

## World Naturopathic Federation Annual Report – Jill Dunn (WNF Representative) May 2018

WNF has been very active during the three years since inauguration and we would encourage our members to visit WNF website and use resources <http://worldnaturopathicfederation.org/home/> . Naturopaths and Medical Herbalists of NZ is the NZ full-member naturopathic organization supporting the endeavours of WNF of naturopathic professionalisation and represented by Jill Dunn who is currently serving a three year rotational term, representing NZ and Western Pacific Region on the executive committee.

Currently WNF has full professional association membership of 32 associations from 31 countries <http://worldnaturopathicfederation.org/full-members-the-only-voting-members/> . Education members currently total 13 schools (internationally) from 10 countries. Associate membership is granted to regional naturopathic associations and also associations that do not meet the criteria for full membership <http://worldnaturopathicfederation.org/full-members-the-only-voting-members/> of which currently there are 8 organisations from seven countries.

Six committees have been formed to undertake necessary work for the recognition of naturopathy as a profession internationally.

1. **Naturopathic Roots Committee**, led by Tina Hausser (Spain) has created a white paper on naturopathic philosophy, principles and theories [http://worldnaturopathicfederation.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/White-Paper\\_FINAL.pdf](http://worldnaturopathicfederation.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/White-Paper_FINAL.pdf) and is currently undertaking a naturopathic terminology project to define 15 different terms used by naturopaths in clinical practice, as requested by World Health Organisation.
2. **Professional Mapping Committee**, is led by Jill Dunn (NZ) examining the link between education and regulation and supporting frameworks, infrastructures and policies. An international survey was conducted early 2017 and has been re-opened again due to growing participation by countries. The second phase is underway following up participants confirming and collecting organizational documents for analysis <http://worldnaturopathicfederation.org/wnf-professional-mapping-committee/> . This is a longer term project forming part of a PhD.
3. **Global Affiliations Committee**, led by Dr. Iva Lloyd (WNF President). Iva Lloyd and Jon Wardle are meeting with WHO contact in Geneva at the World Health Assembly (WHA) conference in late May. WHO requested a concise document defining naturopathy. WNF responded with Defining the Global Naturopathic Profession and is planning to present White Paper at WHA, introducing Terminology Project and the Intra-Professional Collaboration Survey results. For recognition by WHO, its needs to know that WNF is moving forward and is well managed
4. **World region sub-committees:**
  - a. European Support Group – are working toward WHO professional/educational standards for Europe
  - b. Western Pacific Support Group – (Hong Kong, Australia and NZ) – have the goal of supporting Professional Development and opportunities to learn from precedents - Australia has lost private health insurance subsidy
  - c. Latin American Support Group – just initiated 2018, working on a documentary film on naturopathy in Latin America; have had two international congresses
  - d. African Support Group – early stages of development

5. **Education Committee**, led by Tom Greenfield (UK) have established terms of reference and have goal to act as a platform that will enable naturopathic schools worldwide to share information, so that schools can focus on securing teachers and not curriculum. North American course guides have been posted on WNF website and it is hoped that other schools will share their course guides. There are plans to create a digital library and all colleges that provide the highest standard of education for their country are encouraged to become education members of WNF.
6. **Research Committee**, led by Dr Iva Lloyd are undertaking a 3 year study about “How research based is the naturopathic profession?” WNF believe naturopathy is the most researched of all CAM professions. The research project “Researching the Researchers” has found over 2000 citations from 100+ researchers. WNF partnered with Eurocam and the International Association for Human Values on development, distribution and analysis of an international survey “Intra-Professional Collaboration” to over 700 organizations from 9 systems of medicine which is expected to be presented to a sub-group at WHA in May 2018. The research committee is currently collecting peer-reviewed articles by naturopathic doctors/practitioners and have found 4,000 articles in 500 journals. WNF members encouraged to have articles published. A new survey is currently being developed and will be sent to full member associations to forward to 20 experienced naturopaths requesting they survey and track 20 patients each.
7. **Naturopathic Conference Continuing Education opportunities**. Members are encouraged to send conferences/webinars open to international attendees to Dave (WNF Admin) [info@worldnaturopathicfederation.org](mailto:info@worldnaturopathicfederation.org) for posting on WNF website and Social Media.

The work of WNF is drawing attention to naturopathy and its place within health systems and this month Jill completed a submission to PAHO (Pan American Health Organisation) a branch of WHO in regard to ‘Universal Health Coverage’ which is championing health promotion, disease prevention, health improvement, rehabilitation and palliative care for all through improved integration and at a primary care level.