



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2007

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ANAPHI SECRETARIAT CONTACT DETAILS

Host organisation - School of Public Health, La Trobe University, Bundoora, Victoria

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**ANAPHI Teaching and Learning Forum
Registration now OPEN!!!**

Dates: Wednesday 26th September to Thursday 27th September

Venue: Alice Springs Convention Centre, Alice Springs, NT

Please find go the following website for more information:

<http://www.anaphi.org.au/news/teach.htm>

On this website you will find the registration form for the upcoming forum. Please submit your registration form by **Friday, 14th September 2007** to the ANAPHI Secretariat, **Penelope Smith**.

Please note that as a result of the ANAPHI meeting on Friday, 13th July in Bondi Beach the Teaching and Learning Forum times have been extended. The event will open at **3.30pm** on Wednesday, 26th September after the close of the PHAA Conference. The event will close on the afternoon of Thursday, 27th September at approximately **4pm**.

Please note that on **Friday, 24th August 2008** an e-mail was sent out by the secretariat regarding accommodation support. For those who may not have seen this e-mail please be advised that each member organisation has the opportunity to obtain support for **one** representative for their stay in Alice Springs. If you wish to access support please contact **Chantelle Fernando** on **03-9479-1904** or via e-mail on chantelle.fernando@latrobe.edu.au.

Please contact the ANAPHI Secretariat, Penelope Smith, if you have any queries on Penelope.smith@latrobe.edu.au.



The ANAPHI would like to congratulate two of our ANAPHI colleagues, Professor Tony McMichael and Professor John Hopper who both have been awarded a Commonwealth Government Fellowship (through NHMRC). As stated in the announcement "Each recipient is highly regarded in their field." Professor Tony McMichael for "easing the global burden of infectious diseases" and Professor John Hopper for "the fight against cancer." **CONGRATULATIONS!**

For more information please go to the following website:
http://nhmrc.gov.au/news/media/rel07/ABB095_07.htm

Improving the Response to Disasters: Short Course in Health Aspects of Disaster

Introduction - At the face-to-face ANAPHI meeting in November 2006 it was suggested by representatives present that in 2007 the ANAPHI newsletter should have a section devoted to the speciality areas of the different representatives and membership institutions of the ANAPHI. This is the fifth of these such sections devoted to an area of speciality. This piece has been contributed by Richard Taylor and Bronwen Blake, of the University of Queensland and is entitled "Improving the Response to Disasters: Short Course in Health Aspects of Disaster".

We hope that you enjoy this change to the newsletter format throughout the year. If you have any comments please let me know. Penelope Smith, Secretariat



Improving the Response to Disasters: Short Course in Health Aspects of Disaster

There is growing concern in Australia and internationally with the response to the ever increasing number of disasters, both natural and man made. To address these concerns Public Health Education and Research Program (PHERP) has made available funding for the development of short courses in biosecurity and disaster management.

The School of Population Health at the University of Queensland is the lead agency subcontracting with the Centre for Military and Veterans' Health (CMVH) to develop these courses in conjunction with an organizing committee consisting of CMVH partners in The University of Adelaide and Charles Darwin University.

The following are the project components:

1. Development and implementation of a short course on Health Aspects of Disaster development;
2. Development and implementation of a short course on Communicable Disease Epidemiology and, development of research projects and programs related to health aspects of disaster response and preparedness and biosecurity issues.

The first component, 'development and implementation of a short course in Health aspects of Disaster' took place in November 2006 at the University of Queensland as an intensive short course.

This short course was delivered over 5 ½ days and was available to both students and non-enrolled participants. The course provided an overview of many types of disasters including complex emergencies, natural disasters and nuclear disasters and examined disasters from both a national and international perspective.

The course was delivered by the School of Population Health and CMVH, at University of Queensland facilities. The course was designed to have combined expertise representing both military and civilian organizations, including perspectives from Non Government Organizations and The Red Cross.

The interest in this new course was very encouraging with 56 participants of which 44 were enrolled students and 12 were non-enrolled attendees. There were 6 international students with national student's coming from different parts of Australia.

One of the reasons for the success of this course was its short course format that allowed both students and mid to senior career participants the opportunity to attend a course that provided flexibility to fit in with other commitments. Post course evaluation has revealed that most students feel this course will benefit their future work in responding to disasters.

The second component, the short course in Communicable Disease Control will run in September 24th -28th this year. The research component of this grant is currently under development.

Richard Taylor and Bronwen Blake

Professor Richard Taylor is Professor of International Health Head, Division of International and Indigenous Health, School of Population Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Queensland.
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Ms. Bronwen Blake is the course coordinator and can be contacted via e-mail on b.blake@uq.edu.au.

Full details of the course can be found here: <http://www.sph.uq.edu.au/About/documents/UQCommDiseaseShortCourseFlyer.pdf>

IMPORTANT DATES!

- ◆ The ANAPHI Teaching and Learning Forum will be held on **Wednesday, 26th** and **Thursday 27th September 2007** at the **Alice Springs Convention Centre**.
- ◆ The next ANAPHI newsletter is set to be sent on **Wednesday, 26th September** but due to the Teaching and Learning forum will be sent the following week on **Wednesday, 3rd October**. All contributions for this newsletter will need to be sent to the ANAPHI Secretariat, Penelope Smith, by **COB Friday, 28th September**.
- ◆ The next ANAPHI Executive teleconference is **Wednesday, 7th November** at **3pm** (EST).

