



## **Standing Council on Health** (meeting as the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council)

**Communique**  
**28 April 2014**

### **Health Ministers announce appointments to the Management Committee of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency**

The Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council (the Ministerial Council) is very pleased to announce new appointments and reappointments of members to the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation (AHPRA) Agency Management Committee. The vacancies arose as a result of the expiry of terms made by the Ministerial Council in 2012. The appointments are made in accordance with the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act* as in force in each state and territory.

The Ministerial Council acknowledged the high standard of applications received. One sitting member has been appointed as new Chair, another has been reappointed for a further term, and three new members have been added to this important committee. A short biography of each member is attached to this communiqué.

The new terms of appointment are as follows:

- Mr Michael Gorton has been appointed as the new Chair to 3 September 2015
- Professor Merrilyn Walton has been reappointed as a member with expertise in business and administration for three years to 11 April 2017.

The Ministerial Council expressed thanks for the highly valued contributions of Mr Gorton and Professor Walton since their original terms of appointment on the Agency Management Committee. Ministers also acknowledged the valuable contributions of the inaugural Chair, Mr Peter Allen and inaugural member Professor Genevieve Gray whose terms ended earlier this year.

Reflecting the Ministerial Council's desire to ensure renewal of the Agency Management Committee on an ongoing basis, Ministers adopted the principle of staggered appointments and appointed three new members for a period of three years, to 11 April 2017.

These new members are:

- Barbara Yeoh, Chair, Monash Health
- David Taylor, *former* Divisional Head, Business Banking, Bankwest Bank
- Jenny Taing, Senior Lawyer, Australian Securities and Investments Commission

Ministers welcomed the AHPRA Agency Management Committee new members to their roles and wished them well over the coming years in strengthening and guiding the work of AHPRA in further embedding the safe delivery of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme, for the benefit of all Australians.

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## **Information on Members of the Agency Management Committee**

### **Mr Michael Gorton AM, Victoria**

Mr Michael Gorton is appointed as the new Chair of the Agency Management Committee for the remainder of his current term to 3 September 2015. Mr Gorton was initially appointed to the Agency Management Committee in March 2009 as a member with business and administrative expertise and was reappointed as member in September 2012. Mr Gorton is a commercial lawyer with considerable experience providing legal advice on medical registration, training, education and administrative practice. As a principal of Russell Kennedy Solicitors, he has significant experience in business management and administration. He is a Board member of Melbourne Health (Royal Melbourne Hospital). He is a former Chair of the Victorian Equal Opportunity & Human Rights Commission and former Chair of the Code of Conduct Committee of Medicines Australia. Mr Gorton is the Chair of the Patient Review Panel (Victoria) and chairs the Minister's Expert Panel to review health complaints legislation in Victoria. He has extensive experience in governance for a wide range of organisations including health and ethics committees. Mr Gorton holds a Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Commerce. In 2004, Mr Gorton received the Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for community service.

### **Professor Merrilyn Walton, New South Wales**

Professor Walton was first appointed to the Agency Management Committee in March 2009 as a member with business and administrative expertise and has been reappointed for another term in this role to 11 April 2017. Professor Walton is Professor of Medical Education (Patient Safety) in the School of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, at the University of Sydney and Visiting Professor and Affiliate of the Buehler Center on Aging, Health and Society, Chicago, USA. Professor Walton is a member of the University of Sydney Academic Board, the NSW Institute for Medical Education and Training and is a member of the Australian Health Ethics Committee (National Health and Medical Research Council). Previously, she was the Commissioner for the Health Care Complaints Commission NSW (1993-2000). Professor Walton holds a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Social Work, Masters of Social Work and Doctor of Philosophy.

### **Barbara Yeoh, Victoria**

Ms Yeoh is the current Chair of Monash Health and a Director of the Victorian State Emergency Service Authority. She has previously services on the Board of Austin Health and Eastern Health in Victoria. She has over 25 years' experience across a range of public and private sector agencies including in the health, education, finance, insurance, transport, technology and infrastructure sectors. Ms Yeoh has previously served as a Council Member and Deputy Chancellor at Latrobe University. She has maintained her interest in education through her position as a Principal Associate of Phillips KPA, specialist advisers to the education sector. Ms Yeoh has also has a range of senior management appointments in the Victorian public sector. Ms Yeoh joins the Agency Management Committee as a member with expertise in health, education and training and is appointed for her first three year term to 11 April 2017.

### **David Taylor, New South Wales**

Mr Taylor has extensive experience in the banking and marketing sectors having held senior management positions in the financial services industry. He has had exposure to a range of industries including health services, information technology, financial services, agribusiness and vocational education. Since retiring as Divisional Head, Business Banking at Bankwest Bank, Mr Taylor has served on the Boards of a number of public, private and government enterprises. Mr Taylor was former Chair of the Forest Products Commission and the Perth

Market Authority. Mr Taylor is currently a Board member of Agrifood Skills Australia Ltd and chairs their Finance & Risk Committee. Mr Taylor joins the Agency Management Committee as a member with expertise in business and administration and is appointed for his first three year term to 11 April 2017.

### **Jenny Taing, Victoria**

Ms Taing is a senior lawyer with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission specialising in financial services, managed funds and superannuation law. She also serves as a board director of the Royal Victorian Eye & Ear Hospital and a board director at the Royal District Nursing Service. Ms Taing is also an advisory board member at the University of Melbourne, with the Centre for Advancing Journalism. Ms Taing has also previously served as a Commissioner at the Victorian Multicultural Commission. She was recognised in 2013 by CPA Australia as one of forty young business leaders for her work in corporate governance. Ms Taing holds a Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws (Honours) from the University of Melbourne and was admitted to Supreme Court of Victoria in 2008. She is a graduate member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Ms Taing joins the Agency Management Committee as member with expertise in business and administration and is appointed for her first three year term to 11 April 2017.

Ms Yeoh, Ms Taing and Mr Taylor will serve alongside existing members whose current terms do not expire until September 2015. The profiles of these members, Professor Con Michael, Mr Ian Smith and Ms Karen Crawshaw are provided below.

### **Professor Constantine (Con) Michael AO, Western Australia**

Professor Michael was appointed to the Agency Management Committee in March 2009 as a member with expertise in health, education and training, and was reappointed in September 2012 for a period of three years. Professor Michael is the Consultant Medical Advisor for St. John of God Health Care Inc. and Emeritus Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University of Western Australia. Professor Michael has been appointed Principal Advisor of medical workforce for the WA Health Department. He is the current President of the Medical Board of Western Australia, a Director of the Australian Medical Council, a member of various State and National Medical Committees, and Chair of the St John of God National Ethics Committee and Chair of the Reproductive Technology Council of Western Australia. He is a Director and Governor of the University of Notre Dame Australia and Chair of its Advisory Board of the School of Medicine Fremantle. Professor Michael holds a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (UWA), Doctor of Medicine (UWA) and Diploma of Diagnostic Ultrasound. He is a Fellow of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (a past President) and Fellow of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, London (a previous Sims Black Professor). Among his numerous awards, Professor Michael was named an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in 2001 for service to medicine, particularly in the field of obstetrics and gynaecology, as a contributor to the administration of the profession nationally and internationally and medical education.

### **Mr Ian Smith, Western Australia**

Mr Smith was first appointed to the Agency Management Committee in September 2012 as a member with expertise in health, business and administration for a period of three years. Mr Smith is an experienced senior health official with a strong track record in delivering the full range of integrated health care services - acute care in hospitals, acute psychiatric mental health, community mental health, public health, community and allied health and aged care. During the past 17 years he has held various senior executive leadership roles in the Pilbara, Kimberley, South West and the Great Southern Regions of Western Australia. In January

2011 he was appointed as the Chief Executive Officer of the WA Country Health Service which is responsible for delivering the State Government funded public health services throughout rural and remote Western Australia.

**Ms Karen Crawshaw, New South Wales**

Ms Crawshaw was first appointed to the Agency Management Committee in September 2012 as a member with expertise in health business and administration for a period of three years. Ms Crawshaw of NSW Health holds Bachelor degrees in Arts and Law and was admitted to the NSW Supreme Court in 1979 and subsequently to the High Court. She holds an unrestricted practising certificate from the Law Society of NSW. Ms Crawshaw held legal positions in the State Crown Solicitor's Office and the Premier's Department prior to joining the NSW Department of Health's Legal Branch. In 2007, Ms Crawshaw was appointed Deputy Director-General, Health System Support. Following the implementation of the Governance Review in late 2011, Ms Crawshaw was reappointed as Deputy Director-General with responsibility for the Division of Governance, Workforce and Corporate Services. Her areas of accountability cover health workforce planning and industrial relations, business and asset services, communications, corporate governance, and legal and regulatory services.