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News from ASPAH Executive Committee

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ASPAH

Australian Society for
Performing Arts Healthcare

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear <<First Name>>,

Happy New Year to all of our wonderful ASPAH supporters! I hope you've had a chance to put your feet up, catch up with family and friends and refresh before we launch into 2016.

If you are a member and have an event, article or any news you would like to share through the ASPAH newsletter, please send your content through to media@aspah.org.au by March 1st to be considered for publication in the next issue.

Keep healthy and well!

Camilla

IN THIS NEWSLETTER

1. News from 2015 Annual Conference
2. Conference Flashback Video
3. Introducing ASPAH's 2016 President - Dr Cate Madill
4. Member Feedback Survey - Deadline Extended

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ASPAH 2015 CONFERENCE

Thank you to all conference delegates who made the 2015 conference such a highlight of the year!

THOUGHT-PROVOKING RESEARCH

From keynote speakers through to first-time presenters, the diversity of thought and research across the broad field of performing arts healthcare was astounding. The gripping nature of research into such specific niches never ceases to amaze, as we see delegates equally entranced by analysis of a dancer's pirouette as they are by assessments of hand placement for pianists.

To get a glimpse of some of the research and findings presented at the 2015 conference, you can find all abstracts documented in the Conference Program available online [here](#).

NEW COMMITTEE!

During the Annual General Meeting we welcomed a new committee for 2016 and office bearers were elected at an executive meeting the following morning.

We would like to welcome Laura Crocco, who is joining the ASPAH committee for the first time this year, and farewell Camilla Tafra and Alison Evans whose past contributions and enthusiasm have been greatly appreciated.

The 2016 National Committee consists of:

Dr Cate Madill (President)
David Peirce (Vice President)
Dr Clifton Chan (Treasurer)
Judy Wood (Secretary)
Laura Crocco
Dr Paul Duff
Dr Luke Hopper
Dr Karen Lonsdale
A/Prof Gene Moyle

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You can read more about the committee on our [website](#).

JOIN THE COMMITTEE!

We currently have 2 casual vacancies on the committee. If you are interested in supporting ASPAH by offering your time and skills to the board of volunteers, please contact Judy Wood at secretary@aspah.org.au



VIDEO FROM 2015 CONFERENCE

(Click image to view video)

Some thoughts from delegates at our annual conference held at the Queensland University of Technology from Nov 21st-22nd, 2015.

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Message from the President

It seems strange that I should be writing this message, as I have only been 1 year on the committee of ASPAH and yet now find myself as President of this extraordinary society.

Why extraordinary? Because ASPAH is a small but resilient organisation made up of passionate, skilled, inspirational and (as far as I can tell) most often over-committed individuals who care deeply enough about the health and well-being of performers to commit time and resources to the organisation. Whether it be an interest developed from clinical challenges and the feeling that more can be done to support the individual performer's specific health needs; or the researcher's persistent drive to look for clues, preventions and solutions to the common or rare condition; or the motivation that comes from one's own injury or personal struggle, so many of our members continue to support, motivate and inspire the organisation's existence and activities.

So it is with a sense of great privilege and opportunity that I have taken over the reins from Paul Duff, himself a shining example of how extraordinary a commitment so many of our members have to the cause of performer's health. Paul has been involved with the organisation since its early days, and has ably led it in recent years. A big thankyou goes to him from us all for his countless hours of work and tireless efforts. It is with gratitude that I acknowledge his preparedness to hand over to a new generation of board members whilst still offering assistance and guidance with his wealth of historical knowledge of the organisation.

The current board is one laden with diverse experience, energy, creativity, youth and wisdom. As we move into a new year, I am excited at the vision that they bring and the enthusiasm they inspire to serve the membership and the community as a whole. 2016 is shaping up as time of new opportunities to provide a range of activities that can support, inspire and excite us in all of our endeavours in performing art healthcare. It is also a great time to spread the word about what the organisation offers in terms of networking, grant opportunities, access to the MPPA journal, involvement in the annual conference and many other benefits.

So please take the time to tell a colleague about ASPAH, follow us on Twitter and let us know what you would like from your Society, either through our annual survey or through contact with the committee. It is, after all, your Society.

I wish you all a healthy, productive and exciting New Year and look forward to seeing you at an ASPAH event in the coming months.

Warm regards,

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DR CATE MADILL

Cate has worked as a voice trainer, speech pathologist and voice specialist for the last 20 years. She is recognised nationally and internationally as a voice specialist and has published in peer-reviewed academic journals. She originally trained as an actor at Flinders University of South Australia during which time she discovered the work of Jo Estill and 'Voicecraft®', an approach to voice training that focuses on empowering the individual to maximise their voice through knowledge and skill of the vocal mechanism. She pursued this approach over the next 10 years and is comprehensively trained in use of the techniques. Working as a voice coach in Sydney fuelled her interest in vocal function and disorder, leading to completion of a Speech pathology degree in 1998, with honours and the University medal for her research into describing vocal function.

She then worked in aged care rehabilitation services and in a specialist voice practice for the next 5 years. She has worked as a part-time lecturer in Voice in both Speech Pathology and Acting degrees whilst completing her PhD in voice quality and personality attribution research.

Since taking up a University lecturing and research position in 2006, she has expanded her research in voice into investigating the supra-normal speaking voice, principles of motor learning in voice therapy and training, laryngeal biomechanics and optimising vocal function in the treatment of professional voice users such as teachers, singers, actors barriers & public speakers. She publishes regularly in international peer-reviewed journals and is an invited speaker at both clinical and research events.

She has applied her knowledge to treatment of voice clients in her private practice over the last 15 years. She is an Honorary Associate of the Children's Hospital at Westmead, a member of the Australian Voice Association, the Laryngological Society of Australasia and the NSW Evidence-Based Practice in Voice working group. She is voice consultant to the radio department at the Australian Film, Television and Radio School and has conducted voice training workshops for actors, singers, teachers, call centres and auctioneers. She has extensive experience in diagnosis and treatment of voice disorders in voice professionals and training increased vocal effectiveness in those people who depend on vocal skill to inform, move, motivate and inspire. She is Director of Voicecraft International Pty Ltd and owner of Cate Madill Voice and Speech.

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If you didn't manage to submit feedback on your 2015 ASPAH membership over the busy holiday period, we have extended the survey deadline to January 15th!

Simply click the button below and take 5 mins out of your day to help us work towards a better membership experience for all!

Submit Feedback Now

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