Education officer report

Kia ora.

I have only been in the role of education officer for a short time following my work in the membership role for most of my time on the committee. It has certainly been busy taking over the varying aspects of education from the T & E scholarships, looking into how we move forward with regional coordinators, looking for sponsorships for our fundamentals programme and starting the process of getting regular online education underway for our members.

At the AGM this year I will be stepping down from the committee to go on my next adventure of having my first baby. My husband and I are expecting in early March next year and I will be stepping back to allow for rest and preparation for our new family member. I am grateful to our college for giving me the opportunity to sit on the committee and all the learning and networking that has come from this. I am still very green in my career in the scheme of things and hope to return one day to do more work for the college, perhaps the Taranaki region will be a spot for conference one day!

In terms of the education officer role, I have the following updates to share with our members.

Member education:

Prior to our AGM Anne Hutley from Hutt Valley will present on the newly launched Asepsis bundle. Anne will be joining us via the AGM online link at 12.30 so be sure to tune in to hear about this new project and how you can implement it within your workplace.

The college has received an offer of online learning from Dr Sonja Dawson who recently presented to the Australian College for Infection Prevention and Control on her humanitarian nursing in a non-disaster content. We will be looking into organizing Dr Dawson to present in early 2024.

For our August round of Travel and Education scholarships, five were awarded. It is fantastic to see this funding being taken up and used for further learning. Several of our college members will be attending the Australasian Infection Prevention and Control conference in November which is incredibly exciting! I look forward to hearing about their experiences in the Controlla next year.

Fundamentals programme:

Joanne Baigent continues to run our fundamentals programme which allows our new IPC practitioners to get a thorough introduction to IPC and work with an experienced mentor. Between June 2022 and June 2023 45 certificates were awarded to practitioners who completed the programme with more cohorts currently underway. We thank the mentors who work with these new IPC professionals to support their learning as the start out in our specialty.

The college is currently looking into how this programme operates going forward and have reached out to medical and surgical supply companies throughout Australia and New Zealand calling for ongoing sponsorship of the programme.

Thank you again for having me as part of the college committee and I look forward to seeing you all soon (hopefully at conference in 2024!). Have a great rest of your year and take care 😊

Aleisha Taylor | IPCNC Education Officer