

# CAPHIA

COUNCIL OF ACADEMIC PUBLIC HEALTH  
INSTITUTIONS AUSTRALASIA



Advancing public health education, research and service

**A Year in Review**

**2020 - 2021**

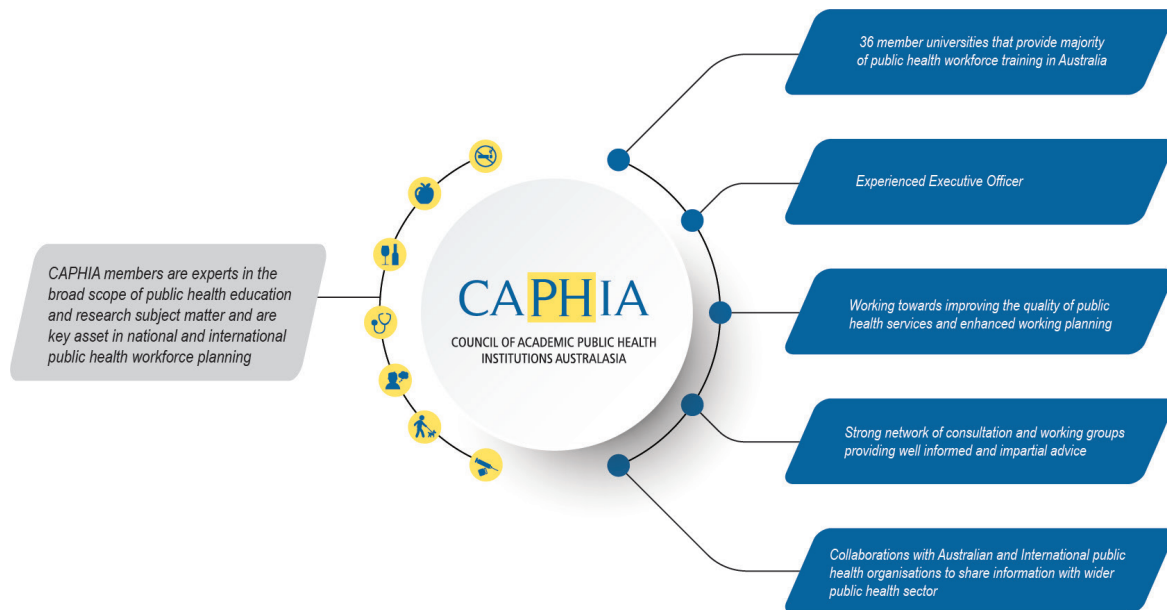
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# INTRODUCTION

The Council of Academic Public Health Institutions Australasia (CAPHIA) is the peak organisation that represents public health in academic institutions that offer programs, research and community service activity in public health.

It's purpose is to maintain high quality academic standards in the education and development of public health practitioners and researchers, to lead and represent public health education in the tertiary education sector, and to be a respected voice and advocate for the development of public health professionals and researchers.



## Vision

The Council of Academic Public Health Institutions Australasia (CAPHIA) is the peak organisation that represents public health in academic institutions that offer programs, research and community service activity in public health.

## Mission

To improve the public's health by advancing public health education, research and service.

## Governance Arrangements

The Council of Academic Public Health Institutions Australasia (CAPHIA) is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) and was registered under the Australian Capital Territory's *Incorporated Associations Act 1991*, in 2011.

CAPHIA is led by an Executive Committee supported by an Executive Officer. The role of the Executive Committee includes providing strategic leadership and advocacy, translating the objectives of CAPHIA in annual member benefits, enhancing the evidence base, policy approaches and networks through Teaching and Learning Forums, and providing advice across governments of all jurisdictions to advance public health.

Currently, there is one sub-committee, two working groups and one member consultation group. During 2020-2021, CAPHIA opened up the opportunity to participate in working groups and consultation groups to staff of all member institutions to ensure that collective views and broader engagement across the membership can be incorporated into CAPHIA business.

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



**CAPHIA President & Chair**  
**Professor Gregory Kolt**

In 2020-2021, CAPHIA undertook a significant operational refresh, enhancing its member engagement and administrative approaches. As a result I am pleased to report that we have demonstrated an increase in the benefits for our member institutions and their staff. On our current trajectory, CAPHIA is positioned to not only grow our influence in advocating for public health education, but also to ensure that our members' collective voice can be incorporated across our work programs.

In March 2021, the CAPHIA Executive Committee welcomed four new members (Professor Rebecca Ivers, Associate Professor Katherine Baldock, Ms Litia Makutu and Ms Eta Baku). These new members have joined the existing members of the Executive Committee in strengthening the leadership of CAPHIA. Associate Professor Basia Diug also agreed to continue in her role as the CAPHIA Treasurer.

In 2020-2021, CAPHIA amended the portfolio groups of the Executive Committee and created the member consultation and collaboration infrastructure to ensure that member institutions have access to provide their input and views on the direction of CAPHIA work programs. This more inclusive participatory framework is already demonstrating success with a number of key projects in all the groups having commenced in April 2021.

CAPHIA was pleased to work with the University of the Sunshine Coast and the Teaching and Learning Forum Steering Group in organising and hosting the 2021 Annual Teaching and Learning Forum. The event was attended by nearly 100 participants from across our membership, who engaged and participated in a world-class program. The forum's key focus was Public Health at a Time of Disruption, with subthemes considering how to re-imagine and co-create public health curriculum priorities to value First Nations People's Knowledges and Perspectives and ensuring innovative quality public health teaching and learning in a complex environment.

CAPHIA is proud to continue to support research that supports investment in public health education. In 2020-2021, CAPHIA continued to support PhD student Rory Watts at the University of Western Australia, the recipient of the CAPHIA top-up doctoral scholarship. Rory's research is focused on the supply of, and demand for, public health expertise in the Australian (and New Zealand) job market, with a focus on Australian graduation datasets.

In 2020-2021, we also launched the new CAPHIA Strategic Plan 2021 -2024. This strategic plan lays out our vision, mission statement and objectives and explains why they're important. I am pleased, for the first time, to present a CAPHIA performance delivery component of this Annual Report that uses the Strategic Plan to articulate progress towards or achievement of CAPHIA objectives over the reporting period.

I wish to thank the Executive Committee, the various Working Groups, our Executive Officer (Tracy Gurnett), and all of our members for their ongoing efforts in CAPHIA's work.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Kolt', written in a cursive style.

**Professor Gregory Kolt**  
**President and Chair**

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



**CAPHIA President & Chair**  
**Professor Gregory Kolt**  
Dean, School of Health Sciences  
Western Sydney University



**Deputy President & Deputy Chair**  
**Professor Shawn Somerset**  
Faculty of Health  
University of Canberra



**Immediate Past-President**  
**Professor Colleen Fisher**  
Head, School of Population and Global Health  
University of Western Australia



**Treasurer**  
**Associate Professor Basia Diug**  
School of Public Health & Preventative Medicine  
Monash University



**Secretary**  
**Professor Erica James**  
Associate Dean (Teaching and Learning)  
University of Newcastle

# EXECUTIVE MEMBERS



**Executive Member**

**Professor Janaki Amin**

Head, Department of Health Systems and Populations  
Macquarie University



**Executive Member**

**Associate Professor Katherine Baldock**

Associate Director, Teaching Innovation Unit  
University of South Australia



**Executive Member**

**Professor Colin Bell**

School of Medicine  
Deakin University



**Executive Member**

**Ms Litia Makutu**

Lecturer, Fiji School of Medicine  
Fiji National University



**Executive Member**

**Adjunct Professor Terry Slevin**

CEO, Public Health Association Australia  
(ex-officio)



**Executive Member**

**Ms Etu Buka**

Lecturer, School of Medical and Health Sciences  
University of Papua New Guinea



**Executive Member**

**Professor Rebecca Ivers**

Head, School of Population Health  
University of New South Wales



**Executive Officer**

**Ms Tracy Gurnett**

# OUR MEMBERS

CAPHIA membership is open to tertiary academic institutions that offer programs, research and community service activity in public health.

In 2020-2021 the members of CAPHIA were:







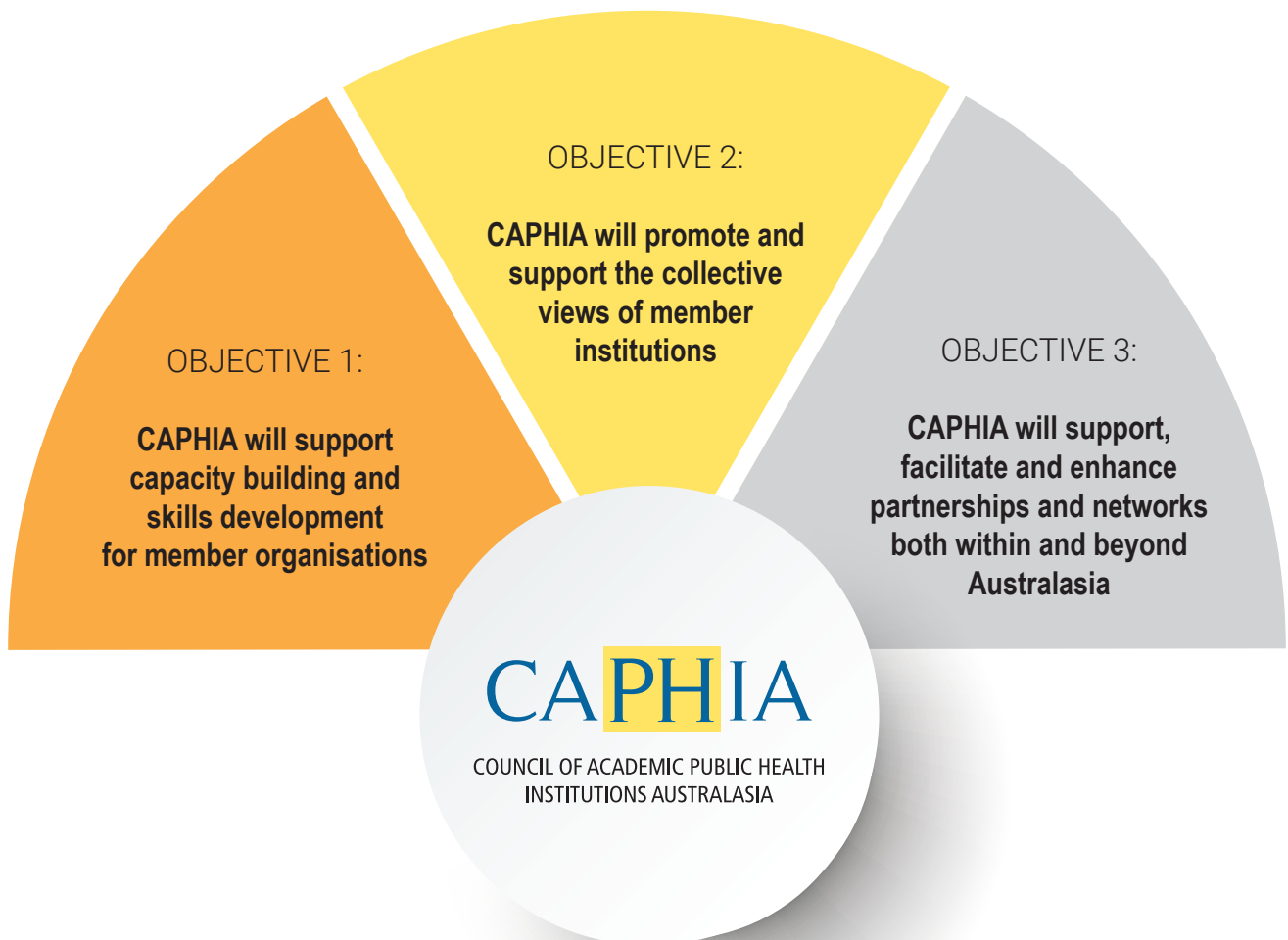


# CAPHIA STRATEGIC PLAN

The CAPHIA strategic plan describes the strategic goals, objectives and measures of success for CAPHIA for the period between 2021 – 2024. It was developed following broad consultation with member institutions that presented a range of key strategic ideas, and considered advice on priorities.

In 2020-2021, CAPHIA has advanced a range of activities and programs that meet the objectives of the strategic plan. Much has commenced and there is much to do as we strive to lead advocacy for tertiary public health education, public health research and public health workforce training and development in Australasia.

**CAPHIA's mission is to improve the public's health by advancing public health education, research and service**



## CAPHIA will support capacity building and skills development for member organisations

How will CAPHIA Operationalise this objective?	How will CAPHIA Measure Success?	Progress Achieved in 2020 - 2021
<p>CAPHIA will partner with member institutions to enhance curriculum in public health across Australasia.</p> <p>CAPHIA will promote evidence-based public health education and will encourage the sharing of resources, where permissible, to enhance teaching and learning, and research.</p>	<p>Consult with members about reviewing the CAPHIA public health competencies.</p> <p>CAPHIA will host a series of interactive webinars.</p> <p>CAPHIA will hold annual Teaching and Learning Forums.</p> <p>The CAPHIA Mentoring Program is held over the life of the strategic plan.</p>	<p>CAPHIA has established the Education Quality &amp; Standards Working Group (EQSWG) as an avenue to consult with members about public health competencies.</p> <p>The EQSWG has engaged the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA) PET co-chairs and their colleagues to map the competencies by degree level and draft a consultation report that CAPHIA will use to engage with the broader membership.</p> <p>Three interactive webinars and a full day discussion forum have been held to promote evidence-based public health teaching and learning.</p> <p>CAPHIA disseminated eight newsletters to staff of member institutions. The newsletters highlighted published articles, events and notices.</p> <p>The 2021 CAPHIA mentoring program had 18 participants.</p> <p>The 2021 Teaching and Learning Forum had 91 registrations and was attended by over 86% of our membership.</p>

## CAPHIA will promote and support the collective views of member institutions

How will CAPHIA Operationalise this objective?	How will CAPHIA Measure Success?	Progress Achieved in 2020 - 2021
<p>CAPHIA will advocate for the increased investment in public health teaching and learning, and research and will enhance its visibility to government.</p> <p>CAPHIA will provide forums for members to consider current public health research priorities.</p> <p>CAPHIA will contribute to building evidence-based policy with policy makers and industry. This includes collaboration with PHAA, PHNZ and similar organisations.</p>	<p>CAPHIA will facilitate opportunities for staff and students to publish work about public health</p> <p>CAPHIA will increase the profile of public health through the SOTL across Australasia</p> <p>CAPHIA will meet with government and other agencies and provide advice to members about these discussions.</p>	<p>In 2020-2021, the Advocacy in Action Consultation Group was established to build the evidence base and support the collective views of members in advocating for public health education.</p> <p>In 2020-2021, a literature review and environment scan commenced with these items supporting the work program going forward.</p> <p>The Academic Development Working Group was established to provide oversight and steer evidence-based approaches to public health education and research amongst member institutions. A significant component of their workplan included assessment and moderation of the CAPHIA Awards. Additional projects will be advanced in 2021-2022.</p> <p>CAPHIA has engaged CanberraWeb to develop the Communities of Practice Portal and create a member only area on the CAPHIA website. In 2020-2021, this work was in the planning stages with much of the development proposed in 2021-2022. The portal will enable staff of member institutions to have on-demand access to webinars and Forum recordings, as well as being a platform to share resources and collaborate on projects being undertaken by the working and consultation groups.</p> <p>CAPHIA held the inaugural Social Media Interns Program and supported students of member institutions to obtain on-the-job experience with publishing on social media.</p> <p>CAPHIA met with the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment and discussed short courses and micro-credentialling in public health.</p>

## CAPHIA will support, facilitate, and enhance partnerships and networks both within and beyond Australasia

How will CAPHIA Operationalise this objective?	How will CAPHIA Measure Success?	Progress Achieved in 2020 - 2021
<p>CAPHIA will facilitate communication between staff at member institutions, particularly early career academics and researchers, through a variety of media.</p> <p>CAPHIA policy positions will be available on the website and shared via social media.</p> <p>CAPHIA will develop and maintain strategic partnerships with other peak bodies and professional groups and will build international relationships that support public health education and research across Australasia.</p>	<p>CAPHIA will work towards joint initiatives with its strategic partners.</p> <p>Member satisfaction with the networks and partnerships that have facilitated by CAPHIA across Australasia.</p> <p>Increased member engagement with CAPHIA social media and participation in CAPHIA member events.</p> <p>Early career academics and post graduate students have the opportunity to undertake professional development, mentoring and networking.</p> <p>International partnerships with similarly focused organisations are strengthened through collaborative working arrangements.</p>	<p>CAPHIA is working with strategic partners and organisations that support public health education and workforce development including the Public Health Association of Australia, the Australasian Epidemiological Association, the World Federation of Public Health Associations, the Global Network of Public Health Associations, Agency for Public Health Education Accreditation, and the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health.</p> <p>Social media posts are up 464.97% for Twitter and 145.9% for Facebook (compared to 2019-2020) as a result of the inaugural Social Media Interns Program. With over 27 posts on Facebook and 36 Tweets on Twitter made during 2020-2021.</p> <p>The ECAPS sub-committee undertook a needs-based assessment survey that had 103 responses included in the analysis. Of the 103 responses, 18 responses from early career academics (18%), 39 doctoral candidates (38%) and 46 postgraduate students (45%). These important findings will shape the work undertaken by ECAPS into the future.</p>

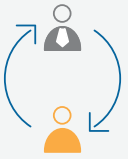
## CAPHIA's Progress Achievement Highlights 2020 - 2021



The CAPHIA Teaching and Learning Forum had 91 registrations from more than 86% of member institutions. This Forum supports capacity building through the promotion of evidence based public health education.



CAPHIA held webinars on mentoring in public health teaching, environmental health and drowning prevention



CAPHIA administered a reinvigorated mentoring program in early 2021 following feedback from past participants. Following a call for participants, CAPHIA connected mentees and mentors from across Australasia.



Communities of Practice Member Portal started development as a central resource library to share member resources



CAPHIA has strengthened collaborations with the Public Health Association of Australia, the World Federation of Public Health Associations and other similar organisations in order to both strengthen strategic partnerships as well as build international relationships

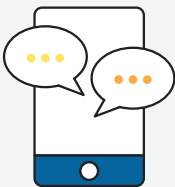


CAPHIA has produced monthly newsletters that both highlight achievements of member institutions and promote upcoming events

CAPHIA invited international guest speakers at the March 2021 Discussion workshop to consider the international experience with public health accreditation, workforce surveys and the future directions of the policy on public health workforce.



CAPHIA commenced a review of advocacy position statements and these will be considered by the Advocacy in Action Consultation Group before broader consultation is undertaken later in 2021



CAPHIA welcomed 10 inaugural social media interns from across Australia & New Zealand. The interns experienced the opportunity to attend briefings, webinars and industry meetings as well as research and draft a range of public health posts and tweets on CAPHIA social media



The CAPHIA Education Quality & Standards Working Group is working with co-chairs of the World Federation of Public Health Associations PET to map public health curricula in Australia and in New Zealand by degree level. This work will be the basis for member consultations on the Foundation Competencies for Public Health Graduates in future years.



The Advocacy in Action Consultation Group has started collating literature and evidence to support informed public health advocacy. This work will also support enhanced visibility to government in 2022



CAPHIA recognised public health education and research excellence through the CAPHIA Awards

# PROGRAMS & WORKING GROUPS

## Social Media Interns Program

In 2021, CAPHIA launched its inaugural Social Media Interns Program and provided member institutions with the opportunity to enable their students to receive on-the-job experience in supporting and advocating for public health teaching, and research using social media platforms.

CAPHIA welcomed 10 inaugural social media interns from across Australia and New Zealand. The interns experienced the opportunity to attend briefings, webinars and industry meetings as well as research and draft a range of public health posts and tweets on CAPHIA social media.

Guest speakers during the webinars included Ms Karina Martin (former) Public Health Association of Australia Communications Manager, and Professor Chandana R Unnithan from Torrens University who is an expert in using social media for health promotion activities.

The social media interns' blogs were particularly successful with some featuring in the CAPHIA newsletter and others being picked up by the Public Health Association of Australia's blog pages. The blogs discussed issues such as the Infodemic, food nutrition and consumer information, COVID vaccine hesitancy and diagnosis of ADHD. Each Intern researched and selected their own topic and was rostered on four times over the year to post, tweet and write a blog. The Social Media Interns' blogs are available on the CAPHIA website at [Did you hear about that?](#)



**Pictured (not in the order they appear):**

- Daniel Matabishi, University of Western Australia
- Zoe Lawrence-Haughey, University of Western Australia
- Kelsey Thanam, University of Auckland
- Jennifer Chen, University of Queensland
- Saldana Hossain, Macquarie University
- Gemma Richardson, University of Western Australia
- Lindsey Ngo, Griffith University
- Janette Inwood, University of Western Australia
- Kathleen Prokopovich, University of Wollongong
- Professor Erica James, University of Newcastle
- Tracy Gurnett, CAPHIA Executive Officer

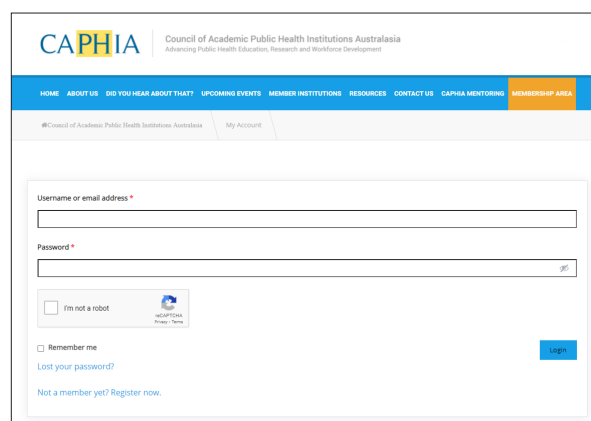
## Communities of Practice Portal

The CAPHIA Communities of Practice Member Portal started development in June 2021 as a central resource library to share evidence-based member resources relating to public health teaching and learning, and research. CAPHIA engaged Canberra Web to design the menu structure and operational functionality, and to create a password entry gateway for member only access.

In its initial stage, the portal contains a on-demand page for CAPHIA interactive webinars, recordings from the CAPHIA Teaching and Learning Forum, and importantly a forum chat and post function to share resources.

The materials will be overseen by the CAPHIA working groups and consultation group as part of ensuring access to quality evidence-based resources.

Additional stages of the Communities of Practice Portal will be undertaken in 2021-2022 with content and functionality expanded over time.



## CAPHIA Member Engagement

CAPHIA has facilitated monthly newsletters to staff of CAPHIA member institutions that both highlights staff member's published works in academic journals, as well as communicates upcoming events within and external to CAPHIA.

CAPHIA held webinars on mentoring in public health teaching, environmental health and river drowning prevention.

CAPHIA invited international guest speakers at the March 2021 Discussion workshop to consider the international experience with public health accreditation, workforce surveys and the future directions of the policy on public health workforce.





## CAPHIA Teaching & Learning Forum 2021

CAPHIA facilitate regular teaching and learning fora across Australasia for academics who undertake public health learning and teaching activity. The events run for two days and are hosted by our member organisations. They provide important opportunities for sharing, learning, networking and collaboration.



In 2021, the CAPHIA Teaching and Learning Forum was hosted by the University of Sunshine Coast.

The theme of the forum was: **Public Health Education in a Time of Disruption**, with the following sub-themes:

- Re-imagining public health curriculum priorities to value First Nations Peoples
- Ensuring innovative quality public health teaching and learning in a complex environment

The forum explored how with disruption comes an opportunity to innovate and advance public health pedagogy. Our most recent global public health disruption, the COVID-19 pandemic, along with the shifting sands of higher education reforms has created space for new ways of conceptualising and delivering public health education into the future. Emerging from this global public health emergency, public health educators across Australasia were invited to reflect, share and learn together at this CAPHIA Teaching and Learning Forum.

The first sub-theme of the Forum considered how re-imagining public health curriculum priorities to value First Nations People. Public health emergencies, particularly the recent COVID-19 pandemic, highlight systemic social inequities and the need to rethink public health curricula to address inequities. Public health curricula cannot continue to be developed through a colonial lens. Instead, we must value and embed the knowledges and perspectives of First Nations peoples inclusively through a strengths-based approach. Co-creating curricula through genuine partnerships that normalise the value of First Nations peoples' knowledges requires educators to take ownership and be courageous so that learning and teaching about First Nations peoples' health and wellbeing becomes core business. Only then will public health graduates be equipped to practice with cultural humility to effect positive change.

The second sub-theme of the Forum was ensuring innovative quality public health teaching and learning in a complex environment which asked participants to consider the sort of future we imagine for graduates of public health education and how will this influence and inspire creative approaches in learning and teaching in increasingly hybrid, digital and global environments. This theme explored the way in which we develop public health curricula and student capabilities for lifelong learning, global citizenry and future contribution to a resilient and continuously responsive public health workforce.

The CAPHIA Teaching and Learning Forum had 91 registrations from more than 86% of member institutions. Notable, 91% of forum evaluation survey respondents indicated they were satisfied or very satisfied with the forum with the same respondents (91%) indicating they were likely or very likely to recommend the forum to a colleague. The most popular sessions were the keynote address on day one and the concurrent sessions on day two. When asked how the forum can be improved for next year, respondents indicated, "good as it was", "organizers did a fantastic job", and "no major issues for improvement".



This Forum supports capacity building through the promotion of evidence based public health education. The zoom recordings from the two-day forum are available for members to review on demand through the membership area of the CAPHIA website: CAPHIA Forum 2021 Materials – Council of Academic Public Health Institutions Australasia

## 2021 CAPHIA Awards

CAPHIA recognised public health education and research excellence through the CAPHIA awards.

The 2021 CAPHIA awards recognised achievement in the following categories:

- President's award (Equity in Public Health Education and Research)
- Early Career Teaching Award;
- Teaching Award;
- Public Health Team Research;
- PhD Award

In 2021, CAPHIA received 19 nominations over the above five categories. We saw more interest than in previous years with 11 nominations received in 2019, and 14 in 2018. The members of the Academic Development Working Group reviewed, assessed and moderated nomination outcomes with the winners announced at the 2021 Teaching and Learning Forum.



### 2021 CAPHIA Public Health Team Research Award

Dr Chris Lonsdale, Australian Catholic University  
Dr Taren Sanders, Australian Catholic University  
Dr Michael Noetel, Australian Catholic University  
Dr Philip Parker, Australian Catholic University  
Professor David Lubans, University of Newcastle  
Professor Philip Morgan, University of Newcastle  
Professor Jo Salmon, Deakin University  
Dr Marj Moody, Deakin University



### 2021 CAPHIA Teaching Award (Team)

Associate Professor Lisa Hall, University of Queensland  
Dr Anna Finnane, University of Queensland  
Dr Melinda Protani, University of Queensland  
Dr Tracey Di Sipio, University of Queensland  
Dr Darsy Darssan, University of Queensland



For their work reforming assessment practices by implementing an explicit connection to real-world application in public health and epidemiology.

### 2021 CAPHIA Early Career Teaching Award

Alexandra Bhatti, Macquarie University

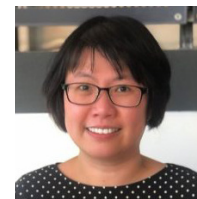
Delivery of transformative learning experiences for students in a supportive environment with strong connections to real-world practice.



### 2021 CAPHIA Teaching Award (Individual)

Dr Hui Jun Chih, Curtin University

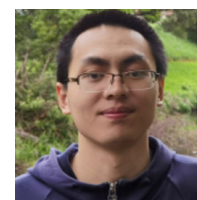
Developing refresher materials and coordinating workshops and support services to upskill postgraduate students on quantitative research methods.



### 2021 CAPHIA PhD Award

Dr Rongbin Xu, Monash University

For his study evaluating health and epigenetic impacts of air pollution, outdoor temperatures and the built environment.



### 2021 CAPHIA President's Award

Associate Professor Lisa Fitzgerald, University of Queensland

Associate Professor Allyson Mutch, University of Queensland

For their work addressing critical social justice issues through research.



### 2021 CAPHIA Commendations

PhD Award - Dr Kristen Foley, Flinders University for developing and using innovative methodologies in her research entitled, "The social and commercial determinants of Alcohol consumption for Australian women in midlife".

Public Health Team Research Award - Professor Deborah Loxton, Professor Julie Byles, Ms Natalie Townsend, Ms Peta Forder, Mrs Anna Graves, Mr Ryan Tuckerman, Mrs Katherine Tuckerman, Mrs Clare Thomson at the University of Newcastle for their national longitudinal, population-based study exploring the factors that influence health among women.

Early Career Teaching Award - Dr Catharine Fleming, Western Sydney University for significant contributions to the undergraduate public health program.

Teaching Award - Dr Arianne Reis, Ms Rowena Saheb, Mr Sam Dessen, Dr Rachel Bentley at Western Sydney University for their work creating a free Engaging Student for Community Wellbeing Learning Module for all Western Sydney University students.

## CAPHIA Mentoring Program

CAPHIA administered a reinvigorated mentoring program in early 2021 following feedback from past participants. Following a call for participants, CAPHIA connected mentees and mentors from across Australasia.

CAPHIA's mentoring program supported academics from member institutions to network and share ideas, and gain the benefits of two-way information exchange that elevates the knowledge transfer through practical experience.

The structure of the CAPHIA mentoring program is flexible to ensure that the operational arrangements for its participants can be accommodated. Under this mentoring program, meetings are formal or informal and can consist of setting a topic in advance and working on it, or informal catch ups that discuss key aspects of interest for each participant.

In 2020-2021, CAPHIA had 18 participants in the Mentoring Program. Ten mentees have sought to be paired with four mentors from 12 out of 38 member universities. This included universities in New Zealand. The Australian universities were located in NSW, South Australia, Queensland, Western Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and Northern Territory.



One of the many benefits of the CAPHIA mentoring program is that independent support from an academic outside of a mentee's university. All participants were matched with someone from outside of their university.

This part of the Mentoring Program not only builds networks but also provides independent support to public health academics and researchers of our member institutions.

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## Collaborations with similarly focused organisations

CAPHIA has strengthened collaborations with the Public Health Association of Australia, the World Federation of Public Health Associations and other similar organisations in order to both strengthen strategic partnerships as well as build international relationships.

Our work with Accreditation of Public Health Education Associations and ASPPH resulted in an invitation in May 2021 to join the Global Network of Public Health Associations which CAPHIA was delighted to accept.



## Education Quality and Standards Working Group

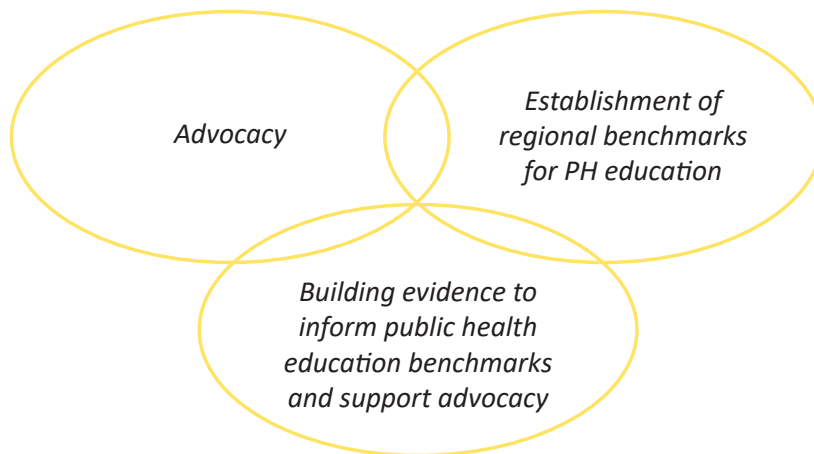


**Chair of the EQSWG**  
**Professor Roger Hughes**  
University of Tasmania

In 2020-2021, CAPHIA established the Education Quality and Standards Working Group (EQSWG) to provide oversight and steer key projects that aim to support international approaches to public health education while also meeting local needs. The EQSWG currently has 20 members from across a broad range of CAPHIA member institutions in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific. The EQSWG is Chaired by Professor Roger Hughes, Director of Public Health Programs, Tasmanian School of Medicine., University of Tasmania.

The focus of the EQSWG is on strategic, system-level, intersectoral tertiary education environment that supports a strong public health workforce across Australasia, both now and into the future.

The EQSWG recognises three overlapping approaches to enable this goal:



The EQSWG has established an ambitious work program that includes providing a webinar on academic integrity led by Torrens University, and looking at employer perceptions of public health graduates and the skills they consider useful in the labor market.

The CAPHIA EQSWG is also working with co-chairs of the World Federation of Public Health Associations Professionals Education and Training working group to map public health curricula in Australia and in New Zealand by degree level. This work will be the basis for member consultations on the Foundation Competencies for Public Health Graduates in future years.



## Academic Development Working Group



**Co-Chair of the ADWG**  
**Associate Professor Basia Diug**  
Monash University

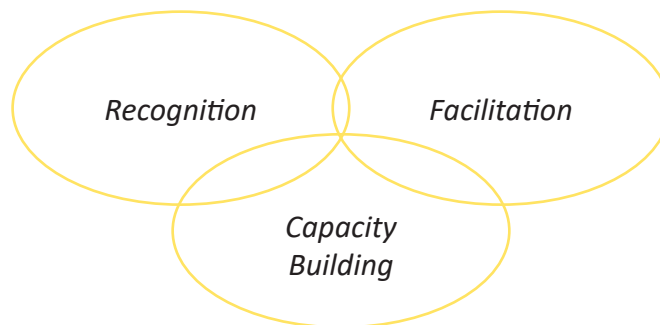


**Co-Chair of the ADWG**  
**Professor Janaki Amin**  
Macquarie University

In 2020-2021, the CAPHIA Executive Committee established the Academic Development Working Group as a standing working group to provide oversight and steer evidence-based approaches to public health education and research amongst member institutions.

The focus of the ADWG is on identification, initiation, delivery and evaluation of activities that provide value to member institutions and the HDR students and academics that conduct public health research and teach public health across CAPHIA's geographical footprint.

The working group recognises three overlapping approaches to enable this goal:



The Academic Development Working Group (ADWG) has achieved one of its key components of the CAPHIA work plan; to assess nominations for the CAPHIA Awards 2021. Members systematically reviewed 19 nominations over five categories. This process included the division of the ADWG into sub-teams to review categories of nominations individually, and where agreement was not clear about preferred successful nominees, a moderation process was then undertaken to confirm the winning candidate. The ADWG also awarded three commendation certificates to candidates whose work was considered outstanding.

The ADWG will be undertaking a review of the categories of CAPHIA Awards as well as their process for nomination and assessment at their next meeting scheduled for early September 2021.

## Advocacy in Action Consultation Group



**Chair of the Advocacy in Action  
Consultation Group**

**Professor Rebecca Ivers**

University of New South Wales

The Advocacy in Action Consultation Group is a small but key CAPHIA working group that is aimed at identifying, or creating through research, the evidence to support advocacy in public health education, research and workforce development.

In 2020-2021, the Advocacy in Action Consultation Group was in the early stages of collating literature and evidence to support informed public health advocacy. The workplan over the remaining phases of the CAPHIA strategic plan includes federal and state budget submissions, open letters to parliamentarians, and a range of promotional work that highlights the economic benefits of public health education to workforce development.

This work will also support enhanced visibility to government in 2022.

The Advocacy in Action Consultation Group has also commenced a review of CAPHIA past advocacy position statements and these will be considered before broader consultation is undertaken later in 2021.



## Early Career and Post-Graduate Support Sub-Committee



**Chair of ECAPS**

**Dr Sophia Lin**

University of New South Wales

The Early Career Academics and Post-graduate Students (ECAPS) Sub-committee is made up of 9 members from 8 member universities.

The ECAPS sub-committee's objectives are to:

- Identify and promote issues impacting on tertiary public health education, research, and service for early career academics and postgraduates.
- Promote awareness of the importance of early career and postgraduate academics in providing a quality public health workforce for the future.
- Facilitate the development of partnerships and networks with key stakeholders including government, not-for-profit, professional and community agencies to strengthen the voice of early career and postgraduate academics.
- Provide a forum to advocate for key issues and the development of collaborative strategies to address these.

The ECAPS sub-committee has been very active seeking to inform its work program with a needs-based assessment survey. The survey was conducted in June 2021 to identify the priority needs and concerns of public health early career academics, doctoral candidates and postgraduate students in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific.

The top three identified issues were work-life balance and managing stress and burnout, lack of support and mentoring in developing research careers, and the limited opportunities to build networks and collaborate with other researchers.

Understanding the identified priority needs and concerns has enabled ECAPS to develop actionable items to address these issues which will be implemented commencing in July 2021.

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