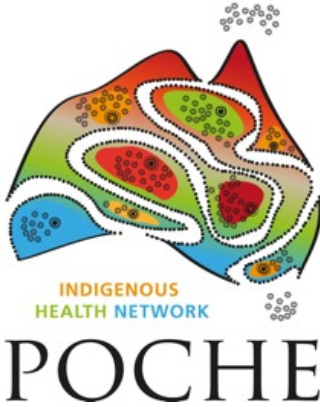




THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY



KEY THINKERS FORUM

How do we build and support an allied health workforce to meet the needs of community?

When

Monday, 9th September 2019
11:45 – 15:15
Lunch will be provided

Where

Tangney Alcove
Parliament House
Parliament Drive
Canberra
ACT, 2600

More information

poche.admin@sydney.edu.au
02 9114 0829

Register

Information on how to register.
www.tinyurl.com/KTF-pathways

We know that an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander local health workforce is vital for the success of Closing the Gap in health disparity in Australia. We also know that allied health is vital for overall health. Allied health career pathways for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people provide a culturally appropriate 'scaffold' for health service delivery to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander populations.

The esteemed panel will interrogate existing workforce challenges, strategies to grow, train and support existing and high demand new workforces and postulate where future demand will be needed.

Panel Members

- Prof. Michelle Lincoln
- Nicole Turner
- Prof. Pat Dudgeon
- Paul Talbot

Facilitated by Prof. Tom Calma AO

PANEL SYNOPSIS

Nicole Turner

Aboriginal Community Nutritionist & Chairperson of IAHA

Nicole Turner Chairperson of IAHA will speak about the importance of IAHA within the Allied health workforce. Indigenous Allied Health Australia Ltd. (IAHA) is a national not for profit, member based Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander allied health organization. Our purpose is to collectively transform the allied health sector, led by the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander workforce to improve health & wellbeing outcomes.

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander health professionals play a vital role in addressing the health & wellbeing of Australia's First Peoples. In order to close the gap in health outcomes, more Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people must be encouraged to consider, pursue & succeed in allied health careers. She will discuss how IAHA:

- provides support & advocacy on behalf of Indigenous allied health professionals & students at the local, regional & national level.
- builds strong leadership capacity across the allied health & Indigenous health sectors.
- works closely with organisations, universities & other related sectors to improve health curricula, address allied health workforce issues, & promote allied health careers to Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- provides expert advice to governments, allied health professional bodies, educational institutions & the health sector in relation to health policy & issues.
- develops & maintains strong networks & connections to Indigenous communities to ensure IAHA core objectives are meeting their needs & aspirations.
- works closely with the health sector & communities to improve access to allied health services.

Paul Talbot

Poche Centre for Indigenous Health Project Officer & Qualified Dental Technician

I will be presenting on my personal journey & the success I have had going through the Poche Centre's scholarship program, how it all began to where I am today & all of the success I have had by winning multiple awards, mentoring other young Aboriginal students in NSW through the scholarship program. I have managed to complete a number of Certificates that allow me to go back to not only my community but surrounding communities by providing free denture clinics & mouthguard clinics.

PANEL SYNOPSIS

Professor Pat Dudgeon

Professor & Poche Research Fellow at the School of Indigenous Studies at the University of Western Australia in Perth, WA

Mainstream western approaches to mental health have & ongoing history of failing to consider & address Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples' needs. This include the failure to acknowledge historical & cultural contexts within conceptualisations of mental health & wellbeing. The wellbeing of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples cannot be understood without appropriate recognition of these important contexts. This presentation covers work undertaken by the Centre for Best Practice in Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention (CBPATISIP) at Poche UWA & will review Social & Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB). SEWB has emerged as an important concept within Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander mental health & wellbeing. The concept of SEWB is broader in scope & recognises the importance of connection to land, culture, spirituality, ancestry, family & community, as well as how these interrelate to impact the individual, their family, & their community.

Professor Michelle Lincoln

Executive Dean of the Faculty of Health, University of Canberra

The 2019 Closing the Gap report tells us that in 2016 74% of Indigenous 20-24 year olds living in major cities and 43% of young Indigenous Australians living in very remote areas had completed Year 12 or obtained a Certificate II or above qualification. At the same time the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in higher education courses has more than doubled. 22% of these students are enrolled in health courses. However, only 1.8% of the national health workforce are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. In order to achieve culturally safe and responsive health services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people we need to rapidly grow this workforce. Multiple strategies will be needed including pathways, articulation arrangements and new modes of course delivery that are flexible, supportive, culturally safe and recognise the need for students to remain connected to family and community while studying.

Commonwealth of Australia, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Closing the Gap Report 2019. <https://ctgreport.pmc.gov.au/education>

Universities Australia Indigenist Strategy First Annual Report 2019.

<https://www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au/policy-submissions/diversity-equity/universities-australias-indigenous-strategy-2017-2020/>

Review of Australian Government Health Workforce Programs (2013).

<https://www1.health.gov.au/internet/publications/publishing.nsf/Content/work-review-australian-government-health-workforce-programs-toc>



Professor Tom Calma AO

Poche Network Patron & Chair & Chancellor of the University of Canberra

An Aboriginal elder of the Kungarakan tribal group. Prof. Calma has dedicated his life to improving the lives of all Australians & particularly Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Australians, championing advocacy for human rights & social justice.

Former Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner & Race Discrimination Commissioner. Tom also served as a senior Australian diplomat in India & Vietnam. His landmark 2005 report calling for the life expectancy gap between Indigenous & non-Indigenous people to be closed within a generation laid the groundwork for the Close the Gap campaign & COAG's Closing the Gap response. Prof. Calma is the National Coordinator Tackling Indigenous Smoking & is Patron of Indigenous Allied Health Australia.

Nicole Turner

Aboriginal Community Nutritionist & Chairperson of IAHA

Nicole Turner is a Kamilaroi woman who currently lives on the New South Wales coast. She is one of very few qualified Aboriginal community nutritionists in Australia, Nicole is chairperson of Indigenous Allied Health Australia (IAHA), she is also an adjunct Professor of Nutrition & Dietetics at University of Canberra. Nicole is the Aboriginal workforce Engagement Manager at Rural Doctors Network RDN.

Nicole has published numerous papers in international journals & presented at several conferences around Australia & overseas on a variety of topics, especially Indigenous health. Nicole's passion is nutrition & living a healthy lifestyle. She believes we need to give knowledge to our people about the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle & preventing chronic diseases. She is involved with many national, state & local committees & organisations.



Paul Talbot

Poche Centre for Indigenous Health Project Officer & Qualified Dental Technician

My Name Is Folau aka Paul, I'm a proud young Gamilaroy man. I'm from a small community called Boggabilla, Boggabilla is in the northern central tablelands on the Queensland border.

I started my career in health back in 2012 as a unqualified dental assistant in oral health, since 2012 I have gotten all my qualifications in dental assisting through the Poche Centre for Indigenous Health scholarship program. Certificate III in Dental Assisting, Certificate IV in Dental Assisting (oral health promotion),

Certificate IV in Dental Radiography & a Diploma in Dental Technology. I am a qualified Dental Technician I have also done some Research Skill sets as well. My Diploma in Dental Technology qualification allows me to go out to rural communities in NSW to provide a free denture clinic for communities especially the community that I am from Boggabilla.

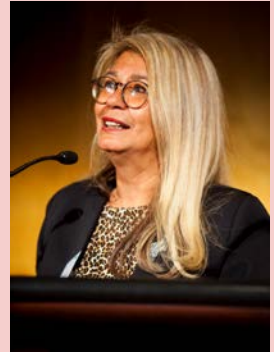
After finishing all my qualifications, I have managed to obtain a full-time job with the Poche Centre for Indigenous Health I have become a mentor for other young Aboriginal students who come through the dental assisting scholarship program.

Professor Pat Dudgeon

Professor & Poche Research Fellow at the School of Indigenous Studies at the University of Western Australia in Perth, Western Australia

Professor Pat Dudgeon is from the Bardi people of the Kimberly area in Western Australia. She is a psychologist & Fellow of the Australian Psychological Society. Pat is a Professor & Poche Research Fellow at the School of Indigenous Studies at the University of Western Australia in Perth, Western Australia. Her area of research includes Indigenous social & emotional wellbeing & suicide prevention. Amongst her many commitments, she is a former Commissioner of the Australian National Mental Health Commission (completed 5 year term July 2017), deputy chair of the Australian Indigenous Psychologist's Association, chair of the National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Leaders Mental Health, co-chair of the ministerial Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Mental Health & Suicide Prevention Advisory Group & member of NHMRC Mental Health Research Advisory Committee.

She is the director of the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Evaluation Project & the Centre of Best Practice in Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention. She is also the lead chief investigator of a national research project, *Generating Indigenous Patient-centred, Clinically & Culturally Capable Models of Mental Health Care*, that aims to develop approaches to Indigenous mental health services that foster & promote cultural values & strengths as well as empowering those who use the services.



Professor Michelle Lincoln

Executive Dean of the Faculty of Health, The University of Canberra

Professor Michelle Lincoln is the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Health, The University of Canberra. In this senior role she is engaged in all aspects of the leadership of the Faculty. Michelle is focused on promoting the role & impact of health & sport professionals on the lives of clients, patients & communities. Her second focus is on the preparation of the future allied health, nursing, midwifery, public health & sport workforce. This is reflected in both her leadership of the Faculty & her research.

Michelle writes & researches in the areas of allied health service delivery & workforce particularly in rural, remote & Indigenous communities. Her research has been funded by the National Health & Medical Research Council, the Australian Research Council & the NSW Government. She has published more than a hundred & thirty peer reviewed journal papers many about student learning on clinical placements.

Michelle has won university & national teaching awards for her educational expertise in Speech Pathology. She is a Fellow of Speech Pathology Australia & a Principle Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.