

educator news February 2020

Training package news

As you are aware, our training package qualifications are currently under review. In August last year, the Department of Education agreed to fund an update of the Certificate IV in Massage Therapy (HLT52015) and the Diploma of Remedial Massage (HLT52015), following recommendations made by the Complementary Health Industry Reference Committee (IRC) in the 2019 Industry Forecast.

The Education Department also agreed to fund a new Advanced Diploma level qualification under the health training package.

A Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) has been established to provide input into the review. The committee comprises 6 industry representatives, 2 association representatives and 2 RTO representatives (one public and one private).

Members of the TAC have already provided extensive feedback on the 8 massage therapy competencies within HLT42015 and HLT52015, and a kind of storyboard of suggestions for what the proposed Advanced Diploma might look like. SkillsIQ is in the process of collating this feedback in preparation for a face-to-face meeting of the TAC on March 5.

It is important to acknowledge that we are at a very early stage in the process and nothing is set in stone. There is a great deal of rigorous debate occurring, especially in relation to the Advanced Diploma. It is heartening to see the level of engagement from industry.

AMT has gone on record with its position on the Advanced Diploma. You can read our statement here:

<https://blog.amt.org.au/index.php/2019/12/20/2020-our-training-package-qualifications-in-focus/>

We will keep stakeholders in the RTO sector informed of public consultation opportunities as they arise.

National Strategic Action Plan for Pain Management

AMT is part of a consortium of professional associations and stakeholders currently applying for a grant through the Department of Health. The purpose of the grant is "to develop a considered, strategic approach for the dissemination and delivery of pain management education and training across a broad range of health practitioner disciplines. Development of the education strategy will ensure that health professionals have access to, and are appropriately supported, in providing effective evidence-based management and care of patients affected by chronic pain."

At this stage, we are not able to report in any detail due to confidentiality requirements. We look forward to reporting more a bit further down the track. Needless to say, it is great to have a voice for the massage therapy profession at this table.

AMT Mentoring Program

Applications for the third round of AMT's wildly successful mentoring program open on February 24. We were gratified to have an AMT member from the 2019 program receive an award for outstanding mentorship, as part of International Mentoring Day in January.



PO Box 826
Broadway NSW 2007

T: 02 9211 2441

F: 02 9211 2281

www.amt.org.au

info@amt.org.au

ABN 32 001 859 285

Established 1966

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(<https://artofmentoring.net/mentor-of-the-year-award-2019/>)

The AMT Mentoring program is open to currently enrolled students, as well as early career therapists and more established practitioners who feel like they need support and guidance. You can read more about the program here:

<https://blog.amt.org.au/index.php/2020/02/05/2020-amt-mentoring-program/>

Introducing Scott Lloyd-Owen

AMT is really pleased to announce that we have recently employed Scott Lloyd-Owen in a new role as AMT Industry Engagement Manager.

Scott has a diverse and impressive background in the massage therapy industry spanning 15 years. He graduated from Meadowbank TAFE in 2005 and commenced work as a massage therapist in a multidisciplinary clinic. He worked there for 6 years, during which time he completed a Bachelor of Sport and Exercise Management. When a teaching role came up at Australian Institute of Fitness in 2010, Scott leapt at the opportunity, soon becoming head trainer of remedial massage at the Institute. This role included developing course content for the rollout of HLT52015. His most recent role was as a lead auditor at the Australian Skills Quality Authority, so he comes to AMT with a wealth of experience and insight into all aspects of Vocational Education and Training, including regulatory compliance.

Scott has already begun reaching out to RTO educators. He is available to do school visits and student presentations. If you are interested in hosting Scott or have any questions for him, you can contact him directly via email at Scott.Lloyd-Owen@amt.org.au.

AMT Social Media

The AMT Blog

AMT continues to publish weekly articles of interest, news and updates via the AMT blog:

<http://blog.amt.org.au/>

We highly recommend the AMT blog as a resource for students to subscribe to (and according to a few sources, plagiarise from apparently!).

AMT on Facebook

AMT also hosts a thriving community of practice via its closed Facebook group, which provides a safe and supportive space for massage therapists to ask questions, seek advice and access posts about the latest research into manual therapies.. Students are welcome to join:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/amtnetworking/?ref=bookmarks>

Our public Facebook page is geared more towards provide reliable information for the general public, and shareable content for massage therapists to populate their own business pages:

<https://www.facebook.com/amtaustralia/>

AMT on Twitter

You're more likely to find AMT in "academic" mode here, sharing research and participating in the lively dialogue around evidence-based practice:

<https://twitter.com/ramblingamt?lang=en>